



# Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

August 2010

Published monthly by  
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*Cross illumination for August is sponsored by Terry & Mimi Pederson in honor of their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.*

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## Calling

### “Creative Christian Kids...Of All Ages!!!”

This year we will be celebrating creativity of all kinds during our Vacation Bible School! Mark your calendars for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, August 10–12. We will gather from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. to paint, write, sing, and create many different ways to express our love and faith in God. (And, of course, there will be snacks!) There are NO age limits! Join us for some fun and fellowship! Please call the church office to let us know if you are coming. 715-835-5475. See you at VBS 2010!!!



## OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE

Please join us Wednesday, August 25. We will gather at 6:15 P.M. Snacks will be provided and we'll worship around the campfire!

# Getting ready for church

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## August Worship Notes

**10:30 A.M. Worship**  
*Communion the first Sunday of the month*

**August 1**  
*10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*  
*St. Francis Food Pantry offering*  
Acts 14 & 15

**August 8**  
*11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*  
Acts 16–18

**August 15**  
*12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*  
*OCWM offering*  
Acts 19 & 20

**August 22**  
*13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*  
Acts 21–23

**August 29**  
*14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*  
Acts 24–26

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## Food for Thought

The next pot luck is Sunday, August 1. We will provide brats and hot dogs. The theme is “The Good Ole Summertime,” so bring a summer dish to pass.

We will be serving at the Community Table on Saturday, August 21. Please mark your calendars. ***We need more help!*** The sign-up sheet is out on the table. There will be opportunities on August 8 and 15 for you to donate to our cost of serving at the Community Table, which is \$100.

St. Francis can still use money and basic food items, grocery bags (plastic and paper), motel-size soaps, lotions, shampoos and body wash. We will continue to take our special offering for them on the first Sunday of the month.

**In August, we are praying for these individuals/families:**

Sam Wedge & Devan Hodshire, Len Weisfeld, Jim Welk, Larry Wendt (Lorraine Hagen), Ron & Nancy Wendt, Wayne & Elizabeth Wille, Sarah (Matthew) Wolfe, Jeanne Zehms, Keith & Deb Zehms



## Memorials

*The Stewardship Commission has determined the following items/projects to which memorials may be designated: new flooring for the nursery, a lighting upgrade, on-demand water heater, the General Fund.*

## August Birthdays

6	Carter Hulke
8	Steven Green Burt Shepler
9	Jim Nelson
16	Sam Zehms
24	Mary Stygar
25	Sue Thompson
26	Dillon Herrick
27	Marissa Walczak
29	Sharon Miller
30	Devan Hodshire
31	Matt Gilbertson

## June Financial Summary

Income:	\$9,418.50
Expenses:	\$9,820.27
June loss:	-\$ 401.77
\$1,251.30	was deposited from the Pie & Ice Cream Social.
\$ 78.00	was paid to OCWM
\$ 171.00	was paid to St. Francis Food Pantry
\$ 808.58	was paid for the building insurance
\$ 341.26	was paid for the water bill
\$ 400.00	was paid for lawn mowing
\$1789.09	was paid for health insurance

## Living Well with Chronic Conditions

The Aging and Disability Resource Center of Eau Claire County will sponsor a workshop for anyone living with a long-term health condition such as asthma, arthritis, cancer, COPD, diabetes, depression, fibromyalgia, heart disease or other condition. Workshop participants will learn better ways of coping and managing their health by:

- setting goals that are do-able
- working with others
- finding support and solutions to problems
- making daily tasks easier
- relaxing and managing stress
- working in partnership with their health care team

The workshop will meet on Wednesdays, August 4–September 8 from 9:30 a.m to noon at Clairemont Nursing & TruRehab, 2120 Heights Drive. The cost is \$20 and includes the *Living Well* book, materials, and refreshments. You can register by calling 715-839-4735 no later than Monday, August 2.

### Be a sponsor!

Sponsor an issue of the newsletter, a weekly bulletin, or the illumination of the cross on the front of our building in memory or in honor of someone or in honor of a special event, or even just because! Bulletin and newsletter sponsors will be recognized in the issue they sponsor. Cross sponsors will be listed in all publications for the month of sponsorship. Support a bulletin for \$15, a newsletter for \$50, or illuminate the cross for \$50. Sign-up sheets are on the table outside the sanctuary.

## Pastor's Pen

Dear Friends,



We are reading through the Acts of the Apostles, the story of the first generation of the church, this summer. The vast majority of the book never gets read in the lectionary cycle. This is too bad, because it has much to teach us. Some of you have commented that you are enjoying reading larger sections of scripture (two and three chapters each week) and that you have been learning much from the experience. I'm glad that you are finding it as fun and enlightening as I am.

So far we have read the story of Pentecost. We've read how the early followers of The Way (they weren't called Christians for about 15 more years) shared all that they had in common so that no one was in need. We read stories of persecution by the Jewish leadership and miraculous rescues of the apostles from prison. We've watched the church grow from about 120 followers in Jerusalem before Pentecost to number in the thousands all over Israel. We read about the stoning of Stephen, our first martyr. Then we had Saul's conversion from a Pharisee persecuting Jesus' followers into one of Jesus' greatest evangelists. We read Peter's vision that the Good News of Jesus Christ wasn't just for Jewish people, but for all the people of the world. And so much more. Summarizing ten chapters in one paragraph isn't easy!

But in all this, even though Acts is the story of the early Christians, its bigger story is the acts of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the initiator of all the preaching, the rescues, the conversions, and Saul's and Peter's changes of heart. The church's story is really the Holy Spirit's story. Just as it is today. The church's story, including Plymouth, is the story of faithful people trying to listen to the movement of the Holy Spirit to be the people of God. The Holy Spirit in Acts constantly led people to a

greater expansion of the circle of who is "in." Greater inclusivity, greater tolerance of others, greater love toward those they thought to be "other" or "foreign" and thus outside of God's love. The early church was led to include Samaritans, Greeks, and Romans. They were led to include women, the sick, the poor, and the outcast. In modern days, the church (especially the United Church of Christ) has been driven to include African Americans and help end slavery, to include women in leadership, and to include minorities, foreigners, immigrants, gays and lesbians, the mentally ill and disabled, the physically disabled, and others that society has spurned, left behind, or ignored, even when doing so has led to persecution, ridicule, or other inconveniences.

One other thing the early Christians did very well was invite people to hear about Jesus. We can't all spread the Gospel in foreign lands and we don't have to. Eau Claire is a big enough mission field. What we can all do is what the apostles did: invite someone to church. That's how the church grew back then, and that's how it grows now. Invite someone to worship, or Vacation Bible School, or a movie night. Most people who come to a church do so because a member invited them. It's really that simple. Here's your chance to be like the apostles. Bring someone to church in the coming months, and see what the Holy Spirit can do, with them and you.

Blessings,

Handwritten signature of Pastor David.

# Executive Council Minutes

July 12, 2010

Members present: Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Rob Jaenke, Aurora Bradbury-Schoening, Jim Welk, Kay Stecher, Char Kozlowski, Deb Zehms, Louise Partlow and Pastor David Huber

Larry called the meeting to order. Pastor David opened with a prayer. The June Council minutes were reviewed. There was one correction; the dates for the Movie nights were incorrect. Corrected minutes were approved.

### Financial Reports:

As of June 30, 2010

Year to Date Income	\$57,254.95
Year to Date Expenses	\$57,003.49
Ahead (Behind)	\$251.46
Building Fund Balance	\$26,516.41
Memorial Fund Balance	\$5,714.48

### Treasurer's Report:

Income this month was \$,9418.50; expenses were \$9,820.27 leaving us with a June loss of \$401.77 and a check book balance of \$307.66. The Pie & Ice Cream Social brought in \$1,251.30 and helped us to make our bills. Some of the larger expenses were: the building insurance payment of \$808.58, water bill of \$341.26, lawn mowing of \$400.00 and health insurance of \$1789.09. As of the end of June our envelope giving was up about \$5139. We also collected \$78 for OCWM and \$171 for the food pantry and those amounts have been forwarded on.

### Reserve Fund Report:

The Reserve Fund has a balance of \$3,873.92 at the end of June. We did not use Reserve Fund money to pay any bills in June.

### Memorial Fund Report:

The balance for the end of the month is \$5,714.48.

### Building Fund Report:

Balance \$26,516.41

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

### Christian Education Commission:

They had a family movie night June 30 and will have another one on July 28. The movie will be "The Chronicles of Narnia-Prince Caspian." VBS will be August 10-12. The theme is "Creative Christian Kids". All ages are encouraged to attend. Register with Mimi at the church office. All the Moon Beach Campers had a great time. The Commission gives many thanks to the congregation for the continued support of the campers.

### Stewardship Commission:

We served around 40-45 fewer meals than last year. They are looking at ways to improve the event. They are looking into having banners made for Advent and Lent.

### Worship Commission:

They are going to try an outdoor worship service on Wednesday August 25 at 6:15.

### Service Commission:

No report



Minutes continued on page 6 ...

*Council Minutes  
continued ...*

**Building and Grounds:**

We have a dead tree along the driveway that we will have to deal with. Larry will ask Ron about fixing the ceiling in the foyer.

**Women of Plymouth:**

They have decided on the funeral fees. They will charge \$75 for up to 100 guests and \$100 for over 100, plus the cost of the food. If the people would like a caterer, they will hire the caterer for them. Larry said he would update our Wedding & Funeral procedures for the next meeting.

**Pastor's Report:**

Pastor David made 44 visits in June and performed one wedding. He led worship at Heatherwood on June 30. MADD Camp was quite a success. He will have another wedding in August and also in January. Neither will be at the church. The Wisconsin Conference voted to accept the restructuring proposal and will implement it by July 1, 2011.

**Other Business:**

- We had a visitor from the Wisconsin Conference to address how a congregation becomes an Open and Affirming church. We were under the impression we already were, but we evidently did not send in a statement to the Conference. We will have Mimi check the old minutes from 1985–1986, to see if there is anything in them. Otherwise this would be something to bring up at the Annual Meeting in January.
- Deb brought up the fact that we should start thinking about major repairs we will have to make in the next ten years or so, such as a new roof, flooring for the nursery and

kitchen, painting for Fellowship Hall, electrical work outside and the parking lot. Some of the money in the Building Fund should be used for that.

- 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Deb needs more recipes. Jeanny House will preach on that Sunday, which is September 12. We will also have pot luck.

Meeting adjourned 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted, Barb Kleist

**Consider this ...**

The best thing one can give is  
Forgiveness to your enemy,  
Tolerance to your opponent,  
Your heart to a friend,  
A good example to a child,  
Good will and love to a father,  
To your mother,  
a conduct that will  
make her proud of you,  
To yourself, respect,  
To all people—LOVE.

—Author unknown

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>August 2010</h1> 						
<b>1 St. Francis Food Pantry offering</b>  10:30 A.M. Communion Worship 11:30 A.M. Pot luck <i>(Worship Commission meets after the pot luck)</i>	2  7:00 P.M. WOP Board	3  10:00 A.M. Quilters	4	5	6	7
<b>8 Prayers for the People</b>  9:30 A.M. Stewardship Commission 10:30 A.M. Worship	9  7:00 P.M. Executive Council	10  10:00 A.M. Quilters  <b>Vacation Bible School</b> 6-7:30 P.M.	11	12	13	14
<b>15 OCWM offering VBS children sing</b>  10:30 A.M. Worship	16  7:00 P.M. Christian Education Comm.	17  10:00 A.M. Quilters	18	19	20	21  Serving at Community Table
22  10:30 A.M. Worship	23	24  10:00 A.M. Quilters	<b>25 Outdoor Worship</b>  6:15 Fellowship 6:30 Worship (at fire pit)	26	27	28
29  10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Worship Commission	30	31  10:00 A.M. Quilters				