



Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

March 2025

Published monthly by
Plymouth UCC
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Ash Wednesday
March 5, 2025

2:00 P.M. Worship with
Communion and Imposition of Ashes
Please note the time change.

Wednesday Evening Soup Suppers and Discussion

Wednesday Lenten soup suppers are returning! We will gather for fellowship, discussion, and a simple meal of soup, bread, and bars at 6 P.M. in the Fellowship Room on March 12, 19, 26, and April 2 and 9. If you are coming from work or school and arrive a little late that's ok! If you'd like to provide soup, bread, or bars, please sign up on the sheet in the entryway.

There's no book to read this year and no preparation is necessary. Each week we'll have a different theological topic and we'll share our ideas. For example, the topic might be "why doesn't God stop bad things from happening?" Perhaps you will benefit from someone else's way of looking at it or maybe your ideas will help someone else. We'll also ask why the topic is relevant to us. If you have questions, please contact George Stecher.



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March Worship Calendar

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

March 2

Transfiguration Sunday

Community Table offering

Exodus 34:29–35; Psalm 99;
2 Corinthians 3:12–4:2; Luke 9:28–36
(37–43)

March 5

Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1–2, 12–17 or Isaiah 58:1–12;
Psalm 51:1–17; 2 Corinthians
5:20b–6:10; Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

March 9

1st Sunday in Lent

Prayers for the People

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

March 16

2nd Sunday in Lent

OCWM offering

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 23

3rd Sunday in Lent

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

March 30

4th Sunday in Lent

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

March Birthdays

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

Prayer Ministry

In March, we are praying for these individuals/families: Matt Gilbertson; Paul (Gay) Gilbertson; Steven Gilbertson; Jeff & Lesa Green; Cindy (Jerry) Halfen; Harlan & Charlene Hartwich

Memorials

Birthday Challenge:

Lil Savage
Keith, Deb, and Sam Zehms

Food for Thought

Communion will be March 2. We will be serving communion or we will have the sealed cups for you. We will also take our offering for the Community Table. On Ash Wednesday, March 5 we will have communion and imposition of ashes. There will be no pot luck in March.

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. COVID, RSV, and the flu are still around in our community. Masks are always available at church if you would like to wear one. Flu shots are still recommended this season! The COVID vaccine is still available, along with the RSV vaccine. Make plans to get yours soon.



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. We have a collection box in the Gathering area or else you can send a check to CVSM, PO Box 51, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0051. Here is a needs list from the Street Ministry: hooded sweatshirts, warm jackets, mittens, hats, hand warmers, all in larger sizes so that they can layer. Also, monetary gifts are very welcome.

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 our next big repair project. March birthdays, it's your turn!

Come and visit our libraries. We have one curbside for anyone to use and we've started one inside in Fellowship Hall. Different books are added frequently.

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. Also, make sure the hospital knows you belong to Plymouth UCC. On the same subject, we would like emergency contacts for all our members. We have forms on the counter next to the office or you can contact Mimi to give her that information

Gift Cards

Just a reminder that the church is selling gift cards from the following businesses: Festival Foods, Kwik Trip, Menards, and Target. We carry these cards all the time. This is a quick and easy fundraiser! Festival cards are in \$50 & \$100 denominations, Kwik Trip are also at \$50 and \$100. Menards cards are at \$25 & \$100. Target cards are at \$25 & \$50.

The church is able to purchase these cards at a discount with the profit going to our General Fund. Last year we were able to make over \$1500 profit. The cards can be used like cash and do not have to be used in one visit.

In addition, there are many other cards that are available by special order. Here are some of them: Ace Hardware, CVS Pharmacy, Domino's Pizza, Fleet Farm, Kohls, Panera Bread, Papa Murphy's, Scheels, Subway, Walmart, and Walgreens. If you have any questions, please contact Larry or Mimi.

Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

Lent begins almost immediately in March! Wednesday, March 5 is Ash Wednesday. We will gather for worship at 2 P.M. for Communion and imposition of ashes. For those of you who are working at that time, you are invited to participate in the Ash Wednesday service at First Congregational UCC (310 Broadway) at 7:00 P.M.

Lent is our yearly time of looking within ourselves and evaluating our discipleship as we prepare for the miracle of Easter morning resurrection and celebrate the promise of new life and rebirth. As we have long done, we will gather on Wednesday nights for a soup dinner and time for discussion of matters of faith. See elsewhere in this newsletter for a blurb about what those evenings will look like.

Easter is late this year: not until April 20. Which I hope means that we will have a nice warm day for a beautiful Easter morning worship, and then go home and enjoy our holiday feasts on the patio if we want! We are in that time of year when the hope of spring and Easter are what can get us through the remaining weeks of cold and dark. And in trying times, may the hope of Easter lead us ever forward.

Blessings to you all on your Lenten journeys,



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 March 12 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 \$12.00 each \$ _____

_____ Daffodils at \$13.00 each \$ _____

_____ Tulips at \$13.00 each \$ _____

_____ Hyacinths at \$13.00 each \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____



Leadership Team Minutes

February 9, 2025

Members present: Barb Kleist, Larry Kleist, Dorothy Ann Divine, Bill Sprouse, Rob Jaenke, Lil Savage, Lyle Carlson, and Mimi Pederson

The meeting was called to order at 11:50 A.M. The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and accepted after one correction was made.

Financial Reports:

As of January 31, 2025

Year to Date Income	\$30,214.24
Year to Date Expenses	\$14,080.66
Ahead (Behind)	\$16,133.58

Treasurer's Report:

Envelope income of \$28,467 is from a couple large deposits. Expenses included building insurance, workers' compensation, and the annual fee for Access Security

Memorial Fund Balance: \$5,774.34

Reserve Fund Balance: \$24,017.33

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Stewardship:

- Pledges are even with last year

Worship:

- Ash Wednesday is March 5. We need to figure out the time for the service and if we want some sort of meal.

Building and Grounds:

- We need to run the dishwasher at least a couple times a month.

Pastor's Report:

- No report as he is on vacation.

Old Business:

- The libraries are being well looked after by Linda Oliver
- Barb will contact Eric Nielsen and Bill Sprouse for pulpit supply during David's sabbatical. She'll also talk to folks at Street Ministry, Stand in the Light Memory Choir, and Community Table about having representatives come and give talks (in place of sermons).

New Business:

- Lyle Carlson has been added to the Leadership Team, and Lil Savage has volunteered to be the Moderator-Elect for 2026.
- Our housekeeper is having some health issues and will take the month of February off. That means we'll have to step in and keep the building clean. There will be a sign-up sheet in the alcove.

Meeting adjourned at 12:22 P.M. Our next meeting will be Sunday, March 9, 2025 after worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Mimi Pederson



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>March 2025</h1>						1
2 Hunger offering 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	3	4 10:00 A.M. Quilters	5 Ash Wednesday 2:00 P.M. Worship	6	7	8
9 Prayers for the People 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Leadership Team DST begins	10	11 10:00 A.M. Quilters	12 6:00 P.M. Lenten supper	13	14	15
16 OCWM offering 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	17	18 10:00 A.M. Quilters	19 6:00 P.M. Lenten supper	20	21	22
23 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	24	25 10:00 A.M. Quilters	26 6:00 P.M. Lenten supper	27	28	29
30 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	31					



Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 9. Be sure to set your clocks *ahead* one hour before bedtime Saturday night.