

Sandston Presbyterian Church Newsletter January 2025

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...

Happy New Year!

A few words about New Years Day from the PC(USA) Mission Yearbook...

The celebration of the new year is an occasion to express hope. New Year's rituals create hope by taking stock before looking ahead. Before the resolutions get made and the lucky foods are eaten, we look back and assess the bounty of the year.

In early agrarian societies, this time offered an opportunity to celebrate the end of the harvest and the beginning of a new planting cycle. Many festivals center on sharing one's bounty with others. On Hogmanay in Scotland, people bring gifts of shortbread, coal and whisky to their neighbors in the wee hours of the morning.

Today's harvest may mean the end of one tax year and the beginning of the next. It is estimated that 30% of all charitable giving happens in December, mostly in the three-days leading up to New Year's. Those days are also when magazines and newspapers run "best of 2024" lists demonstrating that even the stories we tell about ourselves are considered a treasure and a source of hope. We look to the past to find the courage and assurance of the future.

Not everyone celebrates the new year on Jan. 1. There are many wondrous ways to mark time outside of the Gregorian calendar, but every calendar has a last day and a first day. During the many days between them, human beings till the earth and seek cooperation for our survival. Each day over the year, we have been given daily bread, forgiveness and love. What we learn from the turning of one year to another is that our hope is not tied to a good outcome in the future, but can be found from the growth, strength and presence that we have offered in the past. We can resolve to be and do whatever we may with 2025, but all that is required of us is that we show up to be present and be counted among the abundance of incarnate love.

However you celebrated – and maybe you didn't! – as we move into 2025 I remind you of the prophet Isaiah's words in chapter forty three: ¹⁸ "Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?"

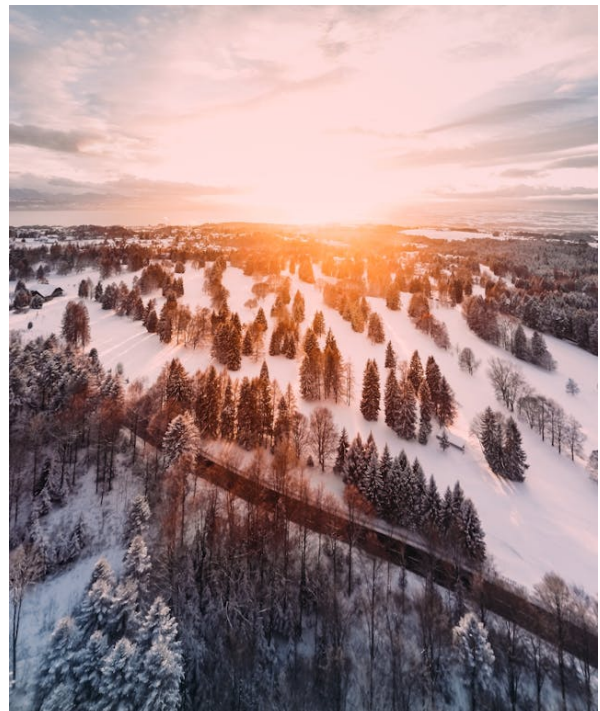
May we all have a fresh start in the new year and be looking and listening for God's presence and guidance as we go.

Peace be with you,
Pastor Todd

Our Prayer List...

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

- Alice Baldwin
- Laura Greer
- Joe Woodham
- Jan & Wayne Richter
- Leon App
- Richard Young
- Joann & George McCabe
- Marie Heath



Annual Congregational Meeting will be held
on **Sunday, February 2, 2025** following
Worship service.

Flower Calendar Requests 2024...

We are taking requests for the flower calendar for 2025! 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.

January – 5, 12, 19, & 26
February – 2, 9, 16, & 23
March – 2, 9, 16, & 23
April – 6 & 13
May – 4, 11, 18, & 25
June – 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29

July – 6, 13, 20, & 27
August – 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31
September – 7, 14, & 21
October – 5, 12, 19, & 26
November – 2, 16, 23, & 30
December – 7



January Birthdays

5 Caleb Davidson
9 Jeanette Schneck
13 Isaac Davidson
13 David Lucas
16 Paula McLaughlin
17 Marie Heath
26 Pat Johnson
27 Scottie Martin
28 Joanne McCabe
29 Kaylee Crockett
30 Anna Helen Miller

Pledge Envelopes...

The **pledge envelopes for 2025** are sitting on a table in the church narthex. If you have already picked yours up, we "Thank You". If you are interested in getting pledge envelopes, ask an usher or call the church office. 804-737-1527.



Meetings this month...

The Beekeepers of Richmond will meet on **Tuesday, January 7th 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 not meet again until February.

Christmas Clean-up

The Presbyterian Women will be cleaning up all of the Christmas Decorations from the Sanctuary on Thursday, January 9th at 9:00am. Any help would be greatly appreciated!



PW Circle Meetings

- The Finley-Walker Circle will meet on **Wednesday, January 8th at 10:00am**.
- The Davis Circle will meet on **Tuesday, January 8th at 6:00pm**.

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 600 people during their time of need. Thanks to the congregation's help in making this possible. Donations for the 2025 campaign can be given to Pat Fitzgerald or Kathy Wright. **The deadline is February 2nd. Checks must be made payable to Sandston Presbyterian Women.** Thank you!!!



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 10, 2025 in Fellowship hall.**

A package of four screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered.

What's going on in our community...

Eastern Henrico FISH

We are collecting **canned chili** for the month of **January**. Please remember to pick up an item 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 January 31st.** For the month of December we were able to collect a total of 25 boxes of pasta and 20 jars of sauce. This is going to help FISH a lot for the Christmas Season for families in need. Thank you to everyone who donated this month! Every donation makes a difference.



Christian Life Committee **"Thank You"**

We would like to thank everyone who helped with the families that we adopted for Christmas this year at Sandston Elementary. Whether you gave monetary donations or physically went out and purchased items. We could not have done this without everyone's help and support!



January Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day	2	3	4
5 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service & Communion	6	7 7pm – 9pm Beekeepers of Richmond Meeting	8 10am Finley-Walker Circle Meeting 6pm Davis Circle Meeting	9 9:00am Christmas Clean-up	10	11
12 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	27	28	29	30	31 FISH Donation Deadline	

