

Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

April 2012

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Plymouth UCC
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 PlymouthUnitedChurchOfChrist

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Maundy Thursday
7:00 P.M. Tenebrae Service

Good Friday
12:10 P.M. Worship, First
Congregational UCC

Easter Sunday
8:30 A.M. Magnificent Muffin
Morning
9:30 A.M. Celebration Worship
10:30 A.M. Muffin Sale

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The Annual Thrift Sale is coming up April 27 and 28.

Now is the time to check your closets, attics and garages for all the extra items you no longer want or need.

Pre-priced items should be brought to church beginning April 23 for this all-important money raising event. Please watch for the sign-up to help at the sale too!

Thrift Sale



GETTING READY FOR CHURCH

April Worship Notes

10:30 A.M. Worship

Communion the first Sunday of the month

April 1

Palm/Passion Sunday

St. Francis Food Pantry offering

Liturgy of the Palms:

Mark 11:1–11

Liturgy of the Passion:

Mark 14:1–15:47

April 8

Easter Sunday

Prayers for the People

Acts 10:34–43 or Isaiah 25:6–9;

Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24; 1 Corinthians

15:1–11 or Acts 10:34–43; John

20:1–18 or Mark 16:1–8

April 15

2nd Sunday of Easter

OCWM offering

Acts 4:32–35; Psalm 133;

1 John 1:1–2:2; John 20:19–31

April 22

3rd Sunday of Easter

Earth Day

Acts 3:12–19; Psalm 4;

1 John 3:1–7; Luke 24:36b–48

April 29

4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5–12; Psalm 23;

1 John 3:16–24; John 10:11–18

In April, we are praying for these individuals/families: Joanne (Sharon) Miller, John & Sandy Moore, Jim Nelson, Edmund & Alice Noyes, Louise Partlow, Maria Patton, Erma Phephles, Kevin & Jean Phillips

Food for Thought

There will be no pot luck in April. Instead enjoy the Magnificent Muffin breakfast on Easter Morning!

During the months of March and April, St Francis Food Pantry will receive a matching grant for all the money donated. They will also get money toward any canned item donated. So let's try and donate a little more money or canned goods during these two months! We will take our Food Pantry offering on and April 1.

As you travel, remember that the food pantry needs those travel size shampoos, etc that motels/hotels provide.

Memorials

- Gift to the **General Fund:** *In memory of Doris E. Smith:* John Smith
- Gift to the **Memorial Fund:** *In honor of Plymouth:* Mimi Pederson

April Birthdays

- 5 Rose Shepler
- 13 Pat Sexter
- 14 Steve Leipnitz
- 21 Joanne Miller

Honoring grads

If you have a son, daughter, or grandchild who is graduating from high school or college this year, please let us know! We would like to plan a Sunday in May to honor our graduates. Call or email Mimi with the name of your graduate and their school so they can be included in our special day.

An evening with the Eau Claire Express

The Executive Council thinks it would be a good idea to have a Plymouth night at an Eau Claire Express baseball game this summer.

The Express are offering different options. We can have a picnic buffet prior to the game and then go to our Grand Stand seats to watch the game. The cost for this would be \$15.00. The next option would be Grand Stand seating which is \$6 per person, and then you purchase any food you wish. The third option is an all Eau Claire Church night which is to be on July 28. They don't have any of the details yet, but will soon.

The Council is wondering if there is any interest in this type of an outing. For rides, we could meet at church and car pool. Most of the games are in the evening at about 6:30. Please let Pastor David or Barb Kleist know if you have any interest in this event.

A note from the Moderator

Easter will soon be here! Easter week at Plymouth is a busy week, filled with wonderful and faith inspiring services. We have the Passion Story on Palm Sunday, April 1. It is always good to hear that story and reaffirm what our faith is really about.

My favorite service of the week is Maundy Thursday, April 5. It is a service that brings to me very deep and emotional feelings. I feel both humble and awe-inspired after this service. Just thinking about what Jesus did for all of us is quite amazing. Those of you who have never attended this service, *and there are many*, are missing something very special. Good Friday, April 6, we have a joint worship service at First Congregational. This is also a wonderful service to attend. Easter Sunday, April 8, comes and we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior. ALLELULIA! That one word says it all.

I encourage you to join us for these services to help strengthen your Christian faith and to bring to your mind and heart to why we are Christians.

May the Peace of the Lord be with you.

Barb Kleist
Moderator

PASTOR'S PEN



Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

I hope that this Lent you have been and are being deliberate about matters of faith: being prayerful, mindful of your relationships with others and with God, evaluating your discipleship, and all the things that come with these 40 days of intentional introspection and thoughtful meditation on our lives as mortal frames (which we remember from Ash Wednesday through Good Friday) but immortal beings (which we remember and celebrate on Easter!).

In the last Christian Century magazine, preaching professor Richard Lischer quoted a South African friend of his who said, “America is the only country where more Christians go to church on Mother’s Day than Good Friday.” I’ve been thinking about that this week. From a theological standpoint, Good Friday is a holy day and Mother’s Day is not. I know that getting time off from work for a noontime Good Friday service is not as easy as it once was, but I wonder if one of the reasons might be that people aren’t requesting it. And Mother’s Day is one of the rare days that families tend to be together at the same time that a church is offering a worship service. And Jesus did, while on the cross, command the disciple whom he loved to take care of his (Jesus’) mother. So I’m not entirely sure how to respond to Lischer’s quote, but it has been rolling around in my head this week, so I offer it to you to let it roll around your head, and perhaps inspire you—if you weren’t already planning to—to attend one or more of our Holy Week worship

services. They are ripe with meaning and opportunity for spiritual growth and they provide the context to understand the amazing miracle that is the Easter resurrection.

Palm/Passion Sunday will include a great procession of Palms and then move us into a dramatic reading of Jesus’ final week. We will also have communion. On Maundy Thursday we gather in night’s darkness to remember Jesus’ last supper with his disciples and later betrayal. We will serve one another communion around the table as we did last year (and this year on Ash Wednesday) then move to Tenebrae, the series of readings as we slowly extinguish the lights in the sanctuary and move into total darkness. On Good Friday we worship at First Congregational UCC. This year we are focusing on the stations of the cross and the moving liturgical dancer Michael Doran will end our service as he has for a number of years. On Easter morning we have our magnificent muffin breakfast and then worship filled with joyful music and words of resurrection love in celebration of the Risen One. Times for all these are elsewhere in the newsletter.

May you be blessed as you finish your Lenten journey, and may you truly feel and claim for yourself God’s boundless love for you on Easter morning,

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

March 12, 2012

Members present: Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Rob Jaenke, Louise Partlow, Kay Stecher, Jim Welk, Deb Zehms, and Pastor David Huber.

Barb opened the meeting with a prayer. The February minutes were approved as written.

Financial Reports:

As of February 29, 2012

Year to Date Income	\$18,174.79
Year to Date Expenses	\$18,115.74
Ahead (Behind)	\$59.05
Building Fund Balance	\$10,827.58
Memorial Fund Balance	\$4,620.68

Treasurer's Report:

Income this month was \$9,650.50, expenses were \$8,934.63 leaving us with a February gain of \$64.32.

Reserve Fund Report:

Balance of \$342.67 after \$600.00 was taken out for the General Fund. After March, more interest will be available.

Memorial Fund Report:

The balance for the end of February is \$4,620.58.

Building Fund Report:

The balance remains \$10,827.58.

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Christian Education Commission:

Working on getting all six of our campers registered for Moon Beach. The February Film Festival raised \$80. Thanks! There will be no youth

Sunday School on March 18 due to Spring Break and the March Christian Education meeting has been moved to March 26. We will be hosting the 6th Annual Magnificent Muffin Morning on Easter Sunday, April 8. We hope to take in lots of donations to help our campers!

Stewardship Commission:

We will have Soup and Bread next year on Ash Wednesday. The Thrift Sale will be April 27 and 28. Actual SCRIP cards will be available soon. We will begin to pre-buy cards. The OCWM goal for 2013 is \$4,000.

Worship Commission:

Lenten services are ongoing. Soup at 6 P.M. and discussion of the Lord's Prayer after the meal. On Palm Sunday, April 1, a children's procession will be prepared. Good Friday services will be at First Congregational. The children are working on something special for Earth Day, April 22.

Service Commission:

Four visitation cards were turned in for February.

Building and Grounds:

Motion lights: will continue to make a decision on this. Larry will get our lawn mower here and see that it works. A schedule will be made. Downed tree limbs were discussed and they will try to get this taken care of.



Minutes continued on page 6

*Council Minutes
continued ...*

Women of Plymouth:

No report. They have not met. We will not have a Cabin Fever Breakout this year due to the unusually warm weather. Yeah!

Pastor's Report:

He made 34 visits in February. Equality Wisconsin will meet here on Saturday, March 24 from 1:00–3:00 P.M. Volunteers will help serve this day. MADD Camp is June 24–30. David would like to attend and the council approved. He and Lynn will also attend a Music Event July 24–30 as they did last year. Sunday, August 26 will be a combined worship for First Congregational, Truax and us at First Congregational. The free will offering will be given to whatever cause is decided upon.

Old Business:

- Fund raising ideas from the Annual Meeting were discussed at length. They will continue to work on this.

The next meeting is April 9, 2012 at 7:00 P.M.

Larry moved to adjourn and Jim seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

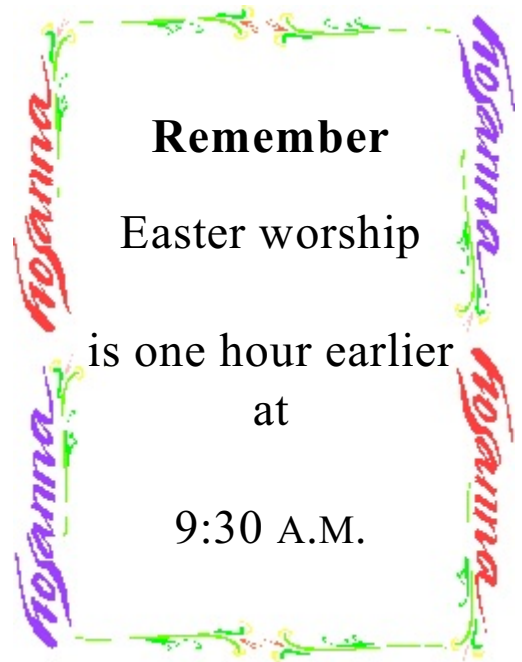
Respectfully Submitted
Louise Partlow

The Need List

The following is a list of items that are needed by the church. Next time you are in the grocery store and see these items, pick one up and donate it! This is one way to help out with the church budget!

1. Paper towels
2. Kleenex
3. Hand soap
4. Toilet paper
5. Garbage Bags-XL
6. "The Works" toilet bowl cleaner
7. Pledge Wipes
8. Pine Sol
9. Lemonade
10. Napkins

Here is another way to help: Instead of donating these items, buy a SCRIP Card from Mega Foods and then someone can buy the items as needed. The church will get the items needed plus make a little money on it!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>April 2012</h1>						
1 Palm/Passion Sunday St. Francis Food Pantry offering 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	2	3 Spring Election 9:00 A.M. Bible study 10:00 A.M. Quilters	4	5 Maundy Thursday 7:00 P.M. Tenebrae Service	6 Good Friday 12:10 P.M. Worship at First Cong. UCC	7
8 Easter 8:30 A.M. Magnificent Muffin Morning 9:30 A.M. Celebration Worship 10:30 A.M. Muffin take-out sale	9 7:00 P.M. Executive Council	10 9:00 A.M. Bible study 10:00 A.M. Quilters	11	12	13	14
15 OCWM offering 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 9:30 A.M. Stewardship Commission 10:30 A.M. Worship	16 7:00 P.M. Christian Education Commission	17 9:00 A.M. Bible study 10:00 A.M. Quilters	18	19	20	21
22 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Worship	23	24 9:00 A.M. Bible study 10:00 A.M. Quilters	25	26	27 Annual Thrift Sale	28 <hr/>
29 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Worship Commission	30					