

March 9, 2025



Lent

Lent is a season of 40 days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5, this year, and ends on Holy Saturday, April 19. Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means *spring*. The season is a preparation for celebrating Easter. Historically, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time for penance by all Christians. The First Sunday describes Jesus' temptation by Satan; and the Sixth Sunday (Passion/Palm Sunday), Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem and his subsequent passion and death. Because Sundays are always little Easters, the penitential spirit of Lent should be tempered with joyful expectation of the Resurrection.

The Great Three Days—sometimes called the **Triduum** or **Pasch**—from sunset Holy Thursday through sunset Easter Day are the climax of Lent (and of the whole Christian year) and a bridge into the Easter Season. These days proclaim the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ's passion, death, and resurrection. During these days, Huguenot Church will journey with Jesus from the upper room, to the cross, to the tomb, and to the garden. We'll celebrate a great unified service beginning with a service of Holy Communion on Holy Thursday and concluding with the services of Easter Day. In some churches these services are connected with a prayer vigil lasting from Holy Thursday evening (or Good Friday) until the first service of Easter and may be accompanied by fasting.

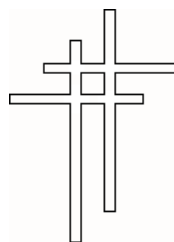
Somber colors such as purple or ash gray and rough-textured cloth are most appropriate for paraments, stoles, and banners. Unbleached muslin cloth with red stitching is also appropriate. Our Worship team takes care of all these essential worship details for us. Again, some churches remove all shiny objects from the worship area.

Some even omit flowers. Other visuals usually include a large rough cross or a veil over the sanctuary cross. Other visuals for Holy Week may include red paraments, stoles, and banners, and symbols such as perfume, coins, a whip, a crown of thorns, a torn garment, nails, a spear, a sponge, or a broken reed. On Good Friday and Holy Saturday, the church is stripped bare of all color and visuals. These are most of the traditional responses to the season of Lent. For all of us at HUMC, it needs to be a time of meditation and introspection. Preparing our souls and bodies for Holy Week and the Great Celebration of Easter is the journey...

Peace to you all, 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

"A More Opportune Time"

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.



The nursery volunteer position is OPEN this Sunday to assist Rosalie in the nursery.

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 through April 20, 2025.



The title of our lesson for Sunday, March 9, the first Sunday of Lent, is "From Grief to Joy." The focal passage is Matthew 5: 4; Luke 7: 11-17. The background text is the same. The purpose statement is "to ponder how our mourning connects us with Jesus' compassion."

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

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.

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.



The Huguenot United Women in Faith will meet this **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!



United
Women
in Faith

VOLUNTEER



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.



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.



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.



Nursery Volunteers

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

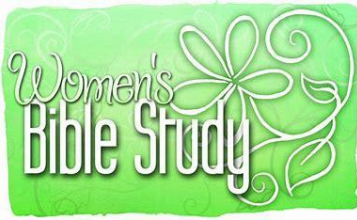
The protocol for volunteers: Arrive around 10:45 am and let Rosalie know you are present. You may join the worship service sitting in the back of the sanctuary. If no children arrive for care, remain in the sanctuary. Rosalie will retrieve the volunteer when children are present. This follows our Child 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, lease!



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

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.



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



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



Happy Anniversary to
Wayne and Marie Taney (March 11)

Happy Birthday to
Jane Grinnell (March 11)

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



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 9 – First Sunday in Lent

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

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

11 a.m...Worship

Tuesday, March 11

10:30 a.m...United Women in Faith Meeting (FH)

Wednesday, March 12

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

Thursday, March 13

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

Friday, March 14

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

10 a.m...Feed the Homeless (K)

Sunday, March 16 – Second 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., March 23 – Last day to order geraniums
- 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.

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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