November 8, 2026




United Methodist Church of West Chester

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Fanfare (from Water Music)*
Handel

CALL TO WORSHIP
We gather as people who have received more than we could ever name.
**We have received life and love, faith and hope.**
We remember those who shared their wisdom, offered their encouragement, and showed us the way.
**Their faithfulness has become part of our story.**
Above all, we remember the grace of God, given freely and renewed each morning.
**With grateful hearts, we come to worship God.**

OPENING HYMN NO. 400
*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

OPENING PRAYER
**Generous God, we gather with grateful hearts, remembering all we have received: life and love, faith and hope, and the care of those who have helped us along the way. Before we knew your name, your grace was already at work in our lives. Through the faithfulness of others, we have learned to trust you, to love our neighbors, and to find our place in your community.**
**Today we give thanks for our veterans and their families. We honor their service and sacrifice, and we ask your healing for those who carry wounds of body, mind, or spirit. Surround them with your care, and guide us all in the work of peace.**
**As we worship, open our hearts to your Word. Help us receive your gifts with gratitude and pass them along with generosity, so that others may know your love through us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

SIGNS OF PEACE AND UNITY IN CHRIST

PASSING OF THE FRIENDSHIP FOLDERS

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

SUNG RESPONSE NO. 191, vs. 1
*Jesus Loves Me*
**Jesus loves me! This I know,**
**for the Bible tells me so.**
**Little ones to him belong;**
**they are weak, but he is strong.**
**Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!**
**Yes, Jesus loves me!**
**The Bible tells me so.**

ANTHEM
*Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness*
Ralph Vaughan Williams
Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE Deuteronomy 8:10-18

MESSAGE *What We Have Received*

TIME OF TESTIMONY Alix Kownurko

PRAYER HYMN NO. 389 *Freely, Freely*

TIME OF PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*How Great Thou Art* Sandi Patty

Troy Winemiller, soloist

OFFERTORY RESPONSE NO. 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**
**praise him, all creatures here below;**
**praise him above, ye heavenly host;**
**praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**
**Amen.**

OFFERING PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN NO. 92

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

BENEDICTION

Go now with grateful hearts. Remember the love that has surrounded you, the faith that has guided you, and the grace that has carried you. Give thanks for what you have received, and let gratitude shape the way you live. Go in the love of God, the grace of Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE *Christ the Redeemer*

Birchwood

***Bold text indicates congregational response***

***Worship Participants***

Message: Rev. Cyndi Stouffer
Liturgist: Rev. Allen Keller
Reader: Curtis Gainer
Message for Growing Christians:
Jacqui Rothera
Chancel Choir Director: Jeannie Webb
Organist: Steve Campitelli
Live Stream Team: Tim Case, Adam Clark, CC Clark, Eric Clark, Cory Smith

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Troy D. Winemiller as our guest soloist today. As a child, Troy enjoyed singing and playing the piano in his home church and community churches. In 1977 Troy joined T.O.P.A.S.Y.C, Theater of Performing Arts Southern York County. Troy captured leading roles in stage muscials. All through his teenage years and early 20s, Troy continued to entertain audiences in dinner theatres, variety shows, benefit concerts and church musical performances. In 1981 Troy was selected as the youth vocalist for the York Symphony. Troy has enjoyed countless performances and engagements over a fifty year musical career. On January 19, 2008, Troy had the one of the highest honors of his life when he sang the national anthem with the United States Military Band for the Pre-Inaugural "Black Tie and Boots" Ball for president-elect Barack and Mrs. Obama at the Gaylord Hotel and Convention Center in Washington, D.C. For 15 years on the first Friday of every December, Troy was the featured soloist at St. Patrick's Cathedral to officially open the Holiday Season in New York City-- singing with the New York Symphony Orchestra, the Metropolitan Opera Adult and Children's Choruses, and Broadway stars. Troy has two undergraduate degrees in the areas of Interdisciplinary Studies and Organizational Communications as well as a double MBA in Business and Health Care Administration. After graduating from college and serving as the Medical Director for the Education Corporation of American for 16 Years, Troy was granted his PhD in the areas of Public Health and Community Science from Millersville and Temple University. His career path led him to the Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery Suite, Oncology/Cancer Institute and Cardiology at the Milton S. Hershey, Penn State Health Hospital in Hershey. Troy is currently the Minister of Music at New Hope Fissel's UCC in Glen Rock, PA. Troy continues to devote his time and talents to raising funds for local charities and has participated in many community functions as a featured solo artist.

## Education and Growth Opportunities

Sunday School - 10 am.
Children's Sunday School (Rm 4-5, lower level)
Youth Sunday School (Youth Rm, lower level)
Adult Sunday School
  Mustard Seed (Rm 12, lower level)
  Seekers (Rm 7, lower level)
  Upper Room (Chapel)
Women's Bible Study Wednesdays at 9:30 AM
Men's Bible Study Wednesdays at 7:30 AM
Youth Group Contact Cory Smith (Cory@umcwc.org) to get emails
Pastor Jo Higgins Children's Library - Books for 1 year olds through teenagers. Located on the lower level.

## Connection and Sharing Opportunities

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| Chancel Choir (Adults) | Thursdays at 6:30 PM |
| Children's Choir | Wednesdays at 6:30 PM |
| Praise Team | Wednesdays at 7:15 PM |
| Men's Ensemble | Monthly |
| Carillon Choir | Wednesdays at 7:30 PM |
| Sunshine Memory Café | Tuesdays at 1:00 PM |

*A welcoming place for persons with memory loss and their care partner.*

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| Coffee With the Pastor | 2nd Monday, 10 AM, at Gramm's Diner |
| Wednesday Night Out Dinner | Wednesdays at 5:45 PM |
| Retired Men's Lunch Group | 2nd Wednesday at 11:30 AM |
| United Women in Faith | 1st Tuesday at 6:30 PM, Sept-May *Circles meet at various times throughout the month.* |
| United Friends Dance Party | 1st Sunday of each month, 6:00 pm, Sept-May *High school hosted themed dance party for adults with intellectual disabilities* |

## Ongoing Opportunities for Growth, Fellowship, and Service

**Items for ACTnow -** We are collecting the following items that ACTnow is in need of for their community cupboard. These are items that are not available at other food cupboards. Needed items are: shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, deodorant, dish soap, toothpaste, mouthwash, baby lotion/wash, all purpose cleaner, laundry pods, toilet paper, and paper towels. Items can be placed at the table in the lounge area.

**Unused hotel toiletries needed** - Items go to Ronald McDonald House, Safe Harbor, and Salvation Army. Place items in the basket in the Gathering Area.

**Pop Tabs -** for Ronald McDonald House. These tabs are recycled to generate funds for local chapters, helping to pay for essential services and operating costs for families staying there. Pop tabs can be placed in the receptacle in the Gathering Area.

**Stephen Ministry -** Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one confidential lay caring ministry for people who are going through a tough time. If you would like more information about how one of our trained Stephen Ministers can walk with you during this time, contact Kelly Lynn (Kelly@umcwc.org).

**Prayer Needs** - The full list of prayer concerns can be found on the round table in the Gathering Area. Requests are also sent through our "Prayer Link". To receive the prayer link contact Luanne Sims (lsimsumcwc@gmail.com). To submit a prayer request, please sign the form in the friendship folder or contact Pastor Cyndi (pastorcyndi@umcwc.org).

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS

**Coffee With the Pastor -** Monday, November 9th. Join Pastor Cyndi at 10:00 AM at Gramm's Diner for coffee and conversation.

**Leadership Training** – November 21 at 9:00 AM. All those serving on committees in 2027 should plan to attend.

**United Women in Faith November Meeting –** Tuesday, November 10, 6:30 PM, room 10. All women are invited. Martina Keogan will present a special art presentation "Couples in Art".

**ActNow Fundraiser** – Concert in the Cupboard- Saturday, November 14, 6:30-9:00 pm. Tickets: $50 includes light dinner and dessert. Purchase tickets and get information at www.assistingno.org.

**The Beans Story Slam**, run by Luanne Sims, will be holding their "Grand Slam" storytelling event in the sanctuary on Thursday, November 12. Eleven winning storytellers from the past year will tell true, 5 minute stories on the theme "Divine Intervention" and compete for the title of Best Storyteller in West Chester 2026. Doors open at 7 pm, stories begin at 7:30. Tickets are $20 and can be purchased at https://events.ticketleap.com/events/the-beans-story-slam. A portion of the proceeds from each ticket will go to Rise Against Hunger.

**Blessing box** - As cold weather approaches, don't forget to help us keep our Blessing Box supplied. This is a way for us to directly provide relief for individuals and families in economic crisis. Items like canned food with ring-pulls (our homeless neighbors don't have can openers), hand warmers, crackers, peanut butter, small packets of tissues, and non-perishable foods are appreciated. Be a blessing to others.

**The "Eagles Bucket"** will be in the church each Sunday during the fall. This is an easy way to support our Rise Against Hunger event. Drop in your loose change, or dollars. Nothing is too small or too big. We need to raise $14,100.00 so that we can pack 35,000 meals in January.

**The first Sunday in Advent is November 29**. We will only have **one worship service** that day at **8:45 am.** Everyone is invited to stay after the service to help decorate the church for the Christmas season.