

**June/July 2021**



# *the Visitor*

*a publication of Flushing United Methodist Church*

## **Our Vision Statement**

*Preparing servants who make a difference in their community and the world by knowing Christ, following Christ and sharing Christ.*

Therefore do not be like them.  
For you father knows the  
things you have need of  
before you ask Him.

**FATHER'S DAY:**  
*God The Father*  
— Matthew 6:8 —

## **Sunday Worship**

8:45 am Traditional Service & 11:15 am Contemporary Worship

**Join us either online or in-person**

Facebook.com/FlushingUMC or Youtube.com/user/flushingumc

## **Church Staff**

*Lead Pastor* JJ Mannschreck

*Director of Music* Christie Dover

*Christian Ed. Director* Melissa Whalen

*Office Manager* Rose Dessinger

*Custodian* Marlene Cooper

*Play Place Coordinator* Sarah Covert

*Play Place* Chloe Covert



## Pastor's Corner

Greetings from the desk of the Pastor!! Every year the seasons change with a predictability, and yet every year as Spring hangs on I always have this little fear in the back of my mind that the Winter will not let go and the warmth will never come. Thankfully, every year my fears are proven wrong and the summer truly does spring upon us!

This year for the very first time in my life, my family has decided to plant a garden at our house. We plotted out some space, and put a line of berries in the back. I've also given myself a building project to build a humble tree house for my boys this summer. I'm learning all kinds of new things. But there is one thing that I've learned, and it's something I have heard from childhood – but never really believed. This year I have learned about the practice of pruning.

If you are unfamiliar, in the gardening world there is a practice of cutting back the stems in order to encourage growth. Pruning is a tried and true practice, verified by master gardeners all over the world. You trim a bit, so that they will grow even better next year. We put in some berry bushes this year, and the instructions said “trim it down so that it can grow in a healthy way.” And after putting it in the ground, I looked at this puny plant and thought to myself – what? That cannot be right. How can trimming something down, INCREASE it? Pruning is a practice we know up in our heads, but I think we do not believe it, not truly, down in our hearts.

I was thinking about the pruning of my new berry plants in the back yard a few weeks ago, and I realized, of course, that this has practical application to other areas of life. In my life, I do not like to prune. I do not like to cut things back or trim away things from my schedule. I like to add things. I like to fill up my schedule. Simply put, I just love to DO things. So the idea that trimming back will create MORE growth is very difficult for me to wrap my head around. My mind rebels against the thought – NO! Cutting things away will make LESS, not MORE. And so I cling to my busy schedule and I do not prune.

But then COVID came. And one of the unexpected blessings that came from the horrible tragedy of a global pandemic was the gift of pruning. Because of the universal affect of the virus – we were FORCED to prune. Life was cut back, trimmed down to the stem. And now is the time for regrowth. I think this past year was a real reckoning for many of us. We found out what was essential, what was necessary for us in life. The pruning cut our lives back, trimmed pieces we did not even know were so important to us. But now is the time for new growth. Now is the time for revival.

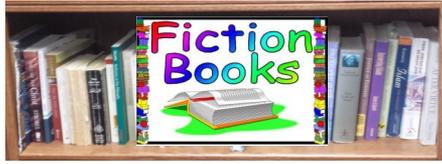
Our church has been incredibly blessed in this past year. Even through a global pandemic, you all have been steadfast in your commitments. We have weathered the storm, and the sun is finally beginning to peak around the clouds. Out of necessity, we trimmed back so many vital ministries and important programs – and we learned just how important those ministries were. We did not realize how much we missed it until it was gone. (And in other places, with other things we may have even been surprised by how easily we can live without things we thought we always needed). But rather than despair over twigs that have been trimmed, let us prepare for the springing forth of new growth. New buds, new life, sprouting up all around us as our church begins to rebuild.

I don't want to sugar coat the difficulties – we have a lot of rebuilding to do, particularly in the areas of Sunday School, Youth Group, Life Groups and other Christian Education. But even beyond those, most areas of our church have rebuilding to do. Growth is hard work. But if my little blueberry plant can survive the trimming and bear good fruit – I believe our little church can survive this COVID pruning, and soon we will see good fruit coming from new life. But until then, I'll "see" you on Sunday,



By: Pastor JJ Mannschreck

# Pastor's Bookshelf



## Welcome to my bookshelf!

Each month I will discuss a recent book that I've finished.

\*disclaimer; I don't always have time to sit and read physical books, but I do quite a bit of my reading through audiobooks these days.\*

This month I'd like to talk about:

**FICTION BOOKS** By: various authors

Every month I take a book that I have recently read and I recommend it to the wonderful people of this congregation. It's a way for me to encourage good authors and perhaps even challenge you with new perspectives or insights you've never considered before. It's funny though – I believe over the years I may have given you a false impression. I do not only read religious non-fiction books. In fact, I don't really enjoy reading non-fiction books at all! I read them, because they help me grow, and I love to learn – but the truth is, I'd much rather be reading fiction!

This month I wanted to celebrate and encourage you to read fiction, for no other purpose than it allows you to explore other worlds and engage your imagination in meaningful ways. I especially recommend fiction books as an alternative to watching something on a screen. TV can be a wonderful thing – but only a book allows you to draw the picture in your mind.

One of my favorite authors is Michael Crichton. You probably remember his most famous work "Jurassic Park." He puts an enormous amount of study into his books, and that research gives them a level of reality that helps your imagination come alive. I also enjoy anything set in the medieval world or involving pirates. One of my favorite books of all time is Captain Blood – a story of an Irish doctor, Peter Blood, who became a slave and then a reluctant pirate.

Other works I have enjoyed would be The Chronicles of Narnia (CS Lewis), The Eragon Series (Christopher Paolini), The Lord of the Rings (JRR Tolkien), and I've recently begun the sci-fi series "Enders Game" (Orson Scott Card).



# June Church Events



## June 6

- **Coffee Hour:** Starting June 6, we are relaunching Coffee Hour in the fellowship hall! For those who do not feel comfortable indoors, there will always be the option to fellowship in a more socially distant way, outdoors in that beautiful sunshine. We are in need of volunteers to help out. There's a sign-up sheet in the lobby.
- **Sunday Summer Games:** Between services (10am) we're going to play on the boat, play "9 Square in the Air", Gaga Pit and have a water balloon toss. We need volunteers to help watch kids have fun.
- **Worship on the Riverfront:** 6:00 PM @ Riverview Park BandShell
  - This year we have **Ice Cream Trucks** each Sunday. There will be **Gift Card Giveaways**, live music and testimonies.
  - 1Fifty Band will be playing June 6 & 27, and Aug 1, 15 & 29.
  - There will also be other churches for the rest of the summer and will be lots of fun! So don't miss it.

1Fifty Band is looking for people who would like to give a testimony during one of the Worship on the Riverfront Sundays. This year's theme is "School of Rock". Please see a band member for more details.

## June 10

Our church will be setting up a game tent at the Summer Fest this year. Join us from 1-3pm at the festival for Gaga Pit and 9 Square in the Air. (Rain date is June 11th)

## June 11

1Fifty Band is playing at the Summer Fest from 6-7 PM.

## June 27

We're going to be having a couple of outdoor services this summer. Our first one will be the week after Father's Day!



- It will be an **OUTDOOR Service**.
- Bring a chair if you can.
- **ONE SERVICE** only at **10 am**
- **Potluck** to follow. Bring a dish to share!

# Church World Service Tools Sunday Sunday, June 20th (Father's Day!)

To make a donation: Write CWS Tools on the memo line of your check. Thank you for your support!



Be a **partner**  
in the heavy lifting.



*"That one is like a man building a house, who dug deeply and laid the foundation on rock; when a flood arose, the river burst against that house but could not shake it, because it had been well built."*

— LUKE 6:48 NRSV

## Here's how *your* gift helped in 2020:

In 2020, we distributed thousands of materials around the world to neighbors who are trying rebuild their lives. But we need your help building on this work in 2021. Support CWS Tools to reach out to families fleeing their homes, recovering from disaster and more.

- **Haiti:** You teamed up with 109 families - over 630 people - to build safe and sturdy houses that will last for decades to come.
- **Kenya:** Due to flooding, 300,000 people were displaced from their homes. Your support equipped these families with mobile toilets, water tanks and the rebuilding they need to get back home.
- **Argentina:** In one of the driest regions of South America, your gift help communities capture/store rainwater. Rainwater storage capacity in the region has been expanded by a million liters!
- **Myanmar:** Nearly 12,000 people in Myanmar needed clean water and basic resources like food. Your gifts help build elevated hand pump platforms for these communities, which ensure access to clean, safe water even during rainy and flooding seasons.
- **Vietnam:** Over 8,700 people are now using new or improved latrines! Not only that, but families are learning how to build and fix these latrines so that it's a long-term investment.
- **Moldova/Georgia:** You reached 1,784 children with locally-produced solar systems that provide a low-cost source of hot water for school bathrooms and kitchens.

# MINORITY REPORT

## Study of OT Prophets



June  
Sermon  
Series

06.13.2021	<i>Money, Money, Money</i>	Amos 5:8-15, 6:1-7
06.20.2021	<i>Apathy</i>	Obadiah 1:1-9, 10-21
06.27.2021	<i>Social Structures</i>	Micah 2:1-13, 7:1-9
07.04.2021	<i>Fallen Gods</i>	Malachi 2:13-17, 3:13-18

## Caring & Nurturing Ministries - TeleCare

The TeleCare Ministry began several years ago when Peggy Blanchard had a vision for a way to reach out to members of our congregation by phone on a monthly basis. Denise Sands joined with Peggy in creating the ministry. The current leader is Jeff Welch who coordinates the team of twelve who each have a list of our members that they call each month.

Telecare was in place before the pandemic however it has made it possible to maintain contact with our congregation especially during the time the church was closed.

Jeff encourages anyone who receives a voice message from a caller to be sure to add their number to your contacts or make a note of the number so that when you get their call you will recognize the number and answer the phone. Calls are made the 4th Thursday of each month by members of the team. They call to say hello, let you know that you are loved and check with you to see if you have any news to share, prayer concerns or any needs that the church might be able to assist with.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the Telecare Ministry, contact Jeff at 810-350-9706.

# June

9AM - 4PM | **18**  
9AM - 12PM | **19**

ALL PROCEEDS RAISED GO TO MISSIONS  
**SAVE YOUR ITEMS FOR OUR RUMMAGE SALE!**

Please save your items for our sale.  
We are waiting to make sure it is safe to have a  
Rummage Sale this spring.  
We will keep you updated about our sale.



BRING YOUR GENTLY USED TREASURES TO BACK OF FELLOWSHIP HALL  
No computers, exercise equipment or encyclopedias.  
NOT BEFORE June 7, 2021 or AFTER June 13th

**Flushing United Methodist Church**

113 E. Main Street Flushing MI 48433

(810) 659-5172

## GSQ Quilt Show - May 2022



The Genesee Star Quilters invite you to display a quilt at next year's show which will be held at FUMC. This can be a quilt you have made, a family heirloom or one made especially for you. For more information, contact Carolyn at 810-347-1653.

# Opportunities to Serve



## Transportation Angels



Looking for a place to serve? Feeling the tug of the Holy Spirit urging you to reach out and help someone in need? How about prayerfully considering adding your name to the list of volunteers who serve others with the love of Christ in their hearts by being a part of a new and developing ministry, *Transportation Angels!* This is a list of servants who would be willing, if available when called, to drive someone in need to and or from an appointment. Please prayerfully consider adding your name to this developing list of loving Christ lead servants. There is a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center in the church lobby, you can call the church office (810-659-5172), call/text Kris Supernaw (810-691-2519), or email Kris Supernaw (klspink3@comcast.net) to add your name to the list. We look forward to seeing how the Holy Spirit moves us all as we forge ahead in this difficult and broken world being the Hands & Feet of Christ!

## Team Leader Opportunities

Are you looking for a way to serve others at FUMC? If so, there are several opportunities available with the Caring and Nurturing Ministries. We are looking for team leaders/project managers who will contact volunteers from a list of those who have already agreed to serve when there is a need. The ministries are currently on-going but need a leader/shepherd to maintain a list of volunteers and make calls when they are notified of a need. The ministries include: *Helping Hands*-assisting with minor household related tasks, *Food Train*-providing a meal and *Transportation Angels*-providing transportation to medical appointments.

As a team leader, you will not have to cook, drive anywhere or attend regular meetings. You can do this from the comfort of your home! Training and assistance available.

Contact Carolyn (810-348-0653), Mary Lou (810-869-5396) or let the office know of your interest.

# 2021 Senior High Graduation Class

Congratulations Abram Belanger,  
Camden Cichowski and Chloe Covert!

On May 23<sup>rd</sup>, we wished them  
Godspeed in their future endeavors.



**Abram  
Belanger**

**My future plans after graduation are:**

I'm going into the Coast Guard.

**My advice for younger youth:**

Always stay involved in church.

**The one thing that I am most proud of is:**

My jeep I worked for.

**My favorite memory of Flushing UMC is:**

The trips to Spring Hill.



**Camden  
Cichowski**

**My future plans after graduation are:**

To become a union electrician.

**My advice for younger youth:**

“Don't stop when your become satisfied.  
That's only the beginning.”

**The one thing that I am most proud of is:**

Seeing success in myself and people  
surrounding me.

**My favorite memory of Flushing UMC is:**

My first time seeing everyone welcome me  
in.



**Chloe  
Covert**

**My future plans after graduation are:**

Attending University of Michigan for my bachelors of science in health sciences, attending Physicians Assistant program and going into Pediatric Trauma.

**My advice for younger youth:**

It's okay to be angry with God as long as you don't stay angry at God. There are times that you are going to hate what is going on in your life, the pain and sadness and he can't wait to help you through it all.

**The one thing that I am most proud of is:**

I am proud to be graduating high school and going in to my sophomore year at college.

**My favorite memory of Flushing UMC is:**

SpringHill 2019. I remember telling my mom that I was at my wits end even though I couldn't place why. School was good, work was good, my friends were fine. But it was really just God trying to get my attention.

**We also want to recognize these individuals who have also graduated this year:**

Gage Ensign, Anthony Messina,  
Natalie Collins, and Elizabeth DuPuis





<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>
Dorothy Byard	1	Sue Martin	13
Carson Meredith	1	Lorie Goodale	15
Hunter Whalen	1	Tom Lawrence	15
Nathaniel Kleinedler	2	Amos Mannschreck	15
Kris Rundell	3	Liam Mannschreck	15
Karen Shovels	3	Tramell Ferguson	16
Skylar Alexander	4	Alyssa Stamm	16
Ethan Guerra	4	Aria Pierson	17
Gayle Serbus	4	Tara Fleury	18
Jeff Welch	4	Ty Wildman	18
Ella Schwartz	5	Carsyn Murray	19
Madison Kegler	6	Kaleb Buning	20
Jake Martin	8	Madison Pritt	20
Sue Durling	9	Sid Roman	20
Marcia Henson	10	Sandra Drubin	22
Dan Alsager	12	Chris Osterman	25
Charlotte Anderson	12	Barry Trantham	25
Mark Malaski	12	Mike Workman	25

## Finance Snapshot through April 2021

**Budget for 2021 - General Fund: \$324,361**

**April 2021:**

**General: \$22,520      Capitol: \$1,845**

**2021 Apportionments: \$41,297**

**Paid YTD: \$14,402 - 100% current on 2021 payments!**



Welcome

New Members!



On Sunday, May 16th we welcomed 8 new members to the Flushing UMC Family!

Pat DeMoss

Don & Keri Rowley

Charl VandenBosch

Sharlotte & Michael Hall

LillieAyn Smith

Lindsey Wagner

Items

Flushing  
Christian  
Outreach  
Center  
Is  
Collecting:



Notes  
from the  
Membership  
Secretary

Church Directory

UPDATE

Baptisms

On May 2nd, 2021, we had 5 baptisms-all from one family!. Don Rowley was baptized along with their 4 kids Bryce Rowley, Dylon LaBelle, Jaxson Rowley and Franceska (Franky) Rowley.

# Our Church Family

Aware of a concern or joy in our family? Please notify the church, so we can share them with you. Only first names will be published in prayer concerns.

## Prayer Room



*Please remember in your hearts and prayers:*

- + Sheila, infection found in knee during surgery
- + Brock, at Hurley with covid
- + Lena, for health and children's well-being
- + John, with throat cancer
- + Alyssa, needs clarity and grounding
- + For a fiancé to have a safe flight after a car accident
- + Prayers for Malcom
- + Happiness and stability for my parents
- + 14 year old Kenzie, going through cancer treatment
- + Deanna, recovering from lung procedure.
- + For all who have or are recovering from covid

## *With Heartfelt Sympathy*

To friends and family on the death of Marilyn Micinski.

*May this family be uplifted by our prayers.*



## **A Salute to Fathers**

Today, Almighty God, as we observe Father's Day, we lift all the fathers of this world up to You with adoration and love. Fathers play an integral

role in the lives of our children, as mentors, providers, caregivers and so much more. They also provide a firm foundation on which our children stand. Thank you Jehovah Jireh, for your provision and for showering them with your divine blessings. We pray that you would bless fathers, consecrate them and set them apart for Your



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## Worship Servants

### Scripture Readers 8:45 am

June 6 – Carol Dick  
June 13 – Sue Durling  
June 20 – Dave Lewis  
June 27 – Carolyn Malaski

### Greeters 8:45 am

June 6– \*\* See Note  
June 13 – \*\* See Note  
June 20– \*\* See Note  
June 27 – \*\* See Note

### Coffee Hosts 10:00 am

June 6– Jerry & Carol Dick  
June 13– Gerry & Dorothy Byard  
June 20– Sign-Up In Lobby  
June 27 – Larry & Sue Ridge

### Ushers 8:45 am

June 6–\*\* See Note  
June 13–\*\* See Note  
June 20–\*\* See Note  
June 27 – \*\* See Note

### Greeters 11:15 am

June 6– \*\* See Note  
June 13– \*\* See Note  
June 20– \*\* See Note  
June 27 – \*\* See Note

### Coffee Hosts 10:00 am

June 6– Jerry & Carol Dick  
June 13– Gerry & Dorothy Byard  
June 20– Sign-Up In Lobby  
June 27 – Larry & Sue Ridge

### Ushers 11:15 am

June 6–\*\* See Note  
June 13– \*\* See Note  
June 20– \*\* See Note  
June 27 – \*\* See Note

## Coffee Hour has been reinstated!

We need volunteers for Coffee Hour at 10 AM  
If you would like to serve, please sign up at the  
Welcome Center in the Lobby.

\*\*Due to Covid-19, to ensure proper safe distancing practices we will not be needing greeters or ushers for the month of June. There will still be no bulletins or passing of the plates.

## Articles for June Newsletter:

Deadline: July 22, 2021

FLUSHING UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
413 E MAIN ST  
FLUSHING MI 48433-2029

# **the Visitor**

May 26, 2021– Issue #5

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