

Mayflower Congregational Church



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Rev. Mark McCormick
Pastor

*It's what is happening at Mayflower
in October...*

10/3 - Women's Bible Study - 10:30 a.m.

10/7 - World-wide Communion

10/10 - Women's Bible Study - 10:30 a.m.

10/11 - Trustees - 3:00 p.m.

10/13 - Second Saturday Supper - 5:00 p.m.

10/14 - CROP Walk

10/15 - Deadline for November Mayflower Notes

10/17 - Women's Bible Study - 10:30 a.m.

10/21 - Prudential Council

10/28 - Consecration Sunday

*10/29-10/31 - Thrift Sale Set-up - 10:00 a.m.
to Noon*



Pastor Mark's Musings

You may have noticed during the last few weeks that the Lectionary Readings on Sunday have included readings from the book of James. Martin Luther, the great reformer, called the book of James “an epistle of straw”. Why? Perhaps because he taught, as a cornerstone of his now widely accepted view among Protestants that salvation was through faith and faith alone in God’s wonderful and redemptive act of grace in Jesus Christ. Luther may not have argued against the aspect of works as a natural result of salvation, but he was troubled by any thought of works being essential to and for our salvation.

As Congregationalists, and certainly at Mayflower, we intentionally avoid these kinds of theological arguments without judging those whose tendency it is to argue these points. Regardless, I have been drawn to the truth we find in this book. In James 1: 27, we are told what true religion looks like. The writer says, “Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for the orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.” These two named categories of people are not an all inclusive list, but represent all those who have experienced a profound loss of love in their lives. This kind of religion is not for the faint of heart. But any other kind of religion is worthless, says James. I encourage all of us at Mayflower to continue our works of love, compassion and generosity to those who may not experience God in any other arena of their lives. Through our love and good works people will be drawn to the God we serve, through Christ who has gone before, and who continues to teach us how to live and how to love.

In Christ’s loving service,

Pastor Mark



From the Lay Leader

How many times have you heard, “I’ll believe it when I see it with my own eyes”? But, if I have to see it with my own eyes, then there is no believing involved. Trust consists of not having to see it with any eyes, but rather with a feeling in the heart and mind that everything is going to be alright, even if there is no concrete proof.

The tendency is to be “proof-wanters” for almost everything in our lives. New products have to prove they can get the stain out. Juries have to get proof beyond a reasonable doubt. Scientists have to prove theories. Of course that’s understandable for many material things. However, there seems to be a general lack of trust in anyone or in much of anything anymore, much less trust in an all-powerful being.

Over two hundred years ago, our founding fathers still trusted in things that can’t necessarily be seen. It says so on our money. I look around and see so many wonderful things that can only be explained by God’s generosity and desire to take care of me. I trust Him. He’s done a good job so far.

Jerry Fuller



Music Notes from Barb Fuller

Are you aware that in some liturgical circles the first Sunday in November is considered All Saints Day, and do you know why some denominations celebrate it?

I looked in my book entitled Amazing Grace – 366 Inspiring Hymn Stories for Daily Devotions for some insight, and the following is what I discovered. “Someone has described a ‘saint’ as any Christian who makes it easier for others to believe in God.” It went on to state that All Saints Day is a tradition rooted in medieval Catholicism and is a day that has been set aside to pay homage to departed canonized saints.

This book suggests that All Saints Day be used in Protestant churches as a time to be thankful for the memories we have of the believers of our church who were taken to their heavenly home this past year. It also proposes that it be a day used to remember one person in particular who has influenced our spiritual life.

Bishop William W. Howe wrote the text of the hymn “For All the Saints” in 1864 to use in the Anglican church to commemorate All Saints Day. Its’ original title was “Saints Day Hymn-Cloud of Witnesses—Hebrews 12:1.” Here at Mayflower we will not only be singing the hymn the first Sunday in November but the handbells will be playing an arrangement of the tune, Sine Nomine, as a prelude.

For all the saints who from their labors rest, who Thee by faith before the world confessed. Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest: Alleluia! Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west; Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest; Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!



Autumn

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DESCENDING LEAVES FALL TO THE GROUND,
TWIRLING, TWISTING, ROUND AND ROUND,
AUTUMN SEASON IS ALMOST HERE,
THE SMELL OF FRESHNESS IS OH SO NEAR.



THE CRISP, COOL BREEZE,
SHAKES THE LEAVES FROM THE TREES,
AUTUMN TAKES AWAY THE GREEN,
GOLDEN-BRONZE AND BROWN IS ALL THAT CAN BE SEEN

Annual Grand River Color Tour

The Kennedys will do a fall color tour
on the Grand River on Sunday, October 14th.

The boat will be leaving at 3 p.m.

Cider will be provided, if you would like
snacks or something else to drink please

bring your own.



Talk to Roger or Meredith if you have questions.

Mayflower Financial News

Our September Second Saturday Supper was well attended, which resulted in proceeds of \$658. We could have used more help but managed to get everything done. We hope for a near sell-out in October.

We are awaiting news of the installation of our new, full-color, electronic outdoor sign and looking forward to the functionality and flexibility it will offer us. It will be wonderful!

The new sign will cost about \$26,500. Much of the deposit made in early August was paid from memorial gifts which we had been saving for a huge purchase such as this one. We'll be glad to receive donations from members and friends of Mayflower to help defray the rest of the cost. More information on that will be forthcoming.

The following is a summary of our finances as of August 31:

Income:	\$ 6,590.33
Expenses:	<u>20,324.64</u>
	\$-13,734.31

YTD for Eight Months:

Income:	\$ 62,704.18
Expenses:	<u>65,566.52</u>
	\$ -2,862.34

Fund Balances:

Checking:	\$ 8,269.55
Savings:	31,538.02
Heat Fund Savings:	20,845.22
Savings CD:	<u>22,390.08</u>
	\$ 83,042.87

A more detailed report is available in the brochure rack near the church office. If you need more information, let me know.

— Linda Wheeler, Treasurer



Thrift Sale

We are having a thrift sale Nov. 2 (9 to 6) and Nov. 3 (9 to 3, with bag time all day). Please check around your house to find good, saleable items that you don't need or want. Please have items clean and in working order or they don't sell well. Sometimes we have to throw things away--which we hate to do! If it's truly trash, just toss it out yourself. Kitchen items, jewelry, linens, books, clothes, and children's items are good sellers, but you never know what will sell. Remember, too, to invite friends, family, co-workers, etc., to donate items. We'd love to have them! Finally, be sure to plan on coming to shop yourself. As we are fond of saying, we are our own best customers!

Please hold your stuff and bring it no earlier than after church on Consecration Sunday, Oct. 28. For various reasons, we had to take some thrift sale stuff early and it is mostly in the basement. We hope that those who are physically able will help bring up the stuff from the basement after the Consecration Lunch. We will also need a lot of help (both men and women!) 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 so) on Monday-Thursday (Oct. 29-Nov. 1). Clean-up will likely be the following Monday morning. See Lorraine or Sue to volunteer to help.

Regular-size paper grocery bags are always needed for the bag sale time. We can also use reusable fabric grocery bags to help people collect their purchases easily. Bring them in at any time.





October

BIRTHDAYS

10/2 - Lockie Champlin

10/3 - Justin Stephens

10/19 - Laura Anderson Keeney (96)

10/22 - Tieler Graham

10/22 - Trace Graham

10/26 - Saralu Chamberlain (99)

10/30 - Soojin Kang

ANNIVERSARIES

10/1 - Mark and DeeAnn McCormick (7 years)

10/4 - Tom and Barb Rich (38 years)

10/23 - Kim and Lorraine Finison (25 years)

10/30 - Rick and Barb Martin (32 years)

Head Usher

Candy Bywater

Outreach Focus

Crop Walk



"There is no abstract art. You must always start with something. Afterward you can remove all traces of reality."

- Pablo Picasso

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	Women's Bible Study 10 a.m.	3 Handbells 4 p.m. Choir 5:30	4	5
7	8	9	10 Women's Bible Study 10 a.m.	11 Trustees 3 p.m. Hanbells 4 p.m. Choir 5:30	12	13 Second Saturday Supper 5 p.m.
14	15	16	17 Women's Bible Study 10 a.m.	18 Handbells 4 p.m. Choir 5:30	19	20
21	22	23	24 Women's Bible Study 10 a.m.	25 Handbells 4 p.m. Choir 5:30	26	27
28 'Consecration Sunday	29 Thrift Sale Set-up 10 to 12	30 Thrift Sale Set-up 10 to 12	31 Thrift Sale set-up			

