

The Log

May, 2018

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are Welcome here.

FROM
THE
PASTOR



Spring has arrived among us in all its grandeur and beauty, added to its wonder is the appearance of so many gorgeous birds. It is wonderful to encounter our first bluebird of the season and the song of the Meadowlark or Chickadee. We each have our favorites.

We can welcome and assist them with replenished bird feeders and baths.

Birds have often been associated with Spiritual significance, and are mentioned throughout scripture and native lore and medicine. In Christian symbolism the dove is well known as the symbol of the Holy Spirit, representing peace and purity. We can draw close to this symbol as we approach the Celebration of Pentecost on May 20th. The Lark is the symbol of the humility of the Priesthood, because this bird flies high and sings when in flight toward heaven. The Goldfinch frequently appears in the pictures of the Christ child. Because of this small bird's fondness for thistles and thorns, it has come to represent the Passion of Our Lord. The Swallow represents the incarnation. The Sparrow represents lowliness and humility and is mentioned by our Lord in his Sermon on the Mount. The Stork is a symbol of piety chastity and vigilance. It is also associated with the incarnation; for, as the stork announces the coming of spring, it also told of the coming of our Lord.

In our study of the poetry of Mary Oliver, when reading her poem Wild Geese, it was brought forth, the wild goose is the ancient Celtic symbol of the Holy Spirit. They are reminders that the Spirit of God cannot be tamed or contained. They are reminders, when it comes to God, to expect the unexpected.

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Mayflower Congregational
United Church of Christ

mayflowerofbillings.com

2940 Poly Drive • Billings, MT 59102 • 406/656-5414



Upcoming Event Highlights:

May 1 – Lydia's Prayer Group

May 2 – Youth Group Meets at First

May 6 – Communion & Food Bank Sunday!

– CE Meeting

– Adult Education in Fireside

– Nurse Recognition

– New Member Orientation Meeting

– Children's Outreach Mission

– Pipes & Pizza Youth Fundraiser

May 8 – Lydia's Prayer Group

May 9 – Youth Group at Mayflower

May 12 – Postal Carrier Food Drive in Mayflower Parking Lot

May 13 – Mother's Day

– R & O Meets

– Adult Education in Fireside

– Youth Sunday!

– M & O in Fireside

May 15 – Lydia's Prayer Group

May 16 – Youth Group Meets at First

– Youth dine-out fundraiser at Buffalo Wild Wings

May 17 – Sandwich Service Project

May 17 – Council

May 18 – Kickoff Camp at Mimanagish

– Dine-in Fundraiser for Camp Mimanagish at the YAM

May 19 – Men of Mayflower

May 20 – Pentecost!

– New Member Sunday!

– Adult Education in Fireside

May 22 – Lydia's Prayer Group

May 23 – Women of Mayflower

– Youth Group Meets at Mayflower

May 25 – LOG Deadline

– Family Camp begins at Mimanagish

– Geography of Grace Camp begins at Mimanagish

May 28 – Memorial Day

– OFFICE CLOSED

May 29 – Lydia's Prayer Group

May 31 – Worship Meets

Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air, are heading home again.

Whoever you are, no matter how lonely, the world offers itself to your imagination, calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting -over and over announcing your place in the family of things. - Mary Oliver.

Finally, as you continue in Easter and then Pentecost remember the words of the prophet *Isaiah 40:31*, "Those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will fly high on wings of eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint."

In Christ's Love,

Steve

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION COMING SOON!

There will be a **New Member Orientation on May 6 after church with a reception in worship, May 20, Pentecost Sunday.**

If you are interested, please call the office at 656-5414. If you *know* anyone that might be interested, you might offer them extra encouragement.

MEN OF MAYFLOWER are meeting at Aspen Meadows on **Saturday, 7:15 am, May 19** Aspen Meadows to cook and serve breakfast. New members, sons, grandsons & friends are always encouraged to attend. Please sign-up in the Narthex or ask Rev. Steve for more information.

WOMEN OF MAYFLOWER (WOM) Join the Women of Mayflower and Sing-a-long with Ginny! For our final gathering before the summer break, we will enjoy a catered lunch and end on a high note! Mark your calendars and **join us on Wednesday, May 23rd at noon.** All are welcome!

NURSE RECOGNITION MAY 6 On **May 6th**, Steve will be preaching on the history of nursing and will be recognizing the nurses in our congregation. If you are a nurse, a retired nurse or studying to be one you are very encouraged to attend.

THINK SUMMER PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES! Summer is almost here and many of you will begin your vacation planning, family gatherings, or backyard get-togethers. Please take a moment when you do to make a memory to share with Mayflower. **In July**, we'll begin putting our new Photo Directory together for the 2018-2019 year and are looking for new photos you'd like to share. If you are just as happy to have the photo from this year stay in, that's just fine, but we'd love to have many new submissions to keep things current and lively. Just drop a photo by the office or email one to office@mayflowerofbillings.com. **Submission Deadline is July 15th.**

YOUTH Happenings

We had a great April! Thank you to everyone who came out and supported us at Pizza Ranch on April 12. Between the Pizza Ranch proceeds, the tips and the raffle we raised \$750 towards our trip to Western Regional Youth Event in Hawaii.

We have a few more fundraisers this month. **We are selling Krispy Kreme certificates** for \$10 each which is good for 1 dozen donuts and BOGO cards for \$20 which are good for 10 BOGO dozen donuts. Contact Kim 855-4317 or the office to purchase a card by the end of May.

Our May dine-out fundraiser is Buffalo Wild Wings on Wed., May 16. Just take the coupon in (below) and the Youth will receive 20% of your order. Share them with all your friends!

We also have **Pipes and Pizza on Sunday, May 20.** Come join us for an evening of homemade pizza made by the Youth as Steve Plaggemeyer plays music for a silent movie on the theater organ at Billings First Church. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased after church, by getting a hold of Kim or the church office.

The Youth have been enjoying Wednesday evening Youth Group where they have helped stuff over 500 Easter eggs for the two churches Easter egg hunts, they welcomed Arla Beal to lead them through some spirituality using Mandalas, and will be welcoming Lisa Harmon to lead them through the spiritual practice of yoga and visiting the escape room one Wednesday evening.

We have our **year end Children's Mission event on Sunday, May 6** where our children and Youth will be heading over to **West Park Village** after worship to enjoy lunch, activities and getting to know each other with our members who live there. We will be launching a program where we will be pairing up members from West Park Village with our children and Youth so they can spend time together in our upcoming program year getting to know each other and supporting each other! **Everyone is welcome to join us on May 6** for food, fellowship, fun and getting to know each other!

FOOD BANK SUNDAY – May 6

Please remember to bring donations of non-perishable items - spread a little love.

I can love only one person at a time. I can feed only one person at a time. Just one, one, one.

- Mother Teresa



EAT WINGS
RAISE FUNDS
AN APPETIZING WAY TO RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION

EAT WINGS. RAISE FUNDS. IT PAYS.

On the day of your event, Buffalo Wild Wings® will donate 20% of sales from all guests at your table with this ticket.

We look forward to helping your organization meet its financial goals. Together we can make a positive impact and help our community needs.

(Present this ticket to your server on the date and time listed below)

UCC YOUTH

WEDNESDAY
May 16th, 2018

May NOT Distribute on Buffalo Wild Wings' property.
Buffalo Wild Wings 411 S. 24th Street W, Billings, MT (406) 294-WING



EAT WINGS
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ADMIT 1

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The Log



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Billings, MT 59102
Permit No. 783

Senior Minister

Reverend Steven Gordon

Director of Children & Youth

Kimmie Harris

Moderator

Rev. Barbara Miner

Organist

Ginny Herrick

Choir Director

Julie Bishop

Administrative Assistant

Anna Nentwig

Worship every Sunday at 10:00 am

Daily Devotional



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

"Scared" and "Sacred" are Sisters Written by Lillian Daniel

"Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe." - Psalm 33:8

If you follow the bestseller list, you've seen **Love Warrior** by Glennon Doyle Melton. Her first book, **Carry On, Warrior**, grew out of her popular blog aimed at moms with a heart for God and the world. Melton is known for her humor, honesty and her ability to connect the Gospel to real life, even when real life stinks.

Love Warrior chronicles the ups and downs of her own marriage, which includes infidelity, therapy, [relationship], all while trying to be a good parent. But the story is much larger than any of that plot detail. She uses her own personal story to talk about larger stories, and God is in the middle of it all. At one awkward and excruciating moment, she reminds herself and her readers that "scared and sacred are sisters."

Glennon Doyle Melton is a member of the United Church of Christ and her home church shows up often in her writing. Whether she is reflecting on her pastor's sermons or talking about teaching Sunday School, she paints a picture of church that some of you will recognize and rejoice in, churches where you can experience the holy and still be freaked out, churches where you can say clever and quirky things like "Scared and sacred are sisters."

But I imagine there are also readers who do not have or recognize a church like that. Statistically speaking, Melton's readers are pretty likely to be unchurched, and perhaps unhappy or unwelcome at the church they used to attend. So if you hear people talking about the book *Love Warrior*, you might want to mention that you know a church that is as special and real as the one in that book. I can think of a good one right here in [in my home town].

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for being present in the sacred and scary moments of our lives, and thank you for churches worth reading and writing about. Amen.