

# Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

June 2009

Published monthly by  
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**Wednesday, June 3**  
**3:30–7:00 P.M.**

**Homemade Pie & Ice Cream**

**BBQ, Beans, Potato Salad**

**Takeouts available!**

### Flowers for the Sanctuary

Since we are coming up on the time when all your beautiful gardens will be in bloom, why don't you share a bouquet with us on Sunday morning? We can have more than one bouquet a week. Just bring them in and find a member of the Worship Commission who will place them for you. Worship Commission members are Cyndi Bradbury, Louise Partlow, Christena Strandt, Barb Kleist, George Stecher and Gene Peissig. Let's make our sanctuary look like summer.

If you have access to the Internet, please consider receiving this newsletter online. It will save paper, printing costs and postage. Contact Mimi at mimi@pcucc.com to be put on the electronic mailing list. **Otherwise, you will continue to receive a paper copy of the newsletter.**

# Getting ready for church

## June Sunday Worship Notes

### 10:30 A.M. Worship

*Communion the first Sunday of the month*

#### June 7

*Trinity Sunday*

*(1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost),*

*St. Francis Food Pantry offering*

Isaiah 6:1–8, Psalm 29,

Romans 8:12–17, John 3:1–17

#### June 21

*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

*Father's Day*

1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4–11, 19–23), 32–49,

Psalm 9:9–20 or Job 38:1–11,

Psalm 107:1–3, 23–32,

2 Corinthians 6:1–13, Mark 4:35–41

#### June 14

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost,*

1 Samuel 15:34–16:13, Psalm 20 or

Ezekiel 17:22–24, Psalm 92:1–4, 12–15,

2 Corinthians 5:6–17, Mark 4:26–34

#### June 28

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

2 Samuel 1:1, 17–27, Psalm 130 or

Wisdom of Solomon 1:13–15, 3:23–24,

Psalm 30, 2 Corinthians 8:7–15,

Mark 5:21–43

## Food for Thought

St. Francis Food Pantry can still use money and basic food items, grocery bags (plastic and paper), motel-size soaps, lotions, shampoos and body wash. We will continue to take our special offering for them on the first Sunday of the month. The total we collected for both months of matching funds for St. Francis was \$1093.37. Good job Plymouth!!

June 7 we will again have our monthly pot luck. No theme this month, just bring in what ever you want to make. The pot lucks for the rest of the summer will be on July 12, which will be joint pot luck with Truax after our worship service, and August 2.

We have set a date for serving at the Community Table. It is Saturday, August 29, so mark your calendars. More information and a sign up sheet will be coming soon.

**In June, we are praying for these individuals/families:** Floyd & Pat Sexter, Denny & Rose Shepler, Larry & Irma Shepler, Isa (Jesse) Small, Jamie Stafford, Ardith Starr, George & Kay Stecher

## Memorials

! Gifts to the **Memorial Fund (designated):** *For Memory Garden flowers in memory of Don Kamrowski:* Pat Kamrowski

! Gifts to the **Memorial Fund (undesignated):** *In honor of Jeanne Zehms' 90<sup>th</sup> birthday:* Gordy & Audrey Hiemstead

## Birthday open house

Dorothy Preston and her family are celebrating her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on Sunday, June 7. Friends are welcome to stop by her home at 1809 Valmont Avenue from 1:00 to 4:00 P.M. that day. No gifts, please.

### June Birthdays

- 2 Joanne Lowry
- Jeanne Strassman
- 4 Deb Zehms
- 7 Dorothy Preston
- 8 Rob Jaenke
- 9 Ruth Blake
- 10 Carter Jaenke
- 13 Floyd Sexter
- Adam Wendt
- 15 Gordy Heimstead
- 16 Onita Jorgensen
- 17 Linda Ross
- 18 Elizabeth Leuck
- 19 Morgan Jaenke
- 20 Denny Shepler
- 27 Jim Welk
- 29 Stephanie Leipnitz

\* \* \*

Dear Sunday School Children,  
 Thank you so very much for the cards and beautiful picture frame you gave me on my confirmation. It was so thoughtful of you, and I can't wait to put my picture in the frame. I will always remember each of you when I look at the picture frame. I look forward to watching each of you grow on your faith journey in our church. You will enjoy the experience. Thank you again for your kindness.

Adam Wendt

Spring has sprung and new life is all around. Our church has just confirmed four youth: Megan Eisberner, Nathan Stygar, Adam Wendt, and Sam Zehms. What an incredible journey they have been on these past few years! Welcome to Plymouth UCC Church! We encourage you to stay involved and be an active member of your congregation.

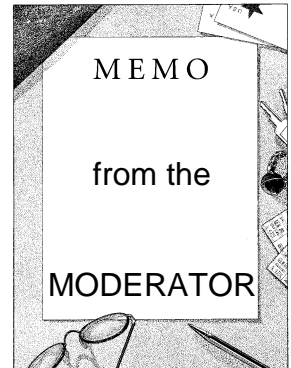
It amazes me the amount of time and talents all of you give our church. The many functions we sponsor are filled with dedicated people willing to serve their congregation. Your support whether it is in human power, monetary fashion, or spiritual guidance pulls us all together. We are truly a family, so let's stick together!!

Remember to join us for our May church clean-up outside! Come join us on Saturday, May 30 to spruce up the outside of our church: rake, weed, plant, etc. Also, our covered entryway outside to the front entrance is in need of painting. On our clean-up day, hopefully we can get this entryway painted. Thank you to our anonymous giver of money towards the paint. Your generosity is appreciated.

Nancy Wendt

### Community Table seeking donations

As Community Table moves into its new space, it is seeking approximately \$150,000 for new equipment. Because of Plymouth's commitment to St. Francis Food Pantry, we are not taking a special offering for this, but if any of you wish to donate beyond your giving to St. Francis, your gifts will be appreciated. Please submit your donations directly to Community Table, PO Box 1903, Eau Claire 54702.





*Pastor's Pen*

Dear Friends,

We brought four new members into our congregation on May 17 through confirmation of faith in an uplifting and beautiful worship service. Sam, Adam, Nathan, and Megan all were excellent worship leaders. Their statements of faith and scriptural testimonies were thoughtful, orthodox, and personal. As I mentioned on Sunday, a significant part of our UCC tradition, going back to the Puritans, is the belief in testimonies of faith, not tests of faith. Which is to say that each of us has the right and the responsibility to make our faith our own. But this is not purely individual—we do so within our faith community, challenging and edifying one another. This was a radical departure from Catholicism and the Church of England. It's what makes our denomination and tradition so vibrant and also makes it so difficult for others (especially the media) sometimes to understand the United

Church of Christ. I wouldn't trade it for anything, though! Our young members' diverse and thoughtful statements of faith (or we could call them testimonies of faith) are meaningful testimony to the way God's Holy Spirit moves differently in each of us.

We are also a denomination made up of Christians of all sorts of backgrounds. On that Sunday, Plymouth UCC consisted of confirmands from many traditions: 8 ELCA, 5 Missouri Synod Lutherans, 5 Presbyterians, 5 Methodists, 6 Catholic, 1 Reformed Church of America, 1 Christian Reformed, 1 Disciples of Christ, 6 United Church of Christ, and 6 who had been confirmed at Plymouth, plus a number of members baptized at Plymouth (or Second Congregational) before our church had confirmation. We are a big tent denomination and a big tent congregation, and I am thankful for it as I am thankful for the witness of our four newest members!

*Pastor David*

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Dear Members of Plymouth Church,

Thank you so very much for your support these past three years as I engaged on my journey toward confirmation. There have been so many of you who have been involved in that process. Everything you have taught and shared with me has been a part of who I am today. Much thanks to Barb, Pastor David, the Christian Education Commission, and the Executive Council for their guidance along the way. It is a pleasure to finally be an official member of the Plymouth congregation.

I would also like to thank the Christian Education Commission for sponsoring the great reception held after our service. It was a wonderful way to share with everyone the specialness of that day. Your kindness was much appreciated as well as the hard work you did to get it ready. To the musicians who filled the sanctuary with beautiful music, I thank you for your talents. Thank you, Plymouth, for all you have done and will do on my faith journey. You are an important part of my family.

Adam Wendt

Members present: Jim Welk, Rob Jaenke, Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Nancy Wendt, Aurora Bradbury-Schoening, Char Kozlowski and Pastor David

Nancy called the meeting to order and opened with devotions. The April Council minutes were reviewed and approved.

### Financial Reports:

As of April 30, 2009

Year to Date Income	\$34,292.28
Year to Date Expenses	\$39,444.02
Ahead (Behind)	(\$5,151.74)
Building Fund Balance	\$27,025.17
Memorial Fund Balance	\$5,665.69

### Financial Secretary Report/ Treasurer:

Income this month was \$8,104.11, expenses were \$12,203.93 leaving us with an April loss of \$4,099.82 and a check book balance of \$3,992.79. Part of the income this month was \$1,180.00 from the Nut Fund. Large expenses this month were health insurance and retirement quarterly payments. We also paid St. Francis Food Pantry \$1,093.37. The current bank balance, as of May 9 is \$394.66. We had a deposit in the beginning of May of \$2,577.50 and \$930 from the thrift sale and a \$1,000 transfer from the Reserve Fund.

### Memorial Fund Report:

The balance for the end of the month is \$5,665.69. Mimi has redone the report so we can keep better track of donations. The money in the undesignated and general fund areas will be used to offset some of the \$2,584.25 we had borrowed previously. Rob will also check on the service charge.

### Building Fund Report:

No report

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

### Christian Education Commission:

Confirmation will be May 17. There will also be a "reunion" of people who have been confirmed at Plymouth. There will be a short reception following worship.

### Stewardship Commission:

The thrift sale results were \$970 for the general sale and \$300 for the bake sale. The results are down by about \$200 over last year, but we had very few large items this year. The Pie & Ice Cream Social is June 3 from 3:30 to 7. Many workers and pies are needed. The display case was discussed; they need to determine what is going in it, before they can set the size.

### Worship Commission:

Helping with confirmation on May 17. On June 7, Christian Shufflin will become a member.

### Service Commission:

They took the Mother's day gifts from the kids to the shut-ins.

### Building and Grounds:

Yard clean up day will be May 30 from 9 A.M. until whenever. Someone has donated the money for the paint for the entry way, so that can be done. The company that put in our carpet in the Sanctuary is giving away free Red Oak saplings. We will contact them and tell them we would like one.

### Women of Plymouth:

They have been working on getting people signed up for making pies for the Pie & Ice Cream Social.



*Minutes continued  
on page 6 ...*

*Council Minutes  
continued ...*

**Quilters**

The quilt for eBay is ready. They would like a minimum bid of \$50. Larry will take care of getting it put on eBay.

**Pastor's Report:**

Pastor David made 15 visits in April. He will be at the WI Conference Annual Meeting June 12–14, MADD Camp June 14–20 and on vacation July 27–August 17. Rev. Stratton will cover any pastoral emergencies. The joint worship with Truax will be here on July 12.

**Mission Committee:**

We have signed up to serve the Community Table on August 29. We will have to contact them again, since they are moving and changing some of their rules and regulations. The pot lucks for the summer will be June 7, July 12 (with Truax), and Aug 2.

**WI Conference Meeting:**

The annual meeting is June 12–14 in Green Lake and we need one more representative.

**New Business:**

- We have had a request to transfer membership for Cindy and Todd Konsella. Larry moved that we accept this transfer with regrets. Aurora seconded, motion passed.
- Mimi sent us a thank you note for the flowers we sent on Office Administrators Day.
- There will be a non-member wedding at the church on June 20. All the fees have already been paid. We will need a church member present, probably at about 1:30. Nancy mentioned we should review our building use policies. So everyone has a chance to look at them in the Leadership Manual, we will review next meeting.
- Nancy has cards for us all to sign for the Confirmation class.

- Pastor David has been approached by First Congregational whether we and Truax would like to join in raising funds for new equipment for the Community Table. Since our main focus is on St. Francis Food Pantry, it was suggested that we bring it up in the newsletter and maybe an announcement to give people an opportunity to donate if they would like, and not do any kind of an organized fund raising.

Pastor David closed with a prayer.

Meeting adjourned 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted, Barb Kleist

**Be a sponsor!**

Sponsor an issue of the newsletter, a weekly bulletin, or the illumination of the cross on the front of our building in memory or in honor of someone or in honor of a special event, or even just because! Bulletin and newsletter sponsors will be recognized in the issue they sponsor. Cross sponsors will be listed in all publications for the month of sponsorship. Support a bulletin for \$15, a newsletter for \$50, or illuminate the cross for \$50. Sign-up sheets are on the table outside the sanctuary.