

# Mayflower Congregational Church



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**Rev. Mark McCormick**  
**Pastor**

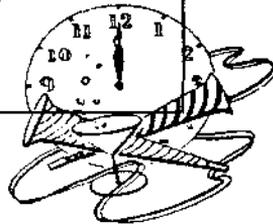
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## It's happening at Mayflower in January...

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|------|--|
| 1/1  | New Year's Day   |
| 1/3  | No handbells or choir                                      |
| 1/4  | Choir Epiphany Party<br>at Fullers'                        |
| 1/6  | Communion<br>Annual Reports due                            |
| 1/10 | Trustees 3 p.m.  |
| 1/15 | Deadline for Feb. Notes                                    |
| 1/20 | Reception of new<br>members<br>Prudential Council-<br>noon |
| 1/27 | Annual Meeting   |



## *From The Pastor's Desk*

By the time most of you read this, Advent and Christmas will be in our rear view mirror once again. And, as usual, it has been a most wonderful season here at Mayflower and hopefully in each of your lives. But the season now shifts. The trees will be thrown out or put away, the decorations will come down for another year, and the burden of schedule and holiday events will have hopefully lifted. Now what?

We will have wished many a “Happy New Year” and we will all hope for the very best in 2019. It might be good as we begin a new year to examine our hopes, expectations, dreams, prayers and wishes for another new year.

Hope is a cornerstone of the human spirit and is a healthy way to keep a positive outlook on life. It is also vital to our faith and different from that which we simply wish for or dream about. As people of faith, we place our hope in things eternal, lasting and noble and which are not dependent on the transient and temporal realities of our lives. This, then, becomes a foundation for our expectations, rather than just for good things to happen. We expect that God will continue the process of completing what has begun in us: the perfecting of our faith. While we will not experience that perfection in this life, the process toward perfection is a faith building process which will put the “Happy” in “Happy New Year”. A faith which is not built on the simple expectation for a better year or even a good year which we all want, but on the expectation of the perfecting work of God, through Christ, in our lives and in the life of our faith community here at Mayflower.

Finally, we then put our hope into action as we pray for this refining process to continue in each of us. The result will be a more mature perspective for the future. It will also remind us of the greatest gift imparted to us which was just celebrated at Christmas. The gift of God’s love given to us at the birth of Jesus, which is our true hope now, and forever.

Pastor Mark



### *From the Lay Leader*

As we approach the end of another year in our Church life, I look back in appreciation at the improvements we've made. I won't mention them all here but one of the more recent is Gwen Tisdale's creation of the beautiful, inspirational banners that are now hanging from the cross in our sanctuary. It takes my breath away every time I look at them. I believe that, along with paint applied to the walls by Pastor Mark, these banners without words have helped to enhance our worship experience.

I would also like to thank people on the Prudential Counsel that are leaving due to the expiration of their term. These folks are Eugene Potts (Deacon), Roger Kennedy (Trustee), and Rilla McHarris (Lay Leader Past). They have all served the Church in ways that are beyond the call of duty. I hope they will consider serving again in future leadership roles. Finally, I would like to thank Sue Mott for all she does now and will be doing as Lay Leader. I have complete confidence in her abilities.

Regardless of occasional setbacks, the work of the Church goes on through the ages. God is by no means finished with us yet. We have much more work to do. I appreciate the opportunity I've had serving as your Lay Leader this past year.

Jerry Fuller



## Mayflower Financial News

The December Second Saturday Supper was a near sell-out, with proceeds of \$862. That is excellent for December, when we often have smaller crowds due to various holiday activities or bad weather.

We have several outreach projects going right now, including the Mitten Tree; Baby Boxes for Haiti; and the Paradise, CA, Congregational Church which was destroyed by the Camp Fire in early November. Your outpouring of support for these projects is heartwarming.

Thanks to the generosity of many at Mayflower, we were able to transfer \$15,000 from our checking account to our general savings account in late November. That is the amount that was transferred from savings a few months ago to cover the majority of the cost for the new sign. That is nothing short of amazing! Thank you, Mayflower!

The following is a summary of our finances as of November 30:

Income:	\$ 15,278.94
Expenses:	<u>8,350.11</u>
	\$ 6,928.83

### YTD for Eleven Months:

Income:	\$105,741.39
Expenses:	<u>93,972.09</u>
	\$ 11,769.30



### Fund Balances:

Checking:	\$ 7,905.16
Savings:	46,540.42
Heat Fund Savings:	20,846.78
Savings CD:	<u>22,390.08</u>
	\$ 97,682.44

A more detailed report is available in the brochure rack near the church office. If you'd like more information or have questions, just ask!

— Linda Wheeler, Treasurer

## Music Notes from Barb Fuller



Have you ever heard of the hymn “Another Year is Dawning”? I had not until I was looking through my Amazing Grace – 366 Inspiring Hymn Stories for Daily Devotions book. The words to this hymn were written by Frances Ridley Havergal, 1836-1879, who sent them out in a New Year’s greeting with the heading, “A Happy New Year! Ever Such May it Be!”

Miss Havergal was already well-known in England as “the consecration poet” and had many talents. She was an accomplished pianist and vocalist, was proficient in seven languages, had memorized the entire New Testament, Psalms, Isaiah, and the Minor Prophets, and devoted her life to serving God. Her words, to become a poem were these:

**Another year is dawning, Dear Father, let it be, in working or in waiting another year with Thee; another year of progress, another year of praise, another year of proving Thy presence all the days.**

**Another year of mercies, of faithfulness and grace; another year of gladness in the shining of Thy face; another year of leaning upon Thy loving breast; another year of trusting, of quiet, happy rest.**

**Another year of service, of witness for Thy love; another year of training for holier work above. Another year of dawning, Dear Father, let it be, on earth, or else in heaven, another year for Thee. Amen.**



# January

## BIRTHDAYS

1/5 - *Martha Woodward*  
1/8 - *Janet Hershey*  
1/24 - *Lois Ries*  
1/24 - *Susan Schweinfurth*  
1/28 - *Kathryn Fuller*

## ANNIVERSARIES

1/1 - *Jerry and Barb Fuller (47 years)*



HEAD USHER -

*Candy Bywater*

OUTREACH FOCUS -

*Mitten Tree*