

SHARING THE WORD

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

RICHMOND, MICHIGAN

March 2022



FIRST UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Pastor Katie Dailey

OFFICE: 586-727-3155

E-mail: firstunitedcc@outlook.com

Website:

www.firstuccrichmond.yolasite.com

OFFICE HOURS:

TUESDAYS

8:30 AM - 12 NOON

FRIDAYS

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,

The wearing of Ashes proudly on Ash Wednesday says "I am a Christian, and I am entering this season with a purpose for my life." Another Season of the Church year has arrived, and I hope that you will make it a season to delve into the meaning of church in your life, the need of ritual, of celebrations, of down time and seeing one another.

You may recall the story of the child in bed crying for his mommy to come and sit with him; she responds, "honey its okay, God is with you." He answers, "but I want God with skin on." Well, that is the importance of being together in person.

Thank you, Price and Mia. You have mastered the production of our worship. And thank you, Price, for your willingness to come in on Thursday evenings for a mini worship for those that can never make a Sunday, but feel the need to be with people in person.

To date, Thursday evenings have been met with snow warnings, but spring is almost here, the days are getting longer, and daylight saving time returns on March 13. All is looking good for some physical fitness at 6:00 pm on Thursday's [walking in place to music and getting the arms into motion] followed by Worship. Coming at 6 o'clock does not mean you are expected to stay for prayer—it is your choice. Again, walking and prayer on Thursday evenings. Any and all are invited.

Our UCC has asked for a FAST for the resolution of the situation in Europe. The first date was February 27, and we need only remember that FAST doesn't have to be about food; it can be about any number of things, but fasting is good for spiritual growth during this season leading up to the great feast of resurrection.

Have you noticed that our Sunday music includes a traditional hymn, a contemporary song, and a theme song? In February, Black History Month, a noted Negro Spiritual song was used every week and stories related to Black history were included within the sermon.

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Pastor's thoughts from previous page

The importance of history was even mentioned when we had the story of Joseph in Egypt. In the book of Genesis, the Pharaoh remembered Joseph, but by Exodus there was no memory of Joseph. Letting history be taught and know is important.

Recall a few years ago. We planted marigold seeds on Ash Wednesday to watch the process of growth, and that growth indicated our spiritual growth. Marigolds germinate fast, so it is within a week to ten days when kids especially can see something happening. By Easter the little plant will be full of green growth, and by Pentecost, flowering. That process is very indicative of how we should grow spiritually. It is a perfect visual for Lent.

Love & Peace,
Pastor KatieD+

A Note from our Music Director...

I am extremely happy to report that our service is now on YouTube as well as Facebook live. Our Pastor's online congregation is growing. However, we have had many startup challenges regarding the cameras and the microphones, but everything is working well now, thank God.

I am very proud of our high school student Mia, who I refer to as "The Producer," as she expertly runs the live stream from our balcony every Sunday.

If you know a student who needs public service credit for college, we are ready to bring them aboard and train them.

Finally, I am ready to accompany anyone who wishes to sing special music. We will rehearse on Thursday evenings at 7 pm at the church; if two people arrive, I will say we have a choir!

God Bless,

Price

Fun Night Out



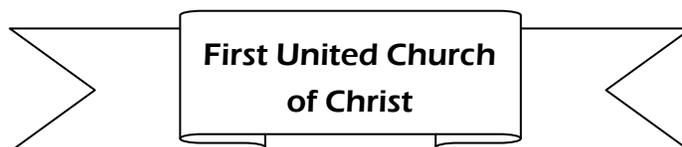
Mark your calendars for April 2, 6:00 pm. Join us for a new fundraiser that will

include card games, board games, food and a silent action. You don't need to play any games if you're not so inclined, just come out for a night of fellowship and lots of laughter.

Contribute \$10 per person and an appetizer or snack to keep the energy flowing. Also, we greatly appreciate any spring/summer-type

items that you could donate to our auction.

Looking forward to seeing you! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kim at 586-925-8802. Covid, unfortunately, will have the last word.



Church Council Highlights

The February meeting of the church council included the following highlights:

- ◆ It was agreed to include Psalms within the worship services during Lent.
- ◆ For Ash Wednesday, there will be a “drive by” distribution of ashes in the church parking lot from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm.
- ◆ There was a request from the UCC national office to support the Ministers’ Financial Vitality Initiative (MFVI), which is a program that provides support to financially burdened ministers. The MFVI initiative has a goal to raise \$3 million by 2023 and are suggesting that if each church contributed a total of \$1,000 payable over three years, the goal would be met. The council agreed to have one special offering for the MFVI each year for the next three years with the plan to provide a total of \$1000.
- ◆ We will plan to start coffee hour back up after Lent.
- ◆ It was suggested to use the money that we receive from the Kroger community rewards program for a mission. Council selected the Richmond food pantry as the Kroger rewards mission project.
- ◆ The March council meeting will be held on Thursday, March 24th (a week later than normal).

First UCC’s Weekly Prayer Discipline for March



<p><u>February 27 - March 5</u></p> <p>Mark & Vicky Davis</p> <p>Dennis Dubay</p> <p>Erin Dunsmore</p>	<p><u>March 6 - 12</u></p> <p>Jerry & Lynn Dunsmore</p> <p>Kristina Dunsmore</p> <p>Karen Eltringham</p>	
<p><u>March 13 - 19</u></p> <p>Kyle & Kevin Ensley</p> <p>Doris Essenburg</p> <p>Tim, Hope, Nicole & Nyana Fair</p>	<p><u>March 20 - 26</u></p> <p>Joshua, Allyssa, Annabelle & Jaxson Fair</p> <p>Pat Fenton</p> <p>Rob & Amy Follebout</p>	<p><u>March 27 - April 2</u></p> <p>Steve & Darlene Furtaw</p> <p>Kerri Green</p> <p>Vance & Pam Green</p>



Love is the theme for this year's **One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)**. The campaign's focus scripture is 1 Corinthians 13:13 – "And now these three remain: faith, hope and **Love**. But the greatest of these is **Love**." The OGHS carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. So, with this theme in mind, we will collect the **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on Sunday, March 27**.

Our money will provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. One Great Hour of Sharing also supports

domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

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. Let us stand with other UCC congregations and lend a hand by supporting the **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**.

Thank you for giving on **Sunday, March 27**.



The Flower Calendar is displayed on an easel in the narthex for those who would like to donate altar flowers on a specific Sunday during the new year.

Pick a postcard that corresponds to the day you would like to provide flowers, address it to yourself, add a dedication if you want to, and submit the card to the church office. **Please do not keep the card.** We need the returned cards to acknowledge the donators and their dedications. As your date draws near, your postcard will be mailed back to you as a reminder to order your flowers. Flowers on the

altar can be an expression of celebration, or they can be a solemn remembrance of deceased family members and/or friends.

Thanks to all the past and future contributors—your flowers make a beautiful addition to our church.

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



Church Notes

WORSHIP WITH US!

Our church doors are open every Sunday at 9 am for those who would like to drop by for a visit or to drop off an envelope. Our worship service starts at 10 am and all are welcome.

You can also watch our worship service from home on our Website Sunday mornings. Go to: firstuccrichmond.yolasite.com and click on "Worship Services" in the side bar.

OR

Join us on our Facebook page as we live stream our service Sundays at 10 am.

No Perfect Church

I think that I shall never see
A church that's all it ought to be;
A church whose members never stray
Beyond the strait and narrow way;
A church that has no empty pews,
Where all the people pay their dues;
A church whose members always sing
And flock to church when bells do ring.
Such perfect churches there may be,
But none of them are known to me.
But still we'll work and pray and plan
To make our own the best we can.

—Unknown



Do You Have Something to Share...

Email to firstunitedcc@outlook.com before the 20th of each month and we will add your news to our monthly newsletter.

Special Mission Offerings...

One Great Hour of Sharing
March 27- Fourth Sunday of Lent

Strengthen the Church
June 5 - Pentecost Sunday

Neighbors in Need
October 2 - First Sunday of October
(World Communion Sunday)

The Christmas Fund
December 18 - Sunday before Christmas

Please give to these ministries that bring hope to people in the U.S. and around the world.

This OGHS Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the United Church of Christ. Please give.



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



07 - Terry Hunger
15 - Fred Weeks Jr.
24 - Drew Reindel

25 - Terry Miller
31 - Ray Trombley

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

19 - Ron & Kim Schrote

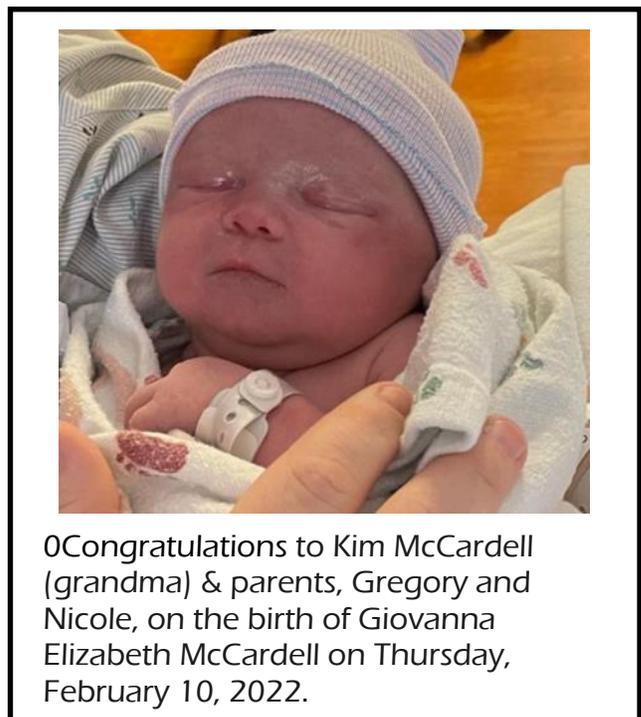


Offerings

February 20.....\$ 975.00
February 13.....\$1,930.00
February 06.....\$2,115.00
January 30.....\$ 985.00

Attendance

February 20.....24
February 13.....24
February 06..... 18
January 30..... 18



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

Pat Fenton (586-430-1139)

Buildings and Grounds

Shannon Vivona (586-372-1147)

Worship

Chris Hensch (586-457-9196)

Christian Education

Hope Fair (586-531-1103)

Finance/Stewardship

Shannon Vivona (586-457-9196)

Memorial

Lynn Dunsmore (586-727-5217)

Personnel

Hope Fair (586-531-1103)

Ron Schrote (586-925-8801)

Shannon Vivona (586-372-1147)

Need to Get in Touch with Pastor Katie?

Covid19 has altered many of our schedules and is keeping us sheltering at home when possible. So there may be times when Pastor Katie is not in the office when you need pastoral care. Please know that Pastor Katie is always glad to take your call

or to arrange a day and time to meet with you.

Cell number: 586-202-8644

Home phone: 586-716-9543.

You can also call the office at 586-727-3155 and leave a

message with Helen or on the answering machine. 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, so please feel free to give us a call when needed.

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.

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>
Katie Dailey	Pastor	586-202-8644	N/A
Mark Davis	Treasurer	586-292-3612	2023
Lynn Dunsmore	Council Member	586-727-5217	2024
Hope Fair	Vice President	586-531-1103	2023
Pat Fenton	Council Member	586-430-1139	2022
Chris Hensch	Council Secretary	586-457-9196	2022
Ron Schrote	Council President	586-925-8801	2023
Shannon Vivona	Council Member	586-372-1147	2024
Jackie Waszkiewicz	Financial Secretary	586-244-3290	2023

First UCC Prayer Chain



Pastor Katie	586-202-8644
Diane Porrett	586-727-1374
Karen Eltringham	586-291-0615
Shelley Champion	586-255-0387
Christine Hensch	586-457-9196
Traci Bartell	586-557-2264
Kim McCardell	586-623-9833

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.

Sunday Services

Scripture Readings for March

- March 06 **First Sunday in Lent**
Deuteronomy 26:1-11 • Psalm 91:102, 9-16 • Romans 10:8b-13 • Luke 4:1-13
- March 13 **Second Sunday in Lent**
Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 • Psalm 27 • Philippians 3:17-4:1 • Luke 13:31-35
- March 20 **Third Sunday in Lent**
Isaiah 55:1-9 • Psalm 63:1-8 • 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 • Luke 13:1-9
- March 27 **Fourth Sunday in Lent**
Joshua 5:9-12 • Psalm 32 • 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 • Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Servers Rotation Schedule—2022

February 27

Lay Reader.....Chris Hensch
Altar Flowers.....Shannon Vivona

March 6

Lay Reader.....Kim Shrote
No Altar Flowers

March 13

Lay Reader.....Joyce Townsend
Altar Flowers.....Need Volunteer

March 20

Lay Reader.....TBD
Altar Flowers.....Need Volunteer

March 27

Lay Reader.....Chris Hensch
Altar Flowers....Ray Trombley

April 3

Lay Reader.....Lucia Marshall
No Altar Flowers

Office Hours

The secretary is in the office on Tuesdays, 8:30 am —12 noon and Fridays 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.

March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> Drive-by distribution 11:30 am - 1 pm	3 Funeral for Diane Porrett at First UCC. Visitation 10 am Service 11 am	4	5
6 Worship 10 am	7 Happy Birthday to Terry Hunger	8	9	10	11	12 Quilt Guild 10 am
13  Worship 10 am	14	15 Happy Birthday to Fred Weeks	16	17	18	19 Happy Anniversary to Ron & Kim Schrote
20 Worship 10 am	21	22	23	24 Church Council meets 7 pm Happy Birthday to Drew Reindel	25 Happy Birthday to Terry Miller	26
27 Worship 10 am One Great Hour of Sharing offering	28	29	30	31 Happy Birthday to Ray Trombley		



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