

Good News

Plymouth United Church *of Christ*

January 2019

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Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be Sunday, January 27 following worship. The Annual Report will be available on Sunday, January 20. Report submissions need to be in the church office ***by January 15.***

Stewardship Update

Our Stewardship Sunday was December 2. We've collected only 17 pledges for a total of \$49,925. That's not quite the number of pledges we received last year. It's extremely difficult to plan a budget when you don't have a good idea of what your income will be, so it is urgent that you return your pledge card as soon as possible so that the Leadership Team can present a realistic 2019 budget at the Annual Meeting. If you've misplaced your pledge card, you can call the church office (715-825-5475) and we'll be happy to send you another one, or if you're comfortable doing so, you can give your pledge to Mimi over the phone. In any case, if we haven't received your pledge yet, please make it a priority. Thank you!

January Worship Calendar

10:30 A.M. Worship

Communion the first Sunday of the month **January 22**
2nd Sunday after

January 6

Epiphany Sunday

Community Table offering

Isaiah 60:1–6; Psalm 72:1–7, 10–14;

Ephesians 3:1–12; Matthew 2:1–12

Epiphany

OCWM offering

Isaiah 62:1–5; Psalm 36:5–10;

1 Corinthians 12:1–11; John 2:1–11

January 13

Baptism of the Lord

Prayers for the People

Isaiah 43:1–7; Psalm 29;

Acts 8:14–17; Luke 3:15–17, 21–22

January 27

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Annual Meeting

Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10; Psalm 19;

1 Corinthians 12:12–31a; Luke 4:14–21

Food for Thought

There will be no pot luck this month.

Please join us for our Annual Meeting on January 27. We'll have a light snack before the meeting.

Our offering to the Community Table will be taken on January 6.

Please don't forget our homeless friends. As always the Street Ministry can use money or gas cards. Check their Needs list for other things to donate. We have a donation box available for you to drop off your items.

Memorials

Gifts to the General Fund

In memory of Erma Phephles: Co-workers of her daughter Lorretta Goss

Prayer Ministry

In January, we are praying for these **individuals/families:** Micah & Jennifer Adams, Jackie Andersen, Jim (Mina) Bliss, Pat (Gary) Burnam, Kay Bussing, Mary Burns

January Birthdays

- 3 Caleb Adams, Peter Gantner
- 4 Barb Kleist, Susie Kleist
- 7 Bonnie Carter
- 10 Dorothy Gilbertson, George Stecher
- 12 Paul Holmen
- 18 Edmund Noyes
- 21 Cathy Lee, Max Gantner
- 22 Brayden Ivkovich
- 24 Ron Wendt, Lil Savage
- 27 Nancy Champion, Larry Kleist
- 31 Steve Champion

Dear friends and family of Plymouth,



2018 was quite an eventful year in Plymouth's life! But now it is gone and we are looking to all the possibilities and potentials of a new year. I expect it will be a wonderful year for Plymouth, and I hope that for each of you individually it proves to be a good year. I also hope that you will enter 2019 fresh and new: let go of the baggage, the mistakes, the regrets, the failures of 2018, trusting in God's grace that we can always let go of those things so that we may move into the future as new creations.

As we finish the year, let us all offer our thanks to our amazing and faithful Leadership Team who guided us through our rebuild and moving into our new building and who continued offering significant hours of their time. Even after we moved in, there was much more left to do than we had imagined. Please be sure to offer them your thanks for their dedication to the life of your congregation.

And many thanks to all our decorators, readers, musicians, ushers, and audio/light people who made our Christmas Eve service a truly meaningful and beautiful one: Paul Holmen; Barb and Larry Kleist; Cathy

Reitz; John and George Stecher; Deb, Hannah, and Sam Zehms; Craig Zehms; and the amazing Lynn McFadyen who held the whole thing together with her expertise on the piano. Thank you all for your commitment and your faithfulness to the texts and the music! It was our first Christmas Eve in a new space, with a new sound system and lights and microphones, yet it went so smoothly it felt like we'd done it many times before.

Lastly, I urge you to join the larger faith community of the Chippewa Community at our interfaith prayer service on January 9 at First Congregational UCC at 6:30 P.M. We gather three times a year as Christians, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, Baha'is, Unitarians, Quakers, and more to show that despite our differences in faith we are all united by our common humanity and our commitment to loving our neighbors. More information is available at interfaithprayerrec.org.

Blessings to you all in 2019 and beyond!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Pastor John'.

Interfaith Prayer Service for Peace and Unity for all People

Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at 6:30 P.M.

First Congregational UCC, 310 Broadway

Join us for a prayer service featuring prayer leaders from Christian, Muslim, Buddhist, and Jewish faith traditions. All people and faiths are welcome! Hospitality and opportunity to meet your neighbors follows the service.



Leadership Team Minutes

December 10, 2018

Members present: Deb Zehms, Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Lil Savage, Louise Partlow, and Pastor David

Minutes from the November meeting were reviewed and accepted as written.

Financial Reports:

As of November 30, 2017

Year to Date Income	\$93,527.91
Year to Date Expenses	\$96,935.54
Ahead (Behind)	(\$3,407.63)

Treasurer's Report:

Income for November was \$8,070.00. Expenses for November were \$8,535.81. Payments made were Health Ins. \$2,353.03, Pension \$1,932.51, Community Table \$831.00, OCWM \$1,241.00 and OCWM Special Offerings \$865.00

Bank balance November 30: \$116.58

Reserve Fund Balance: \$624.96

Memorial Fund Balance: \$3,321.02

The financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Building and Grounds:

Pastor David checked on the heat with the furnace guy to see if we can better regulate the temperature when the sanctuary is unoccupied. Deb mentioned how nicely our new sign lights up—easy to see.

Stewardship:

Our campaign is ongoing. Pledges are coming in pretty well. Thank-you letters will be sent and a follow-up sent to those who haven't pledged yet.

Worship:

Christmas is coming. Members asked if we could have the

traditional words to Christmas carols in the bulletin. Pot luck will be held after church on Dec. 16.

Service:

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

Pastor's Report:

He will put an ad on Facebook about Christmas Eve service at 5:00 and other needed information. A meeting will be held at our church regarding clergy health insurance. More information on that later.

Old Business:

- Rob asked if we need to purchase anything else for the church. We need a dishwasher tray to fit over the sink. They are about \$385. We will order one or may be able to find something else that will work.
- We will check on carts for moving chairs. We could also use dollies for moving things to and from the garage.

New Business:

- Submissions for the Annual Report are due by January 15, 2019. The Annual Meeting will be January 27 after worship.
- We would like any interested parties to join our Leadership Team.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

There will be a Budget Meeting after worship on January 13.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Partlow



Photo Gallery ...



Decorating the tree in the sanctuary.



Getting ready for Christmas.




Practice for Christmas Eve



Gathering space all decked out.



We will take down our Christmas/Advent decorations on Saturday, January 12 at 10 A.M. All help will be appreciated. If enough people help, it should only take a couple of hours.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>January 2019</h1> 						
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Community Table offering 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	7	8 7:00 P.M. Dartball: Baptist Evang. at Plymouth	9	10	11	12 10:00 A.M. "Undecorating" the church
13 Prayers for the People 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Leadership Team	14	15 Deadline for Annual Rpt 7:00 P.M. Dartball: Plymouth at Rock Creek	16	17	18	19
20 OCWM offering 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	21	22 7:00 P.M. Dartball: Plymouth at Hope	23	24	25	26
27 Annual Meeting 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Annual Meeting	28	29 7:00 P.M. Dartball: Plymouth—bye	30	31		



Please note: The quilters do not meet in January.