

Mayflower Congregational Church

Baby Boxes for Haiti

Again this year, the Mayflower family will be supporting “Baby Boxes for Haiti” by collecting new or gently used baby clothes and/or donations this fall (until the end of December). Any amount may be donated, but \$30 will purchase one complete layette. Currently, \$625 has been donated. Thank you!

An amount can be added to your pledge/contribution check or given separately. Please support this worthy project!

Questions??? Please call Roger Kennedy (517/646-8861).



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

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

Mitten Tree

The Mitten Tree will be a bit different this year due to the pandemic. We will still collect donations of gloves, mittens, scarves, and hats. They will be divided between our neighboring schools, Lewton School and Lansing Charter Academy. Monetary gifts will be divided between the schools so they can purchase winter wear as needs arise. Please make your check payable to Mayflower and designate “Mitten Tree.” Your donation may be combined with your pledge/contribution check—but clearly designate the amount. Cash donations are also welcome. Thanks for helping!



Rev. Mark McCormick
Pastor

Mayflower Congregational Church
2901 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing, MI 48911

Mayflower Church Staff

CHURCH OFFICE:

517/484-3139

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

Meredith A. Kennedy, Mayflower Notes Editor
10310 Lafayette Lane, Dimondale, MI 48821
517/256-1834 Email: makennedy@wowway.com

Pastor Mark's Musings



Mayflower Financial News

Your continued support of your church is so welcome. Thank you to all who have faithfully made your pledges and contributions. We have been able to complete several major projects this summer and fall, including the parking lot entrances and asphalt repair/resealing, and bat removal. We appreciate your support during the pandemic, and always!

If you haven't yet returned your consecration commitment card, we would appreciate having it soon, before work begins on our annual budget for 2021. Thank you to all who have already returned your commitment cards.

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

Income:	\$ 7,017.47
Expenses:	<u>5,952.00</u>
	\$ 1,065.47

YTD for Nine Months:

Income:	\$ 85,098.58
Expenses:	<u>76,005.00</u>
	\$ 9,093.58

Fund Balances:

Checking:	\$ 10,165.22
Savings:	100,431.82
Savings CD:	<u>22,547.34</u>
	\$133,144.38

Detailed financial reports are in the brochure rack in the lobby or can be emailed to you. Contact us if you have questions or want a copy.

Linda Wheeler, Treasurer, and
Lorraine Finison, Financial Secretary

In Michigan, November is not a month where we anticipate great weather or seasonal wonders. The leaves have mostly fallen, the colors have faded, and the temperatures often resemble winter more than fall. Our summer wardrobe has been put away, and the sweaters of October evolve into warm jackets and even ear muffs. We brace ourselves for a potential winter onslaught of cold and snow. It's too early to play Christmas music, and there are not very many songs for Thanksgiving. Even our traditional family gatherings may be altered or eliminated because of COVID-19. Simply stated, November can be a depressing month.

What can a pastor say or do to make a difference? This year, I would like to suggest something which can turn Thanksgiving into Thanks-living. Here is a challenge for all of us. (Of course, this is optional.)

Think of five people that have done something extra nice or thoughtful for you this past year who might appreciate a special thank you. Make a call, send a note or a card, or speak in person to each of the five. Then let me know that the effort was worth it by giving me a call, text, or email. Where it is appropriate, share as much about the experience as you wish. Then, in some way, without violating anyone's privacy, some of these experiences will be shared on Sunday morning, November 22, during which we will celebrate the Harvest Festival. This will be in place of the usual sermon. Let's make this month exciting, as we celebrate Thanks-living!

Pastor Mark





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From Your Lay Leader, Barb Fuller

I found a paragraph I liked very much in a book entitled *Top 100 Motivational Stories*, and it goes like this: “Wise men and philosophers throughout the ages have disagreed on many things, but many are in unanimous agreement on one point: ‘We become what we think about.’ Ralph Waldo Emerson said, ‘A man is what he thinks about all day long.’ The Roman emperor Marcus Aurelius put it this way: ‘A man’s life is what his thoughts make of it.’ In the Bible we find: ‘As a man thinks in his heart, so is he.’”

I do believe that we at Mayflower, in spite of COVID-19, in spite of terrible political disagreements, and in spite of devastating hurricanes, wildfires, and floods, are still managing to rise above the negativity by looking to how others more needy than ourselves need us.

We have been able to do so many things these past months for our community, including collecting school supplies and money for Sally Potter’s students at Waverly H.S., raising money for the teachers at Lewton School to be used to help their students, continued with our sack lunches for Advent House as well as given household supplies for those in need through Advent House, raised money for the hungry in the Greater Lansing area through the CROP Walk, and are now focusing on another year of raising money for Baby Boxes for Haiti, a movement that has helped saved hundreds of babies’ lives in poverty-stricken Haiti.

And what is so interesting about all of it is that we have still had enough money to freshen up our driveway entrances, patch and reseal our parking lot, and get rid of the bats that made themselves comfortable in our social hall. Through our members and friends of Mayflower we have accomplished much.

As we head into the season we think of as one of abundance, I am reminded that our church does not allow itself to focus on the negative. When we reach out to help others, whether they are near or far away, we are doing God’s work and in return He is blessing us. Let us continue to look beyond the negativity, for that is where we are most needed.

Walter Ellis Harvest Festival

We will be celebrating our annual Walter Ellis Harvest Festival on Sunday, November 22.

Cash donations will be collected during the month of November and will be sent to the Lansing City Rescue Mission at the end of the month. This year, due to the COVID pandemic, we are accepting monetary donations only (no produce or boxed/canned items). Donations can be mailed in or brought to the church office. Checks should be made out to the church and may be combined with your pledge or contribution check. Cash donations are also welcome.

Questions may be directed to Roger Kennedy at 517/646-8861.



Outreach Kudos...

A big thank you for all who donated a total of \$475 for the teachers at Lewton School! Many teachers are under the pressure of having to teach in new and different ways during the pandemic. They are using new methods and materials to enhance their lessons. Many teachers must purchase their own materials to teach their students.

Also, thank you for sponsoring several members who participated in the CROP Walk--Pastor Mark and DeeAnn McCormick, Jerry and Barb Fuller, Gail Sawyer, and Kim Finison. A considerable amount has been raised (almost \$600 so far) for this worthwhile cause! Further contributions will be accepted until Sunday, November 8. If you have questions, contact Lorraine Finison at 517/321-3221.

Music Notes from Barb Fuller

There is a section in our hymnal entitled GOD'S REVELATION, and within that section are three subsections: In Scripture, In Creation, and In Society. The In Creation subsection is further divided into Nature, Times and Seasons, and the one I will focus on now because we are in November--Thanksgiving.

I found seven hymns in the Thanksgiving section, some of which may be familiar to you and some that may not. The one I want to bring to your attention is **In Thanksgiving Let Us Praise Him**, and I do it because the hymn-tune "Austrian Hymn," used also for the hymn **Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken** by Franz Joseph Hadyn, is familiar to me, but the words by Claire Coninger are not.

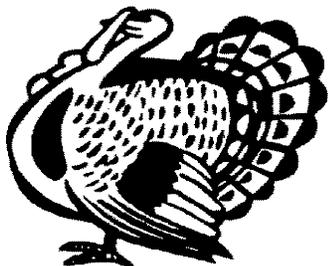
I have to admit that I enjoy singing a hymn where new words accompany a well-known tune, because I believe it makes it easier to sing the first time. Watch for this hymn as we enter our season of Thanksgiving. It has a wonderful message:

*From the first bright light of morning, to the last warm glow of dusk;
ev'ry breath we take is sacred, for it is God's gift to us.*

*In Thanksgiving, let us praise Him; in thanksgiving, let us sing
songs of praise and adoration to our gracious Lord, and King.*

*In the season of our plenty, in the season of our need;
we will find His grace sufficient, we will find His love complete.
In Thanksgiving, let us praise Him; in thanksgiving, let us sing
songs of praise and adoration to our gracious Lord, and King.*

*Safe within His hand that guides us, hidden in His healing wings;
Day by day his love provides us ev'ry good and perfect thing.
In Thanksgiving, let us praise Him; in thanksgiving, let us sing
songs of praise and adoration to our gracious Lord, and King.*



It's happening in November...

- 11/1 - Daylight Savings Time Ends - turn back 1 hour
- 11/8 - Communion
- 11/15 - Deadline for December Mayflower Notes
- 11/18 - Prudential Council - 7:00 p.m. on Zoom
- 11/22 - Walter Ellis Harvest Festival
- 11/26 - Thanksgiving Day
- 11/29 - First Sunday of Advent

BIRTHDAYS

- 11/1 - Ann McClelland
- 11/2 - Frank Wheeler
- 11/5 - Bob Mott
- 11/9 - Ross Jones
- 11/15 - Barbara Fuller
- 11/18 - Arlene Moore
- 11/20 - Ina Martin (95!)



ANNIVERSARY

- 11/25 - Roger and Meredith Kennedy (53 years)

OUTREACH FOCUSES

- Walter Ellis Harvest Festival
- Mitten Tree
- Baby Boxes for Haiti