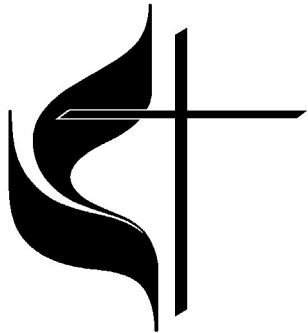


First United Methodist Church of Richmond

May, 2017



First United Methodist Church

Suzy Hutchison, Pastor
Office: 727-2622
Fax: 727-9810
Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

First United Methodist Church of Richmond will provide an environment in which people are invited and encouraged to learn, live and share in the teachings of Jesus Christ and celebrate in the worship of God.



Blessings to you in the name of the Risen Lord!

In this season when we celebrate that resurrection follows death, it's a good time to look at those things in our lives and in the life of our congregation that need to die in order for new life to be resurrected. That has been one of the things that your VCI team has been exploring. In March the "Away Team" met in Capac to discuss the book Renovate or Die by Bob Farr with Kay Kotan. Unfortunately, the March "Home Team" meeting was only attended by one person.

The "Home Team" is open to everyone in the congregation. If we hope to be a vital and transforming presence for God's Kingdom, we need a critical mass of people who are interested and invested in the success of Richmond First UMC. Please, if you are at all interested in learning how to prepare the Richmond First United Methodist Church to be vital into the future, make time to come to the next meeting of the "Home Team" on May 22 at 7PM. We will be discussing the book Worship Ways by Thomas Bandy. A copy is available on the book shelves in the back of the sanctuary.

In his book, Renovate or Die, Bob Farr writes about ten ways to renovate the church.

"A church must also be pastor-led rather than pastor-centered. "Pastor-centered" means a pastor is hired to *care for* the congregation, *entertain* the congregation, and *do ministry* for the congregation. ... In a pastor-led church, a pastor's first responsibility is to lead, then equip, and then serve" Bob Farr

A church must understand their present reality. They must thoroughly research the community so that they know the needs and preferences of those people whom they are seeking to enter into relationship with. A church must know where they are in the church life cycle.

A church must get the basics of radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity right. If you are interested in better understanding these basics, see the book Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations There is a copy in the bookshelves at the back of the sanctuary.

A church must be seeking to catch momentum rather than focused on keeping things the same. If something new or exciting occurs, build on it, don't leave it standing alone as pillar.

Worship must be experiential with life-application preaching. The people in the pews need to be engaging in the acts of worship, rather than observing. Sermons need to be more about how the Gospel is relevant and applicable to life than about teaching.

A church needs to think strategies, not programs. For example: when a church decides, it would like to draw new people to their worship experience, they may need to decide on a new worship time, a new ministry or a new worship style. Rather than ask the people who already come to the current time, ministry or style, the church should get the input of those outside the church doors for whom the current time, ministries or style are not working.

Continued on page 3



Peyton Harvey (granddaughter of Sharron Jusko)

Family & Friends of Esther Gates



On Going Concerns:

Margaret Gibson
Lois Michelson
Signe Jarvis
Helen Hill
Winnie Rickert
Betty Jean Green
Pastor Brown Gaysue
& our sister church in Liberia



Serving in the Military:

- James Skoryanc (Rudolph)*
- Steven Pankiewicz (Gutt)*
- Bryan Oke (stateside; Quick)*
- Christopher Elam (Germany; Fuerstenau)*
- Paige M. Hoag*
- Thomas Blake (Stateside; Rowley)*
- Collin Keller (Turkey; Hutchison)*
- Kelly Walkowski (Marine Boot Camp)*
- John Johnston (Patchel)*
- Jack Monroe (McClellan)*
- Jamie Brooks (Walkowski)*
- Nick Miller (stateside)*
- David Patchel*
- William Stoffel, Jr (Gibbs)*
- Kyle Darmanin (Evans)*



Deadline for the June Newsletter is

**Monday
May 9th**

Promptness with your article is greatly appreciated.
Thank you.
Jennifer

From the Editor



Thursday, May 4th



**MEMORIAL
+DAY+
MAY 29, 2017**

From Pastor Suzy's Desk, Continued from page 1

A church should be staffed for leadership. Your current church staff, paid and unpaid, should be serving based on their Spiritual giftedness rather than on the needs of the church. For more information on this see the book Leadership and Organization for Fruitful Congregations by Stephen Ross.

A church should develop disciples with clear and intentional steps. There should be a team of people committed to helping move people from visitors to members to fully devoted disciples of Jesus Christ.

A church needs to network, network, network and then market. Is the church full of fishers of men or keepers of the aquarium? A church should be ready to welcome guests every day. The congregation should be inviting guests to every worship experience, event and ministry.

The structure of the church should be simplified. Leaders should spend more time doing ministry than sitting in meetings. The church board is not the place where new ministries are born or permission is given. It is the place where vision is cast and where culture, discipleship and faithfulness are modeled.

These are some pretty lofty goals. But at Richmond First UMC, we have been experiencing decline for several years. Therefore, the obvious conclusion is that what has worked in the past, is no longer working. We must now decide whether we want to keep doing what we have done in the past because "it was good enough for us" or because it is what we are comfortable with; or are we willing to renovate.

Achieving a renovation of the church requires a high level of commitment from a critical mass of people. Are you willing to commit to one of these areas outlined above? Are you willing to actively seek out information, recruit people to a team, and work to bring forth the Kingdom of God? Are you ready to lead for the future?

I hope that each of you have been in prayer for the vitality of this congregation. I hope that you will prayerfully consider what your role is in this process. And I hope to hear from you and work with you in discovering your spiritual gifts and empowering you to transform the church and the world.

Blessings, Pastor Suzy

Reach Leadership Mini-Workshops

"Building Worship Bridges"

June 22, 2017 from 9:30 a.m. —4:00 p.m.

Rochester : St Paul's Methodist

Lead by Cathy Townley

In this seminar based on Cathy's new book, "Building Worship Bridges: Worship to Accelerate Neighborhood Connections", you'll learn the technical side of worship service development (competent) and the adaptive, relational side (compelling). The two aspects of worship bridge building always go together. Learn the five phases of worship development (Worship, Hospitality, Technology, Discipleship and Artistry), and also learn how to organize and mobilize your people for the most powerful worship service possible for your context.

"Gearing Ministry for your Mission Field"

October 19, 2017 from 9:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Berkley First UMC

Led by Beth Estock, Author of *Weird Church*

Where are all the young people and why aren't they in our churches? We will explore several cultural shifts that have significant implications for ministry in the 21st century as well as look at examples of innovative churches springing up all over the country. Then we will have an opportunity to work in teams to develop experiments to reach folks in our current mission field.



United Methodist Women News...

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve other, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4: 10 (NIV)

Yes, this fellowship of women does use their gifts to serve others! We strive to be aware of the many needs around us, and serve the Lord as our work for mission continues.

United
Methodist
Women

It was a wonderful celebration of Birthdays on April 12th! Which was, coincidentally, Susan Foster’s birthday! Susan presented interesting facts and history of birthday traditions. Many shared fond birthday memories. Kathleen Harley, hostess, provided a tasty lunch and Susan the lovely spring cupcakes!

‘Busy Hands’ is going strong! The more ‘Hands’ the better!!! We need ‘U’ as we share this precious time of God working in and thru us. Bring your imagination and energy, skill is individual and there is always something for every level!

Remember: May 10 @ 12:30 p.m. UMW Meeting
***Every Wednesday 10:00—Noon ~ “Busy Hands”!**
WE NEED ‘U’ in our ‘U’MW fellowship!

In His Service,
Donna Quick, President

Polish Dinner Food Preparation

We are in need of helpers on Sunday, May 7, 2016 after our Worship Service as we will be preparing the Pierogis and Cabbage Rolls for the Polish Dinner on May 9th.

Sign-up sheets for preparers on Sunday, May 7th and Tuesday, May 9th are posted at the back of the sanctuary. Also posted are lists for food donations for the dinner. If you are donating food please take note of the day you will need to have your item at the church. Monetary donations can be placed in the offering basket or mailed to the church office and labeled Polish Dinner. Thank you for sharing your time and your generosity in the support of our Polish Dinner!



MISSION & OUTREACH

US Postal Service Food Drive

Every second Saturday in May, letter carriers in more than 10,000 cities and towns across America collect the goodness and compassion of their postal customers, who participate in the National Association of Letter Carriers “Stamp Out Hunger National Food Drive” — the largest one-day food drive in the nation.

In Richmond all of the food is taken to the local Richmond food pantry. Most of the remaining food in Macomb County is taken to the County food warehouse. The food is stored for redistribution to the network of county food pantries.

No donation is too small. The date is easy to remember it is the day prior to Mother’s Day. Mark your calendar and set your food near the mail box for your Letter Carrier to pick up. As Christians we are called to care for people in need!

Submitted by,
Patricia Gibbs



**I would seek unto God,
and unto God would
I commit my cause.”**

J O B 5 : 8

Facts and Figures as of

Sunday, March 26, 2017 10:00 a.m. ~ 57
Weekly Givings Total: \$1,380.00

Sunday, April 16, 2017 8:30 & 10:00 am~ 120
Weekly Givings Total: \$3,862.00

Sunday, April 2, 2017 10:00am~ 64
Weekly Givings Total: \$2,732.00

Sunday, April 23, 2017 10:00 a.m. ~ 59
Weekly Givings Total: \$1,660.00

Sunday, April 9, 2017 10:00 a.m. ~ 91
Weekly Givings Total: \$2,500.00

Dear members and friends of Richmond First UMC,

You, the congregation, own a small home adjacent to the church on Churchill Street. Since you purchased it, more than a decade ago, you have leased it as a residence to various community members. It became vacant in February of this year. You now have an opportunity to decide if that is still the best way to use this asset to build the kingdom of God or whether you would prefer to sell it or use it for the ministries of the church.

We have had several meetings where the options have been discussed. On this past Sunday, April 23, presentations were made that laid out the costs and benefits of each option. This is a synopsis:

Sale: Suggested market value: \$95,000 to \$105,000. Improvements necessary to sell: Flooring installed (\$3,502), Electrical upgrades (\$2,300), Paint (\$540 - labor \$2,025), Flashing replacement (\$400). Money would be invested in an endowment for future needs. If this body chooses this option, it would need to be passed by a vote of the charge conference before it could be acted upon. Advantage: The revenue would continue to be an appreciating asset.

Rental: The same improvements as sale would be necessary. In addition there would back door and storm door replacement (approx. \$500). Estimated annual net income \$6497 - \$7037 if rented at full market value. There was discussion of renting it to people in need at a reduced rent (i.e. transitional housing for homeless or domestic violence survivors) Advantage: The rent would be a source of income if congregational expenses exceed income.

Ministry: The same improvements as rental would be necessary plus we would need to make bathroom handicap accessible (\$12,000) and add a ramp (\$4000). Community usage of building could include (small amount of potential rental income): AA/NA, student tutoring, scout troops, youth activities, English as second language classes. Church usage could include: Sunday school, adult small groups, backpack ministry, UMW, UMM. Advantage: The building would be an "opening to the outside community. . . A less threatening introduction to church"

If you would like more information about these options please contact: Glenn Quick, Susan Foster, David Foster, Kim Grose, Tristan Grose, Mark Hubanks, Jean Breederland, Sue Nieman, Pat Gibbs, or Carl Merecki. They each worked on one of the fact-finding teams.

A decision will be made at a meeting immediately following worship on May 7. All people with a vested interest in this congregation are welcome to attend. The manner by which this decision will be made is being determined by an ad hoc committee of members and constituents.

I hope that all members and constituents will prayerfully consider how best to use this opportunity to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. After all, that's why we are all here, that is the mission of the church.

Blessings, Pastor Suzy



Mother's Day

Sunday, May 14th!

Churchill House Meeting

There will be a final decision making meeting regarding the use of the Churchill House

Sunday, May 7th

Immediately following worship.

Please join us!

BUSY HANDS!

BUSY HANDS ARE BACK!!

Join us on any Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. till Noon in the church basement—no skill required—just a willing spirit and a friendly smile. We will find a job for you!!



We Need!

IDEAS!! IDEAS!! IDEAS!!!



Need Prayer?

A member of the Prayer Team will be available 20 minutes before the start of service and after service for anyone who would like one-on-one prayer.



Will you or a loved one be graduating the near future? We will be honoring our graduates on June 18th. Please contact the church office by June 4th and let us know the name and school of the graduate! Thanks!

United Methodist Annual Conference

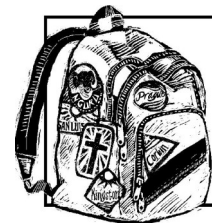
This years meeting is being held in Traverse City, Michigan on June 1st through the 4th

Our church representatives who will be attending are:

- Pastor Suzy Hutchison
- Glenn D. Quick &
- Laura Pobanz

Visit the UMC website for more information at

<http://2017.michiganumc.org/>



MISSION TRIP NEWS!

Eddie Calomeni is leading a mission trip to Paradise, Michigan September 21-24. This is a mission trip appropriate for families, and for people of all ages and abilities. The work will be catered to the skills we bring. Contact Eddie or Pastor Suzy for more details.

May Birthdays



**BIRTHDAYS
THIS MONTH**

- 2nd~ Amy Foster
Lily Yelencich
- 5th~ Kim Grose
- 7th~ Doris Fuerstenau,
Jeffery Michelsen
- 8th~ Donna Quick
- 11th~ Christine Rowley-Hebel
Mary Ann Rowley
Helga Wisswell
- 14th~ Bonnie Puls
- 16th~ Jackson Rix
James Allen
- 17th~ Scott Light
- 18th~ Lindi Denny
- 19th~ Margaret Gibson
Marie Pobanz
- 20th~ Elenore MacIvor
- 21st~ Noel Grose
- 30th~ Doug Logan

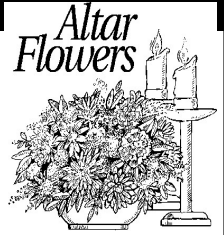
If you or a family member have a birthday or anniversary this month, but are not on this list, please contact the church office so we can update our information. Thank you!

Esther Sarah Gates

The family will honor Esther's life with a celebration memorial service at the First United Methodist Church in Richmond on Saturday, May 27, 2017 10:00 a.m., with 9:00 a.m. visitation.

The Flower Chart for 2017

still has dates available! The cost for an arrangement is \$17.50. These flowers are paid for by members of our congregation with specific dedications listed in the bulletin. This is a wonderful way to provide flowers as a memorial or to honor someone, or celebrate birthdays and anniversaries during the 2017 church year, **and of course you are welcome to take them home to enjoy or share with someone after the Service.**



Please make sure your flower payments are in the office before your scheduled Sunday. You may bring your payment to the office or put it in the offering in an envelope marked "altar flowers". Thanks, *Jennifer*

Below is a copy of the Altar Flower Calendar for the next few months of 2017. It shows the dates that are available. Call the church office (727-2622) if you would like to reserve a Sunday.

May, 2017

- 7 _____
- 14 Fruin _____
- 21 Willer _____
- 28 _____

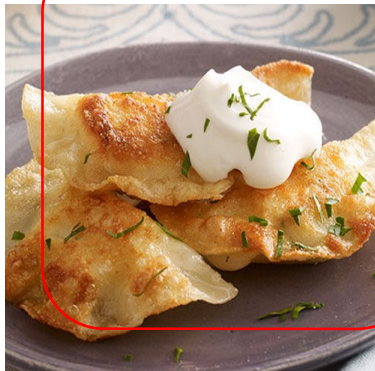
June, 2017

- 4 _____
- 11 Fruin _____
- 18 _____
- 25 _____

July, 2017

- 2 _____
- 9 _____
- 16 Walkowski _____
- 23 Wisswell _____
- 30 _____

AUTHENTIC POLISH DINNER



Tuesday, May 9th 2017

5:00—7:30 p.m.

Adults: \$12.00

Children 6-12: \$6.00

Children 5 & under: Free

Carry-outs available

MENU

Golobka (Stuffed Cabbage), Fresh Kapusta (Sauerkraut), Fresh Handmade Kielbasa, Handmade Pierogis, Dill Pickle Soup, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Cucumbers in Sour Cream, Rye Bread, Relish Tray, Dessert, Coffee, Tea, Milk

**First United Methodist Church
69495 N. Main (next to Fire Hall), Richmond**

