

October 11, 2026

In Christ We
BELONG

In Faith We
HOPE

In Love We
SERVE

UMCWC
Mission Statement



WELCOME

PRELUDE *The Awakening* Broughton

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come from different places, carrying different stories.

In Christ, we belong to one another.

Each of us brings gifts needed by the whole body.

No one is unnecessary; no one stands alone.

Here, we are welcomed by grace and joined together in love.

Together, we are the body of Christ.

Let us worship God!

OPENING HYMN NO. 545 *The Church's One Foundation*

OPENING PRAYER

Welcoming God, you gather us into a community where every person is known, valued, and loved. Free us from comparing ourselves with others or believing that we must earn our place. Help us receive the gifts of those around us and offer our own gifts with humility and joy. Shape us into the body of Christ, united in love and ready to serve. Amen.

SIGNS OF PEACE AND UNITY IN CHRIST

PASSING OF THE FRIENDSHIP FOLDERS

A MESSAGE FROM AMBER ALLAN

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 *Draw the Circle Wide*

arr. Mark Miller

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE Romans 12:3-5

MESSAGE *This is Who We Are:
A Place to Belong*

BAPTISM

Introduction to the Service

Presentation of the Candidates

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

Congregational Reaffirmation and Commitment

For all of you here...

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ? **We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Grant and William now before you in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Grant and William with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Eternal Father: When nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

Declare his works to the nations, his glory among all the people.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, to bless this gift of water and those who receive it, to wash away their sin and clothe them in righteousness throughout their lives, that, dying and being raised with Christ, they may share in Christ's final victory.

All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns for ever. Amen.

Baptism with Laying on of Hands

RECEPTION INTO THE CHURCH

Response of the congregation

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church of West Chester, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the Church, by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

PRESENTATION SONG TFWs NO. 2051

I Was There to Hear Your Morning Cry

**I was there to hear your morning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off to find
where demons dwell.**

**When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun.**

**In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.**

**I was there to hear your morning cry,
I'll be there when you are old,
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.**

TIME OF PRAYER/THE LORDS PRAYER

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Voluntary in G Minor* Stanley

OFFERING 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. 557

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

BENEDICTION

Go now, knowing that you belong to Christ and to one another. Honor the gifts God has placed within you. Celebrate the gifts you see in others. And wherever you go, make room for someone else to belong. Go in peace. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Raise the Song on High

Worship Participants

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

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Today, October 11

5:00 PM – Youth Group Scavenger Hunt

6:00 PM – Sprouts (Rm 4)

Monday, October 12

10:00 AM – Coffee with the Pastor at Gramm's Diner

7:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous (Fiesta Center)

7:00 PM - Boy Scouts (Rm 4))

Tuesday, October 13

1:00 PM - Sunshine Memory Café (Fiesta Center)

6:30 PM – Trustees (Chapel)

Wednesday, October 14

7:30 AM - Men's Bible Study (Chapel)

9:30 AM - Women's Bible Study (Chapel)

11:30 AM – ROMEO'S Men's Lunch Group at West Chester Diner

5:45 PM - Wednesday Night Out Dinner

7:15 PM - Praise Team (Fiesta Center)

7:30 PM - Carillon Choir (Rm 12)

Thursday, Oct. 15

9:00 AM – Stephen Ministry (Chapel)

6:30 PM - Chancel Choir (Rm 10)

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 - We are collecting 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

Hoagie Sale – Fundraiser for Rise Against Hunger –

Order now for pick up on Sunday, October 18th. Italian, turkey, or cheese. \$9.00 each. Order forms are available in the Gathering Area.

UWF Fall Bazaar and bake sale—October 24 from 9 am-3 pm crafts, gifts, jewelry, seasonal items, baked goods, cheese, and more. All proceeds go to support United Women in Faith outreach projects.

Musical Gala - Saturday November 7 at 7 pm, Hors d'oeuvres served in the gathering area before the concert beginning at 6:00 pm. Join us for an evening of sacred and secular music offered by local professional musicians, exploring our theme of hunger - spiritual, emotional, and physical. Come to hear about the organization "Rise Against Hunger" and learn how you can help! Suggested donation: \$25.

Information Meeting – Neema Project trip to Kenya - Please join Samantha Marquette in the Gathering Area following both the 8:45 am and 11 am service on Sunday, October 25 to learn more about joining a one-week trip to Kenya to support Neema Project in Summer 2027. Neema works with young women in rural Kenya who are overcoming serious challenges to build new futures. Your trip would include cross-cultural conversations and workshops with young adults, meeting with local families in their homes, a visit to Mount Elgon National Park, and playing with 20 adorable preschoolers.

Are you planning to purchase bulbs and fall planting flowers this year? If so, please consider purchasing them through Flower Power Fundraising to support United Women in Faith. 50% of your purchase goes directly to our organization! So you are able to beautify your yard and support United Women in Faith in one swoop! The link to purchase flowers is <http://UMCWCUWF.fpfundraising.com> There is a \$6.99 delivery fee.

School Supplies for Yuena Honduras: We are collecting the following school supplies for kindergarten and elementary aged children: pencils, sharpeners, erasers pencil holders, pens, crayons, colored pencils, markers, notebooks, index cards, scissors, rulers, glue sticks, small adhesive tape pencil cases, and backpacks for boys and girls. Please bring in any donated items by Sunday, October 25.

UMCWC Fall Family Fun Day October 25, 1-3 pm.

Join us for apple cider donuts, pick-your-own pumpkins, a corn maze, and hayrides! Highland Orchards (1000 Marshallton-Thorndale Rd.) Please let Jeannie know if you plan to join us.(jeannie@umcwc.org)