

Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

March 2011

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Plymouth UCC

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Plymouth United Church of Christ

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*This newsletter is sponsored
by Dorothy Gilbertson.*

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Wednesday, March 9

Serving begins at 6:00 P.M.

Menu includes baked potato with all the trimmings.

Proceeds from the free-will offering will be given to OCWM. Sign up at the back table or call the church office.

Annual



Plan to stay for

Ash Wednesday Worship at 7:00 P.M.

Communion and imposition of ashes



LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE

Wednesday evenings we will gather at 6:00 P.M. for a soup supper followed by scripture study focusing on gifts given to Jesus ...

March 16	Mt 2:1-12 Wise foreigners give gold, frankincense and myrrh
March 23	Jn 4:1-30 The woman at the well gives water
March 30	Jn 6:1-14 A boy gives bread and fish
April 6	Jn 12:1-8 Mary gives oil
April 13	Mt 27:57-61 Joseph gives his tomb

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday, April 21 Jesus gives bread and wine
Good Friday, April 22 Worship at First Congregational UCC (Noon)
Easter, April 24 Worship celebration (9:30 A.M.)

GETTING READY FOR CHURCH

March Worship Notes

10:30 A.M. Worship

Communion the first Sunday of the month

March 6

*Last Sunday after Epiphany/
Transfiguration*

St. Francis Food Pantry offering

Exodus 24:12–18; Psalm 2;

2 Peter 1:16–21; Matthew 17:1–9

March 9

Ash Wednesday

Baked Potato Supper at 6:00 P.M.

Worship at 7:00 P.M.

March 13

1st Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:15–17; 3:1–7; Psalm 32;

Romans 5:12–19; Matthew 4:1–11

March 20

2nd Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12:1–4a; Psalm 121;

Romans 4:1–5, 13–17; Matthew 17:1–9

March 27

3rd Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1–7; Psalm 95;

Romans 5:1–11; John 4:5–42

In February, we are praying for these individuals/families: Faye LaPean, Catherine Lee, Esther Lee, Bill & Julie Leipnitz, Steve & Ann Leipnitz, Joanne Lowry

Food for Thought

The next pot luck will be March 13. The theme will be centered on St. Patrick's Day.

During the months of March and April, all of our monetary donations to St. Francis Food Pantry will be matched as they were last year. Let's try to raise \$450 each month in March and April. Our \$900 matched would be worth \$1,800! Wouldn't that be great if we could raise that amount?!

The food bank tells us that for every \$1 we contribute, they can distribute about seven pounds of food that is worth more than \$10.

Think of all the food we could be supplying for the hungry in Eau Claire. Let us show the hungry of Eau Claire where Plymouth's heart is.



Time to
Spring Ahead

Remember to set your clocks *ahead* before going to bed March 12.

March Birthdays

- 2 Doug Salter
- 3 Stacy Kleist
- 4 Claire Cramblit
- 5 Esther Lee
Kay Stecher
Judy Insteness
- 6 Erma Phephles
- 8 Aurora Bradbury-Schoening
Steven Gilbertson
Joyce Holmen
Dakota Stygar
- 10 Jeremy Green
- 11 Andrew Salter
- 20 Loraine Berg
- 24 Peter Holmen
- 29 Dorothy Kruschke
- 31 Gladys Green

Shut-in visits

The Service Commission has been expanded to include all members of Plymouth. If you visit, call, or even send a card to one of our shut-ins or another member of the congregation, we'd like to know (so that no one "falls through the cracks"). Visitation Report cards are available on the table and are easy to fill out. If you feel that something should be brought to the pastor's attention, there's even space to jot it down on the back of the card. Completed cards can be dropped into the manila envelope marked for them.

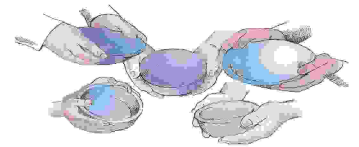
A special thanks ...

Plymouth congregation would like to give special thanks to four people whose hard work and sacrifice of time have enhanced our building and grounds. They are: BJ Stygar for clearing our sidewalks of snow, Jim Welk for

cleaning the snow off the roof, Jim Jaenke (father of Rob) for painting the Fellowship Hall and back hallway, and Travis Maug for cleaning the carpet in the Fellowship Hall. Their efforts on our behalf are greatly appreciated!

Empty Bowls Benefit

This benefit for Feed My People Food Bank will take place Thursday, March 10 from 11:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1314 E Lexington Blvd. The meal includes choice of four soups, delicious breads, beverage and choice of dessert. The price for the meal and a hand-made pottery bowl is \$18; the meal alone is \$8. Children 10 and under may eat for free. Tickets are available from Barb Kleist. Please make checks payable to Feed My People.



Memorials

- Gifts designated for the **General Fund**:
In memory of Stella Jordan: the Shepler Family

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 of Plymouth,

Lent is soon upon us. Though it is only one day short of the latest date it can begin, it still feels like it's come too quickly! To provide a worshipful and spiritual journey for us, the Worship Commission is again planning special Sunday worship services, plus Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Easter morning, and Wednesday night soup and scripture. Our ecumenical Good Friday worship is at noon at First Congregational UCC.

The theme of our soup and scripture nights is "What Wondrous Love Is This?" Jesus gave us the gift of new life, so each Wednesday evening we will look at scripture stories in which Jesus receives a gift. As before, we will have soup at 6:00 P.M. and then move

into a time of prayer, song, scripture reading, and discussion of what these gifts might have meant to Jesus, what they mean to us, and what we have to offer Jesus. On Maundy Thursday we will meditate on Jesus' gift to us of bread and wine. These evenings are spiritually nourishing and uplifting. I know that I have learned much from all of you during them. Exploring scripture together is the best way to read it. Please join us. I'm sure you will find Lent, and your faith, more meaningful and you will draw closer to Jesus through them.

Have a blessed Lent,

Order Easter flowers to decorate the sanctuary and then take them home and plant them in your own yard after Easter. The flowers may be placed in memory or in honor of a loved one. Please fill out the information below and return it with your payment to the church office by **April 5**. Checks should be made out to Plymouth United Church of Christ.

Your name(s): _____

In memory/honor of (Please circle one) _____

_____ Lily plants at \$8.25 each	\$ _____
_____ Daffodils at \$8.25 each	\$ _____
_____ Tulips at \$8.25 each	\$ _____
_____ Hyacinths at \$8.25 each	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

February 14, 2011

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

Deb called the meeting to order. The January Council minutes were reviewed and approved.

Financial Reports:

As of January 31, 2011

Year to Date Income	\$14,994.40
Year to Date Expenses	\$13,089.20
Ahead (Behind)	\$1,905.20
Building Fund Balance	\$26,650.25
Memorial Fund Balance	\$6,520.17

Treasurer's Report:

Income this month was \$14,994.40; expenses were \$13,089.20 leaving us with a January gain of \$1,905.20 and a check book balance of \$1,939.23. \$244 was paid to the food pantry and \$167 to OCWM. Our annual Association dues of \$645.00 were also paid.

Reserve Fund Report:

The Reserve Fund has a balance of \$997 at the end of January.

Memorial Fund Report:

The balance for the end of the month is \$6,520.17. \$1,000 was paid for the new display cabinet from the McLeod memorial. \$1,000 was paid toward the new floor in the nursery from the Tubbs memorial. The balance for the floor will be paid in February.

Building Fund Report:

The balance at the end of December was \$26,650.25. Since there were no further deposits or interest in January, the balance remains the same.

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Christian Education Commission:

Kay reported that the Sunday School kids helped raise money for "The Souper Bowl of Caring" while performing two skits: 1/30/11 and 2/6/11. We had a record participation year, with \$453.00 raised for the St. Francis Food Pantry. The February Film Festival is currently running and will raise money for our five Moon Beach Campers. The Sunday School children also made Valentine cards for the shut-ins.

Stewardship Commission:

Larry reported that we are expecting the new banner for Lent by Ash Wednesday. There will be a potato supper served on March 9 preceding the Ash Wednesday service. The Plymouth Annual Thrift Sale will be held April 29 and 30.



Minutes continued on page 6 ...

*Council Minutes
continued ...*

Worship Commission:

Barb reported the Ash Wednesday potato supper will start at 6 P.M. The theme for the Wednesday Lent services will be “Gifts Given to Jesus.” The Easter service will begin at 9:30 A.M., with the Magnificent Muffin Morning fundraiser beginning at 8:15 A.M.

Building and Grounds:

Larry reported that the carpets have been cleaned free of charge by Maug Cleaning. Business cards will be left outside of the Sanctuary if anyone is interested in their services. The Fellowship Hall and front hallway were painted by Mr. Jaenke.

Women of Plymouth:

They are planning a Cabin Fever Breakout February 19.

Pastor’s Report:

Pastor David made 36 visits in January. We welcomed two new members to the church on January 23. Our newspaper ad has been changed to include the Open and Affirming statement, and should be reflected in Saturday’s paper. Our Facebook page and website have also been updated. Pastor David will be attending the Festival of Homiletics Monday, May 16 through Friday, May 20. The WI Conference Annual Meeting will be June 10–12, and we can send two delegates. The Conference board continues to implement the restructuring changes.

Commission reports were accepted as given.

Other Business:

- The final copy of the wedding/funeral policy will be approved by the Women of Plymouth.
- We will continue to announce the new cards for the Service Commission record keeping, allowing us to keep track of which shut-ins are being visited by members of the congregation, so that we can be sure no one is missed.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted
Aurora Bradbury-Schoening

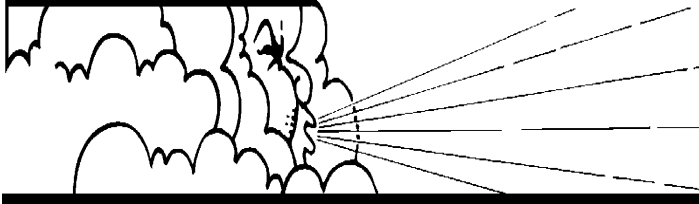
**January
Financial Summary**

Income:	\$14,994.40
Expenses:	\$13,089.20

January gain: \$ 1,905.20

Bills paid in January

\$645.00 for Association dues
 \$742.75 for Insurance (quarterly)
 \$1987.27 for Retirement (quarterly)
 \$244.00 for St. Francis
 \$167.00 for OCWM

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
 <h1 style="font-size: 2em; color: blue; margin-left: 20px;">March 2011</h1>						
		1 9:00 A.M. Bible study 10:00 A.M. Quilters 7:00 P.M. Dartball at Baptist	2	3	4	5
6 St. Francis Food Pantry offering 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	7	8 9:00 A.M. Bible study 10:00 A.M. Quilters 7:00 P.M. Dartball at Epiphany	9 Ash Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Baked Potato Supper 7:00 P.M. Worship	10	11	12
13 Prayers for the People Daylight Savings begins 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 9:30 A.M. Stewardship Commission 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Pot luck	14 7:00 P.M. Executive Council	15 9:00 A.M. Bible study 10:00 A.M. Quilters	16 6:00 P.M. Soup & Scripture	17	18	19
20 OCWM offering 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Worship	21 7:00 P.M. Christian Education Comm.	22 9:00 A.M. NO Bible study 10:00 A.M. Quilters	23 6:00 P.M. Soup & Scripture	24	25	26
27 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Worship Commission	28	29 9:00 A.M. Bible study 10:00 A.M. Quilters	30 6:00 P.M. Soup & Scripture	31		