

# Mayflower Notes...

## *Mayflower Congregational Church*

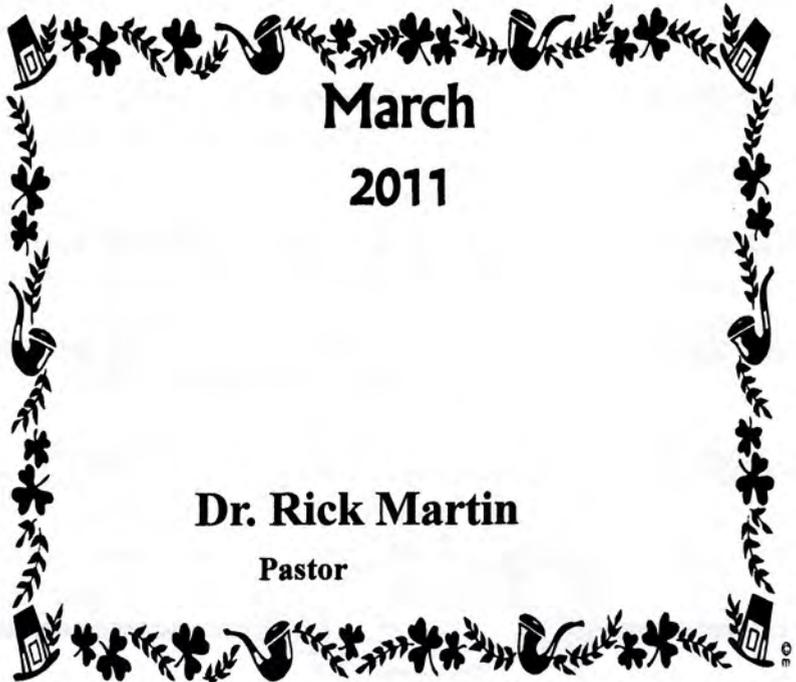
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**March**

**2011**

**Dr. Rick Martin**

**Pastor**

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*Dates to remember in  
March...*



March 2,9,16

*Family Success Serites, 7:00  
p.m.*

March 8

*Men's Fat Tuesday Pancake  
Supper 5:30 p.m.*

March 12

*Second Saturday Supper  
5 p.m.*

March 15

*Newsletter items due  
Trustees 5 p.m.*

March 19

*Corned Beef and Cabbage  
Dinner 5:30 p.m.*

March 20

*Missions Sunday with the  
Sewards from Africa*

March 27

*Prudential Council  
12 p.m.*



Head Usher

*Naida Kenyon*

Outreach Focus

*Missions*

## **From the Pastor's Desk**

### **Expectations – Disappointment – Keep the Faith – Really?**

We all have experienced disappointments in our life. Some are minor, which years later turn into a funny story to tell. A few have been tragic, which can lead to future anxiety, stress and a life based on fear – not a happy way to live, nor is it the life God intends for you.

Romans 10:11

For the Scripture says, **“WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED.”**

Wait a minute; I've been “disappointed” since becoming a Christian! What's up with that? How am I supposed to “keep the faith” when I have prayed and nothing improved? Or it even became worse? How am I supposed to continue to trust God, when I have been sorely disappointed in the past?

I wish I had all the answers to those questions, I do not. However, I have learned some things through the Word of God, the Bible, and my experiences thus far in life. Many of my disappointments have come from my own expectations, not God's expectations (His will) for me. I want God to serve me, to bring my will to pass, rather than to serve Him. Instead of God, I want a Genie – rub the magic lamp, get three wishes and my first wish is to have unlimited wishes. And I wonder why I'm disappointed when my prayers for me aren't manifested according to my will. Duh!

Father knows best. There are many prayers that I now look back on and admit, “Thank God He didn't answer that one!” A little more explanation at the time would have been good (kind of kills the whole trust & faith thing), but hindsight reveals His ultimate knowledge and love for me.

The game isn't over yet. More than one baseball game has been won in the 9<sup>th</sup> inning. I have won golf matches on the last putt at the last hole. If we stay the course, keep the faith, continue to trust and serve Him, our first moment in Heaven will reveal that we won – our disappointments being swallowed up in His eternal love for us.

## LAY LEADER'S MISSIVE

February with its weather extremes seemed to fly by!! Will March come in like a lion or a lamb? However it approaches it will be a very busy month with lots of opportunities for worship and fellowship for the Mayflower Family.

We will once again designate March as Missions Month; the highlight of which will be a visit by the Seward's from their mission in Mali, West Africa. There will be special music and worship that day and a meal will also be planned. As you know, our 2011 budget includes a line-item for their mission.

The Men's Fat Tuesday (Mardi Gras) pancake dinner will again be served on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Bill McHarris will once again entertain us with great piano music. So.... gather your friends, bright shirt and beads and come on out for great fun and food. Guys, please sign up as soon as possible to help.

Our annual and ever popular corned beef and cabbage dinner (ala Dave McClelland) will be held on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. We will also be entertained by the "Vintage Woodwind Quintet". **ADVANCED TICKETS ARE REQUIRED** and can be ordered from the office no later than 3/15. We will also need some help with set-up and clean-up, so there will be a sign up sheet on the white board.

Proceeds from both of these will be used for other mission projects.. If anyone has any ideas for mission displays, please contact me at 646-8861.

I want to emphasize good communication in ALL areas of our church this year. Please remember the Prudential Council meetings are open to everyone and are usually the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month.

As we enter a new phase of our church calendar (Lent) may we be open to all of God's blessings.

Roger

### Keys Missing

We are looking for church keys #6 and #40 (the loaner key). If you have either of these, please let Lorraine know.



(MCC Newsletter Feb 15 2011)

Music Musings for March

You can always thumb through the Psalms to find good reading, for example:

Psalm 130

A song of ascents.

<sup>1</sup> Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD;

<sup>2</sup> Lord, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.

<sup>3</sup> If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand?

<sup>4</sup> But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

<sup>5</sup> I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.

<sup>6</sup> I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.

<sup>7</sup> Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

<sup>8</sup> He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

Really, how can we get through a day without sinning? Who can stand? Were we patient with our spouse, children, and students? Did we pressure someone in traffic, or cut them off? Did we work productively at work? How was our attitude? How was our humility/pride, how was our lovingkindness? Christianity is not a difficult path, it is an *impossible* one, to borrow from Dr. Rick.

But with God there is forgiveness; there is hope—for even me, for every one. The Lord has unfailing love for us.

Unfailing Love. Such a blessing. We fail, we falter. We miss the mark. But we are still loved unconditionally. God wants us to go again. We can put our hope in the Lord.

We cannot be perfect. Let us express ourselves with love, with goodwill, with God first. So be it.



Chrisann

## **Sunday School has been playing to a full house at Mayflower!**

On the last Sunday in January, we made 153 lunches for Advent House in under 20 minutes. As they say, "many hands make light work!" The kids enjoy packing the lunches, and knowing that they are helping to feed someone less fortunate than they are.

We have been busy painting props for a Noah's Ark play that we will be performing in early March. All of the kids are choosing the animal they want to be, so we should have quite a good mixture of the animal population represented on our ark!

Our guest speaker for the month of February was Dave McClelland, who showed us how to tie knots. This led into our February theme, "Fishers of Men." March is featuring Roger Kennedy talking about drug abuse and poison control, which leads us into "Our Bodies are Temples."

I am looking for adults interested in attending an adult teaching of Confirmation classes - I need to practice before beginning on our younger folks. Please see me if you are interested.

Spring is almost here - the long winter is almost over! Rejoice!



The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but the fly comes close.

Mark Twain

**"Be active in sharing  
your faith."  
~Philemon 6**

## **Stewardship Thought**

### **Spreading the Good News**

Jesus was always very clear on what His purpose on Earth was. At the young age of twelve, He told His parents, "*Didn't you know I had to be in My Father's house?*" (Luke 2:49). Later He

declared, "*I have come that [My sheep] may have life, and have it to the full*" (John 10:10). In order to give that abundant life to us, His sheep, "*The Good Shepherd [laid] down His life for the sheep*" (John 10:11). Our purpose as stewards of the Good Shepherd is to glorify Him and spread that Good News of His death and resurrection which brings us forgiveness of sin and life everlasting with Him.



**Prayer:** Lord, I pray for faith that will motivate me to do Your will. Help me to open my mind and heart to Your direction and purpose for my life. I thank You for loving me in spite of the wrong choices that I continually make. I am so blessed to have Your love and forgiveness. In Jesus' precious name I pray. Amen.

**Blessings on your stewardship journey!**

## ARE YOU IN THE MOOD FOR SPRING CLEANING? I CAN HELP!

I am working at Peckham Industries; we are trying to start Libraries for our team members. We are looking for the donation of books from the community. Here are some books that we have in mind, but do not think this is a limited list, if you other books that would be good...we would love to have them!

1. Dr Seuss
2. Bob Books
3. Dick and Jane
4. I Can Read Books
5. Richard Scary Picture Books
6. I spy books
7. Picture Dictionary
8. Children Reading Books All Levels
9. Elementary Textbooks
10. Junior High Textbooks
11. High School Textbooks
12. Math Books
13. Fractions Books
14. Healthy Eating
15. Parenting
16. Budgeting
17. Self Help
18. Resume Writing
19. Interview skills
20. Fun Easy Reading



If you have books around that are collecting dust that are in the way, or books that you know are great teaching tools, we would love to have them! Nancy Bandfield (517) 316-4385 [nbandfield@peckham.org](mailto:nbandfield@peckham.org)

# March 2011

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat



			1	2	3	4	5
			Family Success Series 7 p.m.	Family Success Series 7 p.m.	Handbelle @ p.m. Choit 7:30 p.m.		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Communion		Men's Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner 5:30 p.m.	Family Success Series 7 p.m. Ash Wednesday	Handbelle @ p.m. Choit 7:30 p.m.		Second Saturday Supper 5:00 p.m.	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
First Sunday In Lent Daylight Savings Time begins		Deadline for April Mayflower Notes	Family Success Series 7 p.m.	Handbelle @ p.m. Choit 7:30 p.m. Trustees 7 p.m. St. Patrick's Day		Corred Beef and Cabbage Dinner 5:30 p.m.	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
Miselone Sunday with the Sewarda from West Africa First Day of Spring				Handbelle @ p.m. Choit 7:30 p.m.			
27	28	29	30	31			
Prudential Council 12 p.m.				Handbelle @ p.m. Choit 7:30 p.m.			

