

Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

August 2013

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 PlymouthUnitedChurchOfChrist

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Cross Illumination for August is sponsored by Don & Leatrice Mathison in memory of Robert McCarthy.

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Plymouth Youth Painting Project

Our youth will spend August 6 and 7 "camping out" at church and repainting the Confirmation Room. Then on Saturday, August 10 they will travel to St. Paul to tour the Basilica of St. Mary as part of their confirmation studies.

Worship around the campfire!

Please join us for outdoor worship on Wednesday, August 14.

We will gather at 6:30 P.M.

There will be s'mores!



CAMP NEWS

If you have access to the Internet, please consider receiving this newsletter online. It will save paper, printing costs and postage. Contact Mimi at mimi@pcucc.com to be put on the electronic mailing list. *Otherwise, you will continue to receive a paper copy of the newsletter.*

GETTING READY FOR CHURCH

10:30 A.M. Worship

Communion the first Sunday of the month

August Worship Notes

August 4

11th Sunday after Pentecost

St. Francis Food Pantry offering

Hosea 11:1–11; Psalm 107:1–9, 43;
Colossians 3:1–11; Luke 12:13–21

August 11

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayers for the People

Isaiah 1:1, 10–20; Psalm 50:1–8,
22–23; Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16;
Luke 12:32–40

August 18

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 5:1–7; Psalm 80:1–2, 8–19;
Hebrews 11:29–12:2; Luke 12:49–56

August 25

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 1:4–10; Psalm 71:1–6;
Hebrews 12:18–29; Luke 13:10–17

In August, we are praying for these individuals/families: Len Weisfeld, Jim Welk, Larry Wendt (Lorraine Hagen), Ron & Nancy Wendt, Marie Williams, Keith & Deb Zehms

Food for Thought

There will be a pot luck on Sunday, August 4 following worship. We'll be cooking out, so bring a picnic dish to pass.

We will take our offering for St. Francis Food Pantry that Sunday as well.

Mark your calendars: We will serve at the Community Table on Saturday, September 21. About a dozen volunteers are needed along with \$100 for our donation. Watch for a sign-up sheet later this summer.

Sunday morning Summer Bible Study

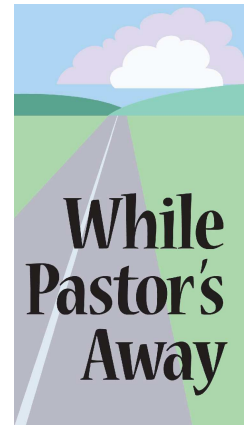
Bob Cizek and Lilly Savage are leading a Bible Study on “God is a Good God!” on alternate Sunday mornings this summer. It will begin on July 14, looking at John 3:16, and will meet every other week into September. Come early, grab a cup of coffee and a sweet treat, and join Bob and Lil in the library! Bob will also have some multimedia to help the discussions. July 14 and 28, August 11 and 25, and September 8.

August Birthdays

6	Carter Hulke
8	Steven Green Burt Shepler
9	Jim Nelson
16	Sam Zehms
24	Mary Stygar
25	Sue Thompson
29	Sharon Miller
31	Matt Gilbertson

Pastor David on vacation

Pastor David will be gone from August 19 through September 8. In case of a pastoral emergency, you can call Rev. Dave Stratton from Truax UCC at 715-874-5422. Rev. Jeanny House will be the guest preacher on September 1.



Memorials

- Gifts to the **Memorial Fund** designated for the General Fund

In memory of Glen and Richard:
Gladys Ulry

A word of thanks ...

Thank you for the camper bag and all your support. I had a fun time at camp and I can't wait to go next year.

Sincerely, Travis Eisberner

Planning for the Fall Bazaar Saturday, November 23

The planning committee has met and needs your help.

- We want to expand our **Craft Area**, so be thinking of new or old craft ideas that you could make
- Be on the lookout for things to sell at the **Treasure Trove**. The supply from last year is just about depleted.
- We would encourage you to find your old recipes for **Scandinavian Baking**. We would like to advertise this as our specialty. Plymouth bakers are wonderful!

If you have any creative ideas we could use, please contact a member of the committee (the same as last year).

Something to think about ...

Did you know that it costs Plymouth nearly \$1.50 in supplies, printing, time and postage for each paper newsletter? If even five members for whom we have email addresses but who are still receiving the paper newsletter would switch to the electronic version, we could save \$7.50 a month. Doesn't sound like much, but it adds up to \$90.00 a year. **Please**, if you have access to the Internet, consider receiving this newsletter online. It's simple. Contact Mimi at mimi@pcucc.com to be put on the electronic mailing list. Then each month you will be emailed a notice that the newsletter is available for viewing on the church web site.

PASTOR'S PEN

Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

Earlier this month, the Muslim month of Ramadan began. During Ramadan, the tradition is to fast during the daylight hours, abstaining not only from food, but even water. At the end of the day is a meal for breaking the fast called Iftar. This year, the mosque in Altoona invited me, Mike Henry, and other clergy to share an Iftar meal with them on the first Sunday after Ramadan started. Since the fast cannot be ended until sundown, that meant we didn't start eating until after 9 pm! We gathered at the mosque, and were able to watch and listen as they prayed. Then we had the meal. And what a meal it was! Serving tray after tray of lamb, stuffed grape leaves, eggplant, fruits, rice, and a kitchen counter full of desserts. We ate and ate, enjoying the company of our hosts. I ended up at a table with a few young men (mid to late twenties I think) from India and was able to hear their stories of coming to the U.S. to work, and what life was like for them in the area in India from which they came. They had come from a heavily Hindu majority area, with only a very small percentage of Muslims and Christians. Finding work, getting an apartment, getting an education, etc., were very difficult there because of religious prejudice against the Muslims and Christians. Interesting stories, and not so different from the reasons my great-grandparents moved from Germany to the U.S. Simply looking for a better opportunity.

After the meal we went back into their sanctuary for a presentation and discussion on Muslim and Christian

ideas of gratitude and happiness, and a chance to learn from one another about some of our traditions. The presenters had everyone in the room, including the children, say something that they are grateful for. And again, not so different in answers, no matter the religion. There was gratefulness for living where we live, for children and spouses, for neighbors and community, for work and play, and for love.

It is my hope that more and more of these cross-cultural and interfaith encounters can take place, both here and around the world. It is amazing how hearing someone's story, learning their name, and hearing them talk about love for family and worries over loved ones, makes them less scary, less strange, and more like a neighbor.

May you find new neighbors this month.



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

July 8, 2013

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

Barb called the meeting to order at 7:00. The June minutes were read and approved.

Financial Reports:

As of June 30, 2013

Year to Date Income	\$57,370.49
Year to Date Expenses	\$56,467.78
Ahead (Behind)	(\$902.71)

Treasurer's Report:

Income for June was \$12,327.50 (includes \$5,000 transferred from Building Fund); expenses were \$11,066.37 for a gain of \$1,261.13. Bank balance on June 30, 2013 was \$455.75. Income is down about \$2,500 from the previous year.

Reserve Fund Report:

The balance is \$860.98.

Memorial Fund Report:

The balance is \$2,300.50.

Building Fund Report:

The balance is \$908.75 after a \$5,000 transfer to General Fund and interest of \$6.53.

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Building and Grounds:

Door in fellowship hall: we will need to call a locksmith. Yard clean-up: mowing done, flower beds done.

Christian Education Commission:

VBS project will be replaced with a painting project in Sunday School rooms August 6 and 7. Planning an August 10 trip to the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis.

Stewardship Commission:

No report. Haven't met yet.

Worship Commission:

Chairs have been rearranged in the sanctuary for summer worship. There will be a summer campfire worship on Wednesday, August 14. S'mores and worship at 6:30 P.M.

Service Commission:

No report.

Women of Plymouth:

Meeting June 23. Working on plans for the fall bazaar.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Pastor David will be on vacation to Japan from August 19–September 8. Rev. Dave Stratton will cover pastoral emergencies. Rev. Jeanny House will preach September 1.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Eau Claire Express game Thursday, July 25.

NEW BUSINESS:

- We serve the Community Table September 21.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Partlow





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. Toilet paper
2. Paper towels
3. Garbage Bags-XL

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!

Time for the truth?

A family had just returned from church one Sunday, when the father heard his young son doing something in the kitchen. The father had recently been teaching the lad how to tell time, and wanting the son to look at the kitchen clock, he called out, "Bobby, what is the little hand on?" "A chocolate chip cookie," came the reply.

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

Great time to get SCRIP cards this summer!

As you probably know, SCRIP cards are available for Mega, Gordy's, and Kwik Trip. It is a painless, cost-free fundraiser for our church. Right now we make a 10% profit on Kwik Trip cards, a 5% profit at Mega grocery, and a 10% profit at Mega Holiday convenience stores. *Now, for the months of June–August, Gordy's will also offer a 5% discount on their cards.* Through July 21, 2013 we have made \$876.15 in profits.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>August 2013</h1> 						
				1	2	3
4 St Francis Food Pantry offering 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	5	6 10:00 A.M. Quilters	7	8	9	10
11 Prayers for the People 9:30 A.M. Stewardship Commission 10:30 A.M. Worship	12 7:00 P.M. Executive Council	13 10:00 A.M. Quilters	14 6:30 P.M. Outdoor Worship	15	16	17
18 OCWM offering 10:30 A.M. Worship	19 Pastor David on vacation through Sept 8 7:00 P.M. Christian Education Comm.	20 10:00 A.M. Quilters	21	22	23	24
25 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Worship Commission	26	27 10:00 A.M. Quilters	28	29	30	31