

Mayflower Congregational Church



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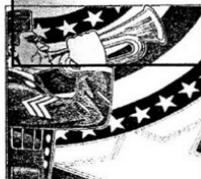
**September
2018**

Rev. Mark McCormick
Pastor



It's happening in September at Mayflower...

- 9/3 Labor day- church
office closed
- 9/8 Second Saturday Supper 5 p.m.
- 9/9 Rally Day and Picnic
- 9/12 Women's Bible Study
10:30 a.m.
- 9/13 Trustees Meeting 3:00 p.m.
- 9/15 Church Picnic at Fuller's
Farm
- Deadline for
Mayflower Notes
- 9/16 Prudential Council noon
- 9/21 Game Night 6:30'



Pastor Mark's Musings

A busy summer makes time fly! It certainly has been a busy one for the McCormick household. I attended the NACCC meeting in San Diego in June and also served as resident Camp Pastor for the Congregational youth camp for a week in early July. I have also spent some time doing something else I enjoy - painting!

DeeAnn has also had a busy summer. She has had siblings from Arizona and Florida visiting for extended periods of time. The highlight for her (and me as well) was a reunion of all three of her children and all four grandchildren during a weekend in late July. Included was a Detroit Tigers game we all attended together. It was a wonderful reunion. DeeAnn has also had increasing responsibilities in caring for her aging parents. They are true survivors as they celebrated 74 years of marriage this year. Wow!

I have received many comments regarding the beautification of our church. God has provided the resources to maintain and improve our facilities through the faithfulness and generosity of all of you who give so much to the life and ministry of Mayflower Church. I am happy to be a small part of that process and I am grateful that each of you makes this possible.

I could bemoan the end of summer but living in the Midwest gives one the opportunity to enjoy the tapestry of seasonal change. Autumn is beautiful and so are the activities which accompany its beginning, like chancel choir and ringing bells. And how about MSU football? 10 wins? Big 10 title? CFP team? National championship? Who knows? It will always be fun to root for our hometown team. Go Sparty!

As I write this, I am en route to Seattle and North Cascade National Park to backpack with my son Bryce. I relish the opportunity to spend quality time with him, enjoy the outdoors, and test the limits of my endurance. I look forward to sharing this vacation with my son and adventure partner.

God bless you all!

Pastor Mark



From the Lay Leader

I can't help but toot the horn for the various projects and events that are happening around the church. You also may have noticed that attendance is growing. I believe that is a direct result of some important recent changes that have been made. The most obvious change is the arrival last year of our beloved Pastor Mark and his lovely wife, DeeAnn. What a blessing they have been to us! Earlier this year, DeeAnn developed and is leading an exciting bible study class that has grown into a support group of 15-20 enthusiastic women, spanning different ages and backgrounds.



We now have a church decorating committee that is planning some wonderful and much needed updates to our building. Some of the inspiration for these improvements have come from our Dream Team led by Rev. Linda Farmer-Lewis this past spring and will continue this fall under new leadership. Pastor Mark has been painting the sanctuary and you will start seeing fresh new colors and decorations throughout the building. Our lower-level, following the recent departure of Word of Life Church, was cleaned out and will be remodeled and likely used again for church school purposes as our congregation continues to grow.

And finally, our new electronic sign has been ordered and the expected installation date will be later in September or early October. The Prudential Council has worked hard on this project and we especially thank Susanne Mannino for her dedicated research, analyzing quotes and scheduling demonstrations with the contractors. This is a major financial undertaking for Mayflower Church but the need is great and the opportunities to aid our ministry are unlimited. If you are able, donations of any size will be much appreciated and will be used to offset the cost of the sign. Our memorial funds are also being used for this purpose and it will be a wonderful legacy for all those who contribute.

What an exciting time this is for Mayflower Church. May God bless our endeavors.

Jerry Fuller

Mayflower Financial News

The Prudential Council recently approved the purchase of a new, full-color, electronic outdoor sign which will be easily changed from the office computer as often as desired and will afford flexibility that we could never have with the current permanent sign and the moveable sign, which we primarily use to advertise the Second Saturday Suppers. Both of these old signs were in serious need of repairs, which would have cost in excess of \$10,000. The new sign will cost about \$26,500.

The contract with CP Signs was signed on August 1 and a deposit of \$16,000 was paid. A significant portion of the deposit came from the Memorial Fund CD and recent memorial gifts. Information will be forthcoming on how you can make a donation to help defray the cost if you would like.

The following is a summary of our finances as of July 31:

Income:	\$ 7,645.30
Expenses:	<u>6,584.26</u>
	\$ 1,061.04

YTD for Seven Months:

Income:	\$ 56,113.85
Expenses:	<u>45,241.88</u>
	\$ 10,871.97

Fund Balances:

Checking:	\$ 21,980.93
Savings:	31,537.22
Heat Fund Savings:	20,844.69
Memorial Fund CD:	0.00
Savings CD:	<u>22,390.08</u>
	\$ 96,752.92

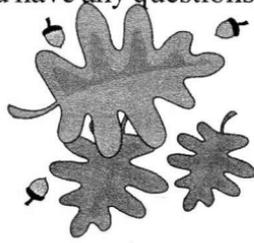
A more detailed report is available in the brochure rack near the church office. Please see me if you have questions at any time!

— Linda Wheeler, Treasurer



Second Saturday Suppers are Back

Second Saturday Suppers start up again on September 8th and we hope the weather will be more cooperative this winter! Sue Mott would like to set up a pie fund this year and hopes that some of you who are not able to physically help with the dinners, might be willing to donate to this fund. Sue collects coupons and watches for sales on pies. Your money will be spent wisely. Please talk to Sue if you can help or if you have any questions, Let's hope for a sell-out every month this year!



Thrift Sale

We are having another thrift sale November 2 and 3. Please check around your house now to identify good, saleable things that you don't need or want. Please have items clean and in working order or they don't sell well. Sometimes we have to throw things away--which we hate to do! If it's truly trash, just toss it out yourself. Kitchen items, jewelry, linens, books, clothes, and children's items are good sellers, but you never know what will sell. Remember, too, to invite friends, family, co-workers, etc., to donate items. We'll be glad to have them! Finally, be sure to plan on coming to shop yourself. You may find some treasures! We truly are our own best customers!

Please hold your stuff and we will let you know when you may bring it in. We will need a lot of help (both men and women!) to set up, run the sale, and clean up after the sale, so please mark your calendars now for that week. Set up will be 10-Noon (or so) on Monday-Thursday (October 29-November 1). See Lorraine or Sue to volunteer to help.

Regular-size paper grocery bags are always needed for the bag sale time. Bring them in at any time.



Music Notes from Barb Fuller

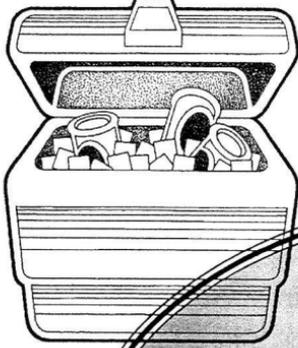
Jerry was sitting at the desk in our second-story office several weeks ago and just happened to look out the window which my computer faces. At that moment a small brown squirrel having jumped from a nearby tree was desperately clutching our window screen with all four of his paws. Obviously surprised by a move that had gone differently than he had originally planned, the squirrel hung onto the screen until Jerry flicked one of its paws from inside and it instantly disappeared. There is good news to this story in that squirrels are very resilient and there was no dead squirrel lying in the yard below the window when he checked. We assume the squirrel survived.

When I thought about the squirrel incident I was reminded of the time many years ago when Jerry was disassembling a tree house in our backyard on Park Ave. and somewhere along the line he forgot that he had removed a few of its steps first (why, I never found out.) When he was ready to tear out the floor of the tree house he maneuvered backwards onto what he thought was the top step, only to find that it was gone! At that point he lost his footing and fell twelve feet to the ground. I happened to be talking on the phone to Lorraine Finison at the time and looked out our large back window just as he landed among the flowers in my flower bed. The rest of the story is history. With only a few stitches in his chin and some muscle spasms the next day, he survived quite nicely.

I may have told you before that as I go throughout my day, a word or phrase will spark a memory of a song, and I, of course, have to sing it. As I was sitting in Urgent Care waiting for Jerry to be checked out that afternoon, there were two hymns that popped into my head, and as I think of it now I'm sure that if that squirrel who was clinging to our screen several weeks ago knew anything about hymns he, too, would be thinking of these - "Nearer, My God, to Thee" and "I Come to the Garden" (Alone.)

I tend to think of words of hymns during anxious times in my life. Folks who are better versed in scriptures than I often turn to them. It is good to know that there are many avenues of comfort for us here at Mayflower whether it is our Bibles, our hymns, our prayers, our friends, or our pastor. When we find ourselves clinging to that screen or missing that step, it is so good to know that we have options!





All-church Picnic

The Fullers are hosting a fall picnic at their farm on Saturday, September 15, starting at 3:00 p.m. Bring a dish to pass and drinks if you want something other than water. Meat and table service will be provided.

Call Barb or Jerry Fuller for directions or check with the secretary in the office.

*Birds have a feeling in the air,
They are flying here and there,
The leaves are of gold and yellow,
Where all the emotions are mellow,
Fall is the season to rejoice,
Stay prepared by your choice,
Fall is here again!*

September

Birthdays

9/12	Bill McHarris
9/12	Craig Young
9/20	Terry Graham
9/21	Mary Rutledge
9/25	Laura Stebbins
9/26	Bonnie Olson



Anniversaries

9/5	Bob and Sue Mott (31 Years)
9/21	Frank and Linda Wheeler (50 years)
9/26	Dick and Nancy McKay (64 years)

Head Usher

Candy Bywater

Outreach Focus

Give-a-Kid a Coat



August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September-2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Rally Day and Picnic	3 Labor Day ³ - Office closed	4	5	6 Handbells 4 ⁶ p.m. Choir 5:30	7	8 Second Saturday Supper 5 p.m.
9 Prudential Council noon Notes Deadline	10	11	12 Women's Bible Study	13 Handbells 4 ¹³ p.m. Choir 5:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting 3 p.m.	14	15
16	17	18	19 Women's Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	20 Handbells ²⁰ 4 p.m. Choir 5:30	21 Game Night Party 6:30 p.m.	22
23	24	25	26 Women's Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	27 Handbells ²⁷ 4 p.m. Choir 5:30	28	29
30						