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

#### City Road United Wethodist 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 The United Methodist Church

Serving God and His World Since 1900 - 125 Years

May 2025





"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." — John 11: 25-26, NRSVUE

The Easter Season is a time of celebrating all the ways in which resurrection is possible in our lives. We can be in need of rising out of the depth of imprisonment, addiction, poverty, illness, and oppression — not just physically and literally, but also spiritually. What keeps us locked up inside? What holds us back from the joy of life? What binds us, keeping us from the fullness of who God created us to be? The ultimate message is this: no matter how dead you feel inside, or how dead your life dreams may feel, God is making a way for you!

We will reflect on how we can each step into freedom from whatever binds us. We will celebrate the Good News that we can refocus our lives onto things that lead us to life and connection to the Holy. We will look for a different perspective on how we deal with any life-altering situation. We seek to widen our understanding of what we must do to continue to work for liberation on so many fronts. The Spirit is alive and moves among us as it did in the early church! The end of our series will offer us an opportunity to commit ourselves to some important and concrete goals for our mission in the world. We are a church called to mobilize, to alleviate suffering, and proclaim resurrection hope through power of the Holy Spirit!

Join us for powerful testimonies of courage, kindness, strength, and overcoming — Resurrection Stories — from those who have found "resurrection" in their lives. It might just inspire you to unlock your own rising up!

In His Grip,

# Pastor Josh Children's Department

"BE THE REASON SOMEONE SMILES TODAY!"





The children made some beautiful flowers to add and there is a pocket full of messages that they wrote that will definitely brighten your day. If you are at the church and would like to, please take one for yourself or to share with a friend to brighten their day. You never know what people are going through and a thoughtful word of encouragement could be just what they need.

Palm Sunday & Easter Egg Hunt





#### Thank You, Mary Beth!

We are so deeply grateful for all that you do for our children. Your gentle guidance in Sunday School and the joy you bring through thoughtful activities mean the world to them—and to all of us. Your presence is truly a gift, and we can't imagine this ministry without you.

#### United Women in Faith

Spiritual Enrichment Spring Rally - March 29, 2025



Photos of the women at the Spring Rally. Photo Credit: Betty Jo Raby

The City Road United Women in Faith have been busy. At each of our meetings Marvina Mann presents a very informative program to us. The title of our March program was "Bold Women Transforming Communities" and for our April meeting, she started a series exploring the "Women of the Bible". In April, we learned about Jezebel.

So far this year, we have made donations to our Prayer & Self Denial mission, Day of Giving - Legacy Fund, the flood victims of Western North Carolina, and the local unit of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. We sent Easter Cards to our shut-ins and made exam study goodie bags for our college students, Gracie Chesson, Avery Otts, and Logan Ford.

On March 29th, seven ladies attended the Beacon District Spiritual Enrichment Spring Rally at Kitty Hawk United Methodist Church. Our message, "The Importance of Prayer," was delivered

by Rev. Gina Miller, and we had wonderful music presented by the Yaupons. Kristy DiGeronimo shared the origin and meaning of Prayer Beads with us, and we all made our own Prayer Beads. Our next meeting is May 14th at 1:00 pm in Edwards Hall. Hope you can make it!

Submitted by, Betty Jo Raby, Secretary

### Events happening at the Church





**Easter at City Road** 

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Tommy Venters and Jonita Broel, with special appreciation to Carol Saunders, for their dedication and hard work in making our sanctuary and the outdoor cross beautiful for our Easter Sunday service.



#### Mother's Day Church World Service Blankets

Church World Service distributes blankets and many other necessary items to those in need around the world. The cost of each blanket is \$10 and can be donated in memory or in honor of someone. If you would like to help support CWS by donating blanket(s), complete the form below and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office by May 7th. Thank you for your continued support of this annual project. The list of blankets given will be published in the May 11th bulletin.

Total # of blankets ordered			
Given by	 	 	
In Memory of		 	 
In Honor of	 	 	 

(Please make checks payable to City Road UMC, note Mother's Day Blanket on the memo line)



April 13: Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in Honor of Josh & Elizabeth Tester's 18th Wedding Anniversary, given by Maddie & Axl.



18 - Jeff Williams

23 - Jo Ann Herring

24 - Kate Veal, Jeff Edwards

28 - Jase Jones

29 - Allison Lackey

31 - Travis Fox

#### Rayer List:

Kaye Bean, Debbie Beavers, Gene Bradley, Curtis Brickhouse, Lyman
Brighthouse Jim & Julie Bridges, Muriel Bright, Annette Carter, 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 & John Rodgers, Richard Seymour & Family,
John Spencer, Donald Sawyer, Michael Sawyer, Joan Talkington, Cathy & Clay
Thompson, Judy Venters, Debbie White, Shirley Williams, Sharon & Bud Wright,



