



Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

April 2025

Published monthly by
Plymouth UCC
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*Cross illumination for April
is sponsored by Mike
Tschumperlin in memory of
Audrey and Marybeth
Tschumperlin.*

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Palm/Passion Sunday, April 13

10:30 A.M. Worship

Maundy Thursday, April 17

2:00 P.M. Tenebrae Service

Good Friday, April 18

12:00 P.M. Service at First Congregational

Easter Sunday, April 20

9:30 A.M. Magnificent Muffins

10:30 A.M. Celebration Worship

Magnificent Muffins Return!

On Easter morning, April 20, we will have our Magnificent Muffin Breakfast. Bring in a half 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. A free will offering will be taken. The money will go to our Contingency Fund. Then join us for our Easter Service at 10:30! If you have any questions, please contact Barb Kleist.

Dear Plymouth Members,

I'm sure you are all still in shock about Pastor David leaving us. He was with us for 20 years, a long time for a pastor to stay. He started out kind of tentative, made a few mistakes, but learned and grew from them. He helped us through the fire, the COVID pandemic, the deaths of some of our beloved members, and the welcoming of new ones. With him and because of him we've grown into a strong, caring, and loving congregation. We definitely are "The small Church with the big Heart." (from

the back of our T-shirts)

While our "Big Hearts" will grieve his departure after 20 years together, we know his continued ministry will bless another congregation. We rejoice in the time and memories we share. We thank Pastor David for his 20 years of dedication.

Now we're facing another challenge. The transition period will seem long and maybe will be long, but your Leadership Team will be working hard for our church. Due to planning underway for the sabbatical Pastor David was going to take this summer, we are ahead in having several exciting plans in place. I've also been in contact with Rev. Franz Rigert, the Wisconsin Conference Minister. He also has some excellent ideas for us.

Your Leadership Team will be working hard for our congregation. Our goals are to keep our schedule as normal as possible, to bring interesting ideas to you that will help us continue to be strong and grow and thrive.

The first thing we will be doing is planning a farewell dinner for Pastor David. The date will be May 4, after worship. We were thinking of having our famous pot luck. More details will be coming soon. Anyone wanting to help with that, please let me know. Also, on May 4, we will be taking a free will offering as thank you gift to Pastor David.

After that we will form a Search Committee, putting together our thoughts as to what characteristics we want for a pastor and what we can afford.

Your Leadership Team is: Barb Kleist, Moderator; Lil Savage, Moderator Elect; Mimi Pederson , Financial & Leadership Team Secretary; Rob Jaenke, Treasurer; Larry Kleist; Cindy Halfen; Deb Zehms; Lyle Carlson; Bill Sprouse; Dorothy Ann Divine and Louise Partlow. If you have any questions or just want to talk with someone or if you have any ideas, please contact one of us.

Blessings to you all and remember—***We are the Church!***

Barb Kleist
Moderator



April Worship Calendar

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

April 6

5th Sunday in Lent

Community Table offering

Isaiah 43:16–21; Psalm 126;

Philippians 3:4b–14; John 12:1–8

April 13

Palm/Passion Sunday

Prayers for the People

Liturgy of the Palms:

Luke 19:28–40; Psalm 118:1–2, 19–29

Liturgy of the Passion:

Isaiah 50:4–9a; Psalm 31:9–16;

Philippians 2:5–11; Luke 22:14–23:56 or
23:1–49

April 17

Maundy Thursday

2:00 Tenebrae Service

April 18

Good Friday

12:00 Noon Service at

First Congregational UCC

April 20

Easter Sunday

OCWM offering

Acts 10:34–43 or Isaiah 65:17–25;

Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24; 1

Corinthians 15:19–26 or Acts 10:34–43;

John 20:1–18 or Luke 24:1–12

April 27

2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:27–32; Psalm 150 or Psalm

118:14–29;

Revelation 1:4–8; John 20:19–31

April Birthdays

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

Prayer Ministry

In April, we are praying for these individuals/families: Joyce Holmen; Judy Insteness; Rob & Linda Jaenke, Carter, Morgan; Pat Kerr; Larry & Barb Kleist

Memorials

Birthday Challenge:

Marisa Johnson

Joyce Holmen

In memory of her parents, William &

Florence McCombs:

Judy Insteness

Food for Thought

Communion will be April 6. 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 be a pot luck—our first cookout! Bring your favorite dish to go with brats and burgers!

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. The CDC is recommending you get a second COVID shot after six months.



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. With federal funding being cut, there are very few options for the homeless. We have a collection box in the Gathering area for clothing, 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, in larger sizes so that they can layer; sleeping bags and blankets; men's underwear—new is preferred in all sizes. Also, monetary gifts are very welcome. They purchase city bus passes to provide those that need transportation to work or appointments. Also if they need some items not donated, they have to purchase them.

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. April 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

Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

By now you have likely heard from me and from Barb and the Leadership Team that I have accepted a call to a church in Honolulu, and will be moving in May. Your Leadership Team has been faithful and diligent in preparing Plymouth for the transition—you are in very capable and dedicated hands! My thanks to all the Team and to Moderator Barb. Please offer them your thanks, and also your prayers, as they guide you through this journey.

This month, we are finishing our time of Lent. On April 13 we will have our Palm/Passion Sunday worship service with a reading of the Passion narrative. Maundy Thursday worship with Communion and Tenebrae will be April 17 at 2:00 P.M. (or you can join First Congregational UCC for their 7:00 P.M. service if you cannot get out in the afternoon). As we have done for many years, our Good Friday worship will be an ecumenical gathering of a number of congregations at First Congregational UCC at 12:00 P.M. on April 18. The service this year will focus on the Seven Last Words of Christ, with readings from scripture and some beautiful poetry that highlights each moment in the passion story.

And then because God's final word is always a word of new life and goodness, Lent finishes with a celebration of Easter resurrection! We will have a music-filled and joyful Easter worship on the morning of April 20, along with our traditional muffin breakfast before. If you've been thinking of inviting someone to join you in worship, Easter Sunday is a perfect time to invite them! Bring them to hear the Good News that God loves them dearly.

Continued blessings in your Lenten journeys, and may you experience God's surprising and unending love on Easter morning,



Leadership Team Minutes

March 2, 2025



Members present: Barb Kleist, Larry Kleist, Dorothy Ann Divine, Bill Sprouse, Rob Jaenke, Lil Savage, Lyle Carlson, Cindy Halfen, Deb Zehms, Rob Jaenke, Mimi Pederson, and Pastor David

The meeting was called to order at 11:45 A.M. The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and accepted after one correction was made.

Financial Reports:

As of February 28, 2025

Year to Date Income	\$38,100.24
Year to Date Expenses	\$24,840.16
Ahead (Behind)	\$13,260.08

Treasurer's Report:

Profits from the sale of nuts in 2024 will be transferred from Scrip/Nut checking to General Fund. Payments to OCWM and Community Table will get caught up at the end of the first quarter.

Memorial Fund Balance: \$6,995.34

Reserve Fund Balance: \$24,024.70

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

New Business:

Pastor David was given the floor, and he presented his letter of resignation to the Leadership Team. He has accepted a call to a UCC congregation in Hawaii. Yuki will join him there and they will finally be able to be together permanently. His last Sunday with Plymouth will be May 4. A copy of Pastor David's letter will be emailed/mailed to the congregation in the coming week.

Barb passed out literature from the Conference regarding the call process. The Leadership Team will draft a letter to the congregation to explain the process and ask for volunteers for the Search Committee. Because there will most likely be a lot going on May 4, the Team decided to move communion to April 27.

Meeting adjourned at 12:25 P.M. Our next meeting will be Sunday, March 23, 2025 after worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Mimi Pederson

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>April 2025</h1> 						
		1 10:00 A.M. Quilters	2 6:00 P.M. Lenten Soup supper	3 1:30 P.M. Leadership Team	4	5
6 Hunger offering 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship 11:30 A.M. Pot luck	7	8 10:00 A.M. Quilters	9 6:00 P.M. Lenten Soup supper	10	11	12
13 Palm/Passion Sunday <i>Prayers for the People</i> 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Leadership Team	14	15 10:00 A.M. Quilters	16	17 Maundy Thursday 2:00 P.M. Tenebrae Service	18 Good Friday 12:00 P.M. Good Friday Service at 1 st Cong.	19
20 Easter Sunday <i>OCWM offering</i> 9:30 A.M. Muffin Breakfast 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. Communion Worship	28	29 10:00 A.M. Quilters	30			

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