

Mayflower Congregational Church



2901 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI 48911
Telephone and Fax: 517/484-3139

Website: www.mayflowerchurch.com
Email: info@mayflowerchurch.com



Mayflower Church Staff

MINISTER:

Rev. Mark McCormick
206/930-6634

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

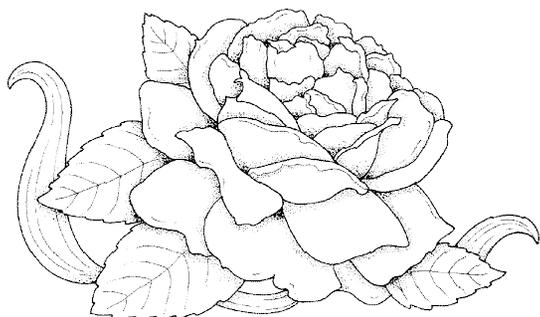
Barbara Fuller
517/574-0576

CUSTODIAN:

Joe Pitchford
517/703-3007

Rev. Mark McCormick
Pastor

Meredith A. Kennedy, Mayflower Notes Editor
10310 Lafayette Lane, Dimondale, MI 48821
517/256-1834 Email: makennedy@wowway.com



It's happening in May...

5/2 - Communion; Drive-by Greeting Time

5/9 - Mother's Day

5/9 - Trustees - 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

**5/15 - Deadline for June/July/August
Mayflower Notes**

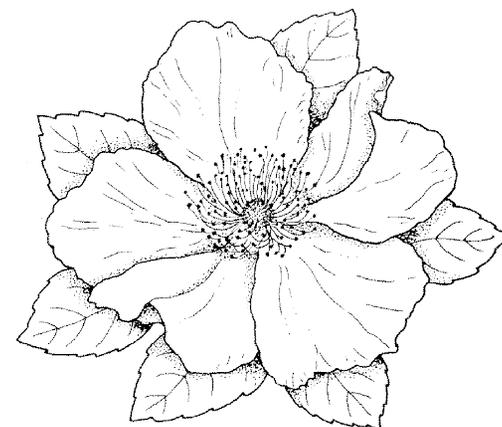
5/19 - Prudential Council - 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

5/30 - Advent House Lunches

5/31 - Memorial Day

**Exercise Class - Mon., Tue., Wed., Fri. -
4:30 p.m. on Zoom**

May



BIRTHDAYS

5/7 - Linda Wheeler

5/16 - Gil Wanger

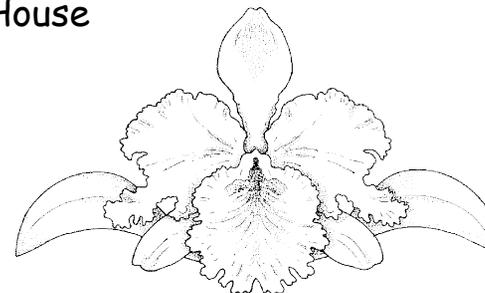
5/18 - Roger Kennedy

5/19 - Marilyn Wanger

5/30 - Darleen Wirt

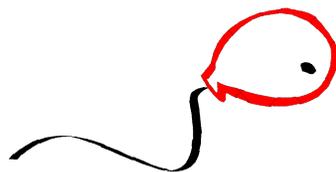
OUTREACH FOCUS

Advent House



Texas Disaster Relief

Thank you for your donations for the Salvation Army's relief efforts in Texas. The final total collected was \$1200!



Mayflower Financial News

Thank you again to everyone who contributed to our collection for the Salvation Army for their Texas disaster relief efforts. Our final total was **\$1200!**

As always, your continued financial support during the pandemic is so much appreciated. Thank you!

The following is a summary of our finances as of March 31:

Income:	\$ 14,892.40
Expenses:	<u>8,815.52</u>
	\$ 6,076.88

YTD for Three Months:

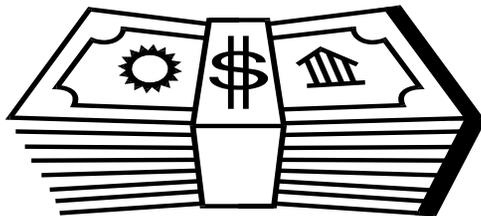
Income:	\$ 33,996.32
Expenses:	<u>28,170.78</u>
	\$ 5,825.54

Fund Balances:

Checking:	\$ 18,794.44
Savings:	100,446.66
Savings CD:	<u>22,626.39</u>
	\$141,867.49

Detailed financial reports are in the brochure rack in the lobby or can be emailed to you. Contact us if you have questions or want a copy.

—Linda Wheeler, Treasurer, and
Lorraine Finison, Financial Secretary



Pastor Mark's Musings

Hello, Mayflower family and friends! It is now the month of May and Spring is in full force. But for all the promise of warmer weather, outdoor activities, and vacation ideas, we are now well into the second year when the hovering dark cloud of pandemic hangs over us. As I write this, the case numbers in Michigan are not much different than the worst of what we experienced a year ago. There are many reasons for this. The infection rates are increasing in the younger generation who have falsely believed they are more immune. Virus variants, which are typically more contagious, have entered our country and state. And finally, pandemic fatigue has begun to set in. All of these things have deeply affected every aspect of society, including the church.

I will admit that there have been moments of discouragement. Sixty weeks of the absence of in-person gathering has had its discouraging effects upon all of us, including me. An easy answer would be to let our guard down and make an unwise decision. Instead, here are some encouragements from the book we love...

Romans 12:12 - "Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer."

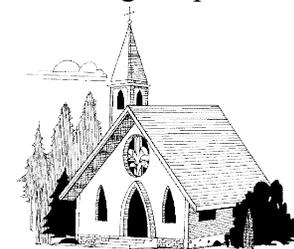
Psalms 40:1 - "I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry."

Matthew 24:13 - "But the one who endures to the end will be saved."

1 Corinthians 15:58 - "Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

In the words of Winston Churchill, "Never give up, never give up, never give up."

Pastor Mark



Dear Mayflower Congregation,

Great things are happening at Mayflower Church!

There has been a lot of work going on behind the scenes. The Social Hall has been totally redecorated, sparked by a generous donation and a lot of hard work by several volunteers. Thanks to another generous donor, there are brand new chairs in the Social Hall. It is absolutely stunning. We think you will be very pleased when you can see, in person, what has been done. You won't recognize it! Along with a new look, the Prudential Council will be voting on a new name for the hall at their April 21 meeting. Stay tuned.

The office lobby renovation is nearly complete, as well. Thanks to the same donor who provided the funds for the chairs, you will see new automatic door openers for the restrooms in the lobby.

God has been so good to Mayflower. Despite the pandemic, we are truly blessed. At a time when many churches are not faring well, Mayflower is in great shape financially, thanks to your faithful and generous pledges and donations.

At this time, due to extremely high COVID rates in Michigan, it is impossible to predict a date for reopening the church for in-person worship. However, guidelines are being developed that will be put into effect to keep everyone safe when we can reopen.

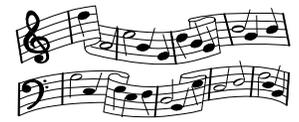
Even though we are not together in person, we are together in spirit. We appreciate your ongoing support by viewing the online worship services and the Engage series.

Starting in May, there will be a drive-by greeting time on the first Sunday of the month, weather permitting.

With love,
Gail Sawyer



Music Notes from Barb Fuller



If you ever want to learn delicious morsels of musical trivia, you need to talk with our own Bill McHarris, because he is certainly full of them. Years ago, he introduced me to what Wikipedia describes as the world's only "Christian football waltz," which I thought would be fun to share with you. Perhaps I should have waited until fall when we're thinking more about football than baseball, but I think of spring as a time to be playful, so here it is.

Drop Kick Me, Jesus (Through the Goalposts of Life) was written by Paul Craft, a prolific country music songwriter. It won the Grammy for Best Country Song in 1970 and was nominated for another Grammy seven years later after country music performer Bobby Bare released it in 1976.

On his website, Craft said, "When I wrote *Drop Kick Me, Jesus*, I figured everybody knew about songs like *I'm Using My Bible for a Roadmap* and *We Need a Lot More Jesus (And a Lot Less Rock and Roll)* and would appreciate what I had accomplished with my song. Well, my mother didn't, for one. She just KNEW there was something wrong with a song that had 'kick' and 'Jesus' that close together in the title. And she wasn't alone. But Elvis Costello and Bill Clinton understand it and like it."

Refrain: Drop kick me, Jesus, through the goalposts of life end over end, neither left nor to right straight through the heart of them righteous uprights, drop kick me, Jesus, through the goalposts of life.

Make me, oh, make me, Lord, more than I am, make me a piece in Your master game plan.

Free from the earthly tem pestion below I've got the will, Lord, if You got the toe.

Bring on the brothers who've gone on before and all the sisters who've knocked on your door.

All the departed, dear, loved ones of mine, stick 'em up front in the offensive line.

Drop kick me, Jesus, through the goalposts of life end over end, neither left nor to right, straight through the heart of them righteous uprights, drop kick me, Jesus, through the goalposts of life.

Whether *Drop Kick Me, Jesus* irks you or endears itself to you, you can probably appreciate the fact that there are people who feel that God has a sense of humor... if you just know where to look for it.