

September 2018
Volume 32.9

St. John's United Church of Christ

St. John's United Church of Christ is a diverse community forming a united congregation, seeking to grow our faith, share it with others, and serve God's people wherever the need is present. We are living God's love and all are invited!!!

An Open and Affirming Congregation

503 Stuart Circle
Richmond, Virginia 23220

Telephone:
804.358.9291

Rev. Linda Higgins
Pastor

Email:

office@stjohnsrichmond.org



Web Site:

stjohnsrichmond.org



Dear All,

As August comes to an end and we look the Fall season and Fall scheduling in the face, I hope you have had an opportunity this summer to have a break and spend some time re-creating yourself. I, as many of you know, had a chance to cruise to Alaska. The sights were magnificent, a totally new kind of beauty. I saw wales breaching by the side of the ship, the blue ice of the glaciers and so many other wonderful sights. We were traveling with an eight-year-old, so we slept a lot and once we put him to bed, there was not much else to do, though one book did get read. We had no cell service or internet, so I had to completely disconnect and be in the moment. For me this was a chance to truly rest.

One of the daily devotions I read while I was away talked of how, with all our connectivity, we forget we are not God. We can disconnect and the world will continue without us. I was grateful to have the opportunity to remember that I like everyone needs to re-create; after all even God rested on the seventh day. If we are made in God's image then we also need to rest to be able to function and be productive.

Now that Fall is here it is time to jump back in. We are preparing for our 175th Anniversary. September will include our getting ready to celebrate as we also adjust to not having a parking lot at our disposal. The Council has decided that **worship will remain at 10 am through the Anniversary** and as a result we are not starting the adult education series until October.

I look forward to seeing those of you who have been away this summer as well as those who have been here through the summer.

With Prayers and Love,

Linda

COUNCIL MINUTES

Church Council met for the monthly meeting on Monday, August 13, 2018.

Finance Report – Jeff will present the report to the Finance Committee. Jeff moved \$10,000 to the Vanco account to cover recent bills and expenses. He's still working with SunTrust to set up an investment account and hopes to have it completed this week. The committee has received most of the committee budget proposals. It was suggested we create a realistic budget based on actual pledges.

Trustees' Report – work on the parking lot began last week with tree removal. Although there is no fencing and no formal notification, members should suspend using the lot. Staff can use spaces by parlor door and they have three spots at St. James if needed. The Trustees are working on securing additional information from Dunlap Engineering and KBS in order to issue an RFP for the HVAC replacement, as well as obtaining additional information from architects and lawyers to assist with the renovations. The ad hoc Parking Lot group will meet Thursday, August 16.

Anniversary - Gina Dalton will contact past ministers about joining us and participating in the service. We are behind in planning. We will have a Reunion/Happy Hour Friday night with beer, wine, and traditional snacks (guacamole, hummus, veggie platter, pretzels, etc.) as well as a selection of Indian appetizers that Vijaya has offered to make. Saturday will be the traditional GermanFest, and Sunday will be a special worship service with cake after church. Music and Worship should plan the service. Plans for a silent auction have been tabled and the Fellowship has decided not to have a Bazaar.

Missions - Marcie and some committee members are visiting organizations who are receiving money as our monthly mission. We will have a booth at PrideFest and need volunteers. Ted Lewis from Side by Side will speak for a mission moment in September.

Congregational Life and Care is not meeting in August. They had great seats for the baseball game. Jeff Jacobs' supper on August 12 was well attended. The last summer supper is Saturday, August 25 at the Bighinatti's house.

Council recommends leaving worship time at 10:00 until after anniversary, having Sunday school begin after the anniversary weekend. Council will revisit start time based on feedback from the Music and Worship Committee.

Discussed guest ministers, who meets and greets guests minister. When Linda announces she will be away, Linda will send an email to guest minister, copying the M&W chair and council president. M&W chair will designate a greeter and notify Linda and council president with contact information.

Facilities - See report. Cleanup days are scheduled to prepare for the Anniversary weekend.

Webpage should be live in the next week.

Jill White's Proposal – Motion carried to direct Linda to contact Jill White by September 1 to request a proposal for the New Beginnings Program.

Church **CLEAN UP** Day

St. John's UCC is preparing for our 175th Anniversary in October. Facilities Management has created a clean-up schedule and we are looking for volunteers. Please see the schedule below:

Saturday, September 8

9:00 am

Outside Painting Party

Looking for able bodied painters, supplies will be provided

Monday, September 10 & Tuesday, September 11

5 pm to 8 pm

Scrape and Paint

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday ~ September 25 thru 27

Make-up Day for Other Projects Needed

Saturday, September 29

9 am to 12 noon

Cleaning, planting and mulching of beds in front of the church and by the back door

Sunday, September 30

Set up tables and chairs for German Dinner and additional 175th activities

Thank you for your continued support of St. John's. Let's make this an amazing 175th Church Anniversary Celebration. For information, please contact Richard Bighinatti at (C) 804-502-1005 or (H) 804-379-3572.



Grace and Peace to you

from your sisters and brothers at St. John's United Church of Christ

You and yours are joyfully invited to join us in our 175th Anniversary celebration

of life and service to our community

October 5, 6, and 7, 2018

We are pleased to invite you, as former ministers, members, employees, close associates and current partners in ministry to join us for the joyful celebration of the 175th anniversary of the life and ministry of St. John's Church. You are part of our history and it is with gratitude that we extend this invitation of love.

On Friday, October 5th we will be hosting a Reunion Happy Hour from 5-7 pm.

On Saturday, October 6th we will have our annual GermanFest Dinner, with seating at 5:30 pm,

Featuring traditional German fare and Oom-Pah Band with lederhosen optional.

Reservations are required, and tickets (\$15 adults/\$5 children) are available through our website (StJohnsRichmond.org) or by calling the church office at (804) 358-9291.

Please join us for worship and festive jazz Communion on Sunday, October 7th at 10 am,

with Interim Conference Minister Rev. Roddy Dunkerson preaching.

Free parking/shuttle service for all events is available at the VCU Parking Deck,

Located at 534 N. Harrison Street, just south of Broad Street.

Please plan to attend. We are eager to see our old and new friends and to celebrate this momentous occasion with you.



Richmond PrideFest September 22

St. John's Church will have a booth at the annual Richmond PrideFest event on September 22nd, a celebration of the area's LGBT community, which it will share with the other two local UCC congregations. Volunteers are needed to help staff the table from

12-6 pm. If you are able to take a shift, please contact Marcie Agee at Marcie.Agee@gmail.com or (516) 425-0465.

175th Anniversary Celebration

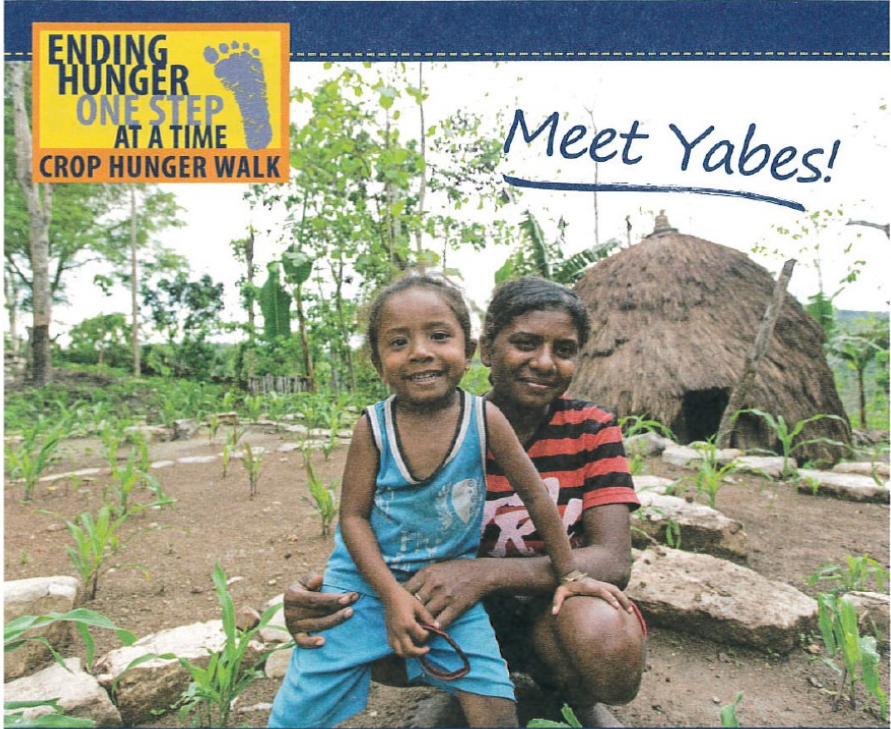
St. John's will celebrate its 175th Anniversary on the first weekend in October. Planned activities include a "Reunion" happy hour on Friday, October 5th; a GermanFest bratwurst dinner with all the fixing and the usual oom-pah band on Saturday, October 6th; and a special anniversary worship service on Sunday, October 7th.

We will be making fresh applesauce for the GermanFest dinner the morning of Saturday, September 8th, starting at 9 am. If you are able to help, please contact Jeff Jacobs at jwjacobs9@gmail.com or (202) 361-9887.

Apple cake kits will be distributed after church on Sunday, September 16th, with the finished cakes to be returned to church on September 23rd or 30th. If you would like to bake a cake for the GermanFest dinner, please contact Jeff Jacobs at jwjacobs9@gmail.com or (202) 361-9887.

Parking Lot Sale Update

Tree cutting and other work in preparation for construction of an apartment building on the church parking lot has begun, and closing on the sale of the parking lot is expected in the next several weeks. The *ad hoc* Parking Lot Task Force is working on securing bids for replacement of the church's HVAC system and other renovations as approved by the Congregation on July 15th. Details on the interim parking arrangements, including free parking at the VCU deck at Harrison and Broad Streets, with van service to and from the church, are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.



ENDING HUNGER
ONE STEP
AT A TIME
CROP HUNGER WALK

Meet Yabes!

VEGGIES, EGGS AND A SIDE OF HOPE.

"RICHMOND CROP HUNGER WALK"
Sunday, September 16, 2018
Ginter Park United Methodist Church
1010 W. Laburnum Avenue, Richmond, VA 23227
Registration begins @ 1 pm & Walk @ 2 pm
www.crophungerwalk.org/richmondva
Rev. Beverly Lindsey @ 804-275-7165 or
revbevlindsey@gmail.com

Photo: Ryan Shanley

CROPHUNGERWALK.ORG

PR 1841

Please join us on ***Sunday, September 16, 2018*** for the 48th Annual Richmond CROP Hunger Walk.

The walk will begin and end at Ginter Park United Methodist Church, 1010 W. Laburnum Avenue, Richmond, VA 23227. Registration begins at 1 pm and the walk begins at 2 pm. Residents in Richmond and the surrounding areas will walk through the streets North Richmond. The Walk links the community together to raise money to provide food & resources for people in Richmond and around the world. IF YOU DO NOT PLAN ON WALKING, PLEASE SPONSOR SOMEONE WHO IS.

For more information, please see **Rev. Beverly Lindsey** or register online at: www.crophungerwalk.org/richmondva.



48th Annual Richmond CROP Hunger Walk

Sunday, September 16, 2018

Ginter Park United Methodist Church

FACT SHEET

- What is it?** The CROP Hunger Walk is a family friendly 3.4 mile walk that links the Richmond community together in solidarity with our neighbors all around the world who have to walk long distances daily for food and water. Funds raised from the walk provide food and other resources for families in Richmond and around the world.
- Who walks?** Residents in Richmond and the surrounding areas, including religious communities, businesses, schools, non-profit agencies, organizations or any person who wants to contribute their time and/or money to help support those in need.
- When?** Sunday, September 16th at 2:00pm. Registration for walkers begins at 1:00pm. During the rally time we will have displays from the local agencies benefitting from our walk, and we will also be assembling hygiene kits for distribution through Church World Service.
- Where?** The walk this year will begin and end at Ginter Park United Methodist Church, 1010 W. Laburnum Avenue, Richmond, VA 23227.
- How?** Walk participants begin by inviting their friends, businesses, organizations and employers to support them with contributions prior to the walk.
- Who benefits?** Church World Service (www.cwsglobal.org), established in 1946, distributes 75% of the money from the CROP Hunger Walk to global hunger education, disaster relief and self-help projects in more than 30 countries around the world. The remaining 25% of funds support hunger-fighting agencies in Richmond. Benefiting agencies in Richmond this year are: CARITAS, Senior Connections and Shalom Farms.
- How to help?** Become a walker, organize a walk team, donate online at www.crophungerwalk.org/richmondva, volunteer to assist with 'day of the walk' needs, visit us on Facebook www.facebook.com/RichmondCROPWalk/ and share this information with your community.

For questions or assistance, please contact the 2018 Richmond CROP Hunger Walk Coordinator:

Gail Christie
gail.e.christie@gmail.com
804-240-3423

www.crophungerwalk.org/richmondva

New Parking Plan Begins August 5th



Sunday parking is available at the VCU deck located at Broad and Hamilton Streets. You will receive a ticket to access parking. Shuttle service will be available 1 hour before service to transport members

and guests from the parking lot to church and at the church following service and coffee hour. At church you will be given a bar code to use as you exit the parking lot, so you do not pay for parking. Parking is also available on Sundays from 7 am to 2 pm on the island side of Monument Avenue.

Until the fence is put up, if you park in the lot for service, you will not be towed.

For more information, please call the church office at
(804) 358-9291



Expiration Date: 06/30/2019 11:59:59 PM

Validation Number: WB-603

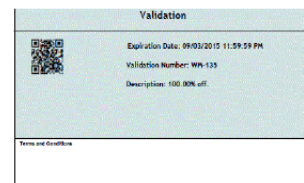
Description: 100.00% off.

Steps to Using a QR Code:

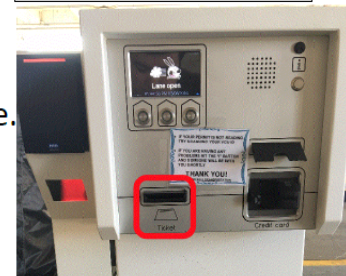
1. When coming into the deck press the button on the machine to receive an entry ticket.



2. Obtain a copy of the QR Code while at the church.



3. When exiting the deck reinsert the entry ticket into the machine so it can calculate time spent and the associated fee.

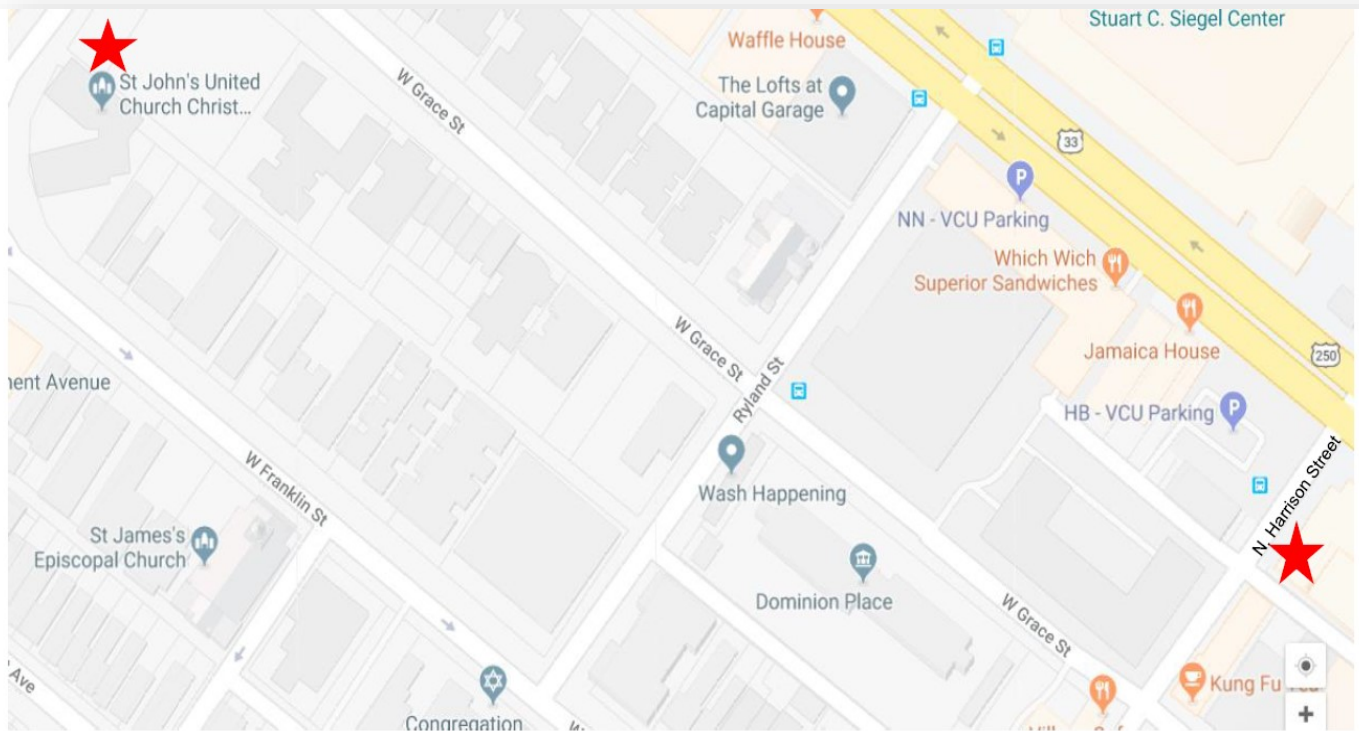


4. Scan your QR Code on the scanner just left of the machine.



5. If you are experiencing problems and there is no attendant nearby, please hit the "I" button and someone from our 24/7 Command Center will be with you shortly.





St. Johns Church Shuttle

The vans will pick up at the parking structure at 534 N. Harrison Street and transport to the alley behind the church. **Shuttle service from parking structure to church begins at 9:00 am and will run until 10:15 am.**

After the church services are complete the shuttle will begin transporting the congregation from the alley behind the church back to the parking structure at 534 N. Harrison Street. **The return shuttle will begin at 11:30 am and run until 12:15.**



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! TEEPA SNOW

Best Practices in Dementia Care for
Professional and Family Caregivers:
*Developing Meaningful Activities that Match Needs
and Abilities.*

Join us for an engaging, educational and enlightening program
led by National Dementia Care Expert Teepa Snow. This all-day
program is designed for both professional and family caregivers.

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

TRINITY FAMILY LIFE CENTER
3601 DILL ROAD, RICHMOND 23222
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 8:00AM
PROGRAM 9:00AM—4:00PM
LUNCH INCLUDED

Teepa Snow's philosophy and education is reflective of her life-long journey professionally caring for and personally living with various forms of dementia. Her person-centered "Positive Approach to Care" evolved to meet the complex and unique needs of individuals living with changing abilities.



Ticket Costs:

\$100.00

(includes lunch,
and CEU's if desired)

Discounted tickets for
Family Caregivers
(Includes lunch)

\$45.00

Table of 8

\$750.00

To Purchase Tickets:

By phone with credit card

804-355-5717

Ext. 246

Online at our website
www.circlecenterva.org

By check at Circle Center
4900 West Marshall St.
Richmond, VA 23230



Mission of the Month

The September
Mission of the Month:
Side by Side

For 25 years Side by Side's goal has been to provide a safe place for the LGBTQ+ youth of Virginia to define themselves, belong to a

community and be themselves. They offer programs, support groups, counseling, and scholarships. Please join us in worship on September 9th at 10:00 am when Ted Lewis, Executive Director of Side by Side will be joining us at worship to talk about their work in our community.

I encourage you to support this vital organization. Checks should be made out to St. John's UCC, mark the memo line with Side by Side. Cash should be put either into the pails on the 1st Sunday or into a blue mission envelope.



A Note From Our Missionary, Jeanette Salley:
Jeanette Salley is a Missionary with Global Missions assigned to Nicaragua and a member of our Parish

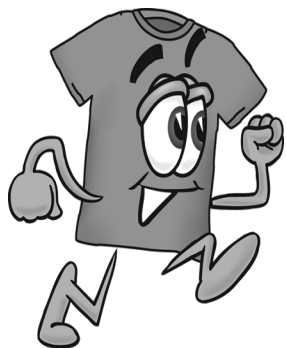
Hola St. John's! All is well with me. It has been pretty calm here in Managua but protesting and violence continues in communities outside of Managua. Many students have been arrested, many have been kidnapped, tortured and murdered.

The only children going to school are the elementary age students. Just about every month, the government says the colleges will be open but the students do not attend because they know the classroom is the perfect place for the military and police to arrest them for no reason and their parents would never see them again. Families, that can afford to, have moved their sons out the country. Those with limited funds have taken their sons to the East coast to stay with other family members. The political, social and psychological suffering that goes on here is horrendous! Keep Nicaragua and me in your prayers.

Jeanette



"The Fellowship" will have lunch Thursday, September 13th, 1:00 pm @ *Beijing on Grove*, 5710 Grove Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23226. We hope you can join us. If you want more information, contact Lynda Merry at 804-756-0270 or Beth Stiegler at 804-272-3792.



ST. JOHN'S T-SHIRTS

The Mission and Outreach Committee will be selling St. John's T-Shirts. We hope everyone will support us by purchasing one. Prices range from \$10 to \$25. There are order forms and t-shirt samples available. All orders must be turned in by Sunday, September 2. Order forms can be found in the Church Parlor. Checks should be made out to St. John's UCC. If you have questions, please speak with *Terri, Marcie, Chris or Dreama*.



There will be no Fall **Adult** Education during the month of September. **Children's class will explore families in the Bible. Each week the children will view a DVD telling the story and explore through acting it out with activities that reinforce the lessons.** Additionally, worship will remain at 10:00 am in September. If you have questions, please call the church office at 804-358-9291.



The Central Virginia Sanctuary Network is looking for more volunteers at First Unitarian Universalist Church of Richmond, helping families in sanctuary and by providing transportation for other immigrants going to ICE check-ins. If you are interested in helping, please see Pastor Linda.

Church Office
Closed
Monday, September 3,
in observance of Labor Day.



St. John's UCC

Order Form

Please complete this form and return with check payable to St. John's UCC. Note in memo line 'shirt order'.
Last day to order is Sunday, September 2nd.

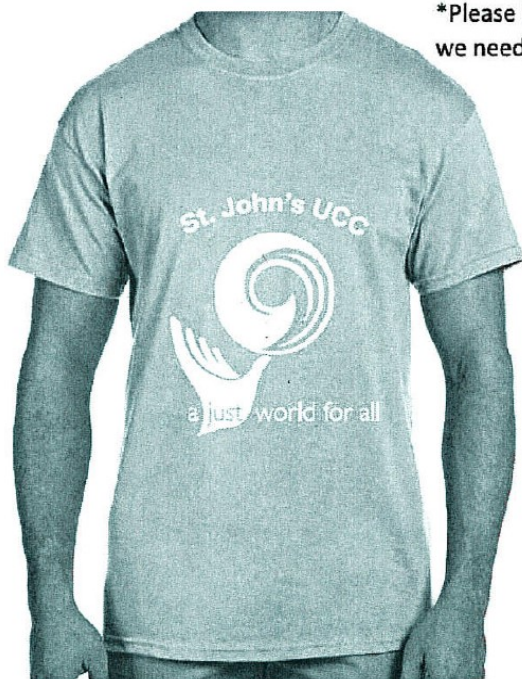
<u>Style</u>	<u>Sizes</u>	<u>Price</u>
T-Shirt - short sleeve	Small - XXL	\$10.00
T-Shirt - long sleeve	Small - XXL	\$15.00
Sweatshirt	Small - XXL	\$20.00
Hoodie	Small - XXL	\$25.00

Samples of the above items are available in the parlor after Sunday service

Size	T-Shirt (SS)	T-Shirt (LS)	Sweatshirt	Hoodie	QTY	Price	TOTAL \$\$
Small							
Medium							
Large							
XL							
XXL							
TOTAL							

NAME: _____
Telephone Number _____
Email Address: _____

*Please list your phone / email information in case we need to contact you re: any issues with your order.





The Banana Returns...

We need volunteers for liturgist on September 16th, 23rd & 30th. We have the plates, napkins, cups, lemonade mix, coffee/sugar/creamer & cookies; all you need to provide is a fruit or vegetable. Please e-mail me if you can fill in any of these positions. Thank you in advance! Contact Kate Schaefer, Head Banana at kate.m.schaefer@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE!! October 19-21, 2018

Women's Retreat Registration



Registration forms are now available in the Church Parlor and in this newsletter for the Women's Retreat, October 19-21, 2018 at Kiptopeke State Park. Return your registration form to Helena DeLigt by September 15, 2018 in order to finalize plans. The next planning meeting will be held Sunday, September 23rd in the meeting room at Positive Vibes Café. If you want more information please contact Helena DeLigt at hdeligt@comcast.net.

First Mennonite Church

presents a free showing of

Disturbing the Peace Film and Promised Land Museum Exhibit

SEPT. 8 & 9

601 E. Parham Rd, Richmond, Va. 23227

FILM SHOWING

Sat., Sept. 8; 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

EXHIBIT HOURS

Sat., Sept. 8; 4 - 6:30 p.m.

Sun., Sept. 9; 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.



Cosponsored by Richmonders for Peace in Israel and Palestine and Arab American Association of Central Virginia

FILM SHOWING

Saturday, September 8; 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Dr. Michael Fischbach, professor of Middle Eastern Studies at Randolph-Macon College will lead a Q&A after the film.

Light refreshments will be provided before the film.

DISTURBING THE PEACE follows former enemy combatants - Israeli soldiers from elite units and Palestinian fighters, many of whom served years in prison - who have joined together to challenge the status quo and say "enough." The film reveals their transformational journeys from soldiers committed to armed battle to nonviolent peace activists, leading to the creation of Combatants for Peace. While based in the Middle East, *Disturbing the Peace* evokes universal themes relevant to us all and inspires us to become active participants in the creation of our world.

EXHIBIT HOURS

Saturday, September 8; 4 - 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 9; 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

This exhibit from the Promised Land Museum provides an historical context of Palestine from the period before, during, and after the pivotal year of 1948. The exhibit was developed to help understand the root of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, and dispel myths that stand in the way of peace and justice in the region. With the Israeli Declaration of Independence and war in 1948, an estimated 700,000 Palestinians fled or were expelled from their homes, and were denied the right to return to the hundreds of neighborhoods, towns and villages that were taken over or destroyed.



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

St. John's United Church of Christ, Richmond, VA

Women's Retreat 2018

Friday, October 19 - Sunday, October 21

Kiptopeke State Park, Cape Charles, Virginia

Name_____

Email address_____

Phone number_____

I will help to prepare (please choose at least one meal):

____ Friday supper ____ Saturday breakfast

____ Saturday lunch ____ Sunday breakfast

Food allergies/dietary restrictions: _____

Physical accommodation needs: _____

An activity/topic I would like included in the retreat:

Registration fee of \$80 includes lodging and meals.

Contact: Helena DeLigt

Phone: 804-484-4316, Email: hdeligt@comcast.net

Hello, September! Volunteer Ministries

Ministry	September 2 Team 3	September 9 Team 3	September 16 Team 4	September 23 Team 4	September 30 Team 1
Welcome Team Leader	Bill Watson	Bill Watson	Dorothy Cook	Dorothy Cook	Richard Bighinatti
Sound System	Bruce Miller	Bruce Miller	Jeff Michel	Jeff Michel	David Pittman
Tellers					
Liturgist	Helena DeLigt	Jennifer & Daniel Martin	Marcie Agee		
Facilities	Bill Watson	Bill Watson	Bud Higgins	Bud Higgins	Richard Bighinatti
Altar Guild	Erin Burnette Georgianne Stinnette	Lynda Merry	Johanna Gilbert Charlotte Quick	Helen Bunch	
Fellowship Hosts		Jennifer & Daniel Martin			
Altar Flowers					

Teller Coordinator:

Bud Higgins
804-301-5059

Fellowship Host Coordinator:

Kate Schaefer
804-239-2871

Celebrating a special occasion?
Honoring a loved one?



Please find a substitute if you are unable to perform your ministry and contact your Team Coordinator AND the office to let them know who will be filling in for you. Thank you for making our church ministries run smoothly!



SEPTEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10 am Worship	3 	4 5:30 pm <i>Finance Committee Meeting</i>	5 6:00 pm <i>Trustee Meeting</i>	6	7	8 9 am-1 pm Applesauce Making 9 am <i>Outside Painting Church Clean Up</i>
9 10 am Worship <i>Mission Moment with Ted Lewis Side by Side</i>	10 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting 5 pm - 8 pm <i>Church Clean Up</i>	11 6:00 pm Congregational Life and Care 5 pm - 8 pm <i>Church Clean Up</i>	12 6:30 pm Mission & Outreach Mtg.	13 1 pm <i>The Fellowship @ Beijing on Grove</i>	14	15
16 10 am Worship CROPWALK 1 pm Registration 1 pm Walk	17	18	19	20	21	22 PRIDEFEST! 
23 10 am Worship 12 noon Women's Retreat Planning Meeting	24	25 9 am - 12 noon <i>Church Clean Up Project Make-Up Day</i>	26 9 am - 12 noon <i>Church Clean Up Project Make-Up Day</i>	27 9 am - 12 noon <i>Church Clean Up Project Make-Up Day</i>	28	29 9 am - 12 noon <i>Church Clean Up Planting, Mulching</i>
30 10 am Worship <i>Set up tables for German Fest & 175th Anniversary</i>						



- 3 Chris Hagan
- 8 Eddie Allen
- 14 David Pittman
- 21 Jeff Jacobs
- 25 Lee Ford
- 26 Karen-Marie Yust
- 28 Betty Pecka
- 29 Ashley Quick
- 30 Pam Miller