

March 23, 2025



April

You and I are part of the first generation of North Americans to live in a society that struggles with what it thinks about Christianity. Some are indifferent and some are hostile toward the church. The early church shared the gospel of Jesus in a religiously plural, but hostile world. The 21st century will witness Christianity coming full circle.

Early Christians came together to celebrate their life together with God through prayer, table fellowship, and teaching about the Way. They also went out from their homes and into the streets to be witnesses to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Their message was simple: come and experience the Way of life and the rule of God in their hearts. It was not about joining a particular church. They established small groups that met daily in homes for nurture and fellowship. It was through these small groups that a larger sense of community developed. Eventually they experienced persecution and arrest from religious authorities and non-religious people because the Way they chose affected both the economic practices of society and challenged established religious traditions. It still does.

Based on these essential concerns of the early church we can conclude a few ideas about the church in the 21st century. 1. Our primary mission will be to establish Christian communities in the midst of an often hostile and violent world. 2. Our mission will be the proclaiming of the rule of God to all people. 3. Existing and emerging Christian communities will need to nurture this new life in the Way and to bring new life to others. 4. Our mission's dominant theme will be the Way of life prefigured in the life and ministry of Jesus. 5. The life of prayer will be necessary to keep Christian communities focused on mission as witnesses to the Way. 6. All church and community leadership will be based on faithful service to the Way of Christ. 7. And finally, every

Christian community in the 21st century will have to stand on its own....to self-sustain.

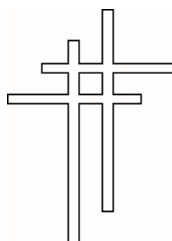
The excellent leadership of Huguenot Church believes that the only way to be faithful to the Way and to move forward together is for our congregation to turn outward to the world. Our mission involves recapturing and expressing a passion for social justice and the demand Christ makes on us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, forgive sins, and love the enemy.

As Huguenot moves forward as followers of the Way of Christ all our missions and ministries must exist for the sole purpose of bringing this new life to others who are not yet experiencing it. We must invest our time, our talents, our treasures, and our very lives in order to turn society upside down so that, from time to time, those who are usually last can be first at the table of the world's bounty. You and I need to discover the courage needed for embracing and offering this new life in Jesus as the Way. You and I are fellow pilgrims along the Way that leads us more fully and deeply into the wonder of God's love, presence and mission among all the world's people.

*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

"Religion of the Market"

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 Maria Wright 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.



Adult Bible Study / Sunday School

The title of our lesson for Sunday, March 23, the third Sunday of Lent, is "From Ritual to Righteousness." The focal passage is Matthew 5: 6; Matthew 15: 1-20. The background text is the same. The purpose statement is "to incorporate Jesus' definition of righteousness into our conversations."



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

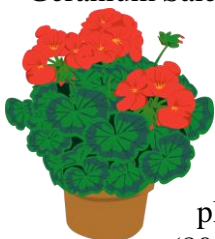
Museum of the Bible Bus Trip

On Wednesday, March 19, Reveille UMC dropped off a brochure, inviting us to join them on April 30, for a bus trip to the Museum of the Bible in Washington. At that time, they indicated they had 60 seats left. The brochure provides instructions on how to sign up for those interested. (Brochure is posted on the bulletin board and also attached to this week's congregational email.)



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.



Coffee Fellowship: Sunday, April 6

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after our 11 o'clock worship service, for our **Coffee Fellowship on Sunday, April 6**, 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. Thank you to Carol and Judge Cardwell for hosting us in April! *See you there!*



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.



Save the Date! Wednesday, April 9

Wednesday Night Fellowship

Wednesday Pot Luck Fellowship Dinners are on the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. Bring a dish to share and fellowship with your church family and friends. Please come early or stay late if you are able

Joyfully,
Shirley Bradshaw



Palm Sunday
April 13

Maundy Thursday Service
Thursday, April 17 at 7 p.m.

Good Friday
April 18

Easter Sunday
April 20

Sunrise Service
at 7 a.m.

Sanctuary Service
11 a.m.



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: Arrive around 10:45 am and 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.

Please Check it Out!



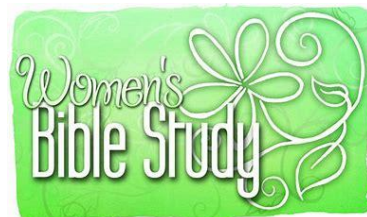
Please check the bulletin board for **Mission Connection Updates**. Updates are made frequently. The latest updates include Hams' Happenings and Henderson Settlement. Check it out, please!



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

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



A Triple Blessing!!!

- Buy Girl Scout cookies.
- Put the Girl Scout cookies in the Blessing Box or the Bainbridge Food Pantry Cabinet.

...Get it?



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.



Thank You HUMC Preschool for cleaning up the church yard

Did you notice the broken limbs and debris under the big holly between the sanctuary and flagpole after the snowstorms? One of our preschool students, Ever Duke, and his father, Preston, did and on Tuesday afternoon, March 4, they cleaned up the debris and hauled it away. Ever was so excited to help his father carry the limbs and load the pickup truck. Ever was also excited to share that this was his school and that he loved being here. It was rewarding to see the father and son working together on this project to help our church in this way.

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.



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.



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!



Happy Birthday to George Wohlford (March 28)

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



The Anderson Family
Ronnie French
Peggy Harris
Jed Knick
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 23 – Third Sunday in Lent

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

11 a.m...Worship

**** Last day to order Geraniums in support of Shalom Farms. See Nancy Flinchbaugh****

Wednesday, March 26

5:30 p.m...Preschool Parent Dinner & Meeting
(FH & Sanctuary)

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

Thursday, March 27

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

Friday, March 28

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

Sunday, March 30 – Fourth Sunday in Lent

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

11 a.m...Worship

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



- Sun., April 6 – Coffee Fellowship following worship service
- Tues., April 8 – United Women in Faith meeting at 10:30 a.m.
- Wed., April 9 – Fellowship Pot Luck Dinner at 6 p.m.
- Fri., April 11 – Feed the Homeless at 10 a.m.
- **EASTER WEEK:**
Sun, April 13 - Palm Sunday
Thurs., April 17 - Maundy Thursday (Service at 7 p.m.)
Fri., April 18 - Good Friday
Sun., April 20 - Easter Sunday (Sunrise Service at 7 a.m. & Sanctuary Service at 11 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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