



Sandston Presbyterian Church Newsletter February 2026

Worship Service is at 11:00am every Sunday in person.

Sunday School Classes (9:45am)

- The Shurley Class: meets in room 7
- Men's & Women's Class: meets in the library

CONTACT US...

Email us:

sandspres@verizon.net

Call us: **804-737-1527**

Office hours: **Monday - Thursday (8:30am - 1:30pm)**

Follow us on Facebook
@sandstonpc

Check out our website:
www.sandstonpc.org



A Note from Pastor Todd...

Blessed are...

If you have been in worship with us consistently, you know about my concern for many of the things I've seen happening in our world. In particular some of the 'empirical' behavior I find especially troubling. To carry out policies is one thing, to seemingly have a goal of insulting, bullying, and terrifying is quite another. Jesus, of course, was born into just such an empirical world. The Romans and certainly Pilate were in no way subtle in the way they carried out their business. From the circumstance surrounding his birth moving forward Jesus consistently delivered and alternative vision – God's vision – for the way the world could be. This was, of course, reflected in the Beatitudes. I was reminded of them when Nadia Bolz-Weber sent out her e-letter and mentioned that right now, she didn't know what words of comfort looked like but shared some from ten years ago from her book *Accidental Saints*. They are as follows:

Blessed are they who doubt. Those who aren't sure, who can still be surprised.

Blessed are they who are spiritually impoverished and therefore not so certain about everything that they no longer take in new information.

Blessed are those who have nothing to offer. Blessed are the preschoolers who cut in line at communion. Blessed are the poor in spirit.

You are of heaven and Jesus blesses you.

Blessed are they for whom death is not an abstraction.

Blessed are they who have buried their loved ones, for whom tears could fill an ocean. Blessed are they who have loved enough to know what loss feels like.

Blessed are the mothers of the miscarried.

Blessed are they who don't have the luxury of taking things for granted anymore.

Blessed are they who can't fall apart because they have to keep it together for everyone else.

Blessed are those who "still aren't over it yet."

Blessed are those who mourn. You are of heaven and Jesus blesses you.

Blessed are those who no one else notices. The kids who sit alone at middle-school lunch tables. The laundry guys at the hospital. The sex workers and the night-shift street sweepers.

Blessed are the forgotten. Blessed are the closeted.

Blessed are the unemployed, the unimpressive, the underrepresented.

Blessed are the teens who have to figure out ways to hide the new cuts on their arms. Blessed are the meek.

You are of heaven and Jesus blesses you.

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Blessed are the wrongly accused, the ones who never catch a break, the ones for whom life is hard - for Jesus chose to surround himself with people like them.

Blessed are those without documentation. Blessed are the ones without lobbyists.

Blessed are foster kids and special-ed kids and every other kid who just wants to feel safe and loved.

Blessed are those who make terrible business decisions for the sake of people.

Blessed are the burned-out social workers and the overworked teachers and the pro bono case takers.

Blessed are the kindhearted football players and the fundraising trophy wives.

Blessed are the kids who step between the bullies and the weak. Blessed are they who hear that they are forgiven.

Blessed is everyone who has ever forgiven me when I didn't deserve it.

Blessed are the merciful, for they totally get it.

Blessed are. Blessed are. Blessed are. When we are without words, only sorrow, anger, and frustration, God continues to walk with us anyway. May we remember God's blessings and try to be a blessing to others.

Pastor Todd

Our Prayer List...

Please keep the following individuals below in your thoughts and prayers.

- Ed Johnston Jr.
- Elizabeth Breckinridge
- Laura Greer
- Joe Woodham
- Jan & Wayne Richter
- Leon App
- Jane Monacell
- Richard Young
- Joann & George McCabe
- Marie Heath



Annual Congregational Meeting has been moved to **Sunday, February 1, 2026** following Worship service.

Annual Soup & Salad Sunday

It's that time of the year for our "**Soup and Salad Sunday**". Come join us on **Sunday, February 22nd, 2026** in the fellowship hall for a luncheon

following worship service. In addition to soups, toss salads, ham biscuits or rolls, and desserts are also included in the menu. If you would like to furnish one or more of these items please contact **Pat Fitzgerald by Sunday, February 16th by phone or email to let her know what you will be bringing.** Hope to see you there!



Presbyterian Women Mission Project...

It's that time of year again for the PW to put together hygiene kits. One of the most successful projects of the Sandston Presbyterian Women is the assembly of

hygiene kits that are sent to Church World Services for distribution to disaster areas around this county. **Monetary donations are sought from the congregation for the items required for the kits.** Since 2018, we have assembled 100 kits per year!!! That translates to helping 700 people during their time of need. Thanks to the congregation's help in making this possible. Donations for the 2026 campaign can be given to Pat Fitzgerald or Kathy Wright. **The deadline is February 1st. Checks must be made payable to Sandston Presbyterian Women.** Thank you!!!

PW Circle Meetings

- The Finley-Walker Circle will meet on **Wednesday, February 11th at 10:00am.**
- The Davis Circle will meet on **Tuesday, February 11th at 6:00pm.**

Flower Calendar Requests 2026...

We are taking requests for the flower calendar for 2026! You can find the request forms outside of the office as well as the narthex of the church. The cost of the flowers is \$35.00. You will find the available dates just below.

February -1, 8, 15, & 22
March -1, 8, 15, 22, & 29
April - 12 & 26
May - 10, 17, & 31
June -7

July - 5, 12, 19, & 26
August - 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30
September - 6, 13, 20, & 27
October - 4, 18, & 25
November - 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29

February Birthdays

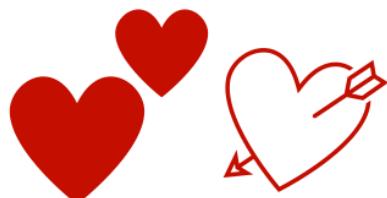
- 1 Carol Simmons
- 3 Rusty Curle
- 4 Joanne Null
- 9 Pat Fitzgerald
- 12 Devon Pence
- 14 Kathy Wright
- 14 Kellie O'Berry
- 16 Ed Johnston, Jr.
- 20 Sean O'Brien
- 23 Esther Gray
- 28 Robin Shearin
- 28 Raymond Heath



Meetings this month...

The Beekeepers of Richmond will meet on **Tuesday, February 3rd from 7pm to 9pm**. If you have an interest in bees this may be the place for you. If you have any questions please contact Arlo Amstutz.

The Highland Springs Garden Club will meet on **Tuesday, February 17th from 10am to 12:30pm** in the fellowship hall. Anyone who loves flowers is encouraged to come and join us. If you have any questions please contact Pat Fitzgerald.





Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at **Sandston Presbyterian Church on Monday, February 23, 2026 in the Fellowship hall from 8am to 5pm.**

What's going on in our community...

Eastern Henrico FISH

We are collecting beef stew for the month of **February**. Please remember to pick up a can or two the next time you are grocery shopping. There is a box outside of the church office you can drop them off in. **The Deadline is February 28th.** For the month of January we were able to collect a total of 22+ boxes of cereal.

February Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service & Communion Congregational Meeting	2	3 7pm-9pm Beekeepers of Richmond Meeting	4	5	6	7
8 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	9	10	11 10am Finley-Walker Circle Meeting 6pm Davis Circle Meeting	12	13	14 Valentine's Day
15 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	16	17 10am-12:30pm Highland Springs Garden Club	18	19	20	21
22 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service Soup & Salad Luncheon	23 8am-5pm Lifeline Screening	24	25	26	27	28 FISH Donation Deadline

