

Mayflower Congregational Church



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Rev. Mark McCormick
Pastor

It's happening at Mayflower in November...

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| <i>11/5</i> | <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends -
turn back 1 hour</i> |
| <i>11/5</i> | <i>Lunch-and-Learn - Noon</i> |
| <i>11/9</i> | <i>Trustees - 2:30 p.m.</i> |
| <i>11/11</i> | <i>Second Saturday Supper
- 5:00 p.m.</i> |
| <i>11/15</i> | <i>Deadline for December
Mayflower Notes</i> |
| <i>11/17</i> | <i>Card/Game Party -
7:00-9:00 p.m.</i> |
| <i>11/19</i> | <i>Walter Ellis Harvest Festival</i> |
| <i>11/19</i> | <i>Prudential Council - Noon</i> |
| <i>11/23</i> | <i>Thanksgiving Day - Church
Office closed</i> |
| <i>11/24</i> | <i>Church Office closed</i> |



Pastor Mark's Musings. . .

It has been helpful to get a few months "under my belt" here at Mayflower, which has given me the opportunity to get to know the congregation better as time goes by. It has been sheer joy!

I have been humbled by all of the sacrificial effort being made for the upcoming Installation Service. This is a service I have looked forward to as much as any I can ever remember. DeeAnn and I are excited as we welcome members and friends of Mayflower, former ministers, Congregational dignitaries, as well as many friends and family, including my mother. Thank you!

What a wonderful congregation we have here at Mayflower! I believe God is preparing us to experience growth as we work together in unity of spirit to advance the Kingdom of our Lord. To God Be the Glory!

It will be my privilege to represent our church at the annual gathering of the Michigan Conference of Congregational Christian Churches on October 20-21. I look forward to meeting many others of like mind and will give a report when I return.

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Mark

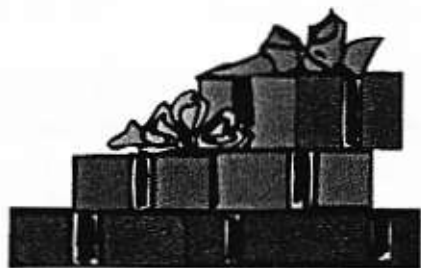


From the Lay Leader

It is hard to believe that we are already in the process of giving Christmas gifts to our community! For quite a few years we have been happily filling shoeboxes to be sent to children around the world, and we have enjoyed keeping a count of how many we send off. This year, however, Samaritan's Purse, the organization that runs the shoebox project, raised the postage yet again. (As you will recall, we always had to include a certain amount of postage for every shoebox we filled.) The Mayflower Prudential Council decided that by now postage is such a high fraction of the total amount of our gift, we would be putting our money to better use by doing something local. And there is a certain satisfaction in helping locally anyway. That's why the coats for children project was settled on - and we collected a nice pile of coats even though we started so close to the deadline. If everybody likes the idea, next year we can start earlier and probably do even better.

Another Christmas project was brought to us by the Salvation Army. I don't know if they called every church in Lansing, or if they called us specifically because we have a connection to them, but they asked if we could supply people to ring the bell by their kettle for one day. The Prudential Council has decided that we could try it. I myself like the idea - partly because I have always liked the ringers, and partly because it is something a person can actually DO. As I write this, I don't know where the Salvation Army will station us or what the rules for a ringer might be, but I'm planning to give it a try!

Rilla McHarris



Come one, come all! Another game night at Mayflower! Friday, Nov. 14, 7-9 p.m. Euchre, dominoes, and other games. Please come and make this a bigger success than ever!

It's a good way to introduce others to our church. If you don't play games, just come and be.

Drinks and snacks
provided.

Let's Recycle

Please continue to bring your excess plastic bags to church. they will be distributed to the Salvation Army and to Mary (Bandfield) Skene who weaves them into sleeping mats for the homeless population.

Dear Members and Friends of Mayflower,

Words cannot and will never adequately express what DeeAnn and I have felt leading up to and including the Installation Service last Sunday. But I'll do my best to convey our deepest appreciation.

First of all, we have EVERYONE to thank for all of the kindness, acceptance and love we have felt from the Congregation from the very first moment we set foot into the church.

Secondly, never have we witnessed a community of faith putting forth more hard work and planning which resulted in a worship service and dinner which profoundly honored the God of the universe, and all of us who endeavor to serve God. We have heard from so many who came how impressed they were with the entire service. They were amazed at all the talent and hard work.

Thirdly, we thank those who planned the service, prepared and produced the music, prepared the food and organized the dinner, the cleanup crew, and those who carried out the program.

Finally, a huge thanks for the gift of a needed computer which will help me become a more efficient pastor. It should also benefit all the office volunteers.

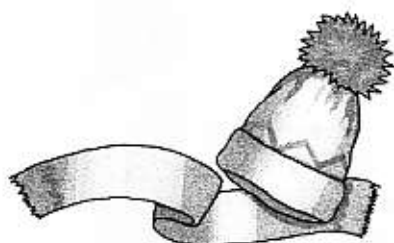
From the bottom of our hearts, thank you!

Pastor Mark and DeeAnn



Thrift Sale

Thanks to all who donated items for the thrift sale and/or worked in setting up, selling, and cleaning up! Proceeds will go to the church's general fund. We plan to have another sale as usual in late April 2018, so start saving up your items NOW! A good way to do it is to have a box or bag in a closet or a corner of your basement or garage, and as you see things you don't need or want any more, put them there. Then you'll be ahead of the game when the time comes! Don't we all wish we could be THAT organized?



The Mitten Tree

Watch for the mitten tree in late November. We will be collecting mittens, gloves, hats and scarves for local school children who are in need. All items will be donated to Lewton School to those in need. Monetary donations will also be accepted and Mayflower shoppers will shop for you.

Walter Ellis Harvest Festival



We will be celebrating our annual Walter Ellis Harvest Festival on Sunday, November 19th. Fresh fruits and vegetables will enhance the worship space. Please bring canned or packaged food to add to our donation to the City Rescue Mission.

Mayflower Financial News

We didn't have as big a crowd as we would like for the first Second Saturday Supper of the year, but we had proceeds of \$606. Thanks to all who came to work, eat, and bought leftovers the next day. Special thanks to Liz Canfield for using some of the leftover chicken to make soup and barbeque to sell the following Sunday, adding nicely to our proceeds.

Following is a summary of our finances as of September 30:

Income:	\$ 9,010.92
Expenses:	<u>6,654.22</u>
	\$ 2,356.70

YTD for Nine Months:

Income:	\$ 74,011.04
Expenses:	<u>60,793.25</u>
	\$ 13,217.79

Fund Balances:

Checking:	\$ 2,355.87
Savings:	46,528.81
Heat Fund Savings:	20,839.48
Memorial Fund CD:	5,501.01
Savings CD:	<u>22,329.99</u>
	\$ 97,555.16

A more detailed report is available in the brochure rack near the church office. If you have any questions, just ask!

— Linda Wheeler, Treasurer



Music Notes
From Barbara Fuller



By the time you are reading this newsletter Mayflower's installation service for Pastor Mark will have taken place and many of you will have heard Pam Singer, DeeAnn's daughter, sing the beautiful and moving hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness."

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed Thy hand hath provided—Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

Thomas O. Chisholm, the writer of these words, was born in 1866 in Franklin, Kentucky into a family with very little money. With no high school education he was somehow able to become a teacher at the age of 16 and taught in the same elementary school he had attended. He became editor of "The Pentecostal Herald" and was later ordained as a Methodist Minister. Throughout his lifetime he wrote more than 1,200 sacred poems with many of them having become hymn texts.

Often-times words to hymns come from a particular dramatic experience in an author's life. In the case of "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" the words appear to be written acknowledging Thomas Chisholm's humble beginnings where, in his youth, he depended on God's goodness in his daily life "morning by morning."

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father! There is no shadow of turning with Thee; Thou changest not; Thy compassions, they fail not: As thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon and stars in their courses above, join with all nature in manifold witness to Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow—blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside.

A short time before Thomas Chisholm died in 1960 he wrote: "My life has never been large at any time due to impaired health in the earlier years which has followed me on until now. But I must not fail to record here the unfailing faithfulness of a covenant keeping God and that He has given me many wonderful displays of His providing care which have filled me with astonishing gratefulness."

And to that I say, "Great is thy faithfulness!"

November



BIRTHDAYS

- 11/1 *Ann McClelland*
11/1 *Dominic McClelland*
11/2 - *Frank Wheeler*
11/5 - *Morgan Smith*
11/5 *Bob Mott*
11/9 *Blanche Samohovetz (98)*
11/15 *Barbara Fuller*
11/20 *Ina Martin (92)*
11/28 *Jaxson Graham*



ANNIVERSARIES

- 11/25 *Roger and Meredith Kennedy (50 years!)*

Head Usher

Lois Ries

Outreach Focus

Mitten Tree

November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1		4
				2		
5 Daylight Savings time ends Lunch and Learn	6	7	8	9 Trustees 2:30 Handbells 4:00 Choir 5:30	10	11 Second Saturday Supper 5 p.m.
12	13	14	15 Mayflower Notes deadline	16 Handbells 4:00 Choir 5:30	17 Card/Game Party 7:00	18
19 Harvest Festival Prudential Council -noon	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving Day Office closed	24 Church Office closed	25
26	27	28	29	30 Handbells 4:00 Choir 5:30		