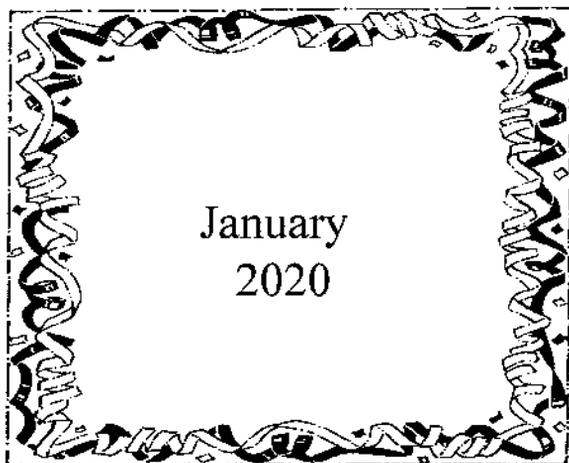


Mayflower Congregational Church



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

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



Rev. Mark McCormick
Pastor



January

BIRTHDAYS

1/5 - Martha Woodward

1/24 - Lois Ries

1/24 - Susan Schweinfurth

1/25 - Charles Fleck

ANNIVERSARIES

1/1 - Jerry and Barb Fuller (48 years)

1/25 - Tom and Marsha Hacker (39 years)

HEAD USHER

Candy Bywater



OUTREACH FOCUS

Mitten Tree, Baby Boxes for Haiti

Mayflower Financial News

Mayflower Financial News

Our December Second Saturday Supper was not well attended, but sales of the leftovers the next day helped to give us proceeds of \$573. Thanks to all who were able to help.

\$405 was collected for the Lansing City Rescue Mission from the Walter Ellis Harvest Festival, which was on November 24. Thank you for your generosity! In addition, the thrift sale total (final, as far as we know now), is \$3150, which is a great amount to add to our treasury.

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

Income:	\$ 15,275.54
Expenses:	<u>10,600.05</u>
	\$ 4,675.49

YTD for Eleven Months:

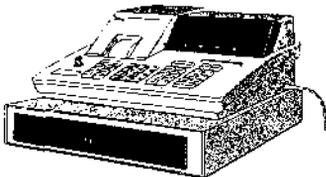
Income:	\$ 98,496.89
Expenses:	<u>83,201.04</u>
	\$ 15,295.85

Fund Balances:

Checking:	\$ 7,009.98
Savings:	64,555.43
Heat Fund Savings:	20,853.03
Savings CD:	<u>22,468.57</u>
	\$114,887.01

More information is available in the detailed financial report in the brochure rack near the church office. See me if you have questions.

— Linda Wheeler, Treasurer



Music Notes

From Barb Fuller



*I asked the New Year for some motto sweet,
Some rule of life by which to guide my feet.
I asked and paused; it answered soft and low,
“God’s will to know.” —Unknown*

As I was looking through my book, “Amazing Grace – 366 Inspiring Hymn Stories for Daily Devotions,” I came across the hymn “O Jesus, I Have Promised.” The hymns in this book are set up for exploring one each day, and this one was for January 2nd. It spoke about the beginning of a new year usually being a time for reflecting and evaluating the past and then thinking about new goals for the future. It suggested that special days and events are important in our lives because they promote our growth and development.

John Bode, 1816-1874, took the special opportunity of his daughter and two sons getting confirmed to write this hymn, and the hymn was sung during the service of confirmation. He told them, “I have written a hymn containing all of the important truths I want you to remember when you are fully confirmed.”

As we approach another new year I suspect it wouldn’t hurt any of us to read these words and take them to heart.

O Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end; be Thou forever near me, my Master and my Friend; I shall not fear the battle if Thou art by my side, nor wander from the pathway if Thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel Thee near me—the world is ever near; I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear; My foes are ever near me, around me and within; but Jesus, draw Thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.

O Jesus, Thou has promised to all who follow Thee, that where Thou art in glory, there shall Thy servant be; and, Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end; O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.

Mayflower
Congregational Church

From the Lay Leader

Happy New Year Mayflower family and welcome to a new decade! I remember when there was a great deal of concern about what would happen at the turn of the century. There was a big Y2K project at my place of employment to make sure all of our systems would still work with the new dates. Looking back, it seems like it was much ado about nothing! I doubt there is much to worry about as we move into 2020. The biggest challenge is remembering to write the new year when we write a check – right?

This past year has been a busy one here at Mayflower. We have made new friends, enjoyed some new experiences, grieved the passing of some long-time friends, and we continue to enjoy the spirit, enthusiasm, and loving care of our wonderful pastor. It is exciting to think about what the new year might bring. Please be in prayer to ask guidance for our prudential council as they consider new council members to recommend at our annual meeting late in January. We will also have an opportunity to discuss and approve a new church budget. I hope everyone will make a point of participating in this important meeting.

In the meantime, enjoy your New Year's celebration. See you next year!

Thanks, Sue

An Inspirational Animated Movie

Rilla is sharing a three minute movie that has won the Oscar for the best animated movie. Please watch and enjoy.

The website is:

<https://youtube/xZEjaGdws>

Pastor Mark's Musings

Happy New Year to all my dear parishioners and friends of Mayflower Church. This is not only a greeting, but a prayer that God will prosper all of us in 2020. Along with our prayers and best of wishes to each other is our commitment to add action to those wishes and prayers. We pledge our support, our help and our love to each other as well as our prayers.

As your pastor, I want to briefly share a few of my wishes, prayers and commitments to each of you. First of all, I do wish for another prosperous year for our church. 2019 was a year of growth in numbers as we have received new members into our church. New members have also been added to our music ministry in both the Bell Choir and Chancel Choir. We have also experienced continued growth in the finances as God's people have remained faithful, and newer folks, without coercion, have added to the number of pledged giving units. We have also been fortunate to maintain continued strong participation at our 2nd Saturday Suppers, and our numbers for the thrift sales have been solid. So I sense that we are well positioned for another year of growth. This year, our preliminary plans include the possibility of additional part time staff to facilitate and continue our pattern of growth. This may include the very important ministry of Christian Education.

So my prayer for growth is that we remain faithful in our commitment to the spiritual needs of our congregation which increase as we grow. We need to add opportunities due to the diversity of interests and needs of our growing church. The more diverse the opportunities and program, the more likely we will attract the unchurched and disaffected to Mayflower.

I am grateful that the heart of our growth has occurred by word of mouth, and direct invitation on the part of each of you. That is the most effective method of church growth. My commitment is to foster an atmosphere of openness, acceptance and unconditional love toward all as we covenant together to reflect our love for God through Christ, who is the head of or church. Thanks be to God!

Pastor Mark



It's happening at Mayflower in January...

- 1/1 New Year's Day
- 1/4 Choir Epiphany Party at
Hackers
- 1/5 Communion
Adult Education Class
Annual Reports due
- 1/8 Women's Bible Study - 10 a.m.
- 1/11 Second Saturday Supper 5 p.m.
- 1/12 Adult Education Class
Trustees - 1 p.m.
- 1/15 Women's Bible Study
Deadline for Notes
- 1/19 Prudential Council - noon
- 1/22 Women's bible Study - 10 a.m.
- 1/26 Annual Meeting
- 1/29 Women's Bible Study- 10 a.m.

