



# Sandston Presbyterian Church Newsletter June 2025

Worship Service is at 10:00am every Sunday in person for the summer beginning June 1st.

Sunday School Classes are on break for the summer beginning June 1st.

## CONTACT US...

Email us:

**[sandspres@verizon.net](mailto: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](http://www.sandstonpc.org)**



## **A Note from Pastor Todd...**

On Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup> I preached on the gospel text from John where Jesus, knowing his time is short, gives the disciples a short imperative that the most important thing going forward is...love, saying, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." At first glance this doesn't seem like a wholly new commandment at all given that loving neighbor is something that went all the way back to Old Testament times. What we talked about in worship is that the 'newness' of the commandment comes in the idea and understanding that it is not our *human* love we are attempting give but rather, "the most abundant and inexhaustible love in existence", the love of God. That love is "a source without limit, without end." So in practicality, what does that love look like in the world? I found a few concrete examples in Audrey West's article in *The Christian Century* entitled "Ways to love one another". In it she talks about her recurring role as resident theologian at a summer youth camp. One summer they talked about this very passage from John's gospel...

*In one of our discussions a couple of years ago we considered the ways that Jesus embodies God's love in the Gospel of John, especially Jesus' commandment to "love one another just as I have loved you." We imagined what it might look like for campers (and staff) to live into that commandment while at camp. Large pieces of newsprint scribbled with markers kept track of the staff's insights, to be captured later by my cell phone camera.*

*One photo in my collection shows a slightly rumpled newsprint with the heading, "Acts of Love at Camp." Below the heading is a list of ways to love one another as Jesus loves us, based on biblical examples:*

- *Let others go first in the dining hall (Jesus feeds the multitudes)*
- *Invite others to join you (Jesus welcomes all kinds of people)*
- *Don't make fun of people who ask questions (Nicodemus)*
- *Encourage others when the challenges are hard (Jesus gives us the Holy Spirit)*
- *Make a friendship bracelet for someone, especially if they don't have a friend at camp (Jesus talks with the woman at the well)*
- *Offer help even before you're asked (Jesus heals the man at the pool of Bethzatha)*
- *Remind your friend to bring a water bottle (Jesus is the living water)*
- *Share your bug spray (Jesus would share his, if he had it!)*

Continued on next page.

*It turns out there are many ways, large and small, for us to love one another as Jesus loves us. Many ways, large and small, for heaven and earth to meet.*

So those are some other people's ideas in their particular setting. As you consider Jesus' commandment and think about your context, how can you be a disciple and show this love?

Peace be with you,



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### **Our Prayer List...**

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

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

### **Meetings this month...**

The Beekeepers of Richmond will meet on **Tuesday, June 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, June 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.

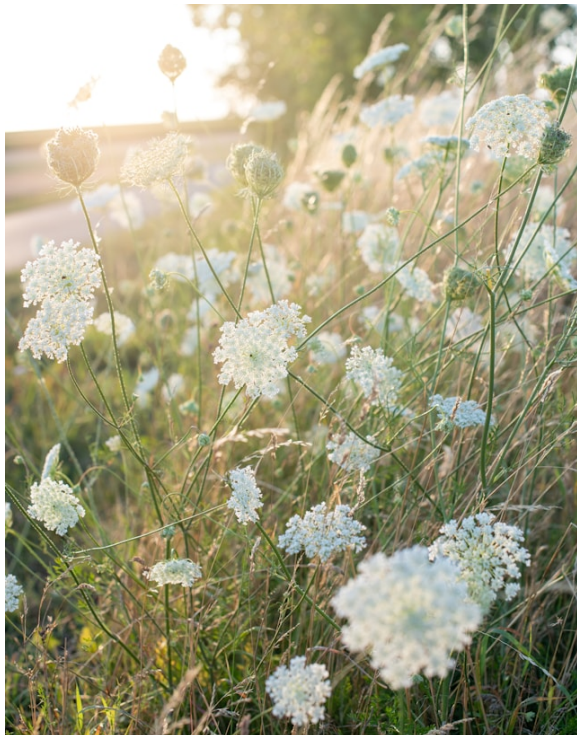
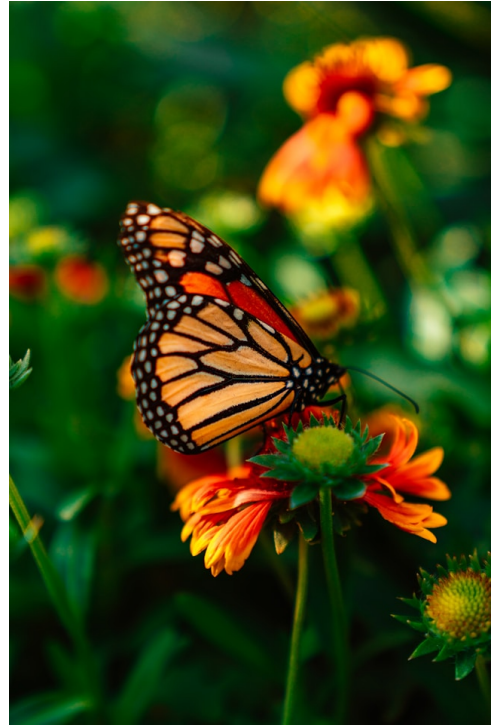
## Summer Worship Hours...

Beginning Sunday, June 1st worship service will start at 10:00am.

### **Flower Calendar Requests 2025...**

We are continuing to take 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 to the right.

June – 1, 8, 15, & 22  
July – 13, 20, & 27  
August – 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31  
September – 14 & 21  
October – 5, 19, & 26  
November – 2 & 23  
December – 7



### **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](mailto:sandspres@verizon.net). **All pictures are due into the church office by June 20th for the July newsletter.** You must also have a photo release form on file for us to be able to use your photo or email us that we have permission to use your photo. If you need to fill one out call the church office. If you have any questions call the church or Stacie O'Berry at (804)937-2916.

## **What's going on in our community...**

### **Eastern Henrico FISH**

We are collecting diced and whole canned tomatoes for the month of June. Please remember to pick up a can 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 19+ boxes of gallon & quart size storage bags. Thank you to everyone who donated last month.

### **June Birthdays**

|    |                    |
|----|--------------------|
| 7  | Douglas Martin     |
| 9  | Lee Conner         |
| 8  | Bettie Kirkpatrick |
| 16 | Ruth Radzisauskas  |
| 18 | Alice Baldwin      |
| 25 | Judy Johnston      |
| 27 | Robin King         |



### **Reminders...**

- The Finley Walker & Davis Circle Bible study groups are taking a break for the summer.
- 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.



### **Thank you!!!**

May 30th 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! All of their hard work they put in and the love for all of the kids doesn't go unnoticed! Enjoy your summer and we'll see you next year!

Dear Sandston Presbyterian,  
Thank you! You have been a wonderful congregation. You all welcomed me each Sunday and when I was ready able to meet a lot of very friendly humans. God knew this was the exact right place to be every Sunday.

Sincerely,  
Marla

P.S. If any of you ever find yourself in Texas, give me a heads up & we can meet (Church office has phone number).



### **White Elephant & Bake Sale Update...**

#### **Cancelled - White Elephant & Bake Sale – May 2-3, 2025**

The sale was cancelled due to the lack of items delivered to the Fellowship Hall by our congregation and friends. There were several people identified who planned to bring some items during the week, but that was just a carload, backseat load or trunk load which would not have helped the two-day event. The PW decided to cancel the sale, and to announce a “No Sale” White Elephant Sale as a replacement. The SPC’s PW Moderator spoke to the congregation on the cancellation and what the loss of funds means.

#### **Background – What the Loss Means**

The PW’s focus is “missions,” and its 2025 budget provides funding for 16 organizations or projects covering international, national, Virginia, Richmond, and SPC. The annual fundraiser takes place in the spring, and the monies are for the next year’s budget— in this case for 2026. For the last five years of the sale, we have raised a little over \$2,000 each year (\$2,300 in 2024). The PW will be addressing the 2026 budget and fundraising plans in upcoming meetings.

#### **Response of “No Sale” White Elephant Sale**

The response has been wonderful with \$1,405 raised to date. We are so grateful for this support of our work! We will continue to receive any donations that are sent our way.

## **June Activity Calendar**

| Sunday                                                                 | Monday                             | Tuesday                                                      | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday                                            | Saturday |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------|---------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1<br>10:00am<br>Worship Service<br>& Communion                         | 2                                  | 3<br>7pm – 9pm<br>Beekeepers<br>of Richmond<br>Meeting       | 4         | 5        | 6                                                 | 7        |
| 8<br>10:00am<br>Worship Service                                        | 9                                  | 10                                                           | 11        | 12       | 13                                                | 14       |
| 15<br>10:00am<br>Worship Service<br><br><b>Happy Father's<br/>Day!</b> | 16                                 | 17<br>10am-<br>12:30pm<br>Highland<br>Springs<br>Garden Club | 18        | 19       | 20<br>Photo<br>Deadline<br>for July<br>Newsletter | 21       |
| 22<br>10:00am<br>Worship Service                                       | 23                                 | 24                                                           | 25        | 26       | 27                                                | 28       |
| 29<br>10:00am<br>Worship Service                                       | 30<br>FISH<br>Donation<br>Deadline |                                                              |           |          |                                                   |          |

