

Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

September 2021

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*Cross illumination for
September is sponsored by
Pete Spitt in memory of his
brother Wallace and his wife
Sharon.*

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

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Dear Friends and Family of Plymouth,

As the pandemic grows again, we're seeing more cases and back to wearing masks and even needing sometimes to show proof of vaccination, we're probably all feeling quite stretched, deflated, anxious, or empty in emotions and spirit. If so, please know you are not at all alone. Many of us feel the same way. Me included. I was quite hopeful and positive four months ago—so much so that we had scheduled the thrift sale and bazaar under the assumption that we'd be fine to do so, and I expected a much freer and exciting fall. But then the rate of vaccinations plummeted and have stayed low, and the Delta variant has risen up, and it feels like we've taken a year's step backward. My spirits have been down the past couple of months. After the hopeful spirit I had this spring and early summer, this has been a big blow. So if you're feeling it, you are definitely not alone.

And if you are feeling down and need to talk about it, I'm available. Please reach out: often times the simple act of talking and sharing is a way of unloading some of the burden, and feeling less anxious, less alone, and more supported.

In the meantime, Plymouth stays alive and active. We will continue to gather for Sunday worship and fellowship time; our church offices are still open from 9 A.M. to 12 P.M. weekdays; the other ministries of Plymouth continue to go on; and our work to eliminate invasives and replant native species on our campus goes at a fast pace. We have invited our neighborhood to some seminars on invasive species and to see our project, and we have talked with many of the neighbors we share a property line with and have gotten to know them through this project as well. Good things are happening, even in the midst of these anxious times. There is hope to be found in our ministry continuing, and continuing our ministry is itself an act of living into God's hope!

Blessings,



September Worship Calendar

September 5

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Community Table 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 12

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 19

17th Sunday after Pentecost

OCWM offering

Proverbs 31:10–31 or Jeremiah
11:18–20; Psalm 1 or Psalm 54;
James 3:13–4:3, 7–8a; Mark 9:30–37

September 26

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

Prayer Ministry

In September, we are praying for these individuals/families: Aurora (Matt) Robison, Mel & Bobbie Rude, Doug & Nancy Salter, Louise Sanders, Lil Savage

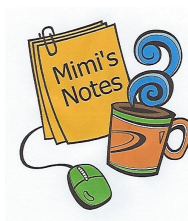
Memorials

Landscaping (*Prairie Restoration*)

Angela Hanson

September Birthdays

- 1 Linda Oliver
- 2 Steve Strassman
- 13 Benji Stygar
- 20 Keith Zehms
Christian Shufflin
- 29 Nancy Salter



Please be aware that I sometimes close the church office early on Fridays. If I have my “chores” done for the week, there’s no point in the congregation paying me to sit here and look busy. If you need to come by on a Friday, it’s best to call before you come to make sure I’m here.

Food for Thought

Communion will be September 5. There will be no pot luck this month. We want everyone to be safe. With the same thought, we have cancelled our Fall Thrift & Bake Sale. We want to be safe and caring neighbors. Our November Bazaar is on hold till the September Leadership meeting. Therefore, the planning meeting will be postponed also.



On August 31, we will have an information meeting for our neighbors and congregation on all the work we have been doing on our property. Someone from the Lower Chippewa Invasive Partnership will be there. The meetings are at 2 and 6:00 P.M. Please come join us for one of these informative meetings.

We are still recording our worship service live, to view on Facebook, for those who feel safer at home or can't make it to worship on Sunday.

Hopefully everyone will be able to get a vaccine within a few months. Even after you receive it, make sure you stay safe. Booster shots will be available eight months after your last shot for Moderna and Pfizer vaccines.

Just to get started early, the Leadership Team is looking for a few new members. Please consider joining us. You can be in on the decisions that affect our congregation and also bring new and fresh ideas. Also, if you're interested in

being Moderator, you could have a one year learning experience!

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. If you prefer, you can go to the website, chippewavalleystreetministry.org, and donate through PayPal.

Also, don't forget our Birthday challenge. We are challenging you to make a donation in your birthday month corresponding to your age. The money will be put toward future capital improvements, such as parking lot resurfacing. September birthdays, it's your turn!

It's getting closer to the time we need to order the TV's for our AV system. Any donations would be greatly appreciated.

We will have to haul away the stumps that are being pulled out on our property. This is not part of our grant funding. We have had a lot of time and labor donated for this project. We thank each and every one for that! Now it's time for the rest of us to pitch in and cover some of these costs.

See you in Church!

Leadership Team Minutes

August 9, 2021

Members present: Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Rob Jaenke, Linda Oliver, Mimi Pederson, Lil Savage, Ben Bechle, Cindy Halfen, 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. *(There was no meeting in July.)*

Financial Reports:

As of July 31, 2021

Year to Date Income	\$82,507.33
Year to Date Expenses	\$70,637.99
Ahead (Behind)	\$11,869.34

Treasurer's Report:

Envelope income through July was up nicely. All regular bills and quarterly building insurance were paid.

Memorial Fund Balance: \$10,647.67

Reserve Fund Balance: \$7,358.95

Financials reports were reviewed and accepted.

Stewardship:

- We will be selling nuts this fall.

Worship:

- Barb will order more pre-packaged communion elements as we are running low and are not sure how long we will need to use them.

Building and Grounds:

- Larry will get a quote from our snow plow provider for cleaning sidewalks, stairs, and other places Jim Welk used to take care of.

Pastor's Report:

- He had a good vacation.
- The weekend of October 10 he will attend a Native American event at Pilgrim Center, so we'll have a guest preacher. Also on October 10, the family of Paul Holmen is planning a memorial service at 6:00 P.M. We don't have many details at this point. Someone will need to be here to provide hospitality.
- He will get together with prospective members and the two technical new members to decide on a New Member Sunday .

Old Business:

- Cindy gave us an update on the Prairie Restoration project.

New Business:

- With the new surge in Covid cases in the area, the Leadership Team decided to postpone the Fall Thrift & Bake Sale to next spring. We didn't want to have to enforce a masking rule. We will make a decision regarding the Bazaar as we get closer to the date for that. Meanwhile, Sunday morning coffee will continue.
- The Eau Claire Garden Club will begin meeting here on September 13. The Leadership Team will move its regular meetings to the second Tuesday of each month.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 14 in person at church.

Respectfully submitted,
Mimi Pederson

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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September 2021

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5 Community Table offering 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	6 Labor Day Office closed	7 10:00 A.M. Quilters	8	9	10	11
12 Prayers for the People 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	13	14 10:00 A.M. Quilters 7:00 P.M. Leadership Team	15	16	17	18
19 OCWM offering 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	20	21 10:00 A.M. Quilters	22	23	24	25
26 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	27	28 10:00 A.M. Quilters	29	30		