



# Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

September 2022

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*This issue of the newsletter  
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*Cross Illumination for  
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Jim & Linda Oliver in  
memory of their parents.*

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## **Here's a bright idea...**

We have received a new shipment of free LED light bulbs. Please feel free to take as many as you wish for yourself or to share with your friends/relatives. Help yourself (and the planet!!)

## **We can no longer accept pill bottles**

We have been collecting empty prescription pill bottles to send to a group who distribute them in poor countries, and our efforts have been very successful. The Olivers volunteered to box up what we collected and send them to the folks who were getting them to where they were needed. However, things have changed. As with almost everything else, the price of shipping has dramatically increased...to as high as \$50 depending on the size of the box. Because the cost of shipping has risen so much, it will not be possible for us to continue to collect the bottles. Thank you for your participation, and a special thanks to the Olivers for boxing and sending them all this time. From now on, please recycle your pill bottles at home.

## September Worship Calendar

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**10:30 A.M. Worship**  
*Communion the first Sunday of the month*

### September 4

*13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*Community Table offering*

Jeremiah 18:1–11 or Deuteronomy  
30:15–20; Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18 or  
Psalm 1; Philemon 1–21; Luke 14:25–33

### September 18

*15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*OCWM offering*

Jeremiah 8:18–9:1 or Amos 8:4–7;  
Psalm 79:1–9 or Psalm 113;  
1 Timothy 2:1–7; Luke 16:1–13

### September 11

*14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*Prayers for the People*

Jeremiah 4:11–12, 22–28 or Exodus  
32:7–14; Psalm 14 or Psalm 51:1–10;  
1 Timothy 1:12–17; Luke 15:1–10

### September 25

*16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

Jeremiah 32:1–3a, 6–15 or Amos 6:1a,  
4–7; Psalm 91:1–6, 14–16 or Psalm 146;  
1 Timothy 6:6–19; Luke 16:19–31

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## Prayer Ministry

**In September, we are praying for these individuals/families:** Doug & Nancy Salter, Louise Sanders, Lil Savage, Pat Sexter, Denny & Rose Shepler, Larry & Irma Shepler



## Memorials

### General Fund:

Peter & Rita Van Stelle *in honor of*  
*Larry & Barb Kleist*  
Cathy Lawler

### A/V Fund:

Cathy Lawler

### Birthday Challenge:

Louise Partlow

1	Linda Oliver
2	Steve Strassman
7	Cindy Halfen
10	Lynn McFadyen
13	Benji Stygar
20	Keith Zehms Christian Shufflin
29	Nancy Salter

## Food for Thought

Communion will be September 4. We will be serving communion or we will have the sealed cups for you. We will also take our offering for the Community Table. Following worship we will have a pot luck! Bring your favorite dish to share!

We are still recording our worship service to view on Facebook, for those who feel safer at home or can't make it to worship. Please make sure you are vaccinated and boosted. This makes everyone feel safer and maybe we can get rid of COVID sooner. Even after you receive it, make sure you stay safe. Masks are available at church, for those who would still like to wear one.



Please don't forget our homeless friends. They especially need backpacks (larger in size, not child/youth size, please), gas cards (OK for "Fuel Only"), small tents (1-2 person), T-shirts (clean and in good repair) XL, 2XL, food cards for fast food, convenience stores, etc. 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, go to the website,

[chippewavalleystreetministry.org](http://chippewavalleystreetministry.org), and donate through PayPal.

September birthdays, it's your turn to think about making a donation to our Birthday Challenge. We are challenging you to make a donation in your birthday month corresponding to your age or whatever amount you are comfortable with. The money will be put toward future capital improvements, such as parking lot resurfacing.

Now that we have changed our garbage carrier to Earthbound Environmental Services, we have three types of trash cans. There's a regular trash can, a recycling trash can, and a compost trash can. Each is clearly marked with what can go in them. If you have questions, check the refrigerator. We have complete listings on the door.

We also have free light bulbs. They are LED bulbs and are free for the taking. It's a program sponsored by Focus on Energy.

Come and visit our new libraries. We have one curbside for anyone to use and we've started one inside in Fellowship Hall.

Dear friends and family of  
Plymouth,

Greetings to you all in the grace  
and love of Jesus Christ!

On Sunday mornings, after the  
prelude is finished and we are  
ready to begin worship, I first  
offer a greeting. It generally takes  
a form like the greetings that  
opened this Pastor's Pen.  
Sometimes I might say "in the  
grace of" or "in the love and peace  
of" or some other variation, but  
the sentiment is always the same: a  
moment to welcome everyone who  
has gathered as the Body of Christ  
that morning and a reminder that  
you are all loved by God.

The prelude serves as a time to  
find our seats, get comfortable,  
settle our minds and hearts,  
perhaps meditate or pray for a bit,  
and otherwise prepare for worship.  
Then we begin with a greeting  
offered in Christ's love. To greet  
someone is to say "I see you" and  
"you matter to me." To offer  
greetings in Jesus' name is to say  
that Jesus is the one who has  
gathered us and that he sees you  
and that you matter to him. To  
greet in Jesus' love reminds us that  
his love for us is what compels  
him to bring us together, and our  
love for him is what compels us to  
answer that invitation. One could  
say that the formulation I use is a  
kind of shorthand way of saying,

"On behalf of our host, Jesus, in  
whose name we have come  
together and who is present here, I  
welcome you to  
this gathering of  
his people and  
extend to you his  
love."

At the end of  
worship, we have  
a reverse greeting  
—a sending out  
that we call a  
Benediction, a  
Latin word  
meaning "good" or "well" (bene)  
"speech" (dicere). They are the  
good words for the end of  
worship, a blessing upon the  
people. The Greetings gather us in  
Christ's love and the benediction  
sends us out in Christ's love, such  
as my words ending this Pastor's  
Pen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus  
Christ, the love of God, and the  
communion of the Holy Spirit be  
with you all,

**F R O M T H E**



**PASTOR**

*Pastor  
John D*



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

Our Moderator, Barb Kleist, called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. Minutes of the June meeting were reviewed and approved. (There was no meeting in July.)

### Financial Reports:

As of July 31, 2022

Year to Date Income	\$78,053.86
Year to Date Expenses	\$80,554.84
Ahead (Behind)	(\$2,500.48)

### Treasurer's Report:

Envelope income continues to be higher than in years past. Regular bills and the building insurance were paid. Payments to OCWM and the Community Table will be made on a quarterly basis.

**Memorial Fund Balance:** \$9,800.20

**Reserve Fund Balance:** \$5,450.18

The financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

### Building and Grounds:

- Glass for the door in the sanctuary is back-ordered and will be installed when it arrives.

### Pastor's Report:

- He expressed his thanks for all the patience and prayers while he was sick. He is grateful for the liturgists who stepped up to do more of the liturgy.
- He will speak to Allen and Cathy Christensen to invite them to become members, and will offer membership to the Divine family as well.

### Old Business:

- The "Little Library" seems to be very popular with the neighborhood. More books will need to be added.
- It was decided to discontinue the collection of prescription bottles. The cost of shipping them has become prohibitively expensive (\$20-\$50).
- Cindy Halfen is preparing another grant application for \$1,000 from the WI Conference for our Creation Care project.

### New Business:

- Our serving at the Community Table would require 6-12 volunteers, and we weren't sure we could come up with that many, so we will wait to schedule a date to serve.
- August 28 at 9:30 A.M. there will be a meeting for anyone interested to determine if we are going to have some kind of fall event such as the Bazaar or a Thrift Sale. The Eau Claire Garden Club will be doing an event Dec. 2-3 and have asked if we would like to do a bake sale (like we did for their spring plant sale), so that is also an option.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 P.M. Our next meeting will be September 13, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mimi Pederson

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>September 2022</h1> 						
				1	2	3
<b>4 Community Table offering</b>  10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Communion worship 11:30 A.M. Pot luck	<b>5 Labor Day</b>  <b>Office closed</b>	6  10:00 A.M. Quilters	7	8	9	10
<b>11 Prayers for the People</b>  10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	12	13  10:00 A.M. Quilters  7:00 P.M. Leadership Team	14	15	16	17
<b>18 OCWM offering</b>  10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	19	20  10:00 A.M. Quilters	21	22	23	24
25  10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	26	27  10:00 A.M. Quilters	28	29	30	