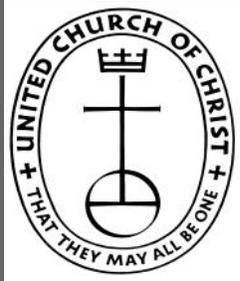


SHARING THE WORD

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

RICHMOND, MICHIGAN

September 2017



FIRST UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST
Rev. Denise Griebler
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CELL: 630-297-1740

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E-mail: firstunitedcc@outlook.com

Website:

www.firstuccrichmond.yolasite.com

OFFICE HOURS:

TUESDAY—THURSDAY

9:00 AM - 12 NOON

FRIDAY, 9 AM - 3 PM

Afternoons by appointment

Pastor Denise is in Richmond on

Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday

*We are
a Christian
community
called to
love God,
love neighbor,
love self,
as Jesus taught.*

Beloveds -

As I begin to write, your faces come to me - old ones, young ones, in-betweeners, families, singles, grandparents, empty nesters I'm praying for you! So many of our families have just come through or are still in the midst of hard times. And yet there is still so much joy among us. I'm grateful that we share this life together and that we know that God is in it.

Autumn is my favorite season. Maybe because it is full of so much beauty and sweetly sad at the same time. Do you experience it that way? To me it is bursting with how life is - beauty, abundance, yielding, falling, trusting that after winter, life will spring forth again. It can bring me to tears. It can bring me to a deep peace. It can bring me into deep communion with other people and creatures and Creation.

Which is just what the world needs right now.

I'm thinking of Charlottesville. I'm thinking of Harvey. Disaster response is in order for both. I'm grateful that UCC leaders were in Charlottesville and Boston to stand with the local clergy and leaders against hate. It really was a sort of disaster response I think. But there is on-going work that is needed to unmask the history and the reach and grasp of white supremacy which is beneath such disasters. We need to face into this history together, dear friends.

And I'm grateful that the UCC is organizing congregations to respond to the terrible disaster of hurricane Harvey. You can be sure that the UCC will have an important role in meeting the needs of people in both the immediate and long-term. They say 100,000 homes have been destroyed. Imagine the enormity of the suffering and challenge of our brothers and sisters in Houston and surrounding areas. Imagine the environmental challenges in this area that is the heart of the fossil fuel drilling and refineries. We need to be a part of the disaster relief efforts.

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At 1st UCC we invite you to make contributions to support Harvey disaster relief. These funds will help with immediate needs as well as on-going ones people will face. On your check, please write Harvey in the memo line. You can make contributions through the month of September. First UCC will also assemble 20 Clean-Up Buckets that will be sent to Church World Service. A list of what goes in the buckets follows the prayer shared by Katie Dailey on the next page. There will be a list in the Narthex to sign up for what you will bring.

Thanks in advance for the outpouring of love that I know will come.
Thanks for knowing that we are all in this together and that God is in all of it.

Love to all,

Pastor Denise

Season of Creation

For the month of September our worship will focus on the gifts and care of Creation. It's a lovely time of year to celebrate the gifts of the earth as we bring in the harvest from our gardens and give thanks for the beauty and power of nature. We will celebrate our place in the web of life and our responsibility to care for the earth. So come to worship and listen for the ways that God is calling us through Creation.

A Charlottesville Prayer shared by Katie Dailey of 1st Congregational Church of New Baltimore

This prayer, which follows on the next page, was written by Rev. Jill Duffield who lives in Charlottesville. She wrote it after participating, along with other clergy, in a call for love, not hate, in her city.

Over 1,000 Nazi, KKK and alt-right groups marched on the campus of the University of Virginia in night-time torch-lit march chanting Nazi chants ("Blood & Soil" and "Jew will not replace us") as well as the white supremacist/anti-immigrant chant: "You will not replace us." The march was reminiscent of Nazi marches during the time of Hitler in Germany. The following day thousands of counter-demonstrators gathered to denounce the message of hate. One of the Alt-Right/KKK/Nazi demonstrators intentionally drove a car into the counter-demonstrators killing Heather Heyer and injuring several others. The events shook the Charlottesville community and the rest of the country as well.

We at 1st UCC in Richmond join in this prayer for love, courage, justice and healing. Even more, we commit ourselves to the important task of learning about the white supremacy system that justified (and justifies) the take-over of Native American lands, the destruction of Native culture and people, slavery, Jim Crow in the South and segregation in the North, and more. The hate-groups that marched on Charlottesville are just the tip of this iceberg. Let us commit ourselves to a season of learning and un-learning so that we might learn a way that more nearly resembles the Way of Jesus and God's love for all.

- Pastor Denise

August 12, 2017 by Rev. Jill Duffield of Charlottesville, Virginia

Sweet Jesus, what has happened to your beloved world? What darkness is on the loose when those who hate their neighbors pray in your name and ask for your blessing?

You have told us, O Lord, what is good: to do justice and love kindness and walk humbly with you, and yet there are those among us who wield machine guns to intimidate and chant vitriolic rhetoric to terrorize, and ram cars intentionally into crowds to kill.

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

We have no hope save in you. We have no hope to stop the violence and stem the racism and cease the destruction, save in you. Save us now.

Prince of peace, you tell us to pray for those who persecute us and love our enemies, but right now, in this moment, those prayers are not readily on our lips. Help us. Intercede for us.

May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you even if, in this moment, they are colored with anger and weariness and questions about your presence during the storm.

What next, Alpha and Omega, Beginning and End, when we are right in the middle of the chaos and the killing and the carnage? We know that justice will roll down like water and that crying and death will be no more someday, but we need to know what to do this very day.

This very day you have made. Creator God, Living God, God of the new thing, the very good thing, show us where to be and what do to and how to be the light and the salt and the leaven and the love you call us to be.

Precious Lord, take our hands, lead us home to the place you prepared for us and give us rest. Put us beside still waters and overflow our cups with grace upon grace until it spills into the streets and washes away the evil in our land. Wash us and we will be clean. Made new. Clothed and in our right minds. Together.

All powerful and promise keeping God, make it so.

BUCKET CONTENTS AS SPECIFIED BY CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

- One five-gallon bucket with re-sealable lid (If bucket has been used, clean well but do not use if it has held chemicals of any kind.)
- Four scouring pads
- Seven sponges, including one large
- One scrub brush
- Eighteen reusable cleaning towels (e.g. Easy Wipes)
- One 50 oz. or two 25 oz. bottle(s) of liquid laundry detergent
- One 16-28 oz. bottle of liquid disinfectant dish soap
- One 12-16 oz. bottle of household cleaner that can be mixed with water (no spray bottles)
- One package of 48-50 clothespins
- Clothesline, two 50 ft. or one 100 ft.
- Five dust masks
- Two pairs non-surgical latex gloves
- One pair work gloves, cotton with leather palm or all leather
- 24-28 heavy duty or contractor type 30-45 gallon trash bags on a roll and removed from carton
- One 6-9 oz. bottle of non-aerosol insect repellent

All cleaning items must be new – all liquid items must be capped and securely tightened. Place all items into the bucket, making sure they are packed securely to avoid damage during shipment. Snap the lid on tight and seal with packing tape.

Value: \$75.00 **Processing fee:** \$3.00 per

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/>

Congregational Meeting Sunday, October 15

In addition to the approval of the 2018 Budget, the Church Council would also like to

recommend a revision to the Church's Constitution to reduce its size from nine to six

council members. Please plan on attending the meeting after the service on October 15.

Roof Project Update



We have a winner! Marjorie Pentzien, a long time member of First United Church of

Christ won the Roof Square Drawing on Sunday, July 30th! A \$100 gift certificate to dinner at the Voyager.

Thank you to all who contributed to this fundraising effort. You have raised over \$10,000 by buying roof squares. We still welcome donations towards the new roof. The total cost will be nearly \$24,000. If

we get the full grant of \$10,000 from the City Project Clean Up grant and receive more contributions, we could avoid taking money out of the church's savings.

The roof is scheduled to be replaced the first week after Good Old Days. Thank You!

Good Old Days in Richmond

Saturday, September 9 & Sunday, September 10

Come on over to First UCC. Our bake sale under the tents starts Saturday at 10 am. We will also sell hot dogs on the

grill, chips, pop and water through Sunday. We will sell our walking tacos on Sunday. The Sunday parade starts at

1:30 pm. Park in our parking lot for \$3.

Welcome Back to the 2017-2018 Sunday School Year!

We are excited to announce the theme for our SHINE Curriculum this Fall: "Being God's People". The first half of the year will focus on Psalms, Acts, Timothy and Philippians, the Old Testament. We will be celebrating worshipping together, community as a part of church life, music and prayer. Moving forward, the next section with focus on the First Families in Genesis. How amazing!! The new testament comes to us with stories of

God, Noah, Abram and Sarai, Issac, Jacob and Joseph. During the month of Advent we plan to focus on special Advent activities.

Please join us for the first day of Sunday school on September 24 with the Blessing of the Backpacks during Children's time in worship. Children will attend worship with their parents for the first 15-20 minutes until after the Children's Time when they

will proceed downstairs for Sunday school. At this time, formal Sunday school will be the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the Month. The first Sunday of each month (Communion Sunday), the children will attend worship with their parents as in the past. The third Sunday, we will have something new for worship, a Children's Bulletin and activities that follow Pastor Denise's worship. It's going to be a great year. Hope to see you there!!

Church Notes



On September 17 our regular Sunday worship schedule resumes at 11 am.

Euchre Party...

Join us September 16 at 6 pm for a fun and friendly evening of cards. You don't need a partner, just come on down!

Raise Your Voice—Join the Choir...

We are looking for people who like to sing or those who have musical gifts they can offer in worship once in a while. If interested, please speak to our choir director, Beth Ely (718) 704-9672.

Saturday, September 30...

It's time again to clean up the road. Meet at the church at 9:00 am.



We furnish the orange vests, bags and grab sticks. All you need to bring are gloves and good walking shoes. We will clean up the debris along 33 Mile Road between Armada Ridge Road and Memphis Ridge (M19).

Any change to your address, phone number or email?...



A draft of our church directory is on the back table. Please take a look and confirm that your name, address, phone number and/or e-mail is correct. Make any changes needed on the copy. We will publish an updated version this fall.

What's that Sweet Aroma?...

The aroma of pecan sticky rolls baking in the oven will be in the air during worship on **Sunday, October 1**.

Join us during coffee hour and enjoy a freshly baked pecan sticky roll with your coffee for a free will donation. All money collected will be donated to the Kids Against Hunger meal packaging program. The total cost to pack 10,000 meals is \$3,000. All three churches (Trinity Lutheran, First Methodist and our church) will be having Sticky Bun Sunday on October 1. Please give what you can and enjoy a pecan sticky roll!

Join us on September 10...

Trinity Lutheran Church 9:30 am

Come and share a community Tri-church worship service and celebrate the Good Old Days weekend.

We're having the First UCC Christmas Tree Sale Fundraiser again this year!



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Planning anyway... We're going to have the Christmas Tree Sale Fundraiser again this year at the church parking lot.

We looked at last year's sale and adjusted the order to eliminate Black Hill Spruce which seemed to drop needles too soon. We've added more Fraser Fir trees which are beautiful trees; they are soft to the touch and don't seem to lose their needles much at all. And, we have shortened the hours that we are open for sales. The trees have been ordered and we're on our way. We welcome any suggestions and look forward to a fun fundraiser! Hope you can volunteer some time during the sale. Thank you!

-Rich Weinert & Tree Team

UCC CHRISTMAS TREE FUNDRAISER PROPOSAL:

1. **Order Trees before the 1st of September.** Must have one-third deposit for order, one-third due before October 15, and one-third on or before order pick-up day.

2. **Pickup trees in Lake City from Watson Tree Farm Wednesday, November 15 (or date that works better).** Terry and Aaron Miller have 8 x 20-foot trailer and side stakes, rope, tie-downs etc. Rich has second truck – will accommodate one or two riders.

3. **Saturday, Nov. 18 at 10am:** Set up 20 x 40 fencing and stakes for trees; 30 - 40 rebar stakes. Set up 10 x 10 tent; set up trees; run extension cords from elevator room for lights for Friday.

Friday, Nov. 24 at 11 am:
– Hang Christmas lights
– 1 or 2 flood lights?
– Put letters on Sign: "First UCC Christmas Tree Sale! dates, etc."

– Put price tags on trees
– Set up table for tree tie-up
– Set up Portable Propane Heater

4. **Sale dates/hours:**
(Maximum Hours 1 to 5 pm)

Friday, Saturday, Sunday,
November 24, 25 & 26
Hours 1 pm to 5 pm

Friday, Saturday, Sunday,
December 1, 2 & 4
Hours 1 to 5 pm
(Friday stay open later for Santa Parade?)

Friday, Saturday, Sunday,
December 8, 9 & 10
Hours 1 to 5 pm

Recommend 2 to 3 volunteers during sale hours:

1 Cashier
1 Tree helper
1 Tree tie-up person.

Looking for Sunday School Volunteers

We are hoping to add more Adults to our Sunday school Team. At this time, we are only able to hold Sunday school twice a month, with worship activities the other two Sundays.

The curriculum is amazing and very easy to follow with wonderful activities and bible stories to implement easily. So please find it in your heart to enjoy some time with our young ones, you never know what they might teach

you!! The commitment is only for once a month.

Please let Jennifer Northam (586-727-5176) or Rose Crowley (810-599-4498) know if you are interested.

Mission News...

Neighbors in Need Helps Make Another World Possible

The Neighbors in Need offering which we will receive on **Sunday, October 1**, supports the United Church of Christ's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the

UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives. It continues strong policy advocacy work on issues such as voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties and envi-

ronmental justice. Neighbors in Need offering also supports our American Indian United Church of Christ members. An offering envelope will be in the Sunday bulletin.

Bread for the World Sunday, October 15

Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.

—Matthew 22:9

Bread for the World Sunday is an opportunity to join others in praying for those who struggle with hunger and to rededicate ourselves to efforts that help end hunger. The Mission committee will have delicious loaves of bread for sale and all proceeds will be sent to the Bread for the World organization.

For the past several years, this collection is what our congregation has supported instead of the CROP Walk. Also, this year our prayers are needed for the South Sudan where they are suffering from a devastating famine, and famine also threatens Nigeria, Somalia and Yemen. Drought is spreading through other parts of Africa.

Please buy a loaf of bread and know that you are working to end hunger world wide. Our faith is in Christ who makes all things new, and we place our hope in God's vision of a world without hunger.

KIDS Against Hunger—Saturday, November 18

Do you know what it is like to feel hungry? What does it feel like when you missed lunch, haven't eaten since breakfast, it is supper time and you are starving? What must a person feel like when they haven't had a meal in days?

You can be a part of a group of people that will help STOP hunger. On **Saturday morning,**

November 18, come to Trinity Lutheran Church to help fill 10,000 bags with rice, dry soy, veggies and vitamin powder. In an assembly line process these bags are filled, sealed and put into boxes to be shipped locally, in the U.S, or around the world – wherever there are hungry people in need of assistance.

Please consider representing our church at this ecumenical event with Trinity Lutheran and First Methodist Church people. This is one of the most rewarding and fun mornings you could be a part of. Registration information will be available very soon, or talk to Kathi Miller (586-727-1726).

Coming Soon...Holiday Gift Auction

Our Annual Holiday Gift Auction is coming up on Sunday, November 19 after service. If you have never experienced the Gift Auction, make this year YOUR year.

Please consider donating a new gift item. In the past, there have been gift baskets, homemade baked items, quilts, children's gifts, painted glassware and handmade wooden items. We have also

had services offered such as baby sitting and wrapping Christmas gifts.

There will be a finger food potluck, so please bring your favorite to share. This is so you have the stamina to raise up your number and win the bid. We also have our very own church famous auctioneer, Glen Porrett. Many of you have heard him, and he makes us laugh every year!

If you are or have a student who needs community service hours, we have always given four hours of credit for each student who helps us as a runner.

Please invite your friends and family to join us! Everyone is welcome to join in this fun time!

Sue Weinert and Kim Schrote



A Heartfelt Thank You

With your help we raised over \$1,400 for our church's general fund during the City-wide Yard Sale on July 28 and 29! We easily had double the amount of items for sale this year than we did last year.

The items that were left over after the weekend sale were donated to the Salvation Army (Glen Porrett arranged to have them picked up on Tuesday, August 1). The extra books were donated to the Richmond Library.

We hope to be a part of this sale again next year. It is a lot

of work, but with many hands to help, it makes it less work and more fun.

Sharlene Haws and
Kim Schrote

.....

From K. I. D. S.:

On behalf of Kids in Distress Services, I want to thank you for all the great diapers, baby sheets, towels and clothing you donated. It was all very much needed. Thank you for helping KIDS make a difference in a child's life.

In gratitude,

Christie Burke

.....

From Church World Service:

Thank you for your generous gift to the CWS Blankets program. As families and communities around the world recover from emergencies and

struggle in the face of challenges, you are standing with them. You are providing relief and hope.

Your contribution provides hope to neighbors near and far, from migrant families facing cold and wet conditions to refugees who have just arrived in the United States to build a new future and to guests at homeless shelters. Around the world, your support of this program means vital supplies and support for those in need.

Because of you, Church World Service is able to respond when disasters occur and support is needed. We thank you!

May God bless you for your support,

Rev. John L. McCullough
President & CEO
Church World Service

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

Terry Miller
(586-727-1726)

Buildings and Grounds

Matthew Ball
(586-531-7966)

Worship

Replacement
pending

Welcoming

Karen Eltringham
(586-291-0615)
Joe Burkhart
(330-431-3663)

Christian Education

Replacement
pending

Finance

Rich Weinert
(586-727-1139)
Kim McCardell

Stewardship

Bill Wagner
(586-292-2667)

Memorial

Karen Eltringham
(586-291-0615)

Personnel

Terry Miller
Karen Eltringham
Kim McCardell
586-623-9833

Use Your Practical Skills to Help Neighbors in Need!



Volunteers are greatly needed to help frail, older and disabled adults in our community with the following tasks:

**MINOR HOME REPAIRS
INDOOR/OUTDOOR
CHORES & BASIC
HOUSEKEEPING**

For a frail older adult or a person with disabilities, simple tasks like dusting & vacuuming, changing light bulbs or raking leaves can be impossible. Many minor home repairs are often well beyond their abilities and far too expensive for them to purchase professionally.

The Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers program helps our older and disabled neighbors with such tasks so they can remain safe and independent in their

own homes. If you can help weekly, monthly or even just a couple times a year, please call us today. The time you give will make a real difference in someone's life.

Call Carmen at 586-757-5551. (Learn more about our work at www.ivcinfo.org)

Servers Rotation Schedule—2017



September 3

Greeters.....Mary Alice & Al Busch
 Ushers.....Glen & Diane Porrett
 Lay Reader.....Joyce Townsend
 Communion Preparer...Sally McNinch
 Communion Servers.....Ron & Kim Schrote

September 10

Good Old Days...Community Worship Service
 at Trinity Lutheran 9:30 am

September 17

Greeters.....Glen & Diane Porrett
 Ushers.....Ron & Kim Schrote
 Lay Reader.....Lucia Marshall
 Altar Flowers...Diane Porrett

September 24

Greeters.....Don & Donna Cockerill
 Ushers.....Glen Porrett & Veronica C.
 Lay Reader.....Christine Hensch
 Altar Flowers...Ray Trombley

October 1

Greeters.....Lucia Marshall & Mary L Volkenant
 Ushers.....Rob & Amy Follebout
 Lay Reader.....Mary Alice Busch
 Communion Preparer...Paulette & Ray Trombley
 Communion Servers.....Rich & Sue Weinert

October 8

Greeters.....Karen Eltringham & Joe Burkhart
 Ushers.....Sharlene Haws & Ray Trombley
 Lay Reader.....Mary Alice Busch
 Altar Flowers...Pam Green

First UCC's Weekly Prayer Discipline for September "Clip and Keep Reminders"



<p><u>September 3 - 9</u></p> <p>Amy, Adam & Matthew Santo Henry III & Jackie Schroeder Adam & Michelle Schrote</p>	<p><u>September 10 - 16</u></p> <p>Ron & Kim Schrote Ryan & Niki Schrote Jim & Joyce Townsend</p>
<p><u>September 17 - 23</u></p> <p>Dawn Marie Trombley & Garrett Esper Lucille Trombley Ray & Paulette Trombley</p>	<p><u>September 24 - 30</u></p> <p>Thomas & Sharon Urban Terri Verlinde Mary Lou Volkenant</p>



Prayers coming your way...

This page in our newsletter shares prayer concerns and prayer opportunities within the life of our family of faith. By actively praying for the concerns presented, we strengthen our congregation, our brother and sister churches, our association and our conference.

If you have prayer concerns you would like to see added to this page, please contact Pastor Denise or call the office at 586-727-3155. Please add the following concerns to your personal prayer time:

The prayers of our hearts:

For the people of Texas and surrounding states hardest hit by Hurricane Harvey.... in thanksgiving for Leona Connor's life for all who are in the midst of grief or mourning, especially for the Connor family, Veronica and her extended family for Terry Hunger and her family gratitude for the generosity of our congregation in supporting the new roof project....for Donna Bartell and her extended family....for Amy Follebout who is suffering from lupus and figuring out the therapies that might help For Justine Achatz (Glen & Diane Porrett's daughter) who has finished chemo and will begin other treatments for breast cancer....prayers for Diane Porrett ...Lucille Trombley....Paulette & Ray Trombley as they live with Parkinson's and facing into prostate cancer....Al & Mary Alice Busch....Marjorie Pentzien....Bob Reindel... for all of our bodies and spirits, for peace for each of us and all of us together....and for our children and their Sunday school teachers - their joy, learning, compassion and their imaginations....for our Richmond schools - students, teachers, administrators, staff and board, for a wonderful and safe summer vacation....for the leaders of our country - may they be servants of the people, serving the Common Good with wisdom, justice and mercy for all....for a spirit of welcome in our country....for protection for the most vulnerable, including refugees and immigrants and Dreamers....for our neighbors who live in constant fear of being deported and separated from their families....for all who are in harm's way in the service of justice and peace and freedom....for access to healthcare for all, especially the most vulnerable - children, pregnant women, the elderly, the poor, those who have pre-existing conditions, for people suffering from addictions or depression and their loved ones...and for the healing of her earth and especially for her waters....for peace and an end to the war in Afghanistan which is our nation's longest-lasting war....for an end to water shut-offs in Detroit where currently 20,000 homes (an estimated 60,000 people) have no water. Deep gratitude for all the times 1stmembers have donated water for Detroit and Flint residents.

If you are aware of someone who should be included in our prayers, please call the church office or speak with Pastor Denise.

Pastor Denise's Office Hours and Pastoral Care

I plan my week to be in Richmond on either Tuesday or Thursday, and Sunday. It's possible that the days may move a bit as I respond to various needs that arise, but for the most part, that's when I'll be in town. If possible, please plan for committees to meet on one of those days or

evenings. Thanks so much! If there are situations that arise in which you'd like pastoral care, please call to let me know. 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.

You can reach me directly by calling my cell phone - **630-297-1740** or call the church office and leave a message with Helen or on the answering machine. I'm always happy to receive your calls.

Pastor Denise

MISSION CALENDAR 2017

February 5.....Super Sunday Salsa & Chip Sale

February 26.....Health Kit items due in church

February 28.....Paczkis for Possibilities Sale

March 26.....*One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

May 14.....*Blanket Sunday Offering

June 4.....*Strengthen the Church Offering
Baby items for KIDS

July - Aug 27.....School Kit items due in church by August 27

October 1.....*Neighbors In Need Offering & Kids Against Hunger
Sticky Bun Sale

October 15.....Bread for the World Bread Sale

November 18.....Kids Against Hunger meal packaging @ Trinity Lutheran

**Nov. - Dec. 3.....Shoebox Christmas Gift Collection for KIDS (shoebboxes due
in church by Dec. 3)**

December 17.....*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 Health and School Kits plus any other Mission updates. Look for canisters for the ongoing collection of Box Tops for Education, Campbell's UPC labels for Crossroads Child Services, Coins for the Holy Joe's Café Coffee for the Troops and Keith's Horseback Riding Therapy.

The Richmond Food Pantry is always in need of food. Watch the newsletter for the monthly items that are needed.

Our congregation gives \$600.00 annually to support the Richmond Good Samaritan Fund. Cash donations are always needed and welcomed.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

Your Church Council

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

Name	Position	Term Ends
Matthew Ball	Council Member	2018
Joe Burkhart	Council Member	2018
Mark Davis	Treasurer	2017
Karen Eltringham	Council Member	2017
Pending	Council Member	2017
Pending	Council Secretary	2019
Denise Griebler	Pastor	—
Kim McCardell	Council President	2018
Terry Miller	Council Member	2019
Bill Wagner	Council Member	2019
Jackie Waszkiewicz	Financial Secretary	2017
Rich Weinert	Vice President	2017

First UCC Prayer Chain



Pastor Denise	630-297-1740
Sue Weinert	586-206-1719
Diane Porrett	586-727-1374
Mary Alice Busch	586-727-7009
Paulette Trombley	586-506-5002
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
Joyce Townsend	586-727-9735

Want to join our prayer chain? Please call the church office at 586-727-3155.

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

- 1) Take an Adopt-A-Bill envelope from the display board in the narthex.
- 2) Pick 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 and helps to support our church.

Sunday Services

Scripture Readings for September

September 03 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

September 10 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

September 17 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 14:19-31; Psalm 114; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

September 24 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

Office Hours

The secretary is in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 9 am till 12 noon and Friday 9 am till 3 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.



**First
United Church of Christ**

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



- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 05 - Adam Schrote | 17 - Amy Santo |
| 06 - Marjorie Pentzien | 18 - Kim Grewe |
| 07 - Jackie Schroeder | 20 - Glen Porrett |
| 13 - Lucille Trombley | 22 - Jacob Ball |
| 14 - Mary Alice Busch | 29 - Yvonne Reindel |
| 14 - Denise Griebler | |

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

- 03 - Jessie Hollick
- 26 - Aubrey Hopp
- 27 - Savannah Briggs

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



- 13 - John & Nancy Pollock
- 14 - Ray & Paulette Trombley
- 18 - Steve & Linda Livingston
- 26 - Rob & Wendy Reindel

**BEST
WISHES
TO YOU!**

Call to Care Team:

Mary Alice Busch...586-727-7009

Shelley Champion...586-255-0387



Attendance
August 27.....33
August 20.....33
August 13.....32
August 06.....21

Offerings
August 27...\$ 975.50
August 20...\$1,636.00
August 13...\$1,960.00
August 06...\$1,523.00

**NewsLetter
DEADLINE
September 25**

September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 <i>Worship w/ communion 10 am</i>	4 	5	6	7	8 <i>Pastor Denise on vacation Sept. 8 - 16</i>	9 <i>Quilt Guild 10 am Good Old Days Bake Sale 10 am</i>
10 <i>Community Worship at Trinity 9:30 am Good Old Days Parade 1:30 pm</i>	11	12	13	14	15	16 <i>Euchre Party 6 pm</i>
17 <i>Worship 11 am</i>	18	19	20	21 <i>Church Council meets 7 pm</i>	22	23 <i>Wedding for Lindsey Johnson</i>
24 <i>Worship 11 am Sunday school Blessing of the Backpacks</i>	25	26	27	28	29	30 <i>Road Clean-up Meet at church 9 am</i>



Return address requested

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

No Matter Who You Are
Or Where You Are On Life's Journey...
You Are Welcome Here!

First United Church of Christ • Rev. Denise Griebler • dgriebler@sbcglobal.net
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