



February 22, 2026

9:30 a.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)



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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, February 22, 2026

Joys and Concerns

Sharla Hulsey

To respect privacy, joys and concerns will be discussed before the public livestream. If you need to add someone, please fill out a prayer request form and place in the offering tray as it is passed.

Welcome and Announcements

Justin Quick, Elder

If you are joining Sunday worship via Facebook Live, let us know you are tuning in by leaving a comment on the live stream video.

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Prelude

Mary Coffman

Bringing the Light of Christ into the Sanctuary

Introit

Mary Coffman & Choir

"We Are Here"

*Call to Worship *(please rise as able)*

Justin Quick & Congregation

L: Sing psalms, hymns, and sacred songs;

P: let us sing to God with thanksgiving in our hearts.

L: Let everything you do or say be done in the name of the Lord Jesus,

P: giving thanks to God through Jesus Christ.

*Opening Hymn

CH #517 (vv. 1, 2, 4)

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

*Invocation

Justin Quick & Congregation

Your steadfast love to us is our joy, righteous God.

We gather to rejoice in your salvation,

to sing praises to you for all your healing gifts to us.

You have called us to faith

and have given us strength to live out that faith.

You have joined us together in the life of Christ.

Hear our prayers and our praise in Christ's name. Amen.

Lenten Monologue

Chuck Lewis

"Blind Bartimaeus"

from *"Cries of Faith"* by Jeffrey B. Snyder

Prayer Hymn

CH #548 (vv. 1, 3, 4)

"The Old Rugged Cross"

Silent Meditation

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Sharla Hulsey

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Musical Interlude

Mary Coffman

Responsive Reading

Justin Quick & Congregation

Psalm 40:1-5 (*United Methodist Hymnal*)

L: I waited patiently for the Lord,
who inclined to me and heard my cry.

**P: The Lord drew me up from the desolate pit,
out of the miry bog,
set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.**

L: The Lord put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.

**P: Many will see and be in awe,
and put their trust in the Lord.**

L: Blessed are those who make the Lord their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after false gods!

**P: O Lord my God, you have multiplied your wondrous deeds
and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you!**

Special Music

Choir

"I Surrender All to You"

Scripture

Chuck Lewis

John 5:1-18

Message

Sharla Hulsey

"Learned Helplessness"

**Please rise as able*

**Please rise as able*

Invitation to Discipleship

Sharla Hulsey

*Invitation Hymn

CH #348 (vv. 1, 2, 4)

“More About Jesus Would I Know”

Musical Interlude

Mary Coffman

Offering Meditation

Diana Rich

Tithes & Offerings

Diaconate

Offering trays will be passed in the pews.

*Doxology

CH #47

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Justin Quick

Call to Communion

Sharla Hulsey

Communion Hymn

CH #345 (vv. 1, 4, 5)

“Thy Life Was Giv’n for Me”

Words of Institution

Sharla Hulsey

Communion Prayer

Justin Quick

Distribution of the Elements

Diaconate

Everyone is welcome at Christ’s Table. Those who are comfortable doing so, please come forward down the center aisle to partake at the table. Deacons will serve those who remain seated.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*Benediction

Sharla Hulsey

Taking the Light of Christ into the World

*Closing Hymn

CH #625 (v. 1)

“Precious Name”

**Please rise as able*

Serving Today

Pastor: Sharla Hulsey

Greeter: Carol Hedrick

Elder: Justin Quick

Scripture Reader: Chuck Lewis

Deacons: Steve Hedrick,

Choir Director: Carol Ann Winburn

Carol Lewis

Accompanist: Mary Coffman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- OUTREACH MISSION - Throughout the month of February, we will be collecting soup and crackers to support the Community Food Pantry. Donations may be placed in the collection bin located in the foyer. Please remember to check expiration dates before giving.
- LENTEN SERVICES – Services begin on *February 25 at 6 p.m.* at the First Christian Church. Meal served after service. Free will offering.
- CHOIR PRACTICE – Throughout the Lenten Season, choir practice will be held on *Thursdays at 6pm.*
- DISCIPLES WOMEN – *Tuesday, March 3 @ 6pm*

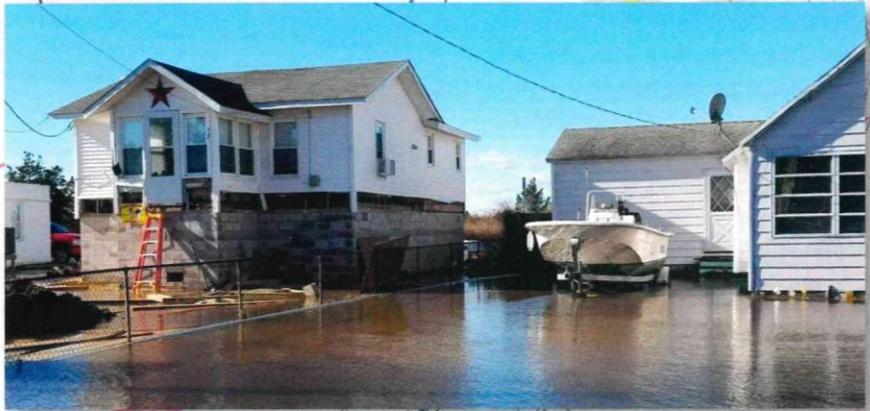
THIS WEEK’S EVENTS

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|---------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| Sunday, Feb. 22: | 9:30 a.m. | Worship |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Life Group |
| Wednesday, Feb. 25: | 6 p.m. | Lenten Service at FCC |
| Thursday, Feb. 26: | 6 p.m. | Choir Practice |

NEXT WEEK’S EVENTS

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|--------------------|------------|---|
| Sunday, Mar. 1: | 9:30 a.m. | Worship |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Life Group |
| Tuesday, Mar. 3: | 6 p.m. | Disciples Women |
| Wednesday, Mar. 4: | 6 p.m. | Lenten Service at Church of the Nazarene |
| Thursday, Mar. 5: | 6 p.m. | Choir Practice |

A NEW WAY ELEVATING HOMES & HOPE



On October 29, 2021, Somerset and Dorchester counties experienced Maryland's worst tidal flooding in 50 years — in many places, water levels were at or higher than Hurricane Sandy (2012). This kind of massive flooding creates immediate and long-term health threats to flood survivors and to their homes. The influx of bay water carried contaminants and wreaked havoc on plumbing and electrical systems, and left homes susceptible to the growth of mold and mildew.

The 2021 storm was unnamed and undeclared by federal agencies, and received minimal media coverage. Few people knew the storm even happened, let alone where to find the resources and networks needed to help survivors move toward recovery. But the Eastern Shore Long-Term Recovery Committee was there. Having formed after Hurricane

Sandy, the ESLTRC was able to stand back up quickly when needed in 2021.

Following Phase One (rebuilding 10 destroyed homes) the ESLTRC imagined new ways to respond to survivor families seeking help. In spring 2024, Week of Compassion entered into a new partnership with the Eastern Shore Long-Term Recovery Committee. This partnership agreement provides salary support for the ESLTRC Disaster Recovery Coordinator as they move into Phase Two operations: a tidal flood recovery and mitigation project, aiming to use volunteer labor to elevate 100 homes that flooded in 2021 and are at risk of repeat flooding in Somerset

Story originally shared March 2025. Additional details and photos follow a recent Week of Compassion partner visit. See the 2026 Special Offering theme video "A NEW WAY" for more! [WeekOfCompassion.org/2026](https://www.WeekOfCompassion.org/2026)

and Dorchester Counties. The intention is to make homes healthy and safe, to "reduce the risk of repetitive damage, provide better stewardship of funding entrusted to us, and improve the quality of life for surviving families."

Two of the poorest counties in the state of Maryland, Dorchester and Somerset residents live primarily in HUD-owned public housing; almost half the population of Crisfield MD (Somerset Co) lives in supported housing units. In response to this need, the ESLTRC stepped into Phase Three of their work — partnering with the city of Crisfield to build new affordable homes on previously abandoned lots and making homes affordable and available to new homeowners. Crisfield Mayor, Darlene Taylor, celebrates the way relationships nurtured over the last decade have made possible the development of this multi-phased approach. She emphasizes "those are things that only come from long-term partnerships."

With the increased intensity and frequency of storms, the strategy — to not repair homes without also elevating them — has gained not only notoriety, but also support from the community to make lasting changes. The people of the Eastern Shore value the long-term recovery effort and the significant mitigation component.

This intersection of socioeconomic status and climate vulnerability is



where the resources and creativity of Week of Compassion, our partners, and community-driven response meet. Coming alongside climate-vulnerable communities like the Eastern Shore is a significant shared priority among ecumenical partners and local leaders.

Mayor Taylor notes, "When the ESLTRC came in, from the beginning, they built relationships of trust in our community... The vulnerable in our community are often overlooked, but one of the things the ESLTRC was so good at was making sure those who were most in need... were the ones who actually received services. What we have now is a whole new paradigm, a new trust model."

This is where Week of Compassion is eager to engage — relying on ecumenical connection and innovative local leadership to find **A NEW WAY** makes the program successful, and most importantly, provides tangible hope and new possibility for survivors right in their own communities.



SPECIAL OFFERING 2026 FEBRUARY 15 - 22

As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world, with a vision of a world where God's people transform suffering into hope.

2026

LENTEN SERVICES

“At the Table with Jesus”



FEBRUARY 25

Location: First Christian Church
Preacher: Marla Kash
Hosted by: First Christian Church

MARCH 4

Location: Church of the Nazarene
Preacher: Julie Nelson
Hosted by: Church of the Nazarene

MARCH 11

Location: Ohio St. United Methodist Church
Preacher: Sharla Hulsey
Hosted by: Community of Christ

MARCH 18

Location: Ohio St. United Methodist Church
Preacher: Jeremy Henderson
Hosted by: Ohio St. United Methodist Church

MARCH 25

Location: First Christian Church
Preacher: Lori Ostrander
Hosted by: Butler Ministerial Alliance

Services at 6 p.m.

A meal will be served after each service.

An offering will be received each night to benefit the Butler Ministerial Alliance's emergency assistance fund.