

SHARING THE WORD

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

RICHMOND, MICHIGAN

February 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.*

February 2020 Greetings

The Annual Meeting was short and to the point, and the hospitality goodies from MOTOWN Soups and some of their other products were delicious; do try to get others to purchase. The order blanks are in the gathering area at the back of the church.

We will be entering into the Season of Lent at the end of the month beginning with our Fat Tuesday donuts, [Authentic Hamtramck Paczki Sale] to Ash Wednesday Service with distribution of Ashes. Paczki orders must be in by February 11. Pick-up will be Tuesday, February 25. Ash Wednesday is February 26, and we will have an evening service at 7pm.

On February 23, the last Sunday of February, Chelsea Itrich will be our guest soloist. Chelsea is an up and coming professional from Heidi Riggs' Vocal Studio. We welcome her and any who want to share their talents with us in worship to God. So many have family members who might just want to praise God by sharing their abilities with us in worship; they need only contact Price. Many feel better to have a CD or other way to accompany their singing. You know what they are used to. It's a win/win both ways.

Lent isn't a season to feel sad, but it is a season to return, renew, and remember our relationship with our Lord. Lent is our chance to decide and embrace the Good News of Jesus. As Jesus 'set his face for Jerusalem,' we set ourselves to do some examination of things we did or could have done. Discipleship is a life of following Jesus on the path of contradictions and contestations.

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Of course it takes a life-time (not forty days!) to decide for that. It is not a “business as usual” season. Perhaps the aim of our Lenten season might be that at the end of Lent, by the time we come to the depth of Holy Saturday, we will be more deeply and honestly situated in this story that we call the “passion narrative,” the account of suffering at the hands of the authorities. Consider the “crucifixion” as an “execution” whereby the authorities disposed of an unwelcome, unmanageable witness. We might think of the cross in more modern day accounts as the “gas chamber” or the “electric chair,” or at least imagine what it would be like for Jesus in his unwelcome crossing of the border from Galilee to Judea, being “caged in” by the authorities. We might alter our rhetoric to make it clear that the arrival of Jesus among the powerful wealthy elites was in order to contradict their claims. This rhetoric of course was/is risky among the faithful, but our situation requires a tad of a risk. Imagine that by the end of Lent we will have, in a real and active way, decided *Day by Day--*

To love more dearly,
To see more clearly, and
To follow more nearly.

It would have been safer and wiser to remain in Galilee! It took courage and consent. May this Lenten Season stretch and enlighten you about the path we are all on.

Pastor KatieD

Authentic Hamtramck

PACZKI SALE

Accepting orders until Tuesday, February 11

\$28 a dozen; \$15 a half dozen; \$3 each

Cash or check on the day of pickup

Flavors: apple, blueberry, custard, lemon, raspberry, strawberry

To order: call First United Church of Christ office at 586-727-3155

Pickup day:

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25 from 6 am - 9 am

at

First United Church of Christ

68651 S. Forest, Richmond

(at the corner of Forest & Main Streets)

**Profits go to Richmond Community Schools
for Backpack Blessings**



Happy New Year everyone!
Please look at the 2020 Mission Calendar here in the newsletter. Good things are

happening! We start with the Paczki Sale on Tuesday, February 25th from 6am -9am. For \$28 you can buy a dozen **real authentic Hamtramck Paczkis**. We clear \$5.00 on every dozen, and the profit goes to the Backpack Blessings food program for Rich-

mond Community School children.

To order, call the church office at 727-3155 or fill out the order form on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Deadline to order is Feb. 11, 2020.

Note from the Annual Congregational Meeting

At the Annual Congregational meeting on Sunday, January 19, the Mission Committee asked that since the church had a great ending to our financial situation (we are in the black) in 2019, could the tradition of five percent of the surplus income be given to missions. The congregation would pick two charities and

the mission committee would pick one. Motion was made to take \$1,000 of the surplus income and give to the Good Samaritan Fund, Backpack Blessings program and a charity chosen by the Mission Committee. The \$1,000 would be split equally. Motion was passed. The Mission Committee chose Heifer International

to give one sheep, three honey bee hives and one Girls Dream Basket that has information to start a farming operation, tools, and seeds.

Thank you to the Congregation. This is good news for our church and the mission of our church...a great way to help others!



Dear First United Church of Christ,

We would like to thank you for your donation of food to the Backpack Blessings program. Your collection of food during the Christmas season was so helpful to us.

One of the goals of Backpack Blessings is to help families function in a healthy way. Your donation helps them do that by providing healthy, delicious meals that children like.

We appreciate your help in keeping the Backpack Blessings program going.

*Sincerely,
First United Methodist Church for Backpack Blessings Program*

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.

Church Notes

A Note From the Food Pantry...

On behalf of the Richmond Community Food Pantry, I would like to thank all our area churches for your donations throughout the year.

Just a few reminders: Please remember that for health and safety reasons, we cannot accept any food items past the expiration date printed on the can, label or packaging. We also cannot accept canned goods that are dented at the top or bottom, boxes or packages that have been opened, or anything re-sealed with tape or staples.

We had a very large food drive this month and several others so the pantry is well stocked now. I will keep you informed of our current needs, but we should be set for a few months. We are grateful and truly blessed to have such a generous community to help us serve the need of others.

As the world rejoices in the wonder of His birth, may you have the gift of faith, the blessing of hope and the peace of His love, always.

Happy New Year!.

Michele
Richmond Community Food Pantry

Tis the Season to Clear the Snow

Cold weather is here and that means cold temps and falling snow. If you can help keep our church grounds safe by shoveling the walkways around the church when the snow flies, please look at the schedule that is on the back table in the narthex. Write your name on the week/weeks that you would like to shovel the snow. Thank you.



Just a Question...

If you have an emergency while here at worship, does your church family know how to and who to contact? Might be a good idea to let your church family know.



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.

Servers Rotation Schedule—2020



February 2 (Counter: Ray Trombley)

Greeters.....Doris Essenburg & Lucia Marshall
 Ushers.....Glen & Diane Porrett
 Lay Reader.....Joyce Townsend
 Communion Preparer....Sharlene Haws
 Communion Servers.....Rich & Sue Weinert

February 23

Greeters.....Sue & Rich Weinert
 Ushers.....Ron & Kim Schrote
 Lay Reader.....Kim McCardell
 Altar Flowers....Miller/Bartell Family

February 9

Greeters.....Ron & Kim Schrote
 Ushers.....Rich & Sue Weinert
 Lay Reader.....Christine Hensch
 Altar Flowers...Need Volunteer

March 1 (Counter: Ron Schrote)

Greeters.....Kim McCardell & Shannon Vivona
 Ushers.....Glen & Diane Porrett
 Lay Reader.....Christine Hensch
 Communion Preparer....Kim McCardell
 Communion Servers.....Ron & Kim Schrote

February 16

Greeters.....Pam Green & Joyce Townsend
 Ushers.....Ray Trombley & Kim McCardell
 Lay Reader.....Sue Weinert
 Altar Flowers...Jennifer Northam

March 8

Greeters.....Kathi & Terry Miller
 Ushers.....Rich & Sue Weinert
 Lay Reader.....Joyce Townsend
 Altar Flowers....Need Volunteer



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



<p><u>February 2 - 8</u></p> <p>Carissa Sugg</p> <p>Matthew, Andrew, Jacob & Avery Ball</p> <p>Frank Bartell</p>	<p><u>February 9 - 15</u></p> <p>Carmen Breese</p> <p>Joseph Burkhart</p> <p>Warren & Sue Burmann</p>
<p><u>February 16 - 22</u></p> <p>Al Busch</p> <p>Charles Busch</p> <p>David Busch</p>	<p><u>February 23 - 29</u></p> <p>Shelley Champion & Keith Murphy</p> <p>Jeffrey Chrostowski</p> <p>Veronica Chrostowski</p>

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
Kathi Miller	586-709-3626

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) 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 and helps to support our church.

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



- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 01 - Kim Schrote | 17 - Sue Millbrand |
| 01 - Rose Weeks | 17 - Shane Northam |
| 06 - Kristina Dunsmore | 17 - Charles Rocker |
| 07 - Jim Weeks | 18 - Dean Handrow |
| 11 - Veronica Chrostowski | 21 - Dennis Dubay |
| 12 - Pam Green | 21 - Adam Santo |
| 13 - Sue Weinert | 27 - Ron Schrote |

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

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 05 - Allison Haslem | 17 - Sebastian Burkhart |
| 07 - Noah Franklin | |

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



No wedding anniversaries this month. Are there no couples who tied the knot in February? If we missed anyone who married in February and want their anniversary acknowledged in our newsletter, please contact Helen in the office or send an email to the church at firstunitedcc@outlook.com

Attendance

January 26.....35
January 19.....37
January 12.....21
January 05.....34

Offerings

January 26.....\$1,616.00
January 19.....\$2,474.00
January 12.....\$ 633.00
January 05.....\$2,432.00

Newsletter
DEADLINE
February 17

Sunday Services

Scripture Readings for February

- February 02** **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**
Micah 6:1-8 • Psalm 15 • 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 • Matthew 5:1-12
- February 09** **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**
Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12) • Psalm 112:1-9 (10) • 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16) • Matthew 5:13-20
- February 16** **Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**
Deuteronomy 30:15-20 • Psalm 119:1-8 • 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 • Matthew 5:21-37
- February 23** **Transfiguration**
Exodus 24:12-18 • Psalm 2 • 2 Peter 1:16-21 • Matthew 17:1-9

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.

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px;"> Place your order for authentic Hamtramck paczki. Order forms on table in the narthex or call the office at 586-727-3155. Order deadline: February 11. </div>						1
2 Worship 11 am	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Worship 11 am Worship committee meets after service	10 Motown Soup Pickup	11 Paczki order deadline	12	13	14	15 Quilt Guild 10 am
16 Worship 11 am	17	18 Building & Grounds meet 7 pm	19	20  COUNCIL MEETING 7 pm	21	22
23 Worship 11 am w/guest soloist	24	25 Paczki Pickup 6-9 am	26 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Service 7 pm	27	28	29



Return address requested

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68651 SOUTH FOREST
RICHMOND, MI 48062

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