

March 2, 2025



Civility

Matthew 12: 34 You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.

Matthew 15: 16 "Are you still so dull?" Jesus asked them. **17** "Don't you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body? **18** But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man 'unclean.' **19** For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. **20** These are what make a man 'unclean';

Luke 19: 41 As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it **42** and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace.

Revelation 20: 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. **4** He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

Meditate with me today on the notion of civility and the place it has among the people of God. The word *civility* is derived from the Latin *civis*, or citizen. Its original use referred to how persons in the cities behaved toward each other – polite, urbane, and thoughtful. This, of course, was in comparison to the ruder and cruder crowd that lived in the countryside. There's been lots of talk about civility in recent years – especially regarding the apparent lack of it in

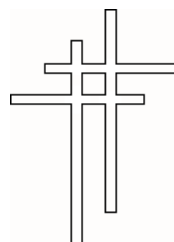
modern society. Few people defer to their elders anymore. Younger people don't get up to offer an older person a seat. Tact and finesse have been discarded for bluntness. Speech in public places is very often rude and offensive...every sentence contains an expletive. Our public officials running for office have devolved into name calling and blatantly making stuff up about their opponents. Simply put, it appears as if the barbarians have finally won. But you know what? I am not surrendering to the lack of civility that has become de rigueur.

In 410 Alaric and the Vandals sacked the city of Rome. In 413 CE, St. Augustine composed *The City of God* (*De Civitas Dei*). Responding to the Vandals' destruction of Rome, Augustine wrote about the contrast between the ways of our earthly cities and the ways of the heavenly city. Perhaps if you and I could spend more time in the presence of the Holy our speech and manners would be greatly affected. In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus expressed his desire that citizens of earth behave in ways that modeled citizens of heaven. Our own manners and morals, refined by constant association with the deity, will be a joyous gift to an often difficult and unpleasant environment.

Shalom, Jim S.

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

"The Three Parables"

We hope you will join us!

HUMC Nursery

Our nursery caregiver, Rosalie Koch, is at church every Sunday and ready to welcome children in the nursery during worship from 10:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Thank you to Shirley Bradshaw for assisting in the nursery this week.



Audio recordings of our HUMC Sunday Morning Worship Services are available at HuguenotUMC.org under the Worship tab. We hope you will find these recordings beneficial and will share them with your family, friends and neighbors.



Update Complete!

The church website redesign has been completed! Go take a look!

www.huguenotumc.org

Thank you for the input provided.

-Jim Anderson and Gerry Flinchbaugh

Adult Bible Study / Sunday School

The title for the Spring Quarter is "Embracing Life. The writer for this quarter is Von W. Unruh.

Unit 1 title is Beatitudes for Lent. This unit runs from March 2 through April 20, 2025.

The title of our lesson for Sunday, March 2 is "From Despair to Hope." The focal passage is Matthew 5:1-3; Mark 5:25-34. The background text is Matthew 5:1-3; 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-34. The Purpose Statement is "To boldly reach out to Jesus when we are in need."

We hope you will join us. We look forward to your participation in our class. If you have time and wish to, please read the lesson in the Student Book before our class meets on Sunday. If you have any questions, comments, feedback, or suggestions for improvements regarding our HUMC Adult Bible Study, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Gerry Flinchbaugh 804.314.4817
gflinchb@gmail.com



Geranium Sales to Support Shalom Farms

The United Methodist Urban Ministries Auxiliary is sponsoring a geranium sale to benefit Shalom Farms. The Geranium Sale is happening again this year! These plants are grown right here in the Richmond metropolitan area. The plants come in red, white, pink, purple, and salmon (limited supply) colors in 4-inch pots for \$4.50 each. For more information or to order plants please call Nancy Flinchbaugh at (804) 314-3118 or orders can be placed after Sunday worship. You may order plants now through Sunday, March 23, 2025. The plants will be available for pick-up on Saturday, April 12, 2025.



United
Women
in Faith

The Huguenot United Women in Faith will meet **Tuesday, March 11, at 10:30 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. The meeting will begin with a time of remembrance of Cissy Hope, our friend and Sister in Christ who served faithfully as our President of Huguenot United Women in Faith. We will have as our guest, Linda Porter, President, Three Notch'd District United Women in Faith. She will share information about the Southeastern Jurisdiction, its organization and recent Quadrennial 2024 Meeting. This month we are again participating in the Geranium Sale and wish to express appreciation to everyone for purchasing geraniums in support of Shalom Farms.

We hope you will join us next Tuesday!



One of the projects we would like to do this spring is reach out to our preschool parents by offering a **Parent's Night Out**. In years past our congregation has offered this on a Friday evening for approximate two hours for children up to 5th grade. We have offered a pizza dinner. Movies and games were offered to entertain the children. We have had sufficient volunteers to help. We need a chairperson to organize the event. If you are interested in chairing our next Parent's Night Out or have any questions, please let me know.

Gerry Flinchbaugh 804.314.4817

HELP WANTED

Your church is looking for volunteers to help audit our business, financial and membership records. We are looking for people with a business or accounting background, or understanding thereof, to help ensure our records are in order and maintained. On Tuesday, February 11, 2025, Church Council approved the adoption of Conference Record Retention Guidelines and an ad-hoc audit committee to implement the review and updates. Aaron and Chip will oversee the process but need volunteers, independent of the Finance Committee, to perform the audit of church related finances. The audit committee will also be reviewing our membership records to determine updates for those on our membership rolls with whom we have lost contact or have incomplete information. This will help us dispose of accumulated paper records that are no longer needed, and put us in a better position for record maintenance in the future. Please let Chip Woodall, chipw_va@yahoo.com, know if you are willing to help with these efforts.



Ash
Wednesday
Service

Ash Wednesday

We will mark the start of the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday observances on Wed., March 5. Ash Wednesday emphasizes a dual encounter: we encounter our own mortality and confess the things we would have done differently. The use of ashes as a sign of repentance has a long history in Jewish and Christian worship traditions, and the *Imposition of Ashes* can be a powerful nonverbal experiential way of participating in the call to forgiveness and reconciliation.

Imposition of Ashes Wednesday, March 5, 2025

Drive-through

(Remain in your car)
3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Traditional Service

in the Sanctuary at 6:30 following the 6 p.m. Fellowship gathering in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring an appetizer, nosh or nibble to share.

All Invited and Welcome



Join us **THIS WEEK!**
Wednesday, March 5
at 6 p.m.
Wednesday Night Fellowship

For the month of March our fellowship night will be on the first Wednesday to coincide with Ash Wednesday on March 5. Please bring an appetizer, nosh or nibble to share in the Fellowship Hall. Then plan to stay for the Ash Wednesday service at 6:30 p.m.

Please come early or stay late if you can, as I may have last minute conflicts that prevent me from being present. I appreciate your patience as I attempt to continue our fellowship while also being available to family needs.

Joyfully,
Shirley Bradshaw

Joy of Crafts

The chilly days of winter have been a bonus for churning out comfort items through Joy of Crafts. Since the start of 2025, a flurry of wheelchair and walker totes, dialysis mitts, drain bags, lumbar pillows, book pillows, adult bibs and girls' dresses have been donated to From the Heart, a local group that finds a home for thousands of handmade comforts for nursing homes, hospitals and shelters. The group recently passed the 600,000 donation mark!



Many thanks to all who supported the Joy of Crafts Holiday bazaar, which generates the proceeds that make these donations possible. If you have any interest in sewing, knitting or crocheting, contact Molly Sprouse at mollysprouse@gmail.com.

The Blessing Box Needs our Attention!

Thank you all for the support of the Blessing Box. Your support is greatly appreciated. This is an ongoing outreach of our church including our Preschool. The needy people in our community appreciate and need our support. Please keep the Blessing Box in mind when you are shopping and consider picking up items to put in the box. Your HUMC Mission Team thanks you and the needy people in our community thank you.





Nursery Volunteers

There is a sign-up sheet for nursery volunteers on the church bulletin board across from the Fellowship Hall.

The protocol for volunteers:

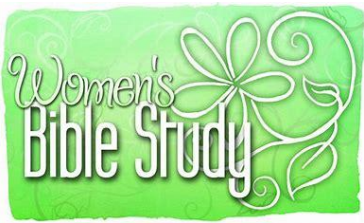
Let Rosalie know you are present. You may join the worship service sitting in the back of the sanctuary. If no children arrive for care, remain in the sanctuary. Rosalie will retrieve the volunteer when children are present. This follows our Child Protection Policy requiring two people caring for children.

Please support us as we strive to offer a nursery while being fiscally responsible with our resources. Please consider volunteering for an occasional Sunday if you are able.

*Jesus loved the little children,
Shirley Bradshaw*

Women's Bible Study

All women are welcome to join the Women's Bible Study. We meet in the Fellowship Hall of the church at **10 a.m. on Thursdays**. We are using the Adult Bible Study from Cokesbury and the emphasis in this particular series is Finding Balance. This series offers Bible references and a study of the suggested references. The



emphasis of the study will be Finding Balance through work, spiritual practices, rest, and celebration. These Adult Bible Studies offer a lot of truth, Bible study, and

direction on better ways of living. Study booklets will be provided and a DVD will be used to enhance discussion with each lesson. If this is of interest to you, please join us.

-Sarah Coffey



Pastor Jim will be forming a **Confirmation Class** to begin in early Spring. Any youth 12 years and older, please let him know of your interest!

Please Check it Out!



Please check the bulletin board for **Mission Connection Updates**. Updates are made frequently. The latest updates include Hams' Happenings and Henderson Settlement. Check it out, lease!

Preschool Pizza Fundraiser

Our preschool has an ongoing 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.



Future Host?

We have scheduled our Coffee Fellowships for the first Sunday of each month. There is a new sign-up sheet for 2025 on the bulletin board across from the Fellowship Hall to be a future Coffee Fellowship host.



Peggy Harris
Shalom Gardens
1600 John Rolfe Parkway
Henrico, VA 23238
(804) 750-2183



Rosalie Koch has some **Splenda** sugar substitute that her husband no longer uses. Please contact her if you'd like to have it. (804) 484-2086

Ushers Needed

Are you willing to serve?

Please contact Pastor Jim if you are interested in joining the Usher Team.



Happy Birthday to

Derek Podolny (March 8)

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 **March - April** 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.



The Anderson Family

Ronnie French

Peggy Harris

Jed Knick

Bruce and Trudy Morris

Jon Smith

Linda Smith

Judith Westerhouse

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



Sunday, March 2 – Eighth Sunday after the Epiphany

10 a.m...Adult Bible Study (FH)

11 a.m...Worship

12 p.m...Coffee Fellowship following worship service

Wednesday, March 5

3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m...Drive thru Imposition of Ashes

6 p.m...Fellowship Gathering / Snacks (FH)

6:30 p.m...Ash Wednesday Service

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

Thursday, March 6

10:30 a.m...Women's Bible Study (FH)

Friday, March 7

10 a.m...Library Work Session (L)

Sunday, March 9 – First Sunday in Lent

****Daylight Savings Time Starts****

10 a.m...Adult Bible Study (FH)

11 a.m...Worship

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



- Tues., March 11 – United Women in Faith Meeting at 10:30 a.m.
- Fri., March 14 – Feed the Homeless at 10 a.m.

Newsletter News

If you have an article for the next *pulse* newsletter, please email it to Elaine by **Wednesday at 10 a.m.**

Please know that submitted articles may be edited to provide clarity and increased inclusion. This newsletter and the Sunday Bulletin are posted on the church website by Friday evening.

Church Office Hours:

Pastor Jim is in the office on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Elaine is in the office every Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. These hours are subject to change on occasion.

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