



September 2023 Newsletter

Flushing Presbyterian Church

Worship: 10:00 AM Year-Round

Rev. Paul J. Pfeuffer, Pastor

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Then people brought little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked them. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." When he had placed his hands on them, he went on from there. **Matthew 19:13-15**

Have you ever been to IKEA? Although I've never been to this particular one, I know that the closest IKEA to Flushing is located in Canton, MI. I figure at least some of you have ordered, then built, furniture from the store. Back in southwestern Pennsylvania, we had an IKEA between Pittsburgh and the International Airport. I used to pass it all the time on the way to visit extended family in Aliquippa. That is, until the month before I moved away to school. Then it was no longer a store of curiosity; I would go in and see the store for myself.

IKEA furniture is meant to be three things: 1) on the less expensive side (2) built easily (3) taken apart fairly easily. All of this makes it perfect for the transient college student who moves around multiple times in their 4+ years at school. The instruction manuals and the names for the furniture are entertaining, as well. They're all Icelandic in nature. The whole manual experience, with its visual details and pictorial diagrams, reminds me a lot of LEGO, if LEGO were aimed more toward adults.


Maybe you had a LEGO set, or Lincoln Logs, or an Erector set, or Tinkertoys. And if you didn't have any of these growing up, maybe you have fond memories of building a sand castle at the beach, or a snowman after the first heavy snowfall of winter. Can you remember what you placed on the pure white and blank face? Can you remember working your snowman until your fingers felt stiff from the cold, until your mittens were soaked through? Can you remember feeling a swelling sense of pride that your sandcastle was the biggest on the beach, only to watch as the tide rose and mercilessly toppled your spires?

Think about the childlike joy and glee you had from *making* something. When we engage our imaginative powers and when we create, I argue that's when we're closest to God in our form and function. God is known by the creative powers God shows; in Genesis we're told that God created everything – out of nothing! Old Testament prophet Jeremiah refers to God as the potter, shaping his people who are made from clay. God's creative powers are on full display throughout our Bible.

And it is that set of creative powers that the Lord wants us to use, as God did before us. **Please prayerfully consider volunteering of your time and energy on Saturday, September 9 for our own hosted Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Build.** This event runs from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, or until we run through the total number of 30+ beds. Get in touch with your own creative powers and *build!* Think about the sense of wonder and accomplishment that you will feel. But friends, this is no mere building for enjoyment's sake, make no mistake. With these acts of building, we will glorify the Lord. We will give the gift of beds to those who have none of their own. We will bless others – the little children that Jesus lets come to him – as God has first blessed us.

If you want to love others as God has first loved you, if you want to truly make a difference in this world, if you want your actions and service to match your worship, then go forth . . . ***And build.***

Pastor Paul




FALL KICKOFF

As summer winds down, we look forward to kicking off fall with the return of our choir, a special coffee hour, and other fun touches on September 10th. As we enter into this time of year, there will be a variety of ways to gather and learn more about our lord and the Bible, so keep an eye out for these opportunities.



Office Hours

We will return to our regular office hours (9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Monday - Thursday), on Tuesday, September 5th. The office will continue to be closed on Fridays.



CHOIR BEGINS

Are you in need of more fellowship? Do you like to have fun? Do you like to sing? Well, Wednesday night choir is the place for you! Can't read music? Not to worry! We will help you! Please prayerfully consider joining Chancel Choir. We meet Wednesday nights at 6:30 and sing approximately two Sundays a month. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Albert, 810-252-5622.



Our nursery has been a relatively quiet place for several years now, but we have recently found it to be in need more often once again, which is a wonderful thing. Because of that, we are looking for volunteers to fill a rotating schedule of "on-call" care for Sunday mornings starting in September. If you are willing to be one of these volunteers, please contact Sandy Tucker.



SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Building will take place here at our church from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM on Saturday, September 9. Come and join with other members of our community to build beds for children that don't have one of their own. All skill levels welcome and no tools are needed. Ages 10-100; all children 10-18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Lunch for Bed Building Event . . . We need help with providing lunch for the 50 or so workers for the bed build. Food items needed would include a vegetable tray, a box of assorted lunch size chip bags, a batch of cookies. Worker help during lunch and for cleanup would be appreciated. It'll be a fun day!

Please contact Carol Dulin: carol.dulin@att.net to sign up."



Our regular Coffee Hour returns on September 10th!! Volunteers will be needed to host. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. If you have never hosted before, and would like to work with a "seasoned veteran", please contact the office.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Men's Breakfast returns to Flushing! Join us on Wednesday mornings at Liberty Family Dining, beginning September 13th at 8:30 AM for fellowship, food, and scintillating discussion. We will use the Wired Word to help us discover what guidance the Bible gives us as we discuss current issues. All men are welcome and encouraged to attend.



The Wired Word Bible study will kick off again on Sunday, October 1st at 7:00 PM. Classes will continue to be based on current events and how the Bible and our faith can be used to relate to these events. Class discussions will be led by Pastor Paul, Karen Howe, Julie Socha and Mike Keeler on a rotating basis. If you were to join a class, you would see that the variety of members and their experiences and input are what lend to lively discussions and make this class so interesting. Please consider joining us via Zoom!!



The Peace & Global Witness Offering is one of the four special offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Through our gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering, we as a single congregation, participate in this larger work that we would not be able to do on our own. A gift to this Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world, as well as right here at home. Our congregation keeps 25% of this offering to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community. 25% of this offering goes to our mid-council to support peacemaking work in our region. The remaining 50% supports the work done by Presbyterians across the globe.

Peace begins with each of us. When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

Please give generously to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. Use your special offering envelopes or just indicate "Peace Offering" on the memo line of your check. The offering will be collected until October 1st (World Communion Sunday).



Advantages of joining the choir

1. You have excellent seats and are assured a reserved seat for Christmas and Easter.
2. From your advantageous seat, you can smile at, gawk at, ignore and otherwise enjoy the rest of the people in the congregation.
3. The pastor is nearly always looking the other way.
4. You're in a wonderful spot to see new members.
5. The cost for all these benefits? Just one evening a week.
6. Oh, yes, one more reason to join the choir: It's FUN!!



September 3

Communion Preparer:
Communion Servers: Pat Bemis, Kip Hogan, Karen Howe, Kathy Miller
Flowers:
Welcome Desk: Kathy Miller
Sound Board Operator: Brett Albert
Ushers: Mike Keeler, Sandy & Scott Tucker
Lay Leader: Bill Churchill
Streaming: Scott Smith

September 10

Flowers:
Welcome Desk: Kelli Peter
Sound Board Operator: Scott Tucker
Ushers: Shirley Delbridge, Kathy Lescelius, Dennis Sanborn
Lay Leader: Chris Albert
Streaming: Randy Socha

September 17

Flowers:
Welcome Desk: Karen Howe
Sound Board Operator: Randy Socha
Ushers: Bill & Denise Churchill, Kelli Peter
Lay Leader: Ed Davison
Streaming: Mike Keeler

September 24

Flowers:
Welcome Desk: Shirley Sanborn
Sound Board Operator: Scott Tucker
Ushers: Kaye Kaufherr, Gary Stuber, Jerry Stuber
Lay Leader: Lynette Daig
Streaming: Kelli Peter



FLUSHING CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CENTER

The special focus items requested by the Flushing Christian Outreach Center (FCOC) for September are peanut butter and/or jelly and dish 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.



God's Helpers

God's providence is not in baskets lowered from the sky, but through the hands and hearts of those who love him. The lad without food and without shoes made the proper answer to the cruel-minded woman who asked, "But if God loved you wouldn't he send you food and shoes?" The boy replied, "God told someone, but [they] forgot."

—George Buttrick
(from the September 2023 Newsletternewsletter)



September

- 6 Sandy & Scott Tucker
- 10 Scott Tucker
- 13 Ed & Sue Lannon
- 14 Blair Albert, Brooklyn Cooper
- 15 Steven & Christine Cooper
- 18 Dave Blanton
- 19 Carole Tucker, Angie & Jay Shaw
- 24 Barb Hogan
- 25 Kaye Barnett
- 26 Gina & Jeff Rumsey
- 27 Shirley Sanborn
- 29 Katilyn Ruppel, Nancy Young

Lectionary Readings

September 3: Ex. 3:1-15 and Ps. 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b; Jer. 15:15-21 and Ps. 26:1-8; Rom. 12:9-21; Matt. 16:21-28

September 10: Ex. 12:1-14 and Ps. 149; Ezek. 33:7-11 and Ps. 119:33-40; Rom. 13:8-14; Matt. 18:15-20

September 17: Ex. 14:19-31 and Ps. 114 or Ex. 15:1b-11, 20-21; Gen. 50:15-21 and Ps. 103:(1-7) 8-13; Rom. 14:1-12; Matt. 18:21-35

September 24: Ex. 16:2-15 and Ps. 105:1-6 37-45; Jonah 3:10 – 4:11 and Ps. 145:1-8; Phil. 1:21-30; Matt. 20:1-16



Financial Highlights

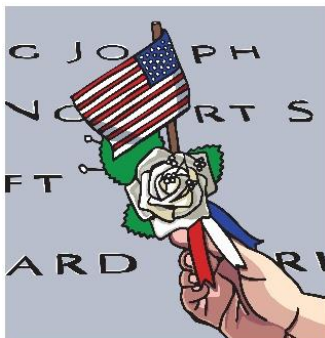
Average 2023 Collections	\$2,992
Average July Collections	\$3,541
Average 2022 Collections	\$3,212
Average needed for 2023 Budget	\$3,676



Upcoming Communion Dates . . .
September 3 and October 1

Blood DRIVE

The Red Cross will be holding a Blood Drive at our church on Monday, October 2, 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).



9/11 REMEMBRANCE

Flushing Presbyterian Church 2023 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

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 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 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.



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



SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Church Office Closed	2
3 Communion	4 Labor Day Church Office Closed	5	6	7 9:30 AM – Member Care 12:00 PM – Bible Study	8 Church Office Closed 10:00 AM – Memorial	9 9:00 AM – Bed Build
-----Family Promise-----						
10 Communion Noisy Offering	11 6:00 PM - B & F 6:30 PM - Spiritual Growth	12 9:00 AM – North End Soup Kitchen 9:30 AM – Community Outreach 6:00 PM – GFWC (Women’s Club) 6:30 PM – Property	13 8:30 AM – Men’s Fellowship-Liberty Restaurant 6:30 PM – Chancel Choir	14 12:00 PM – Bible Study	15 Church Office Closed	16
-----Family Promise-----						
17	18	19 6:00 PM – GFWC (Flushing Women’s Club)	20 8:30 AM – Men’s Fellowship-Liberty 12:00 PM – Book Club – Liberty Restaurant 6:00 PM - Girl Scouts 6:30 PM – Chancel Choir	21 12:00 PM – Bible Study	22 Church Office Closed	23
24 Communion	25 6:45 PM – Session	26 6:00 PM – GFWC (Flushing Women’s Club)	27 8:30 AM – Men’s Fellowship-Liberty 6:00 PM - Girl Scouts 6:30 PM – Chancel Choir	28 12:00 PM – Bible Study 6:00 PM – Canasta Club	29	30

Please note that the church office is closed on Fridays