

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2025

RICHMOND

First United Methodist Church Newsletter

BY: PASTOR SUNHWA

A Fresh Start with Christ

Richmond First! I am your pastor, Sunhwa.

I recently saw a post from one of our church members that resonated with me: "I've decided my 2025 will start on February 1st. January was just a free trial month."

As we step into a new year, some of us may still feel hesitant to begin anew. Perhaps you're holding on to past burdens, struggling with bitterness, or feeling uncertain about how to start fresh.

Friends, February is here, and it is time to move forward. Take that first step, no matter how small—a step toward healing, renewal, and a deeper relationship with God.

Begin something new with Jesus Christ. Seek Him in prayer, worship, and His Word. Even if your heart feels heavy, lift your voice in song. Even if your spirit is weary, whisper a prayer. Scripture reminds us that when we take even one step toward Him, God meets us with God's grace, turning mourning into joy and sorrow into peace.

Looking back on the past year, I am filled with gratitude. We have grown together in faith, deepened our connections, and served with open hearts. I thank God for each of you—your prayers, your time, and your dedication to the mission of God. Through you, God's love continues to transform lives, our church, and the world.

So, shall we journey together once more in 2025? Let us step forward in faith, trusting that God walks with us every step of the way.

Important Dates

- 2/2-** Sunday Service 9:30am
- 2/3-** Praise Group 1pm
- 2/7-** Vision Group 10am
- 2/9-** Sunday Service 9:30am
Potato Sunday
- 2/10-** Praise Group 1pm
- 2/16-** Valentine Sunday Service 9:30am
UMM meet at Ken's Kitchen 8am
Bake Sale Scholarship Fundraiser
- 2/17-** Praise Group 1pm
- 2/21-** Vision Group 10am
- 2/23-** Sunday Service 9:30am
- 2/27-** Leadership Board Meeting 7pm

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



By: Donna Quick

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*And now faith,
hope, and love
abide, these
three; and the
greatest of these
is love.*

*1 Corinthians
13:13 NRSV*

Welcome February as one month closer to Spring! In the heart of Winter, February brings it's warmth and love. This month can be interpreted in the Bible as a time of purification, love and recommitment to God and others. Celebrate LOVE every day in February and find wonder in every sunrise!

Let's celebrate 2025 with our Bi-Annual 'Out-To-Lunch'! ATTENTION to new location...Gather + Grounds next to Week's Meat Market, 36446 Division. Will see ALL women of our church there on Wednesday, February 12 @ 12:30!

Bring your conversation to share visions for the year! We're looking for lots of ideas to do at 'Busy Hands'! Please bring your thoughts and optimistic ideas looking forward to a productive year! Look forward to announcement of 'Busy Hands' beginning in March or April!

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

BAKED GOODS SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

***FEBRUARY 16, 2025
(AFTER OUR VALENTINE WORSHIP SERVICE)***



Please donate a baked good, sample some treats, or take some home. All free will donations will go to our Scholarship Fund which hopes to award two \$1000 scholarships to Richmond High School seniors who will be graduating in 2025. This will be our fourth year of awards.

We encourage you to participate in this community outreach mission. You may also donate to this fund at any time by writing "Scholarship" on your offering envelope. Please join us for some delicious treats and fellowship. Hope to see you there!



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

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.



Ash Wednesday Service, March 5, will take place at 7pm. If you would like to attend an earlier service, Washington's Ash Wednesday service will take place at 12pm.

OTHER

BACKPACK BLESSINGS



A big thank you to all who provided chips this past month. This month we are requesting breakfast bars and pop-tarts.

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.
FEB 7 & 21***



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 6: Penny Yelencich
February 9: Debbie Desero
Mary Logan
February 10: Keith Pobanz
February 11: Joe Dickenson
February 16: Charlotte Pierzynski
February 18: Jerry Lesinski
Sarah Brown
Stephen Pierzynski
February 19: Kristina Livingston
February 21: Heather Yelencich
Kerry Quick
February 22: Darlene Kelly



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

February 16, 1979:
Dan & Peggy Carroll

February 25, 1989:
Keith & Laura Pobanz





We Are Praying For You!

- Michael Rix, Glenda & Tom Rix's son, back surgery
 - Carol Walters, stroke
 - Debbie Fuerstenau, battling cancer
 - Donna Calomeni, Eddie Calomeni's mom, multiple health issues
 - Rick Pearsall, Patrick & Sandy McClellan's son-in-law, health concerns
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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

JANUARY FACTS & FIGURES



DATE	ATTENDANCE	GIVING TOTAL
January 5, 2025	37	\$2,320
January 12, 2025	56	\$3,650
January 19, 2025	38	\$390
January 26, 2025	45	\$2,155

January Giving Total: \$8,515
January Expenditures Total: \$6,745.92

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