

January 28, 2024



Wood

I Kings 6: 14 So Solomon built the temple and completed it. 15 He lined its interior walls with cedar boards, paneling them from the floor of the temple to the ceiling, and covered the floor of the temple with planks of pine. 16 He partitioned off twenty cubits at the rear of the temple with cedar boards from floor to ceiling to form within the temple an inner sanctuary, the Most Holy Place. 29 On the walls all around the temple, in both the inner and outer rooms, he carved cherubim, palm trees and open flowers. 30 He also covered the floors of both the inner and outer rooms of the temple with gold. 31 For the entrance of the inner sanctuary he made doors of olive wood with five-sided jambs. 32 And on the two olive wood doors he carved cherubim, palm trees and open flowers, and overlaid the cherubim and palm trees with beaten gold. 33 In the same way he made four-sided jambs of olive wood for the entrance to the main hall. 34 He also made two pine doors, each having two leaves that turned in sockets. 35 He carved cherubim, palm trees and open flowers on them and overlaid them with gold hammered evenly over the carvings. 36 And he built the inner courtyard of three courses of dressed stone and one course of trimmed cedar beams.

Think with me about wood. I love wood furniture and working with wood. My father, my uncle, and my father-in-law loved working with wood. We have two beds in our home made by Molly's dad. I think it was his therapy as an orthopedic surgeon. He even used some of the same tools. Over the years I've made a coffee table and a cradle, refinished beds and chests, and other things. In my early years of ministry, I made walking sticks and shillelaghs. On occasions, I've even had to use my favorite shillelagh. But that's another story.

Today, think of special woods you have known – perhaps a beautiful chest made of aromatic cedar so that

opening it was an indescribable delight; or a little cask of ebony, highly polished, and carried the unmistakable odor of deep jungles inside it, causing your heart to resonate with the beating of drums or the calls of exotic birds. I made my mother a coffee table out of irregular swirls of old cypress that concealed tales of mysterious swamp creatures, and may have heard the sounds of an ivory billed woodpecker, alligators or even the *arrgh* of pirates. I know! I am an only child, so I am used to the life of imagination. Be that as it may, wood is an absolute marvel, if we only have the sensitivity to wonder at it. Why so many grains? Why so many patterns? Why is the deepest wine color of the cedar tree nearest the root? Why do we find all this so compellingly attractive and mysterious?

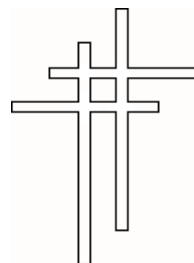
A good woodworker speaks of a special piece of wood as if it were a work of art before he or she begins shaping it, as if the real trick were to fashion it into something that doesn't deface it or detract from its unique and genuine beauty.

When an old oak fell on our first house in Richmond about 20 years ago during hurricane Isabel, I managed to count its rings that spanned close to 4.5 feet. I concluded that it had been a little tree when the Declaration of Independence was signed, and Tom Jefferson and John Adams were corresponding with each other on paper made from trees in Virginia and Massachusetts...a beautiful, living display of God's woodwork. Let's praise God today, Maker and Artist, for making all this; and you, and me.

*Shalom,
Jim Sprouse*

Please Celebrate Sunday's Message

Huguenot United Methodist Church is inviting you to our Sunday Morning Worship Service. This in-person service begins at 11 a.m. Please join us and take part in our worship and praise of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Pastor Jim Sprouse will provide us with the message



“Sermon on the Plain”

We hope you will join us!

HUMC Nursery

Our nursery caregivers, Rosalie Koch and a volunteer, are at church every Sunday morning and ready to welcome infant and toddler children in the nursery! **Childcare is provided from 9:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**



Nursery Wish

The nursery is in need of:

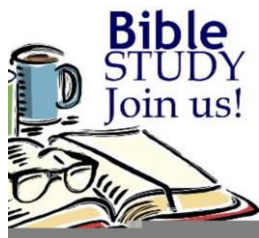
- 1 twin size flat sheet, any color or pattern

Thank you,
Rosalie Koch, Nursery Caregiver

Adult Bible Study / Sunday School

Our Adult Bible Study/Sunday School class begins at 10 a.m. Our class meets in the Fellowship Hall. The title of our lesson for Sunday, January 28 is “All Glory to God.”

The focal passage is Proverbs 2: 6-7; Daniel 1: 3-5; 17-21. The background text is Proverbs 8: 1-36; Daniel 1: 3-5; 17-21; Daniel 2. The purpose statement is “To acknowledge the work of wisdom that compels us to give God alone the glory.”



We look forward to your participation in our class. If you have any questions, comments, or feedback regarding our HUMC Adult Bible Study please do not hesitate to contact me.

Gerry Flinchbaugh 804.314.4817 gflinchb@gmail.com

PAUSE

Thanks to all who donated for and/or purchased books for two book sales during 2023. Your efforts allowed United Women in Faith (UWF) to send the proceeds to United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to assist our brothers and sisters around the world as they deal with numerous kinds of disasters. **For the time being we are not accepting additional books.** Remaining books from previous book sales will be donated. Rest assured; you will be among the first to know when we decide to plan for another book sale.



Please Join US

Coffee Fellowship: NEXT Sunday - February 4

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after our 11 o'clock worship service, for our **Coffee Fellowship this Sunday, February 4**, for coffee, some light snacks and great conversations. We invite our visitors to join us for coffee fellowship, so we can answer their questions about HUMC and we can get to know them better. **See you there!**



Would you like to host an upcoming Coffee Fellowship? We have scheduled our Coffee Fellowships for the first Sunday of each month. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board across from the Fellowship Hall to be a future

Coffee Fellowship host.

Wednesday Night Fellowship



Wednesday Potluck Fellowship Dinners are on the second Wednesday of each month. Bring a dish to share and fellowship with your church family and friends. Please come early / stay late if you can assist. Many hands make light work.

Future dates:

- **February 14** (Dinner at 6 p.m.
Ash Wednesday Service at 6:30 p.m.)
- **March 13**

Contact Shirley Bradshaw with questions or suggestions.
Sbrads2321@gmail.com
804-240-1240

Make a Joyful Noise!

Choir practice has resumed! New members (or those who might be interested) are **WELCOME!** We meet each Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Choir Room. Please contact Connie Salmeri with any questions. (804) 314-6308



Attention! Volunteers Needed!

HUMC is hosting our third **Parents' Night Out** for the preschool families on: Friday, February 16 from 5:30 – 8 p.m. We are looking for volunteers to help feed the children pizza and entertain them with games/activities and a movie.



Our Preschool was established as part of our total church program, not just as a separate program which uses the church facility, but as a vital part of our church outreach into the community. This is such a wonderful gift we offer to the preschool and the more volunteers we have, the more families we can accommodate!

Please let Ronni Wohlford know if you're able to volunteer or use the sign-up sheet posted on the church bulletin board.

If any of our older children in the congregation are interested in volunteering or would like a little practice babysitting, we would love to have their help too!

ronniwohlford@gmail.com
804.536.3968



Blessing Box

Thank you, thank you to all who heard the call and donated items to the community blessing box. The box was quite full in the beginning of the week. Some items that were gifted this week and taken were many personal care items; i.e. deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, toilet paper, paper towels. Other welcome donations: canned soup, meat, fruit, vegetables and beans; peanut and nut butters, rice, pasta, cereal and formula. For a complete list, see the Bulletin Board. Huguenot UMC is blessed to have caring members who reach out to others in need. I am also blessed to be part of this community of faith.

Any questions, please call me.
Judith Westerhouse



Great HUMC Missions Discussion Next Discussion, Tues., Feb. 27, 2024

Many thanks to everyone who attended our missions discussion on Tuesday, January 23. We had a great turnout and a great discussion. We discussed many new mission ideas and we discussed many of the mission projects we supported over the last several years. Our next mission discussion will be held on Tuesday, February 27, 2023, in person in the Fellowship Hall from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Prior to the February meeting, Pastor Jim volunteered to pull together a team to review and present at the February meeting, a few new mission possibilities for Huguenot UMC. The goal of the February meeting is to determine what mission projects HUMC will focus on for 2024.

Everyone is welcome to attend and participate in our mission discussions, regardless of whether you attended the Jan. 23 meeting or not. Please attend and be a part of our mission planning for our church.

If anyone has any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Our mission statement is "To Be a Church in Service and Witness to Our Members and Community."

Gerry Flinchbaugh 804.314.4817 gflinchb@gmail.com

Joy of Crafts has gotten off to a lively start in 2024 with a steady stream of donations to the group From the Heart, a sort of clearinghouse for comfort items to nursing homes, hospitals, dialysis centers and shelters. We have donated fleece hats, mittens, scarves, wheelchair totes, chemo port shirts, drain bags, clothing protectors, neck pillows and dresses for needy girls around the world. We are able to buy the supplies for all these projects thanks to your support of our holiday bazaar last month. Thank you!



If you are interested in participating in this program, contact Molly Sprouse at mollysprouse@gmail.com.

SPECIAL THANKS

Cross Renovation

Shortly before Thanksgiving, Jillmarie Hoover Bowers and a friend took on the project of refurbishing our outdoor cross that was in bad need of work. This process involved sanding, scraping and preparing it for painting. The results of this project were completed before Christmas, and we as members and others passing on the street can now enjoy the efforts of Jillmarie and her friends.

Many thanks,
HUMC Trustees

Preschool Pizza Fundraiser

Our preschool has an on-going fundraiser with Marco's Pizza. Just use the code: **HUMCPSAF** when ordering over the phone or online and the school receives a portion from each sale all year long. Participating locations include the Marco's Pizza on Sheila Lane and on Midlothian Turnpike.



Happy Birthday to
Phil Coffey (Feb. 2)
Elma Cooper (Feb. 4)

If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please call, leave a note or send an email to Elaine so she can include you!

THE UPPER ROOM
DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

Where the World Meets to Pray

Copies of the **January and February** edition of The Upper Room are now available on the greeting table at the front entrance. Please consider making a donation in the labeled box.



Nick Anderson

Sylvia Carr

Dave Ferguson

(Phil Coffey's Brother-in-law)

Jon Smith

Kari

Linda Smith

In an effort to keep the prayer requests current, names posted will be removed after 30 days unless requested otherwise.



Sunday, Jan. 28 – 4th Sunday in Epiphany

10 a.m...Adult Bible Study/Sunday School (FH)

11 a.m...Worship

12 p.m...Puppets in Praise & Service Meeting (FH)

Wed., Jan. 31

7 p.m...Choir Practice (CR)

Thursday, Feb. 1

10 a.m...Women's Bible Study (FH)

Friday, Feb. 2

9 a.m...Library Work Session

Sunday, Feb. 4 – 5th Sunday in Epiphany

10 a.m...Adult Bible Study/Sunday School (FH)

11 a.m...Worship

12 p.m...Coffee Fellowship following worship

CR – Choir Room **FH** – Fellowship Hall
K – Kitchen **L** – Library **PR** – Puppet Room

The graphic features the word "Upcoming" in a cursive, orange font above the word "EVENTS" in large, bold, white letters on red, 3D-style blocks. The blocks are arranged in a row and have a slight shadow, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The background is a light gray gradient.

- Fri., Feb. 9 – Feed the Homeless @ 10 a.m.
- Tues., Feb. 13 – United Women in Faith Meeting @ 10:30 a.m.
- Wed., Feb. 14 – Ash Wednesday
Potluck Fellowship Dinner @ 6 p.m.
Ash Wednesday Service @ 6:30 p.m.
- Fri., Feb. 16 – Parents’ Night Out @ 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- Tues., Feb. 20 - Church Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)
- Tues., Feb. 27 – Missions Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

Church Office Hours:

Pastor Jim is in the office on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Elaine is in the office each Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. These hours are subject to change on occasion. If you have an article for the *pulse* newsletter, please email it to Elaine *by Wednesday at 10 a.m.*

Note: This newsletter and the Sunday Bulletin are posted on the church website by Friday evening.

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