

MAY 2018

Celebrating



Pentecost

May 20th



May 28th



Join Us
For Breakfast
May 13
9AM



**He was taken
up to heaven.**

ACTS 1:2

Ascension of the Lord
May 10



May 27th



Mary Martha
May 15th 7PM
Session Meeting
May 20th 1PM



Notes

From the Pastor

The Merry Month of May

Is it Spring yet???? Actually, it is. We are fully in the midst of Spring. The season for Winter to let go of its grip on the land and yet the hot Summer sun has not come into full view just yet. As a child it appeared as though Spring was the time that Winter and Summer duked it out each wanting to control our clothes closet and outdoor pursuits.

May brings hope of warmer weather and a fresh 'to do' list now includes getting fertilizer/manure for the garden and begin reworking the front walk which is in serious need of repair at my house.

What is on YOUR 'to do' list? Airing out the house? Changing the wardrobe and putting away winter coats? I will soon be giving a fresh coat of paint to the patio tables to enhance sitting out on the back patio to drink my coffee and have my morning devotionals. Perhaps I should consciously add the need to air out my thinking. Look at scriptures in a new way perhaps. Tackle a tough subject.

My challenge for you and for myself this month is to Spring Clean. Clean out the distractions from ungodly thoughts and pursuits. Spruce up

your mind's landscape with some of the really good books in the church library. Take on a new devotional style of photo journaling... looking for God's creative ways in the ordinary things of life.

As we are preparing our hearts and minds for the new things that God is doing here in our church let us each be looking at how we can Spring Clean our thinking to give room for the thoughts of God through the work of the Holy Spirit.

Your sister in Christ,
Pastor Grace



Christian Education

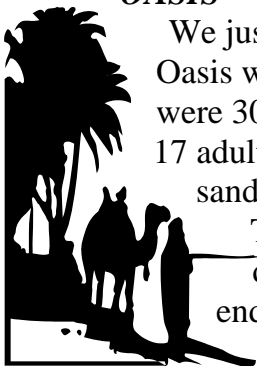


by Barbara Wilkinson

Sunday School is now studying the Prodigal Son.

If you think the villain in the story is the youngest son, think again. The youngest son, no doubt, was selfish and cruel at the start of the story. But the oldest son was not happy about the attention the youngest son received from his father at his return and repentance of his bad ways. Join us to understand how this story explains Jesus' opinion of the Pharisees. Sunday school meets at 9:00 on Sunday mornings in the room next to the Kitchenette upstairs.

OASIS



We just finished our 16th year of Oasis with a Swimming Party. There were 30 children in attendance with 17 adults. The evening started with sandwiches and raw vegetables.

The children had a blast and did not want to see the evening end. Their summer will be filled with Vacation Bible School and Camping at Geneva Center. Before we know it, it will be time to start our 17th year. The Oasis Leaders will meet again in August to plan studies for our 17th year. How Exciting!

VBS



Our plans for another year of the Amazing Race are coming along Great. We will be looking at God's Amazing

Grace with his Power, Acceptance, Forgiveness, Freedom and Endurance. Each evening will include a skit where Barry and Beth will go with our children to the different countries. We still are looking for adult leaders to get our groups to their different stations.



Block Party this year will be hosted by First Christian Church on July 1st, 2018. The VBS Mission will be introduced at the Block Party.

Geneva Center

We have 12 Oasis Children signed up for Summer Camp. Each child will pay \$25.00 for their camp experience studying about their Loving God. Our precious Lord has made the way for these children to go by giving us a Mission Grant of \$2185.00 from the Wabash Presbytery and \$600 from the Mary/Martha Circle. Toni Cook gave the last \$75.00 needed for the total cost of over \$3000.00.

Faith Bio

By Sally Schmidt

Started out in Oklahoma, dad in the Army at Fort Sill where always went to Methodist Church. Then lived in Logansport IN. Mom and Dad and all six of us kids went to Logansport Methodist Church. My mom was in charge of Junior Church, I was involved in junior church and sang in a kids choir. We moved to Lucerne IN. when I was in 6th grade went to Zion Methodist Church, my sister Kathy and I sang special music every Sunday (Mom played the piano) Dad then got transferred to Flora, IN. when I was a junior in high school. We went to the Methodist Church here in Flora. I sang in the choir and went to Teen Services every Sunday night. Got married and had 3 children we attended Zion Methodist church in South Bend, IN. We moved to Rossville IN. and went to the Methodist Church where I taught Sunday School And Here I Am a Happy Presbyterian!!!

Congregational Life

by Sally Schmidt



Mother's Day May 13th

Men will prepare breakfast for the ladies at 9:00am. All are Welcome to come!





PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Presbyterian Women

by Jane Bishop

The Mary-Martha Circle will meet May 15 in the basement dining room at 7:00 pm. The Hostess will be Donna

Sholty; Year Book of Prayer, Kathy King; Horizons, Sally Schmidt; Bible Study, Barbara Wilkinson. We welcome and invite all women.

Thrift Shop Schedule for May

Thurs. May 3...Sort& Mark... Joan M. & Kathy

Sat. May 12...Cashier.....Donna S.

Sat. May 19....Tags.....Barbara W.

Thurs. May 24...Cashier.....Donna S

Sat. May 26...Sacker.....Marlene S.

Stewardship/Mission/ Finance

Personnel Committee

by Tammy Moss



Our committee met on 03/19/18.

After discussion and review of our finances, a request was forwarded to Session for approval to redeem a CD that is due to mature on

05/15/18 and deposit the proceeds into the church's checking account. Approval was received on 03/25/18. We are also working on an updated church custodian job description and expect to have that finalized soon. One Great Hour of Sharing donations received totaled \$700.00! Thank you to all who contributed.

Worship Committee

by Martha Clark

Happy Easter Season.

During the end of Lent and the start of the Easter Season, we celebrate the exalted and holiness of Christ with many different symbols. You may have noticed the purple color adorning the alter before Easter which reminds us that Christ is our King; the waving of palm

branches during Palm Sunday by the kids as a reenactment of an ancient tradition that signified the welcoming of a king into the city. We decorated the sanctuary with Easter lilies and flowers as a reminder of the new birth experienced by those who put their hope and faith in Jesus Christ. White is the color we use during the 50 days of the Easter Season. White represents the holiness of Christ. We celebrated Easter with the Oasis kids by retelling the Easter story, decorating eggs and then an Easter egg hunt afterwards. Eggs also represent new birth.

March 25th a luncheon and training session for the Acolytes were held after the worship service. Autumn, Gabe, and Aden Mauer, and Mason Eakins were in attendance. Pastor Grace conducted the training and gave a brief history of Acolytes and the reason the Presbyterian Church carries on the tradition. Don't forget to thank the kids when you see them and remind them how much we appreciate their participation in the service.

March 29th was Maundy Thursday Service at Delphi Presbyterian church. Pastor Grace conducted the worship service and communion. Twenty-five people were in attendance and Flora Presbyterian was well represented.

We celebrated Easter on April 1st with communion and 40 people were in attendance.

Our appreciation to Carrie Munson who was the guest speaker April 8th while Pastor Grace took vacation time.

May 13th Mother's day will be the next communion Sunday.

Oasis program has come to an end for this school year and will start back up in the fall. Pastor Grace led the worship time each Wednesday. Kim Holly from the Christian Church and Barb Mayfield and Toni Cook filled in when Grace was on vacation or ill. Nick Root, the song leader for the Oasis program, added so much to the worship time as he shares his talent. Thanks Nick.

As the church is moving forward with the decision to share Pastor with Delphi Presbyterian we ask you to contact your Shepherd leader and/or Pastor Grace with any questions, comments and suggestions regarding these changes. Our worship time will require more participation of the congregation to lead worship by making announcements, and leading prayers. This will require as many people as possible to volunteer to be lay leaders. So be prepared to say “Yes, sure, of course I will” when asked to volunteer as a lay leader.

You may have noticed worship music is played in the sanctuary before Sunday service. It is a small change we made to our worship time. If you have any suggestions as to how we can make worship more vital, please tell one of the Session members as we are always eager to hear from the congregation.



Joint Session
meeting with Delphi
First Presbyterian

By Laraine MacLauchlan Clerk of Session

The session members met on April 9th at our church. All Flora session members were present. Pastor David Lawrence served as moderator. Pastor Grace Hammer was also present. Joining us via Zoom technology was Jennifer Burns-Lewis, Presbytery Visioning & Connecting Leader.

Session members were to have talked with their congregations regarding their feelings about a shared pastorship. Responses were: Pastor Grace would work evenly with each congregation in ministry. Some concerns were: overloading Pastor Grace, a perception that too much time was being spent with the other congregation. The consensus was that to do nothing would put both churches on hospice care.

The importance of youth in the church was clear. All applaud our church's Oasis program but also noted that most of the children do not come to church on Sunday. As Pastor Grace said, the Wednesday service is their church

service. As each congregation has an aging population we need to have more programs to accommodate them, such as a senior luncheon with possibly a Bible study. Of course, the Mary Martha Circle does that monthly and it is in the evening with Bible study and dessert afterwards. All members agreed that positive conversations among the sessions are very important and it is happening.

Pastor Lawrence noted that a relationship between the churches is important and the fifth Sunday will most likely be a good starting point. Others liked a joint Bible study and joint church services for holidays like Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Each congregation complemented each other well and the new vitality evidenced in our meeting will fuel the ministry in this area.

Resources were then discussed. We talked about the availability of our church buildings for events and each session agreed that dedicated families are necessary for the survival of the church. Pastor Lawrence also stressed that communication needs to be transparent. It will be a benefit for both congregations to have liaisons to keep the congregations informed. We need to grow, not to maintain. It is not about how many people sit in the pew every week, but more about re-framing the growth of the congregations in both communities. We are tossing our lots together to make this happen.

Pastor Grace then noted that we need to include the Holy Spirit as our primary resource for spiritual growth. Without it, the congregations are just a group of people. Pastor Lawrence asked each session member to recite The Lord's Prayer at noon every day. While saying this, we should visualize the church and the people of session to help us make this joint ministry possible.

Jennifer Burns-Lewis spoke about the resources available to us from Presbytery. There are several congregations who are working with shared pastorships and the liaisons will contact them for insight. Our expectations from the new

and revised call would include what the call looks like – visitations, etc., time limits for the liaisons, an understanding of the duties of the liaisons and to remind us that this is a long term commitment. The liaison will have to be committed to the process, good with relationships and the ability and skill to communicate.

The terms of call worksheet will come from presbytery for both sessions to work on. This will all be presented to the Committee on Ministry for approval. We are hoping for a swift agreement and a new beginning of our relationship with Delphi Presbyterian Church.

Just for FUN!!!

Did You Know????

Some people may be wondering why anybody would yell "May Day" when they are in trouble.

Here is why: It derives from the French "m'aidez", pronounced "mayDAY," and means literally "help me."



Just for pun!

- Every calendar's days are numbered.
- A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
- If you've seen one shopping center, you've seen a mall.
- Acupuncture is a jab well done.
- A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
- Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?
- Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.
- When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.
- A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
- The worker who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
- Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead-to-know basis



Ushers for May

May 6 Ed and Donna Sholty
 May 13 Doug and Laraine MacLauchlan
 May 20 Doug and Laraine MacLauchlan
 May 27 Kevin and Martha Clark

Scripture Readers for May

May 6 Barbara Wilkinson, Patsy McCammack
 May 13 Laurie Brower, Marshall McCammack
 May 20 Terry Langston, Martha Clark
 May 27 Kevin Clark, Joe Mayfield



Nursery Volunteer for May

Susan Hollis

Session Leaders

Laraine MacLauchlan- Clerk
 Sally Schmidt -Congregational Life
 Barbara Wilkinson - Christian Ed.
 Tammy Moss- Stewardship/Mission
 Martha Clark- Worship
 Kent King-Bldg. and Grounds

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 B=Martha Clark	2	3 National Day Of Prayer B=Marge Scholl	4 B=Teaha Miller	5 B=Gary Scholl
6 Bible Study 3-5PM	7	8	9 B=Bob Brown	10  Ascension of the Lord	11	12
13 	14	15 Mary Martha Circle 7PM	16	17	18	19
20  Session Meeting	21	22	23	24	25 Last Day of School!!!	26
27  TRINITY SUNDAY	28  MEMORIAL +DAY+ B=David Kratz	29	30	31		

