

PULSE

*The heartbeat of
Flora Presbyterian Church*

MAY 2016



Ascension Day and
National Day of Prayer
MAY 5th

All Ladies – join us for breakfast at 9AM.



Session
Mtg
May 15th
@ Noon

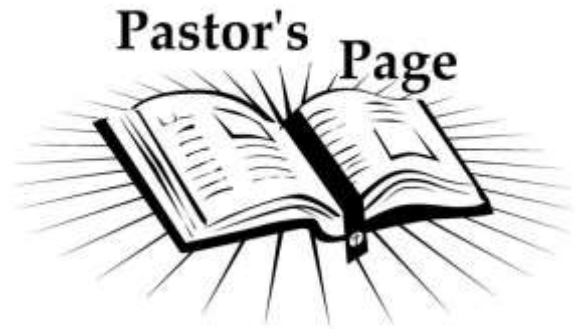
VBS Planning Meeting
May 15th @ 4:00PM


Pentecost
May 15th

MAY 22
  
TRINITY
SUNDAY


Memorial
Day
May 30th

Love Someone Enough to Use the “F” Word



Part II

**This second part article was written before Pastor Andria's departure. It was decided to go ahead and print her message.*

Holy people are supposed to forgive. A Christian lives differently. He answers to a higher calling. But sometimes it doesn't happen. He bleeds and hurts and gets stuck in unforgiveness. It is unnatural to look the other way and forgive. We naturally hang onto grudges and remember how we got hurt. We feel the pain. It stings. People do need to be held accountable for their actions. At the same time we can also forgive them so that the action doesn't keep replaying over and over again in our minds. If someone steals something they need to give it back or make restitution. I can forgive them for their bad choice, and it would also make sense to protect my belongings and set healthy boundaries.

The choice to forgive exonerates me from resentment and hate. It liberates me from living in the trap of wrong emotional ties. People hurt people sometimes because they are hurting and have lots of baggage they don't know how to unpack, or just don't want to do the hard work. Forgiveness doesn't get entangled in another person's unresolved issues. It buries me in a new life. He didn't hold that horrendous injustice against a crowd of self-proclaimed judges. No doubt I am numbered among those self-righteous judges. But He chose to let me off the hook today, and forgive

my many actions when He said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." I think we do know the kind of action we take against this perfect man, but have no idea the consequences of unleashing what is inside our hearts. Some of the manuscripts from Christian scribes or 'other ancient authorities' lack this sentence. How could this be?

Blessings,

Pastor Andria Helm



"Forgive your
brother or sister
from your heart."

MATTHEW 18:35, NRSV

Christian Education

by Barb Mayfield

Sunday School

Adult Sunday School will continue to meet to study "Believe" on May 1, 15 and 22. We will not meet on May 8 to celebrate the Mother's Day breakfast.



Oasis

Swim Party

On April 13th, we had 68 kids, parents and leaders who enjoyed our annual swim party at the Carroll High School pool. It was a great conclusion to our 14th year!

VBS 2016 – The Amazing Race

June 26-30: 6 – 8:30PM

Our race will take the children on a worldwide race across several continents, exploring a new country each night. If you have items from any of the countries listed below that you are willing to loan us for décor and educational purposes, please tell Barb Mayfield. We will begin collecting them this month.



Countries we will visit:
Brazil, South Korea,

Scotland, Nigeria, and the USA.

Next VBS planning meeting:

May 15th: 4PM at FPC

If you are interesting in helping, please join us.

Geneva Center Event and Camperships

We have been awarded a Presbytery Mission Partnership Grant that will fund an exciting event to take our Oasis families to



Geneva Center this month to introduce them to camp. We are working out the details and will share them during worship and in the bulletin.

We need YOUR help to sponsor the four children who have signed up to attend camp. The cost of camp is \$260 – \$445 per camper.



The campers pay \$25 each and we cover the rest of the expense. In our first week of collecting, we raised \$342!

That is a great start. Please give generously. If you can contribute, write a check to the church and put Geneva Center campership in the memo line. If we raise enough we can also help provide camping supplies needed for camp.

May Library Corner

by Laraine MacLauchlan

The library is on vacation for the summer since Oasis is not in session. I am hoping to make the children's and youth sections more enjoyable over the summer.



Presbyterian Women

by Jane Bishop



The Mary-Martha Circle will meet May 17 in the Fellowship Room at 7:00PM. The Hostess will be Joan Moss; Year Book of Prayer, Libby Sparks; Horizons, Jane Bishop; Bible Study, Lola Snavelly. All women are invited.

Thrift Shop Schedule for May

Thurs. May 5.....Jane BSort & Mark
Sat. May 14.....Laraine Mac.....Cashier
Sat. May 21?????????.....Tag
Sat. May 28.....Sally & KathySackers

2016 Birthday Offering

The grants for 2016 will go to:

1. Overland Park, Kansas: the program serves boys and girls between 11 and 17 who have been a part of the criminal justice system. These at-risk youth will receive intensive

training sessions on character building, core values and life skills.

2. Oakland, California: Habitat for Humanity will partner with more than 100 low-income families, many are elderly or disabled.
3. Miami, Florida: In 20 communities, the clergy and lay leaders will be trained on ways to stop the flow of children into the school-to-prison pipeline.
4. Pittsford, New York: In South Sudan our gifts will fund construction of a girls' primary school, levels 1 through 8. In this country the literacy rate is among the lowest in the world, especially for females.

Please give as you have been blessed, and as led by the Holy Spirit.

"But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."
---Amos 5:24

Worship Committee

by Terry Langston

Communion was served on Easter Sunday with Carrie Munson blessing and serving the elements. Our message was from Pastor Andria Helm.

A congregation is unified when the leaders and members prayerfully seek God's vision for the future. We must pray together and alone to God for the future of the Flora Presbyterian Church. As the PNC continues their search for a new pastor, please pray for them. I have the responsibility of finding a speaker for each Sunday to bring God's word and instructions to the congregation, please pray for me. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:16-17), and watch your relationship with God grow.



Thursday, May 5, is Ascension Day; this commemorates the bodily Ascension of Jesus into heaven.



Sunday, May 15, is Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit, the transforming and creative love of God makes the impossible possible. May He give us courage to yield ourselves to His Spirit.

Sunday May 22, Trinity Sunday, celebrates the Christian doctrine of the Trinity; the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



Our speaker for the whole month of May will be, Pastor Lelan McReynolds. Thanks be to God for this faithful servant.

Peace and Blessings!

Clerk of Session

by Laraine MacLaughlan

The next session meeting will be Sunday, May 15th, at noon following church.

Stewardship/Missions

by Joe Mayfield

Spring for me, at least, is the season that gives me extra energy, a better outlook on things, some creative spark and the promise of new life. I hope it is for you also. We have had some lovely weather lately and I hope you have been enjoying it.



I wanted to take a moment and update the congregation on the first quarter's income and expenses;

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Income thru March 31 was | 21,400 dollars |
| Expenses thru March 31 were | 27,600 dollars |

Both income and expenses were right at last year's level for the same period.

The unexpected expenses so far this year were the water line repair at 2,200 dollars, and a new refrigerator at 1,500 dollars (to note-over half the money for the frig was donated into our

"Refrigerator Fund"). We also have a new laptop for the sanctuary; its use will become more apparent when we give Libby and Jane some respite this summer from weekly music duties. The laptop is also used quite extensively each week at Oasis, and will be utilized every night of Vacation Bible School this June. Finally, for the first 3 months this year, we were paying Pastor Andria for full time duties, and that arrangement has now ended. I am certainly thankful for the congregation's faithfulness and generosity.



The WALL is coming to the Flora Park on August 4, 5, 6, & 7, of 2016. Viewing will be available 24 hours a day. Volunteers and security will be present. Honoring the Veterans is to be a healing experience and in a peaceful manner.

If anyone would like to be a volunteer, donate food or monetary donations, or have questions, please call Larry Leach @ 765-564-2502 or Anita Hartman @ 765-564-1856.

Additional Thoughts.....

Always with us

Forty days after Easter, we celebrate Jesus' ascension into heaven. This occurred 10 days before Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus' followers, as he had promised.

Jesus' ascension reminds Christians that although his body couldn't remain present everywhere, we can universally experience his spiritual presence. In fact, Jesus' final words to his disciples — and to us — contain this key promise: "I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20, ESV).

Procrastinators

A pastor waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but many cars were ahead of the pastor at the service station. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.

"Sorry about the delay," said the young man. "Everyone seems to wait until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."

The pastor chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

The announcement Sunday that we received a mission grant from Presbytery is exciting news.



Mission Grant

The plans for the event at Geneva Center that the money will be used for is in full swing. It will be in May. 342 dollars were raised for camp

sponsorship on Sunday the 24th of April, with more pledged to be given in the following weeks. Nice!!

In finishing up, I want to ask that each of us please set aside a few moments each day to pray for our church, its future, pray also your roll in its future, and how each one of us can help make a difference.

May God's Peace and the power of the resurrection dwell in each of our hearts.

Carroll County Veterans Remembrance Committee

SPECIAL EVENT!

We need you!



Volunteers will be needed, food for the volunteers will be needed, or if you can help in any way, it will be appreciated. We are thinking cookies, snacks, and drinks.

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

Flora Presbyterian Church

May 2016

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

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|---|---------------|--|
| 1 9AM Adult Sunday School N=Donna Sholty SR=Barbara Wilkinson SR=Patsy McCammack U=Marty & Julie Catron B=Martha Clark | 2 | 3 B=M: rge Scholl | 4 B=Peter Bishop | 5 B=Gary Scholl National Day of PRAYER  | 6 | 7 B=Melanie Cox |
| 8 Mother's Day 9AM Ladies Breakfast N=Donna Sholty SR=Laurie Brower SR=Marshall McCammack U=Ed & Donna Sholty | 9 B=Bob Brown | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 Pentecost 9AM Adult Sunday School 12PM Session Mtg 4PM VBS Planning Mtg N=Donna Sholty SR=Terry Langston SR=Martha Clark U=Ed & Donna Sholty | 16 7:00PM Crafters at Cutler Presbyterian | 17 7:00PM Mary- Martha Circle | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21  *ARMED FORCES DAY* |
| 22 Trinity Sunday 9AM Adult Sunday School N=Donna Sholty SR=Kevin Clark SR=Joe Mayfield U=Kent & Kathy King | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 B=David Kratz |
| 29 Honor Veterans 9AM Adult Sunday School N=Donna Sholty SR=Laraine MacLauchlan SR=Gerry Hollis U=Kent & Kathy King B=Rachael Catron | 30  Memorial Day | 31 | <i>June 1</i> | <i>June 2</i> | <i>June 3</i> | <i>June 4</i> B=Sally Schmidt |



A mother's love

At age 12, Jesus was left behind in Jerusalem. His parents later found him in the temple, discussing Scripture. What did Mary, Jesus' mother, think about this?

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the correct vowels to complete the Bible verse.

A E I O U Y



B__t M__r__ tr__s__r__d
__p__ll th__s__ th__ngs
__nd p__nd__r__d th__m
__n h__r h__rt.

L__k__ 2:19, NIV

Answer: But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. Luke 2:19, NIV

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First Class Mail

May
2016