



January 2024 Newsletter



Flushing Presbyterian Church

Worship: 10:00 AM Year-Round

Rev. Paul J. Pfeuffer, Pastor

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www.flushingpres.org

News of the Wor(l)d

When pastors go to school to *be* pastors, their preaching professor usually advises them of the words of German theologian Karl Barth: “preach with the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other.” While I am one of the people who subscribes to the theory that print is a dying medium (and that we consume most of our news and current events through the use of online media) I think Barth makes an excellent point. Preaching must be both true to the gospel of Jesus Christ, while remaining culturally relevant to us today; it needs to tell the people of the Word of God while also speaking to what is happening in the world today.

And to that end, I am proud to announce a four-part sermon series for the month of January that will do just that. You might recall back in the month of November I preached about the Israeli-Hamas conflict. I did so using *The Wired Word* Bible study curriculum, which aims to look at newsworthy events in the world through the lens of scripture. Our own study meets on Sunday evenings at 7:00 pm via Zoom and touches on a wide variety and array of topics. This month’s topics and scriptures are listed below:

- January 14 “What are the Limits on What Christian Faith Can Fix?”
OT: 2 Kings 5:10-12 NT: Matthew 6:27
- January 21 “Young Israeli Goes to Jail Rather Than Enlist to Fight in Gaza”
OT: Daniel 3:16-18, 28-29 NT: Matthew 22:15-22
- January 28 “Americans Feel Exhausted When Thinking About Politics”
OT: Daniel 1:1-17 NT: Matthew 22:15-22
- February 4 “Who is Too Old, Who Decides, and When?”
Psalter: Psalm 92:12-15 OT: Deuteronomy 31:1-8, 14-15

My hope is that these reflections on important topics will generate fulfilling and fortifying discussion that will nourish us both intellectually, as well as spiritually. After all, the apostle Paul tells us:

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is – his good, pleasing, and perfect will.” **Romans 12:2 (NIV)**

--Pastor Paul





Usher Training

As Presbyterians we are called to do everything with "order and ardor." To that end, it's time to start reviewing the basic roles of leadership in worship! If you are on the usher schedule (or would like to be), please make time to stay after worship on either January 14th or January 21st so we can go over some of the basic tenets of the usher's role on Sunday mornings.



Sunday School News

Sunday School will take place January 14th and 21st. Kids will be dismissed from the service after collecting prayer requests. If interested in teaching the children, please contact Julie Socha. A curriculum that is easy to follow is provided.



The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on **Sunday, January 28th, immediately following the 10:00 AM worship service.** The purpose of this meeting is to hear reports from the teams of our church.



Local Discounts Available

Our church is a member of the Flushing Chamber of Commerce and that comes with benefits. One benefit is that our membership card entitles the holder to local discounts. Any member can stop by the office and pick up the membership card and return it after use. A complete list of discounts is available in the church office.



Storage Room Clean-Out Update

Thank you to everyone who participated in helping to clear out extra items from the Family Promise storage room. Donations of \$108 were received that went back to the Family Promise Designated Fund. In addition to members receiving items, many went to local charities: men's, women's and animal shelters, Voices for Children, and Volunteers of America, to name some. Other items were kept for the church to use and some will be sold at the spring rummage sale. Thanks again for your help!



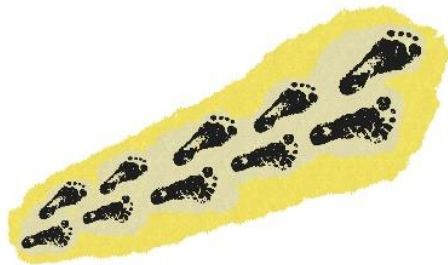
We will be printing an updated church directory in February. If you have had a change of address, phone number or email address in the past year (or have one that you would now like to have added), please notify the office by **Sunday, January 28th**, so that the new information can be included.



Per Capita

- Per capita is a **per member** apportionment for the operating budget of Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly.
- 2024 per capita is \$29.50 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 \$29.50
for each person in your family who is a member of the church
(or simply indicate "Per Capita" on the memo line of your check).

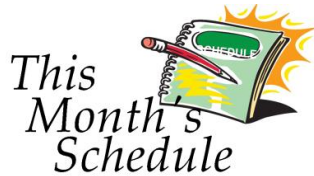


Resolve to Go Micro

Most New Year's resolutions are so major they seem made to be broken. Maybe that's why "micro-resolution" is the latest January buzzword. Setting smaller goals is more realistic and helps ensure follow-through, according to experts. People who try setting micro-resolutions say that approach is more positive and leads to longer-lasting change. For example, instead of attempting to lose 30 pounds this year, make a micro-resolution to walk 10 minutes twice per day and to snack on fresh fruit at least once a day.

Micro-resolutions can also be helpful in matters of faith. If aiming to read the entire Bible in one year feels overwhelming, take five minutes each morning and evening to read a brief devotional or pray. If joining your church's missions committee isn't possible, try to talk to one new person each week about your faith or church. May God bless you as you take small steps that add up to big impact this year!

From the January 2024 Newsletternewsletter



January 7

Communion Preparer:
Communion Servers:
Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Brett Albert
Ushers: Gary Albert, Mike Keeler, Randy Socha
Lay Leader: Annette Nickel
Streaming: Kelli Peter

January 14

Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Scott Tucker
Ushers: Karen Howe, Gary & Jerry Stuber
Lay Leader:
Streaming: Mike Keeler

January 21

Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Randy Socha
Ushers: Mark Jacobson, Carole Noye, Dennis Sanborn
Lay Leader:
Streaming: Scott Smith

January 28

Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Scott Tucker
Ushers: Shirley Delbridge, Kaye Kaufherr, Margaret Meehle
Lay Leader:
Streaming: Randy Socha



The Wired Word will be on recess through the month of January, resuming on February 4th. That's an excellent time to make good on a New Year's Resolution to join a Bible study!!!!



FLUSHING CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CENTER

The special focus items requested by the Flushing Christian Outreach Center (FCOC) for January are juice and 13-gallon white trash bags. 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.



January

- 1 Pat Bemis, Laura Ruppel
- 4 Sherry & Tim Bradish
- 12 Ed Davison
- 22 Kaye Kaufherr
- 23 Gary Stuber

Lectionary Readings

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

January 14: 1 Sam. 3:1-10 (11-20) and Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Cor. 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

January 21: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 and Ps. 62:5-12; 1. Cor. 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

January 28: Deut. 18:15-20 and Ps. 111; 1 Cor. 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28



Financial Highlights

Average 2023 Collections	\$2,824
Average November Collections	\$2,295
Average 2022 Collections	\$3,212
Average needed for 2023 Budget	\$3,676



Upcoming Communion Dates . . .
January 7, February 4 & 14 (Ash Wednesday)

Blood DRIVE

The Red Cross will be holding a **Blood Drive** at our church on **Monday, February 5**, from 12:00 - 5:45 PM. 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).



From Jill Thomas . . .

Thank you so much for all your support during these dark days. I'm grateful for all of you and this wonderful church.

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
Gary Stuber

Spiritual Growth

Kelli Peter

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES



The Book Club meets at 12:00 PM on the third Wednesday 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

The Chancel Choir (Vocal choir) has rehearsals at 6:30 PM on Wednesdays (September through May). Please contact Chris Albert for information on the 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 New Years Day Church Office Closed	2	3 6:00 PM - Girl Scouts 6:30 PM – Chancel Choir	4 12:00 PM - Bible Study 6:00 PM – Wood Carvers	5 Church Office Closed	6
7 Communion 11:15 AM – Removal of the Greens	8 6:00 PM - B & F 6:30 PM - Girl Scouts	9 9:00 AM - North End Soup Kitchen 6:00 PM - GFWC (Flushing Women’s Club) 6:30 PM - Spiritual Growth 6:30 PM - Property	10 8:30 AM - Men’s Fellowship-Liberty Restaurant 9:30 AM - Member Care 6:00 PM - Girl Scouts 6:30 PM – Chancel Choir	11 12:00 PM - Bible Study 6:00 PM – Wood Carvers	12 Church Office Closed	13 11:30 AM – Baby Shower
14 Noisy Offering Installation of Elders 11:15 AM – Usher Training	15	16	17 8:30 AM - Men’s Fellowship-Liberty Restaurant 12:00 PM - Book Club - Liberty Restaurant 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 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Girl Scouts</div>
21 11:15 AM – Usher Training	22 6:45 PM - Session	23 6:00 PM - GFWC (Flushing Women’s Club)	24 8:30 AM - Men’s Fellowship-Liberty Restaurant 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
28 11:15 AM – Annual Meeting of the Congregation	29	30	31 8:30 AM - Men’s Fellowship-Liberty Restaurant 6:00 PM - Girl Scouts 6:30 PM – Chancel Choir			

Please note that the church office is closed on Fridays