Reflections on Our “Listening Tour” Gatherings

By Pastor Jim

The questions have been the same for each of 12 gatherings, a “listening tour” for Lynelle and me: What does the Mayfield Church do well? What is the greatest challenge or opportunity facing the church in the next 12-24 months? What God-sized miracle do you pray God would do for Mayfield Church? How has our church helped you grow spiritually?

Lynelle and I have experienced the incredible hospitality of the Mayfield Church at each of the eight gatherings we have attended to date. A total of 154 Mayfield members and friends (plus children!) have attended so far, with four gatherings left to go as of this writing. Everywhere we have gathered, we have heard deeply faithful, thoughtful, inspiring reflections on what the church does well; we have also heard insightful, prayerful reflections on the challenges/opportunities we face as a faith community; we have talked about God-sized miracles and then shared how this church has been key to our spiritual growth.

It has been remarkable to hear so many, many positive, wide-ranging statements about what the church does well. Mayfield UMC has been a vital, healthy, innovative and adventurous church over many years under strong pastoral and lay leadership. Jim Ozier, a nationally known United Methodist pastor and resource leader who recently met with our appointed church leaders and staff members, would call this a “Culture of Recommendation.” That is, Mayfield Church demonstrates a culture where church members speak well of their church, with enthusiasm and energy and good will. You are good ambassadors for Mayfield Church and all we embody as followers of Jesus Christ!

[Continued on page 2]
What does Mayfield UMC do well? Consider the witness of so many members. The wide network of LifeGroups has been nothing short of life-changing for many members in all generations of this church. The mission focus of the church, both locally and globally, has exploded as involvement at all levels has increased dramatically, in particular since the reading of Richard Stearns’ book, *The Hole in Our Gospel: What Does God Expect of Us?* A “Culture of Hospitality” has been cultivated over the years so that many members attest to the genuine warmth and welcome they experience at our church, including many newer members and friends who have been involved in the church for less than eight years. Worship has been deeply impactful over the years, with a vital and varied music ministry and strong preaching in a wonderful worship center, integrating quality audio and visual technology that enhances the worship experience for all the worship services. The children’s and youth ministries along with the 5-Star Step Up to Quality Heartland Childcare Center receive very strong affirmation, the wide participation of members in service ministries is appreciated, a strong and diverse staff receives affirmation, the excellent and accessible facility is a blessing, while the community connections and regional appeal of the church receive high marks. I could go on with many more positive observations and affirmations.

Yet Mayfield UMC faces challenges. How do we reach more people? What can we do to engage younger generations? How can we become more diverse, reflecting the demographics of surrounding counties and communities? Several LifeGroups address the difficult and controversial issues of our day and yet maintain strong covenantal fellowship; will we choose to address the pressing issues of our day in the larger context of the church, with authenticity in open and honest conversations that reflect different points of view while giving witness that such conversations can be held with respect and without rancor? Can we lead with mission-focused clarity and unity as we creatively, faithfully address A Way Forward? In what ways can we be even more outwardly focused as a mission-driven church?

Well! We certainly do live in challenging times! But, frankly, this is nothing new. Living out the Gospel of Jesus Christ has always been challenging. After Jesus said, “It will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God,” an astounded group of disciples plaintively asked, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus’ answer should speak to all of us: “It’s impossible for human beings. But all things are possible for God” (Matthew 19:26 CEB).

Take heart! God is in the business of God-sized miracles! Always has been, always will be.

-Pastor Jim
Tools and Blankets

For more than 60 years, congregations across the United States have been responding to Jesus’ call to be a neighbor to those in need, in partnership with Church World Service.

At home and around the world, our congregation and others are helping impoverished communities with the basic tools they need to sustain themselves and their families.

Contributions to Tools and Blankets mean that Church World Service is there for the long haul as families recover from a disaster. And, we’re helping families who struggle against grinding poverty as they seek to develop viable, sustainable communities and livelihoods.

At its heart, Tools and Blankets means you. Each year, through your contributions, you and our congregation make this ministry of hope a reality for people in need. Please help support Tools and Blankets by placing a donation in the offering basket (checks written out to Mayfield Church with “Tools and Blankets” in the memo line) or attending our Egg Strata Breakfast on Sunday, September 9, after all three services. For more info about Church World Service, visit www.cwsglobal.org.
Covenant / Application for 2019
“HANDS THAT SERVE”
Mission Program at Mayfield Church

In October, our Missions Committee will meet to determine which local, national, and international projects will be the focus of our congregation’s support in 2019. Applications from mission and ministry teams are encouraged.

The team agrees to publicize its ministry in the newsletter and on the website by providing a story of up to 350 words and a photograph by the newsletter deadline.

The team agrees to have a member present the first Sunday of its month to address the congregation during worship. The team may provide a slide show or video during the four-minute presentation at announcements time.

The team agrees to host a fellowship / fund-raising breakfast on the second Sunday of its month (the third Sunday in the months of May and July) to help communicate its ministry. An informational table in Fellowship Hall during the month also is helpful.

The team may ask the congregation to collect items for its ministry. If the team collects items, the team agrees to pick up the items by the last day of its month.

If the team leads a mission or travel trip, the team agrees to provide the Missions Committee with a pre-approved budget before it leaves and a list of its expenses when it returns.
“Hands that Serve”
Covenant / Application

Ministry Team __________________________________________

Leader of Ministry Team ______________________________________

Phone, Email of Team Leader __________________________________________

Why do you want to be a “Hands that Serve” focus? __________

______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
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______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________

(may be continued on a separate piece of paper)

Do you agree to the expectations? _____ Yes _____ No

Signature of Team Leader: ________________________________

Date________________

Please return to the office (Missions Committee mailbox) by Sunday, Oct. 14.

For more information, please contact Debbie Diadiun (Missions Committee chair) at ndiadiun@AOL.com.
Did you know that when it comes to anxiety, depression and stress-related illnesses, America is the frontrunner?

Well, it is!

Thankfully, there’s a practical prescription to help us overcome these illnesses. *Anxious for Nothing*, from *New York Times* bestselling author and pastor Max Lucado, provides a road map for battling with and healing from anxiety.

*Does the uncertainty and chaos of life keep you up at night?*

*Is irrational worry your constant companion?*

*Could you use some calm?*

If the answer is yes, Lucado says you are not alone. According to one research program, anxiety-related issues is the No. 1 mental health problem among women and are second only to alcohol and drug abuse among men.

Stress-related ailments cost the nation $300 billion every year in medical bills and lost productivity.

And use of sedative drugs like Xanax and Valium have skyrocketed in the last 15 years.

Even students are feeling it. One psychologist reports that the average high school kid today has the same level of anxiety as the average psychiatric patient in the early 1950s.

Chances are, you or someone you know seriously struggles with anxiety.

Lucado writes: “The news about our anxiety is enough to make us anxious.”

He knows what it feels like to be overcome by the worries and fear of life, which is why he is dedicated to helping people take back control of their minds and, as a result, their lives.
Anxious for Nothing invites us to delve into Philippians 4:6-7. After all, it is the most highlighted passage of any book on the planet, according to Amazon:

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

In the characteristic tone of his previous books like You’ll Get Through This and Fearless, Lucado guides readers through this Scripture passage and explains the key concepts of celebration, asking for help, leaving our concerns, and meditating.

Stop letting anxiety rule the day!

Join us on October 11 as Mayfield Church begins a five-week LifeGroup and Sunday message study of Anxious for Nothing. (And Mayfield folks, please invite a friend, coworker or family member to your LifeGroup for this study. Chances are they, too, are feeling anxious!)

Our goal in this journey is to experience more joy, clarity, physical renewal and contentment by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Anxiety comes with life. But it doesn’t have to dominate our lives.

--- From the HarperCollins web site for Anxious for Nothing
The “Wish You Well” Center:
The “Wish You Well” Center in the classroom of Adrian teacher Cathy Stang is the result of a new program at the school called Conscious Discipline.

Conscious Discipline leads teachers and schools through a transformational process that promotes permanent behavior change. The change is from an unconscious, traditional, compliance model of discipline to a conscious, relationship-based, community model.

The power in the classroom is shared, in that all parties are responsible for their own behavior.

Conscious Discipline is based on several ideas. The model for optimal student development and learning is creating a healthy school family. Teachers are creating a compassionate school culture, teaching students empathy and connection to others. This is where the “Wish You Well” Center comes in. When a child is absent, moving to another school, has arrived late or has a family member in need of support, a student can go to the center, choose a card and write a note or draw a picture to give to the person the student would like to wish well.

Want to make a difference?
Cathy needs new or gently used greeting cards (any occasion) for the “Wish You Well” Center. You may drop off your cards in Pastor Jan’s mailbox, or in her office.

Another New Initiative: Last school year, Adrian Teacher Karen Hadden noticed a problem. Her first-graders would receive a mid-morning snack each day, but the snacks were sugary. So instead of providing energy and focus, the snacks made her kids sluggish and distracted. Karen wondered if it might be possible to get fresh fruit for her students.

Enter Bart and Janet Alcorn, who own Eddy’s Fruit Farm. They have agreed to supply Karen with apples, so she can offer several slices to each child for a mid-morning snack. Thank you for your generosity, Bart and Janet!
Holy Donut Day: Can you believe it? We ate – or took home – 77 dozen (924) donuts on Aug. 12. We give a big shout-out of thanks to Jim, Nancy (right) and Bill Patterson of Patterson Fruit Farm, and their bakers, Claudia and Sam, for making Holy Donut Day possible. The $1,198.31 raised will help pay the shipping costs for our reading program at Adrian. So far, 44,101 new books (valued at $457,164) have been put into the hands of our students.

School Supplies: Thanks to everyone who provided school supplies, including our Vacation Bible School kids, who started us off with a boatload of items (top left). On Aug. 14, we sent a team of volunteers (bottom left) to the Rowland Ice Cream Social, to help the PTA pass out ice cream, whipped cream and sprinkles. Pastor Jim and Lynelle Winkler toured the school, met our teachers and delivered bags of supplies to them. The PTA was so grateful for our volunteers that its leaders asked us to be part of the Family Science Night on March 21, with set-up at 6 PM. Please mark your calendars!

Book and CD Giveaway: Our Aug. 26 Giveaway was so much fun that we’re extending it one week … through Sunday, Sept. 2. If you haven’t already, stop by and pick out some items. The bins on the tables are for your donations to help us send a student to camp.

Rewards Program: If you tried to sign up for the Heinen’s Tasteful Rewards program to benefit Rowland School and weren’t able to do so, good news: The online registration is open! Log into your account at heinensrewards.com or visit Customer Service at Heinen’s to select our partner school.

Thank you! -- Pastor Jan
Our **Single Adult Ministry Ignited** meets the last Wednesday of each month at 6 PM for dinner out. To RSVP or for more information, please contact Sandy Pavick at 440-429-5029 or sandyinnewbury@aol.com.

**Wednesday, Sept. 26 @ 6 PM**

**Firehouse Grille & Pub**  
2768 Stark Dr.  
Willoughby Hills

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**Relaxation Morning at Church**

**Saturday, September 15**  
8 AM - 12 PM

Friends, yoga, meditation, making body scrubs, and healthy snacks!

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**WOMEN’S RETREAT**

**Friday, October 12**: Ladies Dinner Evening Out  
**Saturday, October 13**: Women's Retreat @ Headwaters Park  
Please stay tuned for more information!  
Contact Amanda Matthews at amandamatthews.health@gmail.com or (440) 567-6635 if you have any questions.
Our organist, Carol Neff, and her colleague, Carmen Massaro, will present Four Hands in Concert on October 7 at 4 PM. This is their eleventh concert together, playing duets at the organ and piano and also marks the 25th anniversary of our organ! They will be playing music by Handel, Brahms, Raney, and favorite hymns. Please bring your neighbors and friends to this exciting concert of beautiful music! A freewill offering will be taken to benefit the St. Herman House in Cleveland, which provides three meals a day every day of the year to needy people. Please plan to come to this musical celebration!

Chancel Choir Rehearsals

We invite you to join our wonderful Chancel Choir! Our regular Thursday evening rehearsals begin September 6 at 7:30. We sing at the 11 AM service with a Sunday morning rehearsal at 10. We sing a wide variety of music from African folk music to Bach. This is a meaningful way to share your faith as you sing in worship. Please contact Sergio Castellanos at sergio@mayfieldchurch.org or Carol Neff at carol8861@aol.com for more information.

Special thanks to the family of Raymond and Joan Pumphrey who gave a donation to the Music Department in loving memory of their parents. We are grateful to Penny Pumphrey, Mary and Rick Schmotzer, Roger and Gina Pumphrey and Lynn Pumphrey for their thoughtful gift to our music program. Raymond and Joan loved the music at our church, and we truly appreciate their support.

- Carol Neff
WHAT IS A CONGREGATION TO DO?

The Stephen Ministry program needs the support of the congregation in many different ways. You may not be aware of these needs, though, since the program has many confidential aspects and, as a result, is not often in the limelight. However, it’s very important that members of the congregation be aware of the program and offer its support.

Jesus spoke about the importance of building a house on a solid foundation (Matthew 7). To keep the foundation of the Stephen Ministry program grounded on the rock of Christ, prayer is a key part of congregational awareness and ownership. We ask for your prayers for the ongoing success of this important ministry, for the Stephen Leaders and Ministers, and for those who are receiving care services.

Gardeners know that plants need nurturing to thrive. Mayfield’s congregation can help create the right climate for the Stephen Ministry program to flourish. Gardeners cannot make a plant grow but they can provide the right environment for the plant and let God take care of the growth. It’s the same way with this ministry. We learned in our training that a Stephen Minister is the “care giver” and God is the “cure giver.” If members of the congregation help provide the right climate for the Stephen Ministry program, the Stephen Ministers can provide the appropriate climate to their care receivers and leave the results to God.

To create a healthy climate for a Stephen Ministry program to succeed, we ask that members of the congregation also:
- Understand the who, what, when, where, why and how of the program.
- Embrace Stephen Ministry as a vital part of our church and realize how it helps bring Jesus’ healing love to people in need of care in the congregation and community.
- Recognize the gifts and talents God has given everyone and use those gifts to help others in programs such as Stephen Ministry.
- View Stephen Ministry as a way to develop a vision of our church growing in care, discipleship, lay ministry, and outreach.

- **Believe that Caring Ministry is everyone’s responsibility.** All members are called to care for one another. You are the eyes and ears of the congregation and play a vital part in identifying people who need Jesus’ love and care and connecting them to Stephen Leaders.

- **Maintain an openness to receiving care when in need.** Too Often, our society encourages independence, praises the strong, and looks down on the weak. Many people find it easier to give care than receive it. However, it is not a weakness to need care from others. God wants us to care for others and be cared for by others. We should acknowledge our brokenness and be willing to accept care from others when the need arises.

*If you or someone you know would like more information about receiving the services of a Stephen Minister, contact the Stephen Ministry Referrals Coordinator, Joyce Gordon, at 216-570-3767 (leave a message) or joytgordon@gmail.com.*
We are planning a celebration for “All Saints Day” on Sunday, November 4. All Saints Day comes six months after Easter in the Christian calendar. It is a day for remembering those in our families and faith community who left us for the loving arms of Jesus during this past year, but who continue to be present with us in our hearts.

All Saints Day has a long history in the Christian Church. It is a celebration that helps us remember that our lives, our faith, and our actions are not simply our own creations. Instead, they are dependent on all we have been given by the family members and friends who came before us— their stories, their love, their influence, and their witness.

During our 11 AM worship service on November 4, we will read names, light candles, and remember the lives of those who graced our path and journeyed with us as a gift from God.

If you have a loved one whom you lost since November 2017, we would like to remember and celebrate that person’s life during this service.

Please contact Cyndi Nicholson, our coordinator of care and prayer ministries, at cyndi@mayfieldchurch.org, or call the office at 440-729-4006.

Calling all veterans (and those who love one): We want to know who are veterans so we can recognize them on Veterans Day Sunday, Nov. 11. Please indicate that you are a veteran on the back of your Connection Card, or give us a call in the office, 440-729-4006. Thank you!
Join us for family night on Friday, September 7 from 5 - 7 PM for fellowship with families of children preschool – Grade 5. Weather permitting, we will serve dinner outside in the pavilion. Come to mingle, play games, and catch up with the families of Mayfield Church.

Please RSVP to Jess Martz at jessica@mayfieldchurch.org with the number of people attending from your family. We hope to see you there!

Last year we started a monthly gathering where children had the opportunity to serve our church and our community. This year there is a fantastic lineup for service projects in the area. On September 10 from 4 - 6 PM, our group will head over to Rescue Village and help with whatever needs to be done around the property. This year we will be serving animals, community officials, children in need, our church family, and individuals in our community. For more information or to RSVP for September’s event, please contact Jess Martz.
Last year we had our third annual Trunk or Treat experience and were happily overwhelmed by the turnout we received. Realizing that this kind of event is a great way to get to know our community and provide a safe trick-or-treat experience, we’re doing it again and making it the best year yet on Saturday, Oct. 20 from 2 to 4 PM!

You’re invited to join us either as a candy station car, food station attendant, game leader, or as family participants. You can sign up to have your car be a part of our trunk-or-treat or to volunteer to help by emailing jessica@mayfieldchurch.org.

If you have a candy station, all you do for the event is simply show up, pop your trunk, and hand out treats. You can decorate your car if you wish. Prizes go to the best decorated cars! Families need only show up with their kiddos in non-scary costumes for a sweet and safe celebration.

Kids and parents who don’t regularly attend worship services can still associate church with fun and safety. And kids who are already a part of our church community can see a really fun side of our congregation through this event.

This year we will have a snack station, games, and of course the decorated vehicles. We’ll be collecting “extra” candy (nut-free) just in case cars run out in the afternoon. Donations can be dropped off in the children’s ministry office.

We’d love for you to join us! -Jess Martz
**Student Ministries**

**Sunday Mornings**

**High School/Middle School**
Downstairs in The Uprising room,  
11 AM-12:30 PM  
(sit together in worship @ 9:30 AM)

**New Series**
Middle School – Real Eyes  
High School – The Ultimate Treasure Hunt  
(Hearing the Holy Spirit)

**SUNDAY FUNDAY**
On September 23, come down to The Uprising room at normal meeting time and find out what kind of fun we will be having that day! Sunday Funday is always the same time as The Uprising: 11 AM - 12:30 PM. Hope to see you there!

**High School Bible Study Starts**
Beginning on September 4, we will resume our normal high school Bible Study group every Tuesday night from 7 - 9 PM downstairs in The Uprising room. This is a time to relax, share some food, play some games, and go in-depth on deeper subjects. All high school students are welcome!

**REMINDER** – No Uprising on September 2 (Labor Day)

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**FOLLOW US TODAY ON OUR SOCIAL NETWORK**

Text “revolution” to 95577 for updates!  
Mayfield Church Youth @theuprisingmumc @mayfielduprising
Bada-Bing and The Uprising

Don’t forget, the first Wednesday of every month is The Uprising Day at BadaBing Pizza in Chesterland, OH. Come in anytime from 11 AM - 8 PM and mention Mayfield Church…we get 20% of their total sales that day.

Bring your appetite on September 5!

Tweens Ministry

Do you have a child in fourth or fifth grade? Then they will not want to miss our school year kickoff on September 15! We will be hiking around the Holden Arboretum and exploring the emergent tower/canopy walk while discussing details for our upcoming events. This is always a wonderful opportunity for tweens to develop uplifting, Christian friends within our church outside of Sunday school. Check the Family Resource Desk for our upcoming dates and RSVP for this event to Jess Martz by Sept. 9
Heartland Childcare Center

“A friend loves at all times.” Proverbs 17:17

By Patty Wenzel

We are very excited to get this school year started! Our teachers for this year are:

*Mustard Seeds (2 ½ - 3 yrs.): Miss Lynn & Mr. Dylan
*Fig Trees (3-4 yrs.): Miss Nicki, Miss Samantha & Miss Wendy
*Good Samaritans (4-5 yrs.): Miss Nadia, Miss Mary & Miss Davin
*Young Apostles (School-agers): Miss Davin, Miss Nancy & Miss Sarah-Ruth

Each classroom is filling up quickly. We thank and praise God for blessing us with all these precious children. Our aftercare room for our school-agers is already closed and has a waiting list. We have several days in the other classrooms that are full or close to full. God is blessing us at Heartland.

This September we will focus on the following themes:
Week of September 3 – God Has Big Plans for Me!
Week of September 10 – God Gave Us a Community
Week of September 17 – Dancing with Dinosaurs
Week of September 24 – God Created the Earth

Please continue to pray for all our teachers and all our children. Pray that we will continue to grow closer to our Lord and Savior together. Pray for guidance, wisdom and patience throughout this new school year. Thank you for all the prayers in the past. We have truly felt God’s presence with us!

If you have any questions or are interested in enrolling your child in our program, please call 440-729-4006, ext. 116, or email patty@mayfieldchurch.org. We would love to have you join our adventure this year!
Indoor Co-Ed Volleyball

Join our fun and friendly church league beginning September 27! Games are played on Thursday evenings between 6 and 9:25 PM at Nottingham Baptist Church in Willoughby Hills. This league is open to anyone 14 years old and older. Email sports@mayfieldchurch.org or see Drew Sulzer if you are interested in playing.

Karate

Registration Night

Thursday, October 18
6 PM @ Mayfield Church in Fellowship Hall

The fall session class taught by Charles Fazio (Master and 7th Degree Black Belt) will resume on Thursday, Oct. 25. This class is a combination of Karate, Jiu-jitsu, Judo and Savate. It is self-defense in nature, and we strive to teach respect for others, discipline, self-confidence and self-worth for children over the age of 6.

All Students (Returning and New) - Must Sign Up on Registration Night

If students do not register on Oct. 18, they might lose their spot!

Regular Class Schedule Begins Oct. 25

6:15 - 7:15 - One combined class

Cost: $7.00 per class - collected at each class
(Checks should be made payable to Mayfield Church)

If you have questions, please call the church office at 440-729-4006 or Chuck Fazio at 216-469-2823.
Vision Campaign

Since Pete Simmelink and Steve Pattison last provided an update in the spring, lots of work has gone on behind the scenes by the Vision Team in conjunction with various other committees and staff. Some highlights include:

- Replaced [three] HVAC units
- Replaced inefficient lights with new LED lighting throughout the building in conjunction with the Jim Morgan bequest
- Replaced Sound / AV system in the Worship Center
- Collaborated with the Austin Company (our general contractor) to design two different options for the upper level and lower level renovations
- Presented those drawings / renditions to Mayfield Church Trustees for guidance / approval
- Met with four paving contractors to scope / bid the parking lot resurfacing

Once the final drawings / cost estimates for the upper level and lower level renovations are complete and parking lot proposals are received, the Vision Team looks forward to communicating additional details and progress. The goal, by the end of 2018, is to (a) complete the parking lot resurfacing and (b) commence construction on the internal renovations. Stay Tuned!
New Life for Our Old Altar Table
By Denny Nelson

In addition to my role as part-time director of middle school ministries at Mayfield Church, I am the full-time sixth- through eighth-grade math teacher at St. Benedict Catholic School in Garfield Heights.

One day in July, while I was working on plans for our Vacation Bible School here at Mayfield, I received a text from my principal. She asked if anyone from my church might have a table that the school could use as an altar in a prayer room she hoped to create (two classrooms were being moved to another building, and she wanted to use one room for student prayer or by the priests to say mass for a grade level).

I looked into it and soon learned that the altar table from our former location in Mayfield Village was in storage upstairs. With the blessing of the Mayfield Trustees and the Design Team, we donated the altar to St. Benedict, to be used for Christian worship.

And what a blessing it was, to me personally as well as St. Benedict, because this altar is special to me: My siblings, cousins and I were confirmed in front of that altar. I was baptized on my Confirmation Day in front of that altar. My sister and brother-in-law were married in front of that altar. I remember reading scripture, praying and sharing my testimony after Camp Aldersgate near that altar.

Over the summer many teachers stopped by my classroom to say “how beautiful” the altar is and “how wonderful it is” to have it in that room. I walked in as a staff member was applying the first coat of paint to help brighten it. When I walked in, my eyes were naturally drawn toward the middle of the room.

Since then a cross, carved by a monk out of two-by-fours, and diverse pictures of Jesus have been added to the room.

Today, the altar is one room down from my classroom. The principal will be teaching my students’ religion class, and I’m sure she plans on using the prayer room with the class.

On behalf of the teachers and staff, the students and the families of St. Benedict, thank you! Your generous donation will help students come into the room respectfully and focus on Jesus.
MISSION OUTREACH: ZIMBABWE

Meet Kholwani Moyo …

Kholwani Moyo is the headmaster of the Emsizini Secondary School, our partner school in the Kensington region of Zimbabwe, just outside of the city of Bulawayo. Last month, he responded to our questions …

When did you come to Emsizini?
In May 2009. I started as a Deputy Teacher in Charge. In January 2010, I became Teacher in Charge after the then Teacher in Charge left for South Africa at the height of [the country’s] economic problems. In January 2014, I was promoted to Substantive Deputy Head after the school was registered with the Ministry of Education. With that appointment, I assumed the position of Acting Head.

What did you do before you came to Emsizini?
I have been an educator since 2002. I was teaching geography at Mangubeni Secondary School in the Bubi District of Matabeleland North Province. This was a rural school located some 130 kilometers [about 80 miles] north of Bulawayo.

Why Emsizini?
It was closer to my family home in Bulawayo. At that time my father was still working for a utility power company in Bulawayo. I also wanted to visit my mother on regular basis as she lived in the countryside. This was impossible when I was at Mangubeni. I was a bachelor at that time, and as such I had a strong attachment with my parents.

Tell us about a typical day for you.
On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, I start by addressing students and staff at Assembly. Afterwards, I teach two lessons. Then I meet with parents who need my attention. After 10 AM, if there is a need, I drive into town to withdraw money from the bank or to buy teaching and learning materials. Once a month, I observe teachers teaching and then write a supervision report after noting the strengths and weaknesses of each teacher. At times, I attend meetings with the Ministry of Education officials.
What would you say are your greatest accomplishments at Emsizini?
In 2013, I registered Emsizini with the Ministry of Education and the Zimbabwe School Examinations Council.
In 2017, I managed to improve the pass rate from 7.14% in 2016 to 29.62%, which is above the national average.
This year I secured scholarships for 50 girls from Plan International [a United Kingdom-based organization that advances children’s rights and equality for girls]. As a result, 30 girls who had dropped out of school due to nonpayment of school fees found their way back to our school.

We have been told that girls often drop out because their parents do not have enough money to send them to school.
This is very true. There is a belief that there is no need to educate girls because they will get married. As such, when parents are faced with financial constraints, they prefer to educate boys. This forces girls to drop out.

In August 2017, you told visiting delegates from East Ohio that you dreamed of the school becoming a boarding school, with dormitories, a dining hall and four additional classrooms. Is that still your hope?
Yes, this is still my hope. This will make the school viable in terms of enrolment and school fees collection. The aim is to provide education to the whole of Bulawayo and Matabeleland. The school needs four classroom blocks, which translates to eight classrooms. This is due to the fact that we also need specialist rooms such as the computer lab and art studio.

Our congregation is raising money for a clinic at Emsizini. As Headmaster, why do you want a clinic at the school?
The clinic will serve both students and staff. This will reduce travel costs in case of emergency. Currently, students who are injured playing sports are transported to United Bulawayo Hospitals in town.
It also is my hope that once the clinic is operational, my wife, who works as an Environmental Health Technician in the Binga District (439 kilometers – nearly 273 miles – from Bulawayo) may be able to transfer and work at the clinic. This will allow us to live together as a couple. Currently, we live together only during weekends.

What day in September will classes begin?
Tuesday, September 4. 220 students are enrolled (132 girls and 88 boys). The large number of girls was caused by the Plan International scholarships, which saw 30 girls return to school.

Is the cost still $180 for a year (3 quarters of $60 each)?
The cost remains the same.
How many teachers are assigned to Emsizini? Do any teachers use the teachers quarters?

We have eight teachers employed by the government and one teacher employed by the School Development Committee. Our enrollment allows us to have 12 teachers on the government payroll; however, due to the fact that the government suspended the employment of new teachers, we have a shortage of teachers.

There is no teacher living in the teachers quarters due to lack of electricity. Electricity is very important, as teachers need to mark [papers] in the evening. Above all, electricity is needed for cooking and keeping meat refrigerated. The house is almost complete. What is missing is electricity and burglar bars [on the windows].

Tell us about your family.

I am the second-born in a family of five boys. My parents are farmers in the Mato-pos [area in southeastern Zimbabwe]. I am married to Samukeliso Sibanda. Unfortunately, we don’t have children. The first pregnancy ended in a miscarriage at seven months in 2012. The second, in 2013, brought us a baby girl, who passed on after four days. In 2014, my wife had a miscarriage at 12 weeks, and in 2017, the pregnancy ended in a miscarriage at six weeks. We have done all the medical tests and doctors say there is nothing abnormal. This has been a sad chapter of our marriage.

What do you do for fun when you are not at the school?

During weekends, I go to watch soccer with my wife. We celebrate special events like birthdays with braai [barbecue] parties on the outskirts of town.

How can Mayfield Church pray for you? Your family? The students and teachers at Emsizini?

On August 6, I started a master’s degree in Curriculum Studies. I am studying at Great Zimbabwe University. It is located in Masvingo near the ancient city of Great Zimbabwe. However, they have established a Bulawayo cohort, where lectures are delivered from Milton High School during school holidays. I need prayers to be able to pay fees for the four semesters and be able to complete the program within the stipulated time.
- For my family, I need prayers for us to be able to have children and to be able to buy our own house, as we live in a rented two-room house.
- For the students, we need prayers for them to excel at school and to be able to raise money for fees.
- For the teachers, we need prayers for them to be dedicated for duty against all odds.

A Few Updates ...

Coalition Competition: With the financial support of folks from Mayfield Church, the Emsizini School Choir competed last spring and came in second (by a half-point) to Nya-muzuwe High School. Murewa came in third, Nyadire came in third, while Dendera was fifth. It is important to note than Emsizini was the only secondary school in the competition; the other four choirs were from high schools. Headmaster Moyo said, “From a layman’s perspective, Emsizini had the best choir as it was the only choir to receive a round of applause from the audience. However, adjudicators felt otherwise.”

Student Michelle Banda: With the financial support of folks from Mayfield Church, Michelle is studying at the David Livingstone High School in Ntabaz, about 31 miles from the Emsizini School. Mr. Moyo said that Michelle, who is the first female student to pass eight subjects at Emsizini, is doing well. In the term that began last March, she passed Ndebele (language) and Literature in English; however, she failed History because she had a toothache and had to return home for a week to visit a dentist. “This,” said Headmaster Moyo, “affected her preparations. We hope she will bounce back next term.”

Trip to Emsizini in 2019: Preparations are under way to visit the school in May 2019. Cost will be about $3,000. Contact John Parker at parkerja89@gmail.com for more information. Partial scholarships are available for Mayfield Church college-age students and Mayfield Church folks going on their first international mission trip.
Mayfield United Methodist Stars - Special Needs Ministry

**Fall Dance**
Saturday, October 6
6 - 8 PM
Mayfield Church
7747 Mayfield Road, Chesterland

Dress up in your favorite 80s attire!
Snacks and Beverages provided
$3 suggested donation
(no one will be turned away for lack of funds)

For more information or to volunteer:
Sandy Pavick 440-429-5029
Have you ever wanted to try new gyms but felt hesitant? Starting this season, we will be introducing fitness events at community studios or parks as a group from Mayfield Church once a month. Some places include:

- CYCLEBAR (with Instructor Emily Farmer)
- FLOW YOGA STUDIO
- Crooked River Crossfit

If you would like to help organize events, email Rebecca Sulzer at rebecca@mayfieldchurch.org

“I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.” Psalm 139:14

Garden Ministry wishes to THANK All the LifeGroups, families, and individuals who participated in the Adopt-A-Garden Program. All the Gardens look amazing! Keep the Gardens looking beautiful until the end of October or first heavy frost.

Blessings to all, The Garden Ministry
We Extend Our Deepest Sympathies

...to Joann and Robert Wiesner and family on the loss of their son, Matthew Wiesner.

...to Amanda and Sam Matthews on the loss of Amanda’s grandparents, Richard Becker (July 31) & Phyllis Becker (August 20). They were married 62 years.

Do you want to give exhausted parents a break from time to time? Do you love playing with children?

We are looking for more caregivers to provide care during church events and meetings, specifically one Wednesday and one Thursday from 9:45 - 11:45 AM each month while the Moms’ Support Group meets. Please contact Carrie Barry at 440-521-8343 or carrieb@mayfieldchurch.org. Thank You!

August 19
Oliver James Vobel
Son of Joe and Sofia (Bastulli) Vobel
Dear Church,

We are so grateful for all your thoughts, prayers, visits, and cards during Bud’s prolonged hospitalization. Your prayers got us thru some dark moments in the valley. Now the future seems brighter. Great is God’s faithfulness!

Sincerely,
Bud and Chris Guthrie

GERRY ZIESKE: QUILTER EXTRAORDINAIRE


Well, she is still quilting at 97 years old and even won Quilts 1st Place Ribbon at the “Kirkland Senior Council Creativity Is Ageless” Art Show this June. Congratulations to Gerry! Her very creative mind and talent are evident in all her work, and she obviously still likes keeping busy. Gerry moved to Washington State 11 years ago to be near family, but fortunately, we still have four treasures that are her enduring legacy.
September Events

2  One Service Sunday, 10 AM, WC
3  Happy Labor Day, Office is Closed
9  “Hands That Serve” Breakfast, 9 AM - 1 PM, FH
   Blood Pressure Screenings, 9 AM - 1 PM, FH
   Open House (prior to the Gathering), 3 - 6 PM, The Parsonage
       606 Gloucester Blvd. Highland Heights, OH
   Final Gathering with Pastor Jim, 7 PM, The Parsonage
11 Happy Packers (Foodbank volunteers), 10 AM, at The Foodbank
13 Morning Moms’ LifeGroup, 10 - 11:30 AM, The Uprising Room
   God’s Caring Community, 11 AM– 1:30 PM, FH
15 Women’s Ministry Relaxation Workshop, 8 AM– 12 PM, FH
18 M.U.M.S., 6 - 7:30 PM, FH (a ministry for those with special needs)
25 Happy Packers (Foodbank volunteers), 10 AM, at The Foodbank
26 Morning Moms’ LifeGroup, 10 - 11:30 AM, The Uprising Room
28 Free Community Dinner, 5 - 6:30 PM, FH. All are welcome!
29 Connecting Neighbors - EOC Workshop, 9 AM - 1 PM, FH
30 LifeGroup Breakfast, 9 AM - 1 PM, FH

WC– Worship Center       FH– Fellowship Hall
Dates are subject to change. Please call the office with any questions about an event.

You Are Invited...

To prepare for General Conference, our East Ohio delegation will host Listening Posts in the fall. The closest location to Mayfield Church is on Tuesday, Nov. 6: 6:30-9 PM at:

Aldersgate UMC
4069 Eastwood Lane
Warrensville Heights

To register for the Listening Post, go to: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/delegation-listening-post-registration-47927704053?ref=ebtn
September Activity Highlights

COMMITTEES/MINISTRIES
Intercessory Prayer Group  Tuesdays  10 AM-NOON
Prayer Warriors          Sept. 9     10:30 AM
Worship Planning Meeting  Sept. 10   6:30 PM
Garden Ministry          Sept. 10   7:15-8:15 PM
Prayer Shawl Ministry     Sept. 13   1 PM
Finance Team             Sept. 13   6 PM
Executive Team           Sept. 17   7 PM
Trustees                 Sept. 19   7 PM

COMMUNITY OUTREACH
Overeaters Anonymous      Mondays in B42  7:30 PM
Alcoholics Anonymous      Mondays in B26  7:30 PM
Alcoholics Anonymous      Tuesdays in B42 7:30 PM
Narcotics Anonymous      Wednesdays in B25 7:30 PM
Cub Scout Pack 3104       Sept. 19 on Second Floor 6:30 PM

ADULT LIFEGROUPS / CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Adults                    9:30 & 11 AM (every other week) & throughout the week
Children                   9:30 AM
Middle School/High School  See page 16

MUSIC
9:30 Band Rehearsal       Wednesdays  7 PM
Hand Bell Rehearsal       Thursday   6:15 PM
Chancel Choir Rehearsal    Thursday   7:30 PM

 Reserve a Meeting Room

If you or your group need to schedule an event, meeting, etc., please let us know as soon as possible so that we can make sure to accommodate your needs. Please either call the church office at 440-729-4006 or email Darlene Janke at darlene@mayfieldchurch.org to make sure we have a space available for the time and date you need.
Mayfield Staff Information

Pastor Jim Winkler  
Lead Pastor  
jim@mayfieldchurch.org

Pastor Jan Fillmore  
Associate Pastor  
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Adam Vodicka  
Director of Student Ministries  
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Denny Nelson  
Director of Middle School Ministries  
denny@mayfieldchurch.org

Jessica Martz  
Director of Children’s Ministries  
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Darlene Janke  
Financial Administrator  
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Carrie Barry  
Childcare/Nursery Coordinator  
carrieb@mayfieldchurch.org

Rebecca Sulzer  
Communications Coordinator  
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Traditional Worship Director  
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Brandon Farmer  
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Cyndi Nicholson  
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cyndi@mayfieldchurch.org

Anne Parker  
Coordinator of Connection Ministries  
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Steve Vegel  
Facilities Manager  
steve@mayfieldchurch.org

Patty Wenzel  
Director of Heartland Childcare Center  
patty@mayfieldchurch.org

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**Labor Day**

**One Service Sunday, September 2 @ 10 AM**

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Sunday Worship Celebrations  
8:00 AM: Communion  
9:30 AM: Modern  
11:00 AM: Traditional  

LifeGroups: see pages 6 & 7