

Mayflower Notes...



Mayflower Congregational Church

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March

2013

Dr. Rick Martin

Pastor

Events to remember in
March..



March 3

Communion

March 9

Second Saturday
Supper

March 10

Daylight Savings
Time Begins
Trustee's Meeting -
noon

March 15

Newsletter Deadline

March 17

Missions Sunday

Prudential Council

Last day to order
Easter Lillies

March 24

Palm Sunday

March 28

Maundy Thursday

March 31

Easter Sunday



From the Pastor's Desk

Created To Serve

We have entered the Lenten season. It is a time for Christians to reflect on Jesus' sacrifices for us through His life and crucifixion, ending with His triumph over death on Resurrection (Easter) Sunday. Thus our eternal salvation is complete in Jesus Christ – as we'll confess our sins, repent, ask forgiveness.

That is where our Christian life begins. Then it continues in serving God; throughout all eternity actually. Sometimes as we are reflecting upon His sufferings for us, we may think we are called to suffer. No, we are called to serve (not as God's advisors, telling Him what He should be doing; but rather doing what He tells us to do).

At times, there is suffering in service to God. In our culture, not so much with beatings or imprisonment for our faith, but more along the line of not doing what I want to do. Going to choir practice instead of relaxing at home after a long day at work, or incorporating regular Bible study and prayer into our busy daily schedules, or going on a mission trip instead of a golf vacation, getting my butt out of bed to go to church on my only day to sleep in, etc. Service involves doing what God wants instead of what I want.

Revelation 1:5(b), 6 (NIV)

To him [Jesus] who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

And let's not forget our attitude in serving Him.

Psalm 100:2 (NASV)

Serve the Lord with gladness.

It gets a lot easier and really worth it the moment we step into Heaven. Forever we will be thrilled to do His will moment by moment – we might as well start practicing here.



From our Layleader

KINDNESS....what does it mean? Before my "Minor Accident" in Florida 3 weeks ago, I would have given it a different meaning. However, since then I have been able to reflect on the meaning of kindness.

Webster's Dictionary describes it as "**A Kind Deed-Favor**" However, the human factor has put conditions on it. If you are kind....I will be kind back the deed favor. Kindness from a friend of years...well you in a way "earned that" . Kindness to our children "We all want to be Good Parents", However Kindness to a Stranger....that is a different feeling.

I felt so much kindness from so many people during my time in Florida. People I had never met, not even just health professionals, but friends of friends and people that barely knew us were there giving up something of theirs so we could be comfortable. That is the kindness I believe that God is speaking of. The prayers, the cards and the calls that came from my Mayflower family were soooooo kind. So quick, so comforting and just at the right time. That's how I define "kindness". Praise be to God.

Terry Graham



Church Humor

A minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for the repairs to the church. He was annoyed to find the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute.

The substitute wanted to know what to play. 'Here's a copy of the service' he said impatiently 'but you will have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances.'

During the service, the minister paused and said 'Brothers and Sisters, indeed we have a problem. The roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more please stand up.' At that moment the substitute organist played The Star Spangled Banner.

Guess who the regular organist is now?!

Mayflower Financial News

The 2nd Saturday Supper in January made \$621.61. We had a successful Pancake Lunch on the Sunday before Fat Tuesday with \$137 in donations received.

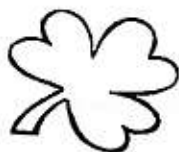
A brief summary for the month of:

January Income	\$ 5,321.60
Expenses	<u>7,207.87</u>
	- \$ 1,886.27

Fund Balances:

Checking:	\$ 15,448.05
Bequest Funds Savings	4,007.76
Memorial Fund CD	5,488.60
12 Month CD	<u>22,293.61</u>
	\$ 47,238.02

A more detailed report is available in the church's brochure rack



Meet Kim Strong

I spent my youth and childhood in Lansing. I'm an Everett High School graduate and I was in the color guard there. I spent two years at LCC and then transferred to MSU for a bachelor's degree in Zoology with a double major in Zoo Science and Animal Behavior. I spent 5 years working as a seasonal keeper at Potter Park Zoo where I did everything from training tigers to running the petting zoo. I still work pony rides there just for the fun of it. In 2008 I decided I needed a career change and went back to school to be trained as a medical assistant. I graduated December of the same year and was hired at a podiatry office in Lansing where I spent the next three years. After moving to Farmington Hills for a few months I have moved back to Lansing. I have been hired at MSU where I currently work in the University Physician's Office. This office incorporates Occupational Health for the entire university, the Travel Clinic which is also open to the public, and we are in charge of documentation and reporting of immunizations for all of the medical colleges on campus. Needless to say I'm busy every day!!

In my spare time I read every day. I am on a very competitive trivia team, and I attend at least one dance class per week. I am a Civil War Re-enactor and I try to make it to at least one event per month in the summer. I am currently single and happy to be that way. I love music and concerts, especially country, but anything will do!

I have known Kim's parents since I was in college. So, I have known Kim and her brother Christian since they were born. They are a delightful

Kim Strong and Meredith Kennedy

Music Musings

Well, I made a new piano bench cushion; I think that the other one was about 19 years old. Now, my mother can really sew. She was a home economics major at Wayne State University in Detroit. She knows how to make cording from scratch, and every thing fits very nicely. She even reupholstered a car seat in a 1946 Ford while working with my Dad.

My cushion is not perfect. I bought the bare cording, but quickly gave up on the idea. They have a very nice padding at JoAnns; good for outside use, so I bought that type. And I had grograin ribbon to tie the cushion to the bench. So, in the end, I am proud of my little cushion; it looks okay to me, and I did the thinking and labor myself.

However, it is good to also remember that we have been taught things along the way to help our success. I was taught to put right sides together, to leave the needle in at the corner and turn the fabric, to use more pins if the fabric is moving more. I also had to think about 3-D construction on this project.

It is a blessing to be given knowledge, to use what we can, and to give to others.

Apparantly I like projects! I give God praise for the fun of completing projects.

Chrisann

The choir has beautiful music for the Lenten season. You may hear "Sanctus" by Faure on March 3 plus "And the Trees Do Moan" from the Handbell Choir on the same date.



Christian Education

I don't know if March will come in like a lamb or not – it's been a relatively mild winter so far! (Knock wood!) The Lenten season is underway, and in Sunday School we are talking about sacrifice, and how we can be ready if God calls.

Our Confirmation Class is moving along, and I am hopeful we will be having a service in May. We have been exploring the ethics of living a Christian life, and how to integrate God into our everyday lives. We have been talking a lot about how God demands a lot of us, by requiring us to study, think, and pray about what is right and what is wrong, and how much easier it would be if our faith dictated to us the "right" answers.

Dominic has created a list of topics he would like to explore in-depth, and Ann is customizing a study program for him. Linda has graciously volunteered to have a lesson ready in case Trace and Tieler are able to join us some Sunday. The year is moving quickly, and I am pleased with the path that we are on.



Liz

From the Trustees

Are you the kind of person that prefers knowing specifically how your money is being used around the church and/or is happy to throw a few bucks toward projects that arise beyond the annual budget? The trustees have such a deal for you! This year we are making it a point to keep you updated on those projects as they come up.

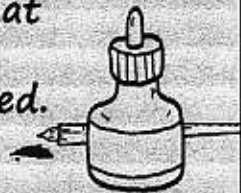
The first need that has been identified is that of new acolyte robes. Our present problem is that several of our robes were loaned to another organization and never returned, so we do not have robes available to fit most of our children that would be acolyting. Rilla McHarris and Linda Wheeler are beginning their search for a pattern and material that Linda could make into one small, one medium, and one large robe. Can anyone help with the cost of these?

This is a gentle reminder that Cozette's desk is her private workspace. Please do not take things from it, move items around, or get into the drawers looking for things.

There is paper, pens, and Post-It notes in the kitchen for general use, and there is also a caddy of supplies like scissors on the back counter of the office for the use of members.

Also, if you do use an item, please return it where you got it from! As a small church with a tight budget, we cannot easily replace pens that wander off.

Your understanding is appreciated.



Thrift Sale

Another thrift sale to benefit the church treasury is coming on April 19 and 20. Please start your spring cleaning early and check around your house to find good, saleable things that you have around the house but don't really need any more. Remember, too, to invite friends, family, coworkers, etc., to donate items. We'll be glad to have them!

Plan to hold your stuff and bring it in any time after the Second Saturday Supper on April 13. We also need a lot of help to set up, run the sale, and clean up after the sale, so please mark your calendars now for that week. Set up dates and times will be announced soon. See Lorraine or Ann to volunteer to help.

March

Birthdays

- 3/4 Warren Emrick
- 3/12 Kathy Sundermeyer
- 3/15 Marissa Slater
- 3/15 Peggy Black
- 3/19 Nalda Kenyon
- 3/20 Lorraine Finlon
- 3/20 Ben Rutledge
- 3/22 Ardath Scheffel
- 3/27 Ruth Lewis (92)
- 3/28 April Fuller
- 3/28 Shirley Potts

No Anniversaries



**Have you seen this escaped
Hobo???**

She has a habit of coming into the church and cooking dinners on a fairly regular basis. Her meals are delicious! Everyone loves her beef stew.

We have no church members who match her description; Goodwill divaesque... but, we would still like to let her know how much we appreciate her efforts! For closer identification her picture is on the board near the office

Pop can tabs...

Laura Anderson Keeney is asking that we save the pull tabs from the tops of popcans. She is recycling them and would appreciate our help! Please bring them into the office and give them to Cozette.