

The Log

November, 2018

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



From the Pastor

For years, like most ministers, I used to dread the season of stewardship. I dreaded having to ask people for money, especially since a lot of that money is going towards my salary. Henri Nouwen, writer and Catholic priest, once thought of fundraising and stewardship as “a necessary but unpleasant activity to support spiritual things.” Over time, Nouwen changed his mind and thought of fundraising as a form of ministry. Lately, my dread has converted to joy as I have learned to embrace the season of stewardship.

I embrace the season of stewardship because the church is an important part of my life. My life has been transformed by the church. I have learned about justice and compassion, I have had opportunities to forgive and be forgiven, I have met incredible people of deep faith, and I have enjoyed the spiritual companionship of the people I have met in church. None of this would have been possible without people's financial support.

Stewardship is also a time to think about the intersection of our financial resources and our values. It's a time to ask ourselves questions like, “Does the way I spend my money reflect what I value the most?” How we spend and save our money is a matter of budgeting and finances, and it is also a spiritual matter.

One characteristic I have always admired is generosity. I want to be and become a generous person. The act of putting money in the offering plate on a Sunday, or giving money electronically through the church's web site, or setting up an

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Mayflower Congregational United Church of Christ

mayflowerofbillings.com

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



Upcoming Event Highlights:

Nov. 1 – All Saint's Day!

– *Let's Talk Mayflower!* at Thirsty Street

Nov. 3 – Our Whole Lives 4-6 Grades

Nov. 4 – Daylight Savings: Fall Back

– Communion & Food Bank

– Adult Education

– **Quarterly Meeting** – Please attend.

– Our Whole Lives K-1 Grades

– Our Whole Lives 7-9 Grades

Nov. 5 – Bunco for Life!

Nov. 6 – Lydia's Prayer Circle

Nov. 9 – Whole Fellowship Pizza Night

Nov. 11 – Veteran's Day!

– Veterans' Recognition

– Resource & Operations

– Christian Education Meeting

– Adult Education

– Mission & Outreach Meeting

– Our Whole Lives K-1 Grades

– Our Whole Lives 7-9 Grades

Nov. 13 – Lydia's Prayer Circle

Nov. 14 – Older Youth Group Meets

Nov. 15 – Sandwich Service Project

– Council Meeting

Nov. 17 – Men of Mayflower

Nov. 18 – Stewardship Sunday!

– Adult Education

– Stewardship Luncheon

– Our Whole Lives K-1 Grades

– Our Whole Lives 7-9 Grades

Nov. 20 – Lydia's Prayer Circle

Nov. 22 – Happy Thanksgiving!!!

– OFFICE CLOSED

Nov. 23 – Log Deadline!

– OFFICE CLOSED

Nov. 27 – Lydia's Prayer Circle

Nov. 28 – Women of Mayflower

– Older Youth Group Meets

Nov. 29 – Worship Committee Meets

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automatic withdrawal system to give money to the church, helps me become a more consciously generous person. Giving to the church helps me practice the art of generosity, and I am thankful for that opportunity.

The Stewardship Committee has hopefully sent you a letter and a pledge card asking you to make a pledge to Mayflower Congregational Church. (If you have not received one, please let me know and I would be overjoyed to send one to you!) I invite you to prayerful consider making a pledge to support the ministry of Mayflower. We are living through an exciting transition right now as we discern where God is calling us to be in our ministry. I will be making my pledge to Mayflower in the next few weeks, and I invite you also to make a pledge as a way to support the ministry of this church and as a way of practicing generosity.

– Rev. Amy Carter

Save the Date: Sun., Nov. 4, for the Quarterly Meeting!



Last Chance for *Let's Talk Mayflower!* November 1 (All Saints Day) 4:30-6pm at Thirsty Street tap room downtown, 3008 1st Ave. N. Rev. Amy Carter invites you to this informal gathering to share your stories of faith and your hopes for Mayflower Church. These conversations are holy, and provide Rev. Amy with a sense of our church's history; and from those conversations we can work together to create a new future for Mayflower, UCC.

MEN OF MAYFLOWER are again invited on **Sat., 7:15 am, Nov. 17 to Aspen Meadows** to cook and serve breakfast. New members, sons, grandsons & friends are always encouraged to attend. Please sign-up in the Narthex.

Remember to set your clocks back for Sunday, November 4th!



SUNDAY, NOV. 11, WE WILL RECOGNIZE OUR VETERANS. If you are a Veteran we encourage you to attend Church. We want to thank and honor you for your service to your nation. On this Veterans' Day, Monday, Nov. 12, "let us remember the service of our veterans, and let us renew our national promise to fulfill our sacred obligations to our veterans and their families who have sacrificed so much so that we can live free."

MISSING – Please Help:

During our World Communion Sunday program, we all enjoyed a beautiful display of items from around the world. Among those was a small black painted plate etched with an Olympian runner design from Greece. Since then it has been missing and we are hoping someone might have seen it or accidentally taken it home. If you have any information, please contact the Office at 656-5414 or Linda Smith at 651-4320.

Monday, November 5, 6:00 pm

Bunco for Life

A FUNdraiser for the
Mayflower Relay for Life Team

Mayflower Congregational Church

www.mayflowerofbillings.com • 406/656-5414

2940 Poly Drive, Billings, MT 59102

Please join us for a
Fall-tastic evening
of fun with friends
both old & new,
a delicious dinner,
& great prizes!



DRESS-A-CHILD WILL BE DECEMBER 7, 6:00 PM AT SHOPKO! Just \$100 dresses one child.

At Mayflower, we have contributed to dressing children at Christmas for over 20 years. In the beginning we helped the Salvation Army dress children that registered through their program. This was done at either Target or Kmart. About 12 years ago we joined Pilgrim Church and dressed the families from Friendship House. The group got so large that now we each have a night where we dress 25-30 kids at Shopko. Rev. Matt Lundgren and his staff from Friendship House always attend as well as our minister.

Mayflower members have been dedicated to seeing this program succeed. Each child will spend \$100 on clothes and winter outer wear. Everyone knows toys or candy isn't included. Members help the families decide what to purchase, and it always turns out to be enlightening for both Mayflower and Friendship House. We have snacks and drinks for the kids and their families since many have come directly from work and picking up their kids. Though tired, everyone is also very appreciative of the gifts. This program does not take away from Angel or mitten trees which we have also done. If you'd like to help contribute this year, please make checks to Mayflower and note Dress a Child. Notify LuAnne Engh if you are able to help that night.



WOMEN OF MAYFLOWER'S NOVEMBER MEETING will be **Wednesday, November 28 at noon.** We will enjoy an educational and entertaining presentation by our own Jane Van Dyk on travel in China & Tibet. Everyone is welcome!

YOUTH Happenings

October was a great and busy month for our youth and families! We had our first meeting with potential confirmand's parents to talk about plans for confirmation to begin in January. We are looking for adult mentors if you are interested or want more information. Please talk with Kim or Pastor Amy.

We continue with the 4-6 grade Our Whole Lives Class and began our 7-9 grade class! We will begin our K-2 grade Our Whole Lives class on Sunday, November 4, 1-3:30. If you have a child in your life you would like in the class please contact Kim or Anna.

We had a wonderful evening for our Fellowship Fun Night at the Corn Maze and pumpkin patch! Good thing we had the children with us, or I think us adults would still be stuck in the maze!

A great bunch of parents and youth turned out to help on Church work day to help organize the Sunday school supply closet and start clearing an office space for Kim.

We had two great Youth group meetings - one with Arla Beal sharing the spiritual practice of meditation and focusing and another with Piper Tocco sharing her work and passion for reiki and energy healing and encouraging us to all follow our passions!

We ended the month with the annual Soup & Salad Luncheon and Halloween Carnival! Thank you to everyone who made soups, donated their time for volunteering; everyone who attended and enjoyed soup, played fun carnival games and got spooked in the haunted house! Through your generosity, our youth raised \$600 towards their mission trip this summer.

November also looks to be packed full of fun and activities. **We have a wonderful Fellowship Fun night planned for Friday, November 9, 6-8 pm!** We will be having a pizza and board game party at the church! Absolutely everyone is invited to come have a fabulous evening with your church family!! RSVP to Kim or the office by Friday, Nov. 9 at noon!

Pastor Amy and I are working on an awesome Intergenerational worship service for November 11 and invite you to join us for a fun interactive worship! We will have youth group on Wednesday, November 14 and 28. If you have a spiritual practice, passion or a faith journey story that you would like to share with the youth, please contact Kim. We are also looking for volunteers to provide dinner for these two nights! Youth group is 6:30-8 pm and all youth and their friends 6-12 grade are invited!!

FOOD BANK SUNDAY – November 4

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

"Every \$1 you can give can provide enough food for 3 meals" to feed hungry children, families, and seniors.

– Montana Food Bank website

Julie Bishop and Nancy Downing invite you to a free concert Saturday, November 10, 7 p.m. and Sunday, November 11, 3 p.m. at St. Pius Catholic Church, 18th and Broadwater. **Con Spirito** sings "Child with a Starry Crayon."

 Treasure State Sound, a men's vocal group, will also perform. The varied program includes songs for the holidays plus a variety of folk tunes. Con Spirito ("with spirit") is celebrating its 15th year as a vocal ensemble.

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**Mayflower Congregational
United Church of Christ**

2940 Poly Drive, Billings, MT 59102



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Billings, MT 59102
Permit No. 783

Designated Minister

Reverend Amy Carter

Director of Children & Youth

Kim Harris

Moderator

Nancy Rice

Organist

Ginny Herrick

Choir Director

Julie Bishop

Administrative Assistant

Anna Nentwig

Worship every Sunday at 10:00 am

Christmas
9 AM
to 2 PM **Bazaar**
& **Salad Luncheon**
11 am to 1 pm

Lunch \$7.00 Pie \$3.00

Children 5 & under eat lunch free

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! The Mayflower Christmas Bazaar and 52nd Annual Salad Luncheon will be **Saturday, Dec. 1 from 9-2**. The money raised will fund camperships for our youth and programs at Mayflower and in the community. Please mark your calendars and invite a guest to join us! For information or to volunteer, call LuAnne Engh 698-0121.

ATTENTION ALL CRAFTERS! Your talents and gifts are needed for the Women of Mayflower Bazaar. Since there is no longer a regular craft group, we are counting on you to bless us with your crafty and clever donations.

WOMEN OF MAYFLOWER WILL BE CALLING FOR HELP WITH THE DECEMBER 1ST BAZAAR Consider bringing a salad or baked item, helping with set-up and clean-up or donating to expenses. There is a place for everyone to participate. **Also, we are still looking for vendors for the bazaar. If you have a referral or question, please contact LuAnne (698-0121).**



Pecans for Sale!!! Women of Mayflower's fabulous Georgia pecan halves will arrive soon for your holiday baking and gifting. Price for unsalted will be \$12.50/pound; toasted and salted \$15.00/pound. Our orchards will harvest a great crop. We plan to have them available Sunday, November 18. For information call Carole Baumann at 698-9079.