

RICHMOND

First United Methodist Church Newsletter

BY: PASTOR SUNHWA

“Finding Your Spark”

Hello, Richmond First! I am your pastor, Sunhwa.

What a joy it has been to grow together during this Lenten season, as we have deepened our faith through additional Wednesday services.

This year marks my third Lenten season with you, and I continue to be amazed by the spirit and dedication of this church.

I once heard a pastor say that when someone asks, “What is your job?” she does not simply answer, “I am a pastor” or “I am a preacher.” Instead, she says, “I help people find their spark.”

A “spark” is your passion, your gifts, or anything that motivates you and keeps you going. It could be your gift of music, teaching, serving, ministry, or something else entirely.

Friends, do you have a spark? Or did you once have one? Have I helped you discover your spark? And do you know why that spark matters?

One of the songs we sang during our Wednesday services reminded me why it is so important. It is the hymn “Pass It On.”

“It only takes a spark to get a fire going, and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing. That’s how it is with God’s love once you’ve experienced it; you spread his love to everyone; you want to pass it on”

This hymn reminds us why your spark, my spark, and the spark of our church truly matter because it only takes a small spark to start a great fire.

It may be that God is speaking this message to you and to me in this Lenten season: “Find your spark,” or perhaps even, “Refine your spark.”

And God gently reminds me of my calling as your pastor to walk with you, to encourage you, and to help you discover and nurture your spark.

Important Dates

- 4/1-** Busy Hands 10am-12 pm
- 4/3-** Good Friday Service 4 pm
- 4/5**
Easter Breakfast 8 am
Sunday Service 9:30 am
Holy Communion
- 4/6-** Praise Group 1:30 pm
- 4/8-** Busy Hands 10am-12 pm
- 4/12-** Sunday Service 9:30 am
Potato Sunday
- 4/13-** Praise Group 1:30 pm
- 4/15-** Busy Hands 10am-12 pm
- 4/19-** Sunday Service 9:30 am
UMM Breakfast at Ken's 8 am
- 4/20-** Praise Group 1:30 pm
- 4/22-** Busy Hands 10am-12 pm
- 4/26-** Sunday Service 9:30 am
- 4/27-** Praise Group 1:30 pm
- 4/29-** Busy Hands 10am-12 pm

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



By: Donna Quick

“

*...for now the winter
is past, the rain is
over and gone. The
flowers appear on
the earth; the time
of singing has come,
and the voice of the
turtledove is heard
in our land.*

**Solomon 2:11-12
NRSV**

What a joy to share in fellowship as we begin our new season of productivity! Our discussion centered around being good stewards of our funds and the support we are privileged to be able continue for our mission outreach. It was fun sharing childhood memories and learning a bit more about each other. Our 'Busy Hands' are spring cleaning and planning for a season of renewed hope for continuing our purpose of expanding our concept of missions!

Your Date to Remember...April 8, Wednesday, 12:30 Regular Meeting! Every Wednesday 10-12 'Busy Hands'!

May God's blessings spring forward in your lives!
Happy Spring!!



By: Susan Foster

!!!WE NEED YOU!!!

Each and every Wednesday morning from 10-12, we are working on Bazaar projects in the church basement.

The Bazaar is the largest fundraiser for the U.M.W. The funds are used to support the church budget, Methodist retirement homes, Compassion Pregnancy Center, Turning Point (a shelter for abused women and children), Red Bird Mission, Heffer Project, The Sharing Org (visits nursing homes), Cass Corridor's Dress for Success program, and postage for the card program.

You can see why we need many hands to help create the items that we will be selling on November 14, 2026 - BAZAAR DAY!

No special talents are needed. We will find jobs that you are comfortable doing and maybe teach you something new.

Please try to help us make the funds needed to help all of the groups that need our support.



*Have a Blessed
Good Friday*

*Good Friday Service
April 3, 4 pm*



*Easter Sunday
Service*

April 5, 9:30 am



**JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST
EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 5, 8 AM**

GOODNESS TO YOU





Yellow connect cards are located in the pews. One side is for prayer requests and the other side to update birthdays, addresses, anniversaries, etc. You can place them on the tithing plate or in the office.

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

***PRAISE TEAM
MEETS MONDAYS
AT 1:30PM***



OTHER

BACKPACK BLESSINGS



A big thank you to all who donated this past month. This month we are requesting The collected items for the month of April are packaged cookies and small bottles of laundry detergent. 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 \$59.97 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. Currently 19 households are contributing. Let us know if you need help signing up.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 6: Dan Carroll
April 9: Kristen Patchel
April 12: Susan Foster
April 13: Max Dawe
April 16: Christopher DeVos
April 19: Bennett White
April 20: Linda Kondek
April 21: Brenda Pruccoli
April 21: Melissa Rowley
April 23: Mia Tennimon
April 24: Lauren Tennimon
April 26: Emily Light
April 28: Sharlene Jakubowski
April 30: Mary Fealko



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

April 4, 1975:
Jim & Debbie Rhein

April 8:
Hoon & Sunhwa Hopgood

April 12, 2019:
Mike & Katie Rowley

April 18, 2006:
William and Lizabeth Wisner





We Are Praying For You!

- Art Breederland, took a fall and is in Rehab. He is recovering from a bleeding ulcer. Prayers to him and Jean at this difficult time.
- Family of Shirley Ahlgrim, friend of Jaynmarie Hubanks, has passed away.
- Wally Lewis, friend of Peg Carroll, has had back surgery.
- Scott Kleinhans, friend of the Rowley Family, is undergoing treatment for throat cancer.
- Beth Garner, friend of Ken and Darlene Kelly, is hospitalized with serious health issues.
- Prayers for James Tennimon and his unit as they have been deployed, and for Lauren, Mia and Violet during his time away.
- Prayers for Temple Israel in West Bloomfield after the violent attack at their synagogue.

MARCH FACTS & FIGURES



DATE	ATTENDANCE	GIVING TOTAL
MARCH 1, 2026	44	3164.44
MARCH 4, 2026	20	LENTEN SERVICE
MARCH 8, 2026	40	3068.97
MARCH 11, 2026	16	LENTEN SERVICE
MARCH 15, 2026	38	3193.38
MARCH 18, 2026	19	LENTEN SERVICE
MARCH 22, 2026	46	1301.90
MARCH 25, 2026	21	LENTEN SERVICE
MARCH 29, 2026	44	2155.12

March Giving Total: \$12,894.81

March Expenditures Total: \$13,631.07

CHURCH LEADERSHIP 2026

CHAIR OF COUNCIL: *Glenn Quick (2025)*

LAY LEADER: *Laura Pobanz (conference only)*

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

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

TRUSTEES: *Derek Habel*
Light, Scott
Kelly, Ken

MEMBER 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