



Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

November 2013

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Plymouth UCC
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 PlymouthUnitedChurchOfChrist

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Cross Illumination for November is sponsored by Mimi Pederson in honor of her sister, Trudy Brewer.

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Thanksgiving Eve Worship at Plymouth November 27 at 7:00 P.M.

Rev. Mark Pirazzini from First Congregational UCC will be our preacher and the offering will go to our Street Ministry. The choir from First Congregational will sing.



Thanksgiving Eve at Plymouth—bars needed! We need a variety of bars or other goodies for the fellowship time after this year's Thanksgiving Eve worship service. Please contact Mimi or Pastor David if you can be one of our angelic bakers. Perhaps when you make your baked goods for the bazaar (only a few days before Thanksgiving Eve) you can make an extra batch.

Annual Bazaar

Saturday, November 23
10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

*Featuring crafts, bakery items,
and treasures for adults and children!*

**Salad Luncheon will be served
from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.**



GETTING READY FOR CHURCH

November Worship Notes

10:30 A.M. Worship

Communion the first Sunday of the month

November 3

24th Sunday after Pentecost

All Saints' Sunday

St. Francis Food Pantry offering

Revelation 21:1–6a; Psalm 149;

Luke 6:20–31

November 10

25th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayers for the People

Job 19:23–27a; Psalm 17:1–9; 2

Thessalonians 2:1–5, 13–17; Luke

20:27–38

November 17

26th Sunday after Pentecost

OCWM offering

Isaiah 65:17–25; Psalm 98; 2

Thessalonians 3:6–13; Luke 21:5–19

November 24

Christ the King Sunday

Jeremiah 23:1–6; Luke 1:68–79;

Colossians 1:11–20; Luke 23:33–43

November 27

Thanksgiving Eve at Plymouth

7:00 P.M.

In November, we are praying for these individuals/families: Lilah Eastzman, Tami (Chris) Eisberner, Jerry (Mary) Foote, Terri (Joe) Gilbert, Dorothy Gilbertson, Joe (Emily) Gilbertson, Paul (Gay) Gilbertson



Daylight Savings Time ends November 3. Remember to set your clocks **back** one hour before retiring on Saturday, November 2.

Food for Thought

There will be a Pot Luck on November 3. The theme will be “Comfort Food.” Since November 3 is our All Souls Day service, please bring a dish to pass which you consider comfort food. We will take our offering for St. Francis Food Pantry that Sunday also.

All Souls Remembrance

Would you like to honor someone who has died? Our November 3 worship service will be our annual All Souls Day Remembrance of the Dead with Communion. This year we remember the lives of Jerry Tubbs, Esther Lee, Loraine Berg, and David Christofersen. We also like to honor those in your family or circle of friends/mentors/loved ones who have died. If you have someone that you would like to have remembered, please give their name and date of death (if you know) to Pastor David or to Mimi by October 31 so we can print their names in the bulletin.

Planning for the Fall Bazaar Saturday, November 23

- 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).

Hanging of the Greens



The Worship Commission invites you to help decorate for Advent and Christmas. This year we will decorate on Saturday, December 7, starting around 10 A.M. Lunch will be served. Please join us!

Bingo Night!

The Chippewa Valley LGBT group is holding another Bingo night at Plymouth on November 13, from 6–8 P.M., with food, drinks, and many prizes such as gas cards, gift cards and electronics! \$4 per card, or \$10 for three of them.

If you would like to donate a plant 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 before November 25. Checks should be made out to Plymouth UCC. Please note “poinsettia” on your check. Poinsettias may be taken home after Christmas.



Your name(s) _____

Given in memory/honor (circle one) of: _____

I/we would like to donate _____ poinsettia plant(s) at \$7.25 each \$ _____

_____ red _____ white _____ pink _____ marble

Total enclosed \$ _____

PASTOR'S PEN

Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

We had a very uplifting and positive meeting of the Executive Committee and church members last Monday night to talk about evangelism. I know that is a scary word, and one that we have not used in our tradition very much for at least a few generations. But when Jesus asks us to follow him, he is also asking us to invite others to come with us. And that is all that evangelism is: to invite. It has gotten a bad name over the years, conjuring images of guys yelling on street corners, or threatening folks with hellfire and damnation if they don't come to your church. But that's not evangelism, that's just being obnoxious. And I know we also have a tradition of not wanting to talk about religion in the public sphere. That tradition has some merit, since any conversation can quickly move from "talking about religion" to "telling that guy why his religion is all wrong." But consider the story that we have been entrusted with: the story of God, who so loves the world that Jesus was sent to us to teach us that God's love for us is infinite and that we, then, ought to love our neighbors. That's a message worth sharing! Especially to a world like ours that is so filled with anxiety over the economy, beaten down by toxic political dialogue, threats of war, acts of violence. I said in my sermon on October 13 that we hold the story and the message that is the counter-voice to the ills and anxieties of the world. Of course we ought to share it!

We will be focusing on evangelism—as an invitation to know God's love—so

expect to hear about it in this column, in sermons and worship, and from others. We will do so partly because we want to bring in more people to this amazing and Spirit-filled congregation, but also because we in the mainline church have been so quiet about the Good News. We really do have the antidote to the anxiety and fear our neighbors are feeling. Just as we would bring them medicine for bodily sickness, let us also not be shy about bringing them the medicine of the comforting words we use at Advent—Hope, Joy, Peace, and Love.

So invite your friends and family to worship with us, or to a special event. Talk up our ministries with folks when you are standing in line with them at the grocery store, and invite them to share in spreading the love. Evangelism need be no more than saying "I have this great group of friends who love and pray for one another, and we feed the hungry and spread love to the world around us, and we'd like you to join us." As simple as that. Not so hard or scary, is it? No theological language needed, no arguments, no perfectly constructed "proof" of why they should, just a simple invitation to come and know love. Offer to pick them up and take them to lunch afterward if you like. It's even more difficult to say "No" to an invitation of lunch!

You also have the Holy Spirit with you, so rely on its strength as well! Much more in coming months.




EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

October 14, 2013

Members present: Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Jim Welk, Kay Stecher, Deb Zehms, Rob Jaenke, Mike Henry, Pastor David

Congregational members present: Dorothy Kruschke, Dorothy Gilbertson, Joyce Holmen, John Moore, Sandy Moore, Mary Stygar

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

Financial Reports:

As of September 30, 2013

Year to Date Income	\$80,781.03
Year to Date Expenses	\$80,711.22
Ahead (Behind)	\$69.81

Treasurer's Report:

Income for September was \$9,972.47 (includes Thrift Sale profits of \$1,276.95); expenses were \$9,616.74 for a gain of \$355.73. Bank balance on September 30, 2013 was (\$377.15).

Reserve Fund Report:

The balance is \$4,505.34.

Memorial Fund Report:

The balance is \$2,490.81.

Street Ministry:

The balance is \$390.78

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Street Ministry:

Mike reported there is help such as water and other needs available for the Street Ministry through Feed My People.

Building and Grounds:

Fall Clean-up had to be cancelled because of weather.

Christian Education Commission:

Halloween High-jinks Party on Sunday, October 27 from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. All are welcome! soup supper and goodies, movie "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown!" and lots of door prizes! \$3 per person. Decorations have been made for the Thanksgiving Eve service. We are working on items for the Bazaar on November 23. Our confirmation families walked the CROP Walk on October 13 and raised \$443! Thanks to the congregation for all of your support!

Stewardship Commission:

Meeting was October 13. Concentrated mostly on financial future of the church and PIP investments.

Worship Commission:

Worldwide Communion was celebrated on October 7. We had a pot luck on that day also.

Service Commission:

Visits are ongoing. Remember to fill out visitation cards—even for phone visits. Thank you!



Continued on page 6

Council *continued*

Women of Plymouth:

We had a work day to make cards on Friday, October 11. Focus is on Bazaar November 23.

Pastor's Report:

He is focusing on evangelism and redoing our web site.

NEW BUSINESS:

This meeting was to discuss ways to grow our membership and let people know who and where we are. We received three different lists of ideas for growing the church, and many ideas could be investigated. Pastor David and Deb Zehms will go over these lists and condense them into ideas that may work for us. We will continue to work on these ideas.

The next meeting is November 11.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Partlow

**Great time to
get SCRIP cards!**

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, and a 5% profit on Gordy's cards. Through October 20, 2013 we have made \$1,498 in profits.



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!

November Birthdays

- | | |
|----|---------------------|
| 1 | Char Hartwich |
| 4 | Julie Johnson |
| 5 | Christena Strandt |
| 6 | Dan Hestekin |
| | Arvilla Kruschke |
| 7 | Jacob Leipnitz |
| 8 | Julie Leipnitz |
| 10 | Kevin Champion |
| 12 | Lesa Green |
| 15 | Bea Hancock |
| 16 | Marie Williams |
| 20 | Tyjha Stygar |
| 26 | Kevin Phillips |
| 30 | Jacqueline Andersen |
| | Darrick Carter |

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>November 2013</h1>					1	2
3 St Francis Food Pantry offering All Saints' Sunday 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship 11:30 A.M. Pot luck	4	5 Election Day 10:00 A.M. NO Quilters	6	7	8	9
10 Prayers for the People 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 9:30 A.M. Stewardship Commission 10:30 A.M. Worship	11 7:00 P.M. Executive Council	12 10:00 A.M. Quilters	13 6:00 P.M. Bingo	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 10:00 A.M. Quilters	20	21	22	23 Bazaar 10:00– 2:00
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 7:00 P.M. Thanksgiving Eve Worship at Plymouth	28 OFFICE	29 CLOSED	30

