MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY **NOVEMBER 15, 2026**

GENEROUS JOY

2027 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY | NOVEMBER 15

Stewardship Sunday is the day Mayflower congregants commit to supporting the church financially in the year to come. **JOIN US!**

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Gabriel's Oboe* from *The Mission* by Ennio Morricone — Kathleen Gomez, oboe

WELCOME & PASSING OF THE PEACE — Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson and Rev. Kent Dobson

Greeting: The peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

NEWS OF THE CHURCH — Rachael Cooley

CALL TO GENEROUS JOY — Andrew and Emily Hakim

CALL TO WORSHIP — Marilyn Emery

Leader: God calls people we may not expect to lead, to speak, and to act.

People: Give us ears to hear the call.

Leader: Give us courage to rise when the moment requires us.

People: And faith to trust the work God gives us to do.

Leader: When courage is needed, make us willing.

People: When justice calls, help us stand.

Bold text or music score indicates congregational response.

PROCSESIONAL HYMN 1 (stand as you are able)

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past ST. ANNE

OPENING PRAYER Rev. Dobson

GLORIA PATRI (remain standing)

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.

ANTHEM *Arirang* Mayflower Bells
Korean folk song, arr. Jason Krug Erin Gilbert, violin

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Rachael Cooley

SCRIPTURE READING Matt 25:14-30 Rev. Dobson
PEW BIBLE, PAGE 702
Judges 4:1-10
PEW BIBLE, PAGE 172
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON *Our Commitments* Rev. Bell Olsson

HYMN 447 (stand as you are able) *All Things Are Yours* GERMANY

OFFERING OF GENEROUS JOY Rev. Bell Olsson

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Here's One* Chancel Choir
by Mark Hayes Kathleen Gomez, oboe

Talk about a child who do love Jesus, here's one. Ever since I heard the gospel story,
I been walkin' up the road to glory. Talk about a child who do love Jesus, here's one.
Talk about a child who's been forgiven, here's one. Ever since I heard the gospel story,
I been walkin' up the road to glory. Talk about a child who's been forgiven, here's one.
Talk about a child who's been converted, here's one. Ever since I heard the gospel story,
I been walkin' up the road to glory. Talk about a child who's been converted, here's one.
Talk about a child who do love Jesus, here's one.

DOXOLOGY (stand as you are able)

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.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER Rev. Dobson

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 283 (stand as you are able) *Now Thank We All Our God* NUN DANKET

BENEDICTION (remain standing) Rev. Bell Olsson

POSTLUDE *Nun danket alle Gott (Now thank we all our God)* Dr. Brown
by Heinrich Lang

Please join us for coffee in the Atrium after the service.
If you would like to provide treats for the Sunday reception, email *Rachael@MayflowerChurch.org*

TODAY AFTER WORSHIP JOEL SCHOON TANIS

Artist Joel Schoon-Tanis will be joining us for worship today. Following the service, Joel will lead the congregation in an art activity to prepare us for the coming season of advent. We plan to use what is created as we move through our advent theme of *REVEAL*. We invite you to join us for this fun-filled activity in the Atrium.

REVEAL

INVITATION TO GENEROUS JOY

Each year at Mayflower, the church community makes financial pledges for the upcoming fiscal year. These generous commitments help us set our budget so we can faithfully fulfill our mission to be a beacon for God guiding all to faith, fellowship, and service. We're inviting families and individuals to fill out commitment cards expressing their financial intentions for the coming year. As we continue to grow, your support is essential. Our goal this year is to make 250 commitments.

» GOAL for 2027 is 250 COMMITMENT PLEDGES «

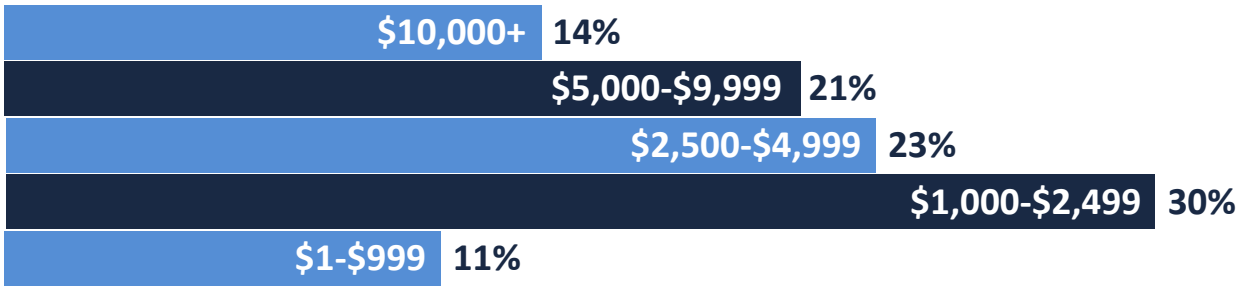
DID YOU KNOW...if you are 70½ or older and have a *Required Minimum Distribution* (RMD) from your IRA, you may be able to donate directly to the church through a *Qualified Charitable Distribution* (QCD). Your gift can count toward your annual RMD while being excluded from your taxable income, potentially reducing your tax burden while supporting the ministry of Mayflower Congregational Church. It's a win-win for you and the church! Contact Andy Ely (andy@MayflowerChurch.org) if you have any questions.

2026 COMMITMENTS AT A GLANCE

Total Commitments	**$1,049,429**
# of Commitments	**204**

Increased Commitments	**75%**
First Time Commitments	**8%**
Maintained Commitments	**16%**
Decreased Commitments	**1%**

2026 COMMITMENT LEVELS



Scan the QR Code to joyfully give your 2027 commitment pledge online.



STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY IS TODAY

Commitment cards/online pledges can be submitted at any time.

HOLIDAY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Baxter COMMUNITY CENTER

MARKETPLACE FOOD DRIVE

- canned fruits and vegetables
- bread (loaves)
- canned meat (chicken, tuna, salmon)
- heat & eat canned meals (ravioli, Spaghetti-O's, soup, etc.)
- shelf stable milk (often can be found at Dollar Tree)

Baxter Community's Marketplace Food Drive – as a community, let's fill the shelves of Baxter's Marketplace for 2027! The items listed can be brought to church now through December 24.

COLLECTION BOXES ARE IN THE PORTICO ENTRANCE AND NARTHEX.



Reach out to Rachael Cooley with any questions: Rachael@MayflowerChurch.org

GoGo's RePlay Toys – Play it Forward

TOY DRIVE | NOW- DEC. 18

***RePlay Toys* collects & regifts gently used toys to kids throughout the Grand Rapids area.**

Their mission is to "encourage kids to Play It Forward™ by donating gently used toys to children in underserved communities. Every time a child receives a new toy, we ask them to donate one they've outgrown, helping to create a cycle of generosity and joy that benefits children in need as we protect the planet."

This holiday season, look through your toys and bring in those that are no longer played with so that they can find a new home!

TOYS/GAMES/PUZZLES FOR ALL AGES ARE ACCEPTED. PLACE IN THE BOXES AT THE PORTICO ENTRANCE.

RePlay Toys partners with Guiding Light, Girls & Boys Club, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and other local organizations. Find out more at: ***gogosreplaytoys.org***

Calendar

Today, November 15
Commitment Sunday | 10:30am
Art event with Joel Schoon-Tanis | 11:45
MS/HS Handbell Practice | 11:45am
Youth Group | 5pm

NOVEMBER

16 Women's Bible Study | 9:30am
Men's Bible Study | 5pm
Women's Bible Study | 5pm
17 Breakfast Club | 6:30am
Needlepoint & Stitching | 10am
Ladies' Luncheon | 11:30am
*Blood Drive** | 1pm
Downtown Mobile Food Pantry | 5pm
18 Midweek | 3pm
Congregational Care Mtg. | 4pm
Mayflower Bells | 6pm
*Al-Anon** | 7pm
Chancel Choir | 7:15pm
19 Bible Study | 10am
Bible Study | 5pm
20 Men's Bible Study | 7am
22 Gratitude Sunday | 10:30am
MS/HS Handbell Practice | 11:45am

PHILIPPIANS BIBLE STUDY

All are invited to join the Thursday @10am Bible Study with leader Rev. Steve Armfield in the youth room as they study the book of Philippians, now through Thanksgiving.



ROBINSON ROAD WRITERS PRESENTS:

BOOK TALK | DEC. 6 | 11:45am

FOLLOWING MORNING WORSHIP



Join us in the chapel following morning worship as designer Sarah Sherman Samuel shares her new book *Sarah Sherman Samuel: The Intersection of Art and Design*.

"From my work in interiors to furniture, textiles to art, every chapter reflects the threads that connect these disciplines and the homes and people that bring them to life."


Sarah Sherman Samuel

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH | Robinson Road WRITERS

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
2345 Robinson Road SE, GR, MI 49506
616-459-6255 | MayflowerChurch.org

Praises and Prayers

If you would like to receive prayer, have a prayer concern, or have permission to include someone on the weekly published prayer list, please contact Rachel Blair, Congregational Care Coordinator, at care@mayflowerchurch.org. Prayer Cards are also in the pews and collected Sunday morning.

PRAISE FOR THOSE WHO CELEBRATE

We give praise with the **Tendero family** as their daughter recently returned home from treating wounded troops in the Iran War. (11/12)

We give praise with the recent marriage of **Doug and Chris Congdon**'s son, Logan to Brooklyn Howell on Oct. 10. (10/20)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Please pray for **David Blair** as he recovers from a knee replacement on Nov. 2. (11/04)

Jan Bundy fell while climbing Mount Vesuvius on a Italy trip Oct. 13 and broke her nose and both shoulders. She is in the hospital and moving to the Corewell Rehab facility. Please pray as she recovers. (10/27)

We pray for peace and comfort for **Don and Ann Kelley** who are experiencing failing health. (10/13)

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN

We mourn with **Kathy and Eric Wynsma** on the passing of Kathy's mother, Nella Visser, on Nov. 4. Please pray for the Wynsmas as well as Kathy's dad, Jack, and her sister and brother-in-law, Kris and Mark Kennedy.

PRAY FOR THE WORLD

In our stewardship and gratitude season here at Mayflower, this is a good time for us to pray about stewardship and gratitude all over the world.

Dear God,

This world is yours. You hold it in the palm of your hand, and you are deeply concerned about its care and its people. We acknowledge that the stewardship of the earth is something you tasked us with at the very beginning. We have not always followed this instruction well. We pray now that we will be faithful—in the ways that we are able—to follow you in the care of our planet.

We also acknowledge that when the worlds' resources are not distributed fairly or when natural disasters wreak havoc, there are many who find themselves living in areas that lack the resources necessary for human thriving. May your mercy flow, and may justice prevail. Do not allow us to close our eyes if there is action we can take to be part of your work of restoration and redemption.

As we hold all we have loosely, knowing that all we have comes from you, may you continue to foster in us hearts of gratitude. May we not take for granted all that we have as a church and as individuals. May your Spirit lead us as we continue learning how to follow you with our lives. Amen.

ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTIONS

Your generous gifts ensure Mayflower's current and future ministry. Thank you.
For your convenience we offer 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: 6163446255 (no spaces) and then follow the prompts.



8" Double Stem Red Poinsettias will adorn the sanctuary Dec. 20 through Christmas Eve. Dedicate one for $25 to take home after the Christmas Eve Service. ORDER BY DEC. 7.

To order, visit the church office, call 616.459.6255 or email *Office@MayflowerChurch.org*

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

2345 Robinson Rd SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506 | 616-459-6255 | MayflowerChurch.org

Rev. Ruth Bell Olsson, Senior Pastor | **Rev. Kent Dobson**, Associate Pastor
Dr. Julia Brown, Director of Music & Organist | **Rachael Cooley**, Executive Director of Youth, Outreach, & Operations
Amy Dunham, Office Manager | **Andy Ely**, Business Manager | **Kristen Van Stee**, Communications Coordinator
Murry Idema, May-Flowers Ministry | **Rachel Blair**, Congregational Care Coordinator | **Kathy Tetzlaff**, Facilities
Dr. Mark Webb, Chancel Choir Director | **Sean Ivory**, Music Associate
Melia Colwell, Director of Children's Music & Worship | **Liberty Kasper**, Young Children's Choir Director
Zephyr White, Children's Choir accompanist

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.

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past 1

Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Attrib. to William Croft, 1678–1727



ST. ANNE
CM

447 All Things Are Yours

Bryan Jeffery Leech, 1931–

William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815



GERMANY
LM

Text © 1989, Hope Publishing Company

GOD'S REVELATION

283 Now Thank We All Our God

Martin Rinckart, 1586–1649
Trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878

Johann Crüger, 1598–1662



NUN DANKET
6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6

"He," "Him," or "His" may be replaced by "God('s)" or "You(r)."
Third verse: "The Son and *Spirit reign, with God*"

IN CREATION

GOD'S REVELATION

