

April 2024 Newsletter



Happy (season of) Easter, saints of Flushing! And may I greet you all with a very hearty

Χριστός ἀνέστη

That is to say, “*Christos anesti*” which means “Christ is risen!”

Blessed are you, those who have not seen or perceived the risen Christ, but yet have come to believe. I think about this dynamic a lot within the Christian faith – as time’s arrow marches forward, we grow further and further away from the historic event of Jesus’ crucifixion and resurrection. It was an event that happened to other people in a far away land, thousands of years ago. And yet, it still holds monumental importance to us. I also think of this phrase and its ubiquity; it is uttered the entire world over on the day we celebrate Jesus’ rising from the grave.

The phrase “Christ is risen” likely exists as a shortened version of **Matthew 28:5-6**, as seen below:

*⁵ The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; **he has risen**, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.*

Okay, that explains the initial “call” portion of the greeting. But where does the response come from? Well, there are a couple theories on that, the first of which is that Mary Magdalene brought an egg in greeting the Roman Emperor Tiberius. She spoke the greeting “Christ is risen” and he mocked her in reply, claiming that Christ was no more risen than the egg in her hand was red. Tradition states that the egg in her hand immediately turned red to illustrate the truth of her claim. Interestingly, this is also one of the stories by which we get the origin of the Easter egg!

Another theory of the origin states that the greeting comes from **Luke 24:33-34**, printed below:

³³ They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together ³⁴ and saying, “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.”

Regardless of the origin of the greeting, here we are today. It is a triumphant claim, one whose words echo down through the years, centuries, and through the millennia. Perhaps that’s the best way we can think of the Easter Acclamation – our faith’s longest call and response song. The leader speaks or sings one line, the assembled chorus then chants the response. After all, we talk about joining in the song of all those who have run the race in their own faith before us. Think of the words of the communion table, where “we join our voices with prophets, apostles, and martyrs.”

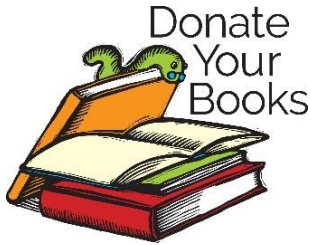
Think, also, of the challenge I issued you back at the end of January, when I asked you: “what will your verse be?” Will you continue to sing, fostering the fierce love of Jesus and the conquering of the grave, or will you go quiet until the next Easter morning?

--Pastor Paul

Flushing Presbyterian Church

Worship: 10:00 AM Year-Round
5010 N. McKinley Road, Flushing, MI 48433

Rev. Paul J. Pfeuffer, Pastor
Phone: (810) 659-5831 www.flushingpres.org



Do you have an excess of Bibles, Christian living books, Christian fiction, devotionals, etc.? Beginning April 7th you will have an opportunity to send them to missionaries around the world.

Mission Cry has been equipping missionaries with Bibles and Christian books since 1956. From humble beginnings, one man's dream of a few books going overseas has turned into a Worldwide Global Mission to 179 nations!

Look for the collection bin in the narthex beginning April 7. See the list of accepted literature at the donation site. We will keep you abreast as to when the donations will be taken to the *Mission Cry* main headquarters in Fowlerville, Michigan.



Graduation is just around the corner and we want to be sure we recognize ALL of our graduates--college or high school. Please let us know of your accomplishments, so we may celebrate and honor you.

A display board of graduating seniors, composed of photos and biographical information, is typically displayed. Please bring in or mail a senior photo (no larger than 5 X 7) and a few lines regarding post-graduation plans by May 9. We will prepare the display and honor all our graduates at our Sunday worship service on May 19.



Family Promise is hosting a Saturday Brunch fundraiser on April 27 from 10:30-12:30. The brunch will be at Barth Hall in St Paul's Episcopal Church in downtown Flint. There is a suggested donation of \$75.00 per person. After brunch, attendees can take a tour of Family Promise's spaces in the church. Please contact Carol Dulin (810-487-3007) or Shirley Sanborn (810-659-6192) no later than April 14 if you would like to attend.



Our Rummage Sale will be held on Friday, May 31 and Saturday June 1. Be sure to start setting aside items for the sale as you clean out your closets and begin your spring cleaning. **You may bring your sale items into the church beginning the first of May.**



FLUSHING CHRISTIAN
OUTREACH CENTER

Flushing Christian Outreach Center (FCOC) would like to purchase an electronic digital road-side sign to: 1) Request specific immediate needs (food items, money to buy food, etc), 2) Thank FCOC donors & supporters in real time. An anonymous donor has offered a matching funds challenge: *For every \$2 donated, they will donate \$1 (up to \$5,000).* If you would like to donate, go to the FCOC website: www.flushingchristianoutreach.org and click on "DONATE"; choose "Use this donation for" **Building and Equipment Fund** to make a secure online payment. You can also contribute by making your check payable to Flushing Presbyterian church and indicating "FCOC Sign" on the memo line.



From Ronald McDonald House Charities, Ann Arbor

Thank you! We are grateful for your recent in-kind donation to Ronald McDonald House Charities Ann Arbor (RMHCAA). Your donation of pop tabs allows us to carry out our mission of providing a community of inclusive, compassionate, supportive programs and services that directly improve the health and well-being of children and their families.

Some of our families stay at our Houses for just one night and others might stay over a year while their children are receiving medical treatment at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital. Wesley's mom, dad and sister stayed 170 days after he was delivered at 27 weeks. "RMHCAA was truly a lifesaver in one of the hardest times that our family has been through. We can't thank you enough for helping us in our time of need. I don't know what we would have done if our family was split up," says Wesley's mom. Today, Wesley is a healthy and happy baby at home with his family.

For families like Wesley's, our Houses, "Meals Matter" Program, Hospitality Cart, Comfort Bags, Welcome Bags and "R House to Yours Bags" help to alleviate the burden families face in managing their day to day needs away from home while caring for their child in the hospital. Thanks to you, it is at no financial cost to them.

Thank you for caring about our families and giving them hope, comfort and support when they need it most!

With gratitude,

Kim Kelly
Chief Executive Officer



Sharing the Load

In 1969 the Hollies released "He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother." Do you know the story behind that song title? Fifty years earlier in Omaha, Nebraska, a boy with polio was abandoned at Father Flanagan's Home for Boys, predecessor to the Boys Town organization. Soon several older residents started carrying young Howard — with his heavy leg braces — especially up stairs. Father Flanagan once saw an older boy, Reuben, doing this and asked if it was hard work. Reuben replied, "He ain't heavy, Father. He's my brother." Years later, these words and the image of one person carrying another became the Boys Town brand.

All of us have been "carried" at some point, and we've likely "carried" someone else. The Hollies' song declares: "His welfare is my concern." Jesus said it this way: "Love your neighbor as yourself." The load isn't too heavy to bear because Jesus himself is always carrying us.

From the April 2023 Newsletternewsletter



April 7

Communion Preparers: Shirley Sanborn
Communion Servers: Pat Bemis, Denise & Bill Churchill, Scott Tucker
Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Brett Albert
Ushers: Bill & Denise Churchill, Kip Hogan
Lay Leader: Sandy Tucker
Streaming: Mike Keeler
Nursery: Deb Bayer

April 14

Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Scott Tucker
Ushers: Margaret Meehle, Kathy Miller, Sandy Tucker
Lay Leader: Julie Socha
Streaming: Kelli Peter
Nursery: Mark Jacobson

April 21

Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Randy Socha
Ushers: Karen Howe, Mark Jacobson, Scott Tucker
Lay Leader: Chris Albert
Streaming: Scott Smith
Nursery: Jeanne Blanton

April 28

Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Scott Tucker
Ushers: Shirley Delbridge, Kaye Kaufherr, Dennis Sanborn
Lay Leader: Bill Churchill
Streaming: Randy Socha
Nursery: Mary Beth Hawes



FLUSHING CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CENTER

The special focus items requested by the Flushing Christian Outreach Center (FCOC) for April are “kid friendly” cereal, oranges and apples. If you can help by providing these items, or any other non-perishable food or personal care items, there is a collection basket for the FCOC in the shelving unit just outside of the kitchen.



Upcoming Communion Dates . . .
 April 7, May 5 & 19



April

- 3 John Miller
- 5 Kelli Peter
- 7 Bruce & Deborah Coxworth
- 8 Bill & Denise Churchill
- 13 Kelly & Tim Stein
- 18 Gary Albert
- 22 Rowan B-P
- 25 Marie Smith
- 27 Paige Albert

Lectionary Readings

April 7: Acts 4:32-35 and Ps. 133 or Isa. 65:17-25 and Ps. 3; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31

April 14: Acts 3:12-19 and Ps. 4 or Isa. 6:1-9a and Ps. 40:1-5; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

April 21: Acts 4:5-12 and Ps. 23 or Zech. 10:1-12 and Ps. 80:1-7; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

April 28: Acts 8:26-40 and Ps. 22:25-31 and Ex. 19:1-6 and Ps. 118:19-25; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8



Blood DRIVE

The Red Cross will be holding a Blood Drive at our church on Friday, April 5, from 10:00 - 3:00 PM (*Note the change of date*). To schedule an appointment to donate blood, log onto redcrossblood.org, sponsor code: Flushing Community or call 1-800-Red-Cross (1-800-733-2767).



Financial Highlights

Average 2024 Collections	\$3,322
Average February Collections	\$2,532
Average 2023 Collections	\$3,008
Average needed for 2024 Budget	\$3,861

The Wired WORD

An Adult Curriculum

The Wired Word on-line study group meets via Zoom on Sunday nights at 7:00 PM to discuss current events and how we can relate and deal with them using our faith and the Bible. Class discussions will be led by Pastor Paul, Karen Howe, Julie Socha and Mike Keeler on a rotating basis. The more perspectives, the heartier the discussion!! Contact Julie Socha if you need help logging on with us.

Flushing Presbyterian Church 2024 Session

Budget & Finance

Ed Davison
Bill Churchill

Community Outreach

Kathy Miller
Sylvia Keeler

Member Care

Shirley Sanborn
Sandy Snyder

Property Team

Randy Socha
Scott Tucker

Spiritual Growth

Mike Keeler
Kelli Peter

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES



The Book Club meets at 12:00 PM on the third Tuesday of the month at Liberty Restaurant. All are welcome!



Bread for Life is a program that provides weekend food for students that have been identified by the Flushing Schools as needing such assistance. Our church provides a portion of the funds for this project. Volunteers pack the bags for this program at 10:00 AM on Thursdays, at Flushing Community Church on West Pierson Road.

Card Ministry



Card Ministry...Sympathy, Get Well, Thinking of You, Birthday and Christmas cards are collected for our on-going card ministry. Please deliver cards to the church office.



Digital Church . . . Our Sunday morning worship service is on video and can be viewed via a link on our website (flushingpres.org) or watched live-streamed on Facebook on Sunday mornings or at another time of your choosing.



FLUSHING CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CENTER

FCOC (Flushing Christian Outreach Center)
One of the ways we support the Outreach Center is by collecting food and personal care items. The collection basket is located in the shelving unit just outside of the kitchen.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Men's Fellowship/Bible Study...This group meets for breakfast and study at 8:30 AM on Thursdays at Liberty Restaurant on Pierson Road. (September through May) All men are welcome.



Music Opportunities

Music Opportunities . . .The Chancel Choir (Vocal choir) has rehearsals at 6:30 PM on Wednesdays and the **Handbell Choir** rehearses at 6:30 PM on Tuesdays (September through May). Please contact Chris Albert for information on the chancel choir and Marilyn Schmoak for info on the Handbell Choir.



The Noisy Offering

The Noisy Offering is collected on the second Sunday of each month. This offering is part of "Two Coins a Meal" that funds hunger programs locally and around the world.



Ronald McDonald House

Aluminum tabs from beverage and other containers are collected and donated to the *Ronald McDonald House* in Ann Arbor to help support families who stay there while their children are hospitalized at the Children's Hospital. Collection box is located in the shelving unit in the hall outside of the kitchen.



Opportunities To Serve

Session Teams...All members are invited to serve as "at-large" members on our Session Teams: Spiritual Growth, Community Outreach, Member Care, Property and Budget & Finance. The church office can put you in contact with the team chairperson.



Soup Kitchen...Volunteers work at the North End Soup Kitchen in Flint on the second Tuesday of each month, from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.



Youth Group (The "Believers") is for teens in grades 7 through 12. They meet on Sundays for fun, fellowship, study and mission projects. Contact Sandy or Scott Tucker for information.

Please address questions to the contact person listed or call the church office at 659-5831



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 6:30 PM – Handbell Choir	3 8:30 AM - Men’s Fellowship-Liberty 6:00 PM - Girl Scouts 6:30 PM - Chancel Choir	4 9:30 AM – Member Care 12:00 PM - Bible Study 6:00 PM - Wood Carvers	5 Church Office Closed 10:00 AM – Blood Drive	6
7 Communion 7:00 PM - The Wired Word via Zoom	8 6:00 PM - B & F 6:30 PM - Girl Scouts 6:30 PM - Spiritual Growth	9 9:00 AM - North End Soup Kitchen 6:30 PM - Property 6:30 PM – Handbell Choir	10 8:30 AM - Men’s Fellowship-Liberty 6:00 PM – Girl Scouts 6:00 PM - GFWC 6:30 PM - Chancel Choir	11 12:00 PM - Bible Study 6:00 PM - Wood Carvers	12 Church Office Closed	13
14 Noisy Offering 7:00 PM - The Wired Word via Zoom	15	16 12:00 PM - Book Club - Liberty Restaurant 6:30 PM – Handbell Choir	17 8:30 AM - Men’s Fellowship-Liberty 9:30 AM - Community Outreach 6:00 PM - Girl Scouts 6:30 PM - Chancel Choir	18 12:00 PM - Bible Study 6:00 PM - Wood Carvers	19 Church Office Closed	20
21 12:00 PM – Bob Chase Memorial Service 7:00 PM - The Wired Word via Zoom	22	23 6:00 PM - GFWC (Flushing Women’s Club) 6:30 PM – Handbell Choir	24 8:30 AM - Men’s Fellowship-Liberty 6:00 PM - Girl Scouts 6:30 PM - Chancel Choir	25 12:00 PM - Bible Study 6:00 PM - Canasta Club 6:00 PM - Wood Carvers	26 Church Office Closed	27 10:30 AM – Family Promise Brunch Fundraiser – St Paul’s Episcopal Church, Flint
28 7:00 PM - The Wired Word via Zoom	29 6:45 PM - Session	30 6:30 PM – Handbell Choir				

Please note that the church office is closed on Fridays