

# Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

August 2015

Published monthly by  
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*Cross illumination for  
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Terry & Mimi Pederson in  
honor of their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding  
anniversary.*

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# S'mores & Songs

Come join us for s'mores and songs around the campfire on August 19 at 6:30 P.M. Invite someone to come with you...everyone likes s'mores!



# Getting ready for church

10:30 A.M. Worship

*Communion the first Sunday of the month*

## August Worship Notes

### August 2

*10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*St. Francis Food Pantry offering*

2 Samuel 11:26–12:13 or Exodus 16:2–4, 9–15; Psalm 51:1–12 or Psalm 78:23–29; Ephesians 4:1–16; John 6:24–35

### August 9

*11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*Prayers for the People*

2 Samuel 18:5–9, 15, 31–33 or 1 Kings 19:4–8; Psalm 130 or Psalm 34:1–8; Ephesians 4:25–5:2; John 6:35, 41–51

### August 16

*12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*OCWM offering*

1 Kings 2:10–12; 3:3–14 or Proverbs 9:1–6; Psalm 111 or Psalm 34:9–14; Ephesians 5:15–20; John 6:51–58

### August 23

*13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10–11), 22–30, 41–43 or Joshua 24:1–2a, 14–18; Psalm 84 or Psalm 34:15–22; Ephesians 6:10–20; John 56–69

### August 30

*14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

Song of Solomon 2:8–13 or Deuteronomy 4:1–2, 6–9; Psalm 45:1–2, 6–9 or Psalm 15; James 1:17–27; Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23

**In August, we are praying for these individuals/families:** Len Weisfeld, Jim Welk, Ron & Nancy Wendt, Marie Williams, Keith & Deb Zehms, Micah & Jennifer Adams, Jackie Andersen

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## Food for Thought

Please join us for a pot luck on August 2. Invite someone you know to come with you and bring your favorite summer dish to pass. Enjoy the fellowship with your Plymouth Family. We will take our St Francis Food Pantry offering on August 2 also.

Also, don't forget the Plymouth Street Ministry. Please contact Mike Henry if you would like to volunteer. Monetary donations and food gift cards are always appreciated. Our Street Ministry is growing, please help out however you can. See the article on page 3 for a list of items needed.

## August Birthdays

- 4 Mary Burns  
Vivian Waltmire
- 6 Carter Hulke
- 8 Steven Green  
Burt Shepler
- 16 Sam Zehms
- 24 Mary Stygar
- 25 Peggy Norris  
Sue Thompson
- 29 Sharon Miller
- 31 Matt Gilbertson

## Thank you!

Thank you very much for the money to go to MADD camp. I always have a blast there and it's great getting to see my friends again. Thank you very much and I really appreciate the support.

Thank you,  
John Stecher

## Memorials

● Gifts to the **Memorial Fund** directed to the General Fund: *In memory of Dorothy Preston*: Joanne Lowry; *In memory of Joanne Stygar*: the Lyle Shepler Family

## Informal Vocal Recital by Sam and Hannah Zehms

Sunday, August 2 at 1:30 P.M.  
Plymouth UCC, 2010 W. Moholt Dr.  
Cost: Free!

Come and enjoy songs ranging from classical to show tunes to even a little Nat King Cole; sung by our own Sam and Hannah Zehms. Since Hannah will soon be heading off to school at Concordia College, their voice teacher, David Midboe, thought it would be fun for them to perform together. The recital will include both solos and duets. Lynn McFadyen will accompany them on the piano.

Treats will be served following the recital.

While there is no cost for the recital, we welcome donations for the Plymouth Street Ministry, which serves the homeless in our community. (Please check out their Facebook page.)

## Plymouth Street Ministry Needs List

- ◆ Diapers, all sizes
- ◆ Formula
- ◆ Jeans, men's & women's, all sizes
- ◆ T-shirts
- ◆ Boxers, all sizes
- ◆ Socks
- ◆ Sweat pants, (L/XL +)
- ◆ Deodorant
- ◆ Shampoo
- ◆ Feminine Hygiene products (both pads & tampons)
- ◆ Lg. zip lock bags (for hygiene kits)
- ◆ Combs (new) & Hairbrushes (new)
- ◆ Shoes, all sizes, clean and in good shape!
- ◆ Bikes, in good repair
- ◆ Bike locks
- ◆ Shorts—pull-on, athletic style, (Med +)

### *Specific needs:*

- ✓ Gift cards from fast food restaurants - Subway, McD, Burger King
- ✓ Bassinet for new born Lori Ann and diapers—5 pounds at birth, born on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July
- ✓ Slip on sandals 10 or 11 female
- ✓ Pair of work shoes size 12
- ✓ Diabetic socks short or ankle size 10 or 11
- ✓ Shorts: pull on athletic (5XL +)
- ✓ 3 Long sleeve cotton men's shirts, button down (3 - 4XL +)
- ✓ Shoes, high top 5W, size 9 for our wheelchair man

Thank you all for your support of the street ministry.

## Pastor's Pen

Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

In my sermon on July 19, I preached on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, and how it is a Psalm of gratitude that God's goodness has nothing to do with us earning it or being good enough for it. That it is, in fact, precisely because our lives are messy and we make mistakes that God is good to us. Because God knows that we need a daily dose of divine love to get through. I also said that our mission as followers of Jesus is to spread the Good News about how God loves, and to share that love with our neighbors.

That's what we're doing when we invite others into the church. We are not inviting them into the institution, or inviting them into a particular kind of membership or structure, but inviting them into a community. Inviting them into a community that when it is at its best is living the grace and kindness of God, and living it out of gratitude. To help us all in this mission, we are focusing in the coming year in discipleship. That will include three sections that we are calling Connect, Grow, and Love.

Connect being "How do we connect people in the community with Plymouth?" That will focus on invitation and ways to bring people in, and also then once they are in, connecting them into the life of the church. We will be learning about "elbow activities," ways that you can introduce a friend or friends to the community of Plymouth. We will have some events that you can invite people to, such as on August 2 we are having a drama in worship with a potluck following.

Grow will focus on growing as disciples. This will include book and Bible study, a spiritual gifts inventory in October, and opportunities to grow in faith through service to the church, such as building beautification, leading in worship (like our liturgists), or helping in the background for our street ministry.

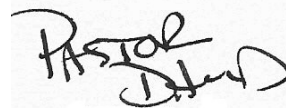
Then we will focus on Love: that will be how we then live out our role as disciples by making the world a more loving world. This is about serving outside the walls of the church, such as serving the homeless in our street ministry, or at Community table, and so on.

All this is to help us be the church in the changing climate of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and help Plymouth not only to continue its faithful service to the community of Eau Claire, but to increase it as well, and to increase the number of people involved in our shared ministry and our fellowship.

You can start now by thinking of someone who might be interested in sharing with us on August 2 for our drama in worship and the shared lunch after worship. Invite someone to eat with us. On Wednesday, August 19, we will have a campfire, songs, and s'mores around the firepit at 6:30 P.M. We will be inviting the neighborhood to that, but you, too, invite some people to share in this very informal evening of singing camp songs and having some treats around the campfire.

I like to say that at Plymouth we are making the world a more loving world! That is what our ministries are doing, and will continue to do, and will do even better! Your first step in this is to participate and to invite. Share the Good News of Jesus with others: not with scary proselytizing, but simply by extending an invitation to people you encounter to come share in the fellowship of love and care that is Plymouth.

Blessings



# Leadership Team Minutes

July 13, 2015

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

Plymouth's Leadership Team met on Monday, July 13 at Culver's on Folsom Street at 7:00 P.M. The minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and approved.

### Financial Reports:

As of June 30, 2015

Year to Date Income	\$52,085.50
Year to Date Expenses	\$53,467.76
Ahead (Behind)	(\$1,382.26)

### Treasurer's Report:

Income for June was \$6,882.83. Total expenses for the month were \$6,805.91, leaving us with an June gain of \$76.92. Income includes Pie & Ice Cream profit of \$1,695.00. A little more income from plant sales will be added. Envelope income was down considerably from last year—\$1,615.00.

### Reserve Fund Report:

June balance is \$1,525.47.

### Memorial Fund Report:

June balance is \$5,199.60.

### Street Ministry Report:

June balance is \$1,025.84.

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

### Building and Grounds Committee:

Lawn mower was purchased. Women of Plymouth donated \$500.00 of the \$700.00 price. The balance will be paid from General or Memorial. Tree removal: Jim Welk, Rex Olson and others are working lots of hours to get this accomplished. Thanks to everyone!

### Christian Education Committee:

Carter, John, Morgan, and Hannah attended camp at Moon Beach. Christian Education still has monies in the bank to help with costs for camp.

### Stewardship Committee:

Fall Thrift Sale date is tentatively set for September 19.

### Service Committee:

Visits are ongoing by Pastor David and other church members. Please remember to fill out a visitation card—even for phone visits. Sending cards would be appreciated also.

### Worship Committee:

Outdoor worship will be Wednesday, August 19 at 6:30 P.M. In July there will be sound board/tech team training and liturgist training and hopefully a set schedule for each Sunday

### Women of Plymouth:

Saturday, November 14 has been set as the date for the Bazaar.



*Minutes continued on page 6 ...*

## Good News

*Minutes continued ...*

### **Pastor's Report:**

He gave the Leadership Team written information on sessions 4, 5, and 6 on growing churches, growing congregations, and suggestions on things we could try.

### **Old Business:**

- An electrician came and fixed the sign and reset it for winter. It is working good for now.

### **New Business:**

- Pastor David would like to take vacation at the end of September so that he can celebrate with Yuki on her 50<sup>th</sup> birthday September 25.

Next meeting of the Team will be Monday, August 17 at Culver's.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted  
Louise Partlow

### **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 Teamwork!**

Thanks to the efforts of many people, our Pie & Ice Cream Social raised \$1,695! A little more income from plant sales will be added later.

### **Community Table**

Don't forget to mark October 17 on your calendar! That's the day we will be serving at the Community Table

### **EC Garden Club to meet here**

The Eau Claire Garden Club will be using our facility for its monthly meetings beginning in September. We look forward to a long relationship with this worthy community organization.

### **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 fund raiser 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, Gordy's, and Kwik Trip cards, and 10% for Mega Holiday cards. And at Kwik Trip, when the card is used *inside* the store (with some restrictions like tobacco, alcohol, stamps) they will deposit a 10% rebate into our bank account. So, for example, if you buy a \$100 Mega 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.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>August 2015</h1>						1
<b>2 <i>St Francis Food Pantry offering</i></b>  10:30 A.M. Communion Worship  1:30 P.M. Zehms Vocal Recital	3	4  10:00 A.M. Quilters	5  7:00 P.M. Plymouth Rocks	6	7	8
<b>9 <i>Prayers for the People</i></b>  10:30 A.M. Worship	10	11  10:00 A.M. Quilters	12  7:00 P.M. Plymouth Rocks	13	14	15
<b>16 <i>OCWM offering</i></b>  10:30 A.M. Worship	17  7:00 P.M. Leadership Team at Culver's	18  10:00 A.M. Quilters	19  <b>Outdoor Worship 6:30 P.M.</b>	20	21	22
23  10:30 A.M. Worship	24	25  10:00 A.M. Quilters	26  7:00 P.M. Plymouth Rocks	27	28	29
30  10:30 A.M. Worship	31	