

## AUGUST 2018



Steve Gordon  
 Lora Merritt  
 Wedding  
 August 11<sup>th</sup>  
 3PM  
 All Invited



*Pray Around the  
 School*  
 Aug. 12<sup>th</sup> 6PM  
 School Starts  
 Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>



Christian Educ.  
 Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>  
 Oasis  
 Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>



August  
 26<sup>th</sup>



Events and  
 Happenings  
 Pg. 5



Delphi  
 Presbyterian  
 Movie Night  
 August 30<sup>th</sup>

# "Beware: I'm meddling"

"And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man." Luke 2:54

As followers of Jesus how do we maintain an attitude or willingness to learn and grow? I was recently reminded of many things that I take for granted. The main one is knowledge of the Bible. We no longer live in an era where most kids have some knowledge of basic Bible stories. Biblical illiteracy is on the rise. School is starting back on August 8. As a community and as a nation we place importance on education. Being able to pass the exams is very important to us. We give great honor to those who have achieved higher education. Yet we do not give importance to learning about God.

There are many who read the scriptures on a regular basis and attend Sunday School or a Bible study. Yet there are many more who believe that they know all there is to learn from the Bible and have quit studying it or believe that there is nothing to really learn from it that would affect daily life.

I remember years ago asking some teenage boys why they quit going to Sunday School. They quickly told me that they had outgrown it. Sunday School was for children and women. Their fathers did not participate in Sunday School regularly and there were no men teaching Sunday School, so why should they be made to go? I then went and talked to some of my male classmates in seminary about teaching Sunday School. They said they were too busy or that their wives taught.

Oasis is about to resume for the 17<sup>th</sup> year.

Many of us pray for a revival in our community, yet it is difficult to get folks to teach the Bible to these kids. Our Christian Ed chair, Barbara Pearce is trying to figure out how we can have adult Sunday School in the morning AND have



children's Sunday School. Who would be willing to lead the class? How can we effectively reach the 40-50 kids who attend on Wednesday evenings with only a few adults who are willing to fully interact with them. This summer we had the joy and honor to welcome 5 souls into the Kingdom of God through Baptism. We have gained 6 new members to our congregation. William Merrill wrote a wonderful hymn in 1911, "Rise up o men of God". I am calling on each member of this congregation to rise up and help your fellowman to learn about Christ and to help them to grow in wisdom and in stature and in favor with both God and humanity. Let us arise from our Spiritual slumber and continue to grow in faith and to lead others into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Amen.

Your sister in Christ,  
Pastor Grace

## **Christian Education**



*by Barbara Pearce*

We are finishing our study on the Prodigal Son with the last lesson on August 5, 2018.

Sunday School for all ages will begin in September.



### **Vacation Bible School**

There was an average of 25 children attending VBS this

year. The Theme was God's Amazing Grace at the Amazing Race. They studied how God gives the power, and that he wants a relationship with each one of us, and that each one of us needs to accept forgiveness, God frees us from our daily sins and God accepts each one of us that has repented. There were at least 4 adults each day preparing our meals and refreshments. There were 4 group leaders daily, 2 leaders for crafts, a leader for our science/Road Block and a leader for games. Pastor Grace and Pastor Kim (from First Christian Church) did the bible stories each day. VBS is a program that needs lots of volunteers each year. The churches involved are very grateful for the congregation members that give their time and efforts to our community children.

### **VBS Haiti Mission Project**



There was a total of \$2800.00 raised from First Christian, Cutler Presbyterian and Flora Presbyterian Churches. Barb Mayfield has reported that the Director of the Haiti Collective stated the Chicken Coop Project will be completed this Fall (2018). I Thank everyone who felt God's tug on their hearts to give aid to the Haitians.



## **Presbyterian Women**

*by Jane Bishop*

The Mary-Martha Circle will meet on August 21 in the basement dining room at 7:00 pm. The Hostess will be Barbara Pearce; Year Book of Prayer Jane Kearns; Horizons, Libby Sparks; Bible Study, Barbara Pearce. We welcome and invite all women

### **Thrift Shop Schedule for August**

Sat. August 4...Pastor Grace....Tags

Sat. August 11...Laraine Mac...Sacker

Thurs, Aug 23...Marlene S...Sort & Mark

Thurs. Aug 30...Libby S.....Sort & Mark

## **Stewardship/Mission/Finance/Personnel**

*by Tammy Moss*



The committee met on 06/27/18 and discussed the completion of the church custodian job description, the re-scheduling of Paul

Both from Sudan until Spring 2019, Care Fund guidelines, Smock Deacon Fund application, Pastor Grace's terms of call as adjusted to share with Delphi, future pulpit fill rate to share with Delphi, moving Beth's office to the office next to Pastor Grace's office, and annual evaluations of the church staff. Please see any of us on the committee if you have questions.

### **Worship Committee**

*by Martha Clark*

You may notice some changes since we started sharing our Pastor with Delphi.

We are starting fellowship hour at 10:00. We are greeting each other, sharing treats and coffee and picking up the church bulletins in the fellowship hall before church service.

There will always be a Lay Leader to start the worship service. We were hoping that people will volunteer for a month at a time, but shorter commitments will also be greatly appreciated. Barb and Joe have helped us streamline the audio/visual and give us some tips on how to

run the sound system and PowerPoint. We hope that it will be a much more pleasant experience.

### **Worship committee meeting**

Our goal is to come up with new ways to present the music during worship. Jane and Libby may want a break every now and then and as a congregation we will have a different way of presenting the worship music. If you have any suggestions on how to accomplish this, please see Terry Langston or me. All suggestions are welcome.

### **July**

July has been a very busy month for our congregation. We have worshipped with the First Christian Church, participated in the annual joint worship service at Adam's Mill with Cutler Presbyterian and witness five baptisms in the Wildcat Creek during that service. We helped bring together VBS with the Christian Church and Cutler.

And we are looking forward in a joint worship service with Delphi Presbyterian on the 29<sup>th</sup> of this month at Diane and Jim Justice's house on the river. It has been a very busy and blessed July.

**Just one last thing from the worship committee.** We are a small congregation, but I believe we have touched many lives for the Kingdom of God in so many ways just in the last year or so. We have helped send an ambulance to Africa; the parents and kids at Oasis raised enough money to buy goats, chickens, and pigs to send to communities that desperately need them for a continuous source of food. Our congregation helped raise enough money (and then some) to build a chicken coop in Haiti. We have sent many kids to Geneva Center for a week of fun and Christian fellowship. We have put together a VBS with the help of other churches as an outreach to the kids in the community. We have fed kids with a good meal and the word of God on Wednesday nights. We have given food baskets and Christmas gifts to the needy during the holidays. The Presbyterian Women are always there to support mission projects as well as

being the compassionate and loving face to the wider community by running the Flora Thrift Shop. They have made sure that the community supports the blood drive and other community events. Many in our congregation have visited the sick, prayed with the needy and been there to support family and friends and strangers when there was a need. Some have welcomed a child into their loving and stable home when the child needed a home to call their own. Many individuals, as well as the church, have shared their resources to those who find themselves in crisis.

Worship is more than music, bulletins, preaching, praying, tithing and fellowship. Faith without works is dead, and even though we are a small congregation, we are very much alive.



### **Session Meeting** **Updates**

by Laraine MacLauchlan  
Session met on July 22nd  
at 12:14 p.m. All  
members except for Kent

King were present. Steve Gordon and Lora Merritt were presented to the session members for membership approval and were unanimously accepted. There will soon be a church secretary's office next to the Pastor's Study, hopefully by the end of the year. Pastor Grace's office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 - Noon at the Delphi Presbyterian Church and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 - Noon at the Flora Presbyterian Church. It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to purchase fans for public use that represent Delphi and Flora churches with each church paying half the cost. These fans will be handed out at various public events, i.e. the Bacon Fest, County Fair. Pastor Grace noted that we need to start planning for the next session class in January. We should have sign up sheets posted during a meal for members to sign up for a committee they would like to be part of. Tammy Moss pointed out we need to start preparations for the annual budget process.

## Events and Happenings

August 8-10 Delphi, Indiana-  
Old Settlers Town Wide Sales,  
Amusement rides, food



August 11 Flora Farmers Market 8-12, fresh  
produce, bake goods and more!

August 11 Wedding of Steve Gordon & Lora  
Merritt 3PM at FPC. Reception at their home  
5PM

August 15<sup>th</sup> Parish Council Meeting 4:30

August 21<sup>st</sup> Mary Martha Circle 7PM

August 24-25<sup>th</sup> Priscilla Shirer live at Allen  
County Coliseum Fort Wayne In. tickets still  
available \$79.

<https://www.lifeway.com/en/events/priscilla-shirer-live/priscilla-shirer-live-ft-wayne>

August 25<sup>th</sup> Delphi, Indiana- Bacon Festival  
3-11P.M.



Delphi Presbyterian is hosting  
Family Movie Night. August  
30<sup>th</sup> will be "Muppet Treasure  
Island" Doors Open at 6PM  
movie starts at 6:30. Free  
popcorn and bottled water.

Walk Through the Bible

Join Pastor Grace and friends as we take a  
closer look at Exodus.

Friendly adults, caffeine and snacks provided  
in a comfortable setting. (The pastor's home.)

Beginning Thursday September 6<sup>th</sup>

You will be amazed at what all is in the Bible  
that you did not hear about in Sunday  
School as a child!



## Ushers for August

Aug. 5 Joe and Barb Mayfield  
Aug 12 Joe and Barb Mayfield  
Aug. 19 Doug and Laraine MacLauchlan  
Aug. 26 Doug and Laraine MacLauchlan

## Scripture Readers for August

Aug. 5 Joe Moss, Kathy King  
Aug 12 Laurie Brower, Jane Kearns  
Aug. 19 Kent King, Autumn Mauer  
Aug. 26 Bill Kearns, Ann Brown

## Audio/ Visual Schedule for August

Aug 5 Kevin Clark  
Aug 12 Barbara Pearce  
Aug. 19 Joe Mayfield  
Aug. 26 Martha Clark


## Nursery Volunteer for August

Laurie Brower



## Session Leaders

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



# Puzzle

## GOD'S amazzzing BEES

God created bees to pollinate flowers and make honey. Psalm 119:103  
says God gives us something that's even sweeter than honey.

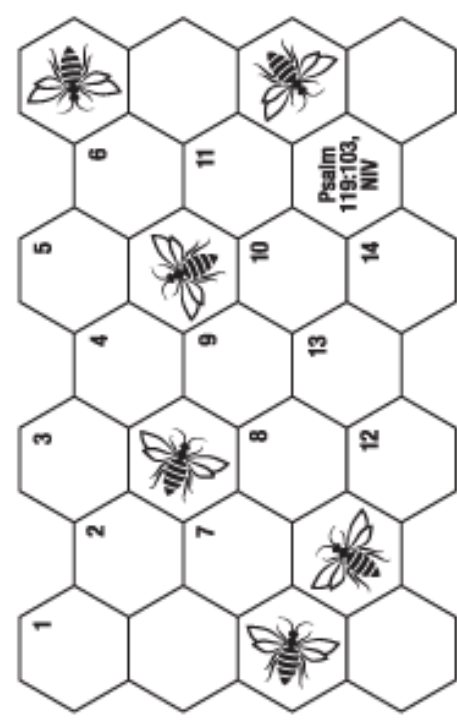
*Directions: Find the word that fits each clue. Then write the answers in the correct numbered honeycomb shape to complete Psalm 119:103, NIV.*

**CLUES**

1. rhymes with cow
2. opposite of sour
3. pronounced "it"
4. rhymes with four
5. Letters create \_\_\_\_.
6. not too or two
7. rhymes with by
8. the tongue's job
9. more sweet
10. rhymes with pain
11. golden liquid
12. Pleased \_\_\_\_ meet you.
13. rhymes with fly
14. body part

**WORD BANK**

than your to are  
sweet sweeter How  
my honey mouth  
words to taste, my



Answer: How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Psalm 119:103, NIV

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First Class Mail

August  
2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 B=Denise Good B=Marlene Smith
5  Communion	6	7	8  B=Stanley Langston	9	10	11 Gordon, Merritt Wedding 3PM All Invited
12 Oasis Mtg. After Service  B=Myra Compton	13	14	15 Parish Council 4:30 @ FPC	16	17	18
19	20	21 Mary Martha Circle 7PM	22	23 Pulse Articles Due 	24	25
26 Session Mtg. 12:30PM	27	28	29	30 B=Ed Sholty	31	