

SHARING THE WORD

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
RICHMOND, MICHIGAN
August 2026



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,

In 1983, Billy Joel wrote "Keeping the Faith" as his way of explaining a creative revival – a debt he felt he owed to the music, the friends, and the culture of his youth. The song is a love letter to a world that no longer exists.

We don't fully understand what our places mean to us until they're gone. The restaurant isn't just a restaurant. It's the table where you celebrated, argued, reconciled and laughed. It's the waiter who knew your order and hugged you when you arrived. It's years of dinners that somehow became the architecture of a life. When it closes, you don't just lose a place to eat. You lose a place to be – a physical location where your history was stored and your identity was reflected back at you.

You cannot preserve what is gone. Not denial – the restaurant is not coming back, and particular magic existed only in that particular place. But integration. Folding what you loved into who you are, so that the place lives in you even when you can no longer visit it.

- This means telling the stories.
- It means finding the photograph and putting it somewhere you can see it.
- It means ordering the same drink somewhere new and tipping your glass to the place that first introduced you to it.
- It means letting the people who shared those places with you know – explicitly, today, not eventually – what those years meant. It also means staying open to what comes next.

Billy Joel's most generous line is that tomorrow ain't as bad as it seems. Not that tomorrow replaces what was lost – nothing does. But that the capacity for meaning, for joy, for the kind of belonging that makes a place sacred is not finite. It doesn't run out when the doors close.

The closed restaurant. The shuttered beach bar. The empty booth, the dark stage, the locked door. These are not the end of the story. They are proof that something worth grieving existed – that you were paying enough attention to love a place well, that you lived richly enough to accumulate losses worth feeling.

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Billy Joel went to the grave of his musical youth, picked up what mattered, and walked back into the present with his arms full. You can do the same.

When a place closes, that version of you loses its address.

Psychologists call these locations memory palaces – physical spaces so saturated with experience that simply walking through the door triggered a cascade of identity and emotion. When the space disappears, the cascade has nowhere to go. That's not sentiment. That's neuroscience.

We tend to think of this kind of loss as something that accumulates only with age. But it visits us throughout life, each time in a different costume.

The childhood home sold to strangers. The college bar that became a bank. The neighborhood that priced you out. The office building you worked in for 20 years, demolished for condominiums. Each generation has its own version of the closed door, the dark window, the sign that says thank you for the memories as if a laminated notice could possibly cover it.

What changes as we age is not the loss itself, but our growing awareness of what the loss means. Younger people experience it as shock – the world was supposed to hold still. Older people experience it as pattern recognition – this is what time does, and it does it without asking. That recognition is not resignation. In the right hands, it becomes wisdom.

Joel's answer to the vanishing world of his youth was not to mourn it into paralysis. It was to make something from it. The entire album – *An Innocent Man* – was his way of saying: this shaped me, and I won't pretend otherwise, and I'm not ashamed of what I'm made of. Joel related: "The material was coming so easily and so quickly, and I was having so much fun doing it. I was kind of reliving my youth."

The good old days weren't always good. But they were real, and they were yours, and nobody gets to take that part.

Keep the faith.

Pastor KatieD+

Have Car, Will Travel?

Volunteer Drivers Needed



The Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers program needs drivers who can provide rides for our older and disabled neighbors so they can get to doctor appointments and essential errands. Just a couple hours of your time can make a huge difference

in someone's life. Please call IVC today at 586-757-5551 for more information. You can check them out at www.ivcinfo.org.

All-Church Meeting...

Please mark your calendar for a very important meeting on August 16th after the 10 am service when we will discuss where we go next as a church. Bills are higher than the income and our building is requiring more TLC due to age. Please plan to attend. We need everyone's opinion.



We are looking for helping hands. If you can spare an hour or two on Wednesday, August 12 at 10 am, we will be cleaning the sanctuary and basement. Many hands make the work seem easy.



You are invited to our monthly Euchre Night on Saturday, August 8 at 6:30 pm. Stop by for some good laughter, meet new people, snacks and oh, I forgot, play cards!



Dear Members and Friends,

Pastor Katie's last day with us will be on August 30. After service there will be a reception downstairs so we can send them off into much deserved retirement.

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Speaking of retirement, Helen Stein our church secretary of 16 1/2 years will also be leaving. Her last day will be Friday, August 28. Stop by the church any Tuesday or Friday morning to wish Helen a well-deserved wonderful retirement.



Hello Members and Friends of First UCC,

We need volunteers to help mow and trim the lawn at First UCC for the grass-cutting season. You may mow anytime during the week except on Sundays.

Press Ctrl and Click on the link below to review the available slots. Be sure to scroll all the way to the bottom after you select your dates and click on the "Submit" button to complete your signup.

[First United Church of Christ, Richmond, Michigan: 2026 UCC Lawn Care Volunteer Sign Up](#)

Name:

Congregational Survey

Your candid answers will help us think about the future sustainability of our ministry.

How would you describe the purpose of our congregation?

Think of the last 3 years: what are you most proud of that we did as a congregation?

Growth might involve some changes to what we do and how we do it. Thinking about your fellow members in the church, how open to new ideas do you think they are?

- ☐ Not open to new ideas or change
- ☐ Somewhat resistant to new ideas or change
- ☐ Somewhat open to new ideas or change
- ☐ Excited for new ideas or change

Continuing our ministry requires significant new commitments from volunteers. How many hours per week could you give:

- ☐ 0 additional hours per week – “I’m doing all I can for the church right now.”
- ☐ 1-2 additional hours per week – “I would be interested in doing more to help our congregation.”
- ☐ 3-4 additional hours per week – “I can provide significant new time to help our congregation grow.”

Think of your circle of friends and family in the area who don’t have a church they attend. What do you think we could change to bring more people back to church?

Continuing as a congregation would require a significant increase in the amount we each give to our congregation. Would you be able to at least double what you currently give to the church and to sustain that level of giving for five years?

Please return to Church on or by August 10. You can choose to remain anonymous or you can put your name at the top. Your input will be used in guiding decisions during the August 16th meeting.



Welcome TO OUR church

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. If we have your email address, the link to Facebook and You Tube can be forwarded to you.



Altar Flowers

Flowers on the altar can be an expression of celebration or a solemn remembrance of deceased family members or friends.

If you would like to provide altar flowers on a specific Sunday during the new year, you can now sign up on line and receive a reminder to order your flowers as your date draws near. Right Click on the link below and open the hyperlink to see available dates. Be sure to scroll all the way to the bottom after you select your date/dates and click on the "Submit" button to complete your signup.

You can also use the signup sheet displayed on the back table in the narthex if you prefer not to use the online link.

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

[Members and Friends: Altar Flowers 2026](#)



Food Pantry Needs

Hello Everyone,

I hope you are enjoying your summer months here despite the few smoky days we had. Here is the list of what the food pantry is in need of currently:

Manwich
Juice boxes
Hamburger Helper

Snack Pack pudding cups
cake mix/frosting
assorted jams/jellies

Thank you in advance for any help you may be able to provide.

God Bless!

Michele,
Richmond Community
Food Pantry

Sunday Services

Scripture Readings for August

August 02 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 32:22-31 • Psalm 17:1-7, 15 • Isaiah 55:1-5 • Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
• Romans 9:1-5 • **Matthew 14:13-21**

August 09 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 • Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b • 1 Kings 19:9-18 • Psalm 85:8-13
• Romans 10:5-15 • Matthew 14:22-33

August 16 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 45:1-15 • Psalm 133 • Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 • Psalm 67 • Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
• Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

August 23 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 1:8-2:10 • Psalm 124 • Isaiah 5:1-6 • Psalm 138 • Romans 12:1-8
• Matthew 16:13-20

August 30 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 3:1-15 • Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b • Jeremiah 15:15-21 • Psalm 26:1-8
• Romans 12:9-21 • Matthew 16:21-28

Servers Rotation Schedule—2026

July 26

Lay Reader.....Darlene Furtaw
Altar Flowers.....Darrel Haws

August 2

Lay Reader.....Darlene Furtaw
Altar Flowers.....**Need Volunteer**

August 9

Lay Reader.....Michael Grzanka
Altar Flowers.....**Need Volunteer**

August 16

Lay Reader.....Kimberly McCardell
Altar Flowers.....**Need Volunteer**

August 23

Lay Reader.....Kim Schrote
Altar Flowers.....**Need Volunteer**

August 30

Lay Reader.....Ron Schrote
Altar Flowers.....**Need Volunteer**

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 firstunit-edcc@outlook.com or leave a phone message at the church office: 586-727-3155. Thank you.



Free Community Dinner

Sunday August 16th

3-5pm

Trinity Lutheran Church
invites you to a delicious free meal,
35110 Division Road, Richmond.

On the Menu:

MOSTACCIOLI

TOSSED SALAD

GARLIC BREAD

DESSERTS

Dine In or Carry Out

See you there!

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



06 - Lucia Marshall

09 - Josie Santo

13 - Jack Dailey

13 - Rich Weinert

17 - Harrison Zoma

26 - Justin Dunsmore

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



18 - Steve & Darlene Furtaw



Offerings

July 26.....\$ 470.00

July 19.....\$ 470.00

July 12.....\$1,085.00

July 05.....\$ N/A

Attendance

July 26.....12

July 19.....14

July 12.....13

July 05.....N/A



Attendance and Offering Report

Weekly Prayer Discipline for August

August 2 - 8

Lynn Stackpoole

Ray Trombley

Terri Verlinde

August 9 - 15

Matt, Shannon, Elliot &
Theodore Vivona

Jackie Waszkiewicz

James Weeks



August 16 - 22

Rich & Sue Weinert

Justine, Paul & Alyson Achatz

Veronica Chrostowski

August 23 - 29

Don & Donna Cockerill

Jack & Pastor Katie Dailey

Mark & Vicky Davis

August 30 - September 5

Jerry & Lynn Dunsmore

Karen Eltringham

Tim & Hope Fair

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	2026
Mike Grzanka	Council Secretary	586-817-4180	2026
Kim Schrote	Council President	586-925-8802	2026
Chris Hensch	Vice President	586-457-9196	2026
Veronica Chrostowski	Council Member	586-615-8735	2028
Jack Dailey	Council Member	586-202-7358	N/A
Steve Furtaw	Council Member	586-855-3248	2028

Need to Get in Touch with Pastor Katie?

Pastor Katie is available before worship on Sundays from 9 - 10 am and then again after worship from 11 am - 1 pm. She is also in on Wednesdays from 10 am until 2 pm. You may call and schedule an appointment or simply drop in. **Call her at 586-202-8644 or email her at daileystory@gmail.com.**

You can also call the office at 586-727-3155 and leave a message with Helen or leave your message on the answering machine.

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.

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:



Mission

Kim Schrote
(586-925-8802)

Buildings and Grounds

Michael Grzanka
(586-817-4180)

Worship

Donna Cockerill
(586-872-8417)

Finance/Stewardship

Kim Schrote
(586-925-8802)

Memorial

Veronica Chrostowski
(586-615-8735)

Vitality

Michael Grzanka
(586-248-1808)

Personnel

Veronica C. (586-615-8735)
Michael Grzanka (586-817-4180)
Kim Schrote (586-925-8802)



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.

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.

August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Worship 10 am	3	4	5	6 Happy B-day to Lucia Marshall	7	8 Quilt Guild 10 am Euchre 6:30 pm
9 Worship 10 am Church Council meets after service	10	11	12 Church Cleaning 10 am	13 Happy B-day: Jack Dailey Richard Weinert	14	15
16 Worship 10 am All Church meeting after service	17 Happy B-day to Harrison Zoma	18 Happy Anniversary Steve & Darlene Furtaw	19	20	21	22
23 Worship 10 am	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Worship 10 am	31					



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

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