MARCH NEWSLETTER 2025

RIGHMOND

First United Methodist Church Newsletter

BY: PASTOR SUNHWA

Lent 2025: "Return to the Lord"

Hello Richmond First! I am your pastor, Sunhwa.

Do you need a place to rest, feel God's presence, or receive God's touch?

On March 5th, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent—a 40-day journey toward Easter. God invites you to come and see.

According to the ministry of United Methodist Communication, Lent is a season of forty days, excluding Sundays, beginning on Ash Wednesday and concluding on Holy Saturday. The forty days symbolize the period Jesus spent in the wilderness, facing the temptation of Satan and preparing to commence his ministry. Lent is a time of repentance, fasting, and readiness for the arrival of Easter. It serves as a period for self-examination and reflection.

This year marks our second year of participating in Lenten Sunday worship and Wednesday services together. Join us for our Ash Wednesday service on March 5 at 7:00 PM, followed by six weeks of Wednesday Lenten Devotions featuring prayers, hymns, scripture readings, testimonies, and reflections at 7:00 PM in the church.

If you plan to give up something as a means of concentrating on spiritual discipline during Lent, consider committing time each of these 40 days to prayer, reading the Bible, and sharing God's love with one another.

I invite everyone to join us for a time of prayer, Bible reading, and praising God together. When we come together, we are encouraged to complete this journey.

Important Dates

3/2-	Sunday Service 9:30am	
	Holy Communion	
3/3-	Praise Group 1pm	
3/5-	Busy Hands 10am-12pm	
	Ash Wednesday Service 7pm	
3/7-	Vision Group 10am	
3/8-	Movie Day, The Wild Robot, 1pm	
3/9-	9- Sunday Service 9:30am	
	Potato Sunday	
3/10-	Praise Group 1pm	
3/12-	Busy Hands 10am-12pm	
	UMW Spring Gathering 12:30pm	
	Lent Service 7pm	
3/16-	Sunday Service 9:30am	
	UMM meet at Ken's Kitchen 8am	
3/17-	Praise Group 1pm	
3/19-	Busy Hands 10am-12pm	
	Lent Service 7pm	
3/21-	Vision Group 10am	
3/23-	Sunday Service 9:30am	
	Easter Choir Practice 4pm	
3/24-	Praise Group 1pm	
3/26-	Busy Hands 10am-12pm	
	Lent Service 7pm	
3/27-	Leadership Board Meeting 7pm	



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



By: Donna Quick

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It is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

Philippians 2:13

Gathering at 'Gather & Grounds' to share in fellowship, a tasty lunch and an atmosphere of loving care was a special February blessing!

It really has been a beautiful Winter! However, aren't we all looking forward to Spring? Special treat in store for our March meeting. Pastor Sunhwa and Nina are preparing lunch for our **'SPRING WOMEN'S GATHERING'** at 12:30pm on March 12. The ladies from Washington UMC will be doing a Bible Study at 11am and joining us for lunch and fellowship. ALL ladies are welcome. What a beautiful way to welcome Spring!

'BUSY HANDS' to begin meeting March 5, 10-12! We may begin with organizing and 'housecleaning', different than at home, we can join forces with friends and discuss ideas and projects for the year. Proceeding ahead, plan on Wednesdays at 10am for Busy Hands!

Bless all of you United Women in Faith---will see 'U' on the 12th!!

RICHMOND FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH WOMEN'S

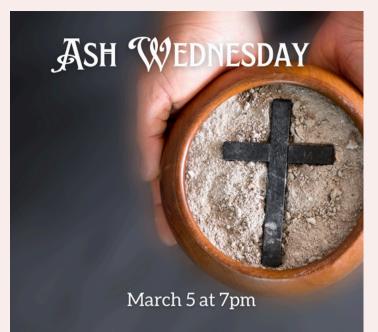
What to Expect: *Creative Workshops: various hands-on activities and crafts. *Fun & Laughter *Community Connection *Delicious Treats Bring your creativity and a smile! Let's make this day unforgettable! We will wait to see you there.

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Invitation

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WEDNESDAY MARCH 12- AT 10-12 PM LUNCH 12:30 PM



Richmond First United Methodist Church

RFUMC - Richmond First United Methodist Church Richmond - MI



LENTEN SERVICES 2025

• Ash Wednesday - March 5, 7:00 PM

1st Week of Lent Theme: "He Chose to Be One of Us" • 1st Sunday – March 9, 9:30 AM & Wednesday – March 12, 7:00 PM

2nd Week of Lent Theme: "He Chose to Forgive Us" • 2nd Sunday – March 16, 9:30 AM & Wednesday – March 19, 7:00 PM

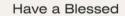
3rd Week of Lent

Theme: "He Chose to Invite Us into His Presence" • 3rd Sunday – March 23, 9:30 AM & Wednesday – March 26, 7:00 PM 4th Week of Lent

Theme: "He Chose to Love Us Forever" • 4th Sunday – March 30, 9:30 AM & Wednesday – April 2, 7:00 PM

5th Week of Lent Theme: "He Chose to Give Us Victory" • 5th Sunday – April 6, 9:30 AM & Wednesday – April 9, 7:00 PM

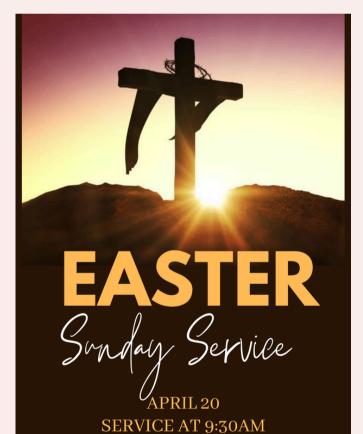
6th Week of Lent Theme: "He Chose the Nails" • 6th Sunday – April 13, 9:30 AM & Good Friday Service – April 18, 4:00 PM





May his light guide your path

Good Friday Service April 18, 4pm



JOIN US FOR A MOVIE DAY!

ADMISSION IS FREE!

DONATIONS ARE WELCOME TO BENEFIT OUR RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND



JOIN GREAT COMPANY IN WATCHING A CHARMING AND INSPIRING MOVIE WITH LIGHT SNACKS



SATURDAY MARCH 8 2025

1:00PM

BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

Richmond First United Methodist Church 69495 N Main St (Next to the Fire Hall)



The Easter Choir will start practicing on Sundays, 4:00 PM. First practice will be March 23.

If you would like to donate altar flowers there is a sign up sheet hanging in the back of the church by the picture frame.





There is now a sign-up sheet for Sunday coffee hour. You can bring a treat for Sunday Service.

OTHER





A big thank you to all who provided breakfast bars and poptarts this past month. This month we are requesting store packaged cookies.

If you would like to volunteer with or donate to this great community wide outreach, please contact Laura Pobanz at (586) 727-2656.





KROGER

Last Quarter Total Donations Was

\$54.46 Enter Richmond First United Methodist Church in the search button or our non-profit number AB956. Please let friends and family know so that they can register us as their non-profit organization also.





VISION TEAM MEETS EVERY OTHER FRIDAY AT 10AM. MARCH 7 & 21



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 3: Janeane Avery March 8: Glenda Rix March 9: Tim Rix Majorie Monahan March 11: Jon Walkowski March 12: Nancy Maro March 14: Clara Patchel March 20: Sarah Montgomery March 21: Olivia Wofford Kurt Nieman Nichole Denny March 27: Nicholas Maro March 30: Kathy Harley



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

March 2,1985: Terry & Clara Patchel





We Are Praying For You!

- Sandy McClellan, recovering from knee surgery
- Debbie Fuerstenau, battling cancer
- Donna Calomeni, Eddie Calomeni's mom, multiple health issues
- Rick Pearsall, Patrick & Sandy McClellan's son-in-law, health concerns
- Those families with loved ones that have passed recently
- Local and national leaders
- Medical and health professionals
- Service men and women
- The students, teachers, and staff of the schools
- Those seeking employment, housing, and everyday needs
- The social unrest in our country

FEBRUARY FACTS & FIGURES



DATE	ATTENDANCE	GIVING TOTAL
February 2, 2025	37	\$4,285
February 9, 2025	42	\$2,837
February 16, 2025	38	\$3,320
February 23, 2025	45	\$1,807

February Giving Total: \$12,249 (Includes scholarship fundraiser (\$532) and backpack blessing, \$200) February Expenditures Total: \$9,773.93

CHURCH LEADERSHIP 2025

CHAIR OF COUNCIL: Glenn Quick (2025)

LAY LEADER: Laura Pobanz (conference only)

SPRC MEMBERS: Foster Amy (2026) Lyszczyk, Vicki (2025) Kondek, Larry (2025) Ioco, Amanda

FINANCE TEAM: Livingston Tina (Chair) Gutt, Christine (Treasurer) Nieman, Sue (Financial Secretary)

TRUSTEES: Habel, Derek (Chair) Light, Scott Dickson, Jennifer

MEMBERS AT LARGE: Foster, Susan

NOMINATING: Pastor Sunhwa Foster, Susan





First United Methodist Church Sunhwa Hopgood, Pastor Office: (586) 727-2622 Office Hours: Monday 10:30am-12:30pm Tuesday 10:30am-12:30pm Wednesday 10:30am-12:30pm Thursday 10:30am-12:30pm Friday CLOSED