

2025 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 724

Commending Chester Presbyterian Church.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 18, 2025

WHEREAS, Chester Presbyterian Church in Chesterfield County is a historic Presbyterian church with significant architectural and cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, Chester Presbyterian Church has demonstrated a strong commitment to serving the community through its various outreach programs, including Grace Cafe, which has partnered with the Chesterfield Food Bank since 2015 to provide a hot, home-cooked meal at no cost to approximately 100–150 neighbors each week; and

WHEREAS, Chester Presbyterian Church's Garden on the Corner, launched in 2022, has produced more than 2,200 pounds of fresh vegetables that have been distributed through the Chesterfield County Food Bank, incorporated into Grace Cafe meals, and provided to community members through the church's walk-in ministry; and

WHEREAS, Chester Presbyterian Church has also operated an after-school tutoring program since the 1980s, mentoring second and third grade students from Curtis Elementary School, with volunteer tutors assisting children in homework, math, and reading skills; and

WHEREAS, in response to food insecurity, Chester Presbyterian Church has been a dedicated partner in the backpack food program, ensuring that school-selected children from Marguerite Christian Elementary School receive food for the weekends; and

WHEREAS, Chester Presbyterian Church has collaborated with the Chesterfield Colonial Heights Alliance for Social Ministry to provide a week's worth of food for a number of local families each week along with food assistance through its Food Pantry; and

WHEREAS, according to the Central Virginia Food Bank, one in nine individuals in the service area faces food insecurity, including more than 50,500 children, and Chester Presbyterian Church has remained steadfast in its mission to provide essential food support to those in need, including the frail elderly, disabled, working poor, and children; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Chester Presbyterian Church hereby be commended for its exceptional service to members of the community in need; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Chester Presbyterian Church as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the historical, cultural, and charitable contributions of Chester Presbyterian Church to the community and the Commonwealth.

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