

# Mayflower Congregational Church



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

Website: [www.mayflowerchurch.com](http://www.mayflowerchurch.com)  
Email: [info@mayflowerchurch.com](mailto:info@mayflowerchurch.com)

## Mayflower Church Staff

### **MINISTER:**

Rev. Mark McCormick  
206/930-6634

### **MUSIC DIRECTOR:**

Barbara Fuller  
517/574-0576

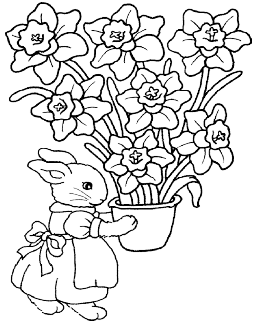
### **CUSTODIAN:**

Joe Pitchford  
517/703-3007



**Rev. Mark McCormick**  
**Pastor**

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



## It's happening in April...

**4/1- Maundy Thursday**

**4/2- Good Friday**

**4/4 - Easter Sunday**

**4/11 - Trustees - 7:00 p.m. on Zoom**

**4/15 - Deadline for May Mayflower Notes**

**4/21 - Prudential Council - 7:00 p.m. on Zoom**

**Exercise Class - Mon., Tue., Wed., Fri. -**

**4:30 p.m. on Zoom**

## BIRTHDAYS

4/1 - Charmain Hull

4/2 - Jan Holcomb

4/14 - Jeanne Hudson

4/18 - Bob Gress

4/20 - Eugene Potts

4/22 - Meredith Kennedy

4/28 - Rilla McHarris



## OUTREACH FOCUS

Christian Services

## Texas Storm Relief

We are wrapping up the collection to support the Salvation Army's Texas Storm Relief efforts. Your donations so far total \$500. Thank you, Mayflower!



## Mayflower Financial News

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our collection for Texas Storm Relief through the Salvation Army. Our final total will be included next month, but our current total is \$500.

As always, we appreciate your continued financial support of your church, especially through these dark times of the pandemic. Thank you!

The following is a summary of our finances as of February 28:

Income:	\$ 11,377.31
Expenses:	<u>8,553.82</u>
	\$ 2,823.49

### YTD for Two Months:

Income:	\$ 19,103.92
Expenses:	<u>19,355.26</u>
	\$ - 251.34

### Fund Balances:

Checking:	\$ 12,614.90
Savings:	100,444.26
Savings CD:	<u>22,626.39</u>
	\$135,685.55

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



## *Pastor Mark's Musings*

Happy Easter, Mayflower Family! There is no event, season, or theology that is more significant for Christians than Easter. And while Easter doesn't carry the same cultural significance as Christmas, there is still an amazing amount of money spent on Easter in our country. On average, each American will spend \$150 to celebrate the holiday. The total amount of money spent on the holiday is a staggering \$18.2 billion dollars! Food tops the list at \$5.7 billion, clothing comes in at \$3.2 billion, \$2.9 billion will be spent on gifts, \$2.6 billion for candy, \$1.1 billion shelled out for decorations, and finally, \$780 million on greeting cards.

What does this say about us? Well, the obvious is that Easter holds a pretty special place in the hearts and minds of Americans. While it also may say something about our materialism, I believe there is something else at work. Most people believe in the Resurrection of Christ. Easter is when most churches are at their fullest, even though that will not likely be true this year for obvious reasons. But as I think about the implications, I am reminded that while we proclaim the truth of our understanding of the Resurrection, it is not as important to prove the actual claims but to live out our lives, in community, as "Easter people." We hold out hope against despair, mercy against judgment, and love over fear. Easter worship and celebration proves to the world not a scientific fact, but a spiritual reality, steeped in mystery, yet played out in the glory of nature and lived out by those who believe. We believe! Thanks be to God!

Pastor Mark



**Dear Mayflower Congregation,**

### **The Cross Room**

The young man was at the end of his rope. Seeing no way out, he dropped to his knees in prayer. “Lord, I can’t go on,” he said. “I have too heavy a cross to bear.” The Lord replied, “My son, if you can’t bear its weight, just place your cross inside this room. Then open that other door and pick any cross you wish.”

The man was filled with relief. “Thank you, Lord,” he sighed, and he did as he was told. Upon entering the other door he saw many crosses, some so large the tops were not visible. Then he spotted a tiny cross leaning against a far wall. “I’d like that one, Lord,” the man whispered. And the Lord replied, “My son, that is the cross you just brought in.”

All of us have crosses to bear. As we celebrate Easter, we remember that Jesus carried the biggest cross of all. *John 3:16 - “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.* We are reminded that we will never walk alone with the burden of carrying our crosses. God has the weight of our crosses on his powerful shoulders.

Easter is a symbol of hope, renewal, and new life. In this season of rebirth, may our faith be rejuvenated and our hearts made new with joy and grace. Live your faith as though every day is Easter Sunday.

I hope that Easter brings you peace, joy, happiness, and lots of chocolate eggs.

Easter is the one day of the year when it’s safe to put all your eggs in one basket.

With love,

Gail Sawyer



### **Music Notes from Barb Fuller**

As I was waking up this morning, I was reminded that out here in the country early spring does not begin to show its signs with visual cues but with auditory ones. I listened with delight as I heard the screeching calls from our family of sandhill cranes flying over the house toward the pond, the shrill demands of the redwing blackbirds looking for their first meal of the day, and the quiet howl of the newest semi-feral cat we have begun to feed, reminding us that it is time to get up and come forth with food and water. The only sound that was missing was the often-times boisterous braying of the rescue donkey three doors down from us.

In and of themselves, these are not what I would consider to be lovely sounds, but they are the wake-up call, so to speak, that I recognize as God sending a new season, a fresh season, a season of hope. Through my early morning revelation I couldn’t help but think of the delightful hymn *All Things Bright and Beautiful*.

*All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small,  
All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.  
Each little flow’r that opens, Each little bird that sings,  
He made their glowing colors, He made their tiny wings.  
God gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell  
How great is God Almighty, Who has made all things well.*

Yes, soon I will see the visual signs of spring, but it is the *sounds* of spring I hear first. They are not pretty in and of themselves, but the symphony they now create each morning outside my bedroom window is the reminder I need that God loves all of us and brings us new life no matter what.

