



A Light in the Country

Light is sweet, and it pleases the eyes to see the sun.
Ecclesiastes 11:7

A Tree Named Cana

Mayfield Church planted a tree on Sunday April 24, 2022 to honor Earth Day. It was a symbolic gesture of our commitment to creation justice and our care for the natural world. The tree is an *Ostrya Virginiana* (hop hornbeam). Eventually our tree may grow to be as much as 50 feet tall, but for now it is less a "tree" than a tiny sapling.

I thought it would be nice if the Sunday School kids named our tree. We made a list of creative suggestions, and after rounds of voting, they settled on Cana. It seems completely appropriate. Cana was where Jesus performed his first miracle, the one where he provided enough wine to make sure a party would continue. We now have a tree named Cana, an association with a place of miracles.

It was actually an entire week of celebrating Earth Day for Mayfield. Tuesday April 19, 2022 was the initial public viewing of the documentary "Plants, Pollinators, and Prayers" at the Egyptian Theatre in DeKalb, IL (check out [Plants Pollinators & Prayers Documentary on FaceBook](#) for more information). The seats were filled with gardeners, Mayfield members, and curious public; the big screen was filled with stunning cinematography of flowers and bees and Monarch butterflies. The film told the story of Mayfield Church's vision of a Monarch Butterfly Waystation, a multi-year effort to transform a grassy yard to a meditative space where the welcome mat is out for bees and butterflies. Peggy Doty and Diana Swanson, along with many volunteers, donated thousands of hours in a labor of love to create the Waystation.

Mayfield Church is a small congregation where everyone is warmly welcomed. This church has a long history of extravagant welcome: from assisting slaves to safety, to publicly declaring that LGBTQ are valued, to providing habitat for bees and butterflies. And while we may be few in numbers, we believe that there is much, much more for us to do. Cana, after all, is a place where a miracle happened, and we now have a tree named Cana to remind us.

Blessings, Pastor Lauri

"Let there be Light" banner in narthex.

Our Kids Need You!

Time's running out...text, call, or email Pastor Lauri or Dawn ASAP with a Bible verse, or Bible story, or encouraging words.

As our kids are presented with their Bibles on June 5, we will also shower them with the love of the congregation. In addition to their Bibles, each child will receive a book filled with our favorite Bible verses, stories, and support that will encourage the kids to read and cherish their Bibles. Please participate in weaving this web of blessings around our kids! Contact Pastor Lauri or Dawn ASAP with your special words.



Bible Quiz Night!

Grab your friends and family and head over to church on Saturday, May 21! We'll start at 5:30 p.m. with made-to-order pizzas (thank you John Carlson!) and BYOB (bring your own beverage). Some warmup questions will get us started before we jump into the quiz. Worried that you don't know enough to compete? Come anyway! There will be prizes for the winner and lots of other categories (Pastor Lauri likes to be silly and have fun!).

Want a head start? Memorize these and you will get at least two right answers!

Q-what is the first book of the Bible? A-Genesis.

Q-Who gives us wisdom, knowledge, and understanding according to Proverbs 2:6? A-God.

Reports from Council Meeting. April 21, (held via Zoom)

Trustees: Still waiting to hear back from roofer. Will research and suggest rental fees for Waystation.

Treasurer: 2022 YTD financials were presented and discussed. A motion was made and passed to upgrade our sound system.

Moderator: Flower Power fundraiser continues until May 15. T-shirts will be sold in June to coincide with Pride Month. Another fundraiser, a sausage and corn lunch, will be held on Sunday, July 31. Time and Talents survey was reviewed and will go out shortly. MonarchWatch.org has certified our Waystation and provided two metal signs for posting. We are looking for grants to make the Waystation accessible.



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Pastor: Time report for prior month was submitted: 49 pastoral contacts; worked average of 30 hours per week, should be 20-25. Reviewed Easter services, high attendance. Discussed event plans for the next couple of months. First Congregational in DeKalb is interested in partnering with us for the kid's Wednesdays in the Waystation. Installation of Officers will be on 4/24. Prairie Association spring meeting will be on 5/7.

Deacons: Search is on-going for a new Music Director. New Century Hymnal CD's were purchased to use until we hire someone. Have been busy assisting Pastor for Lent and Easter services.

Christian Ed: Still need verses or stories to inspire young readers to read their Bibles. Sunday School will begin 4/24. Bible Basics will be the theme through June 5. An all-ages Bible Trivia evening will be hosted at the church on Saturday May 21.

Missions: The Mother's Day and Father's Day special offerings will go to the UCC's Our Church's Wider Mission.



Our new tree!

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.



Waystation News.

We have been certified and registered by Monarch Watch as an official Monarch Waystation.

On-line registration is underway for the U of I Extension summer programs in the Waystation at:

go.illinois.edu/PartneringForPollinators

Randy Caspersen's documentary of "Plants, Pollinators & Prayers" (the story of creating our Waystation) was shown at the DeKalb Egyptian Theatre to an audience of approximately 200 people!



Screening of "Plants, Pollinators & Prayers" at the Egyptian Theatre.

The positions of Clerk, Stewardship, and Christian Ed need people to fill them.

Contact Dawn or Pastor Lauri for information or to volunteer. It takes a village to keep the church running efficiently. With open positions, the other officers have to stretch to cover them which causes burnout.

To borrow the phrase on the Kirkland Fire Dept. sign, only you can prevent wild fires. We need you!

Prairie Association Spring Meeting.

Saturday May 7 on Zoom 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Registration required.
Contact Dawn or Pastor Lauri for details.



Save the date! Saturday, June 18

MAY CALENDAR

| Month | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------------------------|---|--------------|-----------------|--|---|----------------|--|
| May | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| flower fundraiser 4/1-5/15 | Kids Sunday School 9a in person Worship 10a in person + ZOOM Communion | | | Bible Study 7p ZOOM | | | |
| May | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| flower fundraiser 4/1-5/15 | Kids Sunday School 9a in person Worship 10a in person + ZOOM Mother's Day UCC OCWM Offering | | Deacons 6p ZOOM | Fellowship 11:30a church & zoom Bible Study 7p ZOOM | | | |
| May | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| | Kids Sunday School 9a in person Worship 10a in person + ZOOM | | Pastor Cont Ed | Bible Study 7p ZOOM Pastor Cont Ed | Council Meeting 6:30p Pastor Cont Ed | Pastor Cont Ed | Bible Trivia Quiz and Pizza 5:30pm at Church |
| May | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| | Kids Sunday School 9a in person Worship 10a in person + ZOOM | | | Bible Study 7p ZOOM | | | |
| May/June | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | Kids Sunday School 9a in person Worship 10a in person + ZOOM | Memorial Day | | Bible Study 7p ZOOM | | | |
| June | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| | Kids Sunday School 9a in person Worship 10a Communion PENTECOST UCC-Strengthen/Ch Bible Presentation | | | Bible Study 7p ZOOM | | | Waystation Event 10-11a |

May Sermons and Scripture

May 1:

I'd like the #6 Today (Exodus 20:1-18)

May 8:

Who Loves Ya? (John 10:22-30)

May 15:

They Went Down Into the Water (Acts 9:26-39)

May 22:

Lord, Teach Us to Pray (John 6:9-13, Luke 11:1-4)

May 29:

Jesus Took the Bread (I Cor. 11:17-26)

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

Donations Received: January 1 through April 21, 2022.

| | General | OCWM | OGHS | JAMS | Invmet Inc |
|------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|------------|
| YTD: | \$14, 919 | \$200 | \$271 | \$170 | \$586 |

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.



a just
world
for all
ucc.org



Contact Pastor Lauri

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

Follow us on Facebook:

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28405 Church Road, Sycamore, IL 60178



Mayfield Butterfly Bench