



# Flushing Christian Outreach Center

Winter 2011 Newsletter



## Do You Hear What I Hear

As are many communities, our Flushing neighbors struggle with rising costs coupled with job loss and limited cash assistance. The Flushing Christian Outreach Center serves over 500 individuals per month. Volunteers lend a compassionate ear as those in survival mode unleash some of their frustrations.

“We can’t solve all of their problems, but we can offer them food, clothing, some personal items, and a prayer,” stated a volunteer. “We care about them; they are part of our family.”

It is with the generous donations of people in the community who make an incredible difference in the lives of so many Flushing residents. May God bless you all!



## Our Mission

Responding to the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of people in the greater Flushing area.

## December Hours

Mon., Wed., Fri.

10:00 AM–3:00 PM

Tuesday

10:00 AM–3:00 PM &

4:30 PM–6:30 PM

Thursday

2:30 PM–6:30 PM

Saturday

10:00 AM–1:00 PM

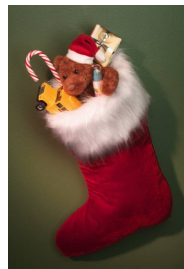
**FCOC**

201 N. McKinley Rd.

Flushing, MI 48433

810-487-2223

## Here Comes Santa Claus



The Flushing Christian Outreach Center (FCOC) is partnering with the Flushing Area Senior Center in providing a Christmas party for FCOC children who would otherwise go without. The senior knitters are making hats, scarves, and mittens while the senior quilters are making bags for each child’s gifts. Santa’s “senior” elves will help select the perfect gifts for each child. At the party, Mrs. Claus will read a Christmas story right before Santa arrives with his bag full of goodies.

## I'll Be Home For Christmas

Many people will soon be gathering on Flushing’s Main Street for the annual Candlewalk on December 1 and 2. The Flushing Lions Club is offering a FREE hot dog or a brat-wurst for \$1.00 in exchange for a box of unopened cereal. The boxes of cereal will be delivered to FCOC to be included in food orders. Come visit the concession stand on the intersection of Cherry St. and Main St. and don’t forget your box of cereal!

Paschket Chiropractic Clinic is offering a FREE adjustment to anyone who brings a bag of food and/or personal hygiene items to their office. Dr. Paschket plans on donating the food and personals to FCOC for our neighbors in need.

Bueche’s Food World, ELGA Credit Union, and Sorrento’s Restaurant are helping FCOC feed the hungry by offering the opportunity for people to buy paper ornaments displayed with each donor’s name. With every \$1 donated, FCOC can purchase 6 meals through the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan.

# While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks—Monday's Volunteers



Mary  
**Clothes Closet**  
Sue



Marsha  
**Front Offices**  
Helen & Barb (Team Leader)



Donna  
**Food Pantry**  
Greg



## Deck the Halls



We are blessed to have forged a relationship with the participants of Freedom Work Opportunities. It is the purpose of this organization to provide realistic training to individuals with disabilities in a manner that promotes personal growth, dignity, and respect, while under the guidance of trained staff. A volunteer crew of approximately eight people clean FCOC twice per month. After their hard work, we sit down for a lunch provided by one of the FCOC member churches. Through sharing good food and conversation, FCOC has made some new friends.



## Amen

The Flushing Christian Outreach Center would like to humbly thank you for your generous financial gifts, food, clothing, and community support. Your commitment to help people weather the crises in their lives is appreciated by those who help them and, most importantly, by those who benefit from our services.

Beginning January 1, 2012, FCOC will not be mailing thank you notes to those who donate food, clothing, or personal items. This will help us to keep our costs down by saving on postage. A tax receipt will still be provided when requested.

We invite you to take a tour of FCOC and meet our dedicated volunteers. We are always proud to share what we do and the services we provide. Additionally, the Program Manager would be delighted to speak at your meeting or event. Contact: Terry Bigelow at 810-487-2223.



# Oh Come all Ye Faithful

## Holiday Events and Services

### **Flushing Community Church**

Saturday, December 24  
Sunday, December 25

**9500 W. Pierson Rd.**

7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service  
10:30 AM Celebration Service

**810-732-0282**

### **Flushing Presbyterian Church**

Sunday, December 11  
Saturday, December 24  
Sunday, December 25

**5010 N McKinley Rd.**

7:00 PM Flint Concert Band  
5:30 PM & 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Services  
10:30 AM Christmas Morning Service

**810-659-5831**

### **Flushing United Methodist Church**

Saturday, December 17  
  
Saturday, December 18  
Saturday, December 24  
Sunday, December 25  
Sunday, January 1

**413 E Main St.**

4:00 PM Blue Christmas Worship Service of affirmation & comfort for those who find Christmas to be a time of sadness, conflict and despair  
7:00 PM Christmas Concert and Refreshments  
5:00 PM, 7:00 PM, 11:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Services  
11:00 AM Christmas Day Worship Service  
11:00 AM New Year's Day Worship Service

**810-659-5172**

### **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

Saturday, December 24  
  
Sunday, December 25  
Sunday, January 1

**1209 Coutant St.**

4:00 PM & 6:00 PM Contemporary Christmas Eve Services  
7:30 PM Traditional Christmas Eve Service  
10:30 AM Christmas Morning Service  
10:30 AM New Year's Day Worship

**810-659-5926**

### **Mayfair Bible Church**

Sunday, December 11  
Sunday, December 18  
Saturday, December 24  
Sunday, December 25  
Sunday, January 1

**5339 W. Pierson Rd.**

6:00 PM Worship Ministries Concert "Disturbing Christmas"  
6:00 PM Family Night  
No Christmas Eve Service  
10:30 AM – Noon Christmas Service  
10:30 AM – Noon New Year Service

**810-733-7130**

### **Mt Zion Catholic Community**

Friday & Saturday, December 9 & 10  
Saturday, December 24  
Sunday, December 31

**8228 N. McKinley Rd.**

7:30 PM Christmas Musical Drama "The Story of Salvation"  
5:30 PM. Christmas Eve Mass  
5:30 PM The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Mass

**810-639-7175**

### **New Wine Anglican Mission**

Thursday, December 22  
Saturday, December 24  
Sunday, December 25

**727 East St., Flint**

7:00 PM Lessons & Carols at Elmcrest Apartments in Flushing  
7:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship  
No Service

**810-659-0432**

### **St. Robert Catholic Church**

Saturday, December 24  
Sunday, December 25

**310 N. Cherry St.**

4:00 PM, 6:00 PM & Midnight Christmas Eve Services  
8:30 AM & 10:30 AM Christmas Day Services

**810-659-2501**

### **Westside Baptist Church**

Sunday, December 18  
Saturday, December 24  
Sunday, December 25

**5090 W. Pasadena Ave.**

10:45 AM Christmas Concert  
4:00 PM Christmas Eve Communion Service  
No Service

**810-733-2419**



Flushing Christian Outreach Center  
201 N. McKinley Rd.  
Flushing, MI 48433



*Mailing Address*



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**We're on the Web!**

[flushingchristianoutreach.org](http://flushingchristianoutreach.org)

**Online donations now an option!**

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## Angels we Have Heard on High

A young mother entered through the front door of the Flushing Christian Outreach Center for the first time. It was evident that she was wrestling with holding back a flood gate of tears. At the same time, she was trying to calm down her young child who, my mother would fondly describe as, "a handful!" One of our volunteers immediately recognized her struggle and coaxed the little girl toward a table with a candy dish and coloring book.

The overwhelmed mother sunk into a chair next to another volunteer and began the paperwork process required to receive services. While filling in the information, Mom's story began to unfold. She worked three jobs. The young lady made too much money to receive state assistance but not enough to pay her household bills and feed and clothe the two of them. Since none of the jobs were fulltime, she didn't receive health insurance from her employers. She was a single mother. The father of her child couldn't pay child support; he didn't have a job at all.

Several months ago a neighbor told her about FCOC. She waited six months before climbing the steps, one by one, onto the porch.

On the way out the door with her food and clothing, I heard her daughter's angelic voice say, "Mommy, is this a church?"

She looked down at her and smiled. "Yes dear, I believe it is."