

Mayflower Notes...



Mayflower Congregational Church

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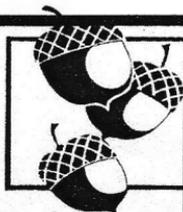
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Dr. Rick Martin

Pastor

*Dates to remember in
October*



<u>October 8</u>	<i>Second Saturday Supper</i>
<u>October 9</u>	<i>Crop Walk</i>
<u>October 14</u>	<i>Ragtime Concert</i>
<u>October 22</u>	<i>Iron Egg Classic</i>
<u>October 23</u>	<i>Kennedy's Fall Cruise</i>
<u>October 29</u>	<i>Picnic at Fuller's</i>
<u>October 30</u>	<i>Consecration Luncheon</i>
<u>October 30</u>	<i>Advent House Lunches</i>



Head Usher

Naida Kenyon

Outreach Focus

CROP Walk. Mitten Tree. Shoebox Gifts

From the Pastor's Desk



The Stewardship Campaign 2012

October has become the month where we, the Mayflower Church Family, take time and prayerfully consider OUR part in the 2012 budget. Because of very committed people over the past 100+ years, Mayflower Congregational Church came into being and still exists today. Time, energy, talents, and money – along with the blessings of God – from people who believed in Mayflower's ministries and potential effectiveness brought us to this point. People sacrificed for Mayflower to exist and to minister to people beyond their own lifetimes; they accepted the call to commitment to the Kingdom of God through Mayflower Church.

Alongside the call to commitment, there is the joy of giving into God's work. We all have God-given gifts – talents, abilities, time, energy, financial blessings – and when we give back to Him through service and financial commitment, we are happier, more fulfilled people. Jesus said in Luke 6:38, ***“Give and it will be given unto you.”*** When we give God some of our time, we have enough time to do our stuff. When we give God a portion of our talents, or abilities, we enjoy more. As we joyfully give of our finances into His work, we have enough to meet all our needs.

Participate and be involved – you'll be happier. Make a commitment – you'll feel more fulfilled and satisfied in life. AND prayerfully consider your financial pledge to God and Mayflower Church in 2012. I pray you will step out in faith and give joyously and generously (and leave some to God's work in your will, but that's for a later article). If we all do what God inspires us to do, every need will be met and many lives will be touched and ministered to and helped.

II Corinthians 9:7,8

For God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and obedience to God.

LAY LEADER'S MISSIVE

As I am writing this all the signs of Fall are present; and today they are shining examples of God's glorious plan. Trees are turning color, leaves are falling, mums are bursting with color, pumpkins are appearing and Mayflower is in "full tilt" busy. Anyone who reads pastor's weekly notes or listens to announcements on Sun. morning realizes how active we are as a congregation.

Thanks to all who helped make the hobo dinner fund-raiser such a success. There are many activities forth-coming that we need to be aware of this month: ragtime fest, Iron Egg contest. Details are provided elsewhere in the newsletter.

I want to share with you exciting news from the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACC). Delegates to the 2011 Annual Meeting approved a Strategic plan to move local churches from the sidelines to the center of all NACCC action. It all depends on improved communication between our churches and the association, and the key to that is for each congregation to choose a Year Round Delegate. This person will communicate with the transition team and other leaders of the NACCC to inform them of our concerns and to inform our members of the NA's moves to implement the Strategic Plan. This person should be willing to be the primary conduit for sharing information and be a consistent and ongoing voice between our church and the NACCC; be the person to convey advice and suggestions coming from our congregation; be computer literate and participate in online exchanges.

If you are at all interested in the new and very important role, please inform a member of the Prudential Council ASAP and we will provide all details.

We will once again be collecting shoe box gifts for Operation Christmas Child. Decorated boxes will be provided or you can create your own. Labels will be provided. If you wish some one to shop for you, contact a member of the PC. Boxes must be returned to the church NO LATER THAN Nov. 13th.

Much to do as we walk in LOVE as a thankful congregation. Blessings on us all.

As ever, Rog



Dear Mayflower Family & Friends,

The CROP WALK is on 10-9-2011 at 2PM this year.

It is sponsored by Church World Services and I had the honor of attending the rally on 8-8-2011. It was an eye opening experience needless to say.

CROP locally helps Advent House, Mid-Michigan Food Bank, The Southside

Community Kitchen, Volunteers of America just to mention a few.

Also, they help with Water for All, Blankets for disaster victims, have a Literacy Program to help women and give seed and tools to refugees to replant their land that rebels have destroyed.

To help you can get pledges and walk on Sunday Oct. 9 or you can rock in a chair for one hour, donate online or just write a check to CROP and put it in the offering plate. Our Church gets credit for all the money we collect.

For more info. please call me at the Church Office 484-3139 M-F 9 AM to 12 Noon and I can give you all the scoop.

Please consider helping CROP, every dollar helps and if you can only give a dollar, great. I thank-you very much.

Love and God bless,
Cozette Oxley



The Iron Egg

Mark your calendars on October 22nd for the Iron Egg Weightlifting Championship. The contest will take place in the Social Hall at Mayflower.

Weightlifters from the near midwest will be lifting for top honors.

We are having a fall thrift sale on Nov. 4 and 5 (Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.). Please check around your house now to identify good, saleable things that you have around the house but don't really need any more. . . it's amazing the amount of stuff we all have! Remember to have items clean and in working order or they don't sell well and we sometimes have to throw things away. If it's truly trash, toss it out. Kitchen items, linens, books, Christmas decorations, and children's items are good sellers, but it's always amazing what will sell. Remember, too, to invite friends, family, coworkers, etc., to donate items. We'll be glad to have them! Finally, be sure to plan on coming to shop yourself. You never know what treasures you may find!

Plan to hold your stuff and bring it in any time after church on Sunday, October 30. That day is Consecration Sunday with the lunch to follow so we would like the social hall to be in nice condition for that. 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 will be 10-Noon (or later) on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday (Nov. 1-3). See Lorraine or Chrisann to volunteer to help.



From the Music Department

Over a dampish-to-raining Labor Day weekend in Rogers City, I finally read “To Kill a Mockingbird.” Maybe it was the “kill” in the title, and the fact that I knew a bit about the murder trial that put me off. But I started in and the narrator, Scout, at age 6, has some very funny ways of expressing her point of view. A friend said it is an American classic; it is a Pulitzer Prize winner and some have called it the best American novel of the 20th century. Reading this book was an uncommon experience.

You see Scout (Jean Louise) grow in her world for about four years, through her struggles with school, the fascination with the recluse down the street, her father’s trial to defend a black man, and an exciting ending that uses these many threads. Author Harper Lee’s prose takes you in; it is not simplistic despite the narrator’s age, and yet the tone changes as Scout grows up.

Her father, Atticus, has taught them well to “not judge another man until you have walked a mile in his shoes.” We also think about the ways in which people are imprisoned without a jail cell. Change is slow in society, but there were those pressing for change in 1935, be it quietly or publicly, then as now.

Music Rehearsals

- Singing in **Sunday School** at approximately 10:10 has begun.
- **Handbells** has three new ringers, with various levels of experience, and one almost-new ringer. That is a big blessing.
- **Adult choir** continues at 7:30 on Thursdays; warm-up time has changed to 9:40. You are welcome to join at any point. We have already begun some Christmas music.



Fall is in full swing here at Mayflower Church!

We opened the year with a beautiful remembrance of September 11, 2001. It is hard to believe that it has been ten years since that horrible day. The children had very perceptive questions that I struggled to answer, most meaningfully, "Why?" The answer to that question is one, I cannot give them, as much as I would like to do so.

Confirmation classes will begin on October 2nd, and will be held on the first and third Sundays until we finish. I anticipate having three regular students and am very excited (and nervous) about this opportunity. Pray for us as we study the basis of our Christian faith!

The younger children are working hard on packets and crafts, and having fun with Jesus. All the kids are involved in beginning a special art project that we can't wait to share with the congregation.

I look forward to sharing more with you as our year progresses –

Liz Canfield



Dear Mayflower Church Family and Friends,
I'd like to say a big Thank-you to all of you for the cards,
notes and prayers during this difficult time with the loss of
my mom.

It really means a lot that so many people care about me
and my family.

Love, Lisa Jones



