



January 2015 Newsletter

Flushing Presbyterian Church

Rev. Teresa Peterson, Pastor

HAPPY NEW YEAR !! 2015

It's a new year. A time we all stop (or at least pause) and consider for a moment what we would like to do differently in the coming year. It's a time of rebirth ... fresh starts. The common resolutions typically include losing weight, taking better care of ourselves, spending more time with family/friends, taking up a new hobby, even exploring new places – from local to abroad.

This year, especially include in your reflection your spiritual side. What is it you might need to improve? – prayer life, more devotions, scripture reading/study, volunteer work, or giving to charity. All good goals and there are many others.

As the Church, we too should have a New Year's "goal." Of course we are always striving to follow Christ's leading, but what is it that we believe we are being led, indeed, called to do? Add this to your prayers, for Session will be considering and leading the congregation in 2015. It's a new year with many new possibilities or established venues to build upon. May we faithfully and bravely go into the new year with faith, hope, and renewed confidence.





There will be no Sunday School on January 4th.

All classes will resume on January 11th.



The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on **Sunday, January 25th, immediately following the 10:30 AM worship service.** The purpose of this meeting is to hear reports from the teams of our church and to act upon the terms of call of the pastor. We will meet in Fellowship Hall where we will hear updates and reports of what our Session Teams have accomplished in the past year.

Removal of the Greens



The Removal of the Greens will take place on **Sunday, January 4th, following the worship service.** All who are willing and able are asked to provide help taking down the decorations and putting them away. The more hands, the lighter the work!! Thanks so much in advance!



You are invited to join us for a viewing of the movie, "Heaven is For Real", at **6:00 PM on Sunday, January 25th in Fellowship Hall.** We will be providing popcorn - you may bring any snacks you might like to share. Come and join with your church family for this evening of fellowship.



Installation of Elders

Sunday, January 11th, during our morning worship service, the Class of 2016 Ruling Elders will be installed. They are: John Dulin, Karen Howe, Loretta Hudson, Natalie Lucas and Don Rowley. Please pray for our new class of elders as they begin/continue their time of leadership service to the church.



Sunday, February 1st, is the date for the annual collection for the Souper Bowl of Caring AND the Sunday we have soup and bread for lunch. ALL money donated goes to support a local organization and their efforts to stamp out hunger. We remember how blessed each of us are by having a simple meal - though the range of soups brought is fantastic and we do not leave hungry! Mark your calendar and plan to stay for lunch. If you would be willing to provide soup, please sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board.



Dinners for Eight will be starting soon. This is a wonderful way to better get to know your church family and have a thoroughly enjoyable time. Dinners may be arranged to be eaten out or at home. Each month two participants will set a date and assign food contributions for an in-home event or choose a restaurant for eating out. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board if you would like to be included in this opportunity for fellowship. Please contact Ginnie Panek if you have any questions.



**Welcome our newly elected elders
for the class of 2016:**

**John Dulin, Karen Howe, Loretta Hudson,
Natalie Lucas & Don Rowley**

Flushing Presbyterian Church 2015 Session

Budget & Finance
Bill Churchill, Jr., Chair
John Dulin

Community Outreach
Sylvia Keeler, Chair
Natalie Lucas

Member Care
Kathie Rhoads, Chair
Loretta Hudson

Property Team
Brett Albert, Chair
Don Rowley

Spiritual Growth
Karen Howe, Chair
Scott Smith



Flower Calendar

The 2015 Flower Chart may be found on the bulletin board in the narthex. There are many open dates for which you may sign up. If you sign up to provide flowers for a Sunday morning worship, you are responsible for ordering what you want. Both Flushing Florist and Village Florist have keys to the church and will deliver flowers if you so choose. You are welcome to take your arrangement home after the service. If you are remembering or honoring a loved one, be sure to mark that on the calendar or call the church office by Thursday noon prior to the Sunday you are providing flowers.



Per Capita

- Per capita is a **per member** apportionment for the operating budget of Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly.
- 2015 per capita is \$25.00 per member
- Members are asked to pay this amount over and above their pledge amount
- Congregations pay per capita for each member.
- Flushing Presbyterian Church pays per capita for each member whether the member helps offset the cost or not
- If members help offset per capita cost, more dollars are available for church projects, mission, etc.

Please consider using your per capita envelope to submit \$25.00
for each person in your family who is a member of the church.



Christian philosopher Paul Tillich said, “The first responsibility of love is to listen.” Yet in our fast-paced culture, truly listening to someone has become a lost art.

The intricate Chinese written character for the verb, to listen, offers wise insight about how to listen to people so they feel heard. The symbol is actually a combination of characters for ears, eyes and an open heart. Basically it reads, “I give you my ears, my eyes and my undivided attention.” What a great image of being fully engaged during the act of communication!

James 1:19 offers two wise resolutions for the year ahead: Be “quick to listen” and “slow to speak” (NRSV). Practicing the skill of active listening is a much-needed way to minister to other people, serving as Jesus’ “ears” in a hurting world.

From the January 2015 Newsletternewsletter



If one of us is hurt, do we not all suffer?

Following is a suggestion from our General Presbyter, Jim Browne, on acknowledging the pain of Memorial Presbyterian Church in Bay City. They have made the painful decision to close their church doors January 11th. We will have a card available to sign for the next few weeks, so that we can stand with them in their grief and thank them for their faithful service. This is an old, historic church. Some may understand their grief more than others. Please keep them in your prayers, and maybe you would like to send a personal word. Read on for that information.

From Lake Huron Presbytery *Bi-Weekly Brief*:

"The congregation of the Memorial Presbyterian Church in Bay City has taken the difficult decision to acknowledge that they are at the end of their resources. The last worship service is scheduled for January 11, 2015.

There are many decisions still to be made concerning disposition of some 'things' and placement of current members' memberships. I will be attending that last service on the 11th, and have received a good suggestion from one of our Teaching Elders. It would be wonderful and powerful if as a presbytery of connected congregations we could send the congregation at Memorial Presbyterian many cards acknowledging that their pain is also our loss and that we are standing with them at this difficult time.

The Clerk of Session is Ms. Mary Girou and a good address to use would be the church address, which is:


Memorial Presbyterian Church
312 Lafayette Avenue
Bay City, MI 48708

Thanks for taking part in this effort to make our love and concern concrete."

Jim Browne

General Presbyter, Lake Huron Presbytery

This Month's Schedule



January 4

Coffee Hour Hosts: Bev & Bob Blair
Communion Preparers: Shirley Sanborn
Communion Servers: Louise Elleman, Dave Finley, Dan & Flora Radspieler
Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Brett Albert
Ushers: Bob & Gail Barnhart, Pat Bemis, Bob Chase
Lay Leader: Laura Widman
Acolytes: Lilly & Max S
Acolyte Leader: Michael R

January 11

Coffee Hour Hosts: The Howe Family
Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Scott Tucker
Ushers: Helen & Norm Dickenson, Carol & John Dulin
Lay Leader: Sylvia Keeler
Acolytes: Kaitlyn & Megan R
Acolyte Leader: Volunteer Needed

January 18

Coffee Hour Hosts:
Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Randy Socha
Ushers: Dave Finley, Brenda Hollenbeck, Sandy & Scott Tucker
Lay Leader: Max S
Acolytes: Elle B, Elyse S
Acolyte Leader: Paige A

January 25

Coffee Hour Hosts:
Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Scott Tucker
Ushers: Gordon & Kay Hall, Loretta Hudson, Kathy Lescelius
Lay Leader:
Acolytes: Lilly & Max S
Acolyte Leader: Elyse S



January

- 1 Pat Bemis, Laura Ruppel, John & Carol Dulin
- 3 Betty Lerner
- 4 Jon Bitterman, Sherry & Tim Bradish
- 12 Ed Davison
- 13 Susan Graham
- 16 Sandy Walther
- 22 Abbie Shaw
- 23 Rodney Martz, Ed Shipley
- 25 Karlee Schmoak
- 29 Rosie & Bill Nicholas
- 31 Bob & Joyce Tassell



From The Flushing Christian Outreach Center (FCOC) ...

During the month of November, The Flushing Christian Outreach Center served 504 of our Flushing neighbors.

While all non-perishable food items are needed and very much appreciated, the item we are requesting for the month of January is peanut butter.

Thanks and God bless,
FCOC



Financial Highlights

Average 2014 Collections	\$3,250
Average October Collections	\$3,224
Average 2013 Collections	\$3,396
Average needed for Budget	\$3,776

Lectionary Readings

January 4: Jer. 31:7-14; Ps. 147:12-20;
Eph. 1:3-14; John 1:(1-9) 10-18

January 11: Gen. 1:1-5; Ps. 29; Acts 19:1-7;
Mark 1:4-11

January 18: 1 Sam. 3:1-10 (11-20); Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18; 1
Cor. 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

January 25: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Ps. 62:5-12;
1 Cor. 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20



The email address for the church office is
flushingpc@sbcglobal.net

If you would like to send an email directly to Pastor
Teresa Peterson, her email address is:
pastorT90@gmail.com



From Kathy Miller...

Thank you to everyone for all your prayers, cards and good wishes during my recent hospitalization and recovery. I'm always so thankful for my church family.

From Mac and Jeanne McClellan...

Thank you so much for serving us the great veterans' luncheon on November 12th. It was such a thoughtful thing to do and the veteran in this house really appreciated it!

From Jeanette Hagenbuch...

Thanks for all the cards you have sent. I look forward to them and keep them all.

From Marilyn Schmoak & Family...

My deepest appreciation and thanks for all the cards of sympathy, the wonderful luncheon, the choirs' patience, and your friendship that you have extended to me and my family during my mother's illness and service. Teresa, you are the "best" and we would never have wanted anyone else to do the service for us. You are outstanding!! Thank you, Chris Albert, for the absolutely beautiful song you sang for us. My family and I have been so richly blessed by the members of our congregation and I can never begin to thank you enough for all you have done for us. Thank you, thank you!



ONGOING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES



Book & Breakfast Club meets at 9:30 AM on the first Friday of the month at Liberty Restaurant on Pierson Road. All are welcome!

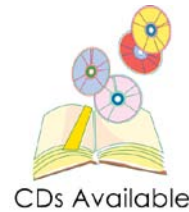


Bread 4 Life is a feeding program that provides weekend food for students that have been identified by the Flushing Schools as needing such assistance. Our church provides a portion of the funds for this project. The program is in need of volunteers to help pack the bags at 5 PM on Wednesdays, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Coutant Street. If you are willing to help, please contact Margaret Meehle at 659-9670.

Card Ministry



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



CD copies of our worship services are available to those who are unable to attend worship on Sunday. Please contact the church office. You can also listen to the sermon on our website, flushingpres.org.



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 by the kitchen door.



LIFT (Ladies In Fellowship Together) is a group that meets for fellowship among all ladies of the church. Trips are planned for all ages to enjoy.



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...The Chancel Choir (Vocal choir) has rehearsals at 7:00 PM on Thursdays and the **Handbell Choir** rehearses at 7:00 PM on Tuesdays (September through May). Please contact Marilyn Schmoak for information on these choirs.



The Noisy Offering

The **Noisy Offering** is collected by the children of the congregation on the second Sunday of each month. This offering is part of "Two Coins a Meal" that funds hunger programs.



The **Priscilla Circle** meets at the church at 9:30 AM on the fourth Thursday of each month for fellowship and study. All women are invited to attend.



Perpetual Book Sale...Gently used books can be donated for this sale. Proceeds will be given to local missions. Refer questions to Carol Dulin or the church office.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The **Prayer Shawl Group** meets in the church library at 9:30 AM on the second Thursday of each month. Contact Bev Blair with any questions, or if you would like instructions.



Ronald McDonald House

Aluminum tabs from beverage 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.



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. Contact Mary Ellen Zellers with any questions.



VG's "Cash for Class" A program that will allow participants to raise money for our church. This program will be tied to their "Yes" card and requires that you link your card to Flushing Presbyterian Church. If you shop at VG's and would like more information, please contact Carole Tucker or the church office.



Youth Group (The “Believers”) is for teens in grades 7 through 12. They meet at 6:00 PM on Sundays for fun, fellowship, study and mission projects. Contact Sandy or Scott Tucker.

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



JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Schedule 9:30 AM - Christian Education (All Ages) 10:30 AM - Worship Service 11:30 AM - Fellowship Hour			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> ---Church Office Closed--- </div>	1	2 9:30 AM - Book & Breakfast Club - Liberty Restaurant	3
4 Communion 11:30 AM - Removal of the Greens	5 1:00 PM - Member Care 5:00 PM - Girl Scouts	6 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir	7	8 8:30 AM - Men's Bible Study-Liberty Restaurant 9:30 AM - Prayer Shawl 7:15 PM - Chancel Choir	9	10
11 Noisy Offering 10:30 AM - Installation of Elders 6:00 PM - Youth Group	12 6:00 PM - B & F 6:30 PM - Community Outreach 6:30 PM - Girl Scouts 6:30 PM - Spiritual Growth	13 9:00 AM - North End Soup Kitchen 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir	14 6:30 PM - Property	15 8:30 AM - Men's Bible Study-Liberty Restaurant 7:15 PM - Chancel Choir	16	17
18 6:00 PM - Youth Group	19 Newsletter Deadline 5:00 PM - Girl Scouts	20 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir	21	22 8:30 AM - Men's Bible Study-Liberty Restaurant 9:30 AM - Priscilla Circle 7:15 PM - Chancel Choir	23	24
25 11:30 AM - Annual Meeting of the Congregation 6:00 PM - Movie Night 6:00 PM - Youth Group	26	27 6:30 PM - GFWC - Flushing Women's Club 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir	28 6:45 PM - Session	29 8:30 AM - Men's Bible Study-Liberty Restaurant 7:15 PM - Chancel Choir	30	31