



A Light in the Country

Every good gift is from the Creator of the heavenly lights.
James 1:17

Can you believe that it is June already? Everything feels like it is on the cusp of new beginnings. I have seen countless last day of school photos, graduates have crossed the stage to receive their diplomas, confirmation classes have been completed, families are preparing for weddings, and plans are being made for vacations. All these events signal fresh experiences ahead. And change – that six-letter word that makes so many people twitch.

Now with the warmer temperatures, it is pleasant to sit outside after dark. While you are out there, look up at the stars (those heavenly lights), take a calming breath and remember: every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Creator of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows (James 1:17). Each event that heralds change is an opportunity for something wonderful, a gift from God, a chance for something new and perfect.

I listened to a series of talks recently on the subject of “Can the Church Change?” (Spoiler alert: the answer is yes. It is changing, has always been changing, and needs to continue changing.) The church, the world, and each of us were forced to change rapidly over the past few years whether we liked it or not. Some of us are now ready to embrace change – but only if it is to change back to what we had “in the old days.” Others are looking for the gift of new opportunities. Scott Thumma reported that only 35% of churches coming out of the pandemic could be classified as vital and hopeful. What made these churches different than the majority? They embraced change, they were willing to adapt their vision, they were optimistic they looked for new ways to ‘do church.’ Brandan Robertson believes the Gospel calls us to “allow ourselves to be shaped by God speaking through unexpected people and places.” As individuals and as congregations, we are on the cusp of new beginnings. We have gifts just waiting to be discovered. Who will you meet this summer? What connection might be made? What neighborhood need might be uncovered? Jesus practiced love with all sorts of unexpected people in many unexpected places. We can ‘do church’ everywhere we go this summer too. May you be open to endless good and perfect gifts!

Blessings,

Pastor Lauri

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SUNDAY, JUNE 25

KID'S DESIGN WORSHIP SERVICE

When Theresa Wasonga and Andrew Otieno visited our Sunday School in March, they told us about the girls attending the Jane Adeny Memorial School in Kenya. One of the things we learned is that the girls there design and lead their own Sunday worship services. We decided that we would like to do something similar here at Mayfield! Throughout the month of June our Sunday School kids will be learning what goes into a worship service and they will plan our June 25 service. Please attend and experience worship from a different point of view!

JUNE AND JULY

SUMMER BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

Jonah, the Whale, and the Water is coming!!! Registration due date is Sunday, June 4th. Open to kids that attend Mayfield, First Congregational in DeKalb, or who live nearby. There is so much fun planned! Week one will be held at Dolce Vita's Community Garden; the rest of the sessions will be at First Congregational in DeKalb. Dates are all on Wednesdays: June 21 and 28, July 12 and 19. Each session begins at 6 p.m. and ends at 7:30 p.m.

Adults – Join us in person to take a deep dive (pun intended!) into the book of Jonah during Vacation Bible School! We are partnering with First Congregational United Church of Christ in DeKalb to offer fun, education, and opportunities to make new friends. Dates are all on Wednesdays: June 21 and 28, July 12 and 19. Each session begins at 6 p.m. and ends at 7:30 p.m. (for those who prefer not to drive at night, please note that it will still be light out at 7:30). If you need a ride, please contact Pastor Lauri. Registration due date is Sunday, June 4.



UCC SUMMER CAMPS

Registration is now open! Summer camp programs are held at our UCC camps Pilgrim Park (Princeton IL) and Tower Hill (Sawyer MI). Check out what is offered for both kids and adults at 2023 Camps & Retreats | Illinois Conference, United Church of Christ (ilucc.org).

JULY AND AUGUST

SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAK

Sunday School for the kids will be on break for the months of July and August. See you September! Remember, the position of Christian Education Coordinator is vacant, so we are dependent on YOU to volunteer in order to bring Sunday School to our children. A sign up sheet is posted in the Narthex.

BIBLE STUDY

Bible study will resume in September. Please join us at that time, and look for announcements on theme and start date.

MEET *the* MEMBER!



Ann Werhane

Ann grew up as a city girl in Whitefish Bay, WI but found a passion for agriculture when she was hired to drive a tractor. She attended Iowa State University where she met her husband Bob on a blind date; they soon married. Ann graduated with a degree in Science and as mom to the first two of their six children. Ann worked as a substitute teacher and volunteered at UCC summer camps. She organized Oak Crest's "Alexander's Ragtime Band" (complete with kazoos!) as well as "The Knitwits" knitting group.

When Ann moved to the DeKalb area, she intended to visit local churches to see which fit best. Mayfield was first; she never got to the others. Ann has been a member of Mayfield since 2004.

Our Churches Wider Mission (OCWM)

Donations are accepted all throughout the year, but Mayfield has chosen to spotlight OCWM on Mother's Day and Father's Day. 80% of our donations remain in the Illinois Conference of the UCC, the remainder is sent on to the UCC national office. The UCC website says, "The world needs a church that proclaims, "No matter who you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here." The world needs a church bold enough to say, God is still speaking. We believe the UCC is such a church. In Christ we are invited to be transformed and to work with God to make a more peaceful, just, and loving world." Together we make a difference. Place your cash/checks in an OCWM envelope or use the convenient PayPal option on our website (note OCWM on the second screen).



Snacks for Hope Haven

Now through June 25 bring individually packaged snacks to church for donation to Hope Haven. All donations will be blessed during the service on June 25th before being dropped off for the children staying at Hope Haven.



4th of July Picnic

Save the date for our 4th of July picnic following service on July 2. There will be a fun activities and potluck!

Donating to Mayfield.

Mayfield Church is an important and special place. We worship, make good friends, learn about and care for the natural world and remember those who have come before us, building our church or seeking shelter along a journey.

Be a part of sustaining our church.
Donate today using one of these methods:

1

Drop a donation in the white lattice box in the Mayfield Church Narthex.

2

Donate through Paypal.
The "donate" button is on our website.
You can find us at mayfieldchurchucc.org

3

Use an online **bill pay** through your bank.

4

Make a check out to
Mayfield Church UCC
and mail it to us at
28405 Church Road, Sycamore, IL 60178

If your donation is for our "Preservation Fund", please indicate so.

Waystation Events

Native Plants, Creatures, and Us

June 24, 10 – 11 a.m.

Peggy Doty,
Environmental Educator,
U of I Extension

Creating a Pollinator Paradise

July 29, 10 – 11 a.m.

Diana Swanson, Gardener,
Mayfield Monarch Waystation

Garden Photography

August 12, 10 – 11 a.m.

Randy Caspersen, Filmmaker

Crafting with Nature

August 19, 10 – 11 a.m.

Sue Goudy, Independent Artist

Images provided by Lauri Allen

Mayfield

Confirmation and New Members 2023



Mother's Day



Tacos and Trivia!



Fellowship



JUNE CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
Worship 10a in person and FaceBook Live PENTECOST			Bible Study 7pm ZOOM			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Sunday School 9a Worship 10a Communion in person and FaceBook Live			Bible Study 7pm ZOOM			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Sunday School 9a Worship 10a in person and FaceBook Live	Deacons 6pm		Bible Study 7pm ZOOM	<u>NO</u> Council Mtg		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Sunday School 9a Worship 10a in person and FaceBook Live OCWM Offering FATHER'S DAY			Bible School Dolce Vita Garden 6-7:30p			Waystation Pollinators & Partners 10-11am
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
Sunday School 9a Worship 10a in person and FaceBook Live			Bible School and Bible Study 1st Con DeKalb 6-7:30p			
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Worship 10a Communion in person and FaceBook Live Picnic 11a	Pastor Vacation jul 3-Jul 9	Pastor Vacation jul 3-Jul 9	Pastor Vacation jul 3-Jul 9	Pastor Vacation jul 3-Jul 9	Pastor Vacation jul 3-Jul 9	Pastor Vacation jul 3-Jul 9

Reports from Council meeting – May 18, 2023

Diane Hance, Clerk

Pastor: Time report was submitted. Vacation time Monday, July 3 through Sunday, July 9 and Sunday, August 20 through Saturday, September 2. Attended Prairie Association meeting April 29. Discussion on Mayfield's Church Rental policy. Upcoming events were reviewed. Christian Ed status given for summer Bible school, adult Bible study, kid designed worship for June 25th.

Deacons: Providing hospitality for Confirmation/New Member Sunday. July 2, 4th of July pot luck after church. Hot dogs and buns provided.

Trustees: Various maintenance items around the church discussed. Elevator inspection application to be submitted, fire extinguishers have been checked. Met with Diana Swanson regarding preparation for July 15 Garden Walk and plantings planned for around the church. The need/timing to remove trees will be further evaluated by the trustees.

Stewardship: Mayfield Preservation Fund report was given. Quilt raffle plans are in the works, culminating in November. Discussion on Service for Service program and how we can all be involved in promoting Mayfield.

Treasurer: Andy is now a signature on our accounts. Work will take place regarding QuickBooks and excel spreadsheets listing detailed information on all restricted funds/assets.

Moderator: clean up plans were discussed. Freecycle event will take place after July 1. There will be no Council meeting in June; the July meeting will be on Zoom. By-laws were discussed. Rita and Andy will work on reviewing the current constitution and by-laws.

Mission: OCWM will be collected on Mother's Day and Father's Day.

June Sermons and Scripture

June 7

To Give or Not to Give

Proverbs 3:27, Proverbs 11:25

June 11

Stirring Things Up

Proverbs 10:12, Proverbs 22:24-25, Proverbs 15:1

June 18

Just Enough

FATHER'S DAY
Proverbs 30:8-9

June 25

Worship

Designed by our kids!



I wanted a perfect ending. Now I've learned, the hard way, that some poems don't rhyme, and some stories don't have a clear beginning, middle, and end. Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and making the best of it, without knowing what's going to happen next. Delicious Ambiguity.

- Gilda Radner

Wilma's garden



Contact Pastor Lauri

(815)757-5917 (cell)
PastorLauri@MayfieldChurchUCC.org

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

Follow us on Facebook:

Mayfield Congregational Church - United Church of Christ

Visit Mayfield:

28405 Church Road, Sycamore, IL 60178

Mother's Day flowers

