

Skipwith Pilot

From the Pastor ...

Skipwith Family,

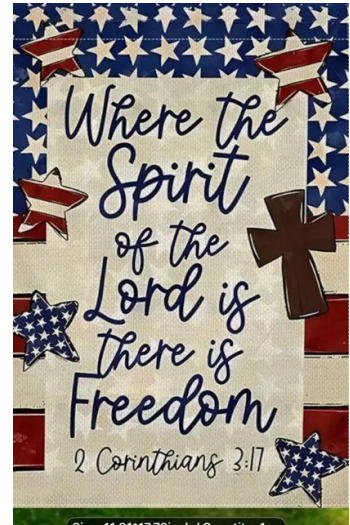
Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. As I prepare to begin my ministry with you, my heart is filled with gratitude and anticipation. A new appointment is always a sacred moment—a crossing of paths where God weaves together the stories of pastor and congregation for a new season of discipleship, service, and growth. I am thankful for the warm welcome I have already received, and I am eager to learn your stories, your hopes, and the ways God has been at work among you.

In United Methodist life, appointments remind us that the Church is not built on any one person, but on the movement of the Holy Spirit. We step into a stream that has been flowing long before we arrived, trusting that God will lead us forward together. My prayer in these early days is simple: that we will listen deeply to God and to one another. I want to understand what brings you joy, what burdens you carry, and what dreams you hold for this congregation and for our wider community.

Over the next few months, I hope to spend as much time as possible building relationships, sharing meals, hearing your stories, celebrating ministries already thriving, and discerning where God may be calling us next. I invite you to pray with me for a spirit of patience, openness, and courage as we begin this journey. New seasons always come with both excitement and uncertainty, but they also come with God's promise: "I am doing a new thing... do you not perceive it?"

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your pastor. I am looking forward to worshipping, learning, laughing, and growing alongside you. May God guide our steps as we begin this new chapter.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Jason Elmore



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Pastor Jason Elmore is in his 18th year as a pastor in the United Methodist Church. He received his first appointment in 2008 as an Associate Pastor at Bethia UMC. He served as the pastor of Asbury Memorial UMC from 2016-2022 and then appointed as an associate pastor to Providence UMC

Jason began a fire and EMS career in 1993 as a firefighter/medic with the City of Colonial Heights Fire and EMS Department. In 2001, he was hired by Chesterfield County Fire and EMS and was promoted to Lieutenant in 2006. Jason began serving as the department's public information officer and spokesperson in 2009 and served in that position until 2020. After 27 years in the fire service, he switched roles and is now the deputy director of strategic communications and chief agency spokesperson for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

Jason has a bachelor's degree in accounting, a master's degree in divinity, and the Executive Public Information Officer designation from FEMA's Emergency Management Institute. Jason is a resident of Chesterfield County, VA. Jason has two daughters, Reese, 25, who works for the Virginia Supreme Court, and Kenley, 21, who is a rising senior at West Virginia University.



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Skipwith United Methodist Church is now enrolled in the Kroger Community Rewards Program! Kroger will donate to the church, based on the spending of Kroger shoppers that have a Kroger rewards card. Simply visit <http://www.kroger.com>. Log into your Kroger account, go to Community Rewards, search for SKIPWITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH either by name or UM879 and then click Enroll.



United Women in Faith

The Skipwith United Women in Faith had a very successful and meaningful year where we supported each other in prayer and friendship while giving to our community! We began the year in September, 2025 with a guest speaker from All God's Children Camp. The United Methodist Church initiated this camp in 1999 to provide a one-week

camping experience for children ages 7-12 who live in a family where one or both parents are incarcerated. By combining our monies with another church, we will sponsor one child this summer. A second request came from our "adopted" school, Skipwith Elementary, in September to provide new underwear in a variety of sizes to the school clinic. We provided them with 80 pairs of new undergarments.

Our second speaker this year was from Safe Harbor, a Henrico County organization, that fights domestic violence and human trafficking in our community. This organization supports survivors through emergency housing, counseling, independent living skill instruction, financial management skills, clothing, and any other need that prevents the victim from independence. Our circle donated \$150.00 to them in lieu of exchanging personal Christmas gifts.

The Betty Crane Circle also donated \$50 to Covenant Woods, \$300 to UFMS (now known as Shineforth), \$800 to the Skipwith Backpack program as well as monthly collections of needed food items, \$200 to the Pastor's discretionary fund, and \$200 to the Lamb's Basket for Thanksgiving turkeys as well as approximately \$150 to their general fund. We participate in monthly volunteer hours at Lamb's Basket. We created 42 health kits to go to the United Methodist Conference to help in disasters. From the results of our annual auction, we donated over \$500 to the Skipwith UMC general fund.

Our third speaker was from Sylvia's Sisters, a nonprofit which supplies hygiene products to women and teenagers in our area. Due to a lack of period supplies, women miss work and teenagers miss school monthly. Our monetary gift to them provided supplies to 20 Henrico teenagers.

Every woman in UWF gives her time and talents. I would like to especially recognize and thank our 2025-26 officers:

Secretary and Sunshine Fund Coordinator- Allyson Vinik; Treasurer- Oretha Gaylor; Chaplain- Vicki Keith; Lamb's Basket- Judy Oliver; Covenant Woods- Monica White-Rivers; and Shineforth- Margie Houle.

We will meet again on September 8. We schedule our meetings for the second Tuesday of each month (September-May) at 10:00 am. We are a small group of women, but we feel we can have a big impact in our community. We look forward to even more abundant service in the new year.

Martha Worsham, Leader

**SKIPWITH UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH JULY**

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Skipwith UMC picnic will be held on Sunday, **October 11**, immediately following the church service at Cheswick Park. We will bring a dish to share with hamburgers, hot dogs, and beverages provided. It will be a great afternoon of fun and fellowship. **Mark your calendar now!**

Leadership Council