



December 2018 Newsletter



Flushing Presbyterian Church

Worship: 10AM 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) 650-5831 www.flushingpc@sbcglobal.net



Calm and Bright: 200 Years of Silent Night

Prepare for an incredible Advent season with "Calm and Bright: 200 Years of Silent Night." This beloved Christmas carol is 200 years old this year, and we will celebrate the four weeks of Advent with special songs and reflections based off of "Silent Night". This is about finding peace in a time of disharmony and division. In the troubled world we live in today, we truly need to receive a message of hope and comfort.

Plan to join us in worship for this special series. Be ready for some traditional aspects done in a fresh new way. May God, through Christ, bless us during this special season of preparing.



Advent Project

Following worship each Sunday of Advent, we will have a brief reflection in Fellowship Hall followed by putting together No-Sew Throws for our Family Promise guests. The plan is to make 14 throws and present them to our guests. What a special Christmas gift to each!!

We hope ALL members and friends will participate in making this project: men, women, teens, tweens, children. We can all learn how to make these special gifts.

The fleece has been purchased, but we are accepting donations to help offset the cost. Sixteen dollars (\$16) covers the cost of one throw. Please consider donating the cost of a throw.

We give gifts because we have received the greatest gift of all: a Savior, Jesus, the Christ.



**Angel
Tree**



The Angel Tree is now in the narthex 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 by 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. **All gifts must be at the church no later than December 16th.** If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Lescelius or the church office.



Wednesday, December 12th at 7:00 PM ... "A Christmas Festival of Music", performed by The Michigan Chorale, The Michigan Chamber Singers and The Michigan Chamber Orchestra. Bring your family and friends and join us for this wonderful evening of Christmas music!



A Brief Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 9th, immediately following the worship service for the purpose of hearing the report of the Nominating Committee and to approve the Pastor's Terms of Call. Please plan to attend this important meeting of the church.



Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 16

Once again, it will be that special worship service where we experience the Christmas Story in a fresh new way. This year our cast will present "*The Nazareth Evening News*". *The Nazareth Evening News* reporters will report on the chaotic events happening in Bethlehem. They will bring "breaking news" and interview eyewitnesses around exciting news and experiences.

Bring friends and neighbors for this one. You know it will be well done, as we worship the Lord through this acted-out story.





**Christmas Eve Service
Monday, December 24th at 9:00 PM**

Join us for our Candlelit Christmas Eve Service. At 8:50 PM, pre-service special music provided by the Handbell Choir will begin.

Our advent time of preparation comes to a close as we celebrate the birth of Christ. Special music will be provided by the Chancel and Handbell Choirs. Join us on this special night as we celebrate the gift God gave to us. Communion will also be celebrated as we remember the ultimate gift of eternal life given.

We hope you will bring your family and loved ones to this very special service.



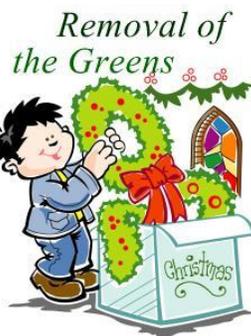
There will be no Christian Education Classes on Sunday December 23, 30 or January 6. Classes will resume on January 13th with our "40 Days of Prayer" series.



The Church Office will be closed December 24, 25, 26 & 31, and January 1.



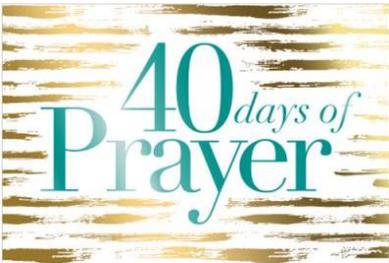
December 16 - 23
Family Promise Guests are here
Prayerfully consider how you can help



The Removal of the Greens will take place on Sunday, January 6th, immediately following the worship service. All who are willing and able are asked to provide help taking down the decorations and putting them away. Thanks so much in advance!

COMING IN JANUARY

40 Days of Prayer: Unleash the Power of Prayer in Your Life



Life doesn't always go as planned. At some point, you'll face impossible obstacles and barriers — situations that make you think there's no way this is going to work out. But God wants to help you handle uncertainty when it comes your way. God is ready and willing to give you a breakthrough, but it doesn't just happen spontaneously; breakthroughs happen when you seek them. And the way you seek them is through prayer.

Throughout the 40 Days of Prayer series, you will learn how to cultivate a powerful prayer life and experience breakthrough in your relationship challenges, financial difficulties, bad habits, health crisis, and many other areas of your life. Don't miss a single week of this life-changing series!

Beginning January 13th, the six week series will begin with the sermon during worship. Following worship, a short video and discussion time will be offered. Prayer journals, which are designed to follow the series, are offered for \$7 per journal. We have purchased 25 journals at a discounted rate. Be sure to sign up and get your journal. This will be a great way to begin the new year. This will be our Christian Education for January and February. Spiritual Growth is excited to offer this series. We hope to see you there!



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 20th, so that the new information can be included.



CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Every Christmas, we express our gratitude for the birth of our savior by supporting the **Christmas Joy Offering**. The offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions (which provides critical financial support to church workers and their families) and to Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges (which provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage). Please give generously to Christmas Joy this year by using the special envelopes in the pews or by indicating "Christmas Joy" on the memo line of your check.



Session Highlights

Session last met on Monday, November 26th. Many matters were discussed and acted upon. Below are just a few to note:

- ***Security System:** A small task force of session has contacted three different companies regarding options for security systems. At the December meeting a system will be selected.
- ***Trees:** The four trees at the front of the Sanctuary (west side) need to be removed. Bruce Coxworth offered to remove the trees (family owns a tree farm/business) and asked that the money saved be spent to install new security lighting on the building/parking lot. Session concurred.
- ***FCOC Representatives:** Sylvia Keeler and Natalie Lucas have been re-elected to be our board reps for the Flushing Christian Outreach Center with Session's thanks.
- ***Esther Ballard Estate:** Esther included the church in her will; we will be receiving \$2,000. Session has voted to put the money in an interest bearing New Covenant Fund until needed. We thank God for her generosity and continued support of the church.
- ***Pictorial Directory:** By December 7th, the layout and photos we took should be on their way to Universal Directory. Hopefully, the booklets will be in hand in January.
- ***Records Review:** Carol Dulin, Clerk of Session, took our church records to be reviewed in Midland. They were approved without exception.
- ***Stated Clerk Heads Up:** Ted McCulloch, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, wants elders and members to be aware that if a member receives online ordination from a church granting authority to conduct a wedding, that person is no longer a member of PC(USA). WHY? Because a person cannot be a member of two churches at the same time. (This was a WHOA moment. Please be aware.)
- ***Yard Signs to be Offered:** The yard sign which is currently sitting outside the pastor's office will be offered for purchase at a cost of \$15 per sign. A larger banner of the sign will be placed on a stand and put on display. The signs are offered from All Souls Episcopal Church out of Washington D.C.



Dear Flushing Presbyterian Church,

Many, many thanks to everyone in the congregation for all of the prayers, cards, dinners, phone calls, chocolate(!) and words of encouragement during my long absence. I cannot begin to tell you how much it all meant to me. A special thank you to Karen Howe for filling in for me with no notice, and to Julie Socha and Barb Hogan for also helping out. Thanks also to the Prayer Shawl Group for the lovely shawl you gave me. I love all of you!

--Marty Williams

We would like to thank you for your generous donation. Serving Genesee County's needy children since 1924, the Old Newsboys' programs are funded entirely through the annual paper sale, fundraisers and the generous support of people like you. Your continuing commitment assures that we "*Let No Child Be Forgotten.*"

--The Old Newsboys of Flint

We would like to thank everyone who helped make the celebration of our mother's life possible and so joyful. Thank you especially for the pastoral care, music, use of the church and the lovely luncheon.

--The Family of Agnes Yalda

We would like to thank Flushing Presbyterian Church for accepting Caden into your fellowship as he was baptized. The Meiklejohn family has a history of weddings and baptisms at FPC over the decades and we greatly appreciate the opportunity for Caden to follow in the family tradition.

--The Meiklejohn and Evans Families

Thank you so much for performing Easton's baptism. We greatly appreciate it!

--Jordy, Melissa and Easton Smith

Thank you so much for welcoming Easton into your church. Having him baptized in the church where my children were baptized is a blessing. I know my mom and dad are smiling from heaven.

--Nancy Meiklejohn Smith

Thank you so much to everyone who has sent me cards throughout the years. It is always such a nice surprise to receive them and they lift my spirits.

--Bev Tuttle

Thank you for the many get well cards and encouragement I received during my illness. I am also sure God heard your prayers. I didn't know so many people knew my name. This is a special church!

--Ralph Wilson (from April 2018)

Thank you! You gave something very special to our Dad/Grandpa at a time he needed it most. We are so thankful that he found you and that he listened to an old comment my Grandma made while driving past the church years ago: "Ralph, we should check that place out." This church gave Ralph something to look forward to and we are so grateful!

--The Family of Ralph Wilson



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 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9th



This Month's Schedule

December 2

Communion Preparer: Sylvia Keeler
Communion Servers: Bob Chase, Karen Howe, Loretta Hudson
Fellowship Hosts:
Sound Board Operator: Brett Albert
Ushers: Bella, Elle & Jeanne Blanton, Sharon Donaldson
Lay Leader:
Welcome Desk: Sylvia Keeler
Acolyte: Kelli Peter

December 9

Fellowship Hosts: The Blanton Family
Flowers: John & Luella Daig
Sound Board Operator: Scott Tucker
Ushers: Denise Churchill
Lay Leader: Bill Churchill
Welcome Desk: Vonnie Koehn
Acolytes: Chancel Choir

December 16

Fellowship Hosts:
Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Randy Socha
Ushers: Carol Dulin, Karen Howe, Loretta Hudson
Lay Leader: Mike Keeler
Welcome Desk: Kathy Lescelius
Acolyte: Elle Blanton

December 23

Fellowship Hosts:
Flowers:
Sound Board Operator: Scott Tucker
Ushers: Mike & Sylvia Keeler, Vonnie Koehn
Lay Leader: Kelli Peter
Welcome Desk: Natalie Lucas
Acolyte: Nancy Young



December 24 - Christmas Eve Service

Communion Preparer:
Communion Servers: **Volunteers Needed**
Sound Board Operator:
Ushers: **Volunteers Needed**
Welcome Desk: Shirley Albert
Acolytes: Keelers

December 30

Fellowship Hosts:
Sound Board Operator:
Ushers: Kathy Lescelius, Carole Noye, Kelli Peter
Lay Leader: Sylvia Keeler
Welcome Desk: Kathy Miller
Acolytes: Ruppels



December

- 2 Ray Hagan
- 10 Carol Sawatzki
- 12 Tim Stein
- 17 Katy & Robert Churchill
- 20 Ed Lannon
- 23 Robert Churchill
- 26 Mary Graham, Margaret Meehle
- 27 Sherry Bradish
- 29 Larry Brownell, Emilie Wiley



Average 2018 Collections	\$3,300
Average October Collections	\$4,421
Average 2017 Collections	\$3,299
Average needed for 2018 Budget	\$3,773



Flushing Christian Outreach Center (FCOC)

We are very grateful for the variety of cereal we received during November. So many families benefited from your generosity. For December, we are collecting chunky soup.

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.

Lectionary
Readings

December 2: Jer. 33:14-16; Ps. 25:1-10; 1 Thess. 3:9-13; Luke 21:35-36

December 9: Mal. 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Phil. 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

December 16: Zeph. 3:14-20; Isa. 12:2-6; Phil. 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

December 23: Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:47-55 or Ps. 80:1-7; Heb. 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)

December 30: 1 Sam. 2:18-20, 26; Ps. 148; Col. 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52



**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.

**Flushing Presbyterian Church
2018 Session**

Budget & Finance
Dick Barnett
Kelli Peter

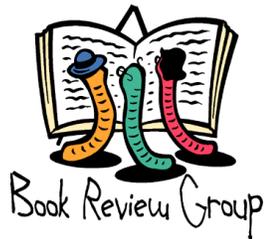
Community Outreach
Bruce Coxworth
Sylvia Keeler

Member Care
Sharon Donaldson
Sandy Snyder

Property Team
Don Rowley
Scott Tucker

Spiritual Growth
Karen Howe
Julie Socha

"BE THE CHURCH" 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!

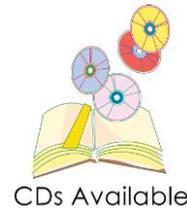


Bread 4 Life is a feeding program that provides weekend food for students that have been identified by the Flushing Schools as needing such assistance. Our church provides a portion of the funds for this project. Volunteers pack the bags at 5 PM on Thursdays, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Coutant 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 6:30 PM on Wednesdays (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.

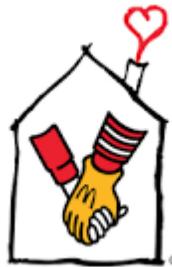


Perpetual Book Sale...Gently used books can be donated for this sale. Proceeds will be given to local missions. Refer questions to Carol Dulin or the church office.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The **Prayer Shawl Group** meets at the church at 10:00 AM on the first Wednesday of each month.



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.

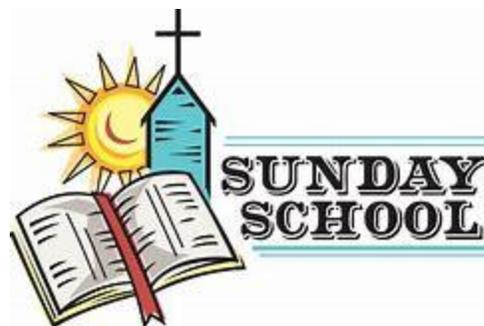


Opportunities To Serve

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.

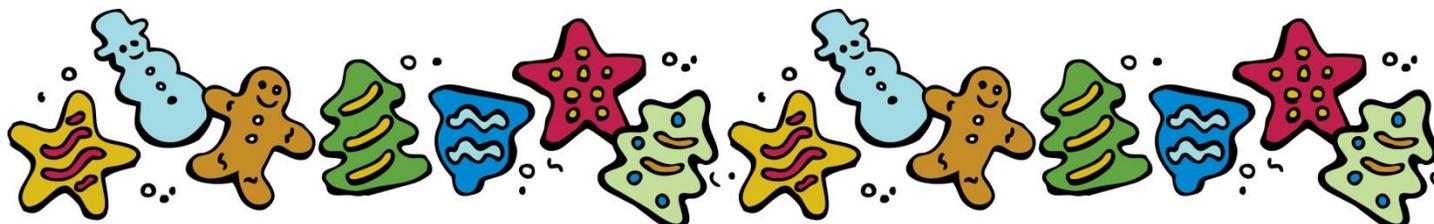


Choose biblical history or current events, each class begins following worship at approximately 11:15 AM. Grab your coffee and donuts and join a class. Bible history is located in Heaven's Highway, the Current Events class is located in the Noah's Ark classroom.



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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Communion 6:00 PM - Youth Group	3	4 9:30 AM - Presbytery Meeting @ Trinity Pres, Flint 6:30 PM - Handbell Choir	5 10:00 AM - Prayer Shawl Group	6 8:30 AM - Men's Bible Study-Liberty Restaurant 7:15 PM - Chancel Choir	7 Church Office Closed 9:30 AM - Book & Breakfast Club - Liberty Restaurant	8
9 Noisy Offering 11:00 AM - Congregational Meeting 6:00 PM - Youth Group	10 1:00 PM - Member Care 6:00 PM - B & F 6:30 PM - Girl Scouts 6:30 PM - Spiritual Growth	11 9:00 AM - North End Soup Kitchen 6:30 PM - Property 6:30 PM - Handbell Choir 6:30 PM - Chorale Rehearsal	12 9:30 AM - Community Outreach 7:00 PM - Christmas Festival of Music	13 8:30 AM - Men's Bible Study-Liberty Restaurant 7:15 PM - Chancel Choir	14 Church Office Closed	15
16 6:00 PM - Youth Group	17 Newsletter Deadline 6:45 PM - Session	18 6:30 PM - Handbell Choir	19	20 8:30 AM - Men's Bible Study-Liberty Restaurant 12:00 PM - Priscilla Circle 7:15 PM - Chancel Choir	21 Church Office Closed	22
-----Family Promise-----						
23 No C/E Classes this Sunday	24 9:00 PM - Christmas Eve Worship Service		26	27	28 Church Office Closed	29
	-----Church Office Closed-----					
30 No C/E Classes this Sunday	31	1			Sunday Schedule 10:00 AM - Worship Service & Kinder-Church 11:15 AM - Christian Education - All Ages	
	----Church Office					

Please note that the church office is closed on Fridays