

MAYFLOWER

Congregational Church

Spring 2024

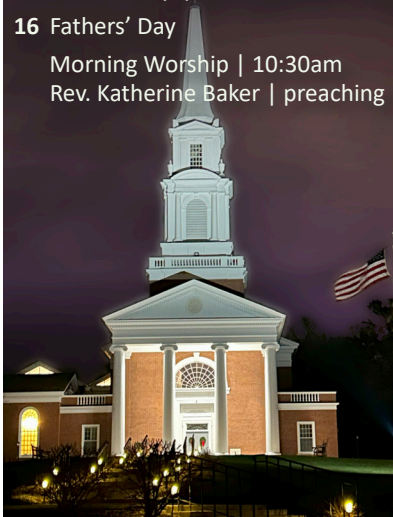
CALENDAR

MAY

- 5 New Members Class | 9am
Morning Worship | 10:30am
*Rev. Adam Lipscomb, preaching
Scout's Derby | 4:00pm
- 8 Prayer Retreat | 5:30pm
- 12 Mothers' Day
Morning Worship | 10:30am
*Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, preaching
- 13 Baroque Concert | 7pm
- 18 GR Choir of Men and Boys | 7pm
- 19 New Members Class | 9am
Pentecost Sunday | 10:30am
*Rev. Steve Armfield, preaching
GR Choir of Men & Boys | 3pm
- 26 Morning Worship | 10:30am
*Rev. Eric Britcher, preaching
- 27 Memorial Day | Office Closed
- 28 Council Mtg | 6:30pm

JUNE

- 2 Morning Worship | 10:30am
*Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, preaching
- 3-7 Writing Camp | 9am-12pm,
1pm-4pm
- 9 Morning Worship | 10:30am
*Rev. Steve Armfield, preaching
Annual Meeting | after worship
- 10-13 Art Camp | 9am-12noon
- 16 Fathers' Day
Morning Worship | 10:30am
Rev. Katherine Baker | preaching



Everyday Faith: Making the Ordinary Extraordinary by Growing and Serving in Community

Once we celebrate Pentecost on May 19, where are we heading? We will be entering what is known in the church year as *Ordinary Time*. While we hit the highs and lows of Jesus' life with a clear narrative from Advent through Pentecost (from anticipating Christ's birth to his nativity, ministry, suffering and death, resurrection, ascension and sending of the Spirit), the long season after Pentecost is not so well defined. How can we find excitement and purpose in this season when church attendance drops, choirs are on vacation, committees don't meet and other programs wait until fall?

Ordinary Time is sometimes referred to as *Growing Time*. In the northern hemisphere it coincides with summer months, a time of energy, renewal, transformation and growth. Vibrant green bursts forth in all of nature. What energy, renewal, transformation and growth can we bring to our individual lives, our families and our church community? What challenges and opportunities do these months present to us here at Mayflower? How can we turn *Ordinary Time* into *Extraordinary Time*?

As we enter this *Ordinary Time*, or this *Growing Season*, allow God to encourage others through you. Work actively to **restore broken relationships**. Give up things that divide your family and dedicate time to be present with those you love. **Be a blessing** to others by speaking words of life rather than criticism. **Inspire one another** and avoid burdening others with guilt. Take elements of your ordinary, daily life and engage them with intention, looking for the Sacred hidden within every moment and every person. **Take your everyday lives, routines, chores and see how the ordinary has the power to become extraordinary!**

As we prepare to grow and serve in community at Mayflower this summer, may our common prayer be:

Creator Redeemer Sustainer God,
How extraordinary is Your "ordinary time."
How uncommon is the commonplace in Your Kingdom.
The mundane is made miraculous, full of holy opportunities.
The smallest joy a jubilee!

We humbly ask that You continue to bless us with all we need for the living of these days—these wondrous ordinary days—that our everyday lives may be gifted to experience the vitality of Christian community, to share Your message of hope, reaching out to the poor and hurting, and bringing glory and honor to You, our God.
Amen.

~ prayer written by Deborah Harris. From *Sacred Seasons, Pentecost/Ordinary Time* 1999.
Posted on Simple Living Works.

-By Julia Brown

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.

YOU'RE INVITED: PRAYER RETREAT FOR RECONCILIATION AND HEALING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8 | 5:30PM-8PM

SCHEDULE FOR THE EVENING

(Childcare available 6-8pm)

- 5:30-6 Light Refreshments
- 6-6:45 Opening | Rev. Steve Armfield
Prayer Session | Rev. Eric Britcher
- 7-7:45 Prayer Session | Rev. Steve Armfield
- 7:45-8 Celebrating Reconciliation and Healing

For additional information, please contact
Murry Idema (murry@mayflowerchurch.org) or Patty Sienstra (psienstra@gmail.com)

2025 NOMINATIONS for COMMITTEES and COUNCIL

The Nominating Committee is collecting committee/council nominations for 2025. Brief descriptions are listed below, more detailed descriptions are available at the welcome table. Nominations will be accepted by filling out a card at the welcome table, completing the Google form, using the QR code provided, or contacting the church office (616-459-6255). These will be voted on at our Annual Meeting held on June 9 following the service.

Christian Outreach Committee

Facilitates outreach in our community through word, deed, and resources.

Congregational Care Committee

Oversees sending cards to those on the prayer list, bringing meals to those in need, welcoming babies, and coordinating volunteers for the Sunday coffee reception.

Congregational Events Committee

Develops, organizes, and leads social events.

Council

Responsible for the overall operation, spiritual life, and financial health of the church.

Endowment Trust Board of Trustees

Oversees the Mayflower Endowment Fund, which is a separate entity established by MCC and is governed by a formal Trust Agreement.

Executive Committee

Acts on behalf of the Council between Council meetings. Advises the Council and the Senior Minister on all church personnel matters, and provides advice, wisdom, and support to the Moderator and Senior Pastor.

Finance Committee

Provides financial oversight of Church finances, develop the annual budget, monitor actual results and recommends needed adjustments to the budget to Council to keep MCC financially viable.

House and Grounds Committee

Maintains the church building and grounds in proper working order and aesthetically pleasing shape while meeting safety, security and stewardship goals.

Membership Committee

Supports current members of the church and actively works to promote the ministries of Mayflower to Sunday visitors and guests.

Nominating Committee

Recruits Council members and committee members and any other special committees as required.

Personnel Committee

Provides direction and decision making to Council for employee policies, compensation and benefits, legal compliance, performance management and staff training.

Worship and Music Committee

Coordinates various aspects of the worshipping life of the church fostering and supporting active, vital worship, and supports concerts and music outreach.

Youth Committee

Supports the children and youth ministries and the Mayflower staff who lead them.

To nominate
online, please
scan the
QR code.



OUTREACH

Contact Rachael Cooley
with any questions:
rachael@mayflowerchurch.org

IHN Host Week | May 26 - June 2

Mayflower is excited to host 5 families with Family Promise, IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network) during the week of May 26 - June 2.

Our goal is to create a welcoming and warm environment for the families to experience while with us. We depend on many volunteers to help make this happen.

Please take a moment to sign up to be a part of this important ministry. Reach out to Rachael Cooley, Interim Executive Administrator, at rachael@mayflowerchurch.org with any questions.



To sign up
online, please
scan the
QR code.



MUSIC at MAYFLOWER

Visit: MayflowerChurch.org/Programs/Music for more information, recorded performances, and other musical opportunities

Monday, May 13 | 7pm

Baroque in the Atrium with Duo Tarasque & Friends

Luce Burrell, theorbo and Howell Petty, soprano along with Grace Kim, violin; Andrew Laven, cello; and Julia Brown, organ, performing music of Telemann, Purcell and more.



Saturday, May 18 at 7pm | Sunday, May 19 at 3pm

Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys

The Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys concludes their 34th season with a joyous concert titled Walking the Path of Praise.

Sunday, June 9 | 9:30am

All Comer's Intergenerational Choir

Calling one and calling all to join our All Comer's Intergenerational Choir. To close out the choir season with a splash, we are inviting all to sing on June 9th.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR ADULTS

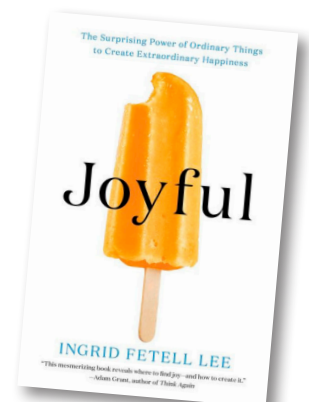
Women's Summer Bible Study

Wednesdays, June 5-Aug. 28 | 7am

Join us this summer for an early morning Women's Bible Study, Wednesdays beginning June 5 through August 28 from 7am- 8am.

We will be reading and discussing *Joyful* by Ingrid Fetell Lee.

Bring your lawn chair and coffee. We will meet outside or in the Atrium as weather permits.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN

Mayflower ART CAMP!

JUNE 10-13 | 9am-12pm | REGISTRATION: \$50/Child
Rising Kindergarteners-5th grade
mayflowerchurch.org/artcamp

Experience God's creativity in playful new ways that will bring inspiration and joy! Engage in 12 different art forms to grow imagination and expand your world.

- Bucket Drumming
- Cooking
- Writing
- Playing Music
- Gardening
- Creating art

AND SO MUCH MORE!

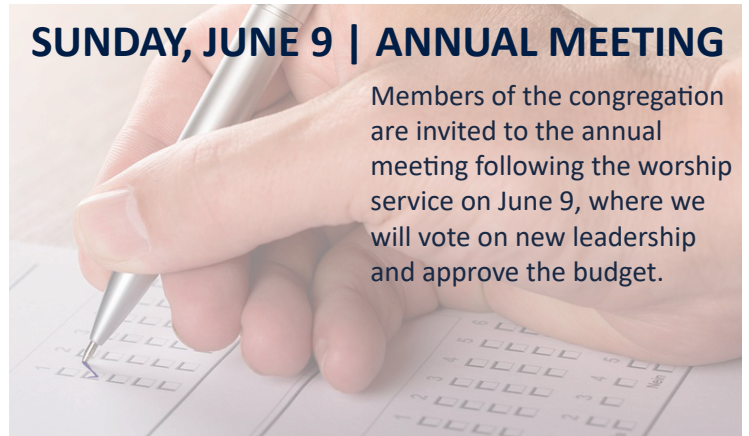


SUNDAY, MAY 12 | MOTHERS' DAY



Please join us on Sunday, May 12 as we honor all the women of the church with a special gift.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9 | ANNUAL MEETING



Members of the congregation are invited to the annual meeting following the worship service on June 9, where we will vote on new leadership and approve the budget.

GIVING

Are you not able to worship with us in person on Sundays? You are still able to give! There are two ways to securely give electronically while you're away! Follow directions to the right:

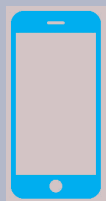
1. VIA QR CODE



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

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

2. TEXT TO GIVE



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

PRAYER LIST

As a congregation, there is nothing more powerful that we can do for one another than to lift up cares, concerns and praises in prayer. A prayer list is emailed weekly, along with our bulletin. ***If you would like to receive prayer, or make note of someone to be added to the weekly prayer list,*** contact the office to be included on the email list (office@mayflowerchurch.org). ***Prayer cards are also in the pews*** and collected during Sunday morning services.

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Congregational Church

2345 Robinson Rd SE | Grand Rapids, MI 49506
616.459.6255 | MayflowerChurch.org



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Mayflower Congregational Church - Grand Rapids, MI