

Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

February 2013

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 PlymouthUnitedChurchOfChrist

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Ash Wednesday

February 13 at 7:00 P.M. with Communion and imposition of ashes. Prior to worship we will gather at 6:00 P.M. to share a meal with the proceeds from the free-will offering going to OCWM. Sign up at the back table or call the church office.

Wednesday nights

February 20–March 20 Soup supper at 6 P.M. followed with discussion. This year we will read Bible stories of light and hope that came in dark times. Our times today seem overwhelmingly anxious, stressful, and fearful for the now and for the future. Our public discourse is filled with acidity, rudeness, and uncompromising ideologies. And in this, the Church has been quiet (or ignored), even though we have the one message that can counter-act the negativity: Jesus' message of hope, peace, joy, and love. This Lent, we will remember that we are the bearers of a message and a way of life that dispels all that is wrong and evil.

Palm/Passion Sunday

March 24 Worship with dramatization of the Passion Narrative

Maundy Thursday

March 28 Tenebrae Worship at 7 P.M.

Good Friday

March 29 Worship at noon at First Congregational UCC

GETTING READY FOR CHURCH

10:30 A.M. Worship

Communion the first Sunday of the month

February Worship Notes

February 3

4th Sunday after Epiphany

St. Francis Food Pantry offering

Jeremiah 1:4–10; Psalm 71:1–6;
1 Corinthians 13:1–13; Luke 4:21–30

February 10

Transfiguration Sunday

Prayers for the People

Exodus 34:29–35; Psalm 99;
2 Corinthians 3:12–4:2; Luke 9:28–36
(37–43)

February 13

Ash Wednesday

Worship at 7:00 P.M.

February 17

1st Sunday in Lent

OCWM offering

Deuteronomy 26:1–11; Psalm 91:1–2,
9–16; Romans 10:8b–13; Luke 4:1–13

February 24

2nd Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18; Psalm 27;
Philippians 3:17–4:1; Luke 13:31–35 or
Luke 9:28–36 (37–43)

In February, we are praying for these

individuals/families: Stacy Kleist

Gantner, Susie Kleist, Charline

Kozlowski, Dorothy Kruschke, Tom &

Arvilla Kruschke

Food for Thought

We will have a pot luck on Sunday,
February 10 celebrating Valentine's
Day. Bring a dish to pass.

Our offering for St Francis Food Pantry
will be gathered on Sunday, February 3.

In the months of March and April we
will again participate in the "Feinstein
Challenge." This is where any food or
monetary donations made to St. Francis
in that time period will help St. Francis
Food Pantry receive an extra donation
from the Feinstein Foundation.

February Film Festival

It's that Oscar-magical time of year
again! Christian Education is once again
providing movies to enjoy at home
during the month of February. Check out
the selection on the table in the
Fellowship Hall and if you see one you
like, borrow it for the week. Exchange it
the following week for a new movie. All
we ask in return is a donation for our
Moon Beach campers (we recommend
\$3.00 per movie, but we'll take any
amount.) DVDs and videos will be
available through the end of the month.

February Birthdays

- 5 Jean Phillips
- 13 John Moore
- 16 Kristina Champion
Charline Kozlowski
- 18 Joshua Champion
Travis Eisberner
- 19 Jeff Green
Gloria Polden
- 28 Kenny Polden

Sexter, Neva Robbins, Robert & Ruth
Kein, Richard & Phyllis GosnellIva
LaFlex, Irma Shepler, Grace Slavsky,
Annette Glasser, Roberta Gilman, Denise
Lester, Margaret McCabe-Schultz,
Friends and Family

It's time to "Warm Your Heart" at Plymouth!

We're all a little tired of winter, so take some time to "Warm Your Heart" with friends and family on Sunday, February 10. We'll start with **worship** at 10:30 A.M., followed by a **pot luck** that is sure to warm your tummy! The theme for this one is "Foods you Love" to get you in the spirit of Valentine's Day! After lunch, Christian Education will provide **games**, cards, and *fabulous prizes* that are sure to warm your funny bone with some good laughs and lots of fun! But that's not all! At 2:00 P.M. we will have a festive **concert** and dedication of our beautiful baby grand piano that will certainly warm your soul! Some of Plymouth's most talented musicians will provide you with a performance of vocal, instrumental, and, of course, piano music!!!

Worship, food, fun, and entertainment—what better way to "Warm Your Heart" and help you persevere until spring? **Mark your calendars for Sunday, February 10!!!**

Memorials

- Gifts to the **Memorial Fund** for the baby grand piano: Faye LaPean, Jean Brown

- Gifts to the **Memorial Fund** designated for the General Fund, grand piano, Street Ministry, Women of Plymouth and Quilters

In memory of Jerry Tubbs: Pete Mickelson Family, Joanne Lowry, Larry and Barb Kleist, Roger Shepler, Mary Stygar, Jackie Andersen, Terry Shepler, Larry Shepler, Chris Hotchkiss, Mike Shepler, Denny Shepler, Randy Shepler, Danny Shepler, Joe & Terri Gilbert, Greg & Amy Caucutt, George & Kay Stecher, Clarence Vaughan, Dorothy Kruschke, Joanne Miller, Floyd & Pat Sexter, Friends and Family

In memory of Esther Lee: Joanne Lowry, Joanne Miller, Thomas & Suzanne Thompson, Floyd & Sharon Thompson, Mary Ellen Thorson, Deanna Cruse, Larry & Barb Kleist, Donald & Meredith Brill, Louise Partlow, Darrek & Marlene Rud, Larry & Bonita Gibson, RC Wendt, Dewane & Barbara Barum, Cloris Seng, Janet Lee, Dee Doane, George & Kay Stecher, Dorothy Kruschke, Floyd & Pat



PASTOR'S PEN



Dear Friends and Family of Plymouth,

Lent is almost upon us! Lent begins almost as early as it can this year. Ever wonder why the date for Easter bounces around? Christmas and Epiphany are always fixed dates (Dec. 25 and Jan. 6 respectively), but the dates of other Christian holy days are determined by Easter, and that date changes each year because of the moon's orbit. Weird, but true! It is a 3000+ year-old holdover from the Jewish determination of Passover. In most Western Christian traditions, Easter is the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox. There have been occasional movements in Christendom to make Easter a fixed day, but so far, they have gained no traction. This year, Easter is March 31.

Then we count backwards for 40 days to find the date of Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Feb 13 this year. (Since Sundays are mini-Easters, we don't count them as days of Lent, so Ash Wednesday is actually 46 calendar days before Easter).

On Ash Wednesday we enter our Lenten journey of repentance and introspection about how we are (or are not) living our faith. We mark our foreheads with a cross of ashes to remind us of our mortality. Five weeks later, we begin Holy Week with Palm/Passion Sunday, then remember Jesus' command to celebrate communion on Maundy ("mandate") Thursday, read through the passion and crucifixion on Good Friday, and celebrate Jesus' resurrection on Easter morning.

Plymouth will again observe Lent on Wednesdays nights with soup, bread, and dessert at 6 P.M. On Ash Wednesday, we will have a worship of Communion and imposition of ashes at 7 P.M. The following Wednesdays, we have a short time of worship and discussion at the supper table.

As your Worship Commission thought about a theme, we felt that it would be a good time to remember who we are as Christ's Church. We are the ones Jesus has entrusted with his message of hope. That message seems to rare in the public square in recent years, drowned out with voices of fear, anxiety, hopelessness, and other things that disquiet the soul. But the truth is that however bad things seem, God is sovereign, God is a liberator, and through Jesus has shown us a more excellent way: hope, peace, joy, and love. We DO have a message that can (and has!) change the world. This Lent, we will remember that message and how we can carry it beyond our walls and into the public sphere.

Please mark your calendars now to join your church family for table fellowship and story telling on Wednesday nights.

Blessings,

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

January 14, 2013

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

Barb called the meeting to order at 7:00. The December minutes were read and then approved. The minutes from the Special Meeting on December 16 regarding Street Ministry were also read and approved.

Financial Reports:

As of December 31, 2012

Year to Date Income	\$112,056.57
Year to Date Expenses	\$112,508.80
Ahead (Behind)	(\$452.23)

Treasurer's Report:

Income for December was \$15,135.43; expenses were \$15,580.71 for a loss of (\$445.28). Giving was down in November. Treasurer has \$2,600 in bills to be paid.

Reserve Fund Report:

The balance at the end of December was \$370.00.

Memorial Fund Report:

The Memorial Fund balance is \$5,077.30 at the end of December.

Building Fund Report:

The balance is \$5,893.34. Includes interest of \$10.38 for the fourth quarter of 2012.

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Building and Grounds:

No report.

Christian Education Commission:

Thanks to our Youth who participated in the worship service on December 23. Sam, Hannah, Travis, John, Carter, and Morgan were a wonderful addition to the service. Thanks to Lynn for accompanying our musicians. Our first confirmation class met January 13 and we began our one and a half year journey! Please keep Travis, John, Carter, and Morgan in your prayers.

Stewardship Commission:

Our pledges so far this year are \$55,000. Last year we were at \$60,000. Council will send a letter informing the congregation how our finances have decreased and what we are doing with our monies. Larry and Barb will work on this for format, etc.

Worship Commission:

Advent went well. We had a very good Christmas Eve service. There is a need for a humidifier for the piano. It will be approximately \$150.

Service Commission:

No report.

Women of Plymouth:

No report



Minutes continued on page 6 ...

*Council Minutes
continued ...*

Pastor's Report:

Pastor David has a video of the December 23 service that he will put on our website. The Northwest Association Annual Meeting will be May 4. David Moyer is retiring at the end of June. There will be a party or celebration on June 23. Pastor David thanked everyone for allowing him to be on vacation between Christmas and New Year.

Old Business:

- Building policy—will have more information in the new year

New Business:

- Annual Meeting will be January 27. Council will bring snacks.
- The budget for 2013 was reviewed and accepted and will be presented to the congregation for approval.
- The proposed slate of officers was approved and will be presented to the congregation for approval.

Next meeting: Monday, February 11, 2013 at 7:00 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Partlow




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 **February 25**. Checks should be made out to Plymouth United Church of Christ.

Your name(s): _____

In memory/honor of (Please circle one) _____

_____ Lily plants at \$7.25 each	\$ _____
_____ Daffodils at \$8.25 each	\$ _____
_____ Tulips at \$8.25 each	\$ _____
_____ Hyacinths at \$8.25 each	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>February 2013</h1>						
					1	2 
3 St Francis Food Pantry offering 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	4	5 10:00 A.M. Quilters	6	7	8	9
10 Prayers for the People "Warm Your Heart" 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 followed by fun/games 2:00 P.M. Piano dedication and concert	11 7:00 P.M. Executive Council	12 10:00 A.M. Quilters	13 Ash Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Supper 7:00 P.M. Worship	14 	15	16
17 OCWM offering 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Worship	18 7:00 P.M. Christian Education Comm. 	19 Spring Primary Election 10:00 A.M. Quilters	20 6:00 P.M. Soup & Scripture	21	22	23
24 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Worship Commission	25	26 10:00 A.M. Quilters	27 6:00 P.M. Soup & Scripture	28		