

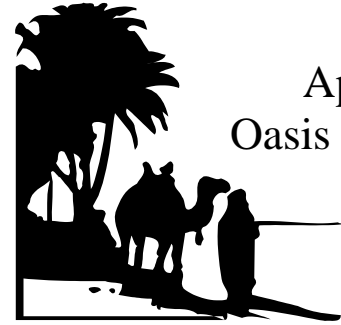
PULSE

*The heartbeat of
Flora Presbyterian Church*

April, 2013



April 7
Group Prayer Time
after worship
followed by
light lunch



Carry-in Lunch
following worship
April 28



Prayer & Motive

¹What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Isn't it the whole army of evil desires at war within you? ²You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous for what others have, and you can't possess it, so you fight and quarrel to take it away from them. And yet the reason you don't have what you want is that you don't ask God for it. ³And even when you do ask, you don't get it because your whole motive is wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.

⁷So humble yourselves before God. Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw close to God, and God will draw close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, you hypocrites. ⁹Let there be tears for the wrong things you have done. Let there be sorrow and deep grief. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. ¹⁰When you bow down before the Lord and admit your dependence on him, he will lift you up and give you honor.

James 4, New Living Translation

Prayer is essential to our relationship with Jesus Christ. Prayer is essential to understanding who we are as the body of Jesus and the ministry we are called to be doing.

We also realized that as sinners we often distort and misuse the gifts with which God blesses us. Jesus sat on the mountainside teaching and challenging the people to think about many areas of their lives. One of the issues Jesus talked about was prayer. In Matthew 6:5ff we find, *“When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I assure you, that is all the reward they will ever get. But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father secretly. Then your Father, who knows all secrets, will reward you.”*

Prayer that is focused on what we want, what makes us look good, what will benefit our group, is not held in high esteem by God. James 4:3 focuses on the need to pray with correct motives and attitudes. James challenges us to humble ourselves, to confess our sins, to draw close to God, to allow God to empower us, and to give us wisdom to accomplish His mission.

Remembering that God's mission is always focused on people with whom we are called to share the Good News, we need to be cautious that our motives remain guided by God. “Nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care,” is a quote credited to several people, one of

whom is Theodore Roosevelt. Matthew 5 echoes this theme as we are reminded that the basis of our motives has to be love not just for the loveable, but also for those that we want to hate or treat indifferently. Teddy's niece, Eleanor, said, “We are afraid to care too much, for fear that the other person does not care at all.” I'm not sure that is our main reason for not loving, but it certainly is one reason. We know that we are asked to love everyone, because of God's love for us and our love for Him. Too often we ignore God's call because we feel we have a right to our anger and hate and we don't trust God to take care of justice for us. If we allow this need to adulterate our motives, it will corrupt our relationship with God and others.

American author, Og Mandino, stated a part of his life philosophy as: “Beginning today, treat everyone you meet as if they were going to be dead by midnight. Extend to them all the care, kindness and understanding you can muster, and do it with no thought of any reward. Your life will never be the same again.” It sounds like he had been reading from Matthew and James.

How does God's word through Matthew and James affect your prayer life and the way you live your life and ministry at Flora Presbyterian Church?



Sunday School 9:15, Choir practice 9:30, Worship 10:15

Flora Presbyterian Church

Birthday
 Nursery
 Scripture Readers
 Ushers

April, 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 8:00 AM Co. Pastor's Prayer Group, Radnor UMC 6:00 PM Oasis	4 Lafayette Great Banquet Women's Weekend through 7 th	5	6 4:00 PM VBS planning meeting here at FPC
7 Maureen Parker Melanie Cox Kent King Ron and Angie Austin Group Prayer Time/lunch following worship	8	9 Chuck Compton	10 8:00 AM Co. Pastor's Prayer Group, New Hope Community Church 6:00 PM Oasis	11 Marty Catron Josh Reedy 7:00 PM Lafayette Gr Banquet Gathering	12 Susan Hollis Lafayette Boy's Awakening through 14 th	13
14 Maureen Parker Janis Burns Steve Catron Mark and Denise Good Session after Worship	15	16 10:00 AM CPM 7:00 PM Mary-Martha Circle, Ruth Erisman, hostess	17 8:00 AM Co. Pastor's Prayer Group, Lockport Church 6:00 PM Oasis Fun Night	18 Erika Hollis 7:00 PM Transformation committee meeting	19	20 9:30 AM Session record review Central Presbyterian Church, Lafayette
21 Maureen Parker Terry Langston Jay McMillin Mark and Denise Good	22	23 Joe Mayfield 7:00 PM Logansport Great Banquet Gathering	24 Rachael Morgan 8:00 AM Co. Pastor's Prayer Group, Victory in Christ Fellowship 12:00 PM Lafayette Pastors Gathering	25 Dylan Hamilton	26 6:00 PM Catron/Morgan wedding rehearsal and dinner	27 5:30 PM Steve Catron and Rachael Morgan wedding
28 Steve Catron Maureen Parker Susan Hollis Joe Moss B. Kearns, J. McMillin Carry-in Lunch	29	30				

Christian Education

by Tammy Moss

Sunday School

We have been enjoying a Lenten scripture Bible study. Please join us at 9:15 as we continue Bible studies.



VBS 2013

This year's Vacation Bible School's theme is "Hay Day" and will be held Monday, July 22nd thru Thursday, July 25th at Flora Presbyterian Church. Co-hosting with us is Cutler Presbyterian Church. Aimee Burns is the director. Please contact Aimee or Tammy if you are able to help. Signup sheets will be available soon. A planning meeting will be here at FPC, at 4:00 PM, Saturday, April 6.



Thursdays, July 25th at Flora Presbyterian Church. Co-hosting with us is Cutler Presbyterian Church. Aimee Burns is the director. Please contact Aimee or Tammy if you are able to help. Signup sheets will be available

Junior Church

Please see Myra if you can lead Junior Church for one month or even for two weeks. The materials are easy to use.



Church Library

The second quarter 2013 "These Days" is now available in the library. This little treasure contains daily devotions with scripture texts from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, used by permission. Each week's devotion is written by a different person with a short prayer at the end of each devotion. This booklet is small – pocket size if you will – and reading it daily takes only a short time, but gives you something to think about all day long. Pick up your free copy at the designated place in the fellowship hall. Reading a daily devotion will give you a new perspective on your life.



Laraine MacLauchlan

Oasis ~

11th Year Ends April 17th



Wednesday, April 17th will be the final evening for this school year's Oasis program. That night we will be hosting our annual swim party. The Carroll High School pool will be closed so we are working with the Delphi School Corporation to host at their high school pool.

Our focus this year has been on being made new in Christ. You may have noticed the big tree in the dining room where the children have posted the fruits they are developing in their lives. All of the children have memorized II Corinthians 5:17. They have learned the following concepts using the letters in the phrase I AM NEW. The principles each letter reminds us of are these:

- I -- *I need Jesus*
- A -- *Armor of God*
- M -- *Make a decision to ask Jesus to be my Lord and Savior*
- N -- *Nothing is impossible with God*
- E -- *Eternal promises in God's Word*
- W -- *With God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit I can become all I was created to be.*

During the summer there will be a get-together for our "Super 7 Stars" to have a cook-out and to play putt-putt golf. Thank you to everyone who helped make this year successful.



Presbyterian Women

by Jane Bishop



The Mary-Martha Circle will meet in the Fellowship Room on April 16 at 7:00 PM. Hostess, Ruth Erisman; Year Book, Libby Sparks; Horizons, Marlene Smith; Bible Study, Laraine MacLauchlan.

Thrift Shop Schedule for April

Sat., Apr 6	Ruth Erisman
Fri., Apr. 19.....	Jane Bishop
Fri., Apr. 26.....	Laraine MacLauchlan

SAVE THE DATE!!!!



The kitchen needs our attention! Plan to come to clean on May 4 at 9:00--- Remember, many hands make light work.

Worship Committee

by Kevin Clark



We will be having a prayer vigil the 1st Sunday of every month after Sunday Service and fellowship. April 7th will be our first.

We are exploring new ideas for hymnal/praise and worship music. Your input would be welcomed.



Transformation Committee

Transformation Committee will be meeting April 18 at 7:00 PM.

The work with CE Committee to develop small groups to meet on Wednesday night after Oasis is complete for the year.



Trustees

by Kevin Clark



We have replaced Plexiglas panels with safety glass in double doors on south side of church, using monies from the memorial fund.

Laurie Brower is working on removal and/or replacement of carpeting on front entrance steps and landing.

We will be having concrete and handrail repaired on front entrance when weather warms up this spring.

Clerk of Session

by Laurie Brower



Presbytery Assemblies are on May 21, September 13/14, and November 19. The session review on April 20th at the

Lafayette Central Presbyterian church will be attended by Laurie Brower.

The next session meeting will be held on April 14th immediately following the service / fellowship.

Congregational Life Committee

by Myra Compton

Our committee is excited about the blessings of fellowship that have been shared. Great food and fellowship were shared at our first (hopefully) annual Palm Sunday breakfast. About 30 people attended on the snowy morning. I didn't realize there were so many yummy recipes for breakfast casserole!

We will celebrate April, May and June birthdays after worship one Sunday in May. It seemed to work well to have birthday cake after church on March 24. Thanks to Doug and Laraine for their help with this celebration.

*Birthdays
to be
Celebrated*



The congregational Life committee needs your suggestion for fellowship times. Committee members are Myra Compton and Sally Schmidt from session, Kent King, and Dale Snipes.



Stewardship/Mission

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering totaled \$562.00 through March 24th. Thanks for your generosity in donating to this worthy cause.

