



November 2016 Newsletter



November: Gratitude & Thankfulness

Each November, Americans are surrounded with ads, decorations, food, cards.....(the list goes on and on).....to assist in celebrating Thanksgiving. The church joins in and uses the season to highlight the roots of the celebration in being thankful to God for the many blessings in our lives.

Because we expect this each November, many of us give a head nod to the occasion, take a minute to say, "Yep. I've been blessed," and move on with the harriedness of the season. Not many of us truly set aside a block of time to really focus and list the things, situations, people we have in our lives to be thankful for.

Some use the days in November to daily consider one thing they are thankful for. Maybe we start there, and then, perhaps, take it a step further and work to live life grateful, without complaints. This could be challenging as the election is in the midst of this. How do we approach the election with gratitude and thankfulness rather than complaints and bemoaning of the candidates?

It comes back to our focus. Is our focus on Christ and the Kingdom of God (that we are working to experience here and now)? Or are we distracted? Find a friend to hold you accountable and take the challenge this November to live grateful. May your spirits soar!





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES CONTINUE

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE JOIN A CLASS.

STOP IN AND CHECK ONE OUT AFTER WORSHIP
ON SUNDAY MORNINGS!!

Youth & Adult Options

- 1) Promised Land: Filmed on location, hear and see Biblical stories come to life, then discuss their relevance today.
- 2) Nooma: Short films which explore our world from Jesus' perspective and invites us into the conversation.

For Adult Learners

- 3) The Legacy Journey: Learning how to leave a Biblical financial legacy - what that means and how to do it.

Preschool-6th Grade

- 4) Bible Superheroes: Our favorite heroes from the Bible.



Thanksgiving POTLUCK

Would you be interested in joining with others for a Thanksgiving potluck? We would like to host a dinner here at the church if there is enough interest. Please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board **by November 1st** if you would like to join us for thanksgiving and fellowship.

SALUTING OUR VETERANS



You can help as we honor our veterans at a luncheon at **noon on Wednesday, November 9th**. Help is needed for Set-Up, Serving and Clean-Up following the lunch. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board. Please help us show our appreciation to the veterans in our congregation. Contact Loretta Hudson or the church office with any questions you may have.





Prayer Shawl Ministry

For years, Flushing Presbyterian has had a Prayer Shawl ministry. Mainly women, would gather, chat and knit or crochet shawls to give to those going through illness or hardship. It is a tangible reminder to the one receiving it that their church family is holding them in prayer.

Times are changing and there is not the same group of individuals available to meet. Session is wondering if there are those who would be interested in learning how to make the shawls or if there is another idea with a similar purpose and effect?

Let's briefly talk, **Sunday, November 13th after worship in Fellowship Hall**. Meet at the NE table for a 5 minute conversation.



Canned-Food Drive

The Flushing Christian Outreach Center (FCOC) member churches plan to provide 300 Thanksgiving dinners to needy families in our area again this year. Our church has again been asked to provide 50 cases (600 cans) of vegetables for these dinners. We ask that you please purchase "traditional" vegetables, such as corn, peas and green beans for this project. **Deadline is November 20.** In addition to the vegetables, the FCOC is asking member congregations for donations to purchase the turkeys. If you would like to help, please make your check payable to Flushing Presbyterian Church and indicate "Turkeys" on the memo line.



Warmth Tree

The Warmth Tree is now up in the narthex for the donations of warm gloves, mittens, scarves, hats and socks for both children and adults. The deadline for adding items is **November 20th**, when they will be taken to the Nazarene Church to be distributed with the Thanksgiving boxes.



The Angel Tree will be in the narthex on **November 21st** in order to provide Christmas gifts to children in need in the Flushing area. If you wish to participate, please select an angel and sign your name after the appropriate number on the sign-up sheet next to the tree. If you would like to participate, but are unable to shop, you may make a donation for a gift. Please indicate "Angel Tree" on the memo line of your check. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Lescelius or the church office.



November 26 - 2:00 PM

It's time to celebrate the start of the Advent season and adorn our church for the birth of God's son. The Hanging of the Greens will take place **Saturday, November 26th, starting at 2:00 PM.** There are many areas of the church to decorate, and all are welcome to partake in this fun event. When we are finished decorating, we will order pizza and enjoy a quick dinner together. Please join us for a wonderful afternoon to start the Advent season!



WREATH AND GRAVE BLANKET SALE

It is time to plan ahead for your purchase of a Christmas wreath or grave blanket. All profits will go to support the Flushing Relay for Life sponsored by the American Cancer Society. Prices are: Wreaths, \$30; Grave Pillows, \$40; and Grave Blankets, \$50. Please contact Carole, Sandy or Scott Tucker with any questions or to place an order.



Sunday, November 27th - Following Worship Intergenerational Activity

The first Sunday of Advent, November 27th, all ages are invited to gather in Fellowship Hall following the worship service. There will be a short presentation on Advent followed by an activity to make an advent wreath, plus resource materials to go with it.

Plan to stay and join in this very special activity we will do together as a church. It will be fun as older assists younger and we tell stories of advent and Christmas celebrations of the past. We hope you will learn something new about your church family members as you join in this celebration.



We will be holding a Blood Drive on Monday, December 5, from 12:00 - 5:45 PM. To schedule an appointment, log onto redcrossblood.org, sponsor code: Flushing Community or call 1-800-Red-Cross (1-800-733-2767).

Christmas Music



The Flint Concert Band will be performing a Christmas concert in our sanctuary on **Sunday, December 11th, at 7:00 PM.** Invite your friends and bring your family to this wonderful evening of Christmas music. A reception with refreshments will follow the concert. **If you would be willing to bake cookies for the reception following the concert, please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board.**

Calendar Donations



The Stony Point Center - a national conference center of the Presbyterian Church (USA) - is asking for donations of 2017 calendars for a project to help prisoners "mark the time" while they are incarcerated. Stony Point is participating in the *Alternatives to Violence Project's* annual calendar drive. AVP coordinates a number of conflict resolution programs in prisons.

If you would like to help, we have a basket in the shelving unit outside the kitchen for the collection of calendars. Any calendars will do - either an extra one you were given or one that comes for free through the mail as a promotion for an organization or company. **Please avoid calendars with metal spiral binding, but staples are okay.**



January 1 - 8, Family Promise Guests are here
Watch for volunteer opportunities!!



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





From Tim and Sherry Bradish...

Thank you for your prayers and words of comfort on the passing of Tim's mother. We appreciate the cards and kind words letting us know we are in your thoughts and prayers. Our faith reminds us that she is in God's care as well as in our hearts.

From Karen Howe...

Thank you so much to everyone who sent cards and remembered me in their thoughts and prayers during the loss of my brother. Your kindness was very appreciated, especially since both of my brothers live out of state. It makes my church family all that much more meaningful to me.

From Bev Gatenby...

Thank you to the many people in the congregation who sent get well cards, called me and made visits when I was at Medilodge-Montrose and now at the Landings on Court Street. Your many prayers are being heard by our Lord, as the wound on my leg is healing. I'm walking with the help of a walker. Thank you for keeping me in your thoughts and prayers. This is a wonderful, caring congregation.

From the Presbyterian Mission Agency...

We would like to express our appreciation to your pastor, session and congregation for your gracious and faithful support of our mission personnel, Michael & Rachel Ludwig and Cathy Chang & Juan Lopez. Thank you once again for your support, dedication and partnership in furthering God's mission around the world. You are a valued partner in mission.

From the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan...

Thank you so much for your generous gift. Your donation will play a part in providing meals to those who are struggling to put food on the table - restoring confidence and dignity as they help support themselves and their families. We would not be able to continue the mission of eliminating hunger in our community without your support and we sincerely appreciate your continued commitment.





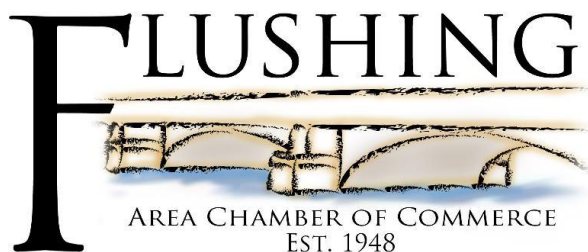
Are you throwing money in the trash??

Did you know that Flushing Schools collect "Box Tops for Education" to fund items for the students? Each Box Top is worth 10 cents, which may not seem like much, but they really add up!! You will find these Box Tops on many of the products that you use in your home. They come on General Mills cereals, Betty Crocker products, Ziploc brand bags and containers, Hefty trash bags, Kleenex tissues and MANY other products.



The schools also collect Bueche receipts that they are able to turn in for a percentage of the sale amount (you do not need to submit the whole receipt, just the segment at the bottom that says "Cash for Kids.")

What a great way to support our local schools without spending an extra penny!! We have a collection box for the Box Tops and Bueche receipts in the shelving unit outside of the kitchen and volunteers will deliver them to the schools. Don't throw that money away!!



You can keep up with local events by visiting the website of the Flushing Chamber of Commerce at www.flushingchamber.com. They also have a weekly newsletter that you can sign up to receive via email.



Plans are being made for a potluck dinner and auction to take place in mid-February. **Donations are needed!!** Consider what you might donate to such a project. All proceeds will go to a specific ministry yet to be determined. Winter gets long, so we are hoping this will be beyond fun!!



Christmas Floral Decorations

Our sanctuary is traditionally and beautifully decorated for Christmas. You can help with this by purchasing poinsettia(s) in honor or memory of persons dear to you.

Complete the form below, enclose your check for \$15.00 per plant, and place in the offering plate on Sunday morning or mail to the church office.

Acknowledgments of contributions will be printed, as you have designated, in the worship bulletin for the Christmas Eve service. Poinsettias may be taken home following the Christmas Eve Worship Service.

IN HONOR OF _____

Relationship (if any) _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

Relationship (if any) _____

I would like ____ poinsettias at a cost of \$15.00 each.

(Please indicate color preferred. The florist has been having difficulty getting pink and white poinsettias the last couple years. If they are not available, red will be substituted.)

_____ Red _____ Pink _____ White

YOUR NAME _____

PHONE NO. _____

DEADLINE FOR ORDERING POINSETTIAS IS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7th

*This
Month's
Schedule*



November 6

Communion Preparer: Sandy Walther
Communion Servers: Dick & Kaye Barnett, Dan & Flora Radspieler
Fellowship Hosts:
Flowers: Brenda Hollenbeck
Sound Board Operator: Brett Albert
Ushers: Sharon Donaldson, Carol Dulin, Gordon Hall, Loretta Hudson
Lay Leader: Bill Churchill, Jr.
Welcome Desk: Natalie Lucas
Acolytes: Kaitlyn & Megan R

November 13

Fellowship Hosts:
Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Scott Tucker
Ushers: Lisa Judson, Mike & Sylvia Keeler, Kathy Lescelius
Lay Leader: Julie Socha
Welcome Desk: Kathy Miller
Acolytes: Elyse & Marie S

November 20

Fellowship Hosts:
Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Randy Socha
Ushers: Natalie Lucas, Margaret & Ted Meehle, Kathy Miller
Lay Leader: Carol Dulin
Welcome Desk: Shirley Sanborn
Acolytes: Lilly & Ben S

November 27

Fellowship Hosts:
Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Scott Tucker
Ushers: Carole Noye, Dan & Flora Radspieler, + **One Volunteer Needed**
Lay Leader: **Volunteer Needed**
Welcome Desk: Julie Socha
Acolytes:



November

- 2 Janet Ballagh, Ted Meehle
- 3 Gillian B
- 5 Natalie Lucas
- 6 Ginger Aubrey, Sarah B, Ben W
- 7 Jeanne Blanton, Gordon Hall
- 11 Linda & Matt Bemis
- 12 Marvin Stephenson, Beverly Thompson, Margaret Tippet
- 13 Marian McTaggart
- 15 Sylvia Keeler
- 16 Lucille Mars
- 17 Alta Amy
- 18 Natalie & Dave Lucas, Dennis & Shirley Sanborn
- 20 Dean Bemis
- 22 Leone & Norbert Burwell
- 23 Benjamin S
- 24 Luella Daig
- 25 Olivia M, Ruth Spomer
- 26 Beverly Howe, Larry Younkin
- 27 Scott Smith
- 30 Kathy Miller



Financial Highlights

Average 2016 Collections	\$3,176
Average September Collections	\$3,179
Average 2015 Collections	\$3,347
Average needed for 2016 Budget	\$3,814



Flushing Christian Outreach Center (FCOC)

Cereal can be used for meals and snacks for our friends in need of food. For November, we are asking for cereal - the FCOC shelves are nearly empty of boxes. Thank you for continuously sharing the resources that God has blessed you with.

Psalm 107:5

⁵They were hungry and thirsty, and their lives ebbed away. ⁶Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble and he delivered them from their distress.

God Bless,
Terry Bigelow
FCOC Program Manager

If you can help by purchasing cereal, 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.



**Stay connected
with Weekly Updates
from the Pastor**

EMAIL UPDATES

If you would like to receive weekly email updates from Pastor Teresa about prayer requests and upcoming events, please contact the office and verify that we have your current email address. You will then be put on the email list. Emails are not published or given out without the owner's permission.

Lectionary Readings

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

November 13: Isa. 65:17-25; Isa. 12; 2 Thess. 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19

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

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

Flushing Presbyterian Church 2016 Session

Budget & Finance

Dick Barnett
Bill Churchill, Jr.

Community Outreach

Pat Bemis
Natalie Lucas

Member Care

Loretta Hudson
Sandy Snyder

Property Team

Don Rowley
Scott Tucker

Spiritual Growth

Karen Howe
Julie Socha

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!

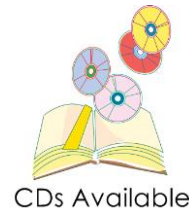


Bread 4 Life is a feeding program that provides weekend food for students that have been identified by the Flushing Schools as needing such assistance. Our church provides a portion of the funds for this project. Volunteers pack the bags at 5 PM on Thursdays, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Coutant Street. If you are willing to help, please contact Dennis or Shirley Sanborn.

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 throughout the year 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 7:15 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.



PRISCILLA CIRCLE

The **Priscilla Circle** meets at the church at 1:00 PM 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.

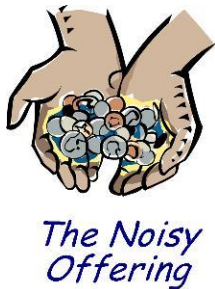


Ronald McDonald House

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. Collection box is located in the shelving unit in the hall outside of the kitchen.



Music Opportunities...The Chancel Choir (Vocal choir) has rehearsals at 7:15 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.



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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.



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

November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir	2	3 8:30 AM - Men's Bible Study-Liberty Restaurant 7:15 PM - Chancel Choir	4 9:30 AM - Book & Breakfast Club - Liberty Restaurant	5
6 Communion All Saints Sunday 6:00 PM - Youth Group	7 1:00 PM - Member Care 6:00 PM - Boy Scout Court of Honor	8 9:00 AM - North End Soup Kitchen 6:30 PM - Property 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir	9 12:00 PM - Veterans Luncheon	10 8:30 AM - Men's Bible Study-Liberty Restaurant 2:00 PM - Community Outreach 7:15 PM - Chancel Choir	11	12
13 Noisy Offering 3:30 PM - Girl Scouts 6:00 PM - Youth Group	14 6:00 PM - B & F 6:30 PM - Girl Scouts 6:30 PM - Spiritual Growth	15 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir	16	17 8:30 AM - Men's Bible Study-Liberty Restaurant 1:00 PM - Priscilla Circle 7:15 PM - Chancel Choir	18	19
20 3:30 PM - Girl Scouts 6:00 PM - Youth Group	21 Newsletter Deadline	22 6:30 PM - GFWC - Flushing Women's Club 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir	23	24 Happy Thanksgiving!!	25	26 2:00 PM - Hanging of the Greens
				----Church Office Closed---		
27 First Sunday of Advent	28	29 6:45 PM - Session 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir	30	Sunday Schedule 10:00 AM - Worship Service 11:15 AM - Christian Education - All Ages		