



Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

March 2022

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

*Cross illumination for
March is sponsored by Ben
Bechle in memory of his
father, Dave Bechle.*

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Lent begins

Ash Wednesday
March 2, 2022

7:00 P.M. Worship with Communion and
Imposition of Ashes

*Daylight Saving Time begins
Sunday, March 13. Remember to
set your clocks ahead one hour
before retiring on Saturday.*



March Worship Calendar

10:30 A.M. Worship

Communion the first Sunday of the month

March 2

Ash Wednesday

7:00 P.M. Worship

March 6

1st Sunday in Lent

Community Table offering

Deuteronomy 26:1–11; Psalm 91:1–2,
9–16; Romans 10:8b–13; Luke 4:1–13

March 13

2nd Sunday in Lent

Prayers for the People

Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18; Psalm 27;
Philippians 3:17–4:1; Luke 13:31–35 or
Luke 9:28–36 (37–43a)

March 20

3rd Sunday in Lent

OCWM offering

Isaiah 55:1–9; Psalm 63:1–8;
1 Corinthians 10:1–13; Luke 13:1–9

March 27

4th Sunday in Lent

Joshua 5:9–12; Psalm 32;
2 Corinthians 5:16–21; Luke 15:1–3,
11b–32

Prayer Ministry

In March, we are praying for these individuals/families: Donald Erickson, Terri (Joe) Gilbert, Dorothy Gilbertson, Joe (Emily) Gilbertson, Matt Gilbertson, Paul (Gay) Gilbertson

Valet Service

As you may have noticed, our parking lot has gotten quite icy this winter. Because of the extreme cold weather, applying salt does not work well. So, to prevent any slipping, falling, and possible injuries, we have a few good looking gentleman willing to either park your car for you or help you from your car to the building. This service will continue until we have a clear parking lot. No reservations needed! Just come on Sunday for coffee and worship. We will assist you with either parking or an arm to help you from your car.

March Birthdays

- 2 Doug Salter
- 5 Judy Insteness
- 8 Steven Gilbertson
Joyce Holmen
Aurora Robison
Dakota Stygar
- 29 Dorothy Kruschke

Memorials

Birthday Challenge:
Lil Savage

General Fund

In memory of Norm Falch:
Larry & Barb Kleist

Food for Thought

Communion will be March 6 and we will take our offering for the Community Table. It's also the first Sunday of Lent. Wednesday, March 2, is Ash Wednesday. Our service, in person, will be at 7 P.M.

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.

Don't forget our homeless friends. Please keep them in your prayers. They especially need donations of money and warm clothing. We have a drop off box at church and whatever is donated will be taken to Good Shepherd weekly. The mailing address for monetary donations 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. March birthdays, it's your turn!

We have changed our garbage carrier. We are now with Earthbound Environmental Services. We have three types of trash cans: regular trash, recycling trash, and compost trash. Each is clearly marked with what can go in them.

Coming up April 23, the Northwest Association annual meeting is at Plymouth, from 9:30 A.M. until noon. If interested, this is a good opportunity to see the NWA at work. Also, April 30, the Eau Claire Garden Club will be having a special meeting.

Stay safe!

Order Easter flowers to decorate the sanctuary and then take them home and plant them in your own yard after Easter. The flowers may be placed in memory or in honor of a loved one. Our supplier would like our order by April 4 to guarantee availability. Please fill out the information below and return it with your payment to the church office by then if you can. Checks should be made out to Plymouth United Church of Christ.

Your name(s): _____

In memory/honor of (Please circle one) _____

_____ Lily plants at \$9.00 each \$ _____

_____ Daffodils at \$10.00 each \$ _____

_____ Tulips at \$10.00 each \$ _____

_____ Hyacinths at \$10.00 each \$ _____



TOTAL \$ _____

Good News

Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

Lent begins for us in March this year with Ash Wednesday on March 2. We will have worship that night with the imposition of ashes and celebrating Communion, as has been our tradition for a long time. During the Sundays of Lent, we will be taking our “wilderness journey” on the path to Easter. Seven weeks in which to look within ourselves, measure our discipleship, be honest about who we are and what we do well and where we need some improvement, and then make those changes. The observance of Lent is a tradition that goes way back to the early centuries of the Church. Many would count the Council of Nicea in the year 325 as the beginning of the tradition of observing Lent, though the idea of an Ash Wednesday beginning to Lent wouldn’t come for a few hundred years. The start of Lent and some other details have changed over time, but it continues still to be a symbolic representation of Jesus’ 40 days in the wilderness being tempted, and also a harkening back to the exodus out of Egypt, when the Hebrew people spent 40 years in the desert after achieving their freedom from Pharaoh and before entering the Holy Land.

We will not have our usual Soup and Scriptures this year because of Covid, so I’ll offer another way to mark the Lenten season for you. The Wisconsin Creation Care Team came across a wonderful 40-day Lenten devotional and practice focused on Earth stewardship and Creation Care. Since we have just become a Kairos Covenant Church of the Wisconsin Conference UCC, this seems a very sensible path, and I know many of you will enjoy this. We have a devotional packet, which is available on

our website (pcucc.com, follow the link at the top of the page; or you may follow the link at this explanatory page: <https://www.wcucc.org/18035-2>).

It contains a ritual of daily and evening prayer; a practice for a renewal; a children’s storybook with coloring pages; a suggested random act of climate action, or a path you might take to show your solidarity and detachment from the systems that harm our world and therefore ourselves; a daily practice of creation examen (an ancient spiritual practice of gratitude); and a weekly spiritual practice of creation lectio divina (ancient spiritual practice).

I will be using this for the four evening Vespers I do each week (Monday through Thursday nights on Facebook). I suggest that you make use of it for your daily devotional time during your Lenten journey.

Plymouth was also featured in the latest Kairos Newsletter of the Wisconsin Conference UCC for our work on our property and our process to become a Kairos Covenant church—you may read it here: <https://tinyurl.com/2p8ju9fb>

Lenten blessings to all of you,



Leadership Team Minutes

February 13, 2022

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

Our Moderator, Barb Kleist called the meeting to order at 11:31 A.M. Minutes from the January meeting were reviewed and accepted as written.

Financial Reports:

As of January 31, 2022

Year to Date Income	\$25,050.76
Year to Date Expenses	\$12,876.95
Ahead (Behind)	\$12,173.81

Treasurer's Report:

Envelope giving for January was the highest ever recorded for a single month. The normal bills were paid as well as quarterly building insurance and workmen's comp. Payments to Community Table and OCWM will be made in February.

Memorial Fund Balance: \$6,481.80

Reserve Fund Balance: \$5,443.07

The financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Stewardship:

- No further pledges have been received.
- There WILL be a Spring Thrift Sale—date to be determined.

Worship:

- There will be in-person worship on Ash Wednesday, March 2 at 7:00 P.M. and on Maundy Thursday, April 14 at 7:00 P.M. However, there will not be "Soup and Scripture" on Wednesday nights

during Lent this year (fingers crossed for next year!)

Building and Grounds:

- The faucets in both bathrooms are now working. Turns out they simply needed new batteries. Barb will consult a plumber to see if they can be adjusted so that they don't spray all over.
- Pastor David will work with Jeanny House to update the information on our website.

Pastor's Report:

- The funeral for Gloria Polden was well attended.
- He would like to take study leave May 16–22 to attend the Festival of Homiletics, and has asked to take a week of vacation May 9–15. We discussed who might fill in for him the two Sundays he's gone.

Old Business:

- We are hoping to start using the large monitors in the sanctuary the first Sunday in Lent.

New Business:

- The Team voted to reinstate coffee time on Sunday mornings and to open all seating in the sanctuary.
- The Northwest Association Annual Meeting will be held here April 23. Our hospitality duties will be minimal.

Meeting adjourned at 12:01 P.M. Our next meeting will be March 13, 2022 after worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Mimi Pederson



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>March 2022</h1> 						
		1 10:00 A.M. Quilters 7:00 P.M. Dartball Plym at Bethesda Gold	2 <i>Ash</i> Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Worship	3	4	5
6 Community Table offering 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Communion worship	7	8 10:00 A.M. Quilters 7:00 P.M. Leadership Team Dartball Rock Creek at Plym	9	10	11	12
13 Prayers for the People 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship DST begins	14	15 10:00 A.M. Quilters	16	17	18	19
20 OCWM offering 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	21	22 10:00 A.M. Quilters	23	24	25	26
27 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	28	29 10:00 A.M. Quilters	30	31		