

Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

September 2010

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Plymouth UCC
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*Cross illumination for
September is sponsored by
Don & Leatrice Mathison
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Robert & Martha
McCarthy.*

Rally Sunday 125th Anniversary Celebration



Sunday, September 12, 2010

Join us on Sunday, September 12 as we begin another year of Sunday School and Adult Study and celebrate our 125 years of spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ to the people of Eau Claire. Rev. Jeanny House will be here to preach and participate in the festivities. Following worship at 10:30, we'll gather for a pot luck cook out.

Creative Christian Kids

The theme of "Creative Christian Kids" came alive during the week of August 10 at Vacation Bible School for 2010! We painted, colored, drew, wrote, shaped clay, and sang while exploring how to express ourselves as Christians through our talents. Dorothy Kruschke and Linda Jaenke told us about the quilters beautiful creations that are shared with those in need, and we all talked about ways to share our own talents with others. By the end of the week we had created artwork to take home and artwork to give to our friends at Plymouth! Be sure to take a look at the new banner in the Fellowship Hall and the painting in the sanctuary that the VBS kids made—both are beautiful! *(continued on page 3)*



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Getting ready for church

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

September Worship Notes

September 5
15th Sunday after Pentecost
St. Francis Food Pantry offering
Acts 27 & 28

September 12
16th Sunday after Pentecost
Rally Sunday
125th Anniversary Celebration
Rev. Jeanny House, Preacher

September 19
17th Sunday after Pentecost
OCWM offering
Jeremiah 8:18–9:1, Psalm 79:1–9,
1 Timothy 2:1–7, Luke 16:1–13

September 26
18th Sunday after Pentecost
Cyndi Bradbury, Preacher
Jeremiah 32:1–3a, 6–15,
Psalm 91:1–6, 14–16
1 Timothy 6:6–19, Luke 16:19–31

In September, we are praying for these individuals/families: Jackie Andersen, Loraine Berg, Lorena (Paul) Berge, Carmen Bernhagen, Donald & Ruth Blake, Jim (Mina) Bliss, Sophie Bliss

Food for Thought

Our next pot luck is Sunday, September 12. We will be celebrating our **125th Anniversary** with the thing that we do best—a pot luck. Our new cookbook with all your recipes will be available. If one of your recipes will be in the book, bring that dish along so that we can all try it! We will have a special Anniversary Cake for dessert.

Again this year, we will collect Christmas items for the children served by St. Francis Food Pantry. Since school supplies are so cheap right now, it would be a good time to purchase markers, colors, pencils, erasers, paper, glue, stickers, etc. A collection box will be available in Fellowship Hall. Wouldn't it be appropriate to bring those in on our **125th Anniversary**?

It's another thing we do well—help St. Francis Food Pantry.

We served 114 meals at the Community Table, Saturday, August 21. Thank you to all who lent a hand!

St. Francis Food Pantry 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.

July Financial Summary

Income: \$8848.57
 Expenses: \$9085.12
 July loss: -\$ 236.55
 \$4100.00 was deposited from the Reserve Fund
 \$ 362.96 was paid for taxes
 \$1716.63 was paid for pension

Kids *(continued)*



Congratulations Plymouth!

We've come through eight months of the year without needing to send out a "Red Letter." Thanks for keeping up your pledges and giving generously!

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

September Birthdays

- 1 Jim Ross
- 2 Steve Strassman
- 6 Katelyn Phillips
- 9 Nicole Ivkovich
- 13 Benji Stygar
- 15 Josie Hulke
- 16 Sam Wedge
- 19 Sophie Bliss
- 20 Keith Zehms
- 22 Kathryn Hamilton
- 25 James Bliss
- 29 Nancy Salter
Audrey Salter

Thanks to the "Creative Christian Kids"—Morgan Jaenke, Carter Jaenke, John Stecher, Travis Eisberner, Tyjha Stygar, Dakota Stygar, and Nathan Stygar for participating in VBS. Also, many thanks to the VBS leaders—Linda Jaenke, Tami Eisberner, Aurora Bradbury-Schoening, Megan Eisberner, Pastor David, Lynn McFadyen, Dorothy Gilbertson, and Kay Stecher for their creative and fun ideas. We had a wonderful, inspiring week that we hope will continue on all through the coming year!

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,

As we prepare for our 125th anniversary celebration, I've been reading through the history book that was made in 1985 for the 100th anniversary. While many of the people mentioned in the text and shown in photos have passed on to eternal life with the Lord they served while on this earth, we do have many who are still around. It has pictures of the Lowrys, the Sexters, and Bill Knight as well as a photo of Jerry Tubbs at a veterans appreciation dinner shortly after WWII. Many choir pictures that include Esther Lee, Ardith Starr, Kay and Dorothy Gilbertson, and Paul Gilbertson directing the choir while he was a student at UW-EC. Photos of dinners and bazaars and other celebrations. And one that I find particularly interesting is a photo of the church choir from the 1930s—almost 80 years ago!—that includes two people who are still with us: Dorothy Preston and Sophie Bliss.

The history of our church is a story of hundreds of faithful people called by the Holy Spirit to be Christ's church in Eau Claire. And for each person who gets a mention in the history book, there are many others who don't. The quietly faithful who maybe didn't do something that history noticed, but who surely left a footprint somewhere that God saw and cherished. It's also a story of all the dynamics of a diverse group of people: discussions and arguments about where to build and when, financial struggles, restructuring of committees, and facing challenges of growing technology, changing economics, the growth and decline of industry in Eau Claire, and the many other decisions that need to be made about worship, decorations, fellowship, fund raisers, and stewardship. But as the narrative reads, whatever was happening in the church and the community, the congregation was held together with the glue of mutual concern for one another, love

for God and neighbor, and the sense that they were doing something greater than themselves.

As we've been reading about this summer in the Book of Acts, when people are brought together by the Holy Spirit they can withstand any challenge, whether it be the Roman Empire or the closing of Uniroyal, and changing demographics and spiritual inclinations of Eau Claire. Plymouth has been bringing the light of Christ to this city for 125 years, and I imagine it will do so for many more, long after we are gone, and at a time when it will probably look no more like we do now than we look like the first gathering of the faithful who started our congregation in 1885. Who would have thought then that guitars and a Klezmer band would be used in worship, women would be preachers, and children would be liturgists? I don't know what the future holds for us, but I trust that it will continue the story of faithfulness to Christ, love and concern for one another, fellowship shared with food, and the persistence to weather any storm and celebrate together as God's called people as we minister to Eau Claire and the world.

So a big happy 125th anniversary to our congregation! Many thanks to all the saints who went before us to give us the gift of this congregation, and to all you saints who keep it going, and to those who will watch over it in the future.

Well done, good and faithful servants!



Executive Council Minutes

August 9, 2010

Members present: Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Rob Jaenke, Aurora Bradbury-Schoening, 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 July Council minutes were reviewed and approved.

Financial Reports:

As of July 31, 2010

Year to Date Income	\$66,103.52
Year to Date Expenses	\$66,088.61
Ahead (Behind)	\$14.91
Building Fund Balance	\$26,516.41
Memorial Fund Balance	\$5,621.94

Treasurer's Report:

Income this month was \$8848.57; expenses were \$9085.12 leaving us with a July loss of \$236.55 and a check book balance of \$71.11. Part of the income this month was a \$4000.00 withdrawal from the Reserve Fund. Some of the larger expenses were: a tax payment of \$362.96, pension of \$1716.63. As of the end of June our envelope giving was up about \$4882. We also collected \$131.50 for OCWM and \$296 for the food pantry and those amounts will be forwarded in August.

Reserve Fund Report:

The Reserve Fund has a balance of \$422.44 at the end of July. There will be more interest deposits in September.

Memorial Fund Report:

The balance for the end of the month is \$5,621.94

Building Fund Report:

Balance for the end of July is \$26,516.41

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Christian Education Commission:

VBS is this week, August 10–12. The July movie night was not a great success. They will evaluate for next year.

Stewardship Commission:

They are looking for new ideas for the Pie & Ice Cream Social. Some ideas are having a clown, serving hot dogs for the kids and having ice cream sundaes in addition to pies. They are also looking at advance ticket sales and sales to groups. They are looking into having banners made for Advent and Lent.

Worship Commission:

The Outdoor Worship service will be August 25 at 6:15. S'mores will be served. Joe Gilbertson will be helping with the service. For Rally Day on Sept. 12, Rev Jeanny House will speak and we will have special music from The Klezmazel.

Service Commission:

No report



Minutes continued on page 6 ...

*Council Minutes
continued ...*

Building and Grounds:

Ron will fix the ceiling in the foyer when his time permits. Deb will find out if a person they know is interested in cutting down the two dead trees we have.

Women of Plymouth:

They talked about the bazaar at their last meeting. Larry gave them the Funeral policy to look over.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor David made 22 visits in July and 1 wedding. He led worship at Heatherwood on August 4. He has started to edit his sermons so that they can be printed and mailed to shut-ins. The new restructuring proposal was accepted at the Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting.

Other Business:

- We will begin to work on an All Inclusive statement. Pastor David, Aurora, Kay and Deb will be on that committee.
- We will serve at the Community Table on August 21.
- A suggestion of an October tailgate party will be looked into.

125th Anniversary:


Deb has quite a few recipes. She will give them to Mimi to put together. Jeanny House will preach on that Sunday, which is September 12. We will also have pot luck. Barb will order a special cake and will get decorations, etc. Larry will try to gather some of the historical information and display it for that Sunday.

Meeting adjourned 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barb Kleist



**Happy
Anniversary,
Plymouth!**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 St. Francis Food Pantry 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	6 Labor Day Office Closed	7 10:00 A.M. Quilters	8	9	10	11
12 Rally Sunday 125th Anniversary Prayers for the People 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 9:30 A.M. Stewardship Comm. 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Pot luck cookout	13 7:00 P.M. Executive Council	14 Fall Primary Election 9:00 A.M. Bible study at Loraine's 10:00 A.M. Quilters Service Comm.	15	16	17	18
19 OCWM offering 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Worship	20 7:00 P.M. Christian Education Comm.	21 9:00 A.M. Bible study at Loraine's 10:00 A.M. Quilters	22	23	24	25
26 CROP Walk 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Worship Commission	27	28 9:00 A.M. Bible study at Loraine's 10:00 A.M. Quilters	29	30		