

Mayflower Notes...



Mayflower Congregational Church

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Dr. Rick Martin

Pastor

*Dates to remember in
February..*

February 12

Second Saturday Supper

February 2

Groundhog Day

February 14

St. Valentine's Day

February 15

Newsletter items due

February 21

President's Day



Head Usher

Naída Kenyon



Outreach Focus

*Lansing Church's Food
Drop*

Mayflower Notes – February 2011
From the Pastor's Desk



Valentine's Day has been around for a while. Even though it is not a Christian holiday, evidently in 496 A.D. Pope Gelasius set aside February 14 to honor St. Valentine. Valentine had been a priest when Emperor Claudius outlawed marriage in the third century. Valentine continued to married couples, was arrested and refused to deny Christianity. He was sentenced to death and died on Feb. 14, 269 A.D. He, supposedly, left a note for the jailer's daughter whom he was fond of, signed "from your Valentine".

Valentine's Day has become a day to express love to those we care about. Thus, on the evening of the 13th, Meijer's and QD is filled with men buying candy and flowers for their wives and girlfriends. There is just something about love that has to be expressed. Thus, couples still have been married even when it was against the law, discouraged as old fashion, or disregarded by society as obsolete. Say what you may, but people still fall in love and that love needs special ways of being expressed.

That's because love is an action verb. We think love is the warm, fuzzy feeling we feel. In reality, true love is a commitment to someone and is seen in our actions and behavior. The guy who beats his wife and says "I love you" doesn't know true love. The 15 year old who is "in love" because she is HOT, doesn't know true love. The guy who is grabbing flowers at the QD (he needs to stop for gas anyway) so his live-in girlfriend won't be angry, doesn't know true love.

God is love. True love in us behaves this way towards others, by the grace of God:

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. (I Corinthians 13:4-8a)

May we feel the love of God in us, and express it to the people and world around us.

Lay Leader's Missive

This is, once again, my first monthly report to the Mayflower family and I am pleased to present the following letter. It once again, show how effective we can be when working together as a community of God.

Dear Pastor Rick,

On behalf of the entire Graham family, I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere and deep appreciation to Pastor Rick and the entire Mayflower Congregational church family for the outpouring of prayers, consoling and support due to the passing of my mother, Doris Marie Graham.

Just knowing the Mayflower family was there provided much needed comfort during this most difficult time. The personal visitations, cards and phone calls to mom meant so much to her. She would talk about them for days.

Whether you were able to attend one of the visitations, funeral, send a card, make a phone call or just said a prayer will be long remembered and greatly appreciated.

The funeral was such an inspiring tribute to my mother. The special music, the Bell Choir which she cherished, and the personal tributes were so befitting and will always be remembered.

The luncheon following the funeral service requires a tribute of gratitude to all who organized, worked and/or brought food to the luncheon. It takes a lot of work to organize and conduct such an event. The amount of time required to prepare the food and coordinate everything will also be long remembered and greatly appreciated.

In closing, the entire Mayflower Congregational family can be proud of its efforts to pay tribute to my mother and will forever be held in the highest personal regard by the entire Graham family.

Thank you so much for everything.

Signed:

Terry, Sharon, Ryan, Marcie, Tieson, Trace, Tieler, Mike, Amy and Jaxson Graham

We are also “borrowing” the following from another church’s good efforts. The Prudential Council is challenging the congregation to pick the 2011 Super Bowl winners by donating non-perishable good items for the Greater Lansing Food Bank. Containers with each team’s name will be placed near Fellowship Hall for the next two Sundays. Place the donation in the container of your favorite team. Cash donations can be made payable to Mayflower with GLFB on the memo line.

Of course, the real winner will be the Greater Lansing Food Bank which has reported an over 25% increase in requests for assistance. Our gifts will be added to last Sunday’s receipts from the Annual Meeting luncheon.

As always, thank God for our church congregation. More later...

Roger Kennedy

Hi Everyone,

Just wanted to let you know about a joint seminar venture by Mayflower and Antioch Churches. I am excited about this!

God Created You: Family Success Series will begin Wednesday Feb 2nd, 7-8 pm at the church. The series will run Feb 2nd, 9th, 16th, and March 2nd, 9th, and 16th. My part of the seminar: teaching on being the person God created us to be in such a way as to enhance our family relationships – way to long of a title to put on the fliers! This seminar will help and/or have a positive effect on every relationship in a person’s life. Marriage/family/relationship help is available in Feb & March.

I will also need two married couples to sit on a panel and answer questions (towards the end of the seminar, one night). So you can think and pray about that.

Fun – entertaining – extremely informational
– question & answers – Christ centered – biblical.
Mark it on your calendar & spread the word. This is going to be great!



Pastor Rick

Newsletter Article
1-19-11

Music Department
January Freeze

Warm up with singing and ringing! You may start out with your coat on (as I do) but you will warm up as you make great progress and great music for the Kingdom! It may be hard to leave the confines of the TV and the afghan but the Glory of the Lord awaitsJ.



Psalm 40: 1 and 3: I waited patiently for the Lord; He turned to me and heard my cry ...He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.

Let us pray for one another through this blast of winter weather, and for those who may need to find warmth and shelter. I tend to forget how difficult this time of year can be.

Here is a verse worthy of memory: *Isaiah 40: 31: But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not be faint.*

We have beautiful music, blessed by God: "There is a River, whose streams made glad the city of God," with Mrs. Fuller on recorder, and other fine melodies to come.

I am thankful for our fellowship, and for each one of you. Take it day by day; wait patiently!

Chrisann

February 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
			Groundhog Day	Handbelle 6 p.m. Adult Choir 7:30 p.m.		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Communion				Handbelle 6 p.m. Adult Choir 7:30 p.m.		Second Saturday Supper 5:00 p.m.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	St. Valentine's Day	Deadline for March Mayflower Notes		Trustees 5:00 p.m. Handbelle 6 p.m. Adult Choir 7:30 p.m.		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Prudential Council 12:00 p.m.	President's Day			Handbelle 6 p.m. Adult Choir 7:30 p.m.		
27	28					

