

Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

April 2014

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HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

April 13 Palm Sunday

10:30 A.M. Worship and Celebration

April 17 Maundy Thursday

7:00 P.M. Tenebrae Service

April 18 Good Friday

12:10 P.M. Worship

First Congregational UCC

April 20 Easter Sunday

8:30 A.M. Magnificent Muffin Morning

9:30 A.M. Celebration Worship

10:30 A.M. Muffin Sale

GETTING READY FOR CHURCH

10:30 A.M. Worship

Communion the first Sunday of the month

April Worship Notes

April 6

St. Francis Food Pantry offering

Ezekiel 17:1–14; Psalm 130;
Romans 8:6–11; John 11:1–45

April 13

Palm Sunday

Palm Service: Matthew 21:1–11; Psalm
118:1–2, 19–29

April 20

Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34–43 or Jeremiah 31:1–6;
Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24;
Colossians 3:1–4 or Acts 10:34–43;
John 20:1–18 or Matthew 28:1–10

April 27

2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22–32; Psalm 16;
1 Peter 1:3–9; John 20:19–31

In April, we are praying for these individuals/families: Edmund & Alice Noyes, Louise Partlow, Maria Patton, Erma Phephles, Kevin & Jean Phillips, Kenny (Annette) Polden

Food for Thought

There will be no pot luck for April. Join us for a Lenten Soup & Scripture either at noon or at 6 P.M. on April 2 and 9. Also join us for the Magnificent Muffin breakfast on Easter Sunday at 8:30 A.M.

Please remember our St Francis Food pantry offering on April 6. In March and April, the money we give will help the pantry to receive a share of the \$1 million given by the Feinstein Foundation.

Memorials

- Gifts to the **Memorial Fund** directed to the General Fund: *In memory of Sophie Bliss*: Louise Partlow
- Gifts to the **Memorial Fund** directed to the General Fund: *In memory of John Hancock*: Louise Partlow

April Birthdays

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

The Live Oak Definition of an Elder

An Elder is a person who is still growing, still a learner, still with potential, and whose life continues to have within it promise for and connection to the future. An Elder is still in pursuit of happiness, joy, and pleasure, and her or his birthright to these remains intact. Moreover, an Elder is a person whose work it is to synthesize wisdom from long life experience and formulate this into a legacy for future generations.

Don't forget your SCRIP cards!

SCRIP cards are now available for Mega, Mega Holiday, Gordy's, and Kwik Trip. It is a painless, cost-free fundraiser for our church. Here is how it works: They are available for \$25, \$50, and/or \$100. We keep 5% of the money that is paid for Mega and Gordy's cards, and 10% for Mega Holiday and Kwik Trip cards. So, for example, if you buy a \$100 card, we pay \$95 and keep \$5 to help pay our bills. This is a great way to add to our income without feeling the pinch.

The Spring Thrift Sale is coming up April 12

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 1 for this all-important money raising event. Please watch for the sign-up to help at the sale too!

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 and family of Plymouth,

I am overwhelmed sometimes how quickly change comes now. The cycle is no longer measured generationally but by years. It's chaotic. What I see people doing to survive the chaos is finding rootedness by being connected. The methods have changed: now we use our phones for texting, facebook, snapchat, twitter, or any of a massive array of apps. But the need for connection is deep. The younger folks' seeming inseparableness from their devices is because they are hanging out with friends. Finding time to do so in person is difficult, but tech allows community, even real-time connections with friends thousands of miles apart.

The gift of the church is just that: community. Growing and thriving churches are re-discovering that gift. They are becoming like the early church when Christians gathered in homes, shared according to need, prayed for one another, and helped their neighbors. The church is becoming less about knowledge (though that is important—we do have the Good News, after all!) and more about connection. The former Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Mark Hanson, wrote “No longer is the role of the church to own and distribute information. The role of the church is to gather and distribute and connect.” On the Internet, thousands of churches (including us) have sermons, Bible studies, and more information than any person could go through in a lifetime. People don't need to come to church to get the message.

In general, the unchurched are not seeking information but to experience God in community. To be part of something that makes a difference. Gary Hamel, a Wall Street Journal blogger, said, “The Facebook generation does not want to go to a church that feels like a corporation. They want a flexible community that has a cause—a cause that they can organically help create.” The kind of community we have here, loving one another and serving the hungry and homeless of our community.

Do not underestimate the power in your relationships to invite someone to experience God at Plymouth. Inviting people is new to me, probably to you. It's scary to me. But as I've pushed myself to do so, I've discovered it's not scary. Most people appreciate being invited (not proselytized, not beat over the head, but invited). Even if they say “no,” a door has been opened.

So I challenge you to invite. Easter worship will be filled with great music, the Good News of resurrection and new life, much joy, and lots of smiles. Invite yourself to the celebration and invite friends to come with you. Invite them to our muffin breakfast at 8:30 as well. An invitation with food is difficult to refuse!

Have a blessed Easter, and I pray that you will share Easter's joy with someone by inviting them to join you and join us.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

March 10, 2014

Members present: Deb Zehms, Rob Jaenke, Louise Partlow, and Pastor David.

Deb called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. The February Council minutes were reviewed and approved.

Financial Reports:

As of February 28, 2014

Year to Date Income	\$10,912.53
Year to Date Expenses	\$10,511.47
Ahead (Behind)	\$401.06

Treasurer's Report:

Income for February includes \$6,000 transfer from PIP accounts. Check book balance is \$69.41 because of a (\$331.65) balance in February, snow plowing and furnace repairs in February.

Reserve Fund Report:

February balance is \$637.77.

Memorial Fund Report:

February balance is \$1563.39.

Street Ministry Report:

December balance is \$181.61.

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Building and Grounds:

No reports. Jim is doing a good job at keeping snow removed.

Christian Education Commission:

Confirmation Sunday is May 4. Also an evening of fun and study on Friday, March 14 at the church.

Stewardship Commission:

Working on Thrift Sale April 12.

Service Commission:

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

Worship Commission:

Working on Lenten preparations and services.

Women of Plymouth:

Thrift and Bake Sale. They need to have a meeting.

Pastor's Report:

Regarding evangelism: Barb Kleist and Pastor David did a "prayer walk" (ride) which toured the church area just to get more familiar with it. It was a good experience. He did 74 pastoral visits. He will be part of a program at Senior Center with Roger Galstad. He visited at Community Table.


New business:

- The NW Association Annual Meeting will be at First Congregational in Park Falls on April 5 with Rev. John Thomas.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted
Louise Partlow



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>April 2014</h1> 						
		1 Election 10:00 A.M. Quilters	2 Noon & 6:00 P.M. Soup & Scripture	3	4	5
6 St Francis Food Pantry offering 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	7	8 10:00 A.M. Quilters	9 Noon & 6:00 P.M. Soup & Scripture	10	11	12 Spring Thrift Sale
13 Prayers for the People Palm Sunday 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 9:30 A.M. Stewardship Commission 10:30 A.M. Worship	14 7:00 P.M. Executive Council	15 10:00 A.M. Quilters	16	17 Maundy Thursday 7:00 P.M. Temebrae Service	18 Good Friday 12:10 P.M. Worship at First Congregational UCC	19
20 Easter Sunday 8:30 A.M. Magnificent Muffin Morning 9:30 A.M. Celebration Worship 10:30 A.M. Muffin Sale	21 7:00 P.M. Christian Education Comm.	22 10:00 A.M. Quilters	23	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 10:00 A.M. Quilters	30			