

A Light in the Country

Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me -Psalm 43:3

Pastor Lauri can be reached at:

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You can also find her
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The Psalmist reaches out to God:

O send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;

let them bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.

⁴ Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy;
and I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God.

This month we recognize the amazing journey that Mayfield Church has traveled. 161 years of jubilations and struggles. 161 years of weddings, baptisms, confirmations, and funerals. 161 years of the faithful supporting Sunday services, handling the everyday administration, and yes, providing the church pancake/sausage breakfast. 161 years of caring for members and friends. Year after year, prayerfully asking God to guide with light and truth.

What an exciting time to celebrate our past and to look forward to where God might lead us in the future! I'm so glad we will be continuing the journey together. Stand with me, stand with each other, as we call out for God to continue to send light and truth to guide us. And we will respond to God with exceeding joy—O God! My God!



9/26/21—The Waystation flowers were still blooming!

HAPPY 161st ANNIVERSARY!

This month Mayfield Congregational UCC is celebrating 161 years of being a faith community in the Sycamore area. A lot of history has happened over that time. We formed in 1860 as a Methodist congregation sharing ministers on a traveling circuit, then switched to the Congregational denomination with a called pastor, and finally voted to join the United Church of Christ in 1961. Our church followed Jesus' call to love all people when we chose to be a stop on the Underground Railroad. Our church again demonstrated an acceptance of all people when we voted to become an Open and Affirming congregation. Caring for creation prompted the construction of a Monarch Waystation. Mission involvement has been a priority, both near and far, including educational sponsorship in Kenya. The church members' resilience was tested when the sanctuary ceiling collapsed (fortunately no one was inside at the time). Most recently, and as with all churches, the coronavirus pandemic has taught us how to worship and maintain fellowship in new ways.

We are thankful for all that has happened in the past, for those who worshipped, worked, and loved, and for the Spirit's help in maintaining a vital faith community. God's love fills this church, and it is truly "A Light in the Country."

Join us Sunday, October 24th at 2:00p.m. as the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ recognizes our 161 year milestone.

Sunday School returns!

Mayfield Sunday School is back and it's outside! We gather in the Mayfield Monarch Waystation each Sunday in October, at 9:00 a.m., to explore ways to pay attention to the wonders of Creation, give thanks, and be good caretakers (stewards) of Creation. Each Sunday we will have activities and/or crafts. In case of bad weather, we will gather in the Parsonage garage where we can have good air flow and maintain social distancing. Questions or suggestions? Please contact Diana Swanson or the church office at 815-899-5548.

October 3: The Mayfield Waystation as a Sanctuary

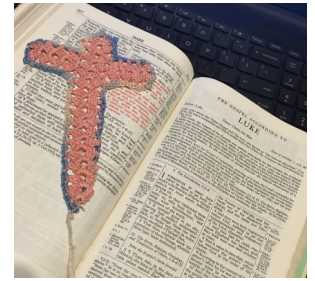
October 10: The Waters of Life, with guest Peggy Doty

October 17: Harvest, with guest Rhodora Collins

October 24: Planting Seeds for the Kingdom of God

October 31: All Saints Day: Holiness of Creation

You are welcome and encouraged to join the Mayfield **Bible Study** group, which meets via Zoom on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Our meetings are informal and discussion-based, and everyone can offer their questions and ideas. We have discovered that together we can teach ourselves and each other new things about the familiar old stories and sayings, new things that strengthen our faith and joy in life. In October we are reading and discussing the **Gospel of Luke**. Interested? Please email or call Mayfield Church to get on the church email list and then check your email early each week for the Bible passages and the Zoom link for that week. We hope to see you online!



COMING UP...

Saturday 10/16—**Work Day** contact Dawn for info

Thursday 10/21—**Council meeting**

Sunday 10/24—**Installation of Pastor Lauri and Celebration of 161st Anniversary of Mayfield** Sunday worship at 10am, lunch following, and Service of Installation at 2pm. Wear red!

Saturday 10/30—**Fall Meeting of Prairie Association** via Zoom on October 30th from 9:30 to 11:30. Registration required (free).

Monday 11/1—Happy **All Saints Day!** Remember your ancestors.

Sunday 11/7—**Communion**. Bring your own elements or feel free to take one of our individually packaged juice/wafer.

Thursday 11/18—**Council meeting**

Tuesday 11/16—Saturday 11/20—**IL Conference Annual Meeting** via Zoom

Thursday 11/25—**Thanksgiving Day**

Thank you for your contributions to the Neighbors in Need offering. The next 5 for 5 collection will be in December for The Christmas Fund, benefitting retired clergy and other staff in emergency situations. Donations to our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) can be made at any time; please mark your check or envelope with OCWM. Direct any questions to Karen Johnson.

- ◆ Feeling lonely?
- ◆ Have a problem?
- ◆ Wonder what the pastor's favorite color is?

Pastor Lauri is available to meet in person, via Zoom, or on the phone. Contact her to set up a time.



Watch for details of our holiday movie screenings and discussions.
Get your popcorn ready!

Liturgists (readers) are invited to lead the Call to Worship and Invocation each Sunday. There is a sign up sheet next to the offering box. Both kids and adults are welcome in this role!

10/3	Sue Goudy	10/24
10/10	Wilma Miranda	10/31
10/17	Diana Swanson	11/07 Sue Goudy

WELCOME! Mayfield Congregational Church UCC celebrates a rich history in DeKalb County, Illinois. Our congregation invites you and your family to join our community in worship and service to others. Mayfield Church is an Open and Affirming (ONA) congregation, which means that LGBT persons are welcome to participate fully in the life of our church. Children are encouraged to share Sunday services with us in the pews.

Mayfield Church is handicapped accessible. A lift services both floors; use the entrance to the right of the double entry doors. Hearing assistance devices and large print bulletins and hymns are provided on request.

10am Worship services

9am Children's Sunday School

For everyone's safety, please wear a mask and maintain social distancing for all activities.

Questions? Contact the church or Pastor Lauri. We'd be happy to help!

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