

# JULY 2020









July 19-23<sup>rd</sup> 6-8:30

Flora 1st Christian

## Happy Birthday America!

This is the month we celebrate our nation's independence. We are officially 244 years old. Our nation was freed from excessive taxation without representation. We were free to elect whom we chose to rule our towns and our federal government.

We are still free to do that. Unfortunately, too many people stay home and do not vote. Apathy wins out over informed decision making which is followed by much complaining and name calling when things do not go the way some had hoped they would.

What does that have to do with the church? Is it not similar? About 1,987 years ago, Christ freed us from the bondage of sin by dying on the cross for us. He rose again on the third day defeating death and sin forever on our behalf. The early church taught this and daily hundreds came to faith. Then as time passed, apathy set in as the daily events of life took over.

Here it is 2020 and the Nominating Committee is meeting regularly. I must warn you. They are not going to beg anyone to serve on Session. They are playing hardball. Each time they meet, they divide out the names of the eligible members. Over the next few weeks, they pray for those people. Praying the scriptures from 1st Timothy. Studying what God's Word says a leader in the church is supposed to be like. They are looking first for Spiritual Leaders. Not for replacements for committee chairs. When they next meet, they will discuss what God has laid on their hearts and a name might be removed from the list. God may be saying, not now for a certain person. Only God knows what this congregation needs for the coming 3 years in a spiritual leader.

Last year's committee did not know that the Worship Chair needed to be proficient in computers and the internet because a virus was going to send our



services to online only. Melvin was chosen as a spiritual leader and it was assumed, he would lead Christian Ed due to his background in that field. Yet he asked to lead worship. The virus struck, and his computer and internet skills were exactly what was needed for us to continue to have worship each week.

The committee is praying. They need you to be praying as well. Who is God's choice as spiritual leaders for the next three years at Flora Presbyterian. Two names will be chosen to replace those going off session. Pray that the Holy Spirit would be heard by those God chooses to use in this place at this time.

Your sister in Christ, Pastor Grace



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Flora Presbyterian

## **GOD LOVES ME**

By Barbara Pearce

Our God, MY God is so Amazing. He is with me every day during big events and even in little tiny events. I am constantly talking to him. I thank him because it doesn't rain when I need to mow. But I also thank him for the rain at night because my yard and garden need it. I thank him for sending his spirit to make sure I stop my car before I hit the car in front of me. I thank him for the lessons he has taught me when I fail to live by his righteousness; his righteousness that will allow my daily life to be filled with joy, peace and hope. Joy, peace and hope that I would never experience by my own thoughts and action. I thank him for watching over – all of us – during this COVID-19. What would I do without my God?

My God is so personal. He lays with me when I sleep at night. He is with me when I wake up in the morning and helps me through my day. He gives me strength when I am so over whelmed I feel like I could burst into nothing. He calms me and shows me HE IS GOD. I want to know as much about him as he knows about me. I have a need to read his word over and over. I love to listen to different teachers giving their view of God's Word. Learning different aspect of God's Word allows me to see how loving and allencompassing my Lord is.

Going to Bible Studies, Sunday School, Special Events and Spending time alone talking to My God are all ways to grow closer to him. God gives us so many avenues to grow closer to him. We need to take advantage of God's Love for all of us.

#### Thrift Shop News

The thrift shop will be open starting July 6<sup>th</sup> on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays.



#### **HELP WANTED**

It is our turn to provide Cashiers for Mondays and Thursdays for the next year. You do not need to commit for the whole year, if you can only help one day that is okay too! If you would be interested please see Jane Bishop or Barbara Pearce. This is an important part of our Missions project. Funds from the thrift shop help the community locally and area church wide.

### **Mary Martha**

We will not be having the Mary Martha Circle until further notice.

#### **Session Leaders**

Michelle Matos- Clerk

Barbara Pearce – Personnel, Christian Ed.

Melvin Matos – Worship

Martha Clark- Stewardship

Kent King- Bldg and Grounds Deloris Pitts- Missions Outreach

Sally Schmidt- Cong. Life



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**First Class Mail** 

JULY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 INDEPENDENCE
5 Communion	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 B=Kolton Pitts	16	17	18 B=Deloris Pitts
VBS Begins!	20 VBS	21 VBS	VBS	VBS B=Doug MacLauchlan.	24	25
26	27 B=Jay McMillin	28	29	30	31	