



## January 2018 Newsletter



### Sunday School Classes Resume January 14!!

#### Before Worship:

8:45 am to 9:45 AM - Women's devotional study (book to be announced). This study is designed to deepen women's friendships as they share devotional experiences.

#### Following Worship:

- *The Wired Word*. Discussions centered around current events and how they are related to Scripture passages. Ages Jr. High through adult.
- *Walk as Jesus Walked*, a Ray Vander Laan series. Come discover the fierce passion of our early Christian brothers and sisters to walk like Jesus - even when the path became treacherous. Ages Jr. High through adult.
- *Deep Blue* - For preschool to 6th grade



### Scarf Painting

**CRAFTERS:** Design and paint your own silk scarf. (It's easy - takes less than 1 hour to complete!!) Join us on Friday, January 5th at 5:00 PM, at the Flushing Masonic Center, 349 S. Seymour Road. Cost is \$15.00, and includes all supplies. Check out the sample in the narthex. Contact Shirley Sanborn at 659-6192 to register (limited space available).



Fresh start moments in life are a gift. We don't always see them that way, because sometimes these moments are forced upon us and we were very happy with the way things were going.

January is a forced fresh start moment, but a gentle one. We can choose to do something different or continue with same-ol' same-ol'. Our choice.

Some years I am really ready to forge ahead with a new game plan or, at the very least, to set a few reasonable goals for self improvement. Then there are those years I just want things to stay as they are because life is good. The reality, life is not stagnant. It will not stay the same even if we do nothing different. So why not be intentional, consistently being reflective and taking steps toward betterment?

FaceBook is one of those social media venues which is neither good nor bad, but how you choose to use it. So I focus on those pieces which are uplifting or which encourage deeper reflection. I came across these questions from a columnist to consider as we "Step Through the Doorway to 2018." I invite you to consider these questions as you continue your faith walk in 2018. May we all continue to be blessed and share that blessing with others!

*Pastor Teresa*

*As I Step Through the Doorway to 2018...  
I might ask myself:*

1. What was one of the moments I was most proud of this year? What does that tell me about what I want to spend my energy/time/money on next year?
2. Who really enriched my life this year in a big way? Who is someone I am wanting to get to know better in the year ahead?
3. It was a year of resistance for many people. What did I resist most effectively? What did I surrender to?
4. When did I get in my own way this year? Did I get in anybody else's way? How will I step up or step back in 2018?
5. When was I most physically joyful in 2017? How can I get there more in 2018?
6. What makes me despair and what gives me hope right now?
7. Did I recognize God in anyone this year? Where will I look for God living, moving and breathing in the year to come?
8. If I imagine the coming year as a house, how might I ask God to Bless it? And how will I fill it? And how will I welcome them in?

Inspired by Courtney E. Martin (Columnist, On Being, 2017)

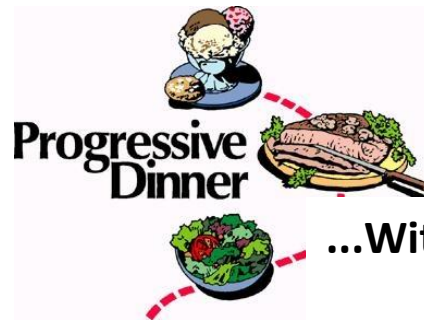
## Removal of the Greens



**The Removal of the Greens will take place on January 7th, 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!

## Member DIRECTORY

We will be printing an updated church directory in January. 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 14th, so that the new information can be included.



**Saturday, January 27, 2018 6:00 PM**

Plan on joining us on Saturday, January 27th, for this year's "Progressive Dinner." This is a chance to get to know other members of church in a fun way. We will be playing some simple games that promote getting acquainted with one another. Come join the fun - and meet some great new friends. Please sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board. The cost of the dinner will be \$10.00 per person. Contact Sandy Snyder if you have any questions.



The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on **Sunday, January 28th, immediately following the 10:00 AM worship service.** The purpose of this meeting is to hear reports from the teams of our church. We will meet in Fellowship Hall where we will hear updates and reports of what our Session Teams have accomplished in the past year.



**Sunday, February 4th**, we will celebrate the big football Sunday with a focus on hunger. Each year we participate in Souper Bowl Sunday and collect money for a local food program and then enjoy a variety of soups with bread. We keep the meal simple to remind ourselves that this is enough to sustain our bodies and highlight how, too often, we consume too much. **If you would be willing to provide soup, please sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board.**



### AUCTION TO BENEFIT FAMILY PROMISE SATURDAY, MARCH 3

We are planning our second annual auction to raise funds for Family Promise. We are asking that you consider donating to this cause. Anything from a special handmade item to providing a service (like mowing a lawn or whatever "service" you are able and willing to provide). Plus, if you would be willing to ask for contributions from a business, that would be great also. Start planning ahead and thinking about what you could donate. The more items we have, the more fun it will be. Last year we raised over \$1,200 for Family Promise!! We hope you will put this on your calendar and plan to join the fun. More details to come.



## Flower Calendar

**The new Flower Chart for 2018** has been posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you sign up to provide flowers for a Sunday morning worship, you are responsible for ordering what you want. Both Flushing Florist and Village Florist have keys to the church and will deliver flowers if you so choose. You are welcome to take your arrangement home after the service. If you are remembering or honoring a loved one, be sure to mark that on the calendar or call the church office by **Wednesday** noon prior to the Sunday you are providing flowers.



During storms, emperor penguins huddle for warmth, taking turns at the center and on the perimeter of the group. While incubating eggs, up to 6,000 male penguins have been observed clustering for shelter against the harsh Antarctic winter. Partially grown chicks gather in protective "crèches" (French for "cribs"); often surrounded by a colony of adults, these groupings ward off predators and cold.

In stormy times, humans also need supportive groups; we can't survive alone. A church family allows us to take turns giving and receiving care. Amid social upheaval, injustice, illness, natural disaster and any loss or crisis, God invites us to gather for protection and warmth. In the church community, we support and strengthen one another and are empowered to go out again into the less-sheltered world.



**From Lee Burwell...**

The vase of flowers was so lovely and was such a nice surprise - Thank you so much for thinking of me and Norbert. This is a very difficult time, but we'll get through it. Do keep us in your prayers.

**From Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance...**

For many of us, the fall season is shaped by the ordinary joys of children returning to school, church programs starting up after summer respite, and on the horizon, the anticipated joys of holiday planning and Thanksgiving. Amidst these reliable markers of the season I write simply to say thank you, for making Presbyterian Disaster Assistance a priority out of many opportunities to give and serve. Your gifts are deeply needed and greatly appreciated, and I am privileged to speak this word of gratitude on behalf of those for whom your generosity brings renewed hope and joy in the wake of disaster and its aftermath.

Throughout south Texas, Puerto Rico and parts of Florida, children's back-to-school rituals were abruptly halted by the winds and floods of back-to-back catastrophic hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria. Some schools won't reopen this year at all, and many children, their houses ruined and family livelihood impacted, will try to find a place to learn hundreds of miles from home. As we plan harvest festivals, massive flooding and landslides has put at risk the farming livelihood of people in Sierra Leone and Bangladesh, and drought has gripped South Sudan and neighboring countries in relentless famine. An early onset of fire season in the drought-stricken west has brought an extra layer of anxiety and responsibility to communities seeking resilience and recovery. And yet...into these hard situations and many more, you have stepped with your prayers, your gifts and your time, because **your** ordinary days are shaped by an awareness of the extraordinary love of God, who calls us to bring hope out of chaos. As the book of James tells us, *every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.* (James 1:17).

Your gifts **are** perfect, blessings from God above in a moment where it is most needed here below. It is a privilege to serve together in a church that makes such giving reliable, and provides constant faithful partnership to brothers and sisters across the world and here at home shadowed by the challenges and changes brought by disaster and war.

*\*\*\*You can donate to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) at any time by simply making your check payable to Flushing Presbyterian Church and indicating "PDA" or "Disaster Relief" on the memo line. You can trust that all donations to PDA will be put to good use.\*\*\**



# This Month's Schedule

## January 7

**Communion Preparer:**

**Communion Servers:** Gary & Shirley Albert, Bob & Gail Barnhart

**Fellowship Hosts:**

**Flowers:**

**Sound Board Operator:** Brett Albert

**Ushers:** Dennis Sanborn, Randy Socha, Scott Tucker, Bill Weiss

**Lay Leader:** Lynette Daig

**Welcome Desk:** Lisa Judson

**Acolytes:** Scott & Sandy Tucker

## January 14

**Fellowship Hosts:**

**Flowers:**

**Sound Board Operator:** Scott Tucker

**Ushers:** Brett, Gary & Shirley Albert, Dona Ballard

**Lay Leader:** Carole Tucker

**Welcome Desk:** Sylvia Keeler

**Acolytes:** Maxine Allen & Joyce Hudson

## January 21

**Fellowship Hosts:**

**Flowers:** Bev & Bob Blair

**Sound Board Operator:** Randy Socha

**Ushers:** Bob & Gail Barnhart, Pat Bemis, Sharon Donaldson

**Lay Leader:**

**Welcome Desk:** Vonnie Koehn

**Acolytes:** Handbell Choir

## January 28

**Fellowship Hosts:**

**Flowers:**

**Sound Board Operator:** Scott Tucker

**Ushers:** Carol Dulin, Karen Howe, Loretta Hudson, Lisa Judson

**Lay Leader:**

**Welcome Desk:** Kathy Lescelius

**Acolytes:** Sochas



## January

- 1 Pat Bemis, Laura Ruppel
- 4 Jon Bitterman, Sherry & Tim Bradish
- 12 Ed Davison
- 22 Kaye Kaufherr, Abbie S
- 23 Gary Stuber
- 25 Karlee S
- 31 Bob & Joyce Tassell



Average 2017 Collections	\$3,179
Average November Collections	\$3,698
Average 2016 Collections	\$3,230
Average needed for 2017 Budget	\$3,663



### Flushing Christian Outreach Center (FCOC)

We are very grateful for everything you donated to FCOC during 2017. So many families benefited from your generosity! For the month of January we are requesting paper grocery bags to pack food for our clients.

God Bless,  
Terry Bigelow  
FCOC Program Manager

*If you can help by contributing paper grocery bags, or any 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

**January 7:** Gen. 1:1-5; Ps. 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

**January 14:** 1 Sam. 3:1-10 (11-20); Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Cor. 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

**January 21:** Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Ps. 62:5-12; 1 Cor. 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

**January 28:** Deut. 18:15-20; Ps. 111; 1 Cor. 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

## 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

# 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!

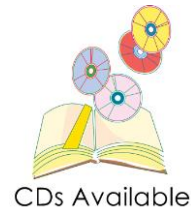


**Bread 4 Life** is a feeding program that provides weekend food for students that have been identified by the Flushing Schools as needing such assistance. Our church provides a portion of the funds for this project. Volunteers pack the bags at 5 PM on Thursdays, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Coutant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



**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
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 10:00 AM - Prayer Shawl Group	<b>4</b> 8:30 AM - Men's Bible Study-Liberty Restaurant 7:15 PM - Chancel Choir	<b>5</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b> 9:30 AM - Book & Breakfast Club - Liberty Restaurant 5:00 PM - Scarf Painting - Flushing Masonic Center	<b>6</b>
<b>7 Communion</b> 11:15 AM - Removal of the Greens 3:00 PM - Girl Scouts 6:00 PM - Youth Group	<b>8</b> 6:00 PM - B & F 6:30 PM - Girl Scouts 6:30 PM - Spiritual Growth	<b>9</b> 9:00 AM - North End Soup Kitchen 1:00 PM - Member Care 6:30 PM - Property 6:30 PM - Handbell Choir	<b>10</b> 9:30 AM - Community Outreach	<b>11</b> 8:30 AM - Men's Bible Study-Liberty Restaurant 7:15 PM - Chancel Choir	<b>12</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b>	<b>13</b> 9:00 AM - Session Planning Meeting
<b>14 Noisy Offering</b> 6:00 PM - Youth Group	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 6:30 PM - Handbell Choir	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 8:30 AM - Men's Bible Study-Liberty Restaurant  7:15 PM - Chancel Choir	<b>19</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 3:00 PM - Girl Scouts 6:00 PM - Youth Group	<b>22</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 6:45 PM - Session	<b>23</b> 6:30 PM - GFWC - Flushing Women's Club 6:30 PM - Handbell Choir	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 8:30 AM - Men's Bible Study-Liberty Restaurant 1:00 PM - Priscilla Circle 7:15 PM - Chancel Choir	<b>26</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b>	<b>27</b> 6:00 PM - Progressive Dinner
<b>28</b> 11:15 AM - Annual Meeting of the Congregation 6:00 PM - Youth Group	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 6:30 PM - Handbell Choir	<b>31</b>	<b>Sunday Schedule</b> 8:45 AM - <i>Trusting God: A Girlfriends in God Devotional Study</i> 10:00 AM - Worship Service & Kinder-Church 11:15 AM - Christian Education - All Ages		

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