



# Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

April 2023

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

*Cross Illumination for April  
is sponsored by Linda Oliver  
in memory of her brother,  
Douglas Newhouse.*

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**Palm/Passion Sunday, April 2**  
10:30 A.M. Communion Worship

**Maundy Thursday, April 6**  
2:00 P.M. Tenebrae Service

**Good Friday, April 7**  
12:00 P.M. Service at First Congregational

**Easter Sunday, April 9**  
9:30 A.M. Magnificent Muffins  
10:30 A.M. Celebration Worship

## Magnificent Muffins Return!

On Easter morning, April 9, we will have our Magnificent Muffin Breakfast. Bring in 1/2 dozen or a dozen muffins to share. We will start at 9:30 A.M. Make sure you get your muffins to church by that time. Beverages and fruit will be provided. If we have leftovers, we will sell them after our Easter service. Proceeds from these will go to our Landscape project or to any young campers wanting to attend summer camp. If you have any questions, please contact Barb Kleist.

# April Worship Calendar

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**10:30 A.M. Worship**

*Communion the first Sunday of the month*

**April 2**

***Palm/Passion Sunday***

***Hunger offering***

***Theme: Look for the Unexpected***

*Palm service:*

Matthew 21:1–11; Psalm 118:1–2,  
19–29

*Passion service:*

Isaiah 50:4–9a; Psalm 31:9–16;

Philippians 2:5–11; Matthew

26:14–27:66 or Matthew 27:11–54

**April 6**

***Maundy Thursday***

***Theme: Love Looks for Us, Love Can  
Look Like Us***

2:00 P.M. Worship

**April 7**

***Good Friday***

12:00 P.M. Worship at First Cong.

**April 9**

***Easter Sunday***

***Prayers for the People***

***Theme: Love Wins***

Acts 10:34–43; Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24;

Colossians 3:1–4; John 20:1–18 or

Matthew 28:1–10

**April 16**

***2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter***

***OCWM offering***

Acts 2:14a, 22–32; Psalm 16;

1 Peter 1:3–9; John 20:19–31

**April 23**

***3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter***

Acts 2:14a, 36–41; Psalm 116:1–4,

17–23; 1 Peter 1:17–23; Luke 24:13–35

**April 30**

***4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter***

Acts 2:42–47; Psalm 23;

1 Peter 2:19–25; John 10:1–10

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## April Birthdays

- 1 Eleanor Robison  
Harrison Cartmill
- 5 Rose Shepler
- 13 Pat Sexter  
Shawn Barnhardt
- 16 Anori Divine
- 21 Joanne Miller

## Prayer Ministry

**In April, we are praying for these  
individuals/families:** Jeff & Lesa Green,  
Cindy (Jerry) Halfen, Harlan & Charlene  
Hartwich, Gordy & Audrey Heimstead,  
Joyce Holmen, Judy Insteness

## Memorials

*Birthday Challenge:* Lorin & Dorothy  
Ann Divine

## Food for Thought

Communion will be April 2, Palm Sunday. We will be serving communion or we will have the sealed cups for you. We will also take our offering for the Community Table. There will no pot luck this month. Join us Easter morning at 9:30 for our Magnificent Muffin breakfast.

As mentioned, our Community Table offering will be taken on April 2. Please be generous. Some of the federal funding for those on lower incomes has ended and they are finding it harder to afford food for their families. More and more people are using the Community Table for a daily source of good food.

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 completely. Even after you receive it, make sure you stay safe.

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, and warm clothing, hooded sweatshirts along with socks, mittens, hats, jackets, and

hand warmers. 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](http://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. So April birthdays, it's your turn!



We have free light bulbs. They are LED bulbs and are free for the taking. It's a program sponsored by the Wisconsin Conference and 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.

A big THANK YOU to George Stecher for organizing and leading the Wednesday evening Lenten Gatherings.

## Quilters celebrated Quilting Month

March was Quilting Month and our industrious group of quilters celebrated in a big way. Since last November, they made and have now donated 35 quilts—and all this while having taken six weeks off during the harshest part of winter! And they even found time to make a very special quilt for Mimi's son from the Star Wars sheets he had as a child (he's 45). Their skill and dedication are a blessing to our congregation and to those who receive the fruits of their labor.



## Used Tarps Needed

Have an old tarp you need to get rid of? Cindy Halfen and her group of volunteers will be using tarps to kill some of the invasive plants around the garage and fire pit area. It doesn't matter what shape they are in, they will be put to good use. Bring them to church and we will make sure Cindy gets them! (Of course you may want to wait until the snow melts!)

## Offering envelopes

Running short of your offering envelopes? Let Mimi know and she will give you a fresh supply.

Dear friends and family of  
Plymouth,

On April 9 we will celebrate Easter, the day that Jesus rose from the dead after being crucified. In the history of the Church, this has been the most important day of the year, signifying Jesus' triumph over death, the true power of love over the false power of violence. I hope that you will join your church family in celebrating together and witnessing together again the resurrection of Jesus, the one whom we follow. Join us for breakfast in the morning at 9:30 A.M. (see elsewhere for information about that) and then worship with special music at 10:30 A.M.

Before Easter, we'll be witnessing Holy Week, beginning with Palm/Passion Sunday in worship on April 2, our Maundy Thursday service on April 6 (note the time change to 2 P.M.), and Good Friday worship (at First Congregational UCC at noon) on April 7.

Wishing you all Easter blessings  
in this season,





# Leadership Team Minutes

March 5, 2023

Members present: Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Linda Oliver, Louise Partlow, Ben Bechle, Mimi Pederson, Mike Tschumperlin, Pete Spitt, Cindy Halfen, Rob Jaenke, and Pastor David

Our Moderator, Barb Kleist, called the meeting to order at 11:50 A.M.

## Financial Reports:

As of February 28, 2023

Year to Date Income	\$37,603.20
Year to Date Expenses	\$14,980.39
Ahead (Behind)	\$9,940.96

## Treasurer's Report:

Year to Date envelope income is incredible. Expenses paid in February were the usual bills. Disbursements to Community Table and OCWM will be done in March and on a quarterly basis going forward.

**Memorial Fund Balance:** \$11,297.88

**Reserve Fund Balance:** \$9,875.99

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

## Stewardship:

- Larry is still working on closing the Music Fund account at Wells Fargo.

## Building and Grounds:

- The clock in the fellowship room is finally working!
- Cindy talked about our landscape project. We will ask for donations of tarps (for smothering weeds)
- The garage will get cleaned out this spring and probably the old playground equipment will be torn down and removed. We've been concerned about the neighborhood children using it and our liability if

there were to be injuries.

- We discussed getting an AED—probably something we should have in the building. Cindy mentioned that the Red Cross has training for their use and has them available for purchase at a discount.

## Worship:

- The schedule for Holy Week and Easter Sunday is set and will be in the April newsletter.

## Pastor's Report:

- Our new Associate Conference Minister, Rev. Michael Jones, will be here Sunday, March 12 for a “meet and greet” during coffee time. He will also preach.
- New member orientation for the Sprouse family will be Thursday, March 9.
- The Conference offices in DeForest have closed. The facility was sold.

## Old Business:

- Linda Oliver purchased and donated a variety of children's books for our libraries.
- Our OCWM pledge for 2023 will be whatever is given.

## New Business:

- Ben Bechle is resigning from the Leadership Team after this meeting. He is moving out of the area.
- The Leadership Team has decided to meet on Sundays after worship from now on.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 P.M. Our next meeting will be April 16, 2023 after worship.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mimi Pederson



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>April 2023</h1>						1
<b>2 Palm/Passion Sunday</b> <b>Hunger offering</b>  10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Communion worship	3	4	5	<b>6 Maundy Thursday</b>  2:00 P.M. Worship	<b>7 Good Friday</b>  12:00 P.M. Worship at First Cong.	8
<b>9 Easter Sunday</b> <b>Prayers for the People</b>  9:30 A.M. Magnificent Muffins 10:30 A.M. Worship	10	11  10:00 A.M. Quilters	12	13	14	15
<b>16 OCWM offering</b>  10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	17	18  10:00 A.M. Quilters	19	20	21	22
23  10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	24	25  10:00 A.M. Quilters	26	27	28	29
30  10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship						