

Mayflower

Mayflower Congregational Church - October, 2009



Dear Mayflower Members and Friends,

September was truly amazing! Many thanks to all who joined us for our wonderful Church Picnic, our very successful Midweek at Mayflower Kick Off, and the launch of our 9:00 Service. Fall at Mayflower is truly in full swing! I'd also like you to know our Outreach to the community continues this month with the ACCESS food drive on October 10th and a Habitat House dedication on October 27th. Youth groups and choirs also begin on October 4th with Sunday Night Live!

It is such a blessing to participate in and watch the vitality and faithfulness of our church family.

See you in church!

Mark Barger Elliott
Senior Pastor



On **Saturday, October 10th**, Mayflower Church, along with other area congregations, will be participating in the 12th annual county-wide ACCESS Food Drive. Last year, over 5,000 households were being served each month through the network of 100 food pantries in Kent County. These 5,000 families included 170,000 children. Many pantry clients are employed but work at low-paying, part-time jobs that do not cover all of their family's basic needs.

ACCESS (All County Churches Emergency Support System) began in 1981 as a network of area congregations working together to help meet the needs in our community. YOU can help with this effort by passing out flyers to area neighborhoods prior to collection day and collecting donations October 10th or sorting food at Trinity Lutheran Church. Collecting for ACCESS is a great family activity that, in just a few hours time, gives children "hands-on" experience in outreach and serving our less fortunate neighbors. Please consider making ACCESS a family priority. You will be glad you did!

Deb Larson at

940-4008 or debj_larson@yahoo.com

Susan Orban at

365-3155 or sorbano@comcast.net

Habitat House Dedication



On **Tuesday evening, October 27 at 6:00 p.m.**, the Habitat House that was jointly sponsored by Mayflower and Universal Forest Products will have its Dedication Service. This service will be at the new house built by the Habitat volunteers located at 1947 Jefferson SE, just north of Burton.

The purpose of this service is to allow both the family and the volunteers to share anything they wish related to their Habitat experience, spend time meeting and learning about the family and getting a chance to see the finished house. There will also be a time of prayer for the family and their new home as the keys are symbolically passed to them.



The family consists of the mother, Karla Parker and her children. Karla has four children of her own and has adopted two special needs children. They range in age from two to twelve years old. Karla grew up in the Garfield Park area, so this house will return her to a familiar neighborhood.

Mayflower's 2009 Habitat House was begun in mid July and completed by the end of September. Many volunteers from both Mayflower and the larger Grand Rapids community contributed to this very successful build. The Mayflower committee who coordinated this process consisted of Sue Bird, Bert Crandell, Mark Barger Elliott, Bob Hammond, Jackie Heaney, Tom Kyros and Jim Meurs. This committee wants to thank all those people who helped out on this project. Without your support, this home would not have been built.

Everyone who is interested is invited to join us for this celebration.

Shop at D&W Earn Money for IHN

You can earn money for Mayflower IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network) by shopping at any D&W Fresh Market between **October 11-17**.

Simply give the cashier the Mayflower Church code, **94686**, and 2% of your total purchase will be credited to the Mayflower IHN Outreach program. It's that easy!

Will You Sponsor this Child?



Jessica Masango is seven years old. She and her sisters, Blessed and Shamiso, are part of Eden's Community Based Care Program. This means they live with their great-uncle, Jairos, and his wife, Stella. Eden assists them with food, clothing, medical care, and education for the children. Jessica's mother, Tsitsi Chigodora, is Jairos' niece. Tsitsi is handicapped physically and mentally. The girls also have a baby sister, Natasha, who is still lives with Tsitsi. Jessica's father deserted the family after divorcing Tsitsi.

Jessica is attending Eden Christian Academy. Her birthday is February 13, 2002. She will be working through a program that teaches English and developmental skills this year. She loves going to school.

With only \$30 per month you could provide a stable, healthy life for this child. If you can give her the help she needs, contact Linda at 949-6356 or larks@i2k.com.

Susan and Kevin Fry to Visit Mayflower



Susan and Kevin Fry are the founders and directors of Eden Children's Village in Zimbabwe, Africa. They will be at the Fall Family Hoedown on October 23rd with a game from Zimbabwe for all to enjoy. That Sunday, October 25th, Susan and Kevin will give the congregation an update on Eden Village as well as the current situation in Zimbabwe. They will have their display in the Atrium following services and are looking forward to answering questions, meeting with child sponsors, sharing their experiences.

Tatenda

Meet little Chiedza Machisa (Her names is pronounced Chai ed za). Shortly after birth, she was found abandoned in a restroom outside of Harare, Zimbabwe.

From this bleak beginning, she was taken to Eden Children's Village where she is thriving as a happy and healthy little girl with a bright future under the sponsorship of Mayflower's Priscilla Circle.

TATENDA (Thank You) Priscilla Circle!

New Member Class

For those who are interested in exploring membership at Mayflower, a New Member's Inquiry Class and Brunch will be held on **Sunday, October 25** at 11:45 a.m. following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. The class, led by Pastor Mark Barger Elliott, will be held in Fellowship Hall and those who wish to join Mayflower Church will be received into membership on Sunday, November 1. There is no obligation to join if you attend the class.

Please call (459-6255) or email (mayflwr@mayflowerchurch.org) the church office to indicate your interest so that information folders can be prepared and ready for the class. Contact Pastor Elliott for additional information.

Bible Study Groups

The Monday Morning Moms' group is underway with a new study of Colossians and Philemon by N.T. Wright. Newcomers are still welcome.

The Tuesday early morning (8:00-9:00 a.m.) group is studying the Psalms and uses a study guide and video clips. Newcomers are always welcome.

"A twinkle in the eye means joy in the heart." (Proverbs 15:30) Come join the Thursday morning women as we study *Contagious Joy* at 10:00 a.m. each week. We meet in the library/conference room and are joyful to have Paula Gaylord as our leader.

To find out more about other small group opportunities at Mayflower go to:

www.mayflowerchurch.org/smallgroups

Church Family News

Congratulations to:

- ♦ **Heather (DeHaan) and Scott Dood**, in the recent birth of a son, **Miles Wesley**. Proud grandparents are **Dale and Ellen DeHaan**.
- ♦ **Matt and Jamie Riley**, on the birth of a son, **Jake Robert**, born September 10, 2009.

We express our sympathy to:

- ♦ **Janice Ahrens LaRue and family**, in the death of her husband, **John LaRue**, on August 31, 2009.

Do You Enjoy Good Pie?

The Discoverers (Mayflower's over 60's folks) will take a luncheon trip on **Wednesday, October 14**. Join us for a trip to *Seetie-licious Bakery Café* in DeWitt, just outside of Lansing. The owner, Linda Hundt, won the \$5000 grand prize at the 2009 Crisco Pie Championship with Tom's Cheery Cherry Berry Pie.

Hey, come along and enjoy Roasted Asparagus Soup, Fluffernutter Banana Sandwich or any of the other menu choices! Call the church office to make a reservation by Monday, October 12.

Meet at the church at 10:30 a.m. \$3.00 trip fee plus your own lunch. Can't beat the price!

Mayflower
**FALL
FAMILY
HOEDOWN**

Autumn Celebration
at Highlander Farm
4131 McCabe NE
Saturday, Oct. 24
4:00-8:00pm
Picnic Dinner
Please bring a chair - Join the FUN!
Tickets available at church

Barn Dance - Pumpkin Roll - Apple Bob
Games - Pumpkin Painting - Hayrides

MAYFLOWER OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Robert Barss Christopher Vituj Susannah Deems Lisa Wiener Ty VanSkiver	2 Kelly Haun Shelly Bernecker Auden Barger Elliott Jack Barnes Conley Kakabeeke	3 David Bamborough
4 Jamie Riley	5 Willow Chapla Lynn Barger Elliott John Coyle	6 Merehn Oosterman Jenna Laidler	7	8 Ray Loeschner John Hewitt Gail Rogers Chelsea Peterson Samuel Matthews James Wiener	9 Chris Edgar Burma Powell Colton Cheney	10 Judy Vana Ashley Ward Thomas Betz Catherine Grin Emily Grin AnnaMarie Ohm
11 Janet Smither Jay Paschall Sarah Conway Ron Erway Isabella Poortenga Stephanie Wiener	12 Howard Thompson Vineta Elliott Merideth Fleming Sydney Timmer Elizabeth Evenson	13 Tom Powell	14 Shirley VanderWilt Greg Wegner Caroline Cary Spencer Slagboom	15 Dick Ryan Hannah Chapla Alexis Ward	16 Kathryn Stump Dan DeHoek Kris Wondergem Kathryn Smith	17 Vina Patten Mark White Rob Nista Molly Lundquist Whitney Currie
18 Judy Evert Martin Grin Andrew Zieger Mackenzie Currie	19 Nancy Orr Joyce Torrey Jennie Betz Erin Oderkirk	20 Amy Wing	21	22 Jeff Wickman Ginger Young	23 Brian Stephens JoAnne Desmond Mark Hinshaw Tory Evans Daniel Zawodny	24 Shirley O'Shea Emily Ziegler
25 Marcia Oetting Mary Lawson Rose Kromer	26 Loraine Jarvi Paula Mittner Jim Toth Christina Aardema Eve Orban Hope Orban	27 Brian Hendricks Robert Stuursma	28 Joan Fleser Murphy Wynsma	29 Pat Hasenyager Annalda Worsfold Karley Morgan Jeff Peterson	30 Steve Edgar Jenna Wynsma	31 Debb Kalmbach Kathleen Clark Margaret Barr Alec Distel

Kitchen Creations Available October 18

Priscilla Circle will have delicious baked items and other goodies available in the narthex after church on October 18.

Your purchasing power is by donation to the "Priscilla Circle Kitchen Fund" established to replace the main kitchen appliances that are now 50 years old. We have been blessed with some wonderful donations to date and we hope you will stop by and help us to build the fund for this endeavor.

Chicago Shopping Trip

Saturday, November 14. Cost is \$30 per person. Departure is at 7:30 a.m. and we return at 10:30 p.m.

Make your reservation by calling the church office, 459-6255.

Invite your friends to go!

Mayflower Outreach Committee Launches New Program

Mayflower Church has joined the Congregational Partnership Program (CPP) and the Grand Rapids Area Coalition to End Homelessness (CEH), a collaborative effort facilitated by Grand Rapids Area Center for Ecumenism (GRACE), with the goal of preventing homelessness and supporting permanent housing.

We are building a relationship with Melissa Dunn and her sons; Randy, 8th grade and Ryan, 1st grade, and giving them financial support to assure permanent housing for one year. Through the CPP Fund we will subsidize housing in decreasing amounts as the household attains greater economic independence. Our congregation can help mentor this young divorced mother, who has recently lost her own mother, and is trying to independently raise her sons. She is working at the Van Andel Arena ushering and cleaning after hockey games and special events. She wants to attain her GED and has recently found an apartment to rent. Melissa is a hard worker and determined to support herself. She is looking forward to visiting Mayflower with the boys.

Karen Roth (977-1838), Outreach Committee, is looking for a mother of an 8th grader to join Melissa for coffee, to share parenting experiences. She could also use winter coats for the boys, size 12 and 16.

The goal is to help keep Melissa moving in a positive direction as she learns to manage her life.

September 2009
 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

October 2009

Mayflower Church Calendar

November 2009
 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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				10:00a Women's Bible Study 11:15a T'ai Chi Class 5:45p Altrusa International of Grand Rapids 6:00p Boy Scout Leaders 7:00p Boy Scouts		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<i>World Communion Sunday</i> 9:00a Worship Service 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Coffee Reception 5:00p Sunday Night Live	8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:00a Women Bible Study 5:00p Men's Bible Study 5:30p Preschool Fall Work Day 5:45p Degage Ministry 7:30p Parents Al-Anon	8:00a Bible Study 9:00a Staff Meeting 10:30a Retired Men's Bible Study 6:00p Preschool Fall Festival Rain Date 7:00p Texas Hold'em Bible GIG	<i>Preschool Pictures</i> 9:30a Women Bible Study 12:00p Priscilla Circle 5:00p Cantus Choir 5:15p Midweek@Mayflowr 5:45p 3,4,5@5:45 6:00p Cherub Choir 6:15p Study Groups 6:30p Carol Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	<i>Preschool Pictures</i> 9:30a Friendly Visitors 10:00a Women's Bible Study 11:15a T'ai Chi Class 6:00p Boy Scout Leaders 7:00p Boy Scouts	5:30p Confirmation Dinner & Rock Climbing	<i>ACCESS Food Drive</i>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<i>Baptism-Oderkirk</i> 9:00a Worship Service 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Priscilla Circle Bake Sale 5:00p Sunday Night Live	<i>Columbus Day</i> 8:00a Men's Bible Study 8:15a Personnel Committee 9:00a Women Bible Study 5:00p Men's Bible Study 7:00p Youth Committee 7:30p Parents Al-Anon	8:00a Bible Study 9:00a Staff Meeting 10:00a Preschool-Fellowship Hall 10:30a Retired Men's Bible Study 6:00p Preschool Special Speaker Event 7:00p C.E. Committee 7:00p Membership Committee	9:30a Women Bible Study 10:00a Preschool-F.H. 11:00a Discoverers 1:30p Preschool-F.H. 4:30p Children's Chorus 5:00p Cantus Choir 5:15p Midweek@Mayflowr 5:45p 3,4,5@5:45 6:00p Cherub Choir 6:15p Study Groups 6:30p Carol Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	9:00a Staff Retreat 10:00a Women's Bible Study 11:15a T'ai Chi Class 6:00p Boy Scout Leaders 7:00p Preschool Council 7:00p Boy Scouts	3:00p Miniature Show	9:00a Michigan CCC Conference 10:00a Miniature Show
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:00a Worship Service 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Coffee Reception 11:30a Priscilla Circle Bake Sale 5:00p Sunday Night Live	8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:00a Women Bible Study 5:00p Men's Bible Study 5:30p Finance Committee 7:00p Outreach Committee 7:30p Parents Al-Anon	8:00a Bible Study 9:00a Staff Meeting 10:30a Retired Men's Bible Study 12:00p Staff Lunch 6:00p Exec. Committee 7:00p Texas Hold'em Bible GIG	9:30a Women Bible Study 4:30p Children's Chorus 5:00p Cantus Choir 5:15p Midweek@Mayflowr 5:45p 3,4,5@5:45 6:00p Cherub Choir 6:15p Study Groups 6:30p Carol Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	8:30a Preschool Conferences 10:00a Women's Bible Study 11:15a T'ai Chi Class 7:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p Stephen Ministry	8:30a Preschool Conferences	4:00p Fall Family Hoedown
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:00a Worship Service 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Coffee Reception 12:00p New Member Class/Brunch 2:00p Piano Recital 5:00p Sunday Night Live	8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:00a Women Bible Study 10:00a Caregivers Support Group 5:00p Men's Bible Study 7:30p Parents Al-Anon	8:00a Bible Study 9:00a Staff Meeting 10:30a Retired Men's Bible Study 6:00p Habitat House Dedication 7:00p Council Meeting	9:30a Women Bible Study 4:30p Children's Chorus 5:00p Cantus Choir 5:15p Midweek@Mayflowr 5:45p 3,4,5@5:45 6:00p Cherub Choir 6:15p Study Groups 6:30p Carol Choir 7:30p Chancel Choir	10:00a Women's Bible Study 11:15a T'ai Chi Class 7:00p Boy Scouts		<i>Halloween</i>