

# Mayflower Notes...



## *Mayflower Congregational Church*

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**Dr. Rick Martin**

Pastor

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*Dates to remember in  
November..*

November 4 & 5

*Rummage Sale*

November 11

*Veterans's Day*

November 12

*Second Saturday Supper*

November 15

*Deadline for Mayflower  
Notes*

November 20

*Walter Ellis Harvest  
Festival*

November 24

*Thanksgiving Day*

November 27

*First Day of Advent*



## From the Pastor's Desk

### Giving Thanks

November brings to mind leaves falling, crops being harvested, winter approaching and Thanksgiving Day celebrations. Thanksgiving Day has special meaning to Congregationalists, since our spiritual heritage goes back to the Pilgrims. Think of the sacrifices these people made for God.

People came to the New World for many different reasons. The Pilgrims came in pursuit of freedom to worship God as they saw fit. In England and Holland such freedom was not available. Many of them viewed coming to America as an opportunity to establish the Kingdom of God on earth.

The Pilgrims suffered much in their pursuit of the will of God. They also established a colony and their descendants were influential in establishing a new nation; 60% of the signers of the Constitution were Congregationalists. The results of their faith effected not only themselves, but generations to come, even reaching to our day. We still are living under many of the blessings of God for which the Pilgrims sacrificed so much. We have a lot to be thankful for.

As Christians, every day should be Thanksgiving Day (without the overload of food). We are blessed! Not only because of our forefathers, but because Our Father has bestowed His many blessings upon us. Salvation through Jesus Christ's sacrifice, wonderful Christian fellowship and service through Mayflower Congregational Church, with all the blessings God bestows daily just to take care of us. We have so much to be thankful for.

I Thessalonians 5: 16-18

Rejoice always; pray without ceasing in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Give thanks everyday to God and enjoy His blessings even more.



## LAY LEADER'S MISSIVE

When someone says “you are so hard to buy for,” then I know they are really saying, “you have been blessed.” Most of us have experienced an abundance of every good thing; and we want for nothing. God, through us has provided much to one another and to our community. In some ways, it is unfortunate that Thanksgiving must give way to Advent so quickly. We must hold on to thankfulness for all we have; and to our faithful God.

May we remain aware of the gifts we have been given that cost nothing – smiles, hugs, forgiveness, kind words, time, availability, listening and let our joy be seen by others in our world. We are a congregation with peace, plenty and purpose. May we be always ready to share with our community.

As Ever, Roger



## THE GINGHAM DRESS

A lady in a faded gingham dress and her husband, dressed in a homespun thread-bare suit, stepped off the train in Boston, and walked timidly without an appointment into the Harvard University President's outer office.

The secretary could tell in a moment that such backwoods, country hicks had no business at Harvard & probably didn't even deserve to be in Cambridge.

“We'd like to see the president,” the man said softly.

“He'll be busy all day,” the secretary snapped.

“We'll wait,” the lady replied.

For hours the secretary ignored them, hoping that the couple would finally become discouraged and go away.

They didn't, and the secretary grew frustrated and finally decided to disturb the president, even though it was a chore she always regretted. “Maybe if you see them for a few minutes, they'll leave,” she said to him!

He sighed in exasperation and nodded. Someone of his importance obviously didn't have the time to spend with them, and he detested gingham dresses and homespun suits cluttering up his outer office.

The president, stern faced and with dignity, strutted toward the couple.

(continued)

The lady told him, "We had a son who attended Harvard for one year. He loved Harvard. He was happy here. But about a year ago, he was accidentally killed.

My husband and I would like to erect a memorial to him, somewhere on campus."

The president wasn't touched. He was shocked.

"Madam," he said, gruffly, "we can't put up a statue for every person who attended Harvard and died. If we did, this place would look like a cemetery."

"Oh, no," the lady explained quickly. "We don't want to erect a statue. We thought we would like to give a building to Harvard."

The president rolled his eyes. He glanced at the gingham dress and homespun suit, then exclaimed, "A building! Do you have any earthly idea how much a building costs? We have over seven and a half million dollars in the physical buildings here at Harvard."

For a moment the lady was silent.

The president was pleased. Maybe he could get rid of them now.

The lady turned to her husband and said quietly, "Is that all it cost to start a university? Why don't we just start our own?"

Her husband nodded. The president's face wilted in confusion and bewilderment.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford got up and walked away, traveling to Palo Alto, California where they established the university that bears their name, Stanford University, a memorial to a son that Harvard no longer cared about.

You can easily judge the character of others by how they treat those who they think can do nothing for them.

A TRUE STORY By Malcolm Forbes



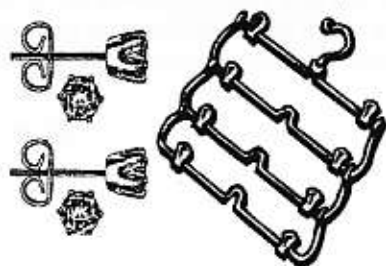
## Thrift Sale

We are having a fall thrift sale on Friday, Nov. 4, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 5, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bag time is Noon to 3 p.m. on Saturday. Please check around your house quickly to identify good, saleable things that you have around the house but don't really need any more. Remember to have items clean and in working order or they don't sell well. If it's truly trash, toss it out. Kitchen items, linens, books, Christmas decorations, jewelry, and children's items are good sellers, but it's always amazing what will sell. Remember, too, to invite friends, family, coworkers, etc., to donate items. We'll be glad to have them! Finally, be sure to plan on coming to shop yourself. You never know what treasures you may find!

You may bring your stuff in any time after church on Oct. 30. We also need a lot of help to set up, run the sale, and clean up after the sale, so please see Lorraine if you can help. Set up will be 10-Noon (or later) on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday (Nov. 1-3).

Thanks for your help!

If you have any questions please contact Lorraine Finison.



## **Church Humor**

An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him, 'How do you expect to get into Heaven?' The boy thought it over and said, 'Well, I'll run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the door until St. Peter says, 'For Heaven's sake, Jimmy, come in or stay out!'