

# Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

July 2023

Published monthly by  
**Plymouth UCC**  
2010 Moholt Drive  
Eau Claire WI 54703  
**Phone:** 715-835-5475  
**Web:** pcucc.com

**Ministers:** All the people

**Pastor:** Rev. David Huber  
david@pcucc.com

**Church Secretary/Editor:**  
Mimi Pederson  
mimi@pcucc.com

*Cross Illumination for July  
is sponsored by Larry &  
Barb Kleist in honor of their  
wedding anniversary.*

## Inside

Worship Calendar . . . Page 2  
Birthdays . . . . . Page 2  
Memorials . . . . . Page 2  
Food for Thought . . . Page 3  
Pastor's Pen. . . . . Page 4  
Leadership Team  
Minutes . . . . . Page 5  
Calendar . . . . . Page 6



On July 7 and 9, we have invited people of the UCC, Wisconsin Conference to come and take a look at all we have done to our property. Cindy Halfen and Keith Zehms will be there to talk to people about everything that was done. If you know of anyone else who is interested, please invite them.



Coming up on Wednesday, August 16 at 7 P.M., Songs & S'mores around the campfire. Come and enjoy fellowship, music, and dessert!



Also, mark your calendar for a Bake/Craft sale. We are planning the event for Saturday, November 11! At this point the Garden Club will not be joining us. Get your ideas together for what you want to make! We need crafts and baked goods!

# July Worship Calendar

---

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

## **July 2**

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

**Hunger offering**

Genesis 22:1–14 or Jeremiah 28:5–9;  
Psalm 13 or Psalm 89:1–4, 15–18;  
Romans 6:12–23; Matthew 10:40–42

## **July 23**

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

Genesis 28:10–19a or Isaiah 44:6–8;  
Psalm 139:1–12, 23–24 or Psalm  
86:11–17; Romans 8:12–25; Matthew  
13:24–30, 36–43

## **July 9**

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

**Prayers for the People**

Genesis 24:34–38, 42–49, 58–67 or  
Zechariah 9:9–12; Psalm 45:10–17 or  
Psalm 145:8–14; Romans 7:15–25a;  
Matthew 11:16–19, 25–30

## **July 30**

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

Genesis 29:15–28 or 1 Kings 3:5–12;  
Psalm 105:1–11, 45b or Psalm  
119:129–136; Romans 8:26–39;  
Matthew 13:31–33, 44–52

## **July 16**

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

**OCWM offering**

Genesis 25:19–34 or Isaiah 55:10–13;  
Psalm 119:105–112 or Psalm 65:(1–8),  
9–13; Romans 8:1–11; Matthew 13:1–9,  
18–23

---

## **July Birthdays**

- 7 Hailey Barnhardt
- 9 Louise Partlow
- 10 Gracie Cartmill
- 11 Mel Rude
- 17 Bill Sprouse
- 18 Kayla Stygar
- 19 Megan Eisberner

## **Prayer Ministry**

**In July, we are praying for these individuals/families:** John & Sandy Moore, Linda Oliver, Louise Partlow, Maria Patton, Mimi Pederson, Kevin & Jean Phillips

## **Memorials**

*Landscaping:* Cindy Halfen

*In memory of Dorothy Gilbertson:*  
Mary Foote, Family and Friends

## Food for Thought

Communion will be July 1. We will be serving communion or we will have the sealed cups for you. We will also take our offering for the Community Table and there will be a pot luck that day. Our pot luck will be in honor of Pete Spitt. He really enjoyed the food and the fellowship. Bring a dish to share. Summer favorites would be ideal.



As mentioned, our Community Table offering will be taken on July 1. Please continue to 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. Even though COVID is on the down side, please make sure you are vaccinated and boosted. Maybe we can get rid of it completely.

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, large size backpacks; gas or food cards, fast food cards. There is a great need for water and gatorade, so monetary gifts would be greatly appreciated. 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. July birthdays—it's your turn!

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

If anyone knows of a family member or member of this congregation who is in the hospital, please let the church office know. Unless someone tells us, we don't know if you're in the hospital.

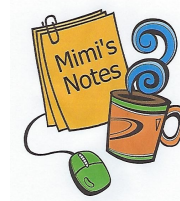
## Our Quilters are busy!



In just the first three months of 2023, they have made and donated 50 quilts to Western Dairyland and five quilts to Dove!

## From the archives...

According to *The Plymouth News* dated October 1969, the **total** budget for 1969 was \$29,264!



There will be times that I will close the church office early on Fridays if all my work is done. If you need to stop by, it's probably best to call first to make sure I'm still here.

Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

In June, the Wisconsin Conference had its annual meeting. Cindy Halfen and I attended. She gave a wonderful presentation on the work that we've been doing on our property planting pollinator gardens. Many thanks and kudos to Cindy for not only guiding our crew here, but for a great presentation! We also attended a wonderful seminar on "Leading through change", led by a UCC minister from St. Louis. We learned many things about leading people through times of change, and also about how the times that we are in bring change on an almost daily basis, within the church and in the world in general.

As part of our business at the annual meeting, the Wisconsin Conference voted (unanimously, I believe) to become a WISE Conference. WISE stands for Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged, an official designation offered through the UCC Mental Health Network to congregations, conferences, and other faith communities and organizations. Our denomination adopted the WISE Congregation for Mental Health Resolution at the United Church of Christ General Synod in 2015, and since then, Conferences and congregations have been studying and working toward adopting in their contexts. The resolution followed a year of discussion by a critical mass of Wisconsin UCC congregations. Wisconsin is the fourth WISE conference in the denomination.

This is an important and prophetic step forward (through these times of change!) offering the church's support for and inclusion of people with mental illness. While talking about mental illness is becoming more common and the shame and stigma are slowly being removed, there is still a lot of negativity that people with mental illness are subjected to, and the church has often been more of a hindrance than help. With this vote, we have decided that as a Conference we will begin showing Christian love and compassion toward those who are too often shunned by society and even by churches. More information about this is available on the Conference website: <https://www.wcucc.org/conference-congregations-can-earn-wise-designation/>

In other news, our Conference office staff are now all officially moved in at their new offices at Daycholah Center after the sale of our office building in DeForest. Our old office building was sold to a young couple who are medical practitioners who are turning it into a holistic healing clinic and who will continue to protect and improve the land as we did.

For all who are traveling, may you be safe and enjoy your time away!

Blessings,



# Leadership Team Minutes

June 18, 2023

Members present: Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Linda Oliver, Deb Zehms, Mimi Pederson, Mike Tschumperlin, Cindy Halfen, and Pastor David

Our Moderator, Barb Kleist, called the meeting to order at 11:40 A.M.

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and accepted.

## Financial Reports:

As of May 31, 2023

Year to Date Income	\$55,774.17
Year to Date Expenses	\$58,821.53
Ahead (Behind)	(\$3,047.36)

## Treasurer's Report:

Year to date Envelope income is \$6,649 less than last year at this time, but \$18,794 over the average going back to 2009. Cindy was reimbursed for the expenses she had as our delegate to the Conference Annual Meeting. Normal monthly bills were paid. OCWM and Community Table will get caught up after June.

**Memorial Fund Balance:** \$13,447.52

**Reserve Fund Balance:** \$9,888.44

The Leadership Team directed that the money collected at the Easter Muffin breakfast be transferred to the Contingency Fund in Memorials since we have no youth attending camp this year. They also authorized a \$100 Kwik Trip card be given to our housekeeper because she never submits a bill for her labor and has had some extra work lately.

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

## Building and Grounds:

- The playground has been taken down, and the garage clean-up is ongoing.
- Cindy reported that they plan to start planting shrubs this fall between us and our neighbors. She will ask the

Conference for a Creation Care grant to cover the cost of the plants.

## Worship:

- Our next pot luck is July 2 (not a cookout)
- The quilters are working something new for the Prayer Station.

## Pastor's Report:

- He did an outside wedding last week.
- At the Annual Meeting the Conference voted to be more aware and pro-active for people struggling with mental health issues.
- He had a good time at the Festival of Homiletics.
- Lyle & Sylvia Carlson would like to become members.

## Old Business:

- Our libraries are doing fine. Linda Oliver doing a good job keeping the "Little Free Library" stocked and tending the library in the Fellowship Room.
- July 7 and 9, 9:30–12:30 we will host an "open house" of sorts for anyone from the Conference to come and tour our outdoor property to see how we are caring for creation by getting rid of invasives, planting pollinator friendly native plants, etc.
- Our fall Bake/Craft sale is scheduled for November 11

## New Business:

- We will have a Wednesday night campfire sing-along August 16 at 7:00 P.M. Watch for details as we approach the date.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 P.M. Our next meeting will be August 13, 2023 after worship.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mimi Pederson





A cartoon illustration of a smiling bee with large eyes and antennae, sitting on top of a large pie. The pie has a yellow crust and a blue filling, with three red hearts on top. The pie is in a blue dish.

Featuring BBQ's/Hot dogs and all the fixings...  
and of course PIE!

Wednesday, July 12

Truax Congregational UCC  
1008 50<sup>th</sup> St, Eau Claire