



MARCH NEWSLETTER 2025

RICHMOND

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-** 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

“

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
Gathering
Invitation

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.**

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

ASH WEDNESDAY



March 5 at 7pm

Richmond First United Methodist Church



RFUMC - Richmond First United Methodist Church
Richmond - MI

Schedule

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

Have a Blessed

GOOD FRIDAY

May his light guide
your path

Good Friday Service
April 18, 4pm



EASTER

Sunday Service

APRIL 20
SERVICE AT 9:30AM

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

BACKPACK BLESSINGS



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.



***PRAISE MEETS
MONDAYS AT 1PM***



***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