



# A Light in the Country

God will bring to light what is hidden.  
I Corinthians 4:5

Last month I spent some time in North Carolina. Day after day, in all kinds of weather, at all times of the day, I was overwhelmed with the beauty of the ocean. One morning I took a photograph of the sunrise reflected on the water. It was a lovely view of yellows and silver; a brilliant sun and the shining water echoing the sun.

Later, when I was inside the house reviewing the pictures I had taken, I was astounded. The photograph looked nothing like what I had seen! It was richer, vibrant, drenched with oranges. The camera had captured so much more than my eyes alone had been able to see.

Reflecting on this difference, I was reminded of a text from First Corinthians.

**"This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed. Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness. Already you have all you want! Already you have become rich!"**

I had observed a very lovely sunrise. Hidden to my eyes, however, was a breathtaking sunrise – fuller, dazzling, amazing. It was right in front of me, surrounding me, but I was unaware of it. So, too, are the wonders that God surrounds us with every day. We may be satisfied with our lives or we may at times be frustrated and unhappy. In every day, there is more than we can see or feel. We simply are not aware of it yet. God's love wraps around us with the warmth and brilliance of an orange sunrise. Already we have all we want.

Blessings, Pastor Lauri

# ORDER TODAY! Flower Power Fundraiser

It is time to plan your spring garden by planting perennials and bulbs! We are offering an online fundraiser for Mayfield Church. If you place your order online, the product will be shipped to you directly, and 50% of the sale is earned by Mayfield Church and will be used to continue our ministry. Please feel free to share the link with your friends and family!

## FEATURED PRODUCTS INCLUDE: 6 HEALTHY HERB GARDEN

Enjoy fresh grown herbs from your own backyard by planting together in one large container or in separate pots on your deck or patio. Contains Sweet Basil, Summer Savory, Dill, Oregano, Parsley, & Thyme. Can be grown outdoors or indoors along your kitchen windowsill. 6 packages of seeds. Full planting instructions are contained on each package.

[MayfieldChurchSycamore.fpfundraising.com](http://MayfieldChurchSycamore.fpfundraising.com)



Product image courtesy of FlowerPower.

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1 2nd Annual DRIVE-THROUGH BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Mayfield's second annual special day for our pets. Bring your dogs or cats, frogs or rats! Volunteers are also needed to greet cars. Contact Pastor Lauri for more information.



Image courtesy of Creative Commons

## MONDAY, NOV 21 DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

Join us to deck the halls and celebrate the coming of Christ! More details to come.



## SATURDAY, DEC 3 POPCORN AND A MOVIE

Gather around the Mayfield TV to watch a favorite Christmas movie. We will then discuss how the movie portrays religion, ethics, and spirituality. Bring your favorite beverage and snacks; popcorn will be provided.

# Mayfield Church Art Gallery



Images, from top right clockwise:  
Naya; "Fall!"  
Anna: "Dawn and Portrait of Dawn",  
"Diana and portrait of Diana" and  
"Caroline and Portrait of Caroline".

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER **Diane Hance**



# Kirkland Fall Fest



We had many happy button makers!



## 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](https://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!**

## What's Next for the Offering Plate?

We would love to offer Venmo as an option, but we need someone to work with the Treasurer to facilitate the donations. Are you comfortable with technology? Be the hero and help move Mayfield forward with more ways to accept contributions! Contact Pastor Lauri for more information at (815) 757-5917.

# October CALENDAR

Month	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sep/Oct	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
	Sunday School 9a Worship 10a in person + ZOOM Blessing of Harvest 11:00a			Bible Study 7p ZOOM			Blessing of the Animals Drive Thru 10a-noon
October	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Sunday School 9a Worship 10a in person + ZOOM Communion UCC Nbrs in Need			Bible Study 7p ZOOM			
October	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Sunday School 9a Worship 10a in person + ZOOM	Deacons 6pm		Bible Study 7p ZOOM			
October	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Sunday School 9a Worship 10a in person + ZOOM			Bible Study 7p ZOOM	Council Meeting 6:30p		
October	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Sunday School 9a Worship 10a in person + ZOOM			Bible Study 7p ZOOM			
October/Nov	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
	Sunday School 9a Worship 10a in person + ZOOM			Bible Study 7p ZOOM			

## Reports from Council meeting – September 2022

**Trustees:** Working on projects at the parsonage. Roofer gave estimate of \$1,055 to repair church roof; council authorized moving forward. Roofer also gave an estimate for the parsonage ranging from \$13,200 to \$14,980 depending on the scope of work. Council deferred a decision pending additional estimates.

**Treasurer:** At August 31, the church is showing a net loss of \$3200 YTD; this is better than expected. Cash balances were reviewed, including rate on CD. Changes to Pastor compensation were discussed.

**Moderator:** Booth at Kirkland Fall Festival was well received. Flower Power fundraiser is open until Oct 15. Will work with Nominating Committee to get them started.

**Pastor:** time report submitted; 23 pastoral contacts. Diane Hance will be received as a new member 9/25. Prairie Assoc meeting is Oct 1, in person only. Illinois Conference Annual meeting is Oct. 19-22, virtual only. Blessing of the Harvest and Blessing of the Animals coming up soon. Decorating for Christmas will be on 11/21. A Popcorn and Movie Night will be scheduled for Dec. Wild Blue Ukulele Orchestra will be holding a concert at Mayfield again this Dec. We will offer a Christmas Eve service on Sat 12/24 and a simple service on Sun 12/25.

**Deacons:** A musician has been hired for Advent and Christmas Eve. Discussed communion serving options.

**Christian Ed:** Sunday School will focus on Beatitudes. Confirmation class needs teens.

**Mission:** Neighbors in Need offering will be taken Oct 2.

### Coming soon

The North Room (also known as the Library) is getting a makeover. Stop in and see what's new!

## The Nominating Committee is at work!

Huge thanks to Toma Heldt and Sue Goudy for being our Nominating Committee this fall! Please prayerfully consider how you can best serve Mayfield and be open to possibilities if approached by Toma or Sue.

### Positions that will be open in January 2023

**Moderator** – 2 year term (assist Pastor with administration of the church, cultivate healthy communication in the congregation). *Dawn Carlson will have faithfully completed two terms and is ineligible to continue.*

**Deacon** – 2 year term (support Pastor with member care and in worship). One position will be open. *Jan Wylde will have faithfully completed two terms and is ineligible to continue. Cary Hansen and Wilma Miranda are currently serving their terms.*

**Trustee** – 2 year term (oversee the care of church property). One position will be open. *John Carlson will have faithfully completed multiple terms and is ineligible to continue; Lars Carlson and Clifton Hansen are currently serving their terms.*

### Positions that are currently open

**Christian Education** – 2 year term (coordinate religious education for all ages). Position is unfilled; Pastor and Moderator have been covering.

**Clerk** – 1 year term (record Council meetings and Church business). Position is unfilled; Pastor and Moderator have been covering.

**Stewardship** – 2 year term (encourage giving of gifts and talents to the Church). Position is unfilled; Pastor and Moderator have been covering.

### Positions that are filled

**Missions** – 2 year term (encourage giving to UCC and local missions). *Karen Johnson is currently serving.*

**Treasurer** – 2 year term (process and report on income and expenses of the Church). *Billy Scott is currently serving.*

**Historian** – 1 year term (file church records in office and at NIU Archives). *Wilma Miranda is currently serving.*



Apples at Honey Hill Orchard.

## October Sermons and Scripture

**October 2:**  
**To Thank or Not to Thank**  
2 Timothy 1:1-14 and Luke 17:5-10

**October 9:**  
**He Thanked Him**  
Luke 17:11-19

**October 16:**  
**Thanks for the Memories**  
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

**October 23:**  
**Thank God I'm Not Like Them**  
Luke 18:9-14

**October 30:**  
**Give Thanks Always**  
2 Thess. 1:1-4, 11-12



Pastor Lauri at Mayfield

## Donations Received: January 1 through August 31, 2022

	General	UCC 5 for 5	Memorial Donations	JAMS	Invmet Inc
YTD:	\$32,449	\$1,862	\$826	\$170	\$1,108

General donations are used for paid staff, building expenses, supplies, etc.  
UCC 5for5 includes support for five denominational offerings.  
Memorial Donations are new, added to previous restricted funds.  
JAMS is the Jane Adeny Memorial School for girls in Kenya.  
Invmt Inc is interest and dividends.



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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.

**Follow us on Facebook:**  
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28405 Church Road, Sycamore, IL 60178



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