

January 19, 2025



Self-Identity

And Jesus said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon bar Jonah! And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church. Matthew 16:17a, 18a.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. Revelation 1:8

Ponder with me today the mysteries of self-identity. Who are you really? I suppose we all have three identities: public, private and secret. Who knows us completely except God?

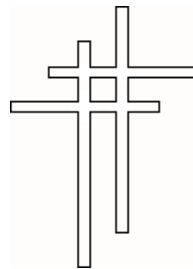
If you had to identify yourself to a visitor from another world, how would you describe yourself? In the novel *Gathering Home*, Vicki Covington describes a scene in which Whitney Gaines, who was adopted at birth, goes to a home for unwed mothers to discover who her birth mother was. Despite all Whitney knows about herself as a young woman, the information she seeks will affect her future. It is all she can do not to cry as she reads the papers that shed light on her beginning. Think of the people who have had amnesia and lost memory of who they are and where they belong. It is one of the most disorienting things that could happen to a person. We are who we are, and it makes a difference to us to know who we are and from whence we came. In our early life a major part of our learning curve is discovering who we think we are, who others think we are, and who we want to genuinely be.

The promise of religious experience is that it puts us in touch with our truest selves, with the inner beings that most completely determine our lives. In the Bible, people often receive new names after an encounter with God – names reflecting their new status in their heavenly relationship. Ponder your own identity this week and ask yourself whether it is centered in such an encounter.

*Shalom,
Jim 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!



Pastor Jim Sprouse will provide us with the message

“Weddings Are Accidents Ready to Happen”

We hope you will join us!



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.com

Thank you for the input provided.

-Jim Anderson and Gerry Flinchbaugh



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 Wenda Singer for assisting in the nursery this week.



Adult Bible Study / Sunday School

Our Adult Bible Study/Sunday School class begins at 10 a.m. and meets in the Fellowship Hall.

The title of our lesson for Sunday, January 19, is "We Share the Lord's Supper." The focal passage is Luke 22: 14-23. The background text is John 13. The Purpose Statement is "to celebrate with believers in every place the unifying effect of Jesus' table."

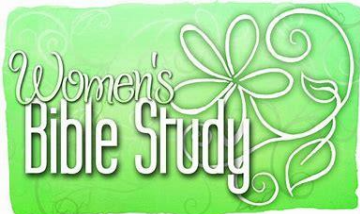


We hope you will join us. We look forward to your participation in our class. If you have time and wish to, please read the lesson in the Student Book before our class meets on Sunday. If you have any questions, comments, feedback, or suggestions for improvements regarding our HUMC Adult Bible Study,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

Gerry Flinchbaugh 804.314.4817 gflinchb@gmail.com

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



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.



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!

Dear Church Family,
Thank you for your prayers, calls, e-mails, and texts during my recent surgery and ongoing recovery. Your kindness has been a true pick me up when things got tough.



Blessings to each of you,
Shirley Bradshaw

Assisting Families of Inmates

A big thanks to all who contributed gifts for the children of incarcerated parents. Children should not have to suffer because of the sins of their parents. If we can help, we should and we did.



Christmas Blessings,
Darlene Storer



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



Thanks to everyone who helped make the **Joy of Crafts Holiday Bazaar** a big success! The funds raised will buy supplies for all the comfort items made during the coming year. These items 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. Thanks again for supporting Joy of Crafts. For more information, 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 **PIZZA!** 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.

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!



Directory Update

Peggy Harris

Brookdale Midlothian
14016 Turnberry Lane
#405-406

Midlothian, VA 23113

**Peggy would love a ride to church!*



Where the World Meets to Pray

Copies of the **January-February** 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.

Blessing Box Reminders

When outside temperatures begin to freeze, please do not place items like glass bottled drinks, carbonated beverages, and any liquids in thin plastic containers into the Blessing Box, as they can freeze and potentially burst or become unusable in cold weather.



Key points to remember:

Glass containers: These are prone to breaking when frozen.

Canned drinks with high carbonation: The pressure from freezing can cause the cans to explode.

Thin plastic containers: These can crack or break when exposed to extreme cold.

Instead, focus on donating items such as: canned goods with pull tabs, individually packaged snacks, dry goods like pasta and rice, warm clothing items like hats and gloves, and hygiene products with sturdy packaging.

<https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&q=+when+outside+temps+begin+to+freeze%2C+what+items+should+not+be+placed+in+a+Blessing+Box%3F+>

Please place your donations of the above non-recommended items in our alternate location, the Bainbridge Food Cabinet at the end of the hallway next to the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you,
Rosalie Koch



**The Anderson Family
Anne Bartee and Family**

Shirley Bradshaw

John and Pat Brauer

Ronnie French

Peggy Harris

Cissy Hope

Jed Knick

Phyllis and Rodney Martin

Linda Smith

Judith Westerhouse

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



Happy Anniversary to
John and Pat Brauer (Jan. 25)

Happy Birthday to
Sue Croll (Jan. 26)

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



Sunday, January 19 – Second Sunday after Epiphany

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

Tuesday, January 21

5:30 p.m...Preschool Meeting (FH)
7 p.m...Handbell Rehearsal

Wednesday, January 22

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

Thursday, January 23

10:30 a.m... Women’s Bible Study (FH)

Friday, January 24

12 p.m. – 4 p.m...Cub Scout Pinewood Derby (FH)

Saturday, January 25

9 a.m. – 2 p.m...Cub Scout Pinewood Derby (FH)

Sunday, January 26 – Third Sunday after Epiphany

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

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



- Sunday, Feb. 2 – Coffee Fellowship following worship service
- Wed., Feb. 12 – Fellowship Pot Luck Dinner at 6 p.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.

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

