

AUGUST NEWSLETTER 2025

RICHMOND

First United Methodist Church Newsletter



“Our church building tells our Story”

Hello Richmond First! I am your Pastor, Sunhwa.

Our Church Stewardship Campaign Committee is excited to prepare Grateful. Faithful. Generous. – Celebration Sunday, which will take place on September 28 as part of our stewardship campaign.

Rev. Jeffery D. Regan, the Senior Director of Stewardship for the United Methodist Foundation of Michigan, has attended our meetings several times to help lead the campaign and has graciously offered to preach on Celebration Sunday.

It reminds me of how I felt when I first visited our church, everything was so new to me. I was curious not only about our church members and the community, but also about practical things, like how to turn on the lights, use the screen, microphone, copy machine, and even the piano.

As a pastor, I had a great opportunity to learn and use much of the church’s equipment from the beginning. I experienced the joy of seeing our choir in robes, the Christmas costumes, and the chance to use all four microphones for the Christmas play. I also came to appreciate the Sunday School rooms, the kitchen, and the fellowship hall. All of this helped me feel that Richmond First is truly my home.

However, I also remember the list of repairs and projects for the church and parsonage that I received when I first began serving here. While some of these projects have already been completed, many are still waiting to be done.

Friends now is the time for us to take a fresh look at the needs of our church building—and we need your generosity. We are grateful and faithful as we see our ministries growing: United Women in Faith, Men’s Ministry, Backpack Blessing, a stronger music team, a thriving Sunday School, an expanding tech team, and more gatherings planned to reach our community.

Let’s come together as a church family and faithfully share in the stewardship of our space, equipment and ministry. When we do, people will see that our church is active, vibrant, and alive in ministry.



IMPORTANT DATES

- 8/3- Sunday Service 9:30am**
Holy Communion
- 8/6- Busy Hands 10am-12pm**
Praise Group 5:30pm
- 8/10- Sunday Service 9:30am**
Sunday School's Funday 3pm
- 8/11- Praise Group 5:30pm**
- 8/13 Busy Hands 10am-12pm**
UMW Gathering 12:30pm
- 8/17- Sunday Service 9:30am**
UMM Ken's 8am
- 8/18- Praise Group 5:30pm**
- 8/20- Busy Hands 10am-12pm**
- 8/21- Leadership Meeting 7pm**
- 8/24- Sunday Service 9:30am**
- 8/25- Praise Group 5:30pm**
- 8/27- Busy Hands 10am-12pm**
- 8/28- Stewardship Campaign Committee 7pm**
- 8/31- Sunday Service 9:30am**

Please prayerfully consider helping



Repairs and Projects for the Church and Parsonage

- 1. Replace parsonage windows**
- 2. Remodel church kitchen**
- 3. Remodel men's bathroom**
- 4. Paint exterior white trim and stained glass window frames**
- 5. Paint wrought iron railings**
- 6. Replace ceiling in the nursery**
- 7. Improve the sound system**
- 8. Repaint the cross and flame on the front of the church (currently faded)**
- 9. Refinish the entry door facing the parking lot**
- 10. Professionally trim the oak tree and dogwoods**
- 11. Install a new front door at the parsonage**
- 12. Replace the screen in the furnace room**

Please prayerfully consider helping with or taking on one of these projects:

"Grateful. Faithful. Generous"

Celebration Sunday for Stewardship on September 28

LET US WELCOME OUR GUEST SPEAKER



The Rev. Jeffery D. Regan has served United Methodist Congregation in Michigan of various sizes. Jeff is now serving as the Senior Director of Stewardship for the United Methodist Foundation in Michigan. Jeff has been a District Superintendent and the Detroit Annual Conference Director of Connectional Ministries.

Jeff is married to Linda and they have three adult children. The Rev. Jeffery D. Regan is in his twelfth year of retirement, from St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Rochester. Jeff Continues to provide leadership to our United Methodist Churches in Michigan through his work with the United Methodist Foundation of Michigan as the Senior Director of Stewardship

SUNDAY School

Hello Church!

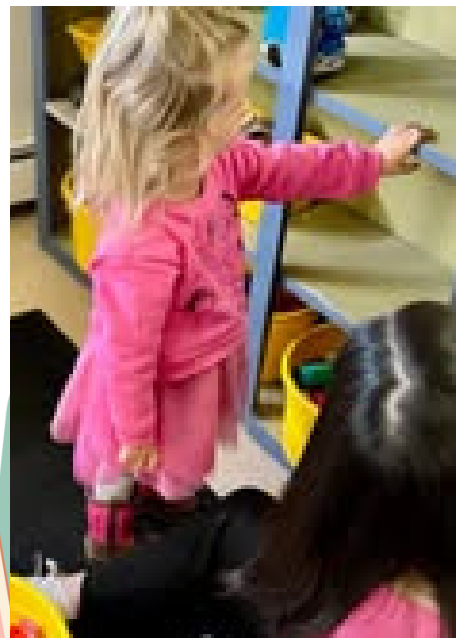
Regarding an update with our Sunday School, we have a wonderful arrangement for our church children! In fall through spring we meet downstairs during church for Bible lessons and art work. We start in the fall with children stories in the Old Testament such as, David & Johnathan young friendship and through adulthood. Also, young Samuel and his relationship with Eli, and the wonderful way Eli handled the situation with Samuel's "dreams", and how we can listen to the voice of God in the modern world. We learn about Abraham and Sarah having a baby at an old age, and Isaac's growing up years. The brotherhood of Jacob & Esau with the love for each other in the end. So many more children's stories!

Lauren Tennimons, Julia Hopgood, Amy Foster and I are working together all year long for our children, Mia & Violet, Silas, Daisy and Nola, and Pearl, Roman, and sometimes the kids bring along their cousins, all are welcome!

We have lots of art supplies downstairs, and the Women's Club donates so much to Sunday School, we are so grateful!

We thank our church for the support of our children at FUMC, prayers for our success in love for our faith in this world, are always appreciated, and so important!

Thank You! Christine



SUNDAY School

When Service begins, Sunday School participants can sit at the children's table for the beginning of service. There, they are able to quietly play with a few games and toys, color, or read. After the congregation Greets One Another, we head down to the Sunday School area.

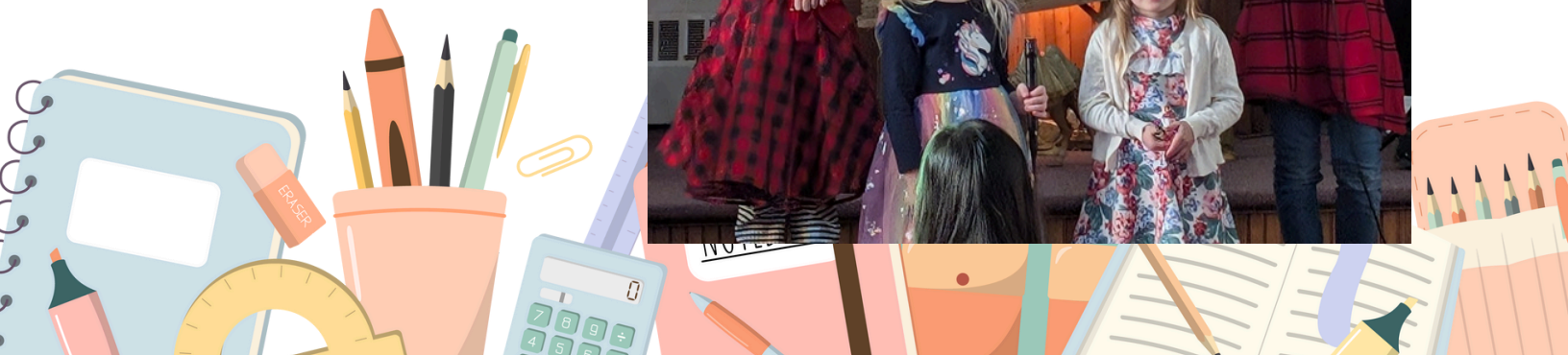
Every Sunday, we teach a lesson designed for all ages to foster a closer relationship with Jesus Christ, as well as aid in understanding God's Word. For example, one Sunday, we held a lesson titled "Why do we pray?" in which we held an open discussion with the participants. While we were discussing the topic, the children were creating their very own prayer boxes to take home. We also read Bible Stories.

The lessons usually take around 10 minutes. Once they are over, we go into open play time to help build the sense of fellowship. There are toys, books, and crafts available. We do try to have the children create a small craft or drawing each week to take home as a keepsake.

There are opportunities throughout the year for children to participate in a choir to sing a song at a significant service, such as Mother's Day, Easter, and Christmas Eve. The songs are kid-friendly, and they do not have to participate if they are not comfortable. The children's church choir performances are a big hit with the congregation every time!

Thank you,

Lauren Tennimon



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



By: Donna Quick

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, as indeed you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Sharing and caring was the feeling for our July 'Out-to lunch' at Gather & Grounds! What a beautiful time we enjoyed! Encouraging each other in our faith journey is 'uniting' as we work at Busy Hands and fellowship together.

The rummage Sale was a lot of work!! Susan Foster relentless in her encouragement that we could do this this! With the help of so many women of our church family, building each other up to do the job, we were successful in raising around \$1000 for our missions! this will help support our list of causes:

FUMC Budget Contribution, United Women in faith District Missions, Backpack Program, Cass 'Dress for Success, Heifer Project, UMCOR, The Sharing Org-local nursing home ministry, Red Bird Mission, Methodist Retirement Home, RHS Scholarship Fund, Compassion Pregnancy Center, And MCREST for homeless men.

There is no August meeting, However EVERY WEDNESDAY 'BUSY HANDS' MEETS FROM 10-12PM

WE NEED 'U', 'U'NITED WOMEN
BLESSINGS TO ALL IN HIS SERVICE!

BUSY HANDS



By: Susan Foster

Many Thanks to those who brought in new, old, and started craft kits. We have received many great projects for the bazaar.

DON'T STOP. We can always use more!! The drop box is in the back of the church.

We would love for you to join us on Wednesdays from 10 till noon. Enjoy the friendship, have some tea. and maybe a treat.

There are many un-crafty jobs to be done. You may have more talent than you think!!





Dates to Note

Church Charge Conference 2025

October 19th at 6pm

Held at Richmond First

Zoom SPRC Meeting

October 16th at 7pm



New yellow connect cards have been printed. One side 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 now a sign-up sheet for Sunday coffee hour. You can bring a treat for Sunday Service.

***PRAISE MEETS MONDAYS
AT 5:30PM (SUMMER)***



***THE NEXT
STEWARDSHIP
CAMPAIGN
COMMITTEE MEETING
IS
AUGUST 21ST 7PM***



By Darlene Kelly, Stewardship Committee Member

Celebration Sunday is coming! Mark your calendars for this special Sunday, September 28th, 2025. Our church provides a lot of opportunity for support and encouragement to us, our families and community. This will be a time for all of us to look inside ourselves and see what we can do to help our church grow and set some goals for giving in the coming year. The Stewardship Committee has begun planning this event which will include a guest speaker, delicious coffee hour and fellowship. More information will be coming in the next couple of months, so stay tuned!!

OTHER



A big thank you to all who provided condiments this past month. This month we will be collecting cereal, everything except Frosted Flakes.

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

Last Quarter Total Donations Were \$64.06 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.



We will be collecting donations of hot dogs, mustard, ketchup, small, bottled water, and monetary donations for our annual Hot dog event held during the Good Old Days Parade.

Please contact Laura Pobanz (586-727-2656) with questions or donations.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1st Sandy McClellan,
Benjamin Light
3rd Marsha Jakubowski
6th Jeana Wofford
7th Debbie Rhein

9th Tammi Rosick
11th Debbie Fuerstenau
Alexandra Light
12th Kylie Kramer
15th Debbie Merecki
18th Vern Patterson

19th Sherry Peninger
20th Terry Patchel
21st Larry Wofford

23rd Tina Rudolph



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

August 16 Ed & Anita Calomeni
August 22, 2015 Derek Habel & Amy
Foster
August 28, 1965 Dale & Donna Quick





We Are Praying For You!

- Wayne Murray and family, whose sister Carol Murray, passed away Wednesday July 23rd.
 - Cec's Brother-in-law's health concerns.
 - Tom and Glenda Rix's nephew, Wayne Moore, is undergoing Cancer treatments
 - The Walleman family, the Kramer girl's aunt and uncle's, sister-in-law, and her full-term unborn baby, who both passed away Saturday unexpectedly. Prayers for her husband, 2yr old daughter, their families, and friends.
 - Don Rhein, Jim Rhein's brother, passed away, prayers for his wife Helga and the Rhein Family
 - Joey, Peggy and Dan Carroll's grandson, Rachel Collins's son, Autism and serious health concerns
 - Mark McKiernan, friend of the Quick Family, Intense treatments for brain tumor
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- 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

JULY

FACTS & FIGURES



DATE	ATTENDANCE	GIVING TOTAL
7/6/2025	29	3576.27
7/13/2025	41	4317
7/20/2025	41	1615
7/27/2025	51	7212

July Giving Total: \$16,720.27
July Expenditures Total: \$11,799.80

CHURCH LEADERSHIP 2025

CHAIR OF COUNCIL: Glenn Quick (2025)

LAY LEADER: Laura Pobanz (conference only)

SPRC MEMBERS: Foster Amy (Chair, 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

MEMBERS AT LARGE: Foster, Susan

NOMINATING: Pastor Sunhwa
Foster, Susan



First United Methodist Church
Sunhwa Hopgood, Pastor
Office: (586) 727-2622

Kristina Ravenscroft, Administrator
Mondays available by email 10am-12
Wednesday:
Friday:
Watch weekly emails for updates