

SHARING THE WORD

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

RICHMOND, MICHIGAN

March 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.*

Via Dolorosa: sung by Chelsea Itrich
on February 23:

*Down the Via Dolorosa in
Jerusalem that day
The soldiers tried to clear the
narrow street
But the crowd pressed in to see
A man condemned to die on
Calvary.
He was bleeding from a beating -
there were stripes upon His back
And He wore a crown upon his
head
And He bore with every step
The scorn of those of those of
those who cried out for his
death.
Down the Via Dolorosa called the
way of suffering
Like a lamb came the Messiah
Christ the King
But He chose to walk that road
out of His love for you and me
Down the Via Dolorosa all the
way to Calvary.
The blood that would cleanse the
souls of all men
Made its way through the heart of
Jerusalem.
Down the Via Dolorosa called the
way of suffering
Like a lamb came the Messiah,
Christ the King
But He chose to walk that road
out of his love for you and me
Down the Via Dolorosa, all the
way to Calvary*

Pastor's thoughts from previous page...

This song about the sorrowful way taken by Jesus is about the last hours of Jesus' life prior to the crucifixion leading to the resurrection. Life-Death-Resurrection – this is our faith.

We left the season of Epiphany and entered Lent with those Ashes that proclaimed us as Christians. Many came by early to have the ashes imposed so as to wear them all day as an expression of being Christian. Most do not wear their religion on their sleeve but on that day we identified and then returned to pray in the evening. So we left epiphany but have we been illumined on the way? We have chosen to find Christ in everyone. Our journey from Advent to Christmas to Epiphany and now to Lent and Easter is a journey from enveloping darkness of the womb into the world's harsh light. Christ was born, so we are reborn into a greater awareness of God's presence in the world and called to keep it

in view. Epiphanies flare up and then fade. They are easy to miss; kind of like revelations we are lucky to catch from the corner of our eye. Epiphany's light shines signaling to us from desolate places that Christ has been born and will continue to be born within us as we move through Lent to Easter.

Our building will be open for any who want to stop by to be 'listeners' of God speaking to them; many like to sit in front of the 'Eternal Light.' Some just want quiet, little visits of minutes or longer times. From 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings the doors will be open. Come, enjoy the silence, come and allow yourself to just BE. Ponder the story of our faith, feel the uncomfortableness of quiet at first and then let it take you into that place where God dwells. Remember that God doesn't have 'Selective Hearing' and is available.

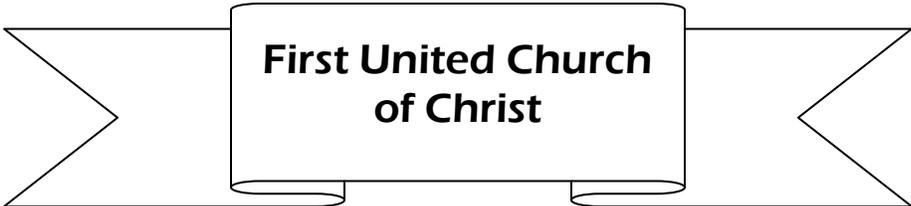
Billionaire investor Warren Buffett says that the best

advice to him was: ...“you can always tell someone to go to h- - - tomorrow.” The point was that it's important to hold one's tongue in a heated moment. What needs to be said can be said later, without an emotional outburst. Such tempered behavior illustrates emotional intelligence which involves self and social awareness that contributes to self-control and the ability to communicate clearly and manage conflict wisely. Quiet time elevates Emotional Intelligence.

Some prefer to pot-luck prior to personal prayer; others have chosen prefer a study. Be what may, Lent is a time for personal spiritual growth, a time to enjoy the increase of daylight, the approaching of spring and all things good.

Blessings on your journey,

Pastor KatieD



**First United Church
of Christ**



Good Samaritan Fund and Food Pantry Update

The Good Samaritan Fund and Food Pantry have been in the area since 1976. At that time, the local Church Women United of Richmond saw a need for financial support for people in need. It was decided that at community worship services, the loose offerings collected from these services would go to the Good Samaritan Fund. The fund is available to community members living in Richmond, Casco, Columbus, Lenox and Richmond Townships. This money serves the under-resourced residents with heating bills,

prevents evictions, provides car repairs, fills gas tanks for trips to doctor appointments and job interviews.

On January 16, Paulette Trombley attended the Good Samaritan and Food Pantry annual meeting. Paulette has been a board member for a very long time and we thank her for her loyalty. Here are some of the wonderful things the Samaritan Fund and Food Pantry have done in 2019:

- Gave food to a total of 328 adults, 111 children and 36 teens
- Paid for three eviction notices, one DTE shut-off, one Metro PCS cell phone bill, and helped one couple acquire a used car through St. Vincent DePaul.

- The Food Pantry received 3,013 pounds of food from the local Postal Food Drive. Various amounts of meat from Alarro 4-H group, Kulman Farms and Richmond Meat Packers. The local Boy Scout food drive gave the pantry 29 bins full of food.

What a generous community we live in! Since 2007 we have continuously given \$600.00 annually. This donation from our church helps pay a small salary to Michele, the pantry director.

As you can see, your donations are appreciated and well used. We are the hope that illuminates the goodness of God in the world for our neighbors.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Invest in Futures is the theme for this year's **One Great Hour of Sharing**. The campaign's focus scripture is 1 Corinthians 3:5-9. This reminds us we are servants in the service of God, working together to plant and water, and God is the one who grows and nurtures it all. So, with this theme in mind, we will collect the **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on Sunday March 22**.

Our money will provide water, sanitation and irrigation systems, wells, latrines and wash houses. With these systems in place adequate food can be grown giving children nutrients to have better health so they can attend school.

Lives change when health improves. Lives change when communities can thrive. Your financial assistance will directly help people and communities affected by disaster, violence and poverty. Your

financial assistance will be an investment into the lives of people and communities who need it most.

Together, we are co-workers in God's service, planting and watering seeds for God to nurture. Let us stand with other UCC congregations and lend a hand by supporting the **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**. Envelopes will be provided in the bulletins. Thank you for giving on **Sunday, March 22**.

Church World Service Hygiene Kits

During the month of March the Mission Committee is collecting items for CWS Hygiene Kits. We need the following items:

- ✓ hand towels
- ✓ wash clothes
- ✓ wide tooth combs

- ✓ nail clippers
- ✓ bars of soap (bath size in a wrapper)
- ✓ toothbrushes (individually wrapped)
- ✓ standard size band-aids.

There is a sign-up sheet on the table at the back of the

church. Please indicate how many items you will be donating. This helps to make sure there will be enough items to complete 30 kits. Please bring your items to church on or before **Sunday, March 29**. Thank you.



Remember to spring ahead one hour on March 8



Dear Church,

Thank you for your generous gift to the Good Samaritan Fund. Your check for \$336 has been deposited.

We appreciate your continued support as we serve those in our community. You are a blessing. May God bless you for your servant hearts.

Pat Bartosiewicz

.....



Thank you to all who participate in the Kroger Community Rewards Program.

Our quarterly statement which covers the period from November 1, 2019 - January 31, 2020 shows a total donation of \$73.52 from the 22 households that participate. Thank you for supporting our community.

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



March 1 (counter: (Ron Schrote)

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

March 8

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

March 15

Greeters.....Ron & Kim Schrote
 Ushers.....Sharlene Haws & Tom Hebel
 Lay Reader.....Sue Weinert
 Altar Flowers...Merle Davies

March 22

Greeters.....Glen & Diane Porrett
 Ushers.....Kim McCardell & Ray Trombley
 Lay Reader.....Lucia Marshall
 Altar Flowers....Darlene Furtaw

March 29

Greeters.....Karen E. Joe B. & Lisa O.
 Ushers.....Glen & Diane Porrett
 Lay Reader.....Kim McCardell
 Altar Flowers...Darlene Furtaw

April 5 (counter: Rich Weinert)

Greeters.....Sue & Rich Weinert
 Ushers.....Ron & Kim Schrote
 Lay Reader.....Christine Hensch
 Communion Preparer....Sharlene Haws
 Communion Servers.....Joe B. & Karen E.



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

March 1 - 7

Don & Donna Cockerill
 Rev. Katie & Jack Dailey
 Merle Davies

March 8 - 14

Mark & Vicky Davis
 Dennis Dubay
 Erin Dunsmore



March 15 - 21

Jerry & Lynn Dunsmore
 Justin & Avrie Dunsmore
 Kristina Dunsmore

March 22 - 28

Karen Eltringham
 Doris Anne Ensley
 Kyle & Kevin Ensley

March 29 - April 4

Doris Essenburg
 Tim, Hope, Joshua & Nicole
 Fair
 Pat Fenton

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 March birthdays:



- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 06 - Andra Jones | 22 - Garrett Esper |
| 06 - Krista Plucinski | 24 - Drew Reindel |
| 07 - Terry Hunger | 25 - Terry Miller |
| 09 - Al Busch | 31 - Ray Trombley |
| 15 - Fred Weeks Jr. | |

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



- 19 - Ron & Kim Schrote

**BEST
WISHES
TO YOU!**

Happy Birthday to—and for—You!

Birthdays are unique because they celebrate who someone *is*, not what they've done. Henri Nouwen wrote, "It is more important to celebrate a birthday than a successful exam, a promotion or a victory. Because to celebrate a birthday means to say to someone, 'Thank you for being you.' On a birthday we do not say, 'Thanks for what you did, or said, or accomplished.' No, we say, 'Thank you for being born and being among us.'"

To rejoice over someone purely for who they are is an echo of God's joy over us. Some families celebrate "baptism birthdays" (anniversaries) by lighting candles, sharing scripture and prayer, perhaps looking at photos and recounting stories of that milestone event that marked the beginning of their faith life.

On a birthday, said Nouwen, "we lift someone up and let everyone say, 'We love you.'" In baptism, God lifts us to his very heart and declares, "You are my precious child. I love you."

Attendance

February 16.....38
 February 09.....36
 February 02.....36
 January 26.....35

Offerings

February 16.....\$1,843.00
 February 09.....\$1,254.25
 February 02.....\$2,566.00
 January 26.....\$1,616.00

**Newsletter
DEADLINE
March 23**

Sunday Services

Scripture Readings for March

- March 01** **First Sunday in Lent**
Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 • Psalm 32 • Romans 5:12-19 • Matthew 4:1-11
- March 08** **Second Sunday in Lent**
Genesis 12:1-4a • Psalm 121 • Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 • John 3:1-17
- March 15** **Third Sunday in Lent**
Exodus 17:1-7 • Psalm 95 • Romans 5:1-11 • John 4:5-42
- March 22** **Fourth Sunday in Lent**
1 Samuel 16:1-13 • Psalm 23 • Ephesians 5:8-14 • John 9:1-41
- March 29** **Fifth Sunday in Lent**
Ezekiel 37:1-14 • Psalm 130 • Romans 8:6-11 • John 11:1-45

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.

March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship 11 am	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Worship 11 am Daylight Saving Time begins	9	10	11	12	13	14  QUILTING GROUP 10 am
15 Worship 11 am Baptism for Elliot Vivona	16	17  St. Patrick's Day	18	19  Church Council Meeting 7 pm	20	21
22 Worship 11 am One Great Hour of Sharing offering	23 	24	25	26	27	28
29 Worship 11 am	30	31				



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
cell: 586-202-8644 • office: 586-727-3155 • email: firstunitedcc@outlook.com