



The Mayflower "LOG"

Mayflower Congregational United Church of Christ
1407 West 18th St., Sioux City, IA 51103
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We are a people of faith on a journey with Christ.

***Sunday – In person and Virtual worship at 11:00 am
Transformation Station –Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Adult Bible Study by Zoom @ 2:00 pm
February 17, 2024 – (9:00 – 10:00) Mayflower Food Giveaway***

Mayflower opens its heart, faith, and building to a wide variety of community ministries. These include AA and NA support groups, City Elite and Sweethearts Dance teams, emergency shelter for neighboring Liberty School, Calico Kids Preschool, Girls Scouts, and shared space with another church. Mayflower is an Open and Affirming church that welcomes LGBTQIA+ to be a part of the church family. Mayflower's motto is: "We are a people of faith on a journey with Christ." We invite you to join the journey. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Mayflower has a dedicated belief that we need to connect with the community in helpful ways. The mission and outreach board supports a Mayflower Food Giveaway one Saturday a month as well as appointments, free coat rack, Little Free Library and reading bench. The Sunday School organizes a variety of service projects. A multi-generation group supports the Siouxland Back Pack program by filling bags of weekend food for Sioux City school students

Do we see Mayflower in this quote?

"Sunday morning is not my most important day. I don't want to pastor a church that only has church on Sunday and Bible study on Wednesday. I do Sunday morning to gather the troops for Monday."

Quote from Pastor Darius Pridgen 2-13-2023, Buffalo, New York. True Bethel Baptist Church. His church reaches out all week to the community doing God's work for those in need.

REFLECTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 2024

Meditations on Snow and Having a Pure Heart

Michelle Cox

Guideposts blogger Michelle Cox meditates on the beauty of freshly fallen snow and the purity of our own hearts.



It's been 12 days since a winter storm hit my town in the mountains of North Carolina, and we *still* have snow in our yard. Snow can wreak havoc—causing wrecks, power outages and messed-up travel plans. And melting snow is another set of problems, leaving behind black ice that drivers can't see until they're on it, among other things.

But snow can also be breathtakingly beautiful, with pine trees that look as if God has sifted powdered sugar on them and bare branches that appear to be outlined in icing, each tiny twig taking on significance. But it was the storm's falling snow that took my breath away. Right before bed, I'd turned the lights out in our family room, and the house was dark as I walked into the kitchen. I opened the glass doors and listened to the almost-holy stillness as the flakes drifted to the ground.

Everything was pristine, all the imperfections coated in a blanket of white. I was awed as I realized that the pure whiteness of the snow gave off so much light that I could see easily through the darkness, that led me to realize something I'd never thought about before. For a day or two after the storm, my Facebook feed was filled with photos of glistening snow, pictures that were hauntingly beautiful. But I didn't see where anyone had posted one photo of grimy snow. Not one.

It's the purity of snow that makes it so beautiful, and having a heart that seeks to be pure like God is what makes you glisten and sparkle as Christians. And the really cool thing? When we try to be pure like Him, we reflect His light that can help others through the dark places of their lives.

I think it's said best in Psalm 51:7, "*Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.*"



BIRTHDAYS – FEBRUARY 2024

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



11- Finley Roost
Mary Wells
17- Jersey Tomlison
19 - Erin Cron

29 - Brittany Herbst
24 - Linda Harris
25 - Anaiah Ahlsten
27- Sydney Gruis



PRAYER REMEMBRANCES – FEBRUARY 2024

Our Prayers are offered for each one remembered in celebration, and in sorrow.



Prayers are always needed and welcome by all members and families of Mayflower.

*We continue to remember our less mobile members and friends: Patty, Shirley, Dorothy, Buddy, Barb, Kathy, Jeanette, and Joyce

(Please send your prayer requests to: Mayflowerucc@gmail.com)



ANNOUNCEMENTS/NOTES FROM OUR LEADERS – FEBRUARY 2024

Board of Trustees

The Christmas gift tree generated significant donations of materials needed in the office and the kitchen area. We thank everyone for your generosity. Thanks also to those who donate refreshments for our fellowship time.

We have had our annual meeting and there will be a report in next month's LOG. Stay tuned!

Mayflower Church will turn 100 years!

Have you heard the saying "if these walls could talk"? I'm guessing the walls of Mayflower have wonderful stories of the MANY people who have entered these rooms. Do you enjoy sitting and looking at pictures with others? Talking about shared memories and events, remembering wonderful times, some difficult times, but all shared together? I love looking at pictures of my family!

The Mayflower church building is going to be 100 years old this year, and we would like to get a committee of people who would be willing to help share their memories, go through some boxes of pictures, documents, memory items, of the past. We are still in the planning stage, but if this is something you would like to be a part of, help plan a celebration for this spring,. please contact Mary Groen at 712-252-7223, or you may call the church office at 712-258-8278. Please come , sit down with others, looks at pictures and the other mementoes, and share your memories.



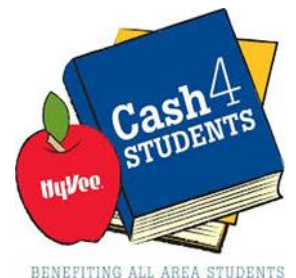
Calico Kids Preschool

Melissa and Amber continue to create learning spaces and activities. The children love coming to Calico Kids. Music, stories, creative play, art, gym, snacks, circle time, science, social interactions and oh so much more. The Calico Kids board recently wrote a grant to help with our program through December 2024. Cross your fingers that we get the grant. It is not too early to share information about Calico Kids. Encourage families to visit the preschool to enroll in the second semester or next fall. Children 3, 4, 5 can enroll. Scholarships are available. Children 4 years old who are eligible for the Preschool Initiative program can come free. Amber, director, and Melissa, teacher, will greet the families and show them the preschool. The preschool's number is 255-7441.

And remember.....save those HyVee receipts for the preschool.

Calico Kids Preschool is asking you to join the preschool project of saving HyVee receipts. This is an easy fundraiser for you and the school. Here are the rules:

Receipts must be dated August 1, 2023 to April 23, 2024. (Fuel, postal, money orders, Western Union, lottery, Quest, Mid-American or gift card receipts CANNOT be turned in to the school) Receipts for all other items are acceptable. *Please put your receipts in the container in the entryway.* Ask your friends and family to join you in the support of Calico Kids Preschool. We thank you.



Transformation Station AKA Sunday School

In Sunday School we also use the phrase "Transformation Station." Sunday school is a place where children and youth can be transformed as they learn, live, and love the faith stories that build their character and compassion. Sunday School helps one build meaningful relationships. You meet people, learn their names, hear their stories, and meet their

families. You share fellowship times with class members. You minister alongside others. Key facets of the program include:

- Bible knowledge,
- spiritual growth,
- a place to belong,
- build meaningful relationships,
- opportunities to serve and minister,
- a place for the whole family.

Sunday School starts at 9:45 am on the balcony of the church. 4yrs old and up are welcomed. Also, the adults have the opportunity to have a zoom class on Sunday afternoon. Bob Fritzmeier coordinates these lively and learned discussions.

The Adult Group is experiencing new vitality in 2024! The leadership of Diana Butler Bass on our video zooms is inspiring us. In sharing our stories and learnings with each other, we're finding deeper connections with each other and others of our family in the faith, past and present. Are you interested in being part of this, or have a question about it? If so, please call, text or email bobfritzmeier@yahoo.com, subject line "Adult Group," 712-899-6418, leave a voicemail.



Board of Mission and Outreach

February Log 2024

We welcome new board members to Mission and Outreach. Our members are Vicki, Sheila, Anna, Conrad, Brad, and Julie. Our board will lead the way for outreach in the community, and we hope to find ways for Mayflower to help our neighbors in need.

Upcoming Dates:

Sat., February 17, 2024 (9:00 am -10:00 am) Mayflower Food Giveaway



CALENDAR LOG ENTRY – FEBRUARY 2024 (AT TIME OF PUBLICATION)

- Sun. Feb 4** **Sunday School 9:45**
In-Person AND Virtual Worship on Facebook @ 11:00 am
- Sun. Feb 11** **Sunday School 9:45- practice for program**
In-Person AND Virtual Worship on Facebook @ 11:00 am
- Mon. Feb. 12** **Mission/Outreach ZOOM mtg. @ 6:00 pm**
- Sun. Feb. 18** **Sunday School 9:45**
In-Person AND Virtual Worship on Facebook @ 11:00 am
LOG ARTICLES DUE
- Sat. Jan. 20** **Foodshare @ 8:00 -10:00 am**
- Wed. Feb. 21** **Trustees Mtg @ 6:00 Pm**
- Thurs. Feb. 22** **Deacons Mtg. @4:30 PM**
- Sun. Feb. 25** **Sunday School 9:45**
In-Person AND Virtual Worship on Facebook @ 11:00 am

The Adult Group will continue to explore “Christian Artists and Innovators.” We listen online to historian Diana Butler Bass. Along the way we’re able to ask questions, engage in lively discussion, and grow in our faith. If you’d like to sit in and see and hear what there is for you, contact bobfritzmeier@yahoo.com, or call him at (712) 899-6418 and leave a voicemail.

Updated/ additional events will be emailed to everyone.

The Little Free Library

The Mayflower outdoors library gets lots of use. Hundreds of books have enriched readers. It is so popular; we are getting low on children and teen books. Please look around and/or tell your friends that the Mayflower Church Little Free Library needs books for children and teens. The books can be dropped off at church. If you need someone to pick up books, call Linda at 202-4861. Thank you for supporting this project.



February, The Month of Love!

