

March 29, 2026



Reflections

1 Corinthians 2:9-10a

But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him – these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit.”

Let's breathe a prayer for reflections today. Thank the good Lord that light boomerangs from certain surfaces and provides us with a double of what we've been seeing. Think of the beautiful sights you've seen reflected: castles reflected in quiet lakes, clouds and mountains, trees in autumn array reflected in little streams, twilight skies or full moons reflected on the coastal waters. It is as though God packed the world with beauty and then asked: “How can I pack a little more in?” So, God added that reflecting trick with light as the extra measure.

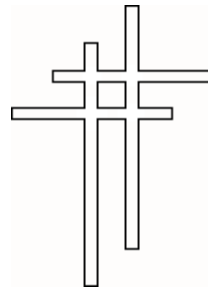
Reflections make us thoughtful about life and reality, which reminds me of an analogy Plato used about a cave. Plato is supposedly the disciple of Socrates and teacher to Aristotle. He lived about 3-4 centuries before Jesus. Plato said, suppose people lived in a cave and never saw the sunlight. They would think the cave walls and the shadows cast on them by fire to be the real world. But if someone escaped into the world of sunlight beyond the cave and came back to tell them, would they believe the person or cling to the world of shadows? We know reflections are only reflections. But what if this world, the one we think of as real, the world of sticks and stones and things,

is only a reflection of something deeper, truer, more beautiful than anything we've ever seen? Perhaps that's Plato's point. Maybe we should keep an open mind and know that God has something in store for us better than we've been able to see or imagine.

*Shalom,
Jim*

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

“Palm of Passion”

We hope you will join us!



Palm Sunday

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. *A nursery assistant is needed this Sunday. Please consider volunteering.*



Adult Bible Study / Sunday School

Our Adult Bible Study/Sunday School class begins at 10:00 a.m. Our class meets in the Fellowship Hall. The title of our lesson for Sunday, March 29, is "A Different People." The focal passage is John 12: 12-19. The background text is John 11: 45 – 12: 26. The purpose

statement is "to see how the Palm Sunday procession provides hope for those who suffer."

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 gflinchr@gmail.com

Please note: Adult Sunday School will not gather next Sunday, April 5.



Our Blessing Box Needs Help!

Our HUMC Blessing Box has been a huge blessing to the members of our community as well as to us as individuals who stock the box for the community to use. However, recently the Blessing Box has been very low on food and other items. Please consider picking up a few extra items for the Blessing Box when you do your shopping. It does not need to be a lot. If we each pick up a few items, we can keep the Blessing Box stocked for the community. It seems as though the coldest of the winter weather is behind us for this year, but please be mindful of the weather forecast when choosing items for the Blessing Box. Also, it is very important that food items are unopened. Open food containers cannot be put in the Blessing Box. Also, if you have some extra shopping bags, they are useful in the Blessing Box as well. Thank you for your continued support of the HUMC outreach mission. *Let's do it!*



Cleaning Kits for VA UMC Annual Conference

Huguenot UMC's next Mission Outreach Project will be preparing Cleaning Kits. Cleaning kits provide supplies to help individuals and families clean up after flooding, hurricanes, tornadoes and other natural disasters. Each kit consists of a five-gallon bucket filled with designated cleaning supplies such as laundry detergent, dish soap, household cleaner, air freshener, insect repellent, scrub brush, reusable cleaning wipes, scouring pads, clothespins, clothesline, trash bags, respirator dust masks, kitchen gloves, and work gloves. Each kit costs approximately \$75. Our goal is to prepare ten kits. We are asking members and friends of the HUMC congregation to make monetary donations towards the purchase of supplies for the kits. The supplies will be purchased in bulk quantities. Please mark your donation/check as "Cleaning Kits." The deadline for donations is Sunday, April 12, 2026. We plan to assemble the kits during the Sunday Morning Fellowship on Sunday, May 3, 2026. We hope you will participate in this very worthwhile project. If you have any questions or if you would like to provide assistance other than a monetary donation, please contact Gerry Flinchbaugh, 804.314.4817/gflinchr@gmail.com. Thank you!



Palm Sunday
March 29

Maundy Thursday
April 2

Good Friday
April 3

Easter Sunday
April 5

Sunrise Service
at 6:45 a.m.

Sanctuary Service
at 11 a.m.



United Women in Faith

The next meeting of the **United Women in Faith** is on April 14. Our group will assemble care packages for infusion patients in the Richmond area.

Our meetings are held in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday of the month.

Please join us!

Joy of Crafts

The recent snow days have had a silver lining for sewists to get all those projects completed. Joy of Crafts, in league with From the Heart, has provided Valentine's Day pillowcases for Children's Hospital, scent hearts for newborns, sensory quilts for blind babies and port shirts and drain bags for chemo patients, among other comfort items.



During 2025, Joy of Crafts made and donated more than 1,000 wheelchair and walker bags, dialysis mitts, memory mats and quilts, port pillows and drain bags to local hospitals, nursing homes and shelters. We also sent dresses to needy girls in the U.S and around the world. This Christmas, we provided gifts for the children and nursing staff at Children's Hospital's long term care facility, as well as quilts and toys for blind babies. All are welcome to participate in this fulfilling ministry. For more information, contact Molly Sprouse at mollysprouse@gmail.com.

Future Host?



We have scheduled our Coffee Fellowships for the first Sunday of each month. There is a new sign-up sheet for 2026 on the bulletin board across from the Fellowship Hall to be a future Coffee Fellowship host.

The calls, notes, food and visits during my recent back surgery and recovery at home are greatly appreciated. Having a great church support group has been a comfort. Being confined to the house post surgery for two weeks was particularly troubling. The recovery has thankfully been very easy, physically.

Thank you!

-Jim Anderson



**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 Clatterbaugh Family
John S. Currie
Kaylynn Fatherlos and Family
Donna Gaskins and Family
Peggy Harris
Frank Joerg
Judy King
Anna Nabors
Jon Smith
Linda Smith and Family
Judith Westerhouse

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



Where the World Meets to Pray

Copies of the **March and 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.



Sunday, March 29 – Palm Sunday

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

11 a.m...Worship

Tuesday, March 31

7 p.m...Handbell Practice (S)

Thursday, April 2 – Maundy Thursday

7 p.m...Choir Practice

Friday, April 3 – Good Friday

10 a.m...Library Work Day

Sunday, April 5 - Easter Sunday

6:45 a.m...Sunrise Service

11 a.m...Worship

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

After the church service today, the communion committee will change the paraments in the sanctuary. If you have some time to help right after the service, it would be appreciated. There are some cloths to hang that require a tall person and someone willing to stand on a ladder. *Thank you!*



- Fri., April 10 – Feed the Homeless at 10 a.m.
- Sun., April 12 – Coffee Fellowship following worship service (Please note: The monthly Coffee Fellowship hour has been moved one week to April 12 to allow families to enjoy Easter Sunday together after worship.)
- Sun., April 12 – Last day for donations for the Cleaning Kits for Annual Conference
- Tues., April 14 – United Women in Faith Meeting at 10:30 a.m.
- Sun., April 19 – Pastor/Staff Parish Relations Comm. Meeting after Worship in Library

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.

10661 Duryea Drive
Richmond, VA 23235-2106
(804) 272-6820
Website: HUGUENOTUMC.org

