

# Mayflower Congregational Church



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**Dr. Rick Martin**

**Pastor**

# April

## *Birthdays*

*4/14 Liz Canfield*

*4/20 Eugene Potts*

*4/22 Meredith Kennedy*

*4/28 Rilla McHarris*

## *Anniversaries*

*4/29 Mark and Lola Holmes*



*---Head Ushers*

*Naida Kenyon & Lois Ries*

*Outreach Focus*

*Food Bank*

## *From The Pastor's Desk*

**EASTER** is a wonderful time of the year. Everyone in our half of the world is celebrating spring and life beginning again after a long, cold winter. Warmth, sunshine, green and colorful growth all around us – yeah! I love spring.

It is also the time for celebration because of the resurrection of Jesus. After the dark time of suffering, death and 3 days in the tomb, suddenly the stone is rolled away and Jesus is gone. Not missing, not body snatching, but risen from the dead – to be seen, not by everyone, but by hundreds of His followers over the next few days and weeks.

Now, in Christ Jesus, we can have the newness of life. We (human beings) can have forgiveness of sin and eternal life. All we need to do is ask God and begin the journey of new life, exciting life, eternal life, resurrection life in Christ Jesus. It is hard to explain, but wonderful to experience and enjoy.

The resurrection of Jesus! Proof that Jesus is whom He said He was. Proof that Jesus is whom God said He was. A living picture of the love that God has for YOU! (Because if YOU were the only human in need of forgiveness and salvation, Jesus would have done exactly the same).

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Luke 24:6,7

***He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.***

Happy Resurrection Sunday!!! (And Spring).



## Lay Leaders Missive

I've found that the Lenten season for me stirs up a lot of emotions and thoughts. I've been thinking about the word "Adversity". The definition is: "A condition of suffering, destitution, or affliction". These sound like bullets that cannot easily be dodged. We all face adversity sometime during our lives. It can take the form of another person, event, medical condition, you name it. The question is how do we deal with it?

In a quote I read by author Byron Pulsifer from an article entitled "Adversity and God", "Adversity in and of itself is not to be feared – it is only the lack of knowing what to do, how to approach it, and what view for the future you hold that presents a concern. Adversity is nameless, blameless, and devoid of any emotion unless you empower it. When you decide that adversity has no power over your choices, and when you put your faith in God, all adversities are no more than inconveniences that can be overcome".

Jesus certainly faced adversity throughout his earthly life, especially during the last few days. He could have handled the physical and emotional pain he endured, any number of ways. The way he chose was, "not my will but thine, be done". He showed us his human side at that moment and, as a result, became a great example for us on how to handle adversity. Not with human instinct (will) but with courage and faith.

Jerry Fuller

Lay leader



**Maundy Thursday**

Dinner at 6:15 p.m,

Service at 7:00 p.m.

## From the Music Department:

It is not Difficult; It is Impossible  
Light and Darkness, Sin and Forgiveness  
This is the word from I John Vs 5-8:

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. <sup>7</sup>But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all<sup>[b]</sup> sin.

<sup>8</sup>If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.

Aren't these beautiful words? I might read them every day. They remind us to find the Spirit of Light, and to turn away from dark thoughts and actions. We are human; it will never be just simple. Being a church worker has helped me clean up some previously learned poor language habits(!). I am certainly not graduated from finishing school... Trying to walk as Jesus walked can be discerned by prayer, reading His word, reading other respected commentators, and emulating persons whom we respect. It is never done, it is never done...

Dear Lord, create in me a clean heart, and renew a right Spirit within me.



I ask in Jesus' name.

Amen.

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Easter Sunday is April 20. Music Sunday is May 18.  
We still need one more bell ringer. (just asking)  
Thank you for your support! Chrisann

## *Mayflower Financial News*

*Our February Second Saturday Supper netted \$583.75. A successful Italian Meal and Talent Show brought in 572.07 after expenses. A more detailed report is available in the brochure rack in the church lobby.*

*A brief summary of our finances as of February 28, 2014:*

<i>Income:</i>	\$ 8,128.57
<i>Expenses:</i>	8,708.23
	- \$ 579.66



*YTD for Two Months*

<i>Income:</i>	\$ 13,195.11
<i>Expenses:</i>	14,962.27
	- \$ 1,767.16

*Fund Balances:*

<i>Checking:</i>	\$ 11,187.60
<i>Bequest Funds Savings</i>	4,009.04
<i>Memorial Fund CD</i>	5,492.66
<i>CD Savings</i>	22,300.21
	\$ 42,989.51

Linda Wheeler  
Treasurer

## Thrift Sale

We are having another thrift sale April 25 and 26 (Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 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 but don't really need any more. . . we all have so much "stuff"! Remember to 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, 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. You may find some treasures!

Plan to hold your stuff and bring it in any time after the Second Saturday Supper on April 12. 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 so) on Monday-Thursday (April 21-24). See Ann or Lorraine to volunteer to help.

Paper grocery bags are always needed for the bag sale time.



Don't forget to check the church calendar and bulletins  
for information about Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday,  
and  
Easter services at Mayflower!

## **Request: From the Prudential Council**

Anyone cooking in the kitchens, i.e. Second Saturday Supper preparation, lunches or dinners, after-church coffee etc. is requested to write on the list on the upstairs refrigerator items that are close to being used up.

If you have any questions, please contact Ann McClelland. Thank you!

Sunday, April 27th, Mayflower is hosting a Service of Confirmation for Morgan Smith and Maggie Bellant. Please make a point of joining us as we welcome four new members to Mayflower!



## **Christian Education**

April will be a big month here at Mayflower. As we move through Lent and Easter, we have a very special occasion scheduled at Mayflower on Sunday, April 27th. Morgan and Maggie will be confirmed on that date. Confirmation is the time where a person confirms the decision made for them by their parents to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior. Christian churches recognize how important it is for young adults to say, "Yes, this is the path I want to take." It has been a long process, guiding the girls through the studies necessary to prepare for Confirmation, but it is important that they understand the meaning of the decision they are being asked to confirm. I hope all our members and friends can make a point of being present to support our young ladies.

The kids have been doing extra volunteer work around the church to thank Mayflower for their generous support of camp and youth trips. I hope that they have been an energetic and enthusiastic presence as they help with dishes, cleaning, and other tasks. If anyone needs assistance with a household task, please let us know, and we will see if we can help!

Stay tuned for exciting fundraising news!





*Dates to remember in  
April ..*

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| <i>4/6</i>           | <i>Food for Salvation<br/>Army</i>                                     |
| <i>4/8</i>           | <i>Trustee's Meeting</i>   |
| <i>4/12</i>          | <i>Second Saturday<br/>Supper</i>                                      |
| <i>4/13</i>          | <i>Palm Sunday</i>   |
| <i>4/15</i>          | <i>Notes Deadline</i>  |
| <i>4/17</i>          | <i>Maundy Thursday</i>   |
| <i>4/18</i>          | <i>Good Friday</i>   |
| <i>4/20</i>          | <i>Easter Sunday</i>   |
| <i>4/25 &amp; 25</i> | <i>Rummage Sale</i>  |
| <i>4/27</i>          | <i>Prudential Council<br/>Confirmation for Maggie &amp;<br/>Morgan</i> |
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