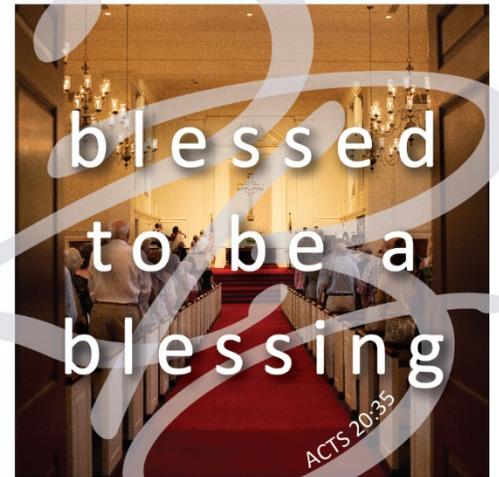


November 17, 2021



Dear Mayflower Family,

Christian Outreach is at the heart of Mayflower Congregational Church. Being “Blessed to be a Blessing” to those in need is what we are called to do as Christians.

Our church’s strength in Outreach is financial giving. Our cash donations support the most basic requirements of the organizations and people we serve in greater Grand Rapids and globally.

In 2019, when Mayflower had \$1.1 million in pledges and gifts, we dedicated \$149,742 to Christian Outreach. In 2020 -- with a reduced Covid budget -- \$48,637 was dedicated to Outreach; only 31% of the 2019 figure.

Many of us believe this to be unfortunate, but it was the best we could do while keeping our dedicated staff intact. With extravagant support from the congregation and loyal visitors, we will return to 2019 giving levels and serve our community as we have been blessed.

Recently Mayflower’s Christian Outreach Committee has approved these grants:

- \$11,000 for a reading curriculum for Mulick Park Elementary to help children who are behind academically after Covid.

“Words can’t express how I truly feel about your support and gift of Love. Thank you all for being a part of our village.” -- Proud Principal of Mulick Park

- \$3,000 for Bethany Christian Services because more refugees are arriving in Grand Rapids every day, recently including refugees from Afghanistan.

(over, please)

- \$10,000 for Family Promise because homelessness continues to plague teens and families alike.
- \$10,000 for New City Kids for musical instruments for classrooms and to support an after-school tutoring program.

Through Mayflower's generous giving in 2022 we want to grow current and new partnerships. For example, we would like to help fund Potter's House, as they work to educate and empower refugee children and youth who fall below the poverty line. The goal: for these young people to become first-generation high school graduates headed to college.

Diane Finney, past chairperson of Mayflower's Outreach Committee stated that

“Mayflower provides support to local Grand Rapids and international organizations, giving to past worthy projects and new relationships that they are building. The committee receives proposals, carefully vets the requests, and decides if they want to fund the project and organization.”

These gifts – and others to meet similar pressing needs in our community and world – can only be continued and increased through a fully funded 2022 budget with 15% for Christian Outreach.

If you have not done so already, please search your heart and respond enthusiastically with your commitment card by Thanksgiving, allowing Mayflower to Be a Blessing to those most in need in our community.

We understand that you may have questions, comments, or concerns. Please know that we are available to address these by phone, by e-mail, or in person.

With gratitude and in Christ,

Your Stewardship Committee

Barbara Hohman, Chairperson
hohmanbarbara@gmail.com
(616) 446-4271

Susan K. Jones, Moderator
sjones9200@aol.com
(616) 304-4633