

JUNE 2018



June 14th



June 17th



June 30th

5:30PM

Flora First
Christian
Church



John Everett

June 3rd



Mary Martha
June 19th 7PM
Session Meeting
June 24th 1PM

Pulling the Weeds!!



Matthew 13 is on my heart and mind these days. And strawberries! Jesus tells the parable of the seeds which are planted. Some in good soil, some on rocky ground and others among thorns. I have a similar problem with strawberries.

In the backyard are 2 established strawberry patches. Years ago, they were planted in fertile soil. They were well cared for and given fertilizer and continuously kept weeded. Neighbors have said they would be invited to share in the harvest of the sweet fruit. But now thistle and dandelions are thriving among the fruit. Saplings of maple trees are scattered throughout. What happened?

In one season of neglect, the thorns have grown more plentiful than the strawberries. A decision had to be made; plow up the field and start over or weed out the thorns. Having more time than money – the weeding process began. It is tedious and at times seems overwhelming. I work for several hours and see little progress because of the denseness of the weeds. It is frustrating when I realize that I have pulled a strawberry plant with the weeds.

Oh, but how much are we – am I – like these strawberries? When given a proper diet of God's Word, (fertilizer). When taking time to confess sins, (thorns & weeds). When conversation with God is an ongoing part of the day, life is sweeter and the fruits of the Spirit are more abundant.

A life that is overgrown with negative thoughts and doubts can seem overwhelming to combat. A routine of living with God on your heart and mind that slowly erodes into a



haphazard life of “God help me” prayer life will quickly give way to the weeds of distraction and self-interest over God interest. But all is not lost. It may seem overwhelming when looking at a loved one who has more thorns than sweetness but it is not overwhelming to God. Take one thorn at a time, whether in your own life or in a loved ones’. With much patience, time invested and the working of the master gardener, God... the sweet fruit can return and become abundant once again. Take pleasure in the small changes. Give God the praise and nurture the good that is taking place.

It is easy to become frustrated when we only see the huge mess of thorns in someone's life. But God is never frustrated. God is patient and loving. Walk with the Master Gardener and let Him work on the weeds.

Your sister in Christ,
Pastor Grace



Christian Education



by Barbara Pearce

Come and join us! Sunday School is currently meeting at 9:00 every Sunday Morning.

Do you know the story of the Prodigal Son? I thought I did. We are digging deep into the story, learning about the meaning of the story in the context of an old style Semitic civilizations as compared to the connotation we give to the story today.



Flora First Christian Church is hosting a Block Party this year on June 30th, starting at 5:30 PM. The Party will be on

South Street. After the meal and VBS Registration, there will be a Haiti Mission Speaker inside the First Christian Church. The Mission for VBS this year will be one of the many needs of Haiti. As part of this combined outreach to our community, Flora Presbyterian Church is asking for many volunteers to bring, meat, vegetable and desert dishes to this Block Party. Remember, we are representing our churches and showing God's Love to our neighbors. On behalf of VBS, there will be a free will offering for the Haiti Mission.

Geneva Center

Flora Presbyterian Church is sending 12 Oasis Children to different summer Camps at the Geneva Center. These children are very excited and their parents are grateful that we have such love and support for the neighborhood. This cost was met by this congregation, Mary Martha Circle, Cutler Presbyterian Church and the Wabash Presbytery Missions Grant. The children attending Middle School C.R.O. S.S. are: Will Altic, Shaylyn Brown and Lacoya Wood. Shawn Ross Pitts will be going to Traditional Camp. Haylee Randolph and Leahla Wood will be going to Explorer Camp Grades 4 and 5. Oasis children between grades 1 through 3 attending New Beginnings will be Carter Altic, Emma Feltner, Judah Pitts and Courtney Brown. The youngest children,

Abigail Feltner and Jordyn Brown will be attending the You and Me Camp.

VBS Mission



This church has supported Haitian Mission in the past. We have had church members that were born in Haiti. Rhonda and David Kratz are still in touch with Christians in Haiti. There is a current need for a Solar Panel with a Converter and a Chicken Coop, along with other needs. VBS will be raising money for this mission. Any gifts you are God led to give will be greatly appreciated.

VBS

We are still finalizing the plans for this summer's VBS which will start on Sunday, July 8th and run through Thursday, July 12th, 2018. This year VBS is being hosted by the First Christian Church. It will meet every night from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. We are still looking for group leaders and for volunteers to help with the nightly meals.

Faith Bio

by Kent King

My Grandparents (King) relocated to Flora in early 30's and were very active in the Flora Presbyterian Church. My parents moved to Flora after the war and also became active in the church. I grew up not knowing any other church. In the late 40's Dr. Rauch started a youth membership class and Reverend Myers finished when he arrived.

My actual membership was in the very early 50's Reverend Smith kept the youth interest by taking us on visitation in coal mining communities in Southern Indiana. Three other people that were very important in my early church life were Lucille Brown, Alma Thompson, and Mable Gibson. These ladies were Sunday School teachers and choir director. In 1961 after graduation, I went into the Air Force and retired 28 years later. During my time in the service Kathy and I attended various

churches which were mainly non-denominational.

When I retired from the Air Force in 1989, we moved to Rowlett, Texas. I worked in a defense contractive position for another 10 ears. We occasionally attended a Presbyterian Church there, but did not move our membership.

In 1999 Kathy and Ki moved back to Flora and our home church.



Congregational Life

by Sally Schmidt

Happy Father's Day June 17th
Father's will be honored during
the morning worship service on
the 17th.

Presbyterian Women

by Jane Bishop

The Mary-Martha
Circle will meet June 19
the basement dining
room at 7 pm. The
Hostess will be Marlene
Smith; Year Book of Prayer, Jane Bishop;
Horizons, Laraine MacLauchlan; Bible Study,
Barbara Wilkinson. We welcome and invite
all women.



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Thrift Shop Schedule for June

Thurs. June 7...Sort & Mark...Joan M.
Sat. June 16....Sacker.....Libby S.
Sat. June 23....Tags.....Jane K.
Sat. June 30....Cashier.....Donna S.

Stewardship/Mission/ Finance

Personnel Committee

by Tammy Moss



We completed the Church
Custodian job description which
will be presented to our current
custodian.

After approval by the Session on 03/25/18, a
certificate of deposit in the amount of

\$11,592.10 which matured on 05/13/2018 has
been cashed and deposited into the church's
checking account in order to pay future
expenses.

Worship Committee

by Martha Clark

The 50 days of Easter has ended with the
celebration of Pentecost. The alter colors were
changed to red to symbolize the joy and the fire
of the Holy Spirit. Jesus told his followers that
He would have to leave them but they would
not be left alone. The Holy Spirit would
descend on them and be their comforter and
counselor. In the Bible, the scene was described
as "tongues of fire" descending on the heads of
the disciples and 3000 people were added to the
band of believers and in just a few decades, the
Word had spread throughout the known world.

We celebrated Mother's day with a great
breakfast prepared by the wonderful men of the
congregation. And thanks to Henry Robison for
the great crepes. During worship we served 31
people communion.

Things to keep in mind:

June 17th is Father's day and we will serve
Communion. Tammy Moss and Sally Schmidt
and Laraine MacLauchlan will serve.

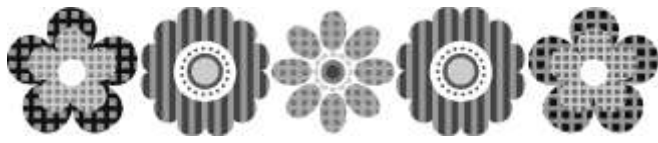
July 8th we are invited to the worship service at
The First Christian Church in Flora. This will
be the kick off to Vacation Bible School.

VBS will be hosted by the First Christian
Church this year.

July 15th is the Adam's Mill Service hosted by
Cutler. Bring food to pass and an appetite.

July 29th is the 5th Sunday of the month and we
are invited to worship at the Diane and Jim
Justice's (Delphi) home on the Tippecanoe
River. They are sharing one of their traditions
with us.

Your sister in Christ, Martha Clark



From the Secretary

If you have anything you would like to add to the Just for Fun sections please email them to me. I am working on updating the scripture reader list, if you are interested in being a reader please email me at florapc@embarqmail.com or let Martha Clark know. Also I will be gone on Vacation the week of June 25th. Ushers and Scripture Readers for July 1st will get their verses a week early.



First Presbyterian Church in Delphi is doing Family Movie Night. June 28th will be Swiss Family Robinson. Doors open at 6PM, movie starts at 6:30. Free popcorn and bottled water.



Ushers for June

June 3 Kevin and Martha Clark
June 10 Kent and Kathy King
June 17 Kent and Kathy King
June 24 Joan Moss, Susan Scholl

Scripture Readers for June

June 3 Laraine MacLauchlan, Gerry Hollis
June 10 Doug MacLauchlan, Ann Brown
June 17 Tammy Moss, Marlene Smith
June 24 Kathy King, Kent King



Nursery Volunteer for June

Barbara Pearce



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

Find the missing letter in each alphabet below.
Then read the words from top to bottom to discover
Israel's promise from Joshua 24:24, NIV.

[illegible]

Answer: We will serve the Lord ... and obey him.
Joshua 24:24, NIV

First Class Mail



JUNE 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Guest Speaker John Everett	4 B=Sally Schmidt	5	6 New Member Class 7PM	7	8 B=Barbara Pearce	9 B=Joan Moss B=Jason McCammack
10	11 B=Patsy McCammack	12	13 New Member Class 7PM	14 Flag Day B=Kris McGill	15 B=Echo Arcadia Hollis	16 Flora Hog Jog
17 	18	19 Mary Martha Circle 7PM	20 New Member Class 7PM	21 	22	23 VBS Mtg. 9AM
24	25 Secretary on Vacation	26	27 New Member Class 7PM	28	29 B=Tammy Moss	30 Block Party 1 st Christian Church