

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



Serving God and His World Since 1900 – 125 Years

June & July 2026



SPARK NOTES

As I reflect on our years of ministry together, I find myself returning to the words of Jesus in John 15: “Abide in me as I abide in you... I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.” Those words have become a reminder of what has sustained us through every season: not programs, personalities, or plans alone, but our shared life rooted in Christ.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving alongside you. Together we have worshiped, sung, prayed, laughed, grieved, and celebrated baptisms, shared Communion, served neighbors, and sought to follow Jesus faithfully. Through moments of challenge and moments of deep joy, I have witnessed a congregation striving to remain connected to the true vine — growing in love for God, care for one another, and service to the world.

While farewells are never easy, they are also reminders that the Church belongs to God, and God’s work is never finished. I believe deeply that the same Spirit who has guided us thus far is already preparing new opportunities for ministry, fresh vision, and abundant fruit in the days ahead. Your future is filled with possibility because Christ continues to abide with you.

As you move forward, my prayer is that you will continue to remain rooted in God’s love, courageous in mission, and joyful in faith. May you trust that God is already at work preparing the next chapter of ministry and blessing for this congregation and community.

Thank you for the love, grace, encouragement, and partnership you have shared with me and my family. It has truly been an honor to walk this journey with you. Though our paths may lead in different directions, we remain forever connected in Christ.

May the joy of Christ remain in you, and may your life together continue to bear much fruit for the transformation of the world.

Pastor Josh

Introduction from Tim Nicholson



Rev. Tim Nicholson (or just Tim or Pastor Tim, as he prefers to be called) was born and raised in the Carpet Capital of the World, Dalton, GA. He moved to North Carolina in 1997 and has lived in the Raleigh area ever since. Prior to entering ministry, Tim held a career in IT spanning 4 decades. He has developed and supported software in multiple industries, with the last 20 years being focused on higher education. He recently retired from IT to focus solely on ministry.

Tim first felt the call to ministry in 2006 while on a mission trip to D'Iberville, MS, where he and a mission team from Pleasant Grove UMC in Raleigh helped with recovery efforts following Hurricane Katrina. After years of wrestling with God, Tim surrendered to the call and entered Duke Divinity School in the Fall of 2022. In 2024, he was appointed to Wesley Chapel and Ebenezer UMCs in Franklinton, NC, became a licensed local pastor, and accepted a Rural Fellowship from the Duke Rural Fellows program. He graduated with a Master of Divinity degree in May 2026 and is on track for ordination.

Tim's wife, Missy, is a retired pediatric nurse. She earned her nursing degree from Central Carolina Community College in 1990 and worked at UNC Children's Hospital until she retired due to a disability. They will celebrate their sixth wedding anniversary on August 15, 2026. Their daughter, Megan, and her husband, Justin, live in Wake Forest. Justin owns his own pool maintenance company. Megan followed in her mother's footsteps and is a nurse in the medical ICU step-down unit at UNC Hospital in Chapel Hill.



Tim looks forward to returning to some of his hobbies he had to put on hold while working full-time and attending Divinity School full-time. He loves to golf and wants to start running again. He also enjoys singing and playing guitar, woodworking, photography, good food of all kinds, and most anything Snoopy. Missy loves reading, decorating, shopping, and farm animals, and she looks forward to exploring new hobbies with new friends in Elizabeth City.

Tim and Missy have two dogs: Harley, a 15-year-old Yorkie mix, and Chester, a 9-year-old Schnauzer mix



City Road Helping Hands



The City Road Helping Hands delivered doughnuts from Southern Maid to Elizabeth City Middle School for Teacher Appreciation Week. We appreciate all that the teachers do for all of the students.

Finance Committee

We have received a Certificate of Recognition from the UMC Conference Treasurer's Office for paying our full 2025 apportionment. This accomplishment would not have been possible without the generous donations faithfully given each week by our dedicated members.

The certificate is displayed on the Communications Board outside the pastor's office for anyone who would like to view it.



"I am fearfully and wonderfully made"

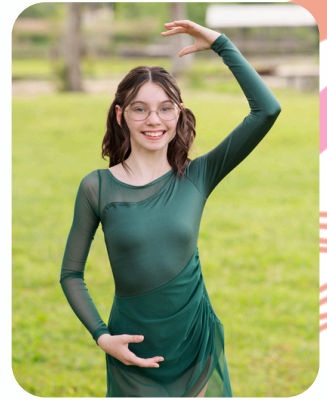
Psalm 139:14

Our "Affirmation Station" is complete with these beautiful flowers the children made during Children's Church this morning!! (Thank you to Audrey for sharing her talents with all of us)

We read each of the affirmations together, then the children chose a few that they thought applied to them. At the end, we affirmed together that we are all of them!! Some may come easier than others but we should be confident and love ourselves.

SCHOOL NEWS 2025-2026

Josie Baker - Josie continues in her homeschool curriculum and participates in the Albemarle Homeschool Support League's field trips and TEC (Tuesday Enrichment Classes). She recently took her yearly standardized test and received exceptional scores. She continues to dance at the Dance Company of Hertford and has recently started participating in plays through All About Improv.



Charlotte Baker - Charlotte continues in her homeschool curriculum and participates in the Albemarle Homeschool Support League's field trips and TEC (Tuesday Enrichment Classes). She recently took her first standardized test and received above-grade-level scores. She continues to participate in dance at the Dance Company of Hertford.

Kaitlyn Frazier- Completed 9th Grade, Camden County High School, A/B Honor Roll for the year, JV Volleyball Team, Varsity Soccer Team, HOSA-Future Health Care Professionals-HS Club- 3rd in Regionals for Physical Therapy, Classic Dance+Competition Team, ODSC Club Soccer, ARVC Club Volleyball

Pierce Frazier - Completed 6th Grade, Camden County Middle School, A Honor Roll for the year, Received 5s on both End of Grade tests, CMS Soccer Team, CMS Basketball Manager, CMS Track Team- received Rising Star Award, ODSC Club Soccer, Camden Hurricanes AAU Basketball

Audrey Lee - finished up 5th grade this year, and we are so extremely proud of her. She received A/B honor roll for the entire 26/26 school year. The President's Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement. The I-Ready Superstar Award (math). The Social Studies Academic Achievement Award. The "Dolphin Award" which is given to a student who is clever, friendly, and always a team player. And last, but certainly not least, Audrey received the citizenship award, which we are most proud of! Audrey also finished her 7th year in dance this year and learned that she likes volleyball too! She will be going to Camp Cale again this summer for a week in July, and then a volleyball camp and an art camp after that! She will begin middle school in August, and we are all really excited about this new chapter.



SCHOOL NEWS 2025-2026

Gracie Chesson daughter of Mary Beth & Timmy Chesson was on the Dean's List at NC STATE UNIVERSITY both semesters. She was also a member of the marching and symphonic bands at the university. Gracie will begin her final semester at NC State in the fall.

Alyah Lee, granddaughter of Mary Beth & Timmy Chesson, received the SAT (SUPERINTENDENTS ACADEMIC TEAM) award. She was on the volleyball team and was the manager of the softball team at ECMS.

Kashyn Lee, grandson of Mary Beth & Timmy Chesson, graduated from Pre-K and received Most Improved and also the Octopus Award for always giving a helping hand. He played T-ball for EC Parks & Rec.

Grandsons of Lewis and Judy Hughes

Jackson Hughes graduated from kindergarten at North Topsail Elementary

Gentry Hughes completed pre-school at Scotts Hill Baptist Church

Christian Jones graduated from North Brunswick High School

Mason Mims graduated from North Brunswick High School as an Honor Graduate and Summa Cum Laude.

Granddaughter of Lewis and Judy Hughes

Makayla Mims graduated from Cape Fear Community College as a Veterinary Medical Technician

YAY

AWESOME

WAY TO GO

Father's Day Golden Cross

"Golden Cross" is a ministry that reaches out in love to the laity in our Annual Conference who are experiencing financial difficulty due to excessive medical expenses. Through Golden Cross, United Methodists care for members of our local churches in times of emotional stress and financial need. As in our tradition, we will celebrate this outreach ministry on Father's Day, June 21st. Please complete the form below and return it to the church office by June 14th. Gifts may be made in honor or memory of your loved one.

Donation Total (\$): _____

Given by _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

(Please make checks payable to City Road UMC, note Golden Cross on the memo line)

Mother's Day CWS Blankets

In Memory of:

Given By:

Deceased moms of City Road.....Cecilia Koch

Lois Phippen Jennette

Josephine P. Jones.....Robert & Charlene Phippen

In Honor of:

Given By:

Jo Ann Herring

Patricia Lee.....Audrey Lee

Andrea K. McLamb.....Cecilia Koch

Jo Ann Herring

Debbie Beavers

Roxie Schneider

Elizabeth Goldberg

Phyllis Robertson

Judy Hughes

Mary Beth Chesson.....Muriel Bright

All the mothers worldwide.....Terri Cohen

Muriel Bright.....K.C. & Debbie Beavers



May 3rd - Today's altar flowers are to the Glory of God and for our Church Family.

May 10th - Today's altar flowers are to the Glory of God and in honor of Pastor Josh's Birthday, given by Maddie and Axl.



Prayer List:

Betty Dowdy, Judy Venters, Lea Robinson, Cecilia Koch, Curtis Brickhouse, Mike Stokely, Michael Pritchard, Bill & Paula Webb, Alicia Perry, Pearl Spear, Mary Lou Croft, Jim Bridges, Ronnie Pippen, Howard Flowers, Meiggs Family, Lucy Sawyer, Linda & Jimmy Cartwright, Family of Gwen Bray, Dora White, Douglas Ivy, Mildred Boyce, Joe Peel, Barbara Jackson

Pastor Josh's Farewell Tour

A Benefit Concert and Reception

at City Road UMC

June 6th - 2-4pm



*Tell me.
again...*

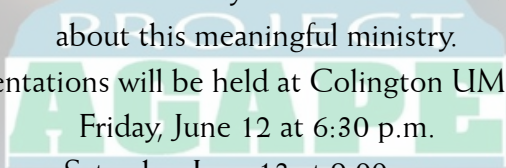
The UWF group at Colington UMC is excited to host Nara Melkonyan, who will be sharing information and insight about Project Agape. This is expected to be her only visit within the

Beacon District, and the group would like to extend an invitation to others who may be interested in learning more about this meaningful ministry.

Presentations will be held at Colington UMC on:

Friday, June 12 at 6:30 p.m.

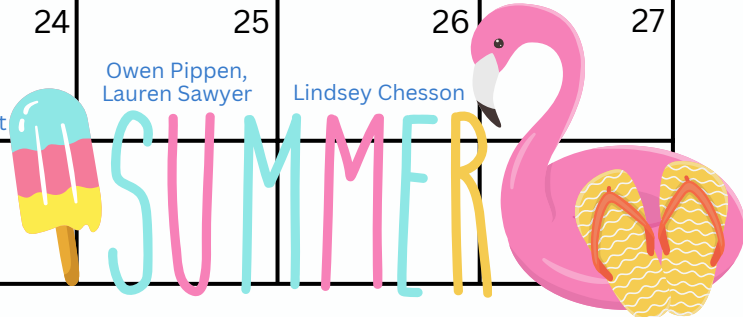
Saturday, June 13 at 9:00 a.m.





JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	Blood Drive 11:00 - 3:00 Food Bank Volunteering 2:00 - 4:00	5	6
		Kari Belfanz			Frank Williams, Sandy Midgett	Terri Cohen
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Girl Scouts Red Davis	Roxie Schneider	Charlotte Baker	City Road Helping Hands 1:00pm			Men's Breakfast 7:30 am Andrea McLamb
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Board Meeting after worship service Becky Morey		Brianne Chesson	Wade Betts	Johnathan Sawyer, Charlie Ray	Reagan Burns, Natalie White	Annual Conference June 18-20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Father's Day Girl Scouts Mary Beth Chesson		Gary Mann	Muriel Bright	Owen Pippet, Lauren Sawyer	Lindsey Chesson	
28	29	30				
	Josh Strathearn	Makayla Mims				



JULY



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Gail Bradley	Food Bank Volunteering 2:00 - 4:00 Mary Humphries, Josie Baker		4th of July
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Girl Scouts	Kristen Zeh	Anna McPherson, Alicia Sawyer, Lloyd Betts	City Road Helping Hands 1:00pm			Men's Breakfast 7:30 am
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Board Meeting after worship service	Tyler Koch, James McNeil	Megan Nash				
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Girl Scouts Stephanie Benach		Jill Moncla	Phyllis Robertson	Tom Morgan, Jennifer McNeil	Joyce Betts	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Sam Burns	Colin White	Lauren Edwards				

