



August 2020 Newsletter



Flushing Presbyterian Church

Worship: 10 AM year round C.E. 11:15 AM Sept - May Be the Church Opportunities Year Round (see inside)
5010 N. McKinley Road, Flushing, MI 48433 Phone: (810) 659-5831 www.flushing.pc@sbcglobal.net



We will be holding a Blood Drive on Monday, August 3rd, 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). Blood is urgently needed during the Covid19 pandemic - prayerfully consider giving the "gift of life."



The Wired Word is a weekly study group that is now meeting on-line via Zoom. Our discussions are focused on current events as they relate to Scripture passages. Lessons are more pertinent to modern Christian living, and group dialogue will focus on how the verses covered each week apply to everyday life. Good conversations and staying connected are great reasons to join us! Our group will resume meeting on Sunday evenings at 7:00 PM beginning August 9th. If you would like info on how to connect with us, please contact Karen Howe, karen.howe@outlook.com, (810) 252-2679.



Please note that our office hours in August are from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Monday through Thursday. The office is closed on Fridays. There is no admittance to the building on any day.



We are again collecting school supplies for local children in need: Back packs, crayons, pencils, pens, scissors, glue stix, spiral notebooks, erasers, etc. Since our building remains closed due to COVID-19, there will a collection box outside the main entrance; items will be taken inside daily. Cash contributions for purchasing school supplies will also be accepted - be sure to indicate "School Supplies" on the memo line of your check. The deadline for donating supplies is August 17.



Session and Church Operations Update

July 27, 2020

Greetings to everyone from your Session members! We met this past Monday so, again, we wanted to provide you with an update on decisions that were made going forward with worship services and church operations, along with guidelines that we will be following as we proceed with gathering.

Starting on Sunday, August 2nd, and continuing through the month of August, we will be having outdoor worship under the pavilion. As we begin to engage again in face to face worship, we want to be clear on some of the guidelines we would like everyone to follow so that we can be together in as safe a manner as possible.

1. Face masks are highly encouraged.
2. The pastor or other speakers will not be required to wear a mask when talking.
3. We will maintain the 6 foot social distancing guideline in our seating and interactions.
4. Waving, thumbs up, or elbow bumps are the best way to greet each other.
5. There will be no singing.
6. The church building will remain closed during the services, including the bathrooms.

On August 2nd, we will be having communion. You are encouraged to bring your own elements in whatever form you may have, but prepackaged communion cups will also be available. Each week, an offering box will be available in which you can place your own offering. Some seating will be provided, but you are also encouraged to bring your own chair in order to spread out in the grass.

For those of you who might be uncomfortable gathering in person, we will still be using the transmitter that will allow you to listen in your car, tuning your radio to 98.5 FM. For the previous drive-in church services, we have had attendants to help you park, but you can feel free to park where you'd like for these services. For your information, the pastor will be under the far end of the pavilion near the fireplace instead of out on the sidewalk. For those who will be outside and seated, we ask those who are able to park closer to the church building, leaving the spaces nearest the pavilion open for those who will remain in their cars.

On August 30th, the outdoor service will proceed as usual for attendees. However, all Session members attending that day will experience worship inside the church, utilizing the transmitter technology to have a trial run of worship in the sanctuary. This is to ensure that we are thinking of all of the modifications that are needed to, hopefully, safely return to indoor worship in September.

In the event of rain on any of these Sundays, we will simply turn it into drive-in church only, where everyone can listen in their cars and the pastor will speak from inside the building. Not necessarily an ideal situation, but still a way to proceed with a planned service.

At this time, Max Hayden will be our pastor on August 2nd and 9th.

The policy for general use of the church building remains the same for the month of August, which is that it is open to the secretary, Session members (who can utilize it for team meetings), and any essential service individuals.

We look forward to taking a safe step forward in August, utilizing our beautiful outdoor space for worshipping face to face. We hope and pray that you all are safe and healthy and continue to persevere in these continued uncertain times. Again, we urge you to reach out to a Session member if you have a need or concern. We may feel as if we are in the wilderness, but God continues to always be by our side.

Yours in faith,
The Session of Flushing Presbyterian Church



Direct Deposit Your Pledge

Looking for an easier way to get your pledge to the Church? Here is an idea for you:

During this time while we are away from our normal worship service routine, we wanted to provide some guidance on how you can keep current with your pledge/tithe. If you currently use online banking through your financial institution to pay bills, simply add Flushing Presbyterian Church to your list of payees. Some of our members are currently doing this and receiving the benefits of not having to write a check, place it in a pledge envelope and bring it to church.

Simple steps include:

1. Add Flushing Presbyterian Church to your list of payees from your financial institution's online banking service website
2. Use the church address of 5010 North McKinley Road, Flushing, MI 48433, (810) 659-5831
3. Select the frequency (weekly, monthly, quarterly) and/or the date you want your check issued
4. If you have pledge envelopes, include the pledge number listed on the envelope in the memo section of the online form – this helps our Financial Secretary insure your pledge is credited to you correctly

Benefits of auto bill pay to you include:

1. No more writing and bringing checks to the church for your pledge
2. Always being current on your pledge, as your financial institution will issue and mail your check to the church based on the recurring payment schedule you set up
3. If you do not get free checks from your financial institution, this will save you money by reducing the number of checks you write
4. Most financial institutions provide free online banking as a service, print the checks, mail them and pay the postage

You can also hand write a check and mail it to the church if you feel more comfortable doing so.

If you like this idea, we encourage you to start using online banking to Flushing Presbyterian Church and join the growing number of members who are submitting their pledge in this manner. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Howe at 810-252-2785 (Mobil Number) or steveh365@hotmail.com.



WHEN GOD CROSSES OUR PATHS

Pastor and martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, “God will be constantly crossing our paths and canceling our plans by sending us people with claims and petitions.” Last spring, the whole world had plans canceled, first by Covid-19 and then by God “sending us people with claims and petitions.” Some needed prayers for healing or for coping with grief. Medical staff, teachers, pastors and others serving long hours needed support: meals, check-in calls, “thinking of you” cards. Parents working remotely while helping kids with distance-learning needed encouragement. Crucial nonprofit work still required donations.

Pre-pandemic, you may not have realized that staying home or wearing a face mask could be a ministry. Or that sending a card expresses love in Jesus’ name. Or that buying takeout from a local restaurant can be a gift to the owners. When our calendars empty, God “crosses our paths” in new ways — both to be with us and to nudge us toward others (even if virtually, or 6 feet apart!).

From the September 2020 Newsletternewsletter



August

- 4 Norm Dickenson
- 5 Brenda Hollenbeck, Kathleen & Roy Rhoads
- 9 Brett Albert, Elle B
- 10 Dan Radspieler
- 13 Dan & Flora Radspieler
- 14 Sandy Snyder, Helen & Norm Dickenson
- 16 Beverly & Bob Blair
- 17 Carole Noye
- 18 Kelly Stein
- 21 Beverly Tuttle
- 25 Dean & Pat Bemis
- 26 Michael & Sylvia Keeler
- 29 Kay Hall, Janet & Bill Ballagh
- 30 Marty & Bob Williams



Average 2020 Collections	\$3,288
Average June Collections	\$4,758
Average 2019 Collections	\$3,069
Average needed for 2020 Budget	\$3,821



The special focus items requested by the Flushing Christian Outreach Center (FCOC) for August are canned fruit, liquid hand soap and feminine hygiene products. If you can help by providing these items, or any other non-perishable food or personal care items, please deliver them to the FCOC at 5409 West Pierson Road. The need is great in our community at this time, so cash donations are also much needed.



**STAY CONNECTED
WITH WEEKLY
UPDATES**

EMAIL UPDATES

If you would like to receive weekly email updates about prayer requests and upcoming events, please contact Kay Hall or the church office. You will then be put on the email list. You may request to be removed from the list at any time. Please note that your email will not be published or given out without your permission.

Lectionary Readings

August 2: Gen. 32:22-31; Ps. 17:1-7, 15; Rom. 9:1-5; Matt. 14:13-21

August 9: Gen. 37:1-4, 12-28; Ps. 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Rom. 10:5-15; Matt. 14:22-33

August 16: Gen. 45:1-15; Ps. 133; Rom. 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matt. 15:(10-20) 21-28

August 23: Exod. 1:8 - 2:10; Ps. 124; Rom. 12:1-8; Matt. 16:13-20

August 30: Exod. 3:1-15; Ps. 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c; Rom. 12:9-21; Matt. 16:21-28

Flushing Presbyterian Church 2020 Session

Budget & Finance

Brett Albert
Steve Howe

Community Outreach

Carol Dulin
Sylvia Keeler

Member Care

Denise Churchill
Kip Hogan

Property Team

Bill Churchill
Scott Tucker

Spiritual Growth

Julie Socha
Carrie Younkin