

# SHARING THE WORD

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

RICHMOND, MICHIGAN

April 2019



FIRST UNITED  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Pastor Katie Dailey

OFFICE: 586-727-3155

E-mail: [firstunitedcc@outlook.com](mailto:firstunitedcc@outlook.com)

Website:

[www.firstuccrichmond.yolasite.com](http://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.*

Dear Ones,

It was no accident that the Greeks identified Mnemosyne, the goddess of memory, as the mother of the Muses and that there could be no intelligent or creative activity without anyone drawing on what they had already stored in their brains.

But what about when an accident, old age or illness robs loved ones of their memory? Something sad and strange happens. We do not regard a person as any less herself if she loses a limb, or if a balding man watches his hair recede, or, some cancerous section is cut away — but one who slips into memory loss is devalued, someone who is “not who they were.”

We watch in alarm as the sufferer, increasingly bereft of his past, his vocabulary, or awareness of the names of those around him, reacts with frustration, anger, bewilderment and depression; and we too undergo our own kind of memory loss: We forget, bit by bit, their precious uniqueness and, in a guilty way, come to regard them as a troublesome nuisance.

In defining people by what they are capable of doing rather than who they are, we forget that the sufferer remains our husband, our grandmother or, most importantly, a child of God. That this is often the case should come as no surprise. Our society honors the active, the rational and the problem-solving individual, capable of standing on her own two feet and taking on the world and, thus, to be overcome by dementia and to grow increasingly helpless is to lose claim on being fully human. As John Swinton says in “Forgetting Whose We Are: Theological Reflections on Personhood, Faith and Dementia,” there is a real sense in which this is “a cultural as well as a biological illness.”

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To observe Lent is to prepare for loss. We will hear in Scripture the story of a man, once active and strong enough to stride the length of the Holy Land, suddenly deprived of his freedom and friends and now rejected and despised, esteemed not. We embarked on a walk for the six weeks that will end on Golgotha, where an innocent man in the midst of his agony will cry because he believes his Father has forgotten him. But his Father did not forget him, any more than he forgets the man or woman who has lost grip on their memories and cognitive faculties, or on those who lovingly care for them. Because to observe Lent is also to prepare for Easter and the wonderful reminder that we are not, after all, merely our bodies or our brains.

The empty tomb on that Sunday 2,000 years ago tells us that God remembers us, will come for our restored selves and will greet us by name. Memory will again be fresh: the familiar jokes, the recipes, the tales and the shared experiences will be recalled and our persons will be whole once more.

In the words of Isak Dinesen, there will be a “time when our eyes are opened and we come to realize that mercy is infinite. We need only await it with confidence and receive it with gratitude. Mercy imposes no conditions.”

We began with the imposition of Ashes but we conclude with the Resurrection. As we continue our journey of Lent with extra prayer and fasting, maybe the ‘simple suppers’ followed by directed meditation, and then Maundy Thursday at 7 p.m. and Good Friday at noon at the Gazebo OR Tenebrae at another church in the evening, may all or some bring you to a great Easter Sunday Resurrection celebration.

Blessings to you and yours,

*Pastor KatieD*

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On Sunday, April 7 at 3 pm, Pastor Katie will be ordained and then installed as our settled pastor. Please attend this very special service not only to support Pastor Katie, but also to start a new journey for our church.

After the service, please join us for a celebration in the basement with appetizer/finger foods and desserts. Sign-up sheets are on the back table. Please sign up to bring your favorite food to share.

# Church Notes

## Holy Week & Easter Worship Opportunities...

Maundy Thursday Ecumenical Worship service at First UCC...April 18 at 7 pm

Maundy Thursday all-night prayer vigil at First UCC...8 pm until dawn

A sign-up sheet is in the narthex, or call the church office. This is our tradition and a lovely way to slow down, sit with God and your own soul in this—a time to pray and contemplate with Jesus.

Christian Prayer Time at the Gazebo in Bee Bee Park...Good Friday, April 19 at 12 noon

Good Friday Ecumenical Worship at Trinity Lutheran...April 19 at 7 pm

Easter Worship Celebration here ... April 21 at 11 am

## Lenten Potluck Wednesdays... March 13 thru April 10

Join us Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm as we gather together to enjoy food and fellowship and celebrate the Lenten season.

Meditation Topic for the remaining weeks of Potluck Wednesdays:

April 3...Bread

April 10...Wine

## Food Pantry Update...

The shelves are well stocked at this time, but the following items are always in need: **pancake mix & syrup**  
**peanut butter, jellies & jams**  
**cookies & granola bars**

Thank you again for your continued support throughout the year.

Michele, Richmond Food Pantry

## EASTER EGG HUNT!



## Saturday April 13 11:00 am

Come on over, kids! Join in the fun at First UCC. Create a craft...listen to a story...enjoy a lunch and hunt for candy-filled eggs. All are welcome!

Candy donations are appreciated and due by April 7.

## Help Keep our Church Lawn Beautiful...

If you can lend a hand by mowing the church lawn, please write your name on the schedule that is on the oval table in the narthex for the week or weeks that you would like to mow the lawn.

Thank you.



## One Great Hour of Sharing—March 31

### More than we can imagine...

On Sunday, March 31 we will collect the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. This is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis.

Ephesians 3:20 reminds us that we are not alone in our imagining a better world for all of God's children. For it is God's imagination that fuels and empowers ours! You see, God imagines a world like the following:

◆ No one is left to face the ravages of natural disaster alone – neighbor helps

neighbor, stranger helps stranger – for we are the church together.

- ◆ Families displaced from their homes can build new lives.
- ◆ Women are no longer subject to discrimination and gender-based violence.
- ◆ Clean and abundant water and ample sanitation facilities are available to every person.

God also imagines Christians of many traditions coming together to help make these things ever more a reality for more and more people! For you see, our imagination of

what might be is founded and grounded in what God envisions and hopes for. We can help – through our gifts of treasure and talent, prayer, and presence to make this world ever more like the way God imagined it would be!

Please, give generously to the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering on March 31 so that your imagination might indeed be ever more joined with God's!

Envelopes will be provided in the Sunday bulletin.

## Kroger Community Rewards

Every time you shop at Kroger, you can make a donation to Macomb County Habitat for Humanity and help the families we serve in the community to provide decent, affordable housing.

### It's Simple!

1. **Visit our website:**  
[Kroger.com/account/create](http://Kroger.com/account/create)
2. **Create a profile**
3. **Click on Community Rewards**
4. **Select Macomb County Habitat for Humanity**

Every time you shop at Kroger, and scan your Kroger Plus Card, they will donate a percentage of your purchase to Macomb County Habitat and our mission to bring families together by building homes, communities and hope.

Kroger recently updated their system and we have a new organization number. Please use number **YP215** in the future.



A special thank you to the 42 households that have selected Macomb Habitat as their non-profit of choice! Help us reach our goal of 50 households by enrolling in Kroger's Community Rewards today.



Paulette Trombley attended the Richmond Food Pantry/ Good Samaritan Fund Directors meeting this past February. Here are some of the items reported in the annual report for 2018:

- Food distributed to 277 adults, 91 children, 10 teens.
- Paid for 2 evictions notices, 1 DTE energy shutoff, 1 City of Richmond water shutoff.

- Received 3,321 pounds of food from the Postal Food Drive.
- Received food from the Boy Scouts, St. A's children, Whitetail Deer Assoc.
- Received meat from Alarro 4-H Club, Chap's Restaurant.
- Received eggs from 2 donors.
- Received financial donations from First Methodist, First UCC, St. A's, ecumenical services, Good Old Days, private donations.

Total Food Pantry expenses: \$7,124.16.

- Paying for grocery store gift cards, hotel costs, gas gift cards, meat, Thanksgiving gift baskets, office supplies.

- Paid 1 employee's wage of \$3,600.00/year.

The Food Pantry is busy and needed in our community. We have supported the Pantry with both food and \$600 a year to go towards the employee's wage. The Food Pantry needs substitute volunteers to help pack food. If you are interested talk to Paulette.

Please continue bringing in food donations and pray for the families that use the Food Pantry.

*Share your food with the hungry and give shelter to the homeless....Isaiah 58:7*

Paczkis for Possibilities was a success again this year. We sold 36 dozen of those deliciously plump, wonderful

cream or jelly filled-donuts. Our profit was \$245.81. Ten percent went into the church's general fund and \$221.00 went

to the Blessings in Backpacks at the Methodist Church. Thank you to all!

Cake bakers get ready!! First UCC in Armada has called and they will be hosting McRest

the week of May 12-18. They would like two cakes each day. A sign-up sheet will be out on

the table in the narthex closer to the May date.

Hygiene kits for Church World Service were put together and shipped on Monday, March 18. Forty-six kits plus extra supplies of washcloths, band-aids, hand soap, and tooth brushes were sent off to the CWS warehouse in Maryland. Also several combs, toothbrushes & cases and tooth paste will be

given to Kids in Distress KIDS. These are items that couldn't be sent to CWS.

Thank you very much for all the donations of supplies. To Pastor Katie & Jack, Mary Alice & Al, Sharlene, Pam, Terri, Lucia and Kathi for spending time at the church to complete

the kits. Thank you to Terry and Miller Transit Mix for paying for the shipping and to Mark Davis for mailing the check for the processing fee. With everyone's help we CAN and DO make a difference in the world.

**2019**

**MISSION & OUTREACH CALENDAR**

**February 03.....Super Sunday Salsa & Chip Sale**

**February 24.....Hygiene Kit items due in church on or before February 24**

**March 05.....Paczkis for Possibilities**

**March 31.....\*One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**

**May 12.....\*Blanket Sunday Offering**

**May.....McRest, Armada—cakes needed**

**June 09.....\*Strengthen the Church Offering**

**June 24.....Baby shower for Kids in Distress (KIDS) St. Clair**

**July/Aug.....School Kit items due in church on or before August 25**

**October 06.....\*Neighbors In Need Offering**

**October 13.....Bread for the World Bread Sale**

**November.....Shoebox Christmas Gift Collection for KIDS**

**Boxes due in church on or before December 1**

**December 22.....\*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 plus any other Mission updates. Look for canisters for the ongoing collection of Box Tops for Education, 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 items that are needed each month.

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!

## *In our prayers...*

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, or if you are aware of someone who should be included in our prayers, please contact Pastor Katie or call the office at 586-727-3155. Please add the following concerns to your personal prayer time:

+ Prayers for those in our congregation with long-term illnesses and their caregivers, and for those who are homebound or in nursing homes, especially for the following:

**Lucille Trombley**

**Paulette & Ray Trombley**

**Justine Achatz**

**Al & Mary Alice Busch**

**Joe Burkhart's son**

**Keith Murphy & Shelley Champion**

**Marjorie Pentzien**

**Bob Reindel**

**All those who are going thru dialysis or cancer treatment**

## **A Driving Need**



Hundreds of older and disabled neighbors in our community need help getting to doctor appointments, the grocery store, or other essential errands. Being able to get food and medical care can

make it possible for them to remain in their own homes for as long as possible.

The Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers program is in need of volunteers who can provide transportation in the local area. We especially need drivers who are available during daytime business hours – mornings and afternoons. If you have just a couple hours a month that you can give to someone in need, you can make a huge difference in the life of a struggling neighbor.

You tell us what days, times and areas are convenient for you, and we call you with specific appointments that meet these criteria. If you are free, say “yes.” If you’re not, simply decline and we will call you another time. Even one more ride a year will make a big difference to the person who needs it! Please call our office today at 586-757-5551.

[Learn more about our work at [www.ivcinfo.org](http://www.ivcinfo.org)]

### **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/>

# Servers Rotation Schedule—2019



## March 31

Greeters.....Kathi & Terry Miller  
 Ushers.....Joe Burkhart & Karen Eltringham  
 Lay Reader.....Mary Alice Busch  
 Altar Flowers...The Trombleys

## April 21

Greeters.....Karen Eltringham & Joe Burkhart  
 Ushers.....Glen & Diane Porrett  
 Lay Reader.....Mary Alice Busch  
 Altar Flowers...Need Volunteer

## April 7 (April counter: Sue Weinert)

Greeters.....Ron & Kim Schrote  
 Ushers.....Rich & Sue Weinert  
 Lay Reader.....Kim McCardell  
 Communion Preparer...Mary Alice Busch  
 Communion Servers:.....Glen & Diane Porrett

## April 28

Greeters.....Terry & Dave Hunger  
 Ushers.....Joe Burkhart & Karen Eltringham  
 Lay Reader.....Sue Weinert  
 Altar Flowers...Jennifer Northam

## April 14

Greeters.....Glen & Diane Porrett  
 Ushers.....Sharlene Haws & Tom Hebel  
 Lay Reader.....Christine Hensch  
 Altar Flowers...Sue Weinert

## May 5 (May counter: Ray Trombley)

Greeters.....Joyce Townsend & Pam Green  
 Ushers.....Ron & Kim Schrote  
 Lay Reader.....Joyce Townsend  
 Communion Preparer...Kim McCardell  
 Communion Servers.....Rich & Sue Weinert



## First UCC's Weekly Prayer Discipline for April

### "Clip and Keep Reminders"

#### March 31 - April 6

Don & Pat Lawrence  
 Stephen & Linda Livingston  
 Doug, Joselyn, Kabeb,  
 Reagan & Mayella Manska

#### April 7 - 13

Doug & Suzie Manska  
 Lucia Marshall  
 Kimberly McCardell



#### April 14 - 20

Sally McNinch  
 George & Sue Millbrand  
 Aaron Miller

#### April 21 - 27

Amelia Miller  
 Terry & Kathi Miller  
 Lantz, Jennifer, Shane &  
 Logan Northam

#### April 28 - May 4

Marjorie Pentzien  
 Lisa O'Rourke  
 Chris, Krista, Hanna &  
 Robbie Plucinski

# 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

Sharlene Haws (586-727-9912)

### Buildings and Grounds

Terry Miller (586-709-3906)

### Worship

Terri Houston (810-650-5612)

### Christian Education

Steve Furtaw (586-855-3248)

### Finance

Ron Schrote (586-925-8801)

### Stewardship

Ron Schrote (586-925-8801)

### Memorial

Sue Weinert (586-206-1719)

### Personnel

Terri Houston (810-650-5612)

Sue Weinert (586-206-1719)

Terry Miller (586-709-3906)

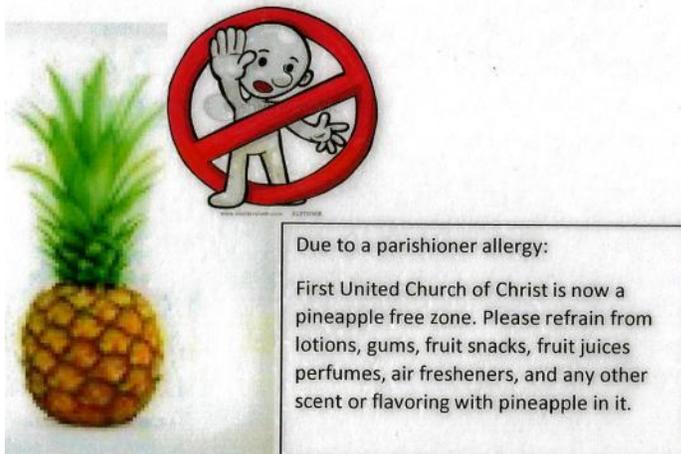
## Pastor Katie's Office Hours and Pastoral Care

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 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.



NewsLetter  
**DEADLINE**

**April 22**

## Your Church Council

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>
Steve Furtaw	Council Member	2021
Mark Davis	Treasurer	2020
Ron Schrote	Vice President	2019
Katie Dailey	Pastor	—
Sharlene Haws	Council Member	2020
Terri Houston	Secretary	2021
Terry Miller	Council Member	2019
Jackie Waszkiewicz	Financial Secretary	2020
Sue Weinert	Council President	2020

## First UCC Prayer Chain



Pastor Katie	586-716-9543
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.

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



02 - Matthew Santo  
02 - Hope Fair  
03 - Jennifer Northam  
04 - Dave Hunger  
05 - John Pollock Sr.

07 - Michael Grzanka  
11 - Patricia Lawrence  
18 - Nathan Reindel  
26 - Lynn Dunsmore  
28 - Steve Livingston

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

01 - Hanna Plucinski

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**Call to Care Team:**

Mary Alice Busch...586-727-7009

Shelley Champion...586-255-0387



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**Attendance**

March 24.....40

March 17.....38

March 10.....42

March 03.....40

**Offerings**

March 24.....\$1,681.00

March 17.....\$1,732.00

March 10.....\$1,413.00

March 03.....\$2,839.00



# Sunday Services

## *Scripture Readings for April*

- April 07**    **Fifth Sunday of Lent**  
Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8
- April 14**    **Palm/Passion Sunday**  
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56
- April 21**    **Easter**  
Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; John 20:1-18
- April 28**    **Second Sunday of Easter**  
Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29; Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31

### **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](mailto: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.

# April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Lenten Potluck 6:30 pm	4	5	6
7 Worship 11 am Installation Service 3 pm w/reception after Easter Candy donations due	8	9	10 Lenten Potluck 6:30 pm	11	12	13  Easter Egg Hunt 11 am
14  PALM SUNDAY Worship 11 am Sunday school	15	16	17	18  Maundy Thursday Ecumenical Service at First UCC, 7 pm	19 Christian Prayer @ Bee Egg Park Gazebo 12 noon Good Friday Evening Service at Trinity, 7 pm	20
21  Easter Service 11 am	22	23	24	25  MEETING 7 pm	26	27  Road Clean-up 9 am
28 Worship 11 am Sunday school	29	30	Festival of Faith at New Baltimore First Congregational, 9 am - 4 pm Saturday, April 13			



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 • Pastor Katie Dailey • [daileystory@gmail.com](mailto:daileystory@gmail.com)  
cell: 586-202-8644 • office: 586-727-3155 • email: [firstunitedcc@outlook.com](mailto:firstunitedcc@outlook.com)