






























**CHESHIRE LUTHERAN CHURCH - CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT (1956-2006)**  
**A Time Line Celebrating 50 Years of God's Grace and Blessing**

- 1956 
  - **Spring** – Canvass of Cheshire by local Lutherans
  - **Summer** – The Reverend Darrel Geitz arrives to serve as first Pastor
  - **December 9** – First Public Worship Service – held at the Cheshire Grange Hall
  
- 1957 
  - **January 6** – First Baptism: Karen Ann Clark
  - **September 26** – Purchase of 6 acres of land at 660 W Main St. for \$15,000
  - Ladies Guild organizes, led by Beatrice Heath, Ruth Rohde, & Aileen Krampitz
  - Parish Choir organizes for service, led by Barbara Russell
  
- 1958 
  - **March 30** – 71 - Adults sign the Charter Membership Roll
  - **May 5** – First Confirmation Class: Wendy, Sandra & Walter Wadinger; and David Kaiser
  - **December 7** – Installation of Darrel Geitz as Pastor
  
- 1959 
  - **November 21** – First Marriage: Ray & Eleanor Verner
  - First Funeral: Andrew Hutterly
  
- 1960 
  - **Spring** – Pastor Geitz leaves to accept a call to Evansville, IN
  - **June 19** – Groundbreaking for new church building on 660 W Main St
  - **June 26** – Installation of Louis Nuechterlein as Pastor
  
- 1961 
  - **January 29** – Dedication of the new church building
  - **July** – First Vacation Bible School
  - **November 5** – Dedication of the new Schlicker Pipe Organ; Gloria Nuechterlein begins serving as organist
  
- 1962
- 1963
- 1964
- 1965 
  - **September** - Children's Choir begins, led by Jean (Kovach) O'Hara, who also joins Gloria Nuechterlein as one of our two organists
  
- 1966
- 1967
- 1968 
  - **February 4** – Dedication of Bell Tower, in memory of CLC member Pfc Gary Richards, the first Cheshire soldier to be killed in the Vietnam War
  
- 1969
- 1970 
  - **Christmas** – CLC women, led by Gerry Mitlehner, make first set of Chrismons for our church Christmas tree
  
- 1971 
  - **September** - Set of handbells dedicated for service; Jean (Kovach) O'Hara begins conducting the Handbell Choir
  
- 1972
- 1973
- 1974
- 1975 
  - **November** – CLC begins tradition of providing financial support to newer congregations, beginning with Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran in Montpelier, VT
  
- 1976
- 1977
- 1978

- 1979 
  - **November** – CLC Women begin tradition of an annual Craft Show and Bake Sale
  - **November 4** – Dedication of additional classrooms & the Parish Hall
  - **December 16** – Installation of George Heider as Assistant Pastor (concurrent with his 5 years of graduate study at Yale University)
- 1980
- 1981
- 1982
- 1983 
  - CLC begins ongoing monetary support for missionaries Maynard & Shirley Dorow in Korea
- 1984 
  - **May** - Following his graduation from Yale University, Dr Heider leaves to begin full-time service at Concordia University in Seward, NE
- 1985
- 1986 
  - CLC begins ongoing monetary support for Faith Lutheran Church in Exeter, NH
- 1987 
  - **Summer** – CLC named Beauty Spot of the Month by the Cheshire Garden Club (Gardeners: Carolyn Schmollinger, Lois Sadler, Edith Erb, and Kitty McElligott)
- 1988
- 1989 
  - **October-November** – Wood shingles on the Church roof replaced
- 1990 
  - **April-May** – Roof over Parish Hall and classrooms replaced
- 1991
- 1992
- 1993
- 1994 
  - **August 21** – Pastor Nuechterlein, Jean O’Hara, and Gloria Nuechterlein retire from full-time parish service
  - **November 1** - Gwynne Hopko begins serving as parish musician
- 1995 
  - **September 10** - Installation of Charles Gustafson as Pastor
- 1996 
  - CLC begins ongoing monetary support for Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Bantam, CT
- 1997 
  - **June** – CLC joins town-wide Relay for Life, led by Sally Schrumm
  - **September** – CLC Pre-School opens, led by Marian Fales & Molly Nagel
- 1998 
  - **June** – CLC Spirit softball team begins interchurch league play, led by Robert Parr
- 1999
- 2000 
  - **September** - Mark Sattler arrives, serving as student intern until August 2001
- 2001 
  - CLC begins ongoing monetary support for missionaries
- 2002 
  - **January**- Aaron Zinkovich arrives to serve as student intern until January 2003
- 2003
- 2004 
  - **September** – James Uglum installed as Director of Christian Education
- 2005 
  - **September**- Congregation votes "Go-Ahead" for Renovation/Expansion Project
- 2006 
  - **December 10** – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Worship Service, with Dr. George Heider as our guest preacher