

PULSE

*The heartbeat of
Flora Presbyterian Church*

February 2015



Pastor Mary Ann on vacation
to February 10th.



CONGRATUALTIONS!
Matthew Brower and Jennifer Vary
to wed on February 14th.
(Details enclosed)



FEBRUARY 14th



Oasis
PARTY
February 22nd!
(Details enclosed)



Session Meeting
February 15 at 6PM.

“Beating the February Blues”

Pastor's Page



*“In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God...
All things came into being with him...
What has come into being in him was life,
and the life was the light of all peoples.
The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not overcome it.”*

John 1: 1-5

The month of February seems to be the darkest and coldest of all the winter months in central Indiana. The ground is frozen solid and that bitterly cold winter wind blows down from the Arctic. The nights are long and dark. Many of us find that our mood is more somber, and the light of the star that shone over the place where Jesus was born seems far in the past.

Yet even in the deepest darkness, the coldest night, we have the promise of heaven’s light shining upon us from the resurrected Christ. Whenever we are depressed or discouraged, we can turn to Scripture to comfort and inspire us. The opening words of the gospel of John should be the theme song for the February blues. The light of Christ shines into even the darkest corners and illumines them with the clear light of love and grace. When the wind howls and the window glass rattles and freezes over, get out your Bible, brew a hot cup of tea and find comfort in the light that you will find there.

Just as the frigid weather of February softens into the spring rains of March, April, and May faith in the One whose light shines into our darkness and overcomes it is the promise of better spiritual weather to come. When we put our trust in the source of all peace and comfort we find a place of warmth, light, and joy within ourselves.

In Matthew 5: 14-16, we find these words that Jesus spoke to the crowds on the mountain: “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

One of the deep spiritual truths of the gospels is that whenever you find the light of Christ through prayer and the reading of Scripture, that very light shines out from you into the darkness of the world. Christ is the light and we radiate that light into the lives of others who live around us. So, when the darkness gets you down, seek the light of Christ and brighten the darkness of your fellow travelers. That is how we overcome the February blues . . . through faith.

May the light of Christ illumine and warm all the dark places in your souls . . .

Blessings,

Pastor Mary Ann Banning

Choir Practice 9:30; Worship 10:15; Sunday School as announced

Flora Presbyterian Church

February 2015

B=Birthday N=Nursery SR=Scripture Readers U=Ushers

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 B=Stacy Hartman N=Susan Hollis SR=Sally Schmidt SR=Joe Moss U=Terry Langston, Marlene Smith	2  Groundhog Day	3 B=Lola Snavelly	4 6:00 PM Oasis- Library B=Reagan Catron	5	6 B=Laraine MacLauchlan B=Joe Moss	7
8 N=Susan Hollis SR=Kevin Clark SR=Laraine MacLauchlan U=Terry Langston, Marlene Smith	9	10 Pastor Mary Ann returns from vacation.	11 6:00 PM Oasis	12 B=Donna Sholty Men's Logansport Great Banquet thru Feb. 15 th	13 Wedding Rehearsal	14 Brower/Vary Wedding – 4:30PM  <i>Valentine's Day</i>
15 Session Meeting, 6PM Carry-In Luncheon B=Dale Snipes N=Susan Hollis SR=Angie Austin SR=Jay McMillin U=Joe & Tammy Moss	16 7:00 PM Caregiver Support Group – Libby's home B=Abby Cox President's Day	17	18  Ash Wednesday	19 Women's Logansport Great Banquet thru Feb. 22 nd	20 B=Melissa Bishop	21
22 1 st Sunday of Lent Communion N=Susan Hollis SR=Vicky Snipes SR=Joe Mayfield U= Joe & Tammy Moss Oasis Bowling Party in Logansport	23	24	25 6:00 PM Oasis	26 B=Gerry Hollis	27	28

Christian Education

by Barb Mayfield

Sunday School

The Adult Bible Study class will continue to study the Psalms, using a Disciple Bible Study video curriculum with a participant's study book. The class meets in the Sunday School room off of the fellowship area every Sunday through February 22nd. It begins after worship at 11:45 a.m. and concludes at 12:30 p.m. The class is being taught by Pastor Mary Ann and member volunteers when she is on vacation.

Great Banquet

If you have not attended a Great Banquet week-end, please consider doing so. You will experience a wonderful spiritually attentive 72 hours! The upcoming Spring 2015 men's week-end for Lafayette Great Banquet is March 12th - 15th and the women's week-end is March 19th - 22nd. Logansport Great Banquet men's week-end is February 12th - 15th and the women's week-end is February 19 - 22nd. Interested? Please contact Tammy Moss for more information.

Oasis ~



“7 Star Award” Bowling

More than 30 children earned this prize to go bowling with the Oasis leaders and take their parents as guests! Earning “7 stars” involves regular attendance, good behavior, and various other ways to participate such as learning memory verses or bringing a friend. We will be going to Myers Sport Bowl in Logansport on Sunday, February 22nd. The bowling alley allows us to bring snacks to save on the cost of concessions. If you would like to donate packaged snacks for us to take to the bowling alley, please bring them to church on or before Feb 22nd and mark them for this purpose.

Thank you again to all who help faithfully, prepare meals, donate funds, and pray for this ministry! We can't do it without you.

January Library Corner

by Laraine MacLauchlan



Read any good books lately that you would recommend to others? I am constantly looking for interesting Christian readings to write about and recommend for our Church Family to read.

If you have a brief couple sentences you could put together for me to include in succeeding Pulse articles, it would be wonderful! Here is an example: I just finished re-reading C.S. Lewis' The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe. This story told of a delightful family of four children who stumbled through a wardrobe in their uncle's house to a wonderful, mythical forest, Narnia that was suffering from the icy rein of the white witch who put a spell on the country for the past 100 years. Through their help to free the world from the witch's grasp, they teamed up with a lion, Aslan, and other woodland creatures. Aslan eventually sacrifices himself to save one of the children who had gotten caught in the witch's spell. Aslan is resurrected in time to help the citizens of Narnia become free and help the children return to their home. Come on! Now it's your turn!

Presbyterian Women

by Jane Bishop

We will not be meeting until March, but will need volunteers for the Thrift Shop each month and for the Food Pantry in February.



Thrift Shop Schedule for February

Thurs. Feb. 5....Jane Kearns..... Sort & Mark
Thurs. Feb. 12...Jane Bishop..... Sort & Mark
Sat. Feb. 21.....Laraine MacLauchlan..... Cashier
Sat. Feb. 28.....Laraine MacLauchlan.....Sacker

**Food Pantry Volunteers: Don't forget
your date(s)!!!**

Worship Committee

by Terry Langston

As the session continues to help guide the congregation through our search of a new pastor, please keep us in your prayers. I would also like to extend an invitation to anyone that could volunteer for any of the session committees. The work is not hard, but many hands are better than just a few. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask any session member how you might help.

Communion will be served by intinction on February 22nd.



We will welcome speakers, Jean Sparks on February 1st and Mark Good on February 8th, while Pastor Mary Ann enjoys some vacation time.

Please look over the usher list for the year and notify Terry or Becky if there needs to be a change made.

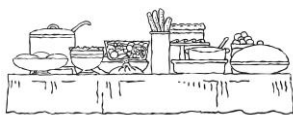
Clerk of Session

by Laurie Brower

Next meeting will be held on February 15, 2015, at 6PM.

Congregational Life

by Kevin Clark



Carry - In

We are planning a church carry-in on February 15th following worship service.

We are looking for volunteers to serve on the congregational life/worship committee, please contact Kevin Clark or Terry Langston.

We will be planning calendar year 2015 events, carry-in, etc. and could use input from congregation.



Stewardship/Mission

by Joe Mayfield

Remember February is: "Gather Items for the Food Pantry Month".

To make it easier for us and more beneficial for the food pantry, I am providing a list of items that they currently need. You can cut it out and take it to the store with you! After reading the Pulse of course!



- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Canned Fruit | Sugar |
| Liquid Laundry Soap | Shampoo |
| Liquid Dishwashing Soap | |
| Paper Towel | Tooth Brushes |
| Tooth Paste | Toilet Tissue |
| Antiperspirant | Band-Aids |
| Razors | Paper Towel |
| Razor Blades | Shaving Cream |
| Bars of Soap | |

The items I have listed are not usually funded by Federal or State programs, so we can really make a difference supplying these items to those in need.

Thank you for your generous support and care.



The congregation is invited to the marriage of Matthew Brower and Jennifer Vary on February 14, 2015, at 4:30PM. A reception will follow the wedding ceremony at Dick Langston's Barn (4319 E 500 S Burlington IN). Invitation and directions to the reception are posted on the bulletin board.



