

Mayflower Congregational Church



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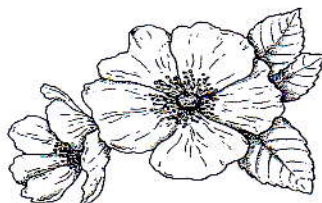


May
2019

Rev. Mark McCormick
Pastor

MAY

BIRTHDAYS



- 5/7 - Linda Wheeler
- 5/16 - Gil Wanger
- 5/18 - Roger Kennedy
- 5/19 - Marilyn Wanger

It's happening at Mayflower in May...

- 5/3 - Thrift Sale - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- 5/4 - Thrift Sale - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 5/11 - Second Saturday Supper - 5:00 p.m.
- 5/12 - Trustees - Noon
- 5/12 - Mother's Day
- 5/15 - Deadline for June/July/August Mayflower Notes
- 5/19 - Music Recognition Sunday
- 5/27 - Memorial Day - Office Closed

OUTREACH FOCUS

Christian Services

HEAD USHER

Candy Bywater

Pastor Mark's Musings



Greetings Mayflower friends!

Once in a while I get a comment about my article in the newsletter. In fact, I've received exactly one comment based on the fifteen or so I've written since I became your pastor. I don't have any particular problem with that as I suspect our other leaders who write in this monthly newsletter also hear from readers only occasionally. I haven't asked them. It may be that few people read this. My guess is that some people read the entire newsletter, but few respond. So I am going to run my own little experiment. I am going to suggest a possible change in our Sunday Schedule. Keep in mind, a change won't be made unless the Prudential Council deliberates and approves a change. And the earliest time a change would be made would be in the Fall. But I will accomplish two or three things with my experiment. I will discover that more people read this than I thought; very few people read this at all; and/or I just might find out how many of you feel about a potential change at some point in what and how we do Sundays at our church. So here goes...

Several of our newer members have expressed a need for additional Bible Study, discussion, book study, sermon response, or any type of related opportunity at Mayflower, recognizing that only women who are available at 10:00am on Wednesdays currently have that opportunity. I know that in the past, Mayflower conducted both Sunday Class(es) and worship on Sunday mornings. So...if, and it's a big if, we were to extend that opportunity to those who may have interest, how would we best do that?

Here are some options: (1) Have Sunday School before worship at 9:30 or 10:00 and change the worship time to 11:00. (2) Change the worship time to 10:00 and begin Sunday Class(es) at 11:15. Or, (3) I have another idea that is different from the ones mentioned above. Or, finally (4) I am opposed to any change to our Sunday Schedule regardless. Please include your reason why and state why you would not want to give that opportunity to folks on Sundays at Mayflower (and be nice!).

I will be anxious to possibly hear from many (or few) and to receive your opinion. It is important to me. Thank you, Mayflower!

Pastor Mark

From the Lay Leader

I recently saved this quote from Facebook:

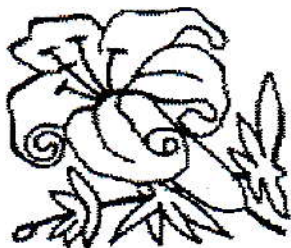
EMPATHY

When you plant lettuce, if it does not grow well, you don't blame the lettuce. You look for reasons it is not doing well. It may need fertilizer, or more water, or less sun. You never blame the lettuce. Yet, if we have problems with our friends or family, we blame the other person. But if we know how to take care of them, they will grow well, like the lettuce. Blaming has no positive effect at all, nor does trying to persuade using reason and argument. That is my experience. No blame, no reasoning, no argument, just understanding. If you understand, and you show that you understand, you can love, and the situation will change.

THICH NHAT NANH

This causes me to reflect about my own life and the relationships I have had over the years. My mom always reminded me to consider the other person – to think about how the other person might see things or might react. It has taken years for me to realize that other people don't see things or understand the same way I do. And that it's OKAY! It is an ongoing challenge for me to understand another point of view, to understand another way of doing things, to understand there are many ways to solve a problem, etc. Mom is my guardian angel – always perched over my shoulder and whispering in my ear “Susan Jane – you need to understand better”! I'm trying, Mom, I'm still trying.

Sue Mott

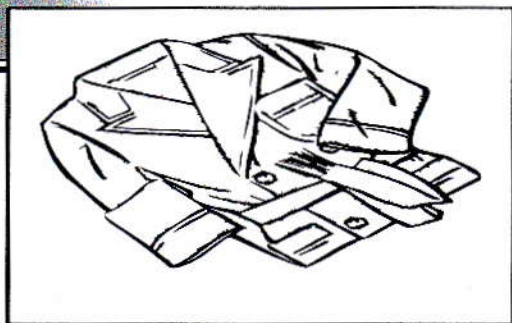


Thrift Sale

Our thrift sale to benefit the church treasury is coming on May 3 (9 to 6) and May 4 (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. Kitchen items, jewelry, linens, books, clothes, and children's items are good sellers, but anything has potential to be sold. Please invite friends, family, co-workers, etc., to donate items. We'd love to have them! And be sure to come to shop yourself. You may find just what you need!

Bring your stuff in any time until May 2. We need a lot of help (both men and women!) to set up, run the sale, and clean up after the sale, so please plan to join us. Set up will be 10-Noon (or so) on Monday-Thursday (April 29-May 2). Clean-up will be Monday, May 6, from 10 a.m. to whenever we are done (Noon-ish). Please come!

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. Thanks!



Mayflower Financial News

The March Second Saturday Supper was a sell-out, with proceeds of \$831. We also had great help--thanks to all who participated!

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

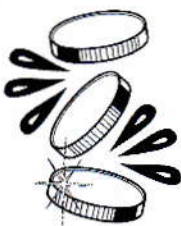
Income:	\$ 6,166.44
Expenses:	<u>6,877.28</u>
	\$ - 710.84

YTD for Two Months:

Income:	\$ 12,759.89
Expenses:	<u>14,024.26</u>
	\$ -1,264.37

Fund Balances:

Checking:	\$ 8,434.85
Savings:	46,543.86
Heat Fund Savings:	20,848.32
Savings CD:	<u>22,468.57</u>
	\$ 98,295.60



A more detailed report is available in the brochure rack near the church office. If you have any questions, please ask!

— Linda Wheeler, Treasurer

Music Notes from Barb Fuller



May 19th is Music Sunday at Mayflower, the last time the choirs formally participate in our worship services for this school year. As always, we have special music planned for that day. The anthem the choir will be singing is entitled "I Sing Because I'm Happy" and is a gospel arrangement of the beloved hymn "His Eye Is On the Sparrow." Cevilla Martin wrote the words of this hymn in 1904 following a visit to a bedridden friend whom she had asked if she ever became discouraged because of her physical ailments. The woman quickly responded, "Mrs. Martin, how can I be discouraged when my heavenly Father watches over each little sparrow and I know He loves and cares for me."

There have been times in my life when I have felt "wee" almost to the point of insignificance, as if I were one of millions of sparrows that inhabit the earth. It happened as I looked from the top of Mt. Tamalpais in Northern California to see the arches of the Golden Gate Bridge poking through the fog below. It happened as I gazed out over the expanse of the Gulf of Mexico from the plush living room of an eighteenth-story condominium on Marco Island, Florida. It happened when I was eight years old and accompanied my family on the Maid of the Mist that drove us dangerously close to the roaring waters of Niagra Falls. During each of those awe-inspiring experiences the thought struck me that I am but a speck in this world and yet I recall feeling profoundly thankful to be alive and to be valued by God just as he values the life of even the sparrow.

Matthew 10:29-30 says, "*Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father in heaven. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered.*"

As the refrain to the hymn goes:

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free, for His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

