

# Mayflower Congregational Church



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## March 2015



**Dr. Rick Martin**  
Pastor

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## Lay Leader's Message: Greater Than the Individual Parts

Last October as part of the lead up to Consecration Sunday, I spoke of us as being a “nonlinear church,” meaning that even though we are small, we have the potential for having a large impact on our surroundings. This is all well documented in the exciting new science of Chaos and is an example of the “Butterfly Effect,” where, say, a butterfly flapping its wings along the Amazon could make the difference as to whether or not we experience a storm in North America. In other words, small things can make a big difference.

Another aspect of this new science is we must recognize that the parts of an organism — or an organization — necessarily interact: the whole can be greater — or possibly lesser — than the sum of its individual pieces. And now, in this new year, I am just as convinced as in October that Mayflower is and can continue to be greater than the sum of its individual members and can have a positive impact on its surroundings!

True, at times we have our differences, but that is what makes for progress. Think what a boring church we would have if we all eternally agreed with one another. “*But we haven't done it that way before!*” would no longer qualify as the eight saddest words spoken in church but would become the norm. The strength of Mayflower has been our ability to reconcile our differences and indeed become greater than the sum of our parts.

We are now embarking on a new year, full of new adventures. Our music program has received a surge of new energy. We are slowly but surely seeing new faces in our congregation. And despite sincerely missing the homey yet profound messages from our beloved Minister, for the next few weeks we'll carry on and be subjected to new, perhaps unusual perspectives from our volunteer speakers. An opportunity to demonstrate that we are greater than the sum of our individual parts. Let us go out and make the Butterfly Effect a Mayflower reality. Let us have an impact significantly out of proportion to our size.

Small things can indeed make a big difference!

— Bill McHarris, Lay Leader



## Mayflower Financial News

A profit of \$468.25 was made at our January Second Saturday Supper.

A brief summary of our finances as of January 31, 2015:

Income:	\$ 5,626.63
Expenses:	6,678.09
	- \$ 1,051.46

### Fund Balances:

Checking	\$ 15,003.16
Bequest Funds Savings	4,010.14
Memorial Fund CD	5,495.10
CD Savings	22,306.81
	\$ 46,815.21

A more detailed report is available in the literature rack near the office lobby entrance.

— Linda Wheeler, Treasurer





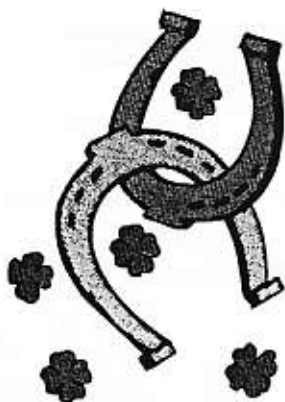
# March

## BIRTHDAYS

- 3/4 - Warren Emrick
- 3/9 - Liz Tingley
- 3/12 - Kathy Sundermeyer
- 3/15 - Marissa Slater
- 3/15 - Peggy Black
- 3/18 - Gordon Wilson
- 3/20 - Lorraine Finison
- 3/20 - Ben Rutledge
- 3/22 - Donna Slater
- 3/22 - Ardath Scheffel
- 3/27 - Ruth Lewis (94!)
- 3/28 - April Fuller
- 3/28 - Shirley Potts

**HEAD USHER**  
Lois Ries

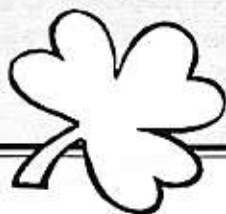
**OUTREACH FOCUS**  
Food Bank





## What's happening in March...

- 3/1**            **Food Collection for the  
Salvation Army**
- 3/8**            **Daylight Savings Time Begins**
- 3/10**           **Trustees Meeting at 10:30 a.m.**
- 3/14**           **Second Saturday Supper**
- 3/15**           **April Mayflower Notes deadline**
- 3/15**           **Prudential Council at Noon**
- 3/21**           **Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner**
- 3/22**           **Last day for Easter Lilies**
- 3/29**           **Palm Sunday**
- 3/29**           **Advent House Lunches**



## Christian Education

2015 has certainly begun as a challenging year! Snow, record cold, and paralyzed vocal cords have conspired against us. The spirit of Mayflower rolls on, however, and we keep moving!

I want to take my space to talk to about several fundraisers happening in Mayflower this spring. We kick things off with the Dave McClelland Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner on Saturday, March 14, 2015. I would love to break our sales record this year, so tell all your friends about the delicious meal we have planned!

The Mayflower thrift/rummage sale has been rescheduled to the end of April. This is a great opportunity to clean out your closets and donate household goods to Mayflower (donations are tax-deductible, by the way!). Someone out there can use your old mixer, the table you've been dying to get rid of, or the s'mores maker you were considering regifting next Christmas. (Admit it - you thought about it!) The thrift sale is one of our biggest fundraisers at Mayflower. Lots of help is needed, too, so give of your time if you can.

We have a new and exciting fundraising opportunity coming in September, also. We will be hosting a murder mystery party, where our guests will be challenged to solve the crime. More details will be coming later on, so stay tuned!

— Liz Canfield, Christian Ed. Director



### **March 21 - Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner**

Cost for the dinner is \$12; children under 10, \$6. Dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. Cozette is taking reservations now.

## Music Notes

As I write today, I have been at Mayflower for a month and a half. What a joyful time! I am taking great delight in getting to know the wonderful musicians who are part of this congregation. I delight in the shared adventure of digging into songs that are long familiar here, though new to me; as well as a few favorites of mine that I am introducing here for the first time. An example of the latter, quickly also becoming a favorite here at Mayflower, is *The Trees of the Field*, which we have been singing as a rousing and upbeat Postlude. This song, featuring text from Isaiah 55:12, appears in *Worship in Song: A Friends Hymnal* (published by Friends General Conference in 1996). Many in the congregation have begun to clap along following each repetition of “*The trees of the field will clap their hands,*” and to sing along, too, as the song becomes more familiar.

I delight also in the deep sense of community among all of you as you go about the business of “doing church.” Each individual is truly cherished here – this is palpable in many ways, both in and out of worship. Thank you so very much for welcoming this Quaker into your sphere.

— Rachel Alexander, Music Director



## Thrift Sale - Dates Changed!

Another thrift sale to benefit the church treasury is coming on April 24 and 25 (note change of dates). Please start your spring cleaning early and check around your house to find good, saleable things that you have but don't really need any more. Remember, too, to invite friends, family, coworkers, etc., to donate items. We'll be glad to have them!

Plan to hold your stuff for now and bring it to the church after the Second Saturday Supper on April 11.

We need a lot of help to set up, run the sale, and clean up after the sale, so please plan now to help. Set-up dates will be April 20-23, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (more or less, as needed). See Lorraine or Ann to volunteer to help.