

SHARING THE WORD

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

RICHMOND, MICHIGAN

April 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.*



Easter is the principal feast of the Christian year despite the popularity and commercialization that surrounds Christmas. According to the Gospel of John, Mary Magdalene came to

the cave where Jesus had been buried and found the tomb empty.

This year our lead-up to Easter has been strange, but still we remember the Resurrection after the Good Friday and Maundy Thursday [Lord's Supper] special days. We can still wait and pray on Maundy Thursday until Good Friday at noon, but we will do that at home.

Easter is a movable holiday, whose day of observation has for centuries been painstakingly calculated. This is because its day of observance is determined initially by the lunar calendar. After many centuries of controversy among Christians, Western Christendom settled on the use of the Gregorian calendar. Eastern Christians use the Julian calendar to determine Easter, decreeing that Easter shall be celebrated on the Sunday after the full moon or on following the vernal equinox. If the full moon is on a Sunday, Easter is held the next Sunday. The full moon comes in Holy Week.

We tend to think of Easter most as the arrival of spring— new spring clothes, decorated eggs, jelly beans, Easter baskets, and vacation. However, 2020 has been different than any other Easters. But, we are a tough group, we are good neighbors, we continue to pray, we know of God's Presence always, and we hold tightly to our faith even in self-imposed quarantine. Our Lent has been a struggle, but as believers, we hold our ground and will continue to do so for as long as necessary.

continued on next page

Pastor's thoughts from previous page...

Egg decorating is also part of the preparations for Easter, and there are three different techniques for decorating eggs:

- (1) *malowanki* are eggs painted in solid colors with natural substances, such as vegetable skins, roots, or grains.
- (2) *pisanki* are eggs batiked in traditional designs, usually animal or geometrical figures that have been handed down from generation to generation.

- (3) *skrobanki* are eggs dyed in solid colors upon which the outlines of birds, flowers, and animals are scratched with a pointed instrument.

Our tradition was to spend Noon to 3:00 pm on Good Friday doing eggs, and I did them the (2) second way. Actually, one year our daughter and her friend Katie were doing the eggs prior to my getting home, and they almost set the kitchen on fire.

If you want to do my style, I will explain it to any who ask; and it just might be a new adventure and the beginning of a new tradition for your family.

Blessings to all. May all of our families celebrate in love.

Happy Easter.

Pastor KatieD

Shop Kroger?

How about letting us be your non-profit for the Kroger Community Rewards Program? You will need a Kroger Plus card. If you don't already have one, you can get one at the Customer Service Desk at any Kroger.

Here's how to register online: Step One...

- Go to krogercommunityrewards.com. Be sure to have your Kroger Plus card handy (you will need the number).
- Click on Sign In/Register.
- Click on SIGN UP TODAY in the 'New Customer?' box (unless you have previously registered online).
- Sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account: enter your zip code, click on favorite

store, enter your email address, create a password and agree to the terms and conditions.

- You will then get a message to check your email inbox and click on the link within the body of the email to finalize card registration.
- Click on My Account and use your email address and password to proceed to the next step.

Step Two – Link your card with MVSO...

- Log into your account at krogercommunityrewards.com
- Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input your Kroger Plus card number. Update or confirm your information.

➤ Enter the MVSO NPO number (AF771) or name of organization, select organization from list and click on confirm. (First United Church of Christ-Richmond TY 543. Non-profit #97155.)

➤ To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see your organization's name on the right side of your information page.

Please let your friends and neighbors know so they, too can make us the recipient of their Kroger shopping. It does not matter if the Kroger you shop at is in Ohio or anywhere else, we will be credited.

If you do not have email, ask at the Kroger desk how you can join this program or call 1-800-krogers. Thank you so much and blessings to you

Church Notes



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

Hello Everyone,

I hope everyone is staying well. I just wanted to give you an update about the food pantry. As of today, we are still able to accept donations, but follow your churches instructions for **How to Donate** which follows my note.

I have been out shopping daily trying to gather whatever I can to keep the pantry stocked. So for now, we are still in total operation taking care of families in need. Our world is certainly different these days, but we must continue to trust in the Lord.

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

Michele
Richmond Community Food Pantry

From First UCC— How to Donate:

OUR DOOR TO THE ELEVATOR WILL BE OPENED TO RECEIVE YOUR DONATIONS FOR THE FOOD PANTRY. PULL INTO THE ENTRANCE OF THE PARKING LOT BY THE ELEVATOR LOCATED ON THE SIDE WALL. AND DROP OFF YOUR ITEMS INSIDE THE ELEVATOR DOOR.

Time to Get Outdoors Again...

Soon we can put away our snow shovels and drag out our lawn mowers. Spring cleanup and warmer weather will get us outdoors to tend to our lawns and landscapes.

The lawn around our church will also need attention. You can help keep our church grounds beautiful by signing up to cut the grass for one week or several during the summer months. A calendar for each month is on the back table in the narthex. Pick a week and sign your name, or you can call the church office (586-727-3155) and I will tell you which weeks are available.

Thank you.



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

2020

MISSION & OUTREACH CALENDAR

February 25.....Paczkis for Possibilities

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

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

May 10.....*Blanket Sunday collection

May.....McRest, Armada—cakes needed

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

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

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

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

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

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

December 20.....*Christmas Fund Offering

December 25.....Christmas Day Dinner

*Envelopes will be provided

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT.

Servers Rotation Schedule—2020



March 29 (counter: (Ron Schrote)

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

April 5 (Palm Sunday)

(counter: Rich Weinert)

Greeters.....Sue & Rich Weinert
 Ushers.....Ron & Kim Schrote
 Lay Reader.....Lucia Marshall

April 12 (Easter Sunday)

Communion Preparer.....Sharlene Haws
 Communion Servers.....Ron & Kim Schrote

This schedule applies when our church doors reopen for worship

April 19

Greeters.....Doris Essenburg & Lucia M.
 Ushers.....Glen & Diane Porrett
 Lay Reader.....Sue Weinert
 Altar Flowers....Need Volunteer

April 26

Greeters.....Joyce Townsend & Pam Green
 Ushers.....Rich & Sue Weinert
 Lay Reader.....Kim McCardell
 Altar Flowers...Sue & Rich Weinert

May 3 (counter: Chris Hensch)

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



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



<p><u>April 5 - 11</u></p> <p>Rob & Amy Follebout Steve & Darlene Furtaw Ellen Germain</p>	<p><u>April 12 - 18</u></p> <p>Kerri Green Vance & Pam Green Kim Grewe & Evan</p>
<p><u>April 19 - 25</u></p> <p>Scott & Stephanie Grzanka Dean, Shelly, Makenna & Cooper Handrow Darrel & Sharlene Haws</p>	<p><u>April 26 - May 2</u></p> <p>Tom & Christine Hebel Ginnean Henrie & Joshua & Savannah Christine Hensch</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 April birthdays:



- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 02 - Hope Fair | 11 - Patricia Lawrence |
| 02 - Matthew Santo | 18 - Nathan Reindel |
| 03 - Jennifer Northam | 26 - Lynn Dunsmore |
| 04 - Dave Hunger | 28 - Steve Livingston |
| 05 - John Pollock Sr. | |
| 07 - Michael Grzanka | |

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

- 01 - Hanna Plucinski
24 - Benjamin Hostetler
-

The Promise of the Future

A nursing home resident who longed for fresh Georgia peaches discovered a pit overlooked in his serving of canned fruit. In an old coffee can, he planted the stone, which sprouted! The man gave the small tree to friends to plant. Years later, the peaches were so abundant the neighbors had to give some away.

Lila Docken Bauman recounts this story for the *Christian Century*, saying, the man who took that gamble did not live to see it grow into the tree that ultimately produced this harvest. But, when he looked at that pit years ago, he saw the promise of fresh fruit... "Who despises the day of small things?" asks the prophet Zechariah. "It's in those small things that the promise of the future rests."

Just so, some 2,000 years ago, in a small baby born in a tiny town – both seemingly inconsequential – rested "the promise of the future" – the salvation of the whole world.

Attendance

March 15.....54
March 08.....34
March 01.....38
February 23.....46

Offerings

March 15..... \$1,842.00
March 08.....\$ 969.00
March 01.....\$2,640.00
February 23.....\$2,162.00

Newsletter
DEADLINE
April 20

Sunday Services

Scripture Readings for April

- April 05** **Sixth Sunday in Lent (Palm Sunday)**
Isaiah 50:4-9a • Psalm 31:9-16 • Philippians 2:5-11 • Matthew 26:14-27
- April 12** **Easter Sunday**
Acts 10:34-43 • Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 • Colossians 3:1-4 • John 20:1-18
- April 19** **Second Sunday of Easter**
Acts 2:14a, 22-32 • Psalm 16 • 1 Peter 1:3-9 • 20:19-31
- April 26** **Third Sunday of Easter**
Acts 2:14a, 36-41 • Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 • 1 Peter 1:17-23 • Luke 24:13-35

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.

April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>The events on our calendar were scheduled before the virus restrictions. They will not take place until further notice.</p>			1 Come & Ask 6-8 pm	2	3	4
5 Palm Sunday Worship 11 am Easter Egg Hunt after service	6	7	8 Come & Ask 6-8 pm	9  Worship Service 7 pm	10 Good Friday Prayer Experience @ Beebe Park Pavilion 12 noon	11
12  Worship 11 am	13	14	15	16  meets 7 pm	17	18
19 Worship 11 am	20 	21	22	23	24	25
26 Worship 11 am	27	28	29	30		



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...
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