

# SHARING THE WORD

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

RICHMOND, MICHIGAN

June 2020



FIRST

UNITED  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Pastor Katie Dailey

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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.***

Friends and Dear Ones,

I've been hearing the term "pandemic fatigue" a lot this week. No big mystery about the meaning. We're tired of it. Tired of the disruption. Tired of the anxiety. Tired of the relentless numbers of sick and dying. Tired of this issue being too politicized.

Some are tired for obvious reasons — long hours of trying work in a hospital or nursing home, or long hours on the phone or internet trying to run down an unemployment check, or long hours of trying to figure out home schooling. But even if we don't have those challenges — and I don't — we can still experience fatigue from being cooped up, from tracking the changing information, from wondering where we're headed.

But David Brooks offered a different term, and with it, a different perspective. He spoke of *endurance*. He said, "We have entered the endurance phase of this pandemic. We are slowly mastering this disease, but we have not yet done so. And so we wait (*not unlike the Apostles for the Holy Spirit*) — and endure."

Endurance is patience. It is shortening your time horizon so you just have to get through this day. Endurance is living with unpleasantness. In fact, it is finding you can adapt and turn the strangest circumstance into routine.

Framing where we are now as the endurance phase seems to me more helpful than talking about pandemic fatigue. Fatigue, while real, has more of a victim element, a passive quality to it. We're suffering "pandemic fatigue." Poor us. Endurance interjects a note of agency, of power. We endure. There's even a tingle of heroism there.

What is endurance? It's, "The ability to keep doing something difficult, unpleasant or painful for a long time." Merriam-Webster adds, "The ability to withstand hardship or adversity." Generations before us understood that endurance was necessary, that the difficult, the unpleasant and painful would come and were unavoidably a part of life. There is some question if the present generations still get endurance. Now's our chance.

*continued on next page*

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*Pastor's thoughts from previous page...*

There are many references to endurance in the Scriptures. Jesus is offered as an example of enduring unjust suffering. In recent years, many have been critical of such texts. It has been pointed out that such passages have been misused, invoked to tell people to put up with things that shouldn't be tolerated. These objections and objectors have a point. But there's also a point to the virtue, the capacity for endurance. I've so often been both humbled and amazed by the endurance I have witnessed in many people's lives. How they endure in the face of chronic pain, terrible illness, great frustration or enduring difficult, trying people. I've wondered how I would do if I were in their shoes.

Because we have become adept at managing, even eliminating, many forms of suffering we sometimes seem to think there's no good reason ever for suffering. But that's not true. Moreover, we don't, then, develop virtues like endurance and persistence. And where are we when we need them? We need them now. We are in the endurance phase of this pandemic.

Book TV on the weekend is addictive and now with summer I will abstain and make it more of a point to venture near the neighbors who are alone and lonely. I keep hearing how devastating loneliness can be, and few are willing to admit this issue. A walk in their direction, of course, with your mask and keeping distance, but a voice in-person rather than phone or email, the personal contact is what is needed. It is a "sanity" issue. Summer 2020 will be different but we can do this. Just hang in, continue to be the Church while the building is closed.

Peace & Joy, *Pastor KatieD*

## Quotes for the Month:

"That's the beautiful truth of these dark days: even in the middle of a terrifying pandemic, even when schedules are interrupted, even when chaos is ever-present, even when people are scattered, even when buildings filled with chairs and pews and class rooms are closed – the Church is still the Church and love is still love." – John Pavlovitz

"Hope is Not Canceled" – KD

"Houses of worship are not essential, but true worship is: 'When I was hungry, did you feed me? When I was thirsty, did you give me a drink? When I was a stranger, did you invite me in? When I was naked, did you clothe me? When I was sick and in prison, did you visit me?'"  
– Rev. William Barber

"I hope that you decide to ground yourself in values that last. Like honesty, hard work, responsibility, fairness, generosity, respect for others. You won't get it right every time, you'll make mistakes like we all do. But if you listen to the truth that's inside yourself – even when it's hard, even when it's inconvenient – people will notice. They'll gravitate towards you, and you'll be part of the solution instead of part of the problem." – Barack Obama

"Everything – including love, hate, and suffering – needs food to continue. If suffering continues, it's because we keep feeding our suffering." – Thich Nhat Hanh

# Strengthen the Church

The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill on its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.



As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Please give generously to the Strengthen the Church offering. Donations due by May 31.

## Congratulations to This Year's Graduates!



Shane Northam.....Richmond High School

Logan Northam.....8th grade graduate from Richmond Middle School

Olivia June Gilbert.....Pagosa Spring High School  
(Sandy Knoell's granddaughter)

## COVID-19 UPDATE for Kids In Distress Services

Effective immediately, KIDS will be closed to the public until further notice. KIDS runs on mainly volunteers, most of them being older. With that being said, we simply don't have the numbers to operate at this time as we want to keep them safe. We apologize for any incon-

venience and know that we will be constantly monitoring the situation. We will be filling orders on an emergency bases only and ask that you hold all donations until we open again. Please visit our website for further details. Thank you again for your understanding.

For timely and accurate information links regarding COVID-19, please visit [www.stclaircounty.org](http://www.stclaircounty.org), [www.michigan.gov/mdhhs](http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs)

Stay safe and healthy,  
K.I.D.S.



**Any man can be a father, but it takes someone special to be a dad. Hug your dad on Father's day.**

# Church Notes



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

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

## From First UCC— How to Donate:

OUR DOOR TO THE ELEVATOR IS UNLOCKED 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. THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE FOOD PANTRY.

Our summer worship schedule will remain the same throughout the summer months. Worship service: 11 a.m. when our doors reopen.



## Time to Mow the Lawn Again...



Summer is finally here, and the grass is green and growing. We have several volunteers who keep our church lawn trimmed, but we can always use a helping hand. We have a sign-up schedule for those who would like to cut the church lawn for one week or several during the summer months.

The schedule 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. Rich Weinert has also posted a Sign-up Schedule on line with Sign Up Genius.com. You can email Rich at richweinert@comcast.net to get the link and check it out.

Thank you.

## Quarterly Statement for First UCC (TY543) Community Rewards from Kroger...

We have 23 households that participate in the Kroger Community Rewards Program.

Total donations to our church: \$72.67 from February 1 thru April 30, 2020.

Thanks to those who have enrolled in this program.



# Servers Rotation Schedule—2020



## May 31 (counter: Christine Hensch)

Greeters.....Ron & Kim Schrote  
 Ushers.....Rich & Sue Weinert  
 Lay Reader.....Kim McCardell  
 Altar Flowers....Chris Hensch

## June 7 (counter: Sue Weinert)

Greeters.....Sue & Rich Weinert  
 Ushers.....Ray Trombley & Kim McCardell  
 Lay Reader.....Lucia Marshall  
 Communion Preparer....Donna Cockerill  
 Communion Servers.....Ron & Kim Schrote

## June 14

Greeters.....Doris Essenburg & Lucia Marshall  
 Ushers.....Sharlene Haws & Volunteer  
 Lay Reader.....Joyce Townsend  
 Altar Flowers...Ron & Kim Schrote

## June 21

Greeters.....Don & Donna Cockerill  
 Ushers.....Ron & Kim Schrote  
 Lay Reader.....Christine Hensch  
 Altar Flowers....Merle Davies

## June 28

Greeters.....Joyce Townsend & Pam Green  
 Ushers.....Glen & Diane Porrett  
 Lay Reader.....Sue Weinert  
 Altar Flowers...Sharlene Haws

## July 5 (counter: Ray Trombley)

Greeters.....Sharlene & Darrel Haws  
 Ushers.....Rich & Sue Weinert  
 Lay Reader.....Kim McCardell  
 Communion Preparer....Sharlene Haws  
 Communion Servers.....Joe B. & Karen E.

**This schedule applies when our church doors reopen for worship.**



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

<u>June 7 - 13</u> Kimberly McCardell Sally McNinch George & Sue Millbrand	<u>June 14 - 20</u> Aaron Miller Amelia Miller Terry & Kathi Miller
<u>June 21 - 27</u> Lantz, Jennifer, Shane & Logan Northam Lisa O'Rourke Marjorie Pentzien	<u>June 28 - July 4</u> Chris, Krista, Hanna & Robbie Plucinski John & Nancy Pollock Gary Porrett



**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)—cancelled**

**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.

# 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 June birthdays:



- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 03 - Joshua Kohn     | 18 - Carmen Breese  |
| 06 - Doris Essenburg | 18 - Warren Burmann |
| 09 - Diane Porrett   | 27 - Doug Manska    |
| 14 - Joshua Fair     | 27 - Kerri Green    |

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

- |                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 18 - Avery Ball      | 27 - Katherine Chrostowski |
| 22 - Katherine Davis | 28 - Liam Jones            |

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



- |                             |
|-----------------------------|
| 01 - Doug & Suzie Manska    |
| 06 - Joshua & Emily Houston |
| 09 - Dave & Terry Hunger    |
| 15 - Ryan & Niki Schrote    |
| 30 - Mark & Vicky Davis     |

**BEST  
WISHES  
TO YOU!**

**Attendance**

- |             |     |
|-------------|-----|
| May 24..... | N/A |
| May 17..... | N/A |
| May 10..... | N/A |
| May 03..... | N/A |

**Offerings**

- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| May 24..... | \$1,473.00 |
| May 17..... | \$1,650.00 |
| May 11..... | \$1,400.00 |
| May 03..... | \$2,120.00 |

**Newsletter  
DEADLINE  
June 22**

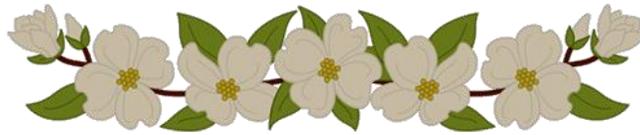


Due to a parishioner allergy:  
First UCC is now a pineapple free zone. Please refrain from lotions, gums, fruit snacks, fruit juices, perfumes, air fresheners and any other scent or flavoring with pineapple in it. Thank you.

# Sunday Services

## *Scripture Readings for June*

- June 07**     **Trinity Sunday**  
Genesis 1:1-2:4a • Psalm 8 • 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 • Matthew 28:16-20
- June 14**     **Second Sunday after Pentecost**  
Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7) • Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 • Romans 5:1-8 • Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)
- June 21**     **Third Sunday after Pentecost**  
Genesis 21:8-21 • Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 • Romans 6:1b-11 • Matthew 10:24-39
- June 28**     **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**  
Genesis 22:1-14 • Psalm 13 • Romans 6:12-23 • Matthew 10:40-42



### **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.

# June 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Worship 11 am	8	9	10	11	12	13 Quilt Guild 10 am
14 Worship 11 am Worship comte. meets after service	15	16	17	18  Meets at 7 pm	19	20
21 Worship 11 am	22 <b>NewsLetter DEADLine</b>	23	24	25	26	27
28 Worship 11 am	29	30	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> <p>Events and worship service listed for this month may be restricted due to the virus pandemic.</p> </div>			



Return address requested

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

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Or Where You Are On Life's Journey...  
You Are Welcome Here!

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