MAYFL®VVER

Congregational Church

COMMUNION SUNDAY

September 1, 2024 - 10:30am



WE BELIEVE: Faith is a journey, God is good, Jesus saves, and the Spirit leads us to faith, hope, and love as we honor the dignity of all God's people.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Indicates please stand if you are able.

Bolded text or music score indicates congregational response.

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Prayer request cards may be placed in the offering and will be added to our prayer list.

As you enter the sanctuary, we invite you to prepare your hearts for worship.

PRELUDE Peace (2023) Dr. Julia Brown

Wakening – Prayer/Litany – Blessing by Wolfgang Rübsam

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

Rachael Cooley

BLESSING OUR NEW PASTOR

John Schneider and Eric Britcher

PASSING OF THE PEACE*

Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson

Greeting: The peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP Eric Britcher

Leader: Come, all who labor and are weighed down with responsibility,

uncertainty, and worry.

People: We come, because the load we carry is heavier than we can bear

alone.

Leader: Come, all you who seek to relate work and worship, leisure and

service, into a meaningful whole.

People: We gather for spiritual renewal and practical challenge, for help in

making choices and carrying out our commitments.

Leader: Come, sinner and saint, with your hatreds and loves, your failures

and successes, your sorrows and joys.

People: We respond to the Spirit's leading and open ourselves to receive

God's gracious gifts.

OPENING PRAYER* (read in unison)

Fric Britcher

True Reflector, you are the mirror of our lives, for by facing you we see ourselves more clearly. May the sight of our true faces humble us and encourage us to be doers of your word, not merely hearers of it. It is only through you that our intentions and actions may be united; so we pray in your name. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rachael Cooley

SCRIPTURE READING

James 1:17-27

Eric Britcher

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 854

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

The Implanted Word

Rev. Ruth Olsson

HYMN 436*

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

MARYTON

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

CALL TO OFFERING

Lead Me, Lord

Quartet

Scott Bosscher

by Samuel S. Wesley

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousless, make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety (Psalm 5:8 and 4:9)

DOXOLOGY*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Our sacramental elements are gluten-free bread and grape juice)

COMMUNION MUSIC

Benedictus from Requiem

Quartet

by W. A. Mozart

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN 307*

We Are Called

BENEDICTION* Rev. Bell Olsson

DISMISSAL* Rev. Bell Olsson

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: We go into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Allegro Vivace from Symphony No. 1

Dr. Brown

by Louis Vierne

Quartet: Lindsay Ledesma, Melissa Blanchard, Scott Bosscher, Josh Ledesma

WELCOME! We are so glad you joined us today!

WELCOME! If this is your first time worshiping with us, please stop by the Welcome Center in the narthex outside the sanctuary if you have questions about our church. You are invited to join us after the service for refreshments and fellowship in the atrium.

HEARING ASSISTANCE is available on the main floor by using the T-switch on your hearing aid. Handheld receivers with earphones are also available from the ushers.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL AND NURSERY CARE Children **ages birth through 3 yrs. old** can go to the nursery at the beginning of the service. Following the Children's Message, children will be dismissed to play on the playground.

High School and Middle School Programming

The goal of youth ministry is to help young people through their teen years with spiritual guidance and fun! Youth ministries can create meaningful relationships with adult believers, which can help students stay connected with the church and flourish in their faith.

MEET THE 2024/25 MAYFLOWER YOUTH MINSITRY TEAM



Breakfast Club Elevate



Shari Graham



Elevate

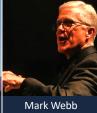


Allison Houlihan

Breakfast Club Mulick Tutoring



Elevate



Choir and Bells



Chimes Children's Choir

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sundays

11:45am-12:15pm | MS/HS Bells

12:15pm-12:45pm | MS/HS Choir

5:00pm-5:45pm | Elevate (MS Youth Group)

5:45pm-6:15pm | Dinner (MS and HS Youth Group)

6:15pm-7:00pm | Elevate (HS Youth Group)

Tuesdays

6:30am | HS Breakfast Club at Wolfgang's Restaurant Lunch hour | HS Tutoring at Mulick Park Elementary



CLICK QR TO SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY REMINDER EMAILS

Announcements for September 1, 2024

Mayflower news and details on upcoming events.

FALL KICK OFF | SEPT. 8

Sunday, September 8 will be the kick off for all our fall programming. Sweet Dreams Ice Creams



truck will greet us after the service on the 8th to serve up ice cream treats!

ELEVATE YOUTH GROUPS | SEPT. 8

5-5:45pm Middle School

5:45-6:15pmDinner for Middle & High School





Join us to start the new year! Come enjoy Q'doba – Ohana Ice – T-shirts – 9 Square – Basketball – GAGA – and more!

MIDWEEK BEGINS | SEPT. 11 | 4PM

Families and children are invited to come and enjoy a **Bubbles party and Ohana Ice!** There will be a parent meeting at 5:45pm.

MAYFLOWER BELLS POSITION OPENING

We need one more ringer to complete our ranks. Come ring with us! We rehearse Wednesday evenings, 6-7pm and play in worship once every 5-7 weeks. Ringing bells is fun and a good way to **connect with our church family** in a small group setting. If you read music and can commit to weekly rehearsals, please talk to Julia.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FALL WEEKEND CRANHILL RANCH | OCT. 25-27

Mark your calendars to be a part of this fun and meaningful weekend! We will spend the weekend participating in horseback riding, archery, sling shots, riflery, and more!



Saturday morning, we will serve at a work project at the camp. Use the QR Code to reserve your spot. More information to follow.

SAVE THE DATE: September 29, at 5pm the youth groups will be hosting a "Sock Hop" to raise funds for this trip. Come back to the 50's and support our youth!

BRING A MEAL TO THE WALLINS

Gary Wallin is home from the hospital recovering from a recent fall. To **support Gary and Gwen** during this time, please consider bringing a meal to them. See the QR code sign



up for details. Contact Rachael Cooley with questions.

JOYFUL SOUNDS FALL SESSION

This fall, join our pianist, Melia Colwell and Joyful Sounds Music Studio for some musical fun! Using the acclaimed *Music Together* curriculum, we'll explore, sing, clap, and wiggle along to the *Fiddle Collection*, which contains twenty-five beloved songs. These 45-minute classes geared for 0-5 year olds are packed with musical experiences, bonding activities, and fun! Fridays at 9:30am, Sept. 13 - Nov. 15. Sign up today! kidsmusicgrandrapids.com

Council Update

The Council met on 8/27/24. We reviewed and discussed the July financials. In continuing the Council's yearlong efforts to increase communication, we will share the financial information in this section of the bulletin moving forward. Please reach out to anyone on the Council with questions.

Council Members: Kateri Schutt, Moderator; Chris Yates- Vice Moderator, John P. Schneider-Treasurer, Amy Conway, Martin Grin, Patty Sienstra, Kris Wilson, Dan Poortenga, Susan Orban, Courtney Weiler, Kathy Wynsma, Peter Northouse, John VerMeulen, David Blair, Ingrid Nelson, and Robin Dhaseleer

Mayflower Congregational Church

Operating Income Statement

2024

JUL 24

2024

	2024	2024	2023	2022	2024
	JUL	JUL	JUL	JUL	Annual
		YTD	YTD	YTD	Budget
INCOME					
Current Pledges	110,016	516,835	518,366	426,169	813,576
Prev Pledge Balances	-	~	2,540		
Other Contributions	6,442	56,432	43,287	55,317	90,826
Bldg/Grounds Use	1,140	13,462	12,560	13,111	26,000
Endowment Income	-	140,098	145,830	144,873	140,098
PPP/Tax Credits/Other Int Inc	2,638	13,150	2,961	175,169	10,157
Total Income	120,236	739,977	725,543	814,640	1,080,657
EXPENSE					
Personnel & Administration	57,222	431,939	400,021	358,511	739,195
Christian Education	1,808	11,571	6,368	8,904	17,348
Christian Outreach *	91	-	-	8	99,484
Membership	1,788	8,631	8,806	8,659	18,673
Music & Worship	1,213	25,024	30,075	23,218	58,960
House & Grounds	14,870	105,865	131,598	102,840	194,826
House & Grounds - Projects	5,360	7,922	12,900	14,671	32,115
Mayflower Youth	91	4,199	5,777	1,840	10,312
Total Expense	82,262	595,152	595,545	518,642	1,170,914
Net Income	37,974	144,825	129,998	295,998	(90,257)

Planned Source and Use of 2022 Surplus

2023 Net Loss 2024 Budgeted Loss Remainder 206,379 (29,809) (90,257)

86,313

* Christian Outreach (Cycle 2024/25) = \$ 60,193 Formula = YTD Current Pledges + Other Contributions x 11.0%

Looking Ahead

*Words in italics denote partnering organizations that meet at Mayflower

Today, September 1

10:30am | Communion Sunday Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, preaching

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Labor Day | Office Closed
- **4** Visitiation for Dick Stiffler | 11am-1pm *Al-Anon** | 7pm
- 8 Fall Kick Off Sunday Morning Worship | 10:30am Elevate | 5-7pm
- 9 Men's Bible Study | 7:30am Women's Bible Study | 9:30am Women's Bible Study | 5pm Men's Bible Study | 5pm
- 10 Needlepoint | 10am
- 11 Priscilla Circle | 12pm Midweek | 4pm Mayflower Bells | 6pm Al-Anon* | 7pm Chancel Choir | 7:30
- **12** Women's Bible Study | 10am Boy Scouts* | 6:30pm
- 13 Men's Bible Study | 7am
- Morning Worship | 10:30am
 MS/HS Bells | 11:45am-12:15pm
 MS/HS Choir | 12:15pm-12:45pm
 Elevate | 5-7pm
- Men's Bible Study | 7:30am Women's Bible Study | 9:30am Women's Bible Study | 5pm Men's Bible Study | 5pm
- **17** Needlepoint | 10am

 Chamber Choir of GR* | 6:30pm

Do You Have a College Student?



The Congregational Care Committee wants to keep in touch with our Mayflower college students throughout the year.
Submit names and addresses to office@ mayflowerchurch.org and get signed up!

- 18 Deacon Mtg. | 9:30am
 Midweek | 4pm
 Mayflower Bells | 6pm
 Al-Anon* | 7pm
 Chancel Choir | 7:30pm
 Finance Committee Mtg | 7:30pm
- **19** Women's Bible Study | 10am Boy Scouts* | 6:30pm
- **20** Men's Bible Study | 7am Joyful Sounds* | 9:30am
- 22 Morning Worship | 10:30am Mayflower Picnic | 11:30am Elevate | 5-7pm
- 23 Men's Bible Study | 7:30am Women's Bible Study | 9:30am Women's Bible Study | 5pm Men's Bible Study | 5pm
- 24 Needlepoint | 10am Council Mtg | 6:30pm Widowed Persons* | 7pm



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

4:00PM | Kick off party!

Be ready for BUBBLES and OHANA Ice! Bring a Friend Frenzy, win a Prize!

5:45PM | Parent Meeting

MIDWEEK SCHEDULE:

4pm-4:30pm | Elementary Chimes/Dinner

4:30pm-5pm | Children's Choir (3yo's-1st)/2345 Dinner

5pm-5:45pm | Carol Choir (2nd-5th)/Younger Dinner

5:45pm-6:10pm | Chapel

6:10pm-6:40pm | Midweek Youth Group









Listening to the choirs at Mayflower sing is a wonderful thing, but singing in the choirs at Mayflower is even better.

As Fall is upon us, consider taking your Sunday morning worship to the next level by personally entering the song. There is a place waiting for you. In Luke 19 Jesus challenges each of us: "I tell you that if you keep your voice silent, the stones themselves will sing out."

Imagine what God can do through our Mayflower family when our congregational song becomes stronger. Bring your voice and grow your faith!

Fall Bible Study Information - Starts the Week of Sept. 8

All are invited to connect with us this fall through a Bible study that best fits you and your schedule. Feel free to jump in when you are able. More details to come.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

Monday | 7:30am | Bill Robson | Library



Beginning Sept. 9, we will be studying Isaiah.

Monday | 5pm | Eric Britcher | Youth Rm



This Fall we will begin a 12 week study of the book of Hebrews. Beginning date Monday, Sept. 9

Friday | 7am | Greg Rhodes | Library



We will kick off this group on Sept. 13 and choose a book to study at that time.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

Monday | 9:30am | Cindy DeBoer | Parlor



Cindy is a writer and a speaker who documents her journey on her website. Read more about her here: cindydeboer.com

Monday | 5pm | Helen Bell | Library



Church History: 400-1054 CE, especially seeking out the faith of women, and September and October, the book of James

Thursday | 10am | Rev. Steve Armfield | Youth Rm



Pastor Steve will lead a study about "Bringing our Stories to Light." He will incorporate the stories of the people we find in the Bible whose lives were changed as they asked "what," not "why". Suggested pre-reading

for this study is "Telling Stories in the Dark" by Jeff Munroe. Copies of the books are in the church office.

Sunday Morning Greeters and Cookies Providers

We want to thank Mayflower groups and committees for providing cookies and greeting us on Sunday mornings in the coming months! Each group will be featured in the bulletin during their month of volunteering. Members of each group will sign up to bring cookies (9-12 dozen/Sunday, homemade or purchased) and greet at the entrances (arrive at 10am).



SEPTEMBER | Membership and Congregational Care Committees
OCTOBER | Outreach and House and Grounds Committees
NOVEMBER | Worship and Music and Children and Youth
DECEMBER | Congregational Events Committee and Council
JANUARY | Bible Studies
FEBRUARY | Midweek

MARCH | Council, Personnel and Nominating Committees
APRIL | Membership and Worship and Music Committees
MAY | Outreach and Congregational Care Committees

If you would like to receive, or make note of someone to be added to the weekly Prayer List, please contact the church office to be included on the list (616.459.6255 or office@mayflowerchurch.org.) Prayer Cards are also in the pews and collected during Sunday morning services.

PRAISE FOR THOSE WHO CELEBRATE

We join with **Steve and Nancy Miller** as they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. (8/22)

Ellen Johnson wishes to thank everyone for their support and prayers at the time of her eye surgery. (8/22)

Praise for **Gwen and Gary Wallin's** daughter, **Carley,** and her baby, **Fisher,** who are healthy after a bout with Covid. (8/14)

PRAY FOR THE NEEDS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Ann Wells had surgery on 8/25 for a fractured hip resulting from a fall. She is now rehabilitating at Freedom Village in Holland. (8/28)

Maris Rosema asks for continued prayer for healing. (8/27)

Sheila Hathaway had GI surgery on Aug. 16. She is at home and in some discomfort but is on the mend. Please pray for her as she recovers. (8/22)

Please pray for **Nathalie Lanne** as she recovers from ACL knee surgery. She will be attending Christopher Newport University this fall and is on the tennis team. Nathalie is the daughter of Kerri Orders and Michel Lanne. (8/13)

Pray for **Steve and Janet Armfield** and family. Steve's sister, Nancy, passed away Aug. 7. (8/08)

Prayers for **Gary Wallin,** as he continues his recovery and rehabilitation from hip surgery. (8/14)

PRAY FOR FRIENDS OF MAYFLOWER

IlaFlo Barfuss' friend, **Bob Parriott**, has a cyst on his nose which is a rare form of cancer. Please pray that the decided plan of treatment will be successful. (8/22)

David and April Baker ask for prayers for their friend Sherry Siemon who is dealing with ongoing health challenges. (8/13)

Continue to pray for **Don and Linda Chaffee's friend**. His father recently died and his wife is recovering from brain surgery. (7/30)

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

We had been praying for **Bert and Lindy Crandell**'s daughter and son-in-law, **Austin and Aaron Bartman**, who gave birth to twins Adalae and Aaron on July 19. Unfortunately, baby Aaron passed away at three weeks of age. We extend our sympathy to the families and continue to pray for Austin, who is recovering from complications from childbirth, and for Adalae who is gaining weight and maturing nicely. (8/27)

Dick Stiffler, died on Aug. 16. Dick was married to the late Tolly Stiffler. They were parents of members, **Clay and Kris Stiffler**, and children, **Andrew** and **Quincy**. There will be a visitation at Mayflower on Sept. 4, 11am-1pm. (8/22)

PRAY FOR THE WORLD

Please pray for victims of ongoing gun violence in our communities and world.

We pray for peace and safety in the world amid ongoing turmoil, specifically in Haiti, the Middle East, and Ukraine.

ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTIONS



Scan the QR Code with your phone to give/pay directly through E-Zekiel: no sign-up required.

Download the app and create an account for future secure scan-and-go transactions.



TEXT TO GIVE

On your phone, simply text the word: GIVE To: 16163446255 (no spaces) and then follow the prompts.

Update on Hallway and Sanctuary Flooring Replacement

Three weeks ago the sewage line backed up and came up through the drain in the women's bathroom by the elevator. The sewage water covered the hallway flooring and came down the stairs and into the sanctuary flooring. We have filed a claim with our insurance company and will be replacing the flooring that was affected, as well as lower-level ceiling drywall. We are working with our drain and sewer line specialists to put safeguards into place in our sump pumps, drains, and bathrooms to ensure this doesn't happen again.

The flooring in the hallway and sanctuary will be replaced with the same quality and color that we currently have.

Please feel free to reach out to Rachael Cooley (rachael@mayflowerchurch.org) directly if you have any other questions.

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

2345 Robinson Road SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506 616-459-6255 www.MayflowerChurch.org

Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, Interim Senior Pastor
Dr. Julia Brown, Director of Music and Organist | Scott Bosscher, Chancel Choir Director
Melia Colwell, Children's Choir Accompanist
Rachael Cooley, Interim Executive Administrator | Murry Idema, Director of Congregational Care
Amy Dunham, Office Manager | Andy Ely, Business Manager
Kristen Van Stee, Communications Coordinator
Jon Lang, Facility Manager | Jana DeShane, Custodial Services



O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee 436

H. Percy Smith, 1825-1898 Washington Gladden, 1836-1918 1. O Mas - ter, let walk with Thee me 2. Help me the slow of heart move to 3. Teach me Thy pa tience; still with Thee 4. In hope that sends shin ing ray a In low - ly paths of ice serv free; By win some clear, ning word of love; clos - er, dear In er com pa ny, Far down fu the ture's broad -'ning way, Tell Thy me cret, help bear se me Teach me the way ward feet stay, to In that work keeps faith sweet and strong, In peace that on ly Thou canst give, The strain of toil, the fret of care. And guide them in the home - ward way. trust that tri - umphs 0 ver wrong. With Thee, 0 Mas - ter, live. let me men. MARYTON LM



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GOD'S REVELATION



Justice and Peace IN SOCIETY