



## The Masthead

The Newsletter of Mayflower United Church of Christ

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Office Hours: 9:00-1:00 Monday-Friday

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### Thoughts for Father's Day



A careful man I ought to be; a little fellow follows me;

I do not dare to go astray, for fear he'll go the self-same way.

I cannot once escape his eyes; whate'er he sees me do, he tries —

Like me, he says, he's going to be, the little chap who follows me.

He thinks that I am good and fine, believes in every word of mine:

The base in me he must not see, the little chap who follows me.

I must remember as I go, through summer's sun and winter's snow, I'm building for the years to be, for a little fellow follows me.



Sunday,  
June 15<sup>th</sup>

**Ladies, it's time to fete the men in our lives. We will be providing brunch on Father's Day after worship service. Everyone is welcome to contribute to the meal. Please let Janice, Nancy or Lou know if you plan to bring anything or would like to be part of the serving team.**

### **The joy of generosity**

He who has received much should also give much. It is essential to give a goodly part of what God has allowed us to accumulate. Otherwise greed and miserliness will seize our hearts and minds. Furthermore, by not giving generously, we will miss the many joys that generosity brings to us. Let us not cheat ourselves of those blessings.

### ***The first day of vacation Bible school***



One summer afternoon, a grandfather picked up his 4-year-old grandson at church. “Well, Jason, how did you like your first day of vacation Bible school?”

“It was great!” the boy replied. “We heard some stories and drew some pictures. Then we went out to play, and when we came back in God had juice and cookies waiting for us!”

### **What is a father?**

Being a male species does not make a man a father, for a dad is a special blend of hero; disciplinarian; a friend; someone to look up to; someone to model ... someone with a touch of the “mother” in him; someone who is big enough to say, “The fault was mine” ...

someone who lives the kind of life that makes you want to say, “I, too, shall follow him!”

—Alton Kaul

### ***Special dates***

- *Pentecost, June 8, 2025*
- *Flag Day, June 14, 2025*
- *Trinity Sunday, June 15, 2025*
- *Father's Day, June 15, 2025*
- *Juneteenth, June 19, 2025*
- *First day of summer, June 20, 2025*

### **Bible Quiz**



Who said to the prophet Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD”?

- A. Reuben, for selling Joseph into slavery
- B. Jacob, for deceiving Isaac and stealing his brother's birthright
- C. Rahab, a prostitute
- D. David, considered Israel's greatest king

Answer: D (See 2 Samuel 12:13.)

### Constant and unchanging

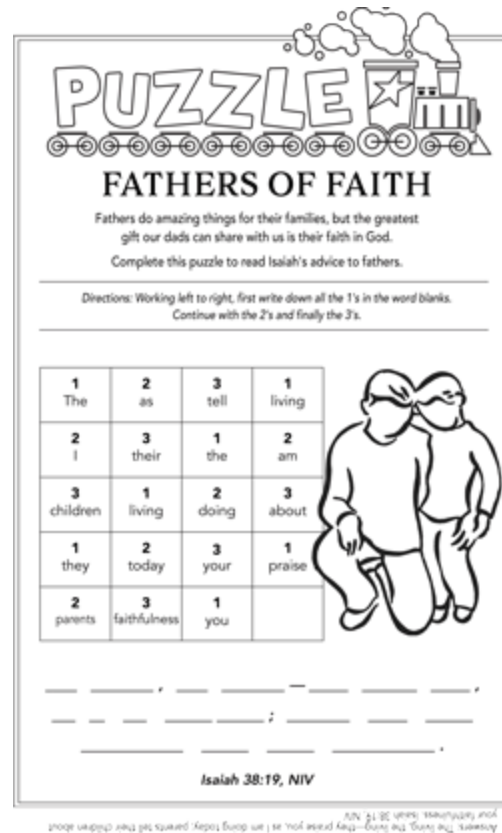
Summer's arrival feels positive to many people but may not be smooth for all. Families who rely on regular school meals for their children must stretch grocery dollars further. Heat poses risks for elderly people who lack air conditioning. Work can be difficult to find in the summer months, and uncertainty looms for recent graduates. Meanwhile, concerns such as wars, natural disasters and health problems don't take a summer break.

St. Teresa of Avila (1515–1582) prayed, "May you be blessed forever, Lord, for being constant and unchanging, amidst all the changes of the world." Her prayer is as appropriate today as nearly 500 years ago. When all around us is unstable and unreliable, God's love and faithfulness are constant and trustworthy.

### Handling grief

When a Southern Christian woman became a widow, several people asked what she was going to do. She always answered by saying, "I'm going to do Proverbs 3:5-6 and Philippians 4:4-7."

Both passages provide wonderful doses of strength and encouragement. (If you aren't familiar with the verses, look them up to see for yourself.) When we completely trust in God for guidance and peace, he not only sees us through difficult times but allows us to rejoice rather than worry.



### Are you listening?

A father asked his 7-year-old son to say the mealtime prayer. "All right," the boy said. "Let's pray."

When every head was bowed, the boy prayed, "Lord, we thank you for the pancakes we're going to eat tonight. Amen."

"Jimmy," his mother said. "I think you should know we're having chicken, not pancakes, tonight."

"I know," Jimmy answered. "I just wanted to see if God was paying attention."

Christian symbol



**RIVER** — In the Bible, rivers (and other bodies of water) often represent deliverance, salvation, freedom and cleansing. The Jordan River is especially prominent: The Israelites crossed it to enter the Promised Land after God delivered them from slavery, and John baptized Jesus (and many other people) there.

The image of crossing the Jordan River has long been a metaphor for death — crossing from earthly to heavenly life, from worldly struggles to the bliss of God's kingdom, from physical ailments to the wholeness of a resurrection body.



# **BACKSTAGE TOUR OF GULFSHORE PLAYHOUSE'S BAKER THEATER AND EDUCATIONAL CENTER**

**Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**More details and sign-ups  
will be coming for this free  
tour of their new facility on  
Goodlette-Frank. We will  
also plan to go to lunch  
afterwards, if you have time.**





Dear Mayflower Church Family,

Grace Place needs our help to support their annual Backpack Event. Mayflower church has always helped provide as many backpacks as we can with your kind and generous support.

Some flyers have been placed on the credenza in the entrance way near the Church Office and also on the table in the Narthex detailing the different grades backpack shopping lists.

Members can help by purchasing a backpack and filling it up or you can send a donation by check (please make check out to Mayflower UCC and write Backpack on the memo line) or donate cash in an envelope labeled with "Backpack", your Missions team will be glad to help shop for you.

We do need donations to shop **ASAP** so please bring to church by June 8th or June 15th Sunday service or drop off at Mayflower office to Judy.

If you decide to purchase your own backpack(s) and fill with supplies, please deliver to Mayflower Church by no later than July 9th. The Missions team will deliver the backpacks to Grace Place.



# BACKPACK DRIVE

## FULL BACKPACKS NEEDED!

The need is greater than ever for kids going back to school. You can help by donating full backpacks for students Kindergarten through 12th grade!

### CHECKLIST ON BACK!



You can also visit our website to make a cash donation!



#### BENEFITS

- Staff and team development through volunteering
- A fun competition between departments
- Helping children get back to school ready
- Show our students that the community is supportive

#### Back To School Bash

Saturday, July 19  
9 am - 12 pm

- Backpacks will be distributed
- Fun activities are available for all families
- Contact Melisa to participate!





**Mayflower will be observing our nation's independence on Sunday, July 6th with an indoor picnic after our worship service. Traditional picnic fare will be served, including hot dogs, burgers, baked beans, potato salad, and possibly ice cream. If you would like to contribute anything, please inform Janice, Nancy, or Lou.**



### June 2025 Thrivent Events

JUNE 5, 2025 | 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM ET

#### **The Generous Life**

How do we know if we're truly generous? For most of us, we want to be known as someone who lived a generous life. We don't want money and possessions to guide our decisions. From big gifts to small gifts, from teenagers to multi-millionaires, God wants us all to live generously. Through Pastor Rob's lived experience in ministry, you will see that God's faithfulness can take the most unlikely story and launch a movement of generosity.

*Rob Ketterling is not affiliated with or endorsed by Thrivent. The views expressed in this presentation by Rob Ketterling are his own and not necessarily those of Thrivent or its affiliates.*

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/GenerousLife2025>

JUNE 20, 2025 | 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM ET

communities.

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/Dutchman2025>

*No products will be sold at our events. For additional disclosures, see [Thrivent.com/social](https://thrivent.com/social).*

We help Christians find financial clarity, enabling lives full of meaning and gratitude. All are

### **Miami, FL | Annual Celebration of Membership**

Loan Depot Park, 501 Marlins Way, Miami, FL

Join us for a fun evening at Miami Marlins baseball game as we celebrate you, our valued Thrivent members! As a purposed-based financial services organization, we come together each year to celebrate the countless ways you—our members—inspire generosity and help improve people's lives and communities.

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/MarlinsTix>

JUNE 24, 2025 | 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM ET

### **Sarasota, FL | Annual Celebration of Membership**

Der Dutchman; 3713 Bahia Vista St. Sarasota, FL 34232

Join us for a nice evening at Der Dutchman as we celebrate you, our valued Thrivent members! As a purposed-based financial services organization, we come together each year to celebrate the countless ways you—our members—inspire generosity and help improve people's lives and

welcome to attend our free virtual events. Feel free to share these events with your friends and family.

**Want to know more about Thrivent? Call Thrivent Financial Associate David Contessa at (239) 300-5139.**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 Isabelle Krichel - Birthday Potluck 5pm	5	6 Shirley Morgan - Birthday Gale Whitney - Birthday	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Betty Ford - Birthday Kay Stanek - Birthday Ladies Lunch at Lely Palms
15 FATHER'S DAY	16	17	18	19 Juneteenth	20 	21 Kurt Blumenthal Memorial Service at Terracina 1:30 pm
22	23 Bus McFarland - Birthday Masthead Deadline	24	25 Val & Marilyn Gow - Anniversary	26	27 Shirley Smith - Birthday Delilah & Doug Archibald - Anniversary	28
29 Bob & Sharon Beham - Anniversary	30					

