



SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2025

RICHMOND

First United Methodist Church Newsletter

“Grateful, Faithful, Generous” Stewardship Campaign 2025

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

This month, we will celebrate Stewardship Sunday. Our stewardship campaign committee has been such a blessing as they prepared our church’s story of being grateful, faithful, and generous. We have witnessed how great God has been with us. God’s faithfulness works through the faithfulness of our church family, and we continually witness the generosity of each one of you. I first learned about stewardship campaigns in the church where I grew up and later served as a staff member. The congregation was asked to pledge their financial support for the coming year, and many shared their giving with joy and hope for the ministry.

That is why I am so excited to lead this stewardship campaign at Richmond First, my very first full-time pastoral appointment. This will be my first time leading a stewardship campaign, and it is a great joy and honor.

I am deeply grateful for the love and dedication of our church family who participate in the ministry. Your generosity has been a true blessing, and now we are asking for your continued support to help us meet the needs ahead.

Since I was a college freshman, I made the decision to tithe. It wasn’t much—just a portion of what I earned from tutoring—but it was important to me to give not only from my income but also from my time and talents. This lifelong commitment shaped my heart and led me to serve and participate in the ministry of the church.

We need your support now more than ever. Our church building and parsonage require essential repairs and upgrades. It is time to address these needs to ensure a welcoming and safe space for all who come through our doors.

Your generosity allows us to continue proclaiming the name of Jesus and sharing God’s love with our community. With your support, we can ensure that our church remains a place of worship, growth, and service for all.

Please mark your calendar and join us on Celebration Sunday for Stewardship on September 28.



IMPORTANT DATES

- 9/3- Busy Hands 10am-12pm**
- 9/8- Praise Group 5:30pm**
- 9/10- Busy Hands 10am-12pm**
Womens Fall Gathering UMW 12:30pm
- 9/14- Sunday Service 9:30am**
Potato Sunday
- 9/15 Praise Group 5:30pm**
- 9/17- Busy Hands 10am-12pm**
- 9/21- Sunday Service 9:30am**
UMM Ken's 8am
- 9/22- Praise Group 5:30pm**
- 9/24- Busy Hands 10am-12pm**
- 9/25- Leadership Meeting 7pm**
- 9/28- Stewardship Sunday**
Sunday Service 9:30am
- 9/29- Praise Group 5:30pm**

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

The Praise Team

Hello Church,

It's great being on the praise team along with Pastor Sunhwa, Debbie Rhein, Joe Dibley, and the Pastors daughters Julia and Jenna. I never thought I would enjoy it so much. I love our weekly practices. In a normal week Pastor Sunhwa selects the hymns that we'll play the next three to four weeks. Pastor, Debbie, and I practice all the selected songs with the knowledge that there are most likely changes in store. These may range from playing a different hymn, to modifying how it is arranged. Also, during practice we work together sharing ideas, practicing different musical styles and always try to improve our performance. After the songs are set for the coming Sunday the music information is shared with the rest of the group. As a team we have become quite resilient.

I thoroughly enjoy working on our special services during the Lenten and Christmas seasons. We try to create services that are spiritual and meaningful for those attending our church. We also review previous services for things that seemed to go good and things that could use improvement.

A problem that we are currently attempting to fix is our sound system, while most often it seems to work fine in church there is a problem on our live stream. The sound of the instruments is barely audible. Absent a sound technician, we are attempting to educate ourselves with the system and will hopefully solve the problem in the coming months. Your patience is greatly appreciated.

Thanks to all of you who listen to us, I hope we bring you a service that gives you peace and tranquility.

Also, we love hearing all your voices while we play, so keep singing.

by Mark Delcourt





What a blessing it has been to be a part of our Praise Team! Personally, I have grown a lot as a musician and a person thanks to some of the challenges that are part of playing in a music group, and also thanks to the other musicians.

We all support and encourage one another. Pastor Sunhwa has confidence in us and isn't afraid to present us with music that is new and a little difficult for us. With determination and practice each week, we meet the challenge head on and soon we're playing the piece in church for all of you, allowing the Holy Spirit to do His work in your hearts.

Are there hymns that we haven't played and sang in church for some time? Maybe your favorite? Please let us know so we can add it to our playbook! I'll continue to look forward to being blessed and being a blessing for the Lord as He uses me to share His Word through music and song!

Thank you! Debbie Rhein



Stewardship Sunday
September 28, 2025
Grateful, Faithful, Generous



The goal of stewardship is for us to spiritually transform and enable us to continue to reach out to others with Christ's love. It encompasses every aspect of our Christian lives: our time, talents, resources, and the care we show for God's creation.

As such your pledge of support by submitting your pledge card on Stewardship Sunday, an example of which is shown, provides our Church community the means to plan ahead in serving God, members of our Church community, and the city of Richmond. It also provides us with the opportunity in planning the maintenance, repairs if needed, and improvements to our church building and equipment.

With consideration to your pledge as per 1 Peter 4:10 'Each one, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the good of others the special gift he has received from God' highlights the concept that each Christian has a specific, God-given talent to be used for the benefit of the community.

The Stewardship Committee extends its appreciation for your support.

First United Methodist Church of Richmond
Pledge for January - December of 2026

Name _____

Funding for all FUMC ministries, missions, building maintenance & improvements, and staffing.

With God's help, I/we are stepping out in faith and pledging:

Amount \$ _____ ☐ per week ☐ per month ☐ per year

(We would like to give a one-time gift to the Building Needs Fund.)

Amount \$ _____

"Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!" Matthew 25:21 (NIV)

(Please use the back side to update your contact information)

Name _____ Cell Phone _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Anniversary _____

Email address(es) _____

Birthdate(s) _____

Our church has a number of areas where we are in need of volunteers and helpers. Would you be willing to share your time and talents?



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



By: Donna Quick

The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it for me." Matthew 25:40 NIV

At our heart and in our soul, we are a faith-driven organization. Our beliefs unite us and push us to keep connecting to continue our work for missions. Fall brings us together 'as an organized unit' to meet in fellowship! It will be special to join with the ladies from Washington UM Church again for "Upper Room" Devotional learning session @ 11am, lunch and fellowship @ 12:30! All are invited to share!

This month's opportunity is for all our church family to join us in our collection of \$ for the Annual 'Dress For Success' Back to School Cass Community. We have a budgeted amount, plus any donations will be sent on in October to "one of the least of these brothers and sisters... Watch for a donation container or see Donna for your opportunity!

Dates to Remember:

September 10, Wednesday with Washington UM Ladies...11am Devotional, 12:30 Lunch & Fellowship

October 8, Wednesday @12:30 Annual 'Baby Shower' for Macomb Co Compassion Pregnancy Center

October 11, East Winds District Annual Meeting with Rev. Faith Fowler, Cass Community, as keynote speaker!

Every Wednesday...!BUSY HANDS', 10-12 Noon joyfully gather to 'craft' for our Annual Bazaar, encouraging each other in our cause!

God's blessings on your faith journey!

BUSY HANDS



By: Susan Foster

The clock is Ticking-Ticking-Ticking!

November 8th- BAZAAR DAY- will be here before we can blink an eye. That means we need your HELP! HELP! HELP! To complete projects to sell to have the funds to continue to support our church plus many other charities.

Wednesdays 9 until 12pm we are at the church with Busy Hands: sewing, cutting, snacking, glueing, painting, snacking, creating new ideas, finishing up projects, snacking, and much more!

Thanks to those who dropped off projects for us. Much appreciated! Good Stuff!

Can always use more.





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

Stewardship
All things are possible with God



Devote Time



Share Talent



Give Treasure



A way of life

*THE NEXT STEWARDSHIP
CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE
MEETING IS THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 18 AT 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!!



A big thank you to all who provided cereal this past month!! This month we will be collecting chips and crackers.

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.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9/3 Dale Quick
9/5 Amanda Ioco
9/9 Jean Breederland
9/13 Carl Merecki
9/20 Peggy Carroll
9/23 Nina Delcourt
9/24 Laura Pobanz
9/26 Greg Pilibosian
9/28 Maddison Quick



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

September 5, 2020
Phil & Amanda Ioco

September 16, 1989
David & Lindi Denny





We Are Praying For You!

- Relative of Alane Rowley, Cody Ballard, 10 years old, diagnosed with Leukemia
 - Lauren Tennimon's mom, who has two blood clots in her lungs. Pray that they heal quickly and that her CT scan results come back clear and non-cancerous.
 - Jaynmarie Hubanks friend, Bear's son Frank, prayers for Epileptic seizures.
 - Carol Jarrett, friend of Kristina Livingston, has been diagnosed with brain cancer. Pray for her strength and guidance.
 - Cec's Brother-in-law's health concerns.
 - Joey, Peggy and Dan Carroll's grandson, Rachel Collins's son, prayers for Pediatric Therapy.
 - Tom and Glenda Rix's nephew, Wayne Moore, is undergoing Cancer treatments
 - Mark McKiernan, friend of the Quick Family, Intense treatments for brain tumor
 - MCREST, as they are facing financial struggles
-
- 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

AUGUST

FACTS & FIGURES



DATE	ATTENDANCE	GIVING TOTAL
08/03/2025	50	4960.50
08/10/2025	43	1555.00
08/17/2025	43	2545.00
08/24/2025	51	not availbale at time of newsletter
08/31/2025	42	not availbale at time of newsletter

August Giving Total: not available at time of posting
August Expenditures Total:

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