

Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

September 2015

Published monthly by
Plymouth UCC
2010 Moholt Drive
Eau Claire WI 54703
Phone: 715-835-5475
Web: pcucc.com

Ministers: All the people

Pastor: Rev. David Huber
david@pcucc.com

Church Secretary/Editor:
Mimi Pederson
mimi@pcucc.com

*This edition of the newsletter
is sponsored by an
anonymous benefactor.*

*Cross illumination for
September is sponsored by
Don & Leatrice Mathison in
memory of Martha
McCarthy.*

INSIDE

Birthdays.	Page 2
Calendar.	Page 7
Leadership Team. . . .	Page 5
Memorials.	Page 3
Pastor's Pen.	Page 4
Worship Notes.	Page 2

Thrift Sale



**The Fall Thrift Sale is coming up
September 19**

*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 September 14 for this all-important
money raising event. Please watch for the sign-
up to help at the sale too!

Getting ready for church

10:30 A.M. Worship

Communion the first Sunday of the month

September Worship Notes

September 6

15th Sunday after Pentecost

St. Francis Food Pantry offering

Proverbs 22:1–2, 8–9, 22–23 or Isaiah 35:4–7a; Psalm 125 or Psalm 146; James 2:1–10 (11–13), 14–17; Mark 7:24–37

September 13

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayers for the People

Proverbs 1:20–33 or Isaiah 50:4–9a; Psalm 19 or Psalm 116:1–9; James 3:1–12; Mark 8:27–38

September 20

17th Sunday after Pentecost

OCWM offering

Proverbs 31:10–31 or Wisdom of Solomon 1:16–2:1, 12–22 or Jeremiah 11:18–20; Psalm 1 or Psalm 54; James 3:13–4:3, 7–8a; Mark 9:30–37

September 27

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Esther 7:1–6, 9–10; 9:20–22 or Numbers 11:4–6, 10–16, 24–29; Psalm 124 or Psalm 19:7–14; James 5:13–20; Mark 9:38–50

Food for Thought

There will be a pot luck on September 13. Please join us, invite someone you know to come with you and bring your favorite dish to pass. Brats and burgers will be provided. Enjoy the fellowship with your Plymouth Family. We will be gather our St Francis Food Pantry offering on September 6.

Also, don't forget the Plymouth Street Ministry. Please contact Mike Henry if you would like to volunteer. Monetary donations and food gift cards would be are always appreciated. Our Street Ministry is growing, please help out however you can.

In September, we are praying for these individuals/families:

Jim (Mina) Bliss, Pat Burnam, Mary Burns, Bonnie Carter, Darrick Carter & Joy Lobo-Carter, Kevin & Kristina Champion, Steve & Nancy Champion

September Birthdays

2 Steve Strassman
6 Katelyn Phillips
7 Cindy Halfen
9 Nicole Ivkovich
13 Benji Stygar
15 Josie Hulke
20 Keith Zehms
22 Kathryn Hamilton
25 James Bliss
Isaac Ivkovich
29 Nancy Salter
30 Audrey Salter

Plymouth Street Ministry Needs List



Pastor David will be on vacation from September 7 to October 1. Pastoral emergencies will be covered by Rev. Mark Pirazzini.

The church office will be closed September 18 so Mimi can travel to Ohio for her 50-year high school reunion.

Memorials

● Gifts to the **Memorial Fund** directed to the General Fund: *In memory of Floyd Sexter*: Joanne Lowry, Timothy Fenner, Larry & Barb Kleist, George Stecher, Bea Hancock, Joanne Miller, Judith Christian, Family and Friends.

- ◆ 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 +)

Thank you all for your support of the street ministry.

Neighborhood Association

Did you know that Plymouth is in the Westridge Neighborhood, bounded between Clairemont and 14th St., and Vine and Folsom, and it also includes the Sun Rae development on the north side of Folsom. Westridge has a Neighborhood Association, and they are hosting a "picnic in the park" at County Farm Park on September 19, 1–4 P.M. Some us from Plymouth will be going to represent us and connect with some of our neighbors, and you are free to join them! The association is also having a general meeting on October 19 at 7 P.M. at the Mahara Shrine Club, 2625 Folsom St. These are both opportunities to truly connect with our neighborhood.

Pastor's Pen

Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

We have had a blessed summer this year. The weather has been mostly beautiful. We had a wonderful outing to an Eau Claire Express Game in July. We had a fun evening of songs and s'mores just a few days ago, though it was on that cold rainy Wednesday so we ended up inside, making s'mores with high tech means instead of a campfire... special guest musician Steve Carlson shared his song "Lotto Jesus" for us, and we talked about the Beatitudes, and sang an awful lot of songs. We also had a number of visitors and guests over the summer, joining us for worship, coming for the recital that Sam and Hannah Zehms offered, or coming to Plymouth's campus for a number of events that other groups held here.

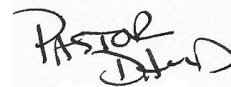
I mentioned in the last Pastor's Pen that we have divided the coming year into three sections called Connect, Grow, and Love. We are in the connect period, and will be until October. I have been preaching about connecting: with your neighbors, with people in the community, and with people in the church. Connecting and invitation go together. We connect with people to invite them, and we invite people in order to connect them with our fellowship. I've been talking a lot this year about the importance of inviting. That cannot be stressed enough. Current research shows that about 80% of people who join a church have done so because someone invited them (and many of them also because the inviting person physically brought them to the church). The first experience with a church might not even be worship: it might have been something like a baseball game, an evening around a campfire, a party, a concert, a potluck. Or it might have been what I mentioned before,

an "elbow activity" —a small group gathering of church people who each invited a friend to come with them to see a movie, have lunch, play cards, go to the park for a concert, take a hike, and so on. These elbow activities are great ways to introduce people to the church in an informal way that allows for conversation and relationship building—that is, connecting!

I'm challenging you all here, and in Sunday sermons, as part of your faith growth, to connect with some people around you. Take someone to lunch, and invite a couple church members with you and have them bring someone. That's how we enlarge our footprint in the community and spread Jesus' light to those around us! When you do this, let me know, or let anyone on our church growth team know, so that we know what people are doing and to say "thank you!"

Lastly, I am on vacation September 7 through 30. Rev. Mark Pirazzini from First Congregational will be covering in case of pastoral emergencies. You can always call the church office and either Mimi or the answering machine will have information on how to contact him. Since it seems impossible for a pastor to go on vacation and not work, I'll be preaching at Amagasaki UCCJ while I am there, and attending the Japanese Hymn Society's annual meeting, which is always fun and educational.

Have a blessed September!



Leadership Team Minutes

August 17, 2015

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

Plymouth's Leadership Team met on Monday, August 17 at Culver's on Folsom Street at 7:00 P.M. The minutes from the July meeting were reviewed and approved.

Financial Reports:

As of July 31, 2015

Year to Date Income	\$59,249.26
Year to Date Expenses	\$61,243.22
Ahead (Behind)	(\$1,993.96)

Treasurer's Report:

Income for July was \$7,163.76. Total expenses for the month were \$7,775.46, leaving us with an July loss of (\$611.70). Rob transferred \$1,300 from the Reserve Fund. Building insurance was paid—otherwise normal expenses.

Reserve Fund Report:

July balance is \$325.96.

Memorial Fund Report:

July balance is \$5,034.79.

Street Ministry Report:

July balance is \$438.11.

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Building and Grounds Committee:

Work on the trees is nearly completed. We need to have a faucet in the women's restroom repaired. Jim will be contacted for how to proceed.

Christian Education Committee:

No report.

Stewardship Committee:

Fall Thrift Sale & Bake Sale will be September 19. Lots of work for everyone—always fun to do.

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. Still working on sound board and tech training schedules.

Women of Plymouth:

Saturday, November 14 has been set as the date for the Bazaar. Women need to schedule a meeting to make plans—probably a Sunday before church. Watch for a date and time.



Minutes continued on page 6 ...

Minutes continued ...

Pastor's Report:

The Leadership Team was given more information on the seminar that Pastor David and Barb Kleist attended regarding growing churches and invitation information. Pastor David will be on vacation from September 7 through September 30. He will be going to Japan.

New Business:

- We may be ordering t-shirts with a Plymouth logo for events like serving the Community Table, etc. if there is enough interest in the project.

Next meeting of the Team will be Monday, September 14.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 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.

Community Table

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 17. We will serve at the Community Table on that day. Please join us; it is a great experience! Sign-up sheet will be on the table at church Sunday, September 13.

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
						
		1	2	3	4	5
6 St Francis Food Pantry offering 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	7 Labor Day Office closed Pastor David on vacation through Sept. 30	8 10:00 A.M. Quilters	9	10	11	12
13 Prayers for the People 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Pot luck	14 5:30 P.M. EC Garden Club 7:00 P.M. Leadership Team meets at Culver's	15 10:00 A.M. Quilters	16	17	18 Office closed	19 Fall Thrift Sale 8:00–4:00
20 OCWM offering 10:30 A.M. Worship	21	22 10:00 A.M. Quilters	23	24	25	26
27 10:30 A.M. Worship	28	29 10:00 A.M. Quilters	30			