



Sandston Presbyterian Church Newsletter March 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...

There are years where it seems that someone presses a 'fast forward' button and I look at the calendar and think, "Wait, how can it be time for Lent?! We **just** finished Christmas!" And yet here we are on Lent's doorstep. We will again be using resources from *A Sanctified Art*. This year's theme for the Lenten series is Everything In Between. Below you will find an introduction and explanation from the team that created it.

This series, inspired by the Narrative Lectionary (Year 3), allows the Gospel of Luke to guide us through Lent. Beginning with Jesus setting his face toward Jerusalem (Luke 9:51), the series flows through several familiar stories—the Good Samaritan, Mary and Martha, the fruitless fig tree, the Lost Sheep, Zacchaeus, and more. Many of these stories are well-known in both sacred and secular imagination, carrying cultural relevance and lore. For example, have you ever identified yourself as either a "Mary" or a "Martha?" The "Good Samaritan" title alone could reference a hospital, a charitable organization, a type of law, or a good deed. Perhaps you grew up singing "Zacchaeus was a wee little man" in Sunday School. So many of these scriptures hold significance in pop culture, church history, politics, and everything in between.

As we studied these scriptures, we were struck by how Jesus' ministry was rooted in relationships that disrupted the established social, political, and religious divides of his time. As modern readers, we sometimes lose the "shock factor" behind Jesus' words, as his teaching tactics likely felt extreme for those in his context. He described a stigmatized Samaritan as a good neighbor. He emphasized the value of 1 sheep in a herd of 100. He dined with a tax collector who amassed wealth through extortion. While dying on the cross, he told a convicted criminal he would soon find paradise. Jesus intentionally highlighted the cultural and political polarities of his time to emphasize the radical, inclusive, and surprising love of God. When we study these stories in their historical and cultural context, we see how they mirror the cultural and political divides many of us experience in our families, churches, and communities today.

This series is an invitation to navigate the polarities in our lives with more faith, intention, and openness to be transformed. Each weekly sub-theme explores two supposed binaries, like "faith & works" or "rest & growth," or "grief & hope." We often consider these ideas to be opposing. However, as we explore these concepts within the scriptures, we find nuance and complexity. We find that these dichotomies are false. We might begin to see a full spectrum instead of black and white. We might find that God is present in between.

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And so, this season, we invite you to look beyond black and white binaries and easy answers. We encourage you to notice the dichotomies that define our lives, but also imagine where God might be meeting us beyond the categories we create. This theme may resonate with anyone who is in discernment or trying to find their way through an undefined space. It will speak to anyone who feels as if they are living in a divided world. It is for those who seek a spiritual life that engages with complexity instead of avoiding it. This Lent, we're trusting that God shows up in shades of gray, rainbow hues, and everywhere in between.

As always I am looking forward to the journey with all of you. I pray that God would open our hearts and minds for new understanding.

Peace be with you,
Pastor Todd

Our Prayer List...

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

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



**Daylight Savings Time starts March 9th.
Remember to set your clocks UP one hour on
Saturday, March 8th or when you get up on
Sunday, March 9th.**

Annual Soup & Salad Sunday

Our **Soup and Salad Sunday** has been rescheduled! Come join us on **Sunday, March 2nd, 2025** in the fellowship hall for a luncheon following worship service. If you have not signed up to make soup, tossed salad, ham rolls or a dessert, please get in touch with Pat Fitzgerald ASAP. It is important she knows what you plan to furnish for this annual event and especially your favorite soup. We want to avoid having duplicate soups even though the recipe may be different. Pat & Grayson will furnish their usual soups, Clam Chowder and Brunswick Stew as well as those infamous sweet potato biscuits with country ham. Jack Smith will furnish his wonderful chili. Hope to see you there!



PW Circle Meetings

- The Finley-Walker Circle will meet on **Wednesday, March 12th at 10:00am.**
- The Davis Circle will meet on **Tuesday, March 12th at 6:00pm.**



March Birthdays

5	Patricia Anderson
13	Jennifer McLaughlin
27	Bailey Johnston
27	Joanne Wakeham
29	Page Shurley

Meetings this month...

The Beekeepers of Richmond will meet on **Tuesday, March 4th 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, March 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.*

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.

March – 16 & 23

April – 6 & 13

May – 11 & 18

June – 1, 8, 15, & 22

July – 6, 13, 20, & 27

August – 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31

September – 7, 14, & 21

October – 5, 12, 19, & 26

November – 2, 16, & 23

December – 7



Easter Lilies

We will start taking orders for Easter Lilies on March 23rd. You will find order forms in the bulletins in the coming weeks and also by the church office. **The deadline to order is Sunday, April 6th.** Please fill out the order form, attach your check made out to Sandston Presbyterian Church (SPC) and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office.



Ash Wednesday Service...

Come join us as the Lenten season begins with our Ash Wednesday Service which will be held on Wednesday, March 5th, 2025 starting at 6:00pm in person or you can join us through zoom!

Daily Devotionals...

The Daily Bread Devotionals for March, April, & May are here! You can find them outside of the church office and in the narthex of the church. If you would like a Devotional mailed get in touch with Paulette in the church office.

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, May 12th, 2025 in the 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...

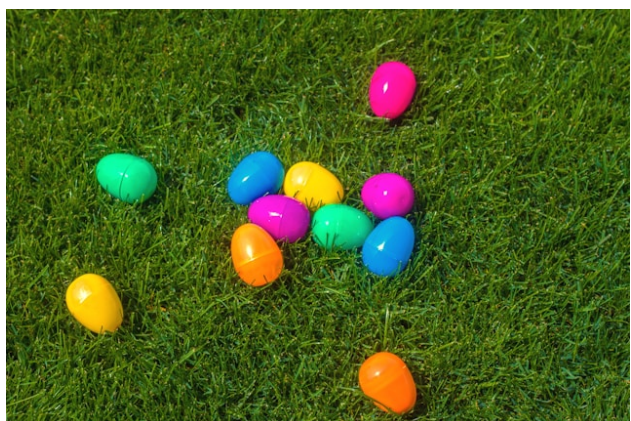
Eastern Henrico FISH

We are collecting **rice** for the month of **March**. 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 March 30th.** For the month of February we were able to collect a total of 20+ cans of greens. Thank you to everyone who donated this month! Every donation makes a difference.



Easter Festival Candy Donations & Volunteers...

The Christian Life Committee is in need of candy to fill eggs for our Easter Festival coming up. All candy donations can be left in the church office. Monetary donations can be given to Anna-Helen Miller. If you plan to write a check make it out to her please. If you have any questions call the church office at 804-737-1527.



We will also be looking for volunteers to help us on Saturday, April 12th from 12pm to 2pm to run games for our Easter Festival, which have all been homemade by the O'Berry family. We will have sign-up sheets available in the coming weeks and you can choose what game you would like to run!

March Activity Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service & Communion Soup & Salad Luncheon	3	4 7pm – 9pm Beekeepers of Richmond Meeting	5 6:00pm Ash Wednesday Service	6	7	8
9 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	10	11	12 10am Finley-Walker Circle Meeting 6pm Davis Circle Meeting	13	14	15
16 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	17	18 10am- 12:30pm Highland Springs Garden Club	19	20	21	22
23 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service FISH Donation Deadline	31					

