

# Mayflower Notes...



## *Mayflower Congregational Church*

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**March  
2012**

**Dr. Rick Martin**

**Pastor**

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*Dates to remember in*

*March...*

March 10



*Second Saturday Supper*

March 11

*Daylight Savings Time  
begins*

March 15

*Mayflower Notes  
deadline*

March 17

*Corned beef Dinner  
5:30 pm*

March 18

*Missions Sunday*

March 24

*Italian Dinner and  
Talent Show 5:30 p.m.*

March 25

*Last day to order an  
Easter Lily*

*St. Patrick's  
Day*



*Head Usher*

*Naida Kenyon*

## From the Pastor's Desk

One thing people like about Michigan is the four seasons we experience every year. The season I would love to live in year around is summer. However, the season I "like" the most is spring. Spring is full of hope and the renewing of life and nature turning from drab brown/ grey to green and colorful and warm sunshine. I love the first day we get to open the windows of the house and the anticipation of the first day on the golf course.

I also enjoy those spring times we experience in Jesus. Sometimes our walk with God is like winter: cold, gloomy, icy, snowy, and it takes a lot of extra energy just to get through the day. We get weighed down with the cares of life, stresses of work, loss of loved ones, tight budgets in a rough economy, unexpected expenses and other tests, trials and tribulations. It isn't always fun and games (harps and halos) serving the Lord.

Winter doesn't last forever – it just seems like it. Spring comes in nature and times of refreshing come from the Lord Jesus. Even though it has been a mild winter by Michigan standards, I am ready for spring. And I am always ready for Jesus' times of refreshing. May you experience both in the immediate future. See you on the golf course!

**Acts 3:19**

**Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.**



### **Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner**

Dave McClelland will again be cooking corned beef and cabbage on March 17th. This has been a very popular dinner and it sells out quickly. Tickets are available in the office; \$9 for adults and \$4 for children.

Tickets will go on sale March 1st through March 14th. Entertainment again provided by the Vintage Quartet.

## Lay Leader's Message

I am sitting in the living room gazing out the back window that overlooks the woodlot behind our yard. Three deer are foraging for something to eat in the cold, meager surroundings that characterize this time of year. This is the time of year that typically begins to wear on me...it's cold and uncomfortable outdoors, sometimes more difficult to drive, and many of the days have a gray overcast devoid of luster. It makes me feel grateful that flannel sheets were invented! On these cold nights I can feel warmed and especially comforted when it's time to rest in preparation for the morning. The deer's plight out back today in the harsh environment underscores my thoughts about the flannel sheets. Likewise, we live in a time where the environment periodically seems a bit harsh. Economic uncertainty, political bickering by our nation's leaders, the local news, and our own personal problems can serve to wear us down and discourage. It is at times like this that I like to recall the lyrics from Dick and Melodie Tunney's popular song, In His Presence:

In His presence  
There is comfort  
In His presence  
There is peace  
When we seek the Father's heart  
We will find such blessed assurance  
In the presence of the Lord

These lyrics serve to remind us that no matter what else is transpiring in our lives and no matter how harsh the environment may be, that there is a place for us with God. A place of peace, comfort, warmth, and love. And when we seek and find that place with our Father, we transcend everything: our troubles, our personal differences, and our discomforts. As we approach Lent, may we all devote ample time in our pursuit of His presence in our lives.



Fred

## Mayflower Financial News

Our January 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Chicken Dinner served 91 with a net profit of \$618.96

From donations received from December and January, \$ 642 was given to the Food Drop Project.



A brief summary for the months of January:

January Income	\$ 8,671.99
Expenses	<u>7,368.19</u>
	\$ 1,303.80

### Fund Balances:

Checking:	\$ 12,268.11
Bequest Funds Savings	4,005.58
Memorial Fund CD	5,477.79
12 Month CD	<u>22,283.72</u>
	\$ 44,035.20

A more detailed report is available in the church's brochure rack

Linda

### Thrift Sale

Another thrift sale to benefit the church treasury is coming on April 27 and 28. Please start your spring cleaning early and check around your house to find good, saleable things that you have around the house but don't really need any more. Remember, too, to invite friends, family, coworkers, etc., to donate items. We'll be glad to have them!

Plan to hold your stuff and bring it in any time after the Second Saturday Supper on April 14. 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 dates and times will follow. See Lorraine to volunteer to help.

The Lenten Season is in full swing here at Mayflower, and our Sunday Schoolers are keeping busy!

The Confirmation Class is finishing up learning about all the books of the Bible and a brief overview of each one. We have been studying this for a long time, and I know the girls are ready to move on to a new topic. Upcoming features are denominations, the history of the Congregational Church, and what it means to be a Christian.

The kids have been working on a short skit on Daniel and the lions, and had a lesson on the game "Cat's Cradle."

We look forward to working our way towards spring break! It won't be long now.

Liz



### Waiting for Spring

It is a tired-time-of-year, especially when the clouds cover entirely and we feel the snow-rain-mist rule the days. Use your sunlamp, if you can; see a funny movie; find someone to laugh with. My brother Matt had a picture of his cat on the fridge labeled "hang in there Poot, Spring's comin'." Isaiah 40:31 is an especially strong and famous verse:

*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.*

Those words express such tremendous hope; imagine the stately bird coasting with ease on the wind. And to not grow weary...to fly without great effort...what a freeing thought. We are promised that the Lord will be with us, to uphold us when our walk is difficult, or very difficult. God will be with us, and He will renew us.

Please join us for the Italian night and Talent Show. Feel free to attend either segment, but both will be a great deal of fun. We have songs and pieces from Jamaica, Africa, Poland, Norway, Manhattan, Michigan...and more. It is March 24, Saturday, starting at 6:00 pm. Thanks for your support!

Chrisann