

# Good News

Plymouth United Church *of Christ*

December 2018

Published monthly by  
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*This issue of the newsletter  
is sponsored by an  
anonymous donor.*

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## Candlelight Family Service of Lessons and Carols Monday, December 24 5:00 P.M.

A family-friendly  
worship service of  
praise for the birth of  
our Savior with  
special music and a  
beautiful candlelit  
Silent Night.



*Christmas*  
**EVE**

## **Advent decorating**

We will decorate our worship area on Saturday, December 1 starting at 9:30 A.M. and have lunch following the decorating. Decorating in our new space will be an exciting and fun time. Join us for this special day!

# December Worship Calendar

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**10:30 A.M. Worship**

*Communion the first Sunday of the month*

**Calm and Bright: 200 years of Silent Night**

**December 2, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent,  
Community Table offering**

Isaiah 2:1–4, 9:2, 6–7; Psalm 25:1–10;  
Luke 1:5–25

**December 9, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Prayers for the People**

Psalm 86:9–11; Luke 2:8–20

**December 16, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
OCWM offering**

Isaiah 12:2–6; John 1:1–5, 14, 16–17

**December 23, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Christmas Fund offering**

Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 2:1–12; Luke  
1:46b–55

**December 24**

***Candlelight Service of  
Lessons and Carols at 5:00  
P.M.***

**December 30, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after  
Christmas**

1 Samuel 2:18–20, 26; Psalm 148;  
Colossians 3:12–17; Luke 2:41–52

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## Food for Thought

Our pot luck this month will be on December 16 to celebrate Advent and Christmas. Please bring a dish to pass and a friend to share the meal with us.

The offering for the Community Table will be taken on December 2. This is an important community service. For many of those who come, this is their only meal of the day.


Please don't forget our homeless friends. As always, the Street Ministry can use money or gas cards. Check out their Needs List on page 3 for other ways to help our street ministry.

## Prayer Ministry

**In December, we are praying for these individuals/families:** Vivian Waltmire, Len Weisfeld, Jim Welk, Ron & Nancy Wendt, Keith & Deb Zehms

## December Birthdays

2	Pete Spitt
4	Irma Shepler
5	Terri Gilbert
9	Pastor David Aaron Adams
22	Cathy Stygar



**Schola Cantorum of Eau Claire**  
a choir for early music

# MYSTERY & MIRTH

A Spanish Christmas

Saturday, Dec. 8th, 4:00p.m.  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
910 9th St E, Menomonie

Sunday, Dec. 9th, 2:00p.m.  
St. Olaf Catholic Church  
3220 Monroe St, Eau Claire

Free admission; donations accepted

More info at <http://scholaec.org>  
[facebook.com/scholaEC](https://facebook.com/scholaEC)

WISCONSIN PUBLIC RADIO

Image source: Anon. (ca.1550-1600, Spain)  
"Pendant of a Cross,"  
Art Institute Chicago, 1992.506.

## Street Ministry Needs

- ★ Men's gloves, size XL or larger
- ★ Long underwear, XL or larger

## Memorials

### Fire Fund

*Donation:* Jacklin Furniture Resources

### General Fund

*In memory of Jerry Foote:* Sally Olds

*In memory of Joanne Lowry:* Chris & Stacy Myers

## Nominating Committee!

The Leadership Team is looking for a few people with new ideas to lead us into the future. We are also looking for a Moderator "in training," someone who is willing to learn, bring new ideas, and take over the leadership of our congregation family in the near future. Please contact Barb Kleist if you would like the opportunity to join the Leadership Team.

Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

In the November newsletter I said I'd talk more our eventful year. The biggest is probably the construction of our new building that kept your Leadership Team hopping and spending more time than



any volunteers should be asked to spend. But they stepped up and kept it under control, and we can see the fruits of their labor, their love, and their faithfulness to God and to Plymouth. And just in the time since we moved in, we have had two funerals, one wedding, one baptism, one open house and ribbon cutting, one worship service of dedication, we have brought in three new members, held a thrift sale and a holiday bazaar (both with bake sales), we served at Community Table, we offered hospitality for the Stand in the Light Memory Choir concert a few weeks ago (which meant more baking), and then we hosted the other UCC churches for Thanksgiving Eve worship (including yet more baking!). I haven't even had a chance to fully unpack and move into my office.

This all came to me on a Sunday morning in mid-November as I was leaving home for worship. I thought, "Yikes! The Leadership Team have been crazy busy this year, and since we moved in, the whole congregation has been really busy!" I decided that we need some time off to just be...to be still and silent and calm. So we are not doing anything in December other than our Christmas decorating and the Christmas Eve service of Lessons and Carols.

In conjunction with this time of intentional silence and calm, our Advent

worship will be centered on that theme. This year marks the 200th anniversary of the first singing of the beloved carol Silent Night. We will be looking at the words of that carol during our four Sundays of Advent leading into Christmas. We as Plymouth, but also the nation and our world, need a time of silent night. A time of calm and bright. To slow down and let go of the anxieties and pressures around us and settle back into the embrace of God. Join us this Advent as we find silent and calming time in worship.

We raised \$453 for the Community Table at our Thanksgiving Eve worship service. That money has been doubled through the generosity of Thrivent. Many thanks to all of you who contributed that money and the multiple cans of coffee, jars of herbs and spices, and bags of sugar that I was able to take to Community Table on Giving Tuesday, November 27.

On a personal note, if you were at the dedication service of our new building, you heard the Schola Cantorum, the choir I sing in. The two pieces we sang are from our upcoming free concerts "Mystery and Mirth: A Spanish Christmas" of Spanish music from the 1500s, which we will be performing December 8 at 4 pm at Our Savior's Church in Menomonie, and December 9 at 2 pm at St. Olaf Catholic Church in Eau Claire. Both are free

May you find a place of silent calm to receive the light of Christ on Christmas Day during this Advent time.

Worshiping with your church will help you find a center this season, and draw you closer to God.

Handwritten signature of Pastor David.



# Leadership Team Minutes

November 12, 2018

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

Minutes from the September meeting were reviewed and accepted as written. (Team did not meet in October.)

## Financial Reports:

As of October 31, 2018

Year to Date Income	\$85,457.91
Year to Date Expenses	\$88,399.73
Ahead (Behind)	(\$2,941.82)

## Treasurer's Report:

Income for October was \$9,628.85.  
Expenses for October were \$11,036.60. Insurance payments from Fire Account \$5,000 in this month to be distributed.

**Bank balance October 31:** (\$582.39)

**Reserve Fund Balance:** \$624.55

**Memorial Fund Balance:** \$3,271.02

The financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

## Building and Grounds:

Snow removal for this year has been arranged. In the meantime, Larry, Jim, and Keith are working on it.

## Stewardship:

Working on capital campaign for the first week in December.

## Worship:

Decorating (Hanging of the Greens) will be done December 1 starting at 9:30 A.M. Lunch will be served.

## Service:

Keep calling and visiting members and let Mimi know if you have contacted someone. Thank you.

## Pastor's Report:

Thanks to everyone for the vacation time. Also thanks to Jeanny House for leading worship in his absence. He's working on a Focus on Energy Project and preparing for the holiday season. Thankful for all the events we've held already.

## Old Business:

- None at this time

## New Business:

- We discussed clean-up after weddings or other events of persons using our building.
- Annual meeting set for January 27, 2019 after worship
- We need to work on getting a new slate of officers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

The next meeting is Monday, December 10, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,  
Louise Partlow



# Photo Gallery ...



Plymouth members preparing a meal for the Community Table.



Our gifts of coffee, sugar and spices for the Community Table.



Stand in the Light Memory Choir shared their music with us in worship.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>December 2018</h1> 						1  9:30 A.M. Hanging of the Greens
<b>2 Community Table offering</b>  10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	3	4  10:00 A.M. Quilters 7:00 P.M. Dartball Plym at Hope	5	6	7	8
<b>9 Prayers for the People</b>  10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	10  7:00 P.M. Leadership Team	11  10:00 A.M. Quilters 7:00 P.M. Dartball Plym bye	12	13  5:00 P.M. Stand in the Light Board	14	15
<b>16 OCWM offering</b>  10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	17	18  10:00 A.M. Quilters 7:00 P.M. Dartball Concordia at Plym	19	20	21	22
<b>23 Christmas Fund offering</b> 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	24  Office closed 5:00 P.M. Lessons and Carols	25  Office closed	26	27	28	29
30 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	31  Office closed					