



# November 2022 Newsletter



## Flushing Presbyterian Church

Worship: 10:00 AM Year-Round

Rev. Paul J. Pfeuffer, Pastor

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[www.flushingpres.org](http://www.flushingpres.org)



<sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup> Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

2 Timothy 4:7-8

Grace and peace to you, saints of Flushing!

As we turn the calendar from October to November, we put away our spooky and macabre décor. Maybe we even stash the leftover Halloween candy so we don't eat it all at once! But if you have a little bit of the Halloween spirit left over, think about this: some cultures view this time as celebrating when the walls of our world and the afterlife become "thin" and we're able to feel the impressions of those who have departed.

In this spirit, recall the saints who have surrounded us, built the church with their lives of faith, and who now from their labors rest. They have finished the race and kept the faith. Part of the beauty of the Christian life is that we are not supposed to fear death. For us, it simply is not the end. In the words of the wizened wizard Gandalf from J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*: "End? No, the journey doesn't end here. Death is just another path, one that we all must take. The grey rain-curtain of this world rolls back, and all turns to silver glass, and then you see it...White shores, and beyond, a far green country under a swift sunrise."

In truth, we know the end has already been authored by Jesus Christ. We know that we have been freed from the mortal constraints of sin and death, and that we will be united with him in a resurrection like his. So we cling fast to the notion that even though our friends and loved ones precede us into the great beyond, even though we cannot hear their voice or hold their hands or kiss them gently on the forehead – that is not the end. We have a greater promise in store, waiting for us under a swift sunrise.





**Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00 AM on Sunday, November 6th.** Don't forget to set your clock back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night (and enjoy the extra hour of sleep).



## Flint Concert Band

**Sunday, November 6, 3:00 PM.** Come enjoy an afternoon of music performed by the Flint Concert Band. Bring your friends and family and join us for this special event!! We will need help in providing cookies for the reception following the concert. Volunteers to help with set-up (following the morning worship service) and clean-up after the concert are also needed. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board. Please plan to help where you are able.



**Please keep those affected by Hurricane Ian in your prayers.** Thousands of people have lost homes and livelihoods due to the unprecedented damage caused by the hurricane. If you would like to donate to those affected you may make your check payable to Flushing Presbyterian Church and indicate "Hurricane Ian" on the memo line.



## Warmth Tree

**The Warmth Tree is up in the narthex** for your donations of warm gloves, mittens, scarves, hats and socks for both children and adults. All items collected will be given to Flushing Community Schools for distribution to those in need. **Deadline for donating will be November 20<sup>th</sup>.** **The Angel Tree will be available the following Sunday.**



## NO CANNED VEGETABLE COLLECTION THIS YEAR

We will NOT be collecting canned vegetables for Thanksgiving this year. The Flushing Nazarene Church will be preparing Thanksgiving baskets for local families and has asked us to assist in this outreach by providing \$20 gift certificates from Bueches to be included for each family to help cover the cost of a turkey. If you would like to participate, please turn in gift certificates by **Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>** (please purchase gift certificates for \$20 ONLY so that they are all the same amount).





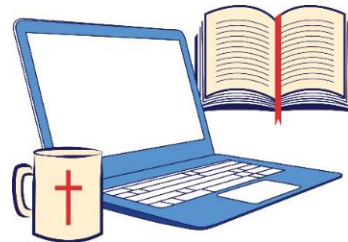
Beverly Thompson, a former member of our church, will be celebrating her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 12<sup>th</sup>. As many of you may know, Bev has relocated to Marquette to be closer to her family, but still very much misses her FPC family. Her daughter has asked that members of the congregation send Bev birthday cards or notes to celebrate her special day. Bev's address is: 1302 North Bay Court, Marquette MI 49855.



*The Wired Word* continues to meet 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. Upcoming meeting dates are November 6th, 13th, and 20th. The Wired Word will take a break during Advent and the holiday season from November 27th through January 1st, resuming on January 8th. We encourage you to attend one of Pastor Paul's Bible studies during this time, and we would love to see some new faces join us for the Wired Word in 2023!!!



It will soon be time to celebrate the start of the Advent season by decorating our church for the birth of God's son. The Hanging of the Greens will take place **Sunday, November 20th**. We will take down the harvest decorations and hang the greens after you've had a chance to grab a cup of coffee and a donut. There are many areas of the church to decorate, and all are welcome to partake in this fun event. Please join us for a wonderful start to the Advent season!



### **Prayer Requests Via Facebook**

In an effort to be more consistent at including prayer requests via Facebook on Sunday mornings, the Spiritual Growth Team has established a more formal process. Anyone watching at home should put their prayer request in the "Comments" section as soon as possible during the service. The streaming person will be responsible for monitoring Facebook and writing these requests down on the blue prayer request form, which would then be handed in at the point in the service where we ask for prayer requests. As always, prayer requests can also be submitted by a phone call to the church or sent directly to Pastor Paul's email prior to the worship service at [paul.pfeuffer@outlook.com](mailto:paul.pfeuffer@outlook.com).



## ON THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT, WE WEAR PINK!

How many of you have wondered to yourself just what the heck a pink candle was doing in the middle of three purples on our advent wreath? I mean, it throws the entire balance out of whack, right? Well, if you've ever wondered *why* that pink candle is there, I would like to invite you to December 11's service where we'll be taking a deep dive on **Joy Sunday** and asking what it means to have the pink in the midst of a season of blues and purples. There's a slight catch, however! This service will require some audience participation! Come to church dressed in your most elegant pink attire as we learn how to turn from the solemn watch of the first two weeks of advent, to the approaching air of celebrating the Christ child!

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### Give a Little Bit



Now, I know you might be thinking, "Pastor, we just *finished* a big giving campaign with the troop collection." Well, if you want to be the church and if you want to follow Jesus, you can't rest on your laurels and stop from your good works in order to pat yourself on the back! Beginning this month and continuing through December, our church will be inviting representatives from local non-profits and charitable organizations to come speak to us during Minute for Mission segments.

There will be some familiar organizations – FCOC, Family Promise – and some unfamiliar ones as well. But if you want to know who, you have to tune in to worship! In addition to this, the Warmth Tree has gone up in the narthex and if you blink, you'll miss that opportunity. The angels are ready to fly in as soon as we're done collecting winter apparel. Give to one cause, give to a few, or find it in your heart to give to all of them. But do so with a cheerful heart and a spirit of thanksgiving, because God has called us to love our neighbor and *love them mightily*.

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### The B-I-B-L-E, Yes That's the Book for Me

Bible study is in full swing! Both our Sunday morning and Thursday morning sessions are working their way through the Old Testament at this point, with a focus on how the OT impacts the NT. This is a **crucial** theme, because all too often we Christians believe the Old Testament holds little relevance for us. Of course, that's not the case at all! We're going to double down on this theme during advent as we move into the prophets, particularly the scriptures you hear during the traditional advent candle lighting. We'll look at how the gospels quote OT prophecy and examine the themes of hope, peace, joy, and love as we get closer and closer to the birth of the Christ child in the manger. All are welcome and invited to join us following worship on Sunday morning or at 11:00 AM on Thursdays!



Thanks to generosity of the members of our congregation, we have been able to support the following causes this year past year:

Angel Tree Gifts  
Bread for Life  
Carriage Town Mission  
Central Elementary PTO  
Edible Flint  
Family Promise of Genesee County  
Flushing Christian Outreach Center  
Flushing Firefighters (Educational materials for children)  
Fort Carson  
Genesee County Habitat for Humanity  
Gift Cards for Flushing Teachers & Staff  
Love INC  
Mission Co-Worker (Cathy Chang – Philippines)  
Motherly Intercession (children of incarcerated parents)  
North End Soup Kitchen  
Old News Boys  
PC (USA) – Shared Mission Causes  
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (Ukraine, Ethiopia, Yemen, Hurricane Ian, etc.)  
Presbytery of Lake Huron (Two Coins and other shared mission causes)  
School Supplies Collection  
Shelter of Flint  
Sleep In Heavenly Peace (Beds for Kids)  
Thanksgiving Boxes

A huge thank you to each and every one of you!!

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## **The Advent Wreath**

The Advent wreath is a symbol of watchfulness and increasing joy as we anticipate Jesus' birth. The wreath's circular shape symbolizes eternity, or life without end. The candles remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World — he brought light and life to a dark world (see John 1:4-5). On each of the four Sundays of Advent, we light a new candle. As the light grows, so do our hope and joy.

*From the Newsletternewsletter*

## Facility Enhancements

In case you were not aware I wanted to let you know of three Facility Enhancements which have recently been completed. These projects were joint efforts between Budget & Finance and Property Teams with the approval of Session where needed.

**New Boiler Heating System & Hot Water Tank** – It is believed the boiler system we had was in place since the opening of FPC sometime in the 1950's.

- The boiler operated at somewhere between a 50% - 60% efficiency level, meaning for every \$1.00 we spent on natural gas for heat \$.50 - \$.40 cents was going up the chimney. Our new boiler system is a 95% efficient double boiler system providing redundancy should one boiler fail. The double boiler system works together in tandem to provide the needed heat output based on heating demand. During low heat demand only one boiler will fire, while in high heat demand both will fire and work together to provide comfort in the building
- The standalone hot water tank was also replaced with a new hot water storage tank system in which the hot water needed for the building is heated by the boiler. The large fresh air vent above the outside boiler room door was closed off as it was no longer needed due to the high efficiency of the new boiler system. Being able to close off the vent will provide overall building efficiency as well
- Our average natural gas cost to heat the building going back to 2018 has been \$6,500 and in 2022 for the months of January – September we have already spent \$6,780.
- We anticipate seeing a 30% - 40% gas usage reduction with the new boiler system which will be positively reflected in our natural gas costs
- The cost for the new system was \$45,960 and was paid for with funds from our Capital Improvement account and funds from one of our investment accounts held at New Covenant. Additionally, the Memorial Committee made a donation of \$4,000 towards the combined projects of the boiler and the new parking lot
- A rebate from Consumers Energy in the amount of \$1,240 was also received

Old Boiler from 1950's & Hot Water Heater



## New Double Boiler with Redundancy & Hot Water Storage Tank

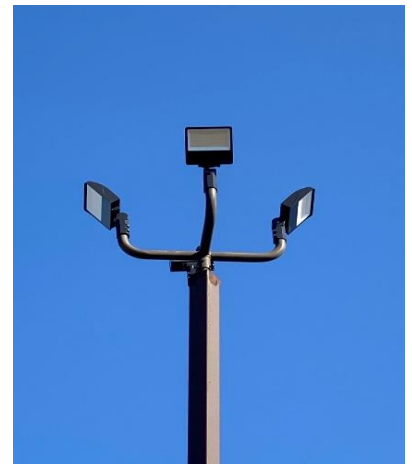


**New Parking Lot** – The last time our Parking Lot was completely repaved was in 2005. Due to safety hazards and water drainage issues the parking lot has been overdue for repaving for a few years now.

- The cost for the parking lot was \$62,942 and was paid for with funds from our Capital Improvement account and funds from one of our investment accounts held at New Covenant. Additionally, the Memorial Committee made a donation of \$4,000 towards the combined projects of the boiler and the new parking lot
- The decision to repave the parking lot came out of the joint discussion regarding the boiler heating system and it was decided to invest in both projects simultaneously
- Special thanks to Scott Tucker for gathering the parking lot quotes and managing the installation

**New Parking Lot Lights** – After a review of our parking lot lights, the type of bulbs being used and the annual electrical costs to operate them, it was determined replacing the parking lot lights and the pavilion lights with high efficiency LED bulbs would provide an annual electric cost savings between \$1,200 - \$1,600. Additionally, a rebate from Consumers Energy would be provided in the amount of \$793

- The cost to replace the lights was \$2,307 and the return on investment between annual electric cost savings and the rebate is approximately one year
- Additionally, the new lights are brighter providing greater safety in our parking lot during the evening hours
- The Memorial Committee made a donation of \$2,307 to cover the entire cost of this project



It has been my pleasure to serve as the Project Manager for the Boiler and Parking Lot Lights projects. I'm confident both will provide cost savings, comfort and safety for many years to come for Flushing Presbyterian Church.

Steve Howe



*This  
Month's  
Schedule*

### November 6

**Communion Preparer:** Carole Noye  
**Communion Servers:** Annette Nickel, Julie & Randy Socha, Scott Tucker  
**Flowers:**  
**Welcome Desk:** Debbie Bayer  
**Sound Board Operator:** Brett Albert  
**Ushers:** Gary Albert, Sandy & Scott Tucker  
**Lay Leader:** Lynette Daig  
**Streaming:** Steve Howe

### November 13

**Flowers:**  
**Welcome Desk:** Shirley Delbridge  
**Sound Board Operator:** Scott Tucker  
**Ushers:** Bruce & Debbie Coxworth, Kathy Miller  
**Lay Leader:** Joyce Hudson  
**Streaming:** Mike Keeler

### November 20

**Communion Preparer:** Carole Noye  
**Communion Servers:** Pat Bemis, Denise & Bill Churchill, Carole Noye  
**Flowers:**  
**Welcome Desk:** Karen Howe  
**Sound Board Operator:** Randy Socha  
**Ushers:** Karen Howe, Mark Jacobson, Kaye Kaufherr  
**Lay Leader:** Ed Davison  
**Streaming:** Scott Smith

### November 27

**Flowers:**  
**Welcome Desk:** Kathy Lescelius  
**Sound Board Operator:** Scott Tucker  
**Ushers:** Kathy Lescelius, Carole Noye, Dennis Sanborn  
**Lay Leader:** Mike Keeler  
**Streaming:** Randy Socha



## FLUSHING CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CENTER

The special focus items requested by the Flushing Christian Outreach Center (FCOC) for November are cereal and liquid hand soap. 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.



## November

- 2 Janet Ballagh
- 3 Gillian Besko
- 5 Natalie Lucas
- 6 Sarah Bemis
- 7 Jeanne Blanton
- 9 Sue Lannon
- 11 Matt & Linda Bemis
- 13 Marian McTaggart
- 15 Sylvia Keeler
- 16 Lucille Mars (100 Years Young!)
- 18 Natalie & Dave Lucas, Dennis & Shirley Sanborn
- 20 Dean Bemis
- 22 Mark Jacobson, Leone & Norbert Burwell
- 23 Benjamin S
- 24 Luella Daig
- 25 Olivia M
- 27 Scott Smith
- 30 Kathy Miller



# Lectionary Readings

**November 6:** Hag. 1:15b-2:9 and Ps. 145:1-5, 17-21 or Ps. 98; Job 19:23-27a and Ps. 17:1-9; 2 Thess. 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38

**November 13:** Isa. 65:17-25 and Isa. 12; Mal. 4:1-2a and Ps. 98; 2 Thess. 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19

**November 20:** Jer. 23:1-6 and Luke 1:68-79; Jer. 23:1-6 and Ps. 46; Col. 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

**November 27:** Isa. 2:1-5 and Ps. 122; Rom. 13:11-14; Matt. 24:36-44



**Upcoming Communion Dates . . .**  
November 6 & 20.



The Red Cross will be holding a Blood Drive at our church on Monday, December 5, from 12:00 - 5:45 PM. To schedule an appointment to donate blood, log onto [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org), sponsor code: Flushing Community or call 1-800-Red-Cross (1-800-733-2767).



## Financial Highlights

Average 2022 Collections	\$2,983
Average September Collections	\$4,093
Average 2021 Collections	\$3,122
Average needed for 2022 Budget	\$3,811

## Flushing Presbyterian Church 2022 Session

### Budget & Finance

Debbie Bayer  
Bill Churchill

### Community Outreach

Carol Dulin  
Sylvia Keeler

### Member Care

Pat Bemis  
Shirley Sanborn

### Property Team

Randy Socha  
Gary Stuber

### Spiritual Growth

Mike Keeler  
Carrie Younkin

# ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES



**The Book Club** meets at 1:00 PM on the third Wednesday of the month at Kathy's 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 5:15 PM on Thursdays, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Coutant Street.

## 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 Margaret Meehle or 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](http://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.



**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**



# November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 6:00 PM - Girl Scouts Care 6:30 PM – Chancel Choir	<b>3</b> 10:00 AM – Member Care 11:00 Bible Study	<b>4</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6 Communion</b> 3:00 PM – Flint Concert Band 7:00 PM – The Wired Word via Zoom	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6:00 PM – GFWC (Flushing Women’s Club) 6:30 PM – Property	<b>9</b> 6:00 PM - Girl Scouts Care	<b>10</b> 11:00 Bible Study	<b>11</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> <b>Noisy Offering</b> Bueches Gift Cards Due 7:00 PM – The Wired Word via Zoom	<b>14</b> 6:00 PM - B & F 6:30 PM – Girl Scouts 6:30 PM - Spiritual Growth	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 9:30 AM - Community Outreach 1:00 PM – Book Club – Kathy’s Restaurant 6:00 PM - Girl Scouts Care 6:30 PM – Chancel Choir	<b>17</b> 11:00 Bible Study	<b>18</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20 Communion</b> 7:00 PM – The Wired Word via Zoom	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 6:00 PM – GFWC (Flushing Women’s Club)	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Happy Thanksgiving!</b>  <b>Church Office Closed</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:45 PM - Session	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 6:00 PM - Girl Scouts Care 6:30 PM – Chancel Choir			

**\*\*\*Please note that the church office is closed on Fridays\*\*\***