



Sandston Presbyterian
Church Newsletter
June 2024

Worship Service is at 10:00am every Sunday in person for the summer beginning June 2nd.

Sunday School Classes are on break for the summer beginning June 2nd.

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...

Isaiah 43

I was unable to easily find inspiration for a 'topic' so I landed on the idea of sharing a few of my favorite scripture passages in the coming months. The first one is Isaiah 43:1-3. ¹But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."

Isaiah, often referred to as the "prophet of redemption," ministered during a tumultuous period in Israel's history. The nation was facing exile, a consequence of its disobedience and rebellion against God. In the midst of this darkness, Isaiah's words served as a beacon of hope, reminding the people of God's enduring love and faithfulness. In Isaiah 43:1-3, we hear the voice of God speaking tenderly to 'the chosen' people, reassuring them of unwavering presence and protection. These verses are not merely poetic expressions of comfort but a profound declaration of God's covenant relationship with the Israelites. "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine," declares the Lord. In these words, we glimpse the depth of God's commitment to the people. Despite their waywardness, God remains steadfast in love, reaching out to redeem and reclaim them as God's own. The imagery of passing through waters and fire speaks to the trials and tribulations that the Israelites would face during their exile. Yet, even in the midst of adversity, God promises divine presence, assuring the people that they will not be overwhelmed or consumed by their circumstances.

One note that I think is important: sometimes life can absolutely leave us feeling burned! And overwhelmed! And we can certainly end up carrying the 'scar tissue' from these experiences. This has certainly been true for me at times. Which is one reason I believe this passage has so much meaning for me. God's promises do not include waving some sort of magic wand so that we experience none of life's difficulties. However as we navigate these challenges, we try and find courage in knowing that we worship a God who is intimately acquainted with our struggles, who walks alongside us in every trial, and who promises to never leave us as we journey through the waters and fires of life.

As we reflect on Isaiah's words, let us not only find comfort in the assurance of God's presence but also draw strength from the faithfulness demonstrated not only here, but throughout scripture. Just as God sustained His people through the trials of exile, God continues to comfort and uphold us in our lives today.

Peace be with you,
Pastor Todd

Our Prayer List...

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

- Alice Baldwin
- Laura Greer
- Sandy Young
- Joe Woodham
- Jan & Wayne Richter
- Leon App
- Joanne McCabe
- Richard Young



Flower Calendar Requests 2024...

We are continuing to take requests for the flower calendar for 2024! 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.

July – 7, 21, & 28

August – 4, 18, & 25

September – 1, 8, 15, & 22

October – 20

November – 3

June Birthdays

9	Lee Conner
16	Ruth Radzisauskas
18	Alice Baldwin
25	Judy Johnston
27	Robin King

Meetings this month...

The Beekeepers of Richmond are not meeting for the month of June.

The Highland Springs Garden Club will meet on **Tuesday, June 18th 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.*



Reminders...

- The Daily Bread Devotions are here for June, July, & August! You can find them in the church narthex on the table or in the education building on the shelf next to the office. Take as many as you need for your neighbor, friends, or family!
- The Finley Walker & Davis Circle Bible study groups are taking a break for the summer.

Summer Worship Hours...
Beginning Sunday, June 2nd worship service will start at 10:00am.

A Successful Event!

The PW fundraiser, the White Elephant & Bake Sale (WE Sale), is not just a two-day event. It begins weeks before the sale in our congregants' and friends homes. It begins with you folks cleaning out your spaces to make space. Because of your generosity in delivering your unwanted items for the WE Sale, we raised \$2,348.75, the second highest amount since record keeping began in 2009.

The week of the sale, core PW volunteers attacked the packed boxes to unwrap future treasures for our visiting treasure seekers. After everything was on the tables, then grouping like items together begins followed by pricing. This process began Monday morning through Thursday afternoon. The sale took place Friday and Saturday. After Sunday's worship service, the congregation is invited to make purchases at half price. Monday, once again core PW volunteers packed up all remaining items. Thanks to Arlo Amstutz and friends, the items were loaded on a trailer and taken to a local thrift shop. We really appreciate their help each year!!!

Many, many, many thanks to everyone who contributed items!!! Volunteers, you are simply wonderful, and thank you for your dedication and generosity of your time!!! Including the two Sunday School/Worship Services, our core PW volunteers spent nine consecutive days at church.

Bake Sale. The second part of the sale was the bake sale. Our treasure seekers certainly look forward to this! Many, many, many thanks to our bakers for planning ahead and delivering their baked goods!!!

What is the big deal about the WE Sale?

What other event at SPC is as big as the WE Sale?

What other reason causes our friends to clean out their houses?

What other reason will cause good SPC men to qualify as good PW women?

What other event brings members together for a common cause?

What other event raises money for a special reason?

(By the way, the PW annual hygiene kit drive is a separate fundraiser for that particular mission.)

The Reason - Missions. The funds raised each year are for Missions. The PW designates their donations as International Missions, National Missions, Virginia Missions, Richmond Missions, and SPC Missions. In some respect, our \$2,000 plus funds raised is just a drop in the bucket. However, those missions need our donations to survive, along with their many other donation sources.

The WE Sale began prior to 2007. Our recordkeeping of our WE Sale profits began in 2009, and to date (minus two pandemic years), we have raised \$25,392.81 for missions.

2024 SPC/PW Missions Budget

International Missions

· Mosquito Net Program	100.00
· Church Women United	100.00
· Church World Service – 2 disaster cleanup buckets & processing fee	156.00
· Hope for Humanity (partial sponsorship of one student)	300.00

National Missions

· Future Disaster Emergencies	200.00
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Virginia Missions

· Massanetta Springs Conference Center	100.00
· Light House Ministries, Inc., Keller. VA	100.00
· Camp Zone Comfort	100.00
· Presbyterian Children’s Home of the Highlands	200.00

Richmond Missions

· Feedmore	200.00
· Camp Hanover (one campership)	500.00
· Camp Hanover – Isaac Davidson (partial)	200.00

SPC Missions

· Silk Flower Containers for Sanctuary	100.00
· Choir Room Insulated Curtains & Rods (2)	600.00
· Kitchen Pass-Thru Window Curtain Rod & Grommets- Material Donated	150.00

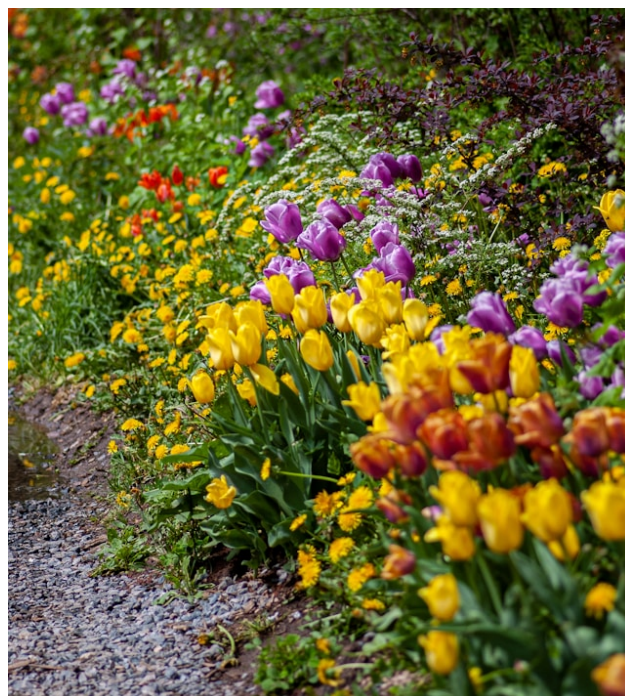
What's going on in our community...

Eastern Henrico FISH

We are collecting shampoo (children & adults) for the month of June. Please remember to pick up a bottle or two while you are out grocery shopping. There is a box outside of the church office that you can drop your donations off in. The deadline is June 30th. For the month of May we were able to collect 61 cans of tuna. Thank you to everyone who donated last month.

Thank you....

May 31st was the last day of school for Meredith Loughran Preschool for this school year! We would like to thank the Director Devon Pence and her mom Vickie Pence for everything they do for MLP and all the kids! MLP wouldn't be what it is without them! We hope everyone enjoys their summer and gets some much needed rest!



Please spread the word...

Ann Reddick, a member of Three Chopt Presbyterian, is on the donor list for a transplant kidney. These life giving organs are of course in high demand and the waiting list, not to mention the transplantation process can be long and arduous. In addition to being in prayer for a fellow member of the body of Christ, we are sharing information in case you or anyone you know might be able to help. To find out more about organ donation, or how you can investigate your compatibility, please follow this link that will keep your information confidential.



See if you qualify to be a Living Donor, Complete the online donor referral form here:

www.henicodoctors.com/signmeup"

Newsletter Photos...

For the July & August Newsletters we would like to get some pictures together again from the congregation of what everyone has been up to this spring/summer. So please send a photo or two to the church email at sandspres@verizon.net. **All pictures are due into the church office by June 20th for the July newsletter.** If you have any questions call the church office or Stacie O'Berry at (804)937-2916.



YMCA MEI Collection Update...

For the month of May we were able to collect a total of 40 cans of chicken for the MEI's walk up food pantry right here in Sandston, which will go to help families and individuals in need in this area. We thank everyone who supported this cause and be on the lookout for another collection!

June Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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2 10:00am Worship Service & Communion	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 10:00am Worship Service	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 10:00am Worship Service Father's Day	17	18 10am- 12:30pm Highland Springs Garden Club	19	20 Deadline for Newsletter Pictures	21	22
23 10:00am Worship Service	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 10:00am Worship Service						

