

# Mayflower Congregational Church



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## A Reminder From Your Lay Leader, Barb Fuller

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we often are asked about when we will resume regular church services. We still don't know, despite the upcoming lifting of the Governor's "stay at home" order on June 8.

It will be a great temptation to start up right away, especially when we are free to leave our homes without restriction. We feel a tremendous responsibility to protect every individual associated with Mayflower. Even though the situation with the virus has improved at this point, still no one is safe from it. We don't want to take ANY chances. Please be patient and when the time comes to resume our services, you'll be the first to know!

### MINISTER:

Rev. Mark McCormick  
206/930-6634

### PASTOR'S ASSISTANT:

Rev. Linda Farmer-Lewis  
517/581-5595

### MUSIC DIRECTOR:

Barbara Fuller  
517/574-0576

### CUSTODIAN:

Joe Pitchford  
517/626-1557



**Rev. Mark McCormick**  
Pastor

Meredith A. Kennedy, Mayflower Notes Editor  
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517/256-1834 Email: [makennedy@wowway.com](mailto:makennedy@wowway.com)

## It's happening this summer \*\*\*

### JUNE

6/7 - Communion

6/21 - Father's Day

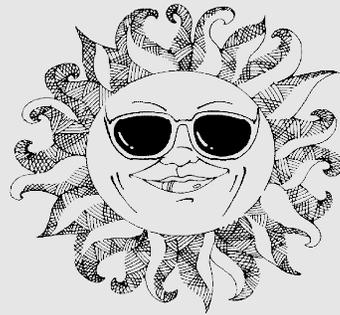
### JULY

7/4 - Independence Day

7/5 - Communion

### AUGUST

8/2 - Communion



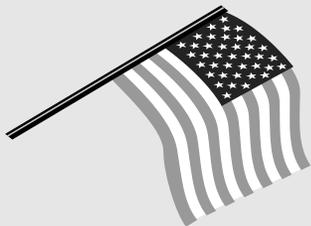
\*\*\* Due to the coronavirus outbreak and orders to stay at home, please follow emails and/or phone calls for timely information on church services and events.

Sunday services will continue to be broadcast on Facebook and online at [www.mayflowerchurch.com](http://www.mayflowerchurch.com).

**Stay home, stay safe, stay healthy!**

**HEAD USHER** - Candy Bywater

**OUTREACH FOCUS** - Backpacks and School Supplies



## 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

7/18 - Bill Lewis

7/21 - Lillian Swaid

7/29 - Dick Williams

7/29 - Sharon Stephens

7/30 - Barbara Rich

8/6 - Marjorie Cook (93)

8/9 - Ruth Berry (91)

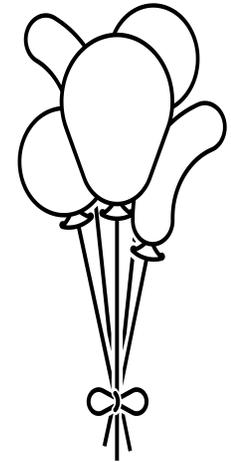
8/9 - Kim Finison

8/20 - Jerry Fuller

8/21 - Sharon Graham

8/30 - DeeAnn McCormick

8/31 - Jan Fleck



## ANNIVERSARIES

6/11 - Terry and Gwen Tisdale (60 years)

7/14 - Gil and Marilyn Wanger (58 years)

8/20 - Jeff and April Lakatos (2 years)

8/24 - Terry and Sharon Graham (52 years)

8/27 - Bill and Rilla McHarris (60 years)

8/27 - Dick and Linda Williams (49 years)

8/27 - Eugene and Shirley Potts (26 years)

## Mayflower Financial News

As you know by now, the May Second Saturday Supper, the thrift sale, and all church services and activities continued to be canceled in May and will be for some time yet.

We are again so appreciative of the many pledges and contributions which were received this month. As we head into summer and a couple of major parking lot projects (about \$10,000 worth!), we are especially grateful for your faithful support.

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

Income:	\$ 9,684.35
Expenses:	<u>8,113.29</u>
	\$ 1,571.06

### YTD for Four Months:

Income:	\$ 34,895.39
Expenses:	<u>34,127.36</u>
	\$ 768.03

### Fund Balances:

Checking:	\$ 6,713.45
Savings:	74,564.00
Heat Fund Savings:	20,855.63
Savings CD:	<u>22,547.34</u>
	\$124,680.42

Throughout the summer, additional financial reports will be available in the brochure rack in the office lobby. Please ask if you have questions.

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



## *Pastor Mark's Musings*

Hello, Mayflower family! The bad news surrounding the pandemic is all around. Is there any way we can find some good news today, even if we are inundated concerning the negative effects upon our society, the economy, our politics, and our church?

Here are some tidbits of good news:

1. We are communicating in our church by phone, text, email, Zoom, Facebook and snail mail more than ever before.
2. We are realizing how much our church family means to us.
3. God has been faithful to us, reflected in the way people are remembering Mayflower Church in their prayers and financial support.
4. We are saving some money on utility bills.
5. We have been able to purchase some new video and technology equipment which will enhance our ability to produce a quality online product well into the future.
6. We are reaching some people by way of our Facebook Live and website who might not otherwise be tuning in.
7. We have slowed down and have all thought about the things that matter most in life.

There is always a silver lining, especially as we think about our faith and trust in God.

Pastor Mark



## Thoughts from the Lay Leader, Barb Fuller

### “Still Cleaning the Barn”

Yes, a month later and we’re still cleaning the barn. It’s not the first floor of the barn because Jerry and I got that cleared out, and it is so gratifying to better see the potential for that spot. It’s the basement of the barn this time. After another ten hours or so of shoveling out more “used” straw, we were able to make space for Jerry to build a large lumber storage rack. How nice it has been to get the random stacks of lumber sorted and organized. When that was completed, we moved into the other side of the basement and were aghast at how many gardening tools, hoses, old rocking chairs and doors, zip line supplies, tomato cages, not to mention hundreds of hollowed-out walnuts, etc., had accumulated without our hardly noticing. We’re making progress on that, with hopes that someday it will be organized to our liking and we won’t have to spend so much of our time on it.

What continues to strike me as I work in the barn is how much the barn clean-up parallels the COVID-19 clean-up. This is a messy process we are all going through with the virus, and it’s taking much more time to figure it out than we originally thought it would. We can see that we are making progress on getting back to our lives prior to the virus, but there are no simple solutions. Just as Jerry and I get one corner of the barn organized, we see another that needs our attention, and so it is with this coronavirus. Jerry and I have decided that even when the warm weather becomes more of a lure to be done cleaning the barn, we will still have to pay it some attention. We don’t want to go backslide and junk it up again because we want to be able to use it for not only storage but also fun. And so it is with this virus – we are going to have to pay attention to it for a very long time so that we can get together with the people we enjoy seeing and doing the activities we love to do.

When it comes to Mayflower through all of this, we are blessed. Lorraine and Linda report that through your generous pledges and donations, we are readily keeping our proverbial financial heads above water. Strictly through donations, we have purchased more computer and camera equipment to help with our online Sunday services, and we should be having our two parking lot entrances widened sometime in June. Mayflower is still alive and kicking, just like my hundred-plus-year-old barn. Praise the Lord!



### Music Notes from Barb Fuller

The day before Mother’s Day this year, I suddenly remembered a documentary Jerry and I had watched on PBS last year on Mother’s Day about a requiem that Stephen Edwards, a prolific Hollywood film score composer, had written in tribute to his mother following her death. Rosalie Edwards, his mother, transformed Stephen’s life with her passion for music, and when she died, he began to write “Requiem for My Mother,” using it as a way to “transform grief into beauty, healing and hope for the future.”

To truly understand what Edwards accomplished, you need to know that a requiem is a traditional Catholic mass for the dead. It contains a series of prayers written in an ancient Latin text beginning with “grant them eternal rest, O Lord,” and then includes several prayers which contain communion and “Agnus Dei” (“Lamb of God”) and “Dies Irae” (“Day of Wrath”). The last movement typically is “In Paradisum” (“may the angels lead you into paradise”) and is usually the most uplifting of the movements, meant to send the one who has died off with the wish for eternal rest.

This film was so intriguing because it captured the process that Edwards went through, not only to compose the “Requiem,” but the collaboration he developed between the Continuo Arts Foundation and their renowned director, Candace Wicke (a friend of Rosalie’s), the 160-voice chorus (including a number of children), and the 50-piece orchestra from the Prague Philharmonic. It documented the travels of Edwards and Wicke to rehearse with amateur choirs in parishes of Wisconsin, Miami, and New York, teaching them the challenging music they would need to know when they came together as a complete chorus. It showed the attention to detail it would take to getting the singers (as well as parents of the children) to Rome and then the one and only rehearsal with the Philharmonic before the premiere performance in the Basilica of St. Ignastius of Loyola in Rome’s Vatican City.

If you are interested in hearing a bit of “Requiem for My Mother,” you can find it on YouTube, but you can also do what Jerry did for me as a Mother’s Day present, and that is to download it from Amazon Music so that you can listen to it on your cell phone, buy the CD so you can hear it in your car, or purchase the DVD so that you can watch the documentary on TV anytime you wish. If ever there was a story of a son’s love for his mother, it is this one. Through Edwards’ genius, we are able to hear the terrible loss but then the resignation of his mother’s death. It is truly inspiring, and isn’t that one of the beauties of music?