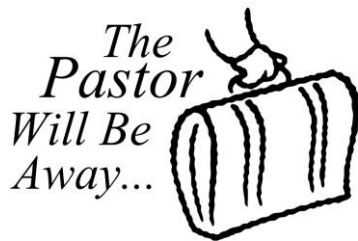


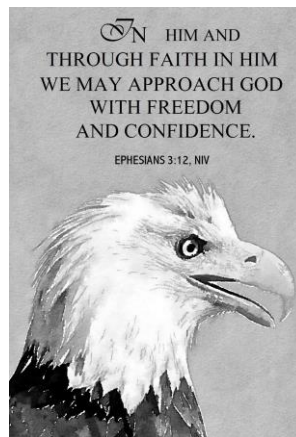
# PULSE

*The heartbeat of*  
**Flora Presbyterian Church**

**July 2015**

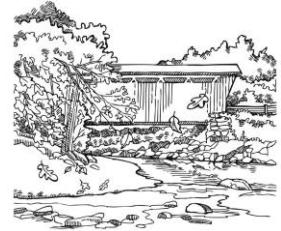


July 6 to July 9



Celebrate  
Independence  
Day  
July 4<sup>th</sup>!

Adams Mill worship  
service @ 10AM  
on July 19th



CONTINUES.....

Wednesday on  
July 8, 15, 22  
from 7 to 8PM



July 29 from 6 to 8PM  
@ Delphi Presbyterian Church



Last Sunday  
July 26<sup>th</sup>!  
We will miss  
you!



Small Church  
Workshop  
@ the Geneva  
Center  
Details enclosed.

## Pastor's Page



To the beloved servants of Christ in the Flora Presbyterian Church congregation:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ . . .

I use this familiar opening from the Apostle Paul's letter to the Ephesians to remind us all that transitional ministry is very similar to the ministry of the early evangelists in the church . . . it has a beginning and an end. The time in between is marvelous, productive, and joyous for both pastor and congregation. Significant pastoral relationships form and congregational discernment in preparation for the next called pastor occurs. This time is so much more than just waiting for the next pastor. It can be and has been a time for the Holy Spirit to blow through our fellowship and our ministry together, refreshing, renewing, and recreating a community of faith to meet the challenges of our time.

We have accomplished much for Christ together during the fifteen months that I have served as your transitional pastor. The Mission Study has been completed, and passed the Commission on Ministry with flying colors. Your Pastoral Nominating Committee has been elected and will begin work soon. Elder Mike Munson from the Deer Creek congregation will guide the process as they search for the pastor that God has ready for you.

Filled with mixed feelings, I acknowledge that God in Christ has called me to service in another place with another congregation. I love you all, and saying goodbye on the last Sunday in July will be difficult for all of us. Yet the work we have accomplished together has been meaningful and significant. I will always have a warm place in my heart for all of you in this congregation, my sisters and brothers in Christ. You will be in my prayers daily, and I give your future up to God where it has always been.

Remember that God in Christ loves you with an abounding, unconditional love and has plans for you, for your future and for your well-being. Be faithful . . . be loving . . . continue to uphold one another in prayer . . . take the joy you feel in the faith out into the wider community, witnessing to the one who gave everything up for our sake.

So I will close with the Apostle Paul's closing to the Ephesian congregation:

Peace be to the whole community, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who have an undying love for our Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessings,

*Pastor Mary Ann Banning*

Transitional Pastor Mary Ann Banning

## Christian Education

by Barb Mayfield

### Summer Bible Study

Please join us on Wednesday evenings for our summer Bible study of the Book of Acts. Be inspired and challenged to reach our community



for Christ. Our next meeting will be July 8<sup>th</sup>. Watch the bulletin for weekly locations. Each meeting is from 7-8 p.m. All are welcome!

### Block Party was HUGE success!

We had about 50 new faces at our block party on Weds, June 24<sup>th</sup>. The total head count of those sitting still to be counted was 76, possibly more were uncounted off playing games on the grass.

We are super grateful for the amazing weather, Kevin's smoker, Terry's door prizes, and all the cooks and table movers. On July 29<sup>th</sup> we will help host the party at the Delphi church and in August at the Cutler church.



### Vacation Bible School

**Sunday, June 28 – Thursday, July 2**  
**6 – 8:30 p.m.**



**Please sign up to help – see sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Room.**

**VBS continued...** We need helpers in the kitchen, with registration, crafts, to move groups between activities and with the youngest group.

This VBS is based on the book "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" by C.S. Lewis. We are looking for fur coats to line our wardrobe. If you can loan us a coat, please let Martha Clark know. For those who loan coats, please mark them for easy return!

### VBS Mission Project: Support persecuted and displaced Christians

The VBS Planning Committee has selected to support a ministry this summer that supports

persecuted and displaced Christians, such as the refugee camps in Syria. We selected this type of ministry not only due to the huge need currently, but it relates to the story in this year's VBS because the children were "refugees", fleeing the bombing in London, when they went to the professor's house in the country.

### SAMARITAN'S PURSE



We will be supporting Samaritan's Purse Refugee Relief, specifically their child friendly spaces in the

refugee camps. Our goal is to raise as much this year as we did last year - \$2,000 between the 3 host churches and the VBS families.

If you would like to contribute toward this special project, we will be collecting this Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. If you write a check to the church, designate "VBS Mission Project" in the memo line.

### July Library Corner

by Laraine MacLauchlan

We are processing new items that were donated to the library. Please be sure to check it out in the near future for exciting new books!



### Presbyterian Women

by Jane Bishop



The Mary Martha Circle will meet July 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00PM in the Fellowship Room. Laraine MacLauchlan; Year Book of Prayer, Lola Snively; Horizons, Jane Kearns; Bible Study, Libby Sparks. All women are welcomed.

### Thrift Shop Schedule for July

Thurs. July 16.....Jane Bishop ..... Sort & Mark  
Thurs. July 23.....Jane Kearns ..... Sort & Mark

### Worship Committee

by Terry Langston



Communion was served to 23 on June 21<sup>st</sup>, Father's Day. The next

communion date is July 12<sup>th</sup> by intinction. Father's Day was celebrated with poems and Bible verses read and homemade cookies for all of the men.



If anyone reading this article plays the piano or organ and would like to play, please talk to one of your session members. Session has decided to give Jane and Libby a break from playing every Sunday.

### **Clerk of Session**

*by Laurie Brower*

Cutler worship service at Adams Mill on July 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00AM. Please bring a covered dish to share and a chair.



Our next session meeting will be on July 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6PM.

### **Pastoral Nominating Committee**

The Pastoral Nomination Committee is made up of Chairperson Laurie Brower, Martha Clark, Bill Kearns, Tammy Moss and Ann Brown.



The first step in selecting a new Pastor is creating the Mission Information Form (MIF) and the committee will be working on this for the next few weeks. The

target is to have this completed by the end of July to have it approved by Presbytery in their August Meeting. Watch the Pulse for future updates and announcements in church as we embark and progress until our Pastor is selected.

### **Growing Together in Christ – A Small Church Workshop**

When – Sat., Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> from 10AM to 4PM EDT  
Where - Geneva Center

Recognizing the challenges of small church ministry, the New Ministry Development Team coupled with the Transformation Team have scheduled a workshop to discuss these challenges. Rev. Dennis



Bickers will present the workshop based on his book, **The Healthy Small Church**. The workshop will consider issues around finance, change, conflict, and mission from the perspective of the small church. If you would like to attend this workshop, please contact Laurie Brower by July 15<sup>th</sup> so that we can get everyone registered! Laurie can be contacted at (574) 967 4954 or [laurie.brower@yahoo.com](mailto:laurie.brower@yahoo.com).

### **CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)**

Mission is to advocate for the best interests of the children of Carroll County. There are currently more than 75 children in our county involved in abuse and neglect cases who are placed in foster home or relative care, and the number continues to grow. Based on the belief that children are entitled to live in safe, permanent homes, CASA volunteers are trained community members who work in the court system in collaboration with key agencies, legal counsel, and community resources



to serve as the child's advocate. A CASA volunteer completes a 30-hour training program approved by the court that includes training in the identification and treatment of child abuse and neglect, the court system, and procedures of the Indiana Department of Child Services. The volunteer can expect to spend approximately 15 hours per month meeting with the child and family, speaking with professionals involved in the case, and preparing reports to submit at court hearings. Training and support for the volunteers are continuous and on-going. The advocate speaks for the best interest of the child and not parents, foster families, or the state agencies.

In spite of efforts to communicate widely regarding the CASA program, due to the confidential nature of the cases, CASA knows there are many capable individuals who may not be familiar with the program. If there is anyone who is interested in learning more about the program, please contact Abigail Diener at (765) 564-3060 or email at [carrollcountycasa@gmail.com](mailto:carrollcountycasa@gmail.com).



## Stewardship/Mission

*by Joe Mayfield*

"Ah the lazy days of summer are here. Then why are we so busy? Why don't we all commit to a few minutes of reading scripture each morning and saying a prayer " Lord show me how to make a difference today"

We raised, so far, \$340.00 for Nepal. Please continue to pray for that country. It is no longer in the news, but will need help for several years.

In May, income was \$9,509 and expenses were \$8,362. Obviously that deserves a big thank you. Many have been stepping up their support of the work of this church and it is making a big difference this year. Thank you.

Let's make a difference in our community!!

May you have a blessed summer, and may you be a blessing to others!

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### EXTRA THOUGHTS.....

#### **Communing with God**

After Apollo 11 landed on the moon on July 20, 1969, pilot Buzz Aldrin requested via radio that people pause to give thanks for the achievement in their own way. When his broadcast ended, Aldrin read a verse from the Gospel of John and took communion, which his church had sent to space with him.

"It was interesting for me to think: the very first liquid ever poured on the moon, and the very first food eaten there, were the communion elements," the astronaut said. "At the time, I could think of no better way to acknowledge the enormity of the Apollo 11 experience than by giving thanks to God."

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#### **American independence**

John Adams, who became America's second president, was so elated when the United States was about to celebrate independence from England that he wrote:

"It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells,

bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward, forevermore."

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### **Bible Quiz**

Both the Old and New Testaments speak of God's people as seeking and achieving freedom. The freedom we Americans have to worship without government restriction has deep roots in our Judeo-Christian heritage.

Which Bible verse about freedom is inscribed on the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia?

- A. "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof" (Leviticus 25:10, KJV).
- B. "And ye ... had done right in my sight, in proclaiming liberty every man to his neighbour" (Jeremiah 34:15, KJV).
- C. "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free" (Galatians 5:1, KJV).
- D. "As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God" (1 Peter 2:16, KJV).

Answer: A

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### **"America the Beautiful"**

Katharine Lee Bates (1859-1929) wrote, edited and taught English in her native Massachusetts. Occasionally, she wrote hymns, too.

On a trip to Colorado, Bates was greatly impressed by amber waves of grain, fruited plains and purple mountain majesties. She believed that God had definitely shed his grace all across this land. A visit to the summit of Pikes Peak inspired Bates to write her most famous poem-hymn, "America the Beautiful."

Bates also realized that patriotism was an important part of America. She was grateful for heroes "who more than self their country loved and mercy more than life." She wanted all Americans to realize how God had shed his grace on them and had crowned what was good "with brotherhood from sea to shining sea."

Bates embodied the spirit of thankfulness to God for all she had experienced and been given.








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

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

# Flora Presbyterian Church

**July 2015**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1 VBS</b> 6 to 8:30PM <b>B=Bev Mayfield</b>	<b>2 VBS</b> 6 to 8:30PM (last night)	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  Independence day
<b>5</b> <b>N=Julie Catron</b> <b>SR=Sally Schmidt</b> <b>SR=Terry Langston</b> <b>U=Gerry &amp; Susan Hollis</b>	<b>6</b> Pastor Mary Ann vacation thru 6/9/15	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Bible Study  7 – 8PM at the home of Kevin & Martha Clark	<b>9</b> Pastor Mary Ann returns from vacation	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Session Mtg, 6PM Communion <b>N=Julie Catron</b> <b>SR=Joe Moss</b> <b>SR=Patsy McCammack</b> <b>U=Gerry &amp; Susan Hollis</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>B=Jackie Davis</b>	<b>15</b> Bible Study  7 – 8PM <b>Church Workshop</b> <b>Registration</b> <b>Deadline, contact</b> <b>Laurie Brower</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Adams Mill Service 10AM <b>N=Julie Catron</b> <b>SR=Kevin Clark</b> <b>SR=Barbara Wilkinson</b> <b>U=Laurie Brower, Sally Schmidt</b>	<b>20</b> Crafters @ Cutler Presbyterian Church 7 – 9PM	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Mary Martha Circle – Hostess Sally Schmidt	<b>22</b> Bible Study  7 – 8PM	<b>23</b> <b>B=Laurie Brower</b> <b>B=Doug MacLauchlan</b> <b>B=Christopher Mayfield</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Pastor Mary Ann's last Sunday <b>N=Julie Catron</b> <b>SR=Martha Clark</b> <b>SR=Angie Austin</b> <b>U=Laurie Brower, Sally Schmidt</b>	<b>27</b> <b>B=Jay McMillin</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  <b>Block Party</b> Delphi Presbyterian 6 to 8PM	<b>30</b> <b>B=Rachel Parker</b>	<b>31</b>	

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First Class Mail








# PUZZLE

## UNDER THE SEA

This summer, consider God's marvelous creation under the sea.



**Directions:** Write the animal names on the blanks. Then use the circled letters (they may not be in the right order) to create a new word from Psalm 148:7, NIV. Finally, match the words to their numbered blanks below.

	___ _ _ _ _ d	2
	___ _ _ _ _ t	4
	___ _ _ _ _ g	6
	___ _ _ _ _ p	1
	___ _ _ _ _ o u	5
	___ _ _ _ _ r m	3
	s _ _ _ _ c _ _ _ _ ure	7

1 the 2 3 the 4  
5 sea 6 7

PSALM 148:7, NIV

Answers: lobster > Lord, sea horse > earth, hermit crab > great, stingray > praise, jellyfish > you, clownfish > from, sea star > creatures  
Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures. Psalm 148:7, NIV