

City Road UMC
511 North Road St.
Elizabeth City, NC 27909

City Road United Methodist Church

Josh Tester, Pastor

511 North Road Street, Elizabeth City, NC 27909

cityroadec.net

crumcec@gmail.com

Office: (252) 335-2658

Pastor's Cell: (336) 460-6291

Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.

Online giving is available through our Give Plus app.

----- Online access information is available on our website -----

SUNDAY WORSHIP at 11:00 a.m. in person and on Facebook

Prayer Chain Requests: Please call one of the people listed below if you have an immediate prayer need.

Josh Tester: (336-460-6291)

Dawn Baker: (252-455-2639)



The City Road UMC Cross and Flame

LIGHTHOUSE
Congregation



Serving God and His World Since 1900 – 125 Years

August 2025



SPARK NOTES

But if I say, "I will not mention God's word
or speak anymore in God's name,"
God's word is in my heart like a fire,
a fire shut up in my bones.
I am weary of holding it in;
indeed, I cannot.

Jeremiah 20:9

The Rhythm of Renewal

Friends,

As summer gives way to fall, we're leaning into **the rhythm of renewal**—a season where God invites us to pause, reflect, and move forward with fresh energy.

Around City Road, that renewal is showing up in powerful ways: our ministries continue to touch lives, and your faithful engagement keeps the Spirit's work alive. Like the prophet Jeremiah declared, "His word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones." That holy fire fuels our hope, creativity, and commitment to love our neighbors well.

This same Spirit-led fire is guiding us in our work to become a more unified, focused church. Our **One Board discernment team** has been prayerfully exploring how this simpler, more accountable structure can help us serve boldly and faithfully. We'll be sharing updates at the **August Board meeting**, so everyone can understand the vision as we look ahead to our **2025 Charge Conference**.

Together, we're finding a rhythm that balances reflection and action, prayer and planning—trusting that God's renewing grace will keep lighting the path before us.

Grateful to be on this journey with you,

Pastor Josh

What Is the One Board Structure?

At City Road UMC, we're exploring a One Board structure (also called the Simplified Accountable Structure).

- ✓ Instead of separate committees for Trustees, Finance, and Staff-Parish, we'd have **one leadership board** responsible for the church's ministry, property, finances, and staffing decisions.
- ✓ This helps us spend **less time in meetings and more time in mission**, focusing on why we're here: to love God and neighbor.
- ✓ The board would be supported by ministry teams and staff, and remain accountable to the whole congregation and our United Methodist connection.

The **Discernment Team** has been praying and studying this model. At our **August Board meeting**, they'll share what they've learned and how it could shape our work as we prepare for the **2025 Charge Conference**.

Council of Ministries

We will be having a Blessing of the Backpacks service on August 24th, followed by a light lunch provided by the church after the service. If you are a student, teacher, or school personnel, we will be celebrating YOU on that day. Please bring your backpacks, computers, or lunch boxes to be placed around the altar. We want to pour out our blessings on you that day for the very best year ahead. Please invite your friends and neighbors to be a part of the service that day!



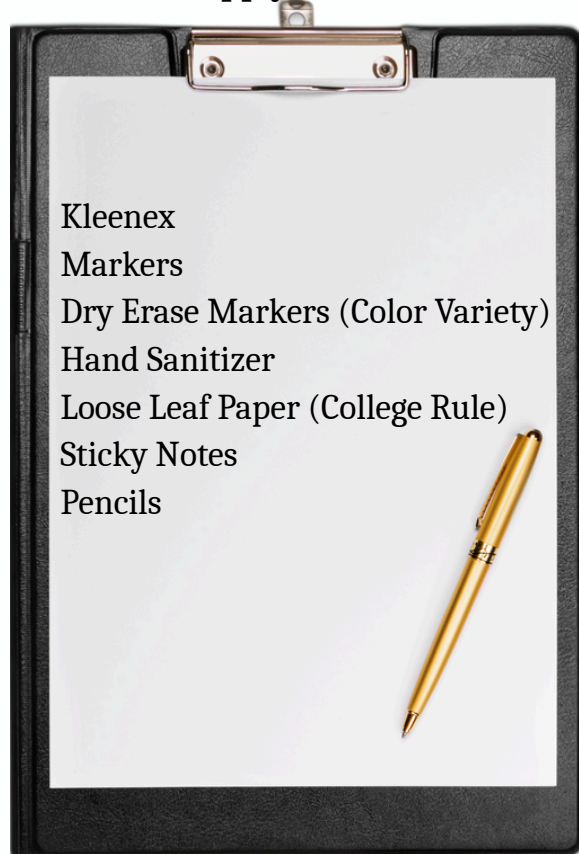
We will again be supporting Elizabeth City Middle School for the upcoming school year. This is being done through the Pasquotank Minister's Council for Education. The school is so appreciative of all that we do for them and your continued support is appreciated. To start the year off, we are collecting school supplies through August. Upcoming projects will be announced at a later date. If you are interested in participating in this organization, please Contact Jo Ann Herring at 562-4603 or the church office.

Elizabeth City Middle School - School Supply List - Grades 6-8

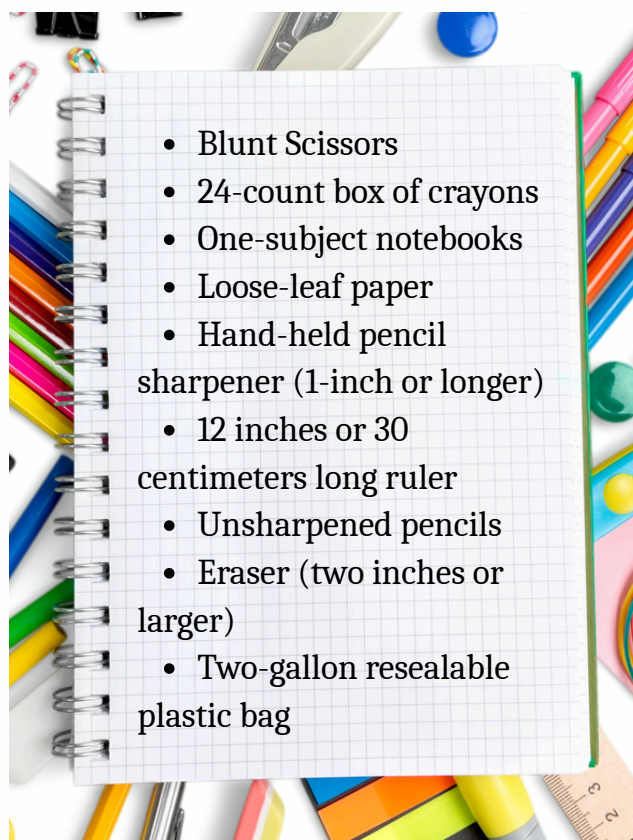
3 inch 3 Ring Binder (6th Grade)
Pack Loose Leaf Paper
Pack 8 Tab Dividers (6th Grade)
Spiral Notebooks (7th & 8th Grade)
Folders with Prongs (7th Grade)
Pencil Pouch

Pack Pencils
Pack Pens
Pack Highlighters
Pair Earbuds
Pack Colored Pencils
Pack Black Dry Erase Markers

Classroom Supply Wish List



School Kit Supply List



6th



The United Women in Faith of City Road UMC is asking for your support in our Candle Burning Missions project during the month of August. This is a mission project of the United Women in Faith that is used to support ministries that help relieve suffering and improve the quality of life for women, children, and youth around the world. Candle-burning donations can be given in the amount per second (\$.60), per minute (\$36.00). Candle-burning gifts can be given in honor or memory of a loved one or someone special to you in our church. Forms will be included in the bulletin on the first Sunday of August, on the Communications Table outside of the pastors office, and in the August newsletter. Please turn your forms in by Sunday, August 24, 2035.



Please Print Information Clearly. The price for the Candle Burning is \$0.60 per second or \$36 per minute.

[illegible]

Membership

Greetings from your membership secretary.

The 2025 membership search drive is completed. Thanks to each of you who took part in locating and reaching out to those who, “once upon a time,” called City Road the place where we laughed together, cried together, worked together, and worshipped together on our spiritual journey. I am now in the process of compiling the new membership file and preparing the necessary list of names to be submitted for removal from our roll. If you have any updates or changes to the data that you previously submitted, please contact me as quickly as possible.

Mary Humphries, Membership Secretary

Events happening at the Church



Formal Invitations have been sent for the 125th Cornerstone Anniversary Celebration. Please return the RSVP card that is included in the invitation to the church by August 31, 2025.

We can't wait to celebrate with you!



July 6: Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Josie Baker's 11th Birthday, given by her family.

July 13: Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of our church Family at City Road United Methodist Church.

July 20: Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Doris Morgan's 96 Birthday, given by Tom and Becky Morgan.

AUGUST

Birthday's

4 - MARIAH MIMS

6 - WILLARD RHODES

10 - JANET DEMETRES

11 - LYLE STRATHEARN, JEFF MOREY

13 - BARBARA SAWYER, CHARLENE PIPPEN, R.C. PIPPEN

14 - REBA BETTS

16 - LESLIE OTTS

18 - CAROL SAUNDERS, KURSTEN SAWYER, MADDIE TESTER

19 - PAULA EWELL

21 - MARY LOUISE CROFT, JOHN RHODES

23 - NOAH WHITE

24 - BROOKLYN BOYCE

25 - XANDER SAWYER, JIMMY STRICKLAND

31 - LYMAN BRICKHOUSE, BECKY OWENS, ROBERT DAVIS



Prayer List:

Kaye Bean, Debbie Beavers, Gene Bradley, Curtis Brickhouse, Jim & Julie Bridges, Muriel Bright, Mary Lou Croft, Robert & Michelle Croft, Chris Elsen, Samantha Evans, Shirley Johnson, Cecilia Koch, Brenda Luton, Charles & Judy McKenzie, Darrell McKinley, Rita & Hugh Middleton, Cole Norfleet, Ronnie Pippen, Jim & Wilma Prowell, Susan Pritchard, Beth P., Willard Rhodes, Florence Rodgers & Family, Richard Seymour & Family, John Spencer, Donald Sawyer, Michael Sawyer, Joan Talkington, Cathy & Clay Thompson, Judy Venters, Debbie White, Shirley Williams, Bud Wright & Family, Diane & Mark, Chuck Woods, Kelly Cale

August



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Food Bank Volunteering 2:00 -4:00 pm	8	9 Men's Breakfast 7:30 am
10	11 Admin Board Meeting 6:00 pm	12	13 UWF 1:00 pm	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 Newsletter Articles Due	23
24 	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						