

Mayflower Congregational Church

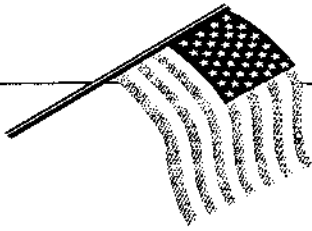


2901 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI 48911
Telephone and Fax: 517/484-3139

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



Rev. Mark McCormick
Pastor



It's happening at Mayflower in June, July and August

JUNE

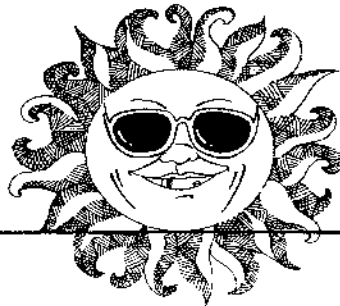
- 6/2 Trustees - Noon**
- 6/9 Prudential Council - Noon**
- 6/19 Fathers' Day**
- 6/30 Advent House Lunches**

JULY

- 7/7 Communion**
- 7/28 Trustees - Noon**

AUGUST

- 8/4 Prudential Council - Noon**
- 8/15 Deadline for Sept. Mayflower Notes**



Pastor Mark's Musings

I want to thank everyone who responded to last month's newsletter article. I was heartened to see how many are reading the articles and gave thoughtful response. Thank you.

As your pastor and spiritual leader, I am always trying to strike a balance between things which might expand and grow our ministry here at Mayflower, and to respect time-honored traditions which have served the congregation well. The problem comes when the same people are asked to help carry additional workloads. This problem was even addressed by Jesus himself when he noted that the "the fields are white unto harvest, but the workers are few." This is not only a principle of the church, but a principle in life. A good example of this problem is communicated regularly to me by my great friend Dan, who founded and operates the tour company in Seattle where I worked for many years. Last year, the company forfeited about \$250,000 dollars of additional business because there were simply not enough tour guides to conduct all the potential and available business. There were enough vehicles, office support, and dispatchers. But you cannot conduct a tour without a tour guide. Some scheduled tours with ample reservations simply had to be cancelled.

While that same problem also exists in any church, we are not to despair. In our neighborhood, we do not have significant numbers of young families with children looking for a place which offers religious instruction and nurture for their family. Our church has remained in the same neighborhood for 60 years. A lot has changed. Our target audience should reflect the demographics of our neighborhood which is much older than it once was. But we still have a vibrant opportunity to minister to our dramatically changed neighborhood. Those who are heavily involved in music, Saturday Suppers and Thrift Sales are going to take a much-needed, well-deserved break for the summer. But your pastor and leadership will be working hard to contemplate how we might enter the Fall with some new and innovative ideas for growth and nurture. In the meantime, it has been a wonderful and exciting church year with much to be grateful for in so many ways. And I want to say thank you to every one of our Mayflower family who attend, help out in any way, and who give sacrificially. We are blessed! Thanks be to God!



Pastor Mark

Music Notes from Barb Fuller

Maltbie D. Babcock (1858-1901) was known as a fine Presbyterian minister as well as a skilled athlete who particularly enjoyed nature and early morning walks. When he left to go on these walks, he could be heard to say, "I'm going out to see my Father's world." As an accomplished musician, Dr. Babcock wrote the hymn "This Is My Father's World." I find it fascinating that a hymn written over a hundred years ago can be a modern day reminder of what we may lose if we are reckless and cavalier toward our precious environment.

This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world! I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas—His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world—the birds their carols raise; the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise. This is my Father's world! He shines in all that's fair; in the rustling grass I hear Him pass—He speaks to me ev'rywhere.

This is my Father's world—O let me ne'er forget that tho the wrong seems oft so strong God is the Ruler yet. This is my Father's world! The battle is not done; Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heav'n be one.

After the brutal winter as well as the wet and chilly spring, we have recently experienced it is time to appreciate the sounds, sights, and smells of summer that God has provided us with. Let us not forget that these are truly gifts we cannot afford to squander. Let us be able to pass along this lovely hymn as well as "the music of the spheres" to future generations. "...the earth is full of His unfailing love."



Some Tiny Love Stories to Make You Smile

Today, my 75-year-old grandpa, who has been blind from cataracts for almost 15 years, said to me, "Your grandma is just the most beautiful thing, isn't she?" I paused for a second and said, "Yes, she is. I bet you miss seeing that beauty on a daily basis." "Sweetie," my grandpa said, "I still see her beauty every day. In fact, I see it more now than I used to when we were young."

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Today, I walked my daughter down the aisle. Ten years ago I pulled a 14-year-old boy out of his mom's fire-engulfed SUV after a serious accident. Doctors initially said he would never walk again. My daughter came with me several times to visit him at the hospital. Then she started going on her own. Today, seeing him defy the odds and smile widely, standing on his own two feet at the altar as he placed a ring on my daughter's finger.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Today, I walked up to the door of my office (I'm a florist) at 7AM to find a uniformed Army soldier standing out front waiting. He was on his way to the airport to go to Afghanistan for a year. He said, "I usually bring home a bouquet of flowers for my wife every Friday and I don't want to let her down when I'm away." He then placed an order for 52 Friday afternoon deliveries of flowers to his wife's office and asked me to schedule one for each week until he returns. I gave him a 50% discount because it made my day to see something so sweet.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

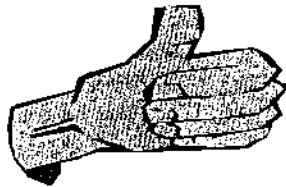
Today, I operated on a little girl. She needed O blood. We didn't have any, but her twin brother has O blood. I explained to him that it was a matter of life and death. He sat quietly for a moment, and then said goodbye to his parents. I didn't think anything of it until after we took his blood and he asked, "So, when will I die?" He thought he was giving his life for hers. Thankfully, they'll both be fine.

Taken from the website "Makes Me Think"

Mayflower
Congregational Church

From Lay Leader Sue Mott

I'm relaxing this week after several busy weeks of activity at church. It is remarkable to me just what has been accomplished recently. Right after the April Second Saturday Supper, we started Holy Week with two extra services AND a successful Easter Egg Hunt, not to mention a beautiful Easter celebration. Then a week later the social hall was full of all sorts of treasures to be organized for our infamous thrift sale. Once that was over and everything was cleared away, it was time for another Second Saturday Supper. All of these activities help to support the livelihood of our church and would not be possible without the volunteer help from many of you. I cannot say thank you often enough to express how much your efforts are appreciated and noticed. And there are so many other ways people give of their time and energy to keep our church running smoothly. You all know who you are. So, again I say "THANK YOU."



Thrift Sale

Thanks to all who donated items for the thrift sale and/or worked in setting up, selling, and cleaning up! The proceeds of \$2300 will go to the church's general fund. The next sale will likely be in late October or early November, so start saving up your items NOW! A good way to do it is to have a box or bag in a closet or a corner of your basement or garage, and as you see things you don't need or want any more, put them there. Then you'll be ahead of the game when the time comes!

Lugnuts Game

It's time to start thinking about our annual Lugnuts outing. It is tentatively scheduled for August 24. We will again be in the Clubhouse; however, this year all-you-can-eat food is included in the ticket price. The price will be \$37 per person (if we have a group of 20 or more).

Money will be due in the church office no later than Sunday, July 14.

There will once again be fireworks that night. We hope to have another good group attending.

More information will follow. If you have questions, call Roger Kennedy at 646-8861.



Next Newsletter

The next edition of Mayflower Notes will be the September issue. If you have information you would like to submit, the deadline is August 15.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer! See you in church.

Meredith Kennedy, Editor

All the Difference in the World

Every Sunday morning I take a light jog around a park near my home. There's a lake located in one corner of the park. Each time I jog by this lake, I see the same elderly woman sitting at the water's edge with a small metal cage sitting beside her.

This past Sunday my curiosity got the best of me, so I stopped jogging and walked over to her. As I got closer, I realized that the metal cage was in fact a small trap. There were three turtles, unharmed, slowly walking around the base of the trap. She had a fourth turtle in her lap that she was carefully scrubbing with a spongy brush.

"Hello," I said. "I see you here every Sunday morning. If you don't mind my nosiness, I'd love to know what you're doing with these turtles."

She smiled. "I'm cleaning off their shells," she replied. "Anything on a turtle's shell, like algae or scum, reduces the turtle's ability to absorb heat and impedes its ability to swim. It can also corrode and weaken the shell over time."

"Wow! That's really nice of you!" I exclaimed.

She went on: "I spend a couple of hours each Sunday morning, relaxing by this lake and helping these little guys out. It's my own strange way of making a difference."

"But don't most freshwater turtles live their whole lives with algae and scum hanging from their shells?" I asked.

"Yep, sadly, they do," she replied.

I scratched my head. "Well then, don't you think your time could be better spent? I mean, I think your efforts are kind and all, but there are fresh water turtles living in lakes all around the world. And 99% of these turtles don't have kind people like you to help them clean off their shells. So, no offense... but how exactly are your localized efforts here truly making a difference?"

The woman giggled aloud. She then looked down at the turtle in her lap, scrubbed off the last piece of algae from its shell, and said, "Sweetie, if this little guy could talk, he'd tell you I just made all the difference in the world."

The moral: You can change the world – maybe not all at once, but one person, one animal, and one good deed at a time. Wake up every morning and pretend like what you do makes a difference.

June/July/ August

BIRTHDAYS

6/6 - Terry Tisdale

6/9 - Bev Miller

7/1 - Mary Robison

7/5 - Lawrence Kimble

7/6 - Tom Rich

7/9 - Sue Mott

7/10 - Ruth Pasch

7/21 - Lillian Swaid

7/24 - Isaiah Neveu

7/29 - Dick Williams

7/30 - Barbara Rich



8/6 - Marjorie Cook

8/6 - Logan Neveu

8/9 - Ruth Berry

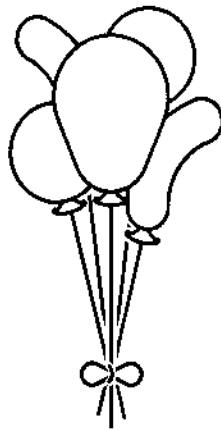
8/9 - Kim Finison

8/20 - Jerry Fuller

8/21 - Sharon Graham

8/30 - DeeAnn McCormick

8/31 - Jan Fleck



Mayflower Financial News

The May Second Saturday Supper was a well attended but not quite a sell-out, with proceeds of \$752. Enjoy the summer off and thanks for all your hard work at the suppers all year!

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

Income:	\$ 10,072.24
Expenses:	<u>7,373.45</u>
	\$ 2,698.79

YTD for Four Months:

Income:	\$ 32,182.22
Expenses:	<u>30,358.41</u>
	\$ 1,823.81

Fund Balances:

Checking:	\$ 11,491.99
Savings:	46,546.20
Heat Fund Savings:	20,849.36
Savings CD:	<u>22,468.57</u>
	\$101,356.12

A more detailed report is available in the brochure rack near the church office. Throughout the summer, additional financial reports will be available. If you have questions at any time, please ask!

—Linda Wheeler, Treasurer



SUMMER ANNIVERSARIES

6/11 - Terry and Gwen Tisdale (59 years)

7/14 - Gil and Marilyn Wanger (57 years)

8/20 - Jeff and April Lakatos (1 year)

8/24 - Terry and Sharon Graham (51 years)

8/27 - Bill and Rilla McHarris (59 years)

8/27 - Dick and Linda Williams (48 years)

8/27 - Eugene and Shirley Potts (25 years)

8/27 - Logan and Haylee Neveu (1 year)



Head Usher

Candy Bywater

Outreach Focus

To be announced. . .