



The Masthead

The newsletter of Mayflower United Church of Christ

2900 County Barn Road, Naples, FL 34112

Telephone: (239)775-0055

e-mail: office@mayflornaples.com or pastor@mayflornaples.com

Website: www.mayflornaples.com

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PICNIC AND SUNSET

Sunday June 3 - Church picnic at the Lowdermilk Park North Gazebo. Picnic from 5:30 to 7:30, then stay and watch the sunset—or just join us to watch the sunset! Bring a dish or dessert to share, your own drinks and chairs. Paper and plastic products and serving tables will be provided. If you can carpool or need help carrying your chair to the beach, let us know! Lou D'Amico, Alice Upshaw or Janice Cressman.

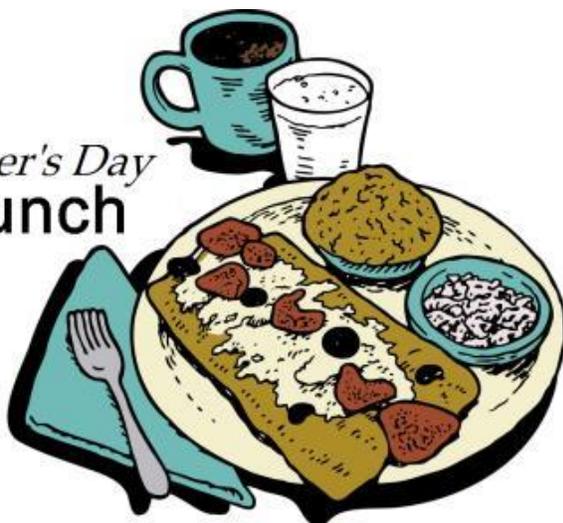


I spent the better part of two weeks in May at disaster response conferences. The first was the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD). I have been attending this conference for eleven years representing the United Church of Christ. The second conference was the Florida Governor's Hurricane Conference. Both of these conferences had record attendance with a lot of first time attenders. The obvious reason for the record attendance was the hurricane season of 2017.

Each time there is a hurricane or other disaster there are lessons learned and changes are made in mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. In Collier County you may have noticed in a recent Naples Daily News article the County Emergency Management office is hiring an individual specifically to deal with volunteers and donations during the course of an emergency in the county. The county had defunded the position in 2008. That is just one lesson learned from Irma that will have an impact locally in the future. Multiply that by several states and emergency management entities reviewing their systems and plans and making changes and improvements all to benefit the affected population of a disaster to better prepare for and recover from with less stress, damage and loss.

What are your lessons learned from last year? What will you do different this year and the years ahead? Will you evacuate? Stay with friends or family? Shelter in place? Do you need to register with the county as a special needs person?

Father's Day Brunch



Ladies! Think about your contribution to our brunch to fete the men of the congregation on June 17th! Just drop it by the kitchen on your way into worship!



As hurricane season begins it is time to plan. The slogan for the Governor's Hurricane Conference was 'Readiness is Everyone's Job.' There are numerous resources to help you make a decision about what you will do and then provide you with checklists in order to complete your plan. An online resource for you is: floridadisaster.org.

Some of you may be thinking it won't happen this year because we had Irma last year. Well nature doesn't work that way. This area could have another major hurricane this year as well. The town where we lived in Texas had its one hundred year rain event two years prior to our move there. What people don't seem to grasp is the next hundred years begins the day after the event. The next hundred year event does not wait for one hundred years. It is the same with hurricanes. A hurricane could take a similar track to Irma's this year.

So, Get a plan! Don't be complacent. Review what you did last year and what caused you the most stress and can that situation be changed? I remember the Collier County Sheriff on TV saying six days before Irma made landfall, 'if you don't need to be in Collier County, leave now.' The other side of that is that over twice the number of people evacuated in the state than were required. Three million people were in a mandatory evacuation zone and 6.8 million people evacuated.

In Matthew 25 Jesus tells the parable of the ten virgins waiting for the bridegroom to appear. Five had prepared ahead of time and their lamps were filled with oil. The other five had to run out at the last minute and purchase more oil. Upon their return they were too late and locked out of the room.

If you need to stock up on hurricane related items the first week of June is tax free for those purchases. Do it now. Get a plan! Be prepared!

Blessings

Pastor Alan

- 01 Carol and Ron Habel
- 08 Kaye and Jim Wilkerson
- 27 Delilah and Doug Archibald
- 20 Sharon and Bob Beham

WORDS FOR TODAY, FROM 1968

For America, this marks the 50th anniversary of a turbulent year, which included high-profile assassinations, the Vietnam War and civil rights protests. Five decades on, turmoil still abounds.

May we take hope and inspiration from Robert Kennedy, who, on the night of Martin Luther King's death, replaced a presidential-campaign speech with these words:

"What we need in the United States is not division; ... not hatred; ... not violence and lawlessness, but ... love, and wisdom, and compassion toward one another; and a feeling of justice toward those who still suffer within our country, whether they be white or ... black."

Kennedy added: "We will have difficult times in the future. ... But the vast majority of white people and ... black people in this country want to live together ... and want justice for all human beings. ... Let's dedicate ourselves ... to tame the savageness of man and make gentle the life of this world ... and say a prayer for our country and for our people."

MY COMPLIMENTS TO THE CREATOR

Dear God,

I saw the Grand Canyon this summer. Nice piece of work!

Love,
Kyle (age 9)



- | | | |
|----|------------------|----------------|
| 01 | Betty Lane | |
| 02 | Dick Mortenson | |
| 04 | Isabelle Krichel | |
| 06 | Gale Whitney | Lenora Walter |
| 10 | Marilyn Martin | Beverly Harder |
| 11 | Nancy Deeney | |
| 14 | Betty Ford | |
| 17 | Pat Bradford | |
| 23 | Bus Mcfarland | |
| 27 | Shirley Smith | |
| 30 | Bain Klug | |

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Mayflower Women's Fellowship voted at their regularly scheduled April meeting to disband as a ministry of the church. The ladies have faithfully made countless contributions to the life of Mayflower for more than 20 years; but, as the years pass, the tasks of planning and executing their annual events have become more difficult and draining, both physically and emotionally. The women of Mayflower will continue to meet informally as The Women's Lunch Club. All women of the church are welcome – watch future bulletins and Mastheads for more information and scheduling.

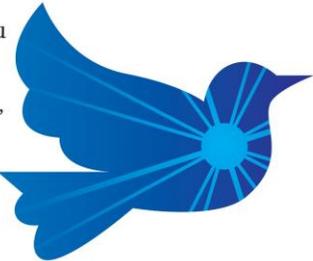
Mayflower will recognize the Women's Fellowship and their contributions during worship on Sunday, July 1st followed by an all-church picnic where everyone can express their appreciation to the ladies for all of their work over the years.

?? ? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ?

What word can be placed in all four blanks to complete this Bible passage?

“But just as he who called you is _____, so be _____ in all you do; for it is written: ‘Be _____, because I am _____.’”

- A. righteous
- B. holy
- C. loving
- D. merciful



Answer: B (See 1 Peter 1:15-16, NIV.)

LIVING PROOF

Have you ever realized that you can give things to God that are of value to him? Or are you just sitting around daydreaming about the greatness of his redemption, while neglecting all the things you could be doing for him? I'm not referring to works which could be regarded as divine and miraculous, but ordinary, simple human things — things which would be evidence to God that you are totally surrendered to him. —Oswald Chambers

A CHURCH OR A CLUB?

Rev. Theodore Wedel, a former canon of the National Cathedral, once told a parable about congregational life. It began: “On a dangerous sea coast where shipwrecks often occur, there was a crude little life-saving station. The building was just a hut, and there was only one boat, but the few devoted members kept a constant watch over the sea.”

Some neighbors and people who'd been rescued began donating time and money, thinking the station needed better furnishings and equipment. As the station grew as a gathering place, members hired lifeboat crews to do the dirty work of saving lives. Those who disagreed with that approach broke away to form their own stations.

The parable concluded: “If you visit that sea coast today, you will find a number of exclusive clubs along that shore. Shipwrecks are frequent in those waters, but most of the people drown.”



BILLBOARDS FOR JESUS

An online search for “advertising fails” reveals some hilarious and cringe-worthy signs. Often the “fail” is due to an ad’s placement. For example, a billboard about childhood obesity appears next to one for a fast-food restaurant, and a promotion for *The Walking Dead* is posted near a mortuary.

As Christ’s ambassadors on earth (see 2 Corinthians 5:20), we serve as walking, talking billboards for Jesus and our faith. Despite our sinfulness — and often “cringe-worthiness” — Jesus lives in us, whom he created to do good works (see Ephesians 2:10).

Even though we will never be perfect billboards for Jesus, let’s not cover up our message. Instead, let’s embrace the privilege of being salt and light (see Matthew 5:13-16), proclaiming the gospel in a dark world.

A FLASH OF PERSPECTIVE

If summer storms make you or a loved one nervous, the perspective one mom offered her young son might help.

Though lightning can be harmful, God created it for good: The powerful electricity converts unusable nitrogen to nitrate, which plants need for growth and human bodies use to produce proteins.

The boy was still uncertain, so Mom continued. “Did you know there’s lightning in heaven?” (See the description of John’s vision in Revelation 4:5.)

“And nothing in heaven can hurt,” said the boy, catching on.

Mom added, “Plus, lightning reminds me that Jesus is coming. Matthew (24:27, NIV) says, ‘As lightning that comes from the east is visible even in the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.’”

This summer, as lightning brightens the sky, reassure yourself — or a child — of lightning’s purpose and wonder.

—Based on “I’m Afraid of Thunder and Lightning,” *Family Time Story Devotions*



If you signed up for the June 9th Conservancy eco-boat tour of Rookery Bay, please be sure you have remitted payment for your ticket to the church office by 4:00 pm on Friday, June 1st. This was such a popular activity that it sold out almost immediately and there are several names on a “wait list”. We have to make a list of participants available to the boat operator prior to the tour. Unpaid reservations will be made available to those waiting. Our Activities Team is looking into the possibility of scheduling another tour in the fall to accommodate those who were not able to secure seats for this one.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
					9:30 Chair Yoga	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30 Worship – Communion 10:30 Refreshments – benefitting Harvest Tabernacle 5:30 Church Picnic 6:00 Hispanic Worship	10:00 Scrip Gift Card Order Deadline 2:00 Missions Committee Meeting 6:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	8:30 Walking Moai – Sugden Park 12:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Hispanic Bible Study	9:30 Chair Yoga 10:00 Bulletin Deadline 5:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	1:30 Bulletin Folding	9:30 Chair Yoga	10:00 Conservancy Eco-Tour
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30 Worship 10:30 Refreshments – benefitting the Shelter 6:00 Hispanic Worship	6:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	8:30 Walking Moai – Greenway Park 7:00 Hispanic Bible Study	9:30 Chair Yoga 10:00 Bulletin Deadline 5:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	1:30 Bulletin Folding	9:30 Chair Yoga	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:30 Worship 10:30 Father’s Day Brunch 6:00 Hispanic Worship	2:00 Church Council Meeting 6:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	8:30 Walking Moai – Naples Botanical Gardens 12:30 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Hispanic Bible Study	9:30 Chair Yoga 10:00 Bulletin Deadline 5:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	1:30 Bulletin Folding	9:30 Chair Yoga 10:00 Masthead Deadline	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:30 Worship – Birthday Sunday 10:30 Refreshments 6:00 Hispanic Worship	6:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	8:30 Walking Moai – Freedom Park 7:00 Hispanic Bible Study	9:30 Chair Yoga 10:00 Bulletin Deadline 5:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	1:30 Bulletin Folding		