



# Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

January 2011

Published monthly by  
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*This newsletter is sponsored  
by Larry and Barb Kleist.*

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## Christian Unity Worship Service

Many congregations (including Plymouth) will participate in a large ecumenical worship service in celebration of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on Monday, January 24, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. at First Presbyterian Church. Rev. Graham West from Lake Street Methodist will be the preacher, and a joint choir will provide special music. This service is a coming together to show that, though we are of different denominations and traditions, we are still united in our Christian faith in Jesus Christ. Please do schedule time in your calendars to join your brothers and sisters in Eau Claire to celebrate our common faith.

## Annual Meeting of the Congregation

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be Sunday, January 30 following worship. The Executive Council will provide refreshments. The Annual Reports will be available on Sunday, January 23. Report submissions need to be in the church office **no later than Sunday, January 9.**



## GETTING READY FOR CHURCH

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**10:30 A.M. Worship**

*Communion the first Sunday of the month*

### January Worship Notes

**January 2**

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas*

*St. Francis Food Pantry offering*

Jeremiah 31:7–14; Psalm 147:12–20;  
Ephesians 1:3–14; John 1:(1–9), 10–18

**January 23**

*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany*

Isaiah 9:1–4; Psalm 27:1, 4–9;  
1 Corinthians 1:10–18;  
Matthew 4:12–23

**January 9**

*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Epiphany*

*The Baptism of Christ*

Isaiah 42:1–9; Psalm 29;  
Acts 10:34–43; Matthew 3:13–17

**January 30**

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany*

Micah 6:1–8; Psalm 15;  
1 Corinthians 1:18–31; Matthew 5:1–12

**January 16**

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany*

*OCWM offering*

Isaiah 49:1–7; Psalm 40:1–11;  
1 Corinthians 1:1–9; John 1:29–42

**In January, we are praying for these**

**individuals/families:** Sadie (Jacob)  
Hulke, Judy Insteness, Nicole (Sonny)  
Ivkovich, Rob & Linda Jaenke, Gerry &  
Julie Johnson, Onita Jorgensen, Ruth  
Kavanagh, Larry & Barb Kleist

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### Food for Thought

There will be no pot luck in January.  
The next pot luck will be February 13 to  
celebrate Valentine's Day.

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.

### 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.

## 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*

● Gifts to the **General Fund**: *In memory of Jerry Lowry*: Dorothy Preston, Larry & Barb Kleist; *In memory of Jeanne Zehms*: Larry & Barb Kleist, Dorothy Kruschke

● Undesignated gifts to the **Memorial Fund**: *In memory of Jerry Lowry*: Victor & Mary Hanson, Dorothy Kruschke, Joanne & Sharon Miller, George & Kay Stecher, Jerry Tubbs, Gladys Ulry, Ron & Nancy Wendt, Kenneth & Sue Anderson, Erma Phephles, Roger Knight, Patricia Hanson, Paul & Gay Gilbertson, Bob, Karla and Mike Rasmussen, Dorothy Gilbertson, Tom & Sue Thompson, Phil Ringling, Marlys Root, Jim Henderson, Mike & Mary Black, Gene & Jean Peissig, Dick & Peggy Jensen, Al Johnson, Leon Salander, Gary & Betty Lemler, Albertville Homemakers, Don & Borgney Jensen, Linda Suvada, Art & Karen Klingenburg, Everett & Donna Benson, Rodger & Jo Stolp, Bill & Julie Leipnitz, Lois Riley, Mark & Pam Kjelstad, Arlene Olson, Bob & Jane Olsen, John & Barbara Vodecek, Mike Tenlen, David Zvanovec, Wally & Jean Wheeler, tim & amy Benedict, doris Severson, Roger & Reta Lemler, Don & Phyllis Kurtz, Fred & Sandy Stroebel, Bill Knight, Bob Koller, Jack Remaly, Hope Goessling, Vera Merrick, Sharon Lowry, Elizabeth Fisher, Rose Lowry, Bernice Blomquist, Helen Henderson,

Gerry & Sandy Lowry, Jeanette Lowry, Harold & Merle Gardow, Gordy & Audrey Heimstead, Louise Partlow, Barb Topper, Pat Heiman, Beverly Michels, Phillip & Bonnie Pederson, Jim & Sandy Nelson, Ray & Shirley Knott, Bill & Linda Michels, John Michels, Leroy & Sylvia anderson, tom Kapfhamer, Bill Thompson, Friends and Family; *In memory of Jane Retallick*: Joe & Terri Gilbert, Gordy & Audrey Heimstead; *In memory of Jeanne Zehms*: Erma Phephles, Terri Gilbert, Christena Strandt, Louise Partlow, Ron & Nancy Wendt, Lalique North America, Floyd & Pat Sexter, Dorothy Gilbertson, Joanne Lowry, Joanne & Sharon Miller, George & Kay Stecher, Sarabeth Grossman, Sonja Schoenwald & Keller Strother, Rev. David Huber, Friends and Family

## January Birthdays

4	Barb Kleist Susie Kleist
7	Bonnie Carter
9	Donald Blake
10	Dorothy Gilbertson George Stecher
12	Paul Holmen
18	Edmund Noyes
21	Cathy Lee
22	Brayden Ivkovich
24	Ron Wendt
27	Carmen Bernhagen Nancy Champion Larry Kleist
31	Steve Champion

## PASTOR'S PEN

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Dear Friends,

Christmas blessings and New Year hopes to you at this time!

Over the course of 2010, Plymouth United Church of Christ has come together many times to be Christ's church in action in Eau Claire and in the world. Not only for Sunday and occasional other worship services, but the thrift sale, Pie and Ice Cream Social, Holiday Bazaar, clean-up days, plus giving \$3,625.40 to St. Francis Food Pantry and \$2,677.50 to other special offerings, and more! We are truly the church in all these times. Two recent events stand out as particular examples of Plymouth serving one another and our community in Christian love.

The first was just a few weeks ago at Jeanne Zehms' memorial service, which was held on our record-breaking snow day. Some of you braved the storm to set up the fellowship room and then later to serve lunch. Some of you came in to help move snow from the sidewalks. After the funeral I was especially moved to see so many of you stay to help snowblow paths in the parking lot, scrape ice off cars, and continue to shovel to ensure that all who came here could get out of our parking lot as safely as possible.

The second happened in worship on Sunday, Dec. 19. I told you about a woman who called the church looking for some help so she could have some Christmas presents for her teenage children, and all they were asking for was clothing and bedding. You gave \$130 for her. I took her shopping on

Monday. We not only made sure her children would have Christmas gifts, but built a relationship and showed God's love working through you to someone in our community. Jesus said, "Whatsoever you do to the least of these, you do to me."

One mark of a Christian is that we are people who do things that we don't necessarily have to do. No one *had* to help after the memorial service (or help doing anything at any of them), and no one *had* to offer your money to help a family in need. But as we are loved by God, we love others, even when it seems crazy or wasteful or risky.

This church lives as faithful disciples of Jesus. For your generosity, your Christian love, your fellowship and your giving of time and talent to Plymouth and to Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate, I give God great thanks and give thanks to you all as well!

Christmas blessings,



# EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

December 13, 2010

Members present: Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Kay Stecher, Jim Welk, Rob Jaenke and Pastor David Huber

Larry called the meeting to order. The November Council minutes were reviewed and approved with one correction regarding the month paid for the lawn mowing; it should have read August.

### Financial Reports:

As of November 31, 2010

Year to Date Income	\$102,637.74
Year to Date Expenses	\$102,475.55
Ahead (Behind)	\$162.19
Building Fund Balance	\$26,583.25
Memorial Fund Balance	\$7,328.34

### Treasurer's Report:

Income this month was \$6813.04; expenses were \$6630.15 leaving us with a November gain of \$182.89 and a check book balance of \$218.39. Envelope giving is still up \$4800 as of last November. Bills needing to be paid yet are \$700 lawn mowing bill and the money to the food pantry and OCWM which was not paid out. There will be a large snow removal bill coming in December. Part of the income for this month was a \$1000.00 withdrawal from the Reserve Fund.

### Reserve Fund Report:

The Reserve Fund has a balance of \$1500 at the end of November.

### Memorial Fund Report:

The balance for the end of the month is \$7328.34. There were deposits of \$1677.50, mostly from Jerry Lowry's

memorial. The rest of the Lenore Tubbs memorial will go to a third banner for Lent and then for nursery flooring.

### Building Fund Report:

The balance at the end of September was \$26,583.25, since there were no further deposits or interest in November, the balance remains the same.

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

### Christian Education Commission:

Kay reported that they missed the first practice for the Christmas program due to the snow storm. After the program they will take a two week break and resume on January 9. They sent the first half of the year's offering to St. Francis.

### Stewardship Commission:

Larry reported they are working on the budget and we will approve in January. The nut sale is over; all nuts were sold. For the first batch of pledges for the year, we have about \$44,000 pledged. Last year we had a total of \$64,000 pledged. There will be more pledges coming in during December.

### Service Commission:

No report.



Minutes continued on page 6 ...

*Council Minutes  
continued ...*

**Worship Commission:**

Barb reported they decorated the sanctuary on December 4. They will undecorate the sanctuary on Wednesday, January 5 at 6:30 P.M.

**Building and Grounds:**

Larry brought a bid for snow removal from Rainmaster. The bid was for \$75 up to 3 inches and then 15% more per inch over. The council approved the signing of the contract for this. We will have a hefty bill for the 22 inch snowfall. Larry will check with Ron to make sure the electric tapes on the roof are working.

**Women of Plymouth:**

They are planning a Cabin Fever Breakout in February.

**Pastor's Report:**

Pastor David made 45 visits in November. We have been posting church events on face book. He will be on vacation from December 25 till January 1. George Stecher will lead worship on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Other Business:**

- The final copy of the wedding/funeral policy will be approved by the Women of Plymouth. The all-inclusive proposal went out in the newsletter.
- The nominating committee report was presented and will be voted on in January. Reviews need to be completed by the January meeting.
- The Annual Meeting will be January 30, with the reports being due to Mimi on January 9.

- We discussed having some sort of record keeping on what shut-ins are being visited by members of the congregation, so that we can be sure they are all visited.

Meeting adjourned 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Barb Kleist

**November  
Financial Summary**

Income:	\$6813.04
Expenses:	\$6630.15

October gain: \$ 27.22

\$1000.00 was taken out of the Reserve Fund

Outstanding bills for December:  
Snow Removal- unknown amount  
\$700.00 for lawn mowing  
\$470.00 for St Francis  
\$50.00 for Neighbors In Need  
\$25.00 for OCWM

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<h1>January 2011</h1>						
<p><b>2 St. Francis Food Pantry offering</b></p> <p>10:30 A.M. Communion Worship No Pot luck</p>	3	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 A.M. Bible study</p> <p>7:00 P.M. Dartball at Plumouth</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:30 P.M. Worship Commission meets to "un-decorate"</p>	6	7	8
<p><b>9 Prayers for the People</b></p> <p>9:15 A.M. Sun Sch &amp; Adult Study 9:30 A.M. Stewardship Commission 10:30 A.M. Worship <b>Annual Report Deadline</b></p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:00 P.M. Executive Council</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 A.M. Bible study</p> <p>7:00 P.M. Dartball at OR Rockets</p>	12	13	14	15
<p><b>16 OCWM offering</b></p> <p>9:15 A.M. Sun Sch &amp; Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Worship</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:00 P.M. Christian Education Comm.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00 A.M. Bible study</p> <p>7:00 P.M. Dartball at Bethesda</p>	19	20	21	22
<p>23</p> <p>9:15 A.M. Sun Sch &amp; Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Worship</p>	24	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 A.M. NO Bible study</p> <p>7:00 P.M. Dartball at Plumouth</p>	26	27	28	29
<p>30</p> <p>9:15 A.M. Sun Sch &amp; Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Worship <b>Annual Meeting follows worship</b></p>	31					