

Mayflower Congregational Church



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Rev. Mark McCormick
Pastor



It's happening at Mayflower in September...

- 9/2 Labor Day- office closed
- 9/11 Women's Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.
- 9/14 Second Saturday Supper -
5:00 p.m.
- 9/15 Trustees Meeting - Noon
- 9/15 Deadline for October Mayflower
Notes
- 9/18 Women's Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.
- 9/21 Church picnic at the Fullers' Farm
- 9/22 Prudential Council - Noon
- 9/25 Women's Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.
- 9/29 Advent House Lunch Packing -
after church



Pastor Mark's Musings

Hello again, Mayflower family! As you read this, I will have just completed a vacation lasting two weeks culminating with a week spent with my two sons in the mountains near Mars Hill, NC. DeeAnn will be soon arriving back (September 3rd) from her trip to France with her two sisters. We are grateful for these experiences and opportunities, and I am particularly grateful for the time away just before we resume an even busier Fall schedule in the church. The rhetorical question is this: "Where did the summer go, anyway?" The rhetorical answer is: "I don't know." The reality is this: When life zooms by, it probably means we have enjoyed many things that summertime offers to us in a place where we enjoy the change of seasons. I am grateful. But I am also looking forward to many things including music rehearsals and performances, Saturday Suppers, our musically inclined worship services, and a picnic at the Fullers'. These are things which have long been a good part of tradition and experience at Mayflower.

However, we are increasing opportunities for fellowship, study and fun. We will be returning to an earlier tradition of "Lunch and Learn" one Sunday a month. We will also begin a Men's Fellowship on Saturday mornings, at least once, perhaps twice a month. And we are planning a musical "Matinee" on November 10th which harkens back to an earlier tradition at Mayflower. Please stay tuned for more details as the leadership of our church embraces and plans activities and programs which will enhance our spiritual and numerical growth, and will increase our sense of mission and purpose as we continue to reach out to a needy world.

I am greatly encouraged at the opportunities for increased activity, growth, and a renewing spirit in our church which is bucking the trend in these days of precipitous decline in church participation and attendance. I have all of you to thank as you have responded to my leadership as your pastor. I feel your support, your prayers, and most of all, your love as we move forward together. Thanks Be To God!

Pastor Mark



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From the Lay Leader

I always thought I would spend time volunteering in a hospital during my retirement years. I guess that comes from my youthful desire to be a nurse and my natural inclination to help people. Since returning to Michigan full time, I haven't had time yet to check into that opportunity.

As many of you know, I am very involved here at Mayflower Church. I consider this congregation to be my family and I enjoy helping out in any way I can. I guess it gives me a purpose in life and I have really enjoyed getting to know so many of you a little better.

We have a strong core of volunteers here at Mayflower. Our chicken dinners wouldn't happen without the commitment of so many. Volunteers take care of the memorial garden, spruce up the yard every spring and fall, work in the office, decorate the church when needed, usher during church service, serve as lay readers, and the list goes on and on. You know who you are and I can't thank you enough for the time and energy you devote to Mayflower.

Wouldn't you like to volunteer your talents to Mayflower? We always need more help. There is yard work to be done in the gardens around the church. We need more ushers and lay readers during church. We could use more hosts and hostesses to serve coffee and provide goodies during our Sunday morning coffee hours. There are many tasks associated with our chicken dinners – from setting the tables to actually cooking the chicken. We have other special projects, like cleaning the kitchens or painting a room. God's house needs the same care we give our own homes.

Let me know if you are interested

Sue Mott

Help Supply Sally Potter's Classroom

1	2	3	4	5	6
9	5	4	3	2	1

Our Prudential Council has designated September's outreach as helping the classroom of Sally Potter, a well-known community-sing coordinator, a friend and neighbor to several Mayflower members, as well a seasoned economics teacher beginning her second year at Waverly High School. To quote Sally from an email she sent to the members of the Arts Chorale of Greater Lansing where she also sings, "Again, this summer as you look around your home office, if you have anything that you are not using: pens, pencils, any type of paper, planners, notebooks, (used – very OK) binders – of any size and color, sticky notes, rulers, glue sticks, scissors, dollar store calculators, erasers, tape, even backpacks...if you could donate them, they would end up directly in the hands of kids, and all would be incredibly grateful!"

We often think of children who attend the Waverly schools as being fairly well off, but Sally reports that 65% of those students are on free or reduced lunch and come from families where school supplies cannot always be afforded. What an opportunity we have to help these children!

Please feel free to leave any items mentioned above in the church office from now through Sunday, September 29th. If you would like to contribute monetarily to the cause, please make your checks out to Mayflower Church and designate that they are for Sally Potter's classroom. I will purchase items that can then be passed along to Sally for use with her students. If you would like more information regarding the project, last year and this year's emails from Sally are posted on the white board – they are very interesting and explain the need in greater detail.

Barb Fuller



Music Notes from Barb Fuller



Jerry and I were going to church on Sunday morning several weeks ago and were stopped at the traffic light on Waverly Rd. at the railroad tracks, heading south. We were in the left lane, there was a car sitting next to us on the right with a car heading south toward the tracks, and a car directly behind it.

Well into our wait at the light an adult goose appeared to the right of the car next to us and proceeded to saunter across the four-lane road in front of us. Jerry and I began to panic as we saw the first oncoming car reach the other side of the tracks, but to our relief it came to a stop to accommodate the goose. Just as we were thinking all was well, another adult goose began to cross the road in the same fashion except that the car behind the first oncoming car got impatient, not knowing why the car in front of it had stopped and proceeded to pull around to race across the tracks. I was sure we were going to witness the demise of both geese, but fortunately once the second car spotted our feathered friends it came to an abrupt halt and let them finish their journey to the other side.

As the light turned green and we continued on, the word *grace* popped into my mind. I thought to myself, "How many times have I done something impulsively that either was not safe for me or for someone else physically or mentally, and how many times have others, and especially God, shown me grace in spite of it?" The more I thought about it, the more I realized there were several verses from the well-loved hymn, "Amazing Grace" that applied to those fortunate geese and to fortunate me.

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind but now I see.
Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.
The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.*

Jewelry

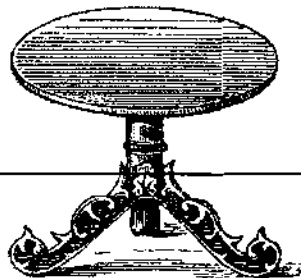
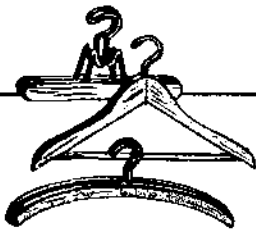
COATS

Thrift Sale

We are having another thrift sale November 1 and 2. Please check around your house now to identify good, saleable things that you don't need or want. Please have items clean and in working order or they don't sell well. We hate to throw things away! 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'll be glad to have them! Finally, be sure to plan on coming to shop yourself. As we often say, we are our own best customers!

Please hold your stuff and we will let you know when you may bring it in. We will 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 (October 28-31). See Lorraine or Sue to volunteer to help.

Regular-size paper grocery bags are always needed for the ba
sale time. Bring them in at any time.





Mayflower Financial News

We have enjoyed the summer off, but it will soon be time to resume our Second Saturday Suppers. The first is September 14. Plan now to come, eat, and work at the suppers all year!

The information below reflects a good summer we have had financially. As always, the church greatly appreciates your support.

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

Income:	\$ 9,187.01
Expenses:	<u>7,856.10</u>
	\$ 1,330.91

YTD for Seven Months:

Income:	\$ 58,864.45
Expenses:	<u>52,170.63</u>
	\$ 6,693.82

Fund Balances:

Checking:	\$ 8,379.33
Savings:	54,549.95
Heat Fund Savings:	20,850.94
Savings CD:	<u>22,468.57</u>
	\$106,248.79

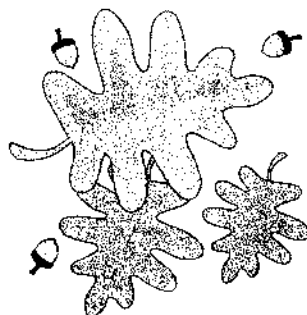
A more detailed report is available in the brochure rack near the church office. See me if you have questions about the financial reports.

— Linda Wheeler, Treasurer

September

BIRTHDAYS

9/12 - Bill McHarris
9/12 - Craig Young
9/20 - Terry Graham
9/24 - Lois Stine



ANNIVERSARIES

9/5 - Bob and Sue Mott (32 years)
9/21 - Frank and Linda Wheeler (51 years)

HEAD USHER -

Candy Bywater

OUTREACH -

Give-a-Kid Coats



September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Labor Day - office closed					
				Handbells 4:00 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m.		
			10 Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	Handbells 4:00 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m.		Second Saturday Supper 5 p.m.
Trustees Meeting noon Deadline for Notes			17 Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	Handbells 4:00 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m.		Church Picnic at Fuller's Farm
Prudential Council noon			24 Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	Handbells 4:00 p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m.		
Advent House lunches						