



NOVEMBER 2026

RICHMOND FIRST TODAY

Growing Disciples who make a Difference

News from Your First United Methodist Church Family



Love, Community & Gratitude: A Time of Thanksgiving

Our worship services are always a time of joy and celebration, but Sunday, **November 15**, is going to be particularly special. Unity Sunday will be Student Sabbath. Our students will lead in worship at 10 a.m. in the Multimedia Ministry Center. They will bring the message, share their hearts, and join the music team to enrich the service. Confirmands will be recognized as full members of the church and third graders will receive a special Bible.

An all-church potluck will follow the service. Main dish will be provided. Please bring a side dish, a dessert, or both. This will be a time of thanksgiving!

November Birthdays



Susan Gardner: 3rd
Mark Morrow: 3rd
Jeff Cain: 4th
Andrew Stewart: 4th
Charlene Stone: 5th
Kaili Whitehouse: 5th
Peggy Coe: 8th
John Ferguson: 9th
Callum Tait: 11th
Gary Yerace: 12th
Pam Rye: 13th
Thea Shearer: 15th
Bobby Barton: 17th
Shannon Ackerman: 19th
Lynda Park: 20th
Joel Babbitt: 21st
Susan Shearer: 28th
April Cain: 28th
David Wills: 29th

Family Portrait Sign Up Time

Share in the Richmond First UMC Centennial Celebration and Photo Directory. Reservations must be made by Nov. 8 for a Nov. 14 portrait session. Stacy Russell is leading the portrait appointment reservation effort. Find him on Sunday, Nov. 1 in the downstairs entrance before the 9:30 service and in the Elevator Foyer afterwards, then during Sunday lunch after Thrive in the MMC. Once the Nov. 14 appointments fill, additional portrait days may be added, but don't wait. Sign up now to share in our church history. For more information, text Stacy at 859-893-0604.



CHURCH FAMILY
Photo Day
SATURDAY, NOV. 14

SIGN UP NOW!
MAKE RESERVATION WITH STACY RUSSELL



Gratefulness by Yana Istoshina, Poland

Unity in Prayer

Since everything God created is good, we should not reject any of it but receive it with thanks. For we know it is made acceptable by the word of God and Prayer.

1 Timothy 4: 4-5

Father God,

May we always give thanks, for all things come from you. We praise you for your love, mercy, grace, and countless blessings forever. Amen.

Join us for "One Hour of Prayer" at 5:15 p.m. each Monday in the MMC Chapel.

Join your family at:

First United Methodist Church
401 West Main Street
Richmond , KY 40475
Phone: (859) 623-3580
office@richmondfumc.org

Sundays:

9:30 a.m. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
11 a.m. Thrive (MMC Gym)
12 p.m. Lunch

Wednesday Night Live:

5:15 Dinner then Classes

Spotlight: Emerge Youth growing strong



These days, teens are bombarded with all types of messages telling them how to think, how to live and who to be. In our group, we openly explore who Jesus is, who we are and ultimately how His truth can guide and transform every facet of our lives.

Our regular weekly meetings of Emerge are Wednesdays from 6:15-7:45 p.m. in the "Family Room" (room 115 in the MMC) during the school year, September through May. Our typical meeting includes a game, a short message, small-group discussion, musical worship, and prayer.

Celebrate Autumn with your Church Family

All Saints Day – Sunday, November 1st

Charge Conference – Monday, November 2nd at Winchester First UMC

Flannel Sunday at Thrive – Sunday, November 8th. Wear your favorite flannel!

Unite Youth Retreat at Aldersgate – Friday & Saturday, November 13 & 14

Student Sabbath Unity Sunday – 10 a.m., November 15th. Bring a dessert or side.

Youth Famsgiving – Wednesday, November 25th. All current and former youth are invited to attend.



M & Ms are back

Mature Methodists had an outstanding comeback with 48 seniors meeting for worship and fellowship in the Multiminity Center on Oct. 29.

Susan and Larry Shearer led the group in music. Sanford Jones shared photos and gave a history of M&Ms, particularly times he and his wife June enjoyed there together.



A survey was taken to get input on future programs. Check with the Shearers to find out what the M&Ms will be up to next.

Christmas is coming soon: Mark your calendar

Hanging of the Greens – November 29th
Decorate the church and start the carols

Richmond Christmas Parade – December 4th
Enjoy music, cider, and popcorn at the Columns

Christmas Tea – December 5th
Join the United Women in Faith for the holidays

Youth Progressive Dinner – December 9th
A house-to-house feast with friends

Ugly Sweater Contest – December 13th.
Annual Sweater Fest during Thrive

Gingerbread Bash – December 16th
Create your own Nativity and enjoy yummy fun

Youth Lock-in – December 18th – 19th
School's out! Friend time!



Message from our pastor

A Grateful Heart, A Faithful Church



Dear Richmond First Family,

As I reflect on October, my heart is filled with gratitude. Thank you for the love you showed my family during Pastor Appreciation Month. Your prayers, encouragement, and kindness are gifts we treasure.

It is a blessing to serve alongside you and call Richmond First United Methodist Church our church home.

I also want to thank every volunteer who helps our church move forward. Whether you assist in worship, teach our children and youth, welcome guests, prepare meals, care for our building, serve on committees, or quietly help where needed, your faithfulness makes a difference.

In the past month, a team of church leaders traveled to the Leadership Summit at Church of the Resurrection outside Kansas City. We returned empowered to do the Hospitality God is calling us to do. We were reminded that faithful leadership begins with listening for God's direction and having the courage to take the next step. Our children and youth ministry leaders went to the KidzMatter Conference in Evansville. This investment in our leaders will bring practical tools and fresh ideas to strengthen discipleship throughout our congregation. Our children and youth need to grow in faith within a church family where they are valued and included. Meanwhile, our women's retreat brought in members from other Richmond churches so we can grow as a community loving God. Thank you to everyone who participated in our Fall Festival! You welcomed our neighbors and helped build relationships. I am also grateful to our men's group for their road cleanup efforts. These acts of service show what it means to put faith into action.

As we look toward November and the season of Thanksgiving, I invite you to prayerfully consider your part in our shared ministry. Your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness help sustain the ministries we cherish and create opportunities to reach new people. If you have not yet made your stewardship commitment, please consider how God is calling you to give and serve in the coming year.

Everything we have is a gift from God. May our gratitude become generosity, our generosity become ministry, and our ministry become fulfilment of our mission: To Make Disciples Who Make a Difference.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Eric