

November 24, 2024

FROM THE PASTOR

Clarity and Insight

When two roads diverge and challenge you with a choice of which one to travel. Always chose the one grace leads you down...jcs

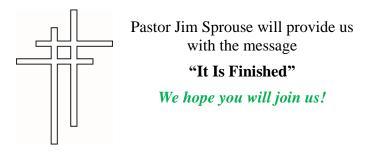
Let's give thanks today for moments of clarity and insight. How could we continue our journey without them, from time to time? You and I often struggle from day to day, wrestling with various problems, and then suddenly the light dawns and everything seems simpler. Ever wondered why we didn't see it sooner? Life is usually filled with problems to solve, insights and moments of clarity come only when we need them to light our way. Sir Francis Chichester (1901-1972) was a famous British explorer. He crossed the Tasmanian Sea during the early days of aviation. In order for him to make this crossing, it was necessary for him to land his tiny plane on a small island in the middle of the sea. There was no radio or radar systems on his plane. In those days pilots had to manage with a more primitive navigation system...the sextant. He'd barely taken off on the first leg of the trip when clouds obscured the sun and he couldn't take sextant readings. Eventually, miles into his flight, he saw a patch of sunlight and he turned his plane toward it. He took a reading and reset his course. Again and again the same thing happened. Clouds blanketed the sun, and he waited for a break and then headed for it. He would take another reading and redirect his course. Miraculously, he found his destination, refueled and completed his journey.

Life is often like this. Clouds come, and we know we're off course. When this happens look for the moments of sunlight, head for them, because they'll enable you to get back on course. Moments of clarity and insight will always come when needed...that's something to celebrate. Shalom,

Jím 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!



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.



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 volunteer Pat Brauer for assisting Rosalie this Sunday.



Please join us on next Sunday, December 1, for a Christmas Fellowship. We will enjoy some holiday snacks, decorate cookies and make ornaments to decorate our trees. You can also browse the Holiday Bazaar! We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall after our 11 a.m. service.



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, Nov. 24, is "Receiving and Sharing Christ." The focal passage is 2 Timothy 2: 1-16. The background text is 2 Timothy 2: 1-16. The purpose statement is "to contemplate way to effectively share our faith."

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

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

STEWARDSHIP

I am pleased to tell all of you that at this point in time we have cut into the budget deficit somewhat. Thank you to

all who have pledged for next year. However, I should tell you also that we have a way to go, and that even with any cost cutting that Finance can do we are still going to be in a deficit spending



mode. The only reason I am reporting this now is that should anyone still want to pledge, it is not too late to do so. Please mail or drop off your pledge cards at the church office, or I would be happy to accept them on Sunday. Thanks to everyone.

-Wayne Taney



Christmas Poinsettias

Our church is beautiful when the sanctuary is decorated with poinsettias and we look forward to seeing the flowers at Christmas time. If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory of a loved one or for another special person, please fill out the poinsettia form and place it in the church office on or before **Sunday**, **December 1.** The cost for each poinsettia is \$10 and please include your donation with the poinsettia form. The church will be gorgeous again with lovely poinsettias.

Order sheets will be shared again this Sunday! -Sarah Coffey



Joy of Crafts

Please plan to drop by the annual **Holiday Bazaar THIS Sunday, Nov. 24,** after worship in the Fellowship Hall. There are some new surprises this year, along with a fresh batch of one-of-a-kind gifts for all ages. Your purchases help fund all the comfort items we make in the next year, so your support is greatly appreciated. The Bazaar will continue for the next few Sundays.

Meanwhile, Joy of Crafts continues to make and donate comfort items to local nursing homes, hospitals, dialysis center and homeless shelters. The donations go to From the Heart, a local clearinghouse for many needs in the community.

The items we've been making include activity mats and marble mazes for Alzheimer's patients, fleece mittens for dialysis patients, wheelchair totes, chemo port shirts, drain bags and neck pillows. In addition, a shipment of 30 handmade t-shirt dresses will go out this month to Dress a Girl Around the World. Special thanks to Judy Anderson, who sews so many of these treasures.

Check out the display in the hallway to see what the donated items look like. ALSO, there are many projects that knitters and crocheters can submit to From the Heart, including a recent call for white handmade blankets for newborns. For more information, contact Molly Sprouse at <u>mollysprouse@gmail.com</u>.



Volunteers to Help Decorate Church

It would be wonderful if some women and men could gather on Saturday, December 7, to help decorate the church for Christmas. The work involves putting up wreaths in windows, putting candles and decorations in the windows, putting out the creche scene and maybe placing some of the poinsettias in the sanctuary. Not everyone needs to be able to climb ladders, but if you are able, that skill is needed for hanging the wreaths. We will meet at **10 a.m. on Saturday, December 7,** to decorate. Please join us and help transform the sanctuary to help us announce the coming of the Baby Jesus.

-Sarah Coffey

Mission Moment

Thank you all very much for your generous support of our Veterans Liberation Services outreach. We appreciate your participation in this outreach.



For the next several weeks before Thanksgiving and Christmas, in addition to our **Blessing Box**, our mission outreach will be focused on the **Bainbridge Community Food Bank**. The Bainbridge collection cabinet is located at the end of the hallway past the Fellowship Hall. We are requesting your donations of canned meats and particularly canned ham along with canned vegetables. We want to do our part to reach out to families in need especially during this holiday season. Thank you in advance for your support of this outreach. "Whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." Proverbs 11:25.

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!



Ushers Needed Are you willing to serve?

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

Save the Date – December 11 Fellowship Pot Luck Dinner and Program

We will resume our Wednesday Fellowship on the second Wednesday of the month through the end of the year. As a reminder, this is Pot Luck and begins at 6 p.m. **All are welcome!** I intend to send an email reminder the morning of Fellowship.



- Shirley Bradshaw 804-240-1240

December 11

Join us for a joyful holiday celebration! (Program to be determined)



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

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.



To my Huguenot UMC friends,

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for the calls, cards and prayers during my recent surgery and recovery. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated. Frank Grinnell

What a thoughtful congregation HUMC has! Your love and sympathy over the course of my mother's decline and passing is greatly appreciated. I am very grateful for your kindnesses. Elaine Grider and family

ray For ...

Peggy Harris Judith Westerhouse

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

THEIPPER ROOM

Where the World Meets to Pray

Copies of the **November-December** edition of <u>The</u> <u>Upper Room</u> are now available on the greeting table at the front entrance. Please consider making a donation in the labeled box.



Happy Birthday Christian Podolny (Nov. 29) Stephen Podolny (Nov. 29) Judy Smith (Nov. 30)

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

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.



Sunday, Nov. 24 – 34th Sunday of Ordinary Time 10 a.m...Adult Bible Study (FH) 11 a.m...Worship 12 p.m...Holiday Bazaar (FH)

Thursday, Nov. 28 Happy Thanksgiving Day!

Friday, Nov. 29 9 a.m...Library Work Session (L)

Sunday, Dec. 1 – First Sunday of Advent 10 a.m...Adult Bible Study (FH)

11 a.m...Worship 12 p.m...Christmas Fellowship and Holiday Bazaar (FH) ** Last Day to Order Poinsettias! **

> \mathbf{CR} – Choir Room \mathbf{FH} – Fellowship Hall **K** – Kitchen \mathbf{L} – Library \mathbf{PR} – Puppet Room



- Tues., Dec. 3 Finance Committee Mtg.
- Wed., Dec. 11 Pot Luck Fellowship Dinner and Program at 6 p.m.

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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