



Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

August 2020

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Cross illumination for August is sponsored by Terry & Mimi Pederson in honor of their 50th anniversary.

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Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

We have begun worshipping in-person again. Seeing people again has been a real treat! We know that some in our congregation are at risk and so shouldn't be worshipping in person, and we know that others are not yet ready for health reasons or health concerns, and that's okay: we very much support all of you in your decision to come or not to come. It's a personal decision, and we respect that.

For those who cannot attend in person, we are livestreaming our worship services. We've been doing them on the church Facebook page, but by the time you read this, we'll have switched over to our church's YouTube channel, which more people have access to. We're making some tech changes in the building as well, so it's possible that we'll be livestreaming to both.

Our YouTube Channel is "Plymouth United Church of Christ - Eau Claire, WI" and can be found at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/y6j4jydz>

We've added some of the new tech we need to get ourselves fully into the 21st century and to make our building more attractive for rentals by groups, but there are still some components that we need, so we've set up a donation fund to complete the process.

I'm quite excited about these changes! They will allow us to increase our footprint in the community and to expand the reach of our ministry.

Lastly, I'll be on vacation from August 10 to September 8. Rev. Mark Pirazzini from First Congregational UCC in town will be covering for me in case of a pastoral emergency while I am away. Mimi will have information on how to reach him, and our answering machine will also include that information. Jim Oliver and Lynn McFadyen will be providing worship leadership while I am away: many, many thanks to both of you!

Have a wonderful (and hopefully not too hot) August!

Blessings,



August Worship Calendar

10:30 A.M. Worship

August 2

9th Sunday after Pentecost

Community Table offering

Genesis 32:22–31 or Isaiah 55:1–5;
Psalm 17:1–7, 15 or Psalm 145:8–9,
14–21; Romans 9:1–5; Matthew
14:13–21

August 9

10th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayers for the People

Genesis 37:1–4, 12–28 or 1 Kings
19:9–18; Psalm 105:1–6, 16–22, 45b or
Psalm 85:8–13; Romans 10:5–15;
Matthew 14:22–33

August 16

11th Sunday after Pentecost

OCWM offering

Genesis 45:1–15 or Isaiah 56:1, 6–8;
Psalm 133 or Psalm 67; Romans
11:1–2a, 29–32; Matthew 15:(10–20)
21–28

August 23

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 1:8–2:10 or Isaiah 51:1–6;
Psalm 124 or Psalm 138;
Romans 12:1–8; Matthew 16:13–20

August 30

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 3:1–15 or Jeremiah 15:15–21;
Psalm 105:1–6, 23–26, 45c or Psalm
26:1–8; Romans 12:9–21; Matthew
16:21–28

Our on-site worship services will be live streamed on YouTube for those who are not able to attend in person. Links to the recorded YouTube service will be posted on Facebook by noon on Sundays.

Prayer Ministry

In August, we are praying for these individuals/families: Jim & Linda Oliver, Louise Partlow, Maria Patton, Mimi (Terry) Pederson, Kevin & Jean Phillips

August Birthdays

15 Haddie Mayer
16 Sam Zehms
24 Mary Stygar
25 Sue Thompson
Peggy Norris
30 Jim Oliver
31 Matt Gilbertson
Ken Snart

Leadership Musings

Come join us for worship on Sundays at 10:30! Wear your mask! Social distancing is encouraged. We still won't be having coffee time, Communion, singing or passing of the peace as we knew it. If you feel you'd prefer not to come, join us live at 10:30 on YouTube.

In these times of uncertainty, it is important that we all stay connected. I'm challenging all our members to contact someone in the congregation at least once during the week. We all need to hear a familiar voice! Let's check on each other. Also, don't forget the video chats via Zoom with Pastor David on Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons.

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. Save your bottles and bring them in the next time we meet.

Remember the Birthday Challenge? We revived the Birthday Challenge last year. 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. Those of you who have August birthdays are challenged to make a donation.

A sign up sheet will be out for flowers to brighten up the Sanctuary. Please sign up if you are interested.

Food for Thought

Come worship with us Sunday mornings at 10:30. In case you can't join us, there will still be a virtual service with live streaming on YouTube at 10:30.

Our offering to the Community Table will be taken on August 2. It is most important we keep up this offering now because many more people are using the Community Table due to this time of high unemployment.

Please make sure you keep up to date on your pledges. We still have bills to pay. We won't be doing any of our fund raisers this year, so it's really important to keep our offerings coming in. Also, since we are not doing a Thrift Sale this year, please hold off on bringing more stuff to church. We are running out of storage space!

Please don't forget our homeless friends. Mike and his crew are out checking on the homeless to make sure they are okay. Please keep them in your prayers. They especially need donations of money at this time. Their drop off centers are closed, so they need to purchase some things for the homeless. The mailing address is Chippewa Valley Street Ministry, PO Box 51, Eau Claire, WI 54702. If you prefer, you can go to the website, chippewavalleystreetministry.org, and donate through PayPal.

Leadership Team Minutes

July 13, 2020

Members present: Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Rob Jaenke, Ben Bechle, Linda Oliver, Lil Savage, Mimi Pederson, and Pastor David



Our Moderator, Barb Kleist called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Minutes of the June meeting were reviewed and approved.

Financial Reports:

As of June 30, 2020

Year to Date Income	\$61,470.56
Year to Date Expenses	\$61,645.67
Ahead (Behind)	(\$175.11)

Treasurer's Report:

Income for June was \$4,751.00. Expenses were \$9,161.41. Envelope giving is strong. Community Table offerings through June have been disbursed, and the quarterly water bill and regular monthly bills have been paid.

Reserve Fund Balance: \$11,535.87

Memorial Fund Balance: \$6,927.56

The financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Stewardship:

No report. However, Larry requested that we no longer want thrift sale items as there will not be a sale until at least spring of 2021.

Worship:

We are back to worshipping in the sanctuary and folks are masked and keeping safe distance from each other. We also have live stream up and running so services can be viewed in real time on Facebook.

Women of Plymouth:

No report

Building and Grounds:

Jim Welk will be asked to look into the leak in the ladies' room ceiling and the leaky soap dispenser. Larry has purchased a new mower which is working very well.

Pastor's Report:

He wanted to thank everyone who is calling or keeping in touch with other members of the congregation. His vacation will be August 10–September 8. Jim Oliver will be asked to preach for the Sundays Pastor David is gone. July 21, Sound Installations will be here to run cable for our new audio/visual equipment.

Old Business:

- Barb reminded everyone to stay in touch.

New Business:

- A Tuesday Morning Book Group will use our parking lot to meet for the time being. During discussion it was decided that the fellowship room is large enough for them to use if the weather is bad.
- We will ask the housekeeper to clean every other week.
- Larry & Barb and Mimi will be gone July 26. Ben Bechle and Lil Savage volunteered to sell scrip and do disinfecting duties after worship that day.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30. Our next meeting will be August 10 at church.

Respectfully submitted,
Mimi Pederson

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>August 2020</h1>						1
2 Community Table offering 10:30 A.M. Worship	3	4 9:00 A.M. C & C	5	6 3:30 P.M. C & C	7	8
9 Prayers for the People 10:30 A.M. Worship	10 7:00 P.M. Leadership Team	11	12	13	14	15
16 OCWM offering 10:30 A.M. Worship	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 10:30 A.M. Worship	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 10:30 A.M. Worship	31					

What's C & C??

It's *Coffee and Conversation*, a virtual gathering via Zoom for folks who miss the Sunday morning coffee time at church. There is no set topic of conversation, and it's a nice way to keep in touch while we have to maintain social distance. Pastor David hosts the gatherings and posts the link on the church Facebook page. Check it out!

<https://tinyurl.com/ybmkvmf7> **Please note: There will be no C & C while Pastor David is on vacation August 10 to September 8.**