



A Light in the Country

Arise, shine, for your light has come. Isaiah 60:1

How do you define success?

A degree from college, a promotion at work, or money in the bank? Accolades from the community for achievements? Finding a loving partner and maybe raising well-adjusted children? We often hold ourselves and others to these standards; we set the bar high. Would you consider a man who is homeless and living in poverty a success? What about someone who constantly challenges their religious leaders? Or a person who is arrested and executed?

Jesus did not achieve any advanced education, did not move up the ranks at a job, had no money. Many in the community did not appreciate what he was doing, especially those in his hometown. There is no mention of him raising a family of his own. He of course did have a mother, but once refused special consideration to her, instead saying all the crowd of people who followed him were his mothers and brothers. He was homeless, living in poverty, purposely made the Jewish leaders upset, and after just three years of beginning his public teachings was arrested and put to death by the most painful method used by the Roman Empire.

By what definition would you consider Jesus a success? He forced us to acknowledge how crucial love is – God's love for us, our love for God, our love for ourselves, and our love for each other. He demonstrated that every person has value, he helped people, he was both patient and encouraging to those around him. He never gave up on anyone.

Jesus was successful but not in the ways that we measure achievements. And that is the message of Easter: God defines success differently. Are we loving each other? Are we caring for those on the margins? Do we treat everyone with dignity? Do our lives reflect the love we have for God and the love God has for us? That is success!

May this Easter season cause us to reflect on what is successful in our lives and in what ways we can be even more successful.

Blessings, Pastor Lauri



April 10

Palm Sunday

10 a.m. worship begins outside (weather cooperating).

We will shout Hosanna! and wave palm leaves to welcome our donkey as he travels across the driveway and we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

April 14

Maundy Thursday

5:30 p.m.

Bring soup, salad, or bread and share a light supper with your Mayfield family.

6:30 p.m.

Join us in person or on Zoom for an interactive service. Contact Pastor Lauri if you'd like a speaking part (must attend in person) as we retell the events from the last supper through the death of Jesus.

April 17

Easter Sunday

7:30 a.m. (weather cooperating).

Gather around the firepit in the Waystation for an early morning outdoor Easter celebration.

8:30 a.m.

Our day continues with an Easter brunch. Bring a breakfast dish to pass, grab a cup of coffee, and catch up with friends.

10 a.m.

Help decorate the sanctuary with your lilies, tulips, or other spring flowers for our indoor Easter worship. The service will be both in person and on Zoom; communion will be celebrated.

11 a.m. (approximately)

Stay after church for a kid's Easter egg hunt. Members are invited to bring a few filled plastic eggs or decorate hard boiled eggs to donate to the children.

Donating to Mayfield.

Do you lie awake at 2 a.m. and wonder how many ways there are to donate to Mayfield Congregational United Church of Christ?

Let us help you count them!

1. Drop a donation in the white lattice box in the narthex.
2. Mail a check to:
Mayfield Congregational Church
28405 Church Road, Sycamore IL 60178
3. Use your bank's online banking option.
4. Make an electronic contribution through **Tithe.ly**. (while there are many on-line options available, several council members have tested this one).

Go to: tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give and log in or set up an account. Search for "Mayfield Congregational" and choose our church. You will be taken to a transaction screen. Fill in the amount you would like to donate. Just to the right is a drop down list so that you may tell us what kind of contribution you are making (general, OCWM, etc.); there is a notes section at the bottom where you can be more specific if necessary. Should you wish to set up a recurring donation, check that box. Scroll down and enter your credit card or bank account information (please consider covering the processing fees). Complete your transaction and the money is electronically deposited into Mayfield's bank account. By returning to Tithe.ly's home page, you can view previous donation activity.

Thanks for your generous giving!



Save the date!
Saturday,
June 18

Wisdom from the Bible.

Christian Education wants you to think about your Bible. More specifically, what is inside your Bible that you would like to tell our nine-year-olds about? What verse is important to know? What story is helpful to remember? When has it been comforting to read your Bible? Tell Pastor Lauri by April 30. Our collective knowledge and best wishes will be passed on to our kids as they receive their new Bibles on Pentecost (June 5).



Wednesdays in the Waystation.

Looking for something for your kids to do this summer?

Mayfield is offering Wednesdays in the Waystation!

Each Wednesday afternoon in July we will provide activities, crafts, games, and time outside in our Monarch Butterfly Waystation. Join us as an extra adult helper! Contact Pastor Lauri.



Plants, Pollinators and Prayers.

Great news! "Plants, Pollinators and Prayers," the documentary about the creation of our own Mayfield Monarch Waystation, will have its big screen debut at the historic Egyptian Theatre in downtown DeKalb on April 19, 2022 at 6:30 PM. Please join us for this long-awaited opportunity! The filmmaker (Randy Caspersen) and characters from the film will be part of a post-screening Q&A. The screening is sponsored by NIU's Department of Earth, Atmosphere and Environment, Department of Communication, and Northern Illinois Center for Community Sustainability. Admission is free of charge.



Working at the Mayfield Waystation

APRIL CALENDAR

Month	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
flower fundraiser 4/1-5/15	Worship 10a Communion in person + ZOOM			Lent Study 7p ZOOM			
April	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
flower fundraiser 4/1-5/15	Worship 10a PALMSUNDAY in person + ZOOM Annual Meeting		Deacons 6pm ZOOM	Lent Study 7p ZOOM	Maundy Thursday Supper 5:30p Service 6:30p in person + ZOOM	Good Friday no service	
April	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
flower fundraiser 4/1-5/15	EASTER 7:30a Worship outside in person only 8:30a Brunch 10a Worship Inside in person + ZOOM 11a Egg Hunt		Public Viewing "Plants, Pollinators, and Prayers" Egyptian Theatre 6:30p	Bible Study 7p ZOOM	Council Meeting 6:30p		
April	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
flower fundraiser 4/1-5/15	Worship 10a in person + ZOOM Earth Day Event			Bible Study 7p ZOOM			

Reports from Council Meeting. March 17, Zoom

Member Diana Swanson presented proposed Waystation summer events in partnership with U of I Extension. Plans and dates were approved.

Trustee: Will be meeting on 3/18 with a tech to look at the sound system and hearing devices.

Treasurer: 2022 YTD financials were presented and discussed.
Moderator: Reminded of rescheduled 2021 Annual Meeting now set for 4/10; asked Council to reread Safe Church policy; it was decided to install officers on 4/24; there are several open positions that need nominations. Blessing of the Planting will be rescheduled as a Blessing of the Harvest. Flower Power fundraiser info going out soon. Time and Talents survey will go out after the Annual Meeting.

Pastor: Time report for prior month was submitted; 40 pastoral contacts. Sophia will be taking over production of the newsletter; reviewed financial information to publish in newsletter; discussed event plans for the next couple of months as well as use of parsonage and Waystation. Readers are needed for Maundy Thursday service.

Deacons: Met with the Pastor to arrange Holy Week/Easter worship and activities. Search is on-going for a new Music Director.

Christian Ed: Dawn is providing Resurrection Eggs program for the kids during Lent. Bibles will be presented to those around 3rd grade age on Pentecost; Pastor Lauri will ask the congregation to submit Bible verses or stories to inspire the kids to read their Bibles. Pastor will write a six week program for the kids covering basic biblical concepts for the weeks leading up to presentation of the Bibles.

Missions: One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be taken March 27. Karen asked that Pastor or Dawn introduce the offering for her.



Community room artwork by
Naya Collins, 2019.

April Sermons and Scripture

April 3:

Exciting! (Scary) Exciting!

(Isaiah 43:16-21)

April 10:

Unrestrained Responses.

(Luke 19:28-40)

April 17:

**When Things Don't Turn Out the Way
You Expected.**

(Luke 24:1-12)

April 24:

Sun and Moon and Stars of Light.

(Psalm 148)

March 18, 7 a.m., Mayfield Church.

Donations Received: January 1 through March 17, 2022.

	General	OCWM	OGHS	JAMS	Invmet Inc
YTD:	\$10,660	\$150	\$50	\$170	\$360

General donations are used for paid staff, building expenses, supplies, etc.

OCWM is the UCC offering 'Our Church's Wider Mission.'

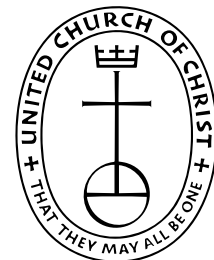
OGHS is the UCC offering 'One Great Hour of Sharing.'

JAMS is the Jane Adeny Memorial School for Girls in Kenya.

Invmt Inc is interest and dividends, primarily on restricted donations.



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world
for all
ucc.org



Contact Pastor Lauri

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PastorLauri@MayfieldChurchUCC.org

You can also find her at 10 a.m.
worship at Mayfield or on Zoom.

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Mayfield Easter Donkey