



Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

January 2020

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

Inside

Worship Calendar . . .	Page 3
Birthdays	Page 3
Pastor's Pen.	Page 4
Leadership Team	
Minutes	Page 5
Calendar	Page 7



Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be Sunday, January 26 following worship. The Annual Report will be available on Sunday, January 19. Report submissions need to be in the church office **by January 13**. We are also looking for a few more people for our Leadership Team for next year. If you are interested, please contact Barb Kleist.

Stewardship Update

Our Stewardship Sunday was December 15. We've collected 20 pledges for a total of \$53,555. That's a bit better than last year at this time. 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 2020 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!

Pastor David on vacation

He will be on vacation through January 12. While he is away, Rev. Kathy Walker from First Presbyterian will be available for pastoral emergencies.

January Worship Calendar

10:30 A.M. Worship

Communion the first Sunday of the month

January 5

Epiphany Sunday

Community Table offering

Isaiah 60:1–6; Psalm 72:1–7, 10–14;

Ephesians 3:1–12; Matthew 2:1–12

January 19

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

OCWM offering

Isaiah 49:1–7; Psalm 40:1–11;

1 Corinthians 1:1–9; John 1:29–42

January 12

Baptism of the Lord

Prayers for the People

Isaiah 42:1–9; Psalm 29;

Acts 10:34–43; Matthew 3:13–17

January 26

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Annual Meeting

Isaiah 9:1–4; Psalm 27:1, 4–9;

1 Corinthians 1:10–18; Matthew
4:12–23

Food for Thought

There will be no pot luck this month. Please join us for our Annual Meeting on January 26. We'll have a light snack before the meeting.

Our offering to the Community Table will be taken on January 5.

Please don't forget our homeless friends. As always the Street Ministry can use money or gas cards. They have needs right now of water, large backpacks, hand warmers, candy and granola bars. Winter coats in good condition and with working zippers are also needed. We have a donation box available for you to drop off your items.

Prayer Ministry

In January, we are praying for these individuals/families: Micah & Jennifer Adams, Jackie Andersen, Ben Bechle, Pat (Gary) Burnam, Kay Bussing

January Birthdays

- 3 Caleb Adams
- 4 Barb Kleist
Susie Kleist
- 7 Bonnie Carter
- 10 Dorothy Gilbertson
George Stecher
- 12 Paul Holmen
- 21 Cathy Lee
- 24 Ron Wendt
Lil Savage
- 27 Nancy Champion
Larry Kleist

Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

A new year is upon us—a chance for new beginnings, fresh starts, making some changes. A brand new year. The slate is wiped clean. What happened in 2019 can stay in 2019. I don't put a lot of stock in New Year's resolutions (if you need to resolve to do something, resolve to do it when you think about it; don't wait until the next year!) or that there is anything particularly different

F R O M T H E



PASTOR

between the last day of one year and the first day of the next year, but changing the number of the year from 2019 to 2020 does have a certain symbolic significance. It is a good time to ponder our lives. A good time to sit and think and ask ourselves honestly how we have grown over the last year and what we might like to grow into in the coming year. 2020 is also the designation for good eyesight, so let 2020 be a year of honestly looking at oneself with no rose (or black) colored glasses.

I hope that among all your hopes and aspirations and visions of this new year, one of them will be to become more faithful and a more mature disciple of Jesus. Like other skills, faithfulness is something to be practiced, and something in which we always have room for growth. May your 2020 be a year of faith growth in your discipleship as a follower of Jesus, shedding those habits of action or thought that hinder your growth in faith and increasing those that help. Maybe even take on a new discipline of faith: daily prayer, occasional fasting from food or electronics or whatever you may find distracting, reading the Bible more often,

or reading inspiration or theological books, setting aside intentional time for service to others, increasing your giving and reducing your spending on yourself, finding more time for quiet and contemplation. You may think of other ways to grow in faith—please do! The options are limited only by one's imagination. And if you are already doing one or more of them, perhaps this is the year to increase the amount you do it.

This January we are hosting the Interfaith Prayer Service, which happen every four months or so, in which people of many faith traditions come together to pray for our community and to be in solidarity with one another, to learn about one other and thus reduce fear of each other, and learn and grow together. Although our faith traditions are different, they need not be in opposition, and we have more similarities than we have differences. That will be on Wednesday, January 15, at 6:30 P.M. We will have a choir made of people from Plymouth, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, and St. James Catholic church. We are also hosting a fellowship time with bars, cookies, and drinks after the service. Let us be good hosts to our Chippewa Valley neighbors!

May you begin 2020 continued to be filled with the joy of Jesus' birth, and may it carry you through the year into 2021!

Blessings,

Leadership Team Minutes

December 11, 2019

Members present: Pastor David, Rob Jaenke, Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Linda Oliver, Louise Partlow, and Lil Savage

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

Financial Reports:

As of November 30, 2019

Year to Date Income	\$110,086.37
Year to Date Expenses	\$109,760.76
Ahead (Behind)	\$352.61

Treasurer's Report:

Income for November was \$9,355.50. Expenses were \$9,164.32. Envelope income through November is down \$1,030 from last year, but still over the previous year's average. \$4,500 has been transferred from the Reserve Fund. We need to catch up on paying the Community Table, OCWM, and Special Supports for a total of \$4,181 before year's end.

Memorial Fund Balance: \$6,673.56

Reserve Fund Balance: \$18,105.11 (\$18,537.71 was transferred from the Fire Loss account, which now has a zero balance.)

The financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Building and Grounds:

We have problem caused by moisture during construction due to a lot of rain and run off. Will have construction company repair it.

Stewardship:

Nut sales are a little less than \$1,500. Pledge cards have been coming in quite well. We will know more soon.

Worship:

Christmas Eve plans are going well. Pastor David has been working a lot on this. Undecorating will be January 8 at

7:00 P.M. The Interfaith Prayer Service will be here on January 15 at 6:30 P.M. We need to make bars or cookies and serve coffee after for about 90 people. More info soon.

Women of Plymouth:

They will be giving \$3,000 to General Fund at year end as they usually do.

Pastor's Report:

He will put an ad on Facebook about Christmas Eve service at 5:00 We have a concert this Friday. No food, just music. Pastor David will be on vacation from December 30 through January 12.

Old Business:

- Pill bottle donations are going well already. Labels must be removed. Bottle will be donated to Matthew 25 Ministries to improve medical care in developing countries and care for our environment.
- Motion was made to distribute the building policy update to church members for review.
- A grant of \$200 has been received to advertise the Diaper Drive to be held February 29 as a Leap Year event.

New Business:

- Rob has prepared a budget for 2020. Motion made to distribute the proposed budget to the congregation. Seconded and passed.
- Annual Meeting will be January 26. Reports need to be to Mimi by January 13.

Meeting adjourned. Our next meeting will be January 13.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Partlow



***Interfaith Prayer Service for
Peace and Unity for all
People***

Wednesday, January 15, 2020
6:30 P.M.
Plymouth UCC, 2010 Moholt Drive

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.

We will take down our Christmas/Advent decorations on Wednesday, January 8 at 7 P.M. All help will be appreciated. If enough people help, it should take less than an hour.

***Leadership Team
Musings***

Did you remember to send in your pledge card? There is still time to do that. It's important so that our Leadership Team can plan for next year.

We are still collecting empty prescription bottles, with the labels removed. We can also take over the counter pain reliever bottles, also without the labels. There is a basket on the counter in the entryway.

Anyone need a ride to church? We want to make sure everyone gets to come to our Sunday morning services. If you need a ride, please call the church office at 715-835-5475 and we will arrange for someone to pick you up.

Remember the Birthday Challenge? We revived it last April. In your birthday month, we are suggesting you make a donation to the church corresponding to your age or some amount you feel appropriate. The money will go to future capital improvements, such as resurfacing the parking lot. We want to be proactive in raising funds for future needs. So those of you who have January birthdays we challenge you to make a donation!

Volunteers are needed! We are in need of volunteers to light up the candles, read the liturgy, take the offering and hand out bulletins on Sunday mornings. Sign up if this is something you'd like to do. Also, a sign-up sheet will be out for flowers to brighten up the Sanctuary. Please sign up if you are interested.

1st Annual Diaper Drive is coming the last week of February to benefit the Apple Pregnancy Center. We will be looking for donations, community-wide. Drop off points will be the church, Bed Bath and Drapery, and Good Shepherd Senior Apartments. Watch for more information.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>January 2020</h1>						
			1 Office Closed	2	3	4
5 <i>Community Table offering</i> 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	6	7 7:00 P.M. Dartball OR Huskies at Plym	8 7:00 P.M. "Undecorate" the church	9	10	11
12 <i>Prayers for the People</i> 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	13	14 7:00 P.M. Dartball Plym at Chapel Hts	15 6:30 P.M. Interfaith Prayer Service	16	17	18
19 <i>OCWM offering</i> 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	20	21 7:00 P.M. Dartball Plym at St Mark	22	23	24	25
26 <i>Annual Meeting</i> 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Annual Meeting	27	28 7:00 P.M. Dartball Saving Grace at Plym	29	30	31	



Please note: The quilters do not meet in January.