

SHARING THE WORD

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

RICHMOND, MICHIGAN

May 2020



FIRST

UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Pastor Katie Dailey

OFFICE: 586-727-3155

E-mail: firstunitedcc@outlook.com

Website:

www.firstuccrichmond.yolasite.com

OFFICE HOURS:

TUESDAY—THURSDAY

8:30 AM - 12 NOON

FRIDAY, 8:30 AM - 1 PM

*We are
a Christian community
called to love
God and our neighbors
as much as we
love ourselves.*

*No matter who.
No matter what.
You are
welcome here.*

Friends and Dear Ones,

On May 22 we celebrated the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, a reminder to care for the planet we call home. This year our earth actually shook its fist at us and forced us to give it a rest via COVID-19. How long, we don't know, and will we have learned some lessons to be lived? I hope so.

In the garden, tulips are ready to smile, bearded Iris greens are full, hyacinths cheerful and white bleeding hearts tender. Lord have mercy, it is good. Nature is full of surprises if only we take the time to look, really see, and smell the soil as we turn it over for planting. Lettuce takes well to the cold nights.

Have we noticed our blessings? In spite of physical distancing and quarantine have we awakened each day and realized: we have a bed, a home, a fridge with food, maybe a spouse/partner, kids at home driving you nuts. We can use this time to renew family relationships, as all we have is time. Your home is heated, you've had warm/hot showers, a phone for connection, a car to run essential errands, mail and grocery delivery, and even worship on-line. God has provided us with all of the above and a good green earth that is coming alive in spite of our stupidity. It has been a long time of wilderness living to force us to appreciate once again all that we have, all that God has provided.

Daily life was/is changed: schools closed, no exercise at the gym, all of life has changed; we were/are forced to live a different way. And when THIS is over, will we go back to life as usual, or will we be more aware, more appreciative, more responsible and loving. Will ENOUGH be enough, or will we still hoard and stuff our spaces; will we be awake enough to be aware of lies being fed to us in the name of the almighty dollar! Can we be content with enough and dis-content with a nation divided?

A wake-up call is just that. Be Awake!

Happy Mother's Day,

Pastor KatieD

What About the McRest Program?

As you probably know, every year our church members and friends support the McRest program by helping out in various ways. This year the Armada UCC Church will host McRest during the week of May 10 – 16. Due to the Coronavirus restrictions, here is the plan for the McRest program this year:

McRest is housing clients in two hotels near the McRest office in Mt. Clemens. (McRest itself is in the process of figuring out how to pay the hotels.) Host churches, if able, are still responsible for three meals a day, money for doing the laundry at a laundromat close to the hotels, and some transportation.

During the week of May 10 – 16, Armada church volunteers will make meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner and pack them in carry-out containers. The meals will then be delivered everyday to the McRest office in Mt. Clemens where clients can go to pick them up. Armada church will still need our two cakes a day as we have provided in the past. As we get closer to May 10, I will announce what time the Armada church door will be unlocked so that cakes can be delivered to the entryway – look for that announcement in your email. No person-to-person contact. I hope we can get seven people willing to make these cakes. Also, if someone can make cakes but can't get them to the Armada

church, I can pick up your cakes and take them to Armada. And, if anyone has questions or concerns, contact me at 586-709-3626 or email me at gogreen26@comcast.net.

Please pray for the Armada church congregation and the homeless people. This is a huge task especially with all the delivering and packaging. McRest plans to continue doing the program this way until further notice. All depends on the virus & quarantine.

Stay well, and peace be with you,

Kathi Miller

Blanket the World with Love



Blankets can provide warmth and comfort to those without homes. Blankets can provide love to families who have lost all their bedding from a hurricane, tornado or flood. A warm blanket can mean so much to someone who is needing a little support, warmth and encouragement.

**Church World Service
Blanket Sunday is May 10.
Please send your donations
to the church clearly marked
for this important cause.**

Thank you.

**First United Church
of Christ**

A Prayer for Memorial Day



We remember, O Lord, all those people throughout the years who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country, for liberty, for us. Whenever we breathe the air of freedom or claim the right to justice or enjoy the privilege of worship, fill us with gratitude for those who selflessly gave the last full measure of devotion – their very lives – for our benefit.

May these brave men and women now know the joy of eternity and your presence. And may the families of the fallen receive comfort and peace amid their grief. Help us as we minister to their needs. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Of Patience and Pruning



In many parts of America, Mother's Day is the recommended date for planting flowers outdoors. Subjecting

blooms to the elements any sooner is risky, though sunny spring days sure make waiting tough. Perhaps that's why poet May Sarton calls gardening "an instrument of grace," for it "slows us down and forces patience." Courage is also required. Gardeners "must be brave

enough to cut back the old and sit with bare branches, awaiting new growth," writes Cheryl Richardson (*Waking Up in Winter*). "And we must trust that it will come." When God prunes us, we too must trust that new growth and new life are in store ... and then patiently wait.



Quotes for the Month:

We Christians understand truth as a species of the holy: a post-truth world is a post-holy world. This is a form of spiritual breakdown. It's not new at all.

—Cornel West

Everything—including love, hate and suffering—needs food to continue. If suffering continues, it's because we keep feeding our suffering.

—Thich Nhat Hanh



First United Church of Christ

A Christian community called to love God, love neighbor, love self, as Jesus taught.

Dear Members and Friends,

Happy Eastertide! We very much hope that you were part of our virtual Easter and Holy Week celebrations at First United Church of Christ. Pastor Katie, along with Music Director Price Smith, several volunteers and the staff are doing everything possible to engage and sustain this wonderful community during a very challenging time. We are grateful for your commitment and participation.

As has been expressed, the expression "now more than ever" is used a lot these days, and the repetition may numb our realization of just how true it is right now that your financial support is absolutely critical to First United Church of Christ's ability to live out its mission. Our web site has included hard copy and links to things that continue, and staff is being paid while the church building is closed. We also give special attention to those among us who are on the margins and need our help.

Please know how deeply grateful we are for your generosity to First UCC. It is your dedication to this community - demonstrated in part by your giving - that sustains us, especially in a time when we are physically separated. Your gifts make a huge difference, and we ask that you prioritize the timely fulfillment of your pledge. And if you are so moved, please consider a special Easter gift!

We come together at First United Church of Christ - for now virtually and eagerly anticipating gathering again in the sanctuary - so that we can be the change our world must see; so that the human family can come together. When you provide financial support to First UCC, you are not only funding the mission and ministry we share, but you also are committing to a vision of love over hate and hope over despair. Thank you for your generosity.

With gratitude and all best wishes,

Pastor Katie and Rich Weinert, Chair of The Stewardship Committee



68651 S. Forest Avenue • Richmond, Michigan 48062
Ph: (586) 727-3155 • Fax: (586) 727-8341 • E-mail: firstunitedcc@outlook.com

Church Notes



Manwich
snack pack pudding cups
juice boxes/pouches
boxed instant oatmeal
pancake mix/syrup
one-pound bags white rice
OR ANYTHING ELSE

Thank you for your continued support of the food pantry, and stay well.

From First UCC— How to Donate:
OUR DOOR TO THE ELEVATOR IS UNLOCKED TO RECEIVE YOUR DONATIONS FOR THE FOOD PANTRY. PULL INTO THE ENTRANCE OF THE PARKING LOT BY THE ELEVATOR LOCATED ON THE SIDE WALL. AND DROP OFF YOUR ITEMS INSIDE THE ELEVATOR DOOR. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE FOOD PANTRY.

Our summer worship schedule will remain the same throughout the summer months.
Worship service:
11 am.



Time to Mow the Lawn Again...



Warm weather is on the way and soon the trees, plants and flowers will brighten our world with a rainbow of color again. The grass is growing and calling for attention. You can help keep our church grounds beautiful by signing up to cut the grass for one week or several during the summer months.

A calendar for each month is on the back table in the narthex. Pick a week and sign your name, or you can call the church office (586-727-3155) and I will tell you which weeks are available. The Building & Grounds committee has also posted a Sign-up Schedule on line with Sign Up Genius.com. Check it out.

Thank you.



Due to a parishioner allergy: First UCC is now a pineapple free zone. Please refrain from lotions, gums, fruit snacks, fruit juices, perfumes, air fresheners and any other scent or flavoring with pineapple in it. Thank you.

2020

MISSION & OUTREACH CALENDAR

February 25.....Paczkis for Possibilities

March 22.....One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

March 29.....Hygiene Kit Items due in church

May 10.....*Blanket Sunday collection

May.....McRest, Armada—cakes needed

May 31.....*Strengthen the Church Collection

June 28.....Baby Shower for Kids in Distress (KIDS)

July/Aug.....School Kit items due in church

October 4.....*Neighbors In Need Collection

October 11.....Bread for the World Bread Sale

**November.....Shoebox Christmas Gift Collection for KIDS
Boxes due in church on or before December 6**

December 20.....*Christmas Fund Offering

December 25.....Christmas Day Dinner

*Envelopes will be provided

Check the Mission bulletin board at the back of the church for the detailed list for the Hygiene and School Kits. Canisters for the ongoing collection for Keith's riding therapy, Box Tops for Education for Crossroads Child Services, and Holy Joe's Coffee for the Troops are on the back table in the narthex. Watch the newsletter for the Richmond Food Pantry list of food needed. The Pantry is always in need. The Richmond Good Samaritan Fund receives \$600 from our church annually. This fund helps people with shut-off fees for heat, water and electric. Cash donations are always accepted throughout the year.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT.

Servers Rotation Schedule—2020



May 3 (counter: Christine Hensch)

Greeters.....Sharlene & Darrell Haws
 Ushers.....Ray Trombley & Kim McCardell
 Lay Reader.....Lucia Marshall
 Communion Preparer....Sharlene Haws
 Communion Servers.....Ray Trombley & Glen P.

May 10

Greeters.....Darlene Furtaw & Shannon V.
 Ushers.....Sharlene Haws & volunteer
 Lay Reader.....Joyce Townsend
 Altar Flowers...Joyce townsend

May 17

Greeters.....Kathi & Terry Miller
 Ushers.....Ron & Kim Schrote
 Lay Reader.....Chris Hensch
 Altar Flowers...Diane Porrett

May 24

Greeters.....Darlene Furtaw & Karen E.
 Ushers.....Glen & Diane Porrett
 Lay Reader.....Sue Weinert
 Altar Flowers....Kathy Miller

May 31

Greeters.....Ron & Kim Schrote
 Ushers.....Rich & Sue Weinert
 Lay Reader.....Kim McCardell
 Altar Flowers...Chris Hensch

June 7 (counter: Sue Weinert)

Greeters.....Sue & Rich Weinert
 Ushers.....Ray Trombley & Kim McCardell
 Lay Reader.....Lucia Marshall
 Communion Preparer....Donna Cockerill
 Communion Servers.....Ron & Kim Schrote

This schedule applies when our church doors reopen for worship.



First UCC's Weekly Prayer Discipline for May

“Clip and Keep Reminders”

May 3 - 9

Kristie Hollick & Jesse
 Kyle, Jamie & Grant Hopp
 Joshua, Emily & Jentry
 Houston

May 10- 16

Terri Houston
 Dave & Terry Hunger
 Carmelle Johnson



May 17 - 23

William, Andra, Brianna &
 Liam Jones
 Sandy Knoell
 Carol Kulman

May 24 - 30

Pat Lawrence
 Alexa Livingston & Rose
 Stephen & Linda Livingston

May 31 - June 6

Doug, Joselyn, Kaleb, Reagan
 & Mayella Manska
 Douglas & Suzie Manska
 Lucia Marshall

What's Going on at First UCC?

If you would like to be an active participant in any of the goings on at First UCC or have any questions concerning what our committees

do, feel free to reach out to the committee liaison.

The many committees that make sure things run

smoothly are made up of volunteers, and each committee is represented by a church council member.

The various committees and liaisons are as follows:



Mission

Terri Houston (810-650-5612)

Buildings and Grounds

Sharlene Haws (586-727-9912)

Worship

Sue Weinert (586-206-1719)

Christian Education

Steve Furtaw (586-855-3248)

Welcoming

Joe Burkhart (330-431-3663)

Finance/Stewardship

Chris Hensch (810-385-4391)

Memorial

Chris Hensch (810-385-4391)

Personnel

Terri Houston (810-650-5612)

Sue Weinert (586-206-1719)

Sharlene Haws (586-727-9912)

Pastor Katie's Office Hours and Pastoral Care

Pastor Katie will be in her office at the church on Wednesdays & Thursdays. If there are situations that arise in which you need pastoral care on a day that Pastor Katie is not in the of-

office, please call 586-727-3155 and leave a message with Helen or on the answering machine. You can also give Pastor Katie a call:
Cell number: 586-202-8644
Home phone: 586-716-9543

In the old days, hospitals and rehab/nursing facilities used to inform pastors when one of their flock was admitted. That doesn't happen anymore. Pastor Katie is always happy to receive your calls.

Wider Church Connections...you just may be interested in:

Daily Devotional, emailed to you:

<http://www.ucc.org/feed-your-spirit/daily-devotional/>

Weekly E-Zine with featured items, resources, worship materials, and justice-action items: <http://www.ucc.org/news/keeping-you-eposted/>

Information and resources of all kinds from the United Church of Christ:

<http://www.ucc.org/>

Your Church Council

Listed below are your church council members. Please contact any one of them with any questions, comments or concerns.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Sue Weinert	Council President	586-206-1719	2020
Steve Furtaw	Vice President	586-855-3248	2021
Mark Davis	Treasurer	586-727-4306	2020
Jackie Waszkiewicz	Financial Secretary	586-430-4099	2020
Terri Houston	Secretary	810-650-5612	2021
Sharlene Haws	Council Member	586-727-9912	2020
Joe Burkhart	Council Member	330-431-3663	2022
Chris Hensch	Council Member	810-3854391	2022
Pastor Katie	Pastor	586-202-8644	N/A

First UCC Prayer Chain



Pastor Katie
586-716-9543

Sue Weinert
586-206-1719

Diane Porrett
586-727-1374

Karen Eltringham 586-
291-0615

Shelley Champion 586-
255-0387

Christine Hensch 810-385-4391

Traci Bartell
586-557-2264

Kim McCardell 586-
623-9833

Adopt-A-Bill Here's How it Works:

- 1) Take an Adopt-A-Bill envelope from the display board in the narthex.
- 2) Choose a bill from the board.
- 3) Place your check (made out to First United Church of Christ) or cash along with the bill in the envelope.
- 4) Place the envelope in the offering plate or mail it to the church.

Every contribution is greatly appreciated

We wish a **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to the following members and friends who are celebrating their May birthdays:



- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 01 - Amelia Miller | 21 - Kristie Hollick |
| 03 - Tarah Weeks | 22 - Vance Green |
| 07 - Jeffrey Chrostowski | 23 - Frank Bartell |
| 11 - Ginnean Henrie | 23 - Robert Reindel |
| 13 - Jacob Marlow | 23 - Paulette Trombley |
| 18 - Ellen Germain | 31 - Nicole Fair |
| 19 - Joshua Houston | |
| 19 - Ryan Schrote | |

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the children of our church who celebrate a birthday this month:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 09 - Logan Northam | 27 - Evan Grewe |
| 26 - Paul Achatz | 30 - Alyson Achatz |

We also wish a **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY** to the following members and friends whose wedding anniversary is in May:



- | |
|-----------------------------|
| 18 - Sue & George Millbrand |
| 29 - Andra & William Jones |

**BEST
WISHES
TO YOU!**

Attendance

April 26.....N/A
 April 19.....N/A
 April 12.....N/A
 April 05.....N/A

Offerings

April 26.....\$1,936.00
 April 19.....\$1,735.00
 April 12.....\$1,435.00
 April 05.....\$2,675.00

**Newsletter
DEADLINE
May 18**



Due to a parishioner allergy:
 First UCC is now a pineapple free zone. Please refrain from lotions, gums, fruit snacks, fruit juices, perfumes, air fresheners and any other scent or flavoring with pineapple in it. Thank you.

Sunday Services

Scripture Readings for May

- May 03** **Fourth Sunday of Easter**
Acts 2:42-47 • Psalm 23 • 1 Peter 2:19-25 • John 10:1-10
- May 10** **Fifth Sunday of Easter**
Acts 7:55-60 • Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 • 1 Peter 2:2-10 • John 14:1-14
- May 17** **Sixth Sunday of Easter**
Acts 17:22-31 • Psalm 66:8-20 • 1 Peter 3:13-22 • John 14:15-21
- May 24** **Seventh Sunday of Easter**
Acts 1:6-14 • Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 • 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 • John 17:1-11
- May 31** **Pentecost Sunday**
Acts 2:1-21 • Psalm 04:24-34, 35b • 1 Corinthians 2:3b-13 • John 20:19-23

Office Hours

The secretary is in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 8:30 am till 12 noon and Friday 8:30 am till 1 pm. If you need additional assistance at other times, please send Helen an email at firstunitedcc@outlook.com or leave a phone message at the church office: 586-727-3155. Thank you.

Mission Statement:

We are traveling life's road: created by God, guided by Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit and grounded in scripture. We strive to be individuals on a spiritual journey and a community sharing God's love with all.

Vision Statement:

The purpose of this church shall be to worship God, to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to celebrate the sacraments; to realize Christian fellowship and unity within this church and the Church universal; to render loving service toward humankind; and to strive for righteousness, justice and peace.

May 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Events and worship service listed for this month may be restricted due to the virus pandemic.</p>					1	2
3 Worship 11 am	4	5	6	7	8	9 Quilt Guild 10 am
10 Worship 11 am Worship cmte meets after service Blanket Sunday offering	11	12	13	14	15	16 Road Cleanup Crew meets at church 10 am
17 Worship 11 am	18 	19	20	21	22	23
24 Worship 11 am	25 	26	27	28  meets 7 pm	29	30
31 Worship 11 am Strengthen the Church offering	<p>Our Sunday worship will remain at 11 am throughout the summer months.</p>					



Return address requested

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
68651 SOUTH FOREST
RICHMOND, MI 48062

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Or Where You Are On Life's Journey...
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