



A Light in the Country

The people who lived in darkness have seen a great Light.
Matthew 4:16

The sharing of joys and concerns is a tradition in many churches, including our own Mayfield congregation. If we are worried about a situation, we bring it up in the safe space of our gathered members and friends. If someone we know is having a tough time, we ask for support. We share milestones and celebrations. We pray together for each of the joys and concerns that were spoken of that day – and we continue to pray for them throughout the week. The joys are easy to reveal. It's the concerns that often cause us to take a breath before we disclose some details. There may be fear or sadness attached to the concern that makes it emotional. We need the strength of those around us.

As we continue to journey through Lent this month and recall the last weeks of Jesus' life on earth, the crowds that followed him had joys and concerns of their own. They searched for community and belonging, they searched for a leader that would bring them hope. Matthew described the beginning of Jesus' ministry as, "The people who lived in darkness have seen a great Light. Light has come to those who lived in a land covered by the dark shadow of death." This is what the people were drawn to. They had been living in fear under the Empire's rule, they were waiting for life to get better, they needed to be healed. They lived in darkness but here was the Light.

When we come together on Sunday mornings, any darkness we bring along can be dissipated in Christ's light. Any worries, any concerns, any troubles, any fears – every Sunday you are invited to share them with those gathered in worship. God's light shines bright in these caring friends, lightening your load and supporting you. Please join us at 10am on Sundays to experience this community of caring in person. And if you are able, I especially encourage you to be in church on Easter (8 a.m. or 10 a.m.) when we celebrate the One who brought light to a land covered by the dark shadow of death. The lyrics to the song "He Lives" include 'I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today; I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer, and just the time I need him, he's always near.' We are these hands, voices, and presence to others just as they are to us. God's Light has come. Allelujah!

Blessings,

Pastor Lauri

MAYFIELD ACTIVITIES

SOUP IS SERVED

Nearly 150 cans or soup were donated to the DeKalb County Community Garden (DCCG) in an effort to stock the shelves of their food pantry. Supplies have been low, and these donations make a difference!

Thank you all!



EARTH FEST

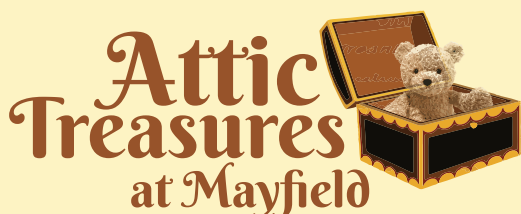
Diana Swanson will be hosting a table at Earth Fest that talks about the Waystation and pollinators. Earth Fest is held at the Egyptian Theatre on April 18, 2024, starting at 4:30 p.m. Diana plans to create a display that helps to inform and educate visitors, and hopes to give out information such as plant lists and dates for the Partnering for Pollinator series.

If you are interested in helping in any way, please let Diana know!

SUMMER STOP AT MAYFIELD, FEATURING ATTIC TREASURES AND MORE!

Put it on the calendar! July 20 will be a Mayfield Church open house. We will (hopefully) offer walks in the Wayfaring Station, visitor access to the worship area and information about the role we had in the underground railroad, "Attic Treasures" gently used item sale and the opportunity to try some good church cooking!

How would you like to help? Let Sophia know - email her at svarcados@gmail.com.



Soup drop off at DCCG

MEET *the* MEMBER!



Ken Trupp

Ken grew up in Elgin with two brothers and two sisters. He enlisted in the Navy's air branch during the Vietnam War and was stationed in California. Ken has been married to Barb for 57 years; they often visit their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Ken studied Anthropology at NIU, then later, he and Barb owned a used bookstore. He enjoys working in the yard, spoiling their dogs, and listens to classic 70s music (Ken rocked out at an Iron Maiden concert). He has hang-glidered and gone up in a hot air balloon. Wanderlust has taken Ken and Barb to Scotland, Alaska, and Costa Rica, with an accidental side trip into Nicaragua!

Ken enjoys being a member of Mayfield because of our small size and our friendliness.

MAYFIELD NEWS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Kids – every Sunday at 9am in the Kidz Zone room downstairs. Two adults are needed each Sunday to lead; take a look at the sign-up sheet in the Narthex to reserve the date you can help. Lessons and activities are pre-planned. Come have some fun with our kids!

Adults – each second Sunday of the month at 9am in the Library upstairs. We'll take a story from the Bible and consider it in terms of our modern world. Bring your coffee and join us on March 10th.

LENT 2024

LENT STUDY

We meet on Zoom each Wednesday evening at 7p.m. through March 20. This year, in keeping with our Believe theme, we are reflecting on what we believe and why. Contact Pastor Lauri to get the link!

PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, March 24 at 10 a.m.
Bring a coat (or other piece of clothing) to lay on the altar in honor of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Be sure to take a palm on your way in and wave it, shouting 'Hosanna' as the Mayfield donkey makes its way forward with our kids.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, March 28 at 5:30 p.m.
Together, we will voice reflections on Jesus' last hours and how it affects us today. Communion will be shared.

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, March 31

8 a.m.
Worship in the Sanctuary (no FaceBook Live)

8:45-9:45 a.m.
Light snacks in the Narthex

10 a.m.
Worship in the Sanctuary
(with choir and FaceBook Live)

11a.m.
Egg hunt for the kids



Wonseok with special cel phone bear valentine.

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. **PayPal!**
[mayfieldchurchucc.org](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://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.



MARCH CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
Kids Sunday School 9a Worship 10a in person and FaceBook Live			Lent Study 7p Zoom			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Kids Sunday School 9a Worship 10a in person and FaceBook Live Communion			Lent Study 7p Zoom			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS Kids Sunday School 9a Adult Sunday School 9a Worship 10a in person and FaceBook Live UCC One Great Hour of Sharing offering	Deacons 6p		Lent Study 7p Zoom			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Kids Sunday School 9a Worship 10a in person and FaceBook Live			Lent Study 7p Zoom	Council 6:30p		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
PALM SUNDAY Kids Sunday School 9a Worship 10a in person and FaceBook Live				Maundy Thurs Service in person 5:30p Communion		
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
EASTER Worship 8a in person Fellowship 8:45-9:45 Worship 10a in person and FaceBook Live 11a Kids Egg Hunt			Bible Study 7p Zoom			



Reports from the Council meeting – February 2024

Diane Hance, Clerk

Pastor - Time report submitted. Theme for lent is "Believe". Kaleidoscope packets are available - Words will be added about our individual belief journey. Christian Ed: Kids Sunday School – Helpers always needed. Adults Sunday School will meet 3/10 and Adult Lent Study kicked off on Ash Wed.

Deacons - The Deacons met on Zoom, Monday 2/12. Discussed serving communion, upcoming special services - Palm Sunday, Easter and Graduation Sunday. Maundy Thursday Service will focus on the both the Last Supper and Good Friday. There will be 2 services on Easter – 8 am and 10 am. Individuals will be invited to bring flowers for the altar for Easter Sunday.

Trustees - Parsonage Roof needs to be replaced, will seek 3 bids. Council approved use of Preservation Funds for roof replacement.

Stewardship - Celebrating the accomplishments of 2023 and looking to add to the Preservation Fund and Operating Budget in 2024. Spare Change collection to continue. Many ideas were discussed. Watch for upcoming programs to bring people to Mayfield, including a workshop on "Belonging" - focus on diversity, equity and inclusion.

Treasurer - Income and expenses report presented to council. At the current time we have a \$2400 deficit for the 2024. Migration with Quick books to be completed. CD's \$104,406.53; Checking \$4,013; Savings \$31467.03; Preservation Fund \$13764.75.

Clerk – January Attendance Averages: In-Person: 22.33; Facebook Live: 10.5; Sunday School: 2
Yearbook Hub Data report completed for 2023. Rita is working on an updated directory.

Moderator - Scheduling a day to clean the church - watch for sign up. Summer rummage sale/open house being planned.

Missions Report – watch for dates for 5 for 5 mission

March Sermons and Scripture

March 3

How Do We Believe the Law?

Exodus 20:1-17, John 2:13-22

March 10

Murmuring Belief

Numbers 21:4-9, Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

March 17

Belief in My Heart

Jeremiah 31:31-34, John 12:20-33

March 24

PALM SUNDAY

Belief as the Cornerstone

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29, Mark 11:1-11

March 31

EASTER SUNDAY 8 a.m.

Belief in Salvation

Isaiah 25:6-9, Mark 16:1-8

March 31

EASTER SUNDAY 10 a.m.

Belief in the Seen and the Unseen

Acts 10:34-43, John 20:1-18

Sunday School Craft



Contact Pastor Lauri

(815) 757- 5917 (cell)

PastorLauri@MayfieldChurchUCC.org

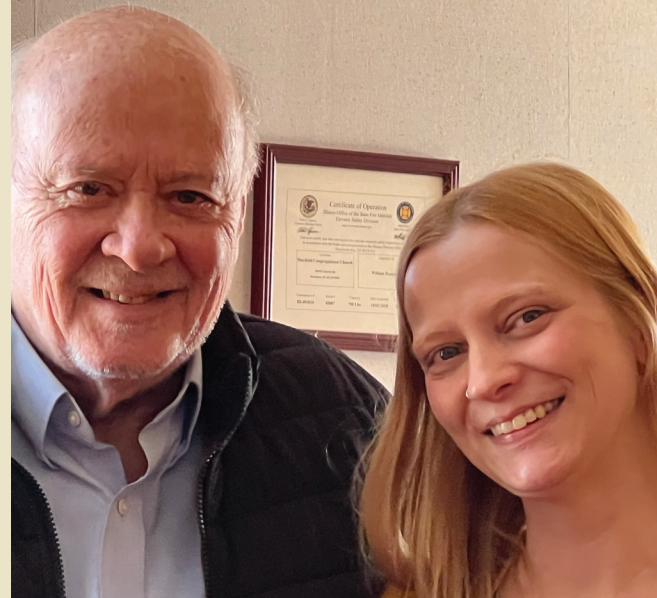
You can also find her at 10 a.m. worship at Mayfield or on Facebook Live.

Follow us on Facebook:

Mayfield Congregational Church - United Church of Christ

Visit Mayfield:

28405 Church Road, Sycamore, IL 60178



Duane and his daughter Carriel