



Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

September 2011

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Plymouth UCC
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*Cross illumination for
September is sponsored by
Don & Leatrice Mathison in
memory of Martha
McCarthy.*

*The September issue of
Good News is sponsored by
Dorothy Gilbertson.*

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Sunday, September 18 Backpack Blessing

- 9:15 A.M. Sunday School & Adult Study
- 10:30 A.M. Worship
- 11:30 A.M. Pot Luck



“Beatitudes Attitudes” was a great success

Overall, Vacation Bible School (“Beatitudes Attitudes”) was a great success. In addition to making pillows as a local mission project, we also adopted the “What If? Foundation” as a mission project to help feed hungry kids in Haiti. Thanks to the support of the congregation, we raised over \$150.00! That’s about 250 meals! We truly made the Beatitudes come alive during this wonderful week.



Working on art for the sanctuary.



Carter and Morgan Jaenke and John Stecher are involved in making pillows for use by Western Dairyland. We are hoping they bring “comfort” (relating to the Beatitudes theme) to kids in need in the area.

September Worship Notes

September 4
12th Sunday after Pentecost
St. Francis Food Pantry offering
Exodus 12:1–14; Psalm 149;
Romans 13:4–14;
Matthew 18:15–20

September 11
13th Sunday after Pentecost
Prayers for the People
Exodus 14:19–31; Psalm 114;
Romans 14:1–12; Matthew 18:21–35

September 18 **Rally Sunday**
14th Sunday after Pentecost
Backpack Blessing & OCWM offering
Exodus 16:2–15; Psalm 105:1–6;
Philippians 1:21–30; Matthew 20:1–16

Food for Thought

~~The next pot luck will be September 18,~~
Rally Day. The theme will be “Garden
Fresh” dishes.

Don’t forget September 4 we will also
be taking our monthly offering for St
Francis. As you travel this summer,
remember that the food pantry needs
those travel size shampoos, etc. that
motels/hotels provide.

Mark your calendars! We will serve at
the Community Table on Saturday,
October 1 and we will need lots of help!
The sign up sheet will be out on
September 18.

September 25

GETTING READY FOR CHURCH

15th Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 17:1–7; Psalm 78:1–4, 12–16;
Philippians 2:1–13; Matthew 21:23–32

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

**In September,
we are praying
for these**

individuals/families: Micah & Jennifer
Adams, Jackie Andersen, Loraine Berg,
Lorena (Paul) Berge, Carmen
Bernhagen, Donald & Ruth Blake, Jim
(Mina) Bliss, Sophie Bliss

Social Witness to Love and Peace

When: Sunday, September 1
at 4:00 P.M.

Where: Public parking lot across from
the Unitarian Universalist Congregation
at the corner of Gray and Farwell Street.

On the tenth anniversary of 9/11, please
stand with us in interfaith and
community solidarity for love, peace,
and diversity. We stand on the side of
love of neighbor, rather than hate,
oppression or fear.

We are called to love our neighbors and
welcome the stranger. In the face of fear,
we choose love. This social witness of
solidarity is an important way to show
that we can stand together in love rather
than apart in fear or ignorance on this
important day of remembrance.

September Birthdays

- 1 Jim Ross
- 2 Steve Strassman
- 6 Katelyn Phillips
- 9 Nicole Ivkovich
- 13 Benji Stygar
- 15 Josie Hulke
- 16 Sam Wedge
- 19 Sophie Bliss
- 20 Keith Zehms
- 22 Kathryn Hamilton
- 25 James Bliss
- 29 Nancy Salter
Audrey Salter

Thanks!

... but we're not out of the woods yet

Thanks to everyone who responded to our Red Letter. At this point we are only slightly below our giving level from last year. However, we are still in a financially precarious position because our expenses for lawn service, snow removal and electricity have increased. We have had to borrow \$6,000 from the Building Fund in order to keep our heads above water, and it will take a united effort from everyone to keep our financial boat afloat. Here's how you can help: Make sure you are up to date with your pledge for this year. (You can call Mimi at 715-835-5475 during office hours to find out your status.) If you are up to date, please consider a special gift to Plymouth. Finally, please support all of the fund raising projects offered by Plymouth, such as the Thrift Sale, the Pie and Ice Cream Social, the Bazaar and the Mega Scrip Program (for details on how this works, see the next article). Again thanks ... together we can do what needs to be done.

Scrip comes to Plymouth

For the last couple of months, some members of Plymouth Church have been participating in the Mega Scrip program. It is a painless, cost-free fundraiser for our church. Here is how it works: On Sunday, you fill out a form requesting Mega Scrip cards for \$25, \$50, and/or \$100. You pay for the cards when you order, with cash or check made out to Plymouth. We are able to keep 3% of the money that is paid for the cards, and pay Mega the remaining amount. So, if you pay for a \$100 card, we pay Mega \$97 and keep \$3 to help pay our bills. The next Sunday, your gift cards will be waiting for you at church to spend at Mega or Mega Holiday at their full value. Use them at Mega Holiday, and get cheaper gas for paying cash! So, by helping the church, you also gain that cash discount!

This is a fundraiser that costs you nothing, requires almost no effort on your part, and can save you money. In the two months or so that we have been participating, we have earned \$157. We hope that more members of the church will be willing and able to participate in this ongoing fundraiser. If you are a shopper at Gordy's or Festival, and would be willing to buy Scrip cards for those locations (which includes Gordy's gas stations as well), please let Larry Kleist know this. If enough people would buy Scrip cards for those businesses, we will offer them along with Mega cards.

Scrip order forms are on the table by the entrance to the sanctuary. See Larry or Deb Zehms if you would like help with your order form. Please consider buying Scrip. What an easy way to help our church pay the bills!

Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

PASTOR'S PEN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

August 15, 2011



I am taking two weeks of vacation in September for two very different events. In the first, I will head back to NYC to be there for the 10th anniversary of the 9-11 attacks (and also to see friends I haven't seen in a long time, eat at some favorite restaurants, and hang out in beloved haunts). I haven't been back there since 2005, so this is a much looked forward to trip, and I thank you for the time to do this. The second vacation is a two-fold joy. The first part is that I am taking the time off to be present at my niece Andrea's wedding. The second joy is that my long-term love Yuki is coming. So if I seem distracted in September, you'll know why!

Lastly, I highlight for you a special event, "Standing on the side of Love" (details on page 2), an ecumenical and interfaith showing of solidarity for love, peace, and diversity. Christians, Jews, Muslims, and possibly others will gather to witness to love of neighbor and to stand up against fear. This is a powerful day to make a witness of solidarity that we need stand apart in fear but can and must stand together in love.

Many blessings,

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.



Pastor David will be on vacation September 5–12 and September 19–26. While he is away, Rev. Mark Pirazzini from First Congregational UCC will cover any pastoral emergencies. You can reach him at 715-834-2668.

Members present:
Deb Zehms, Barb

Kleist, Rob Jaenke, Kay Stecher, Louise
Partlow, Aurora Bradbury-Schoening,

and Pastor David
Huber.

Deb called the meeting to order. The July Council minutes were reviewed and approved as corrected.

Financial Reports:

As of July 31, 2011

Year to Date Income	\$71,004.28
Year to Date Expenses	\$70,441.22
Ahead (Behind)	\$563.06
Building Fund Balance	\$15,759.26
Memorial Fund Balance	\$4,125.32

Treasurer's Report:

Income this month was \$14,354.30, expenses were \$14,058.00; leaving us with a July gain of \$296.30 and a check book balance of \$597.09. \$6000.00 was borrowed from the Building Fund. \$2000.00 was deposited from the Women of Plymouth. \$57.75 was deposited from the Mega SCRIP cards.

Reserve Fund Report:

Balance of \$1031.55 at the end of July.

Memorial Fund Report:

The balance for the end of the July is \$4,125.32.

Building Fund Report:

\$6000 was loaned to the General Fund. The balance at the end of July was \$15,759.26.

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Christian Education Commission:

VBS 2011—"Beatitudes Attitudes" was a great success! Many thanks to the Christian Education Commission, Pastor David, and Dorothy Gilbertson for their leadership, and to the

children—Carter, John, and Morgan for making it all come alive! Soft and cuddly pillows made by the children will be distributed by Western Dairyland. This will be an ongoing mission for our Sunday School. We collected \$140 to send to the "What If Foundation" during VBS week. This organization feeds hungry children in Haiti. Many thanks to everyone who so generously contributed to this worthy cause! This congregation is great!

Stewardship Commission:

Rob reported that the Mega SCRIP cards seem to be working well. We made \$57.75 this month, \$156.00 year-to-date. Also discussed opening SCRIP for Gordy's and Festival, if there is enough interest. People should contact Larry if they are interested in either business.

Worship Commission:

Barb reported that the outdoor worship will be held Aug. 24, with s'mores, campfire songs and a casual worship service. All are welcome! Communion Sunday will be Sept. 4. Rally Day will be Sept. 18, and include the Blessing of the Backpacks with a potluck following.



Minutes continued on page 6 ...

**Council Minutes
continued ...**

Service Commission:

We will continue to announce the new cards for the Service Commission record keeping. This helps us keep track of which shut-ins are being visited by members of the congregation, so that we can be sure no one is missed.

roadside sign. We are looking at fixing the electricity to the lighting for the current sign vs. installing a new lit sign.

- We received a parking lot sealant estimate, but it is too high.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 P.M.

Building and Grounds:

Larry is working on the warranty packet for the siding.

Respectfully Submitted
Aurora Bradbury-Schoening

Women of Plymouth:

Louise reported the Bazaar will be Nov. 5.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor David thanked everyone for the opportunity for he and Lynn to attend the Shift! Event camp at Pilgrim Center for new music. A lot was learned about music in progressive worship, and a good confirmation that we have been doing many things correctly. New music was acquired, looking forward to implementing it in services. The NWA Division on Church and Ministry has met twice at Plymouth, and it is working out to be a good partnership. The Conference is progressing in the new structure, with adjustments being made.

**July
Financial Summary**

Income:	\$14,354.30	
Expenses:	\$14,058.00	
July gain:	\$296.30	
\$6000.00		was borrowed from the Building Fund
\$2000.00		was given by the Women of Plymouth
\$57.75		was deposited from Mega SCRIP
\$700.00		was paid for May & June lawn mowing
•		Quarterly insurance and retirement payments were made
\$190.50		was sent to OCWM
\$245.00		was sent to OCWM Special Supports. We are up to date on both.
\$502.00		was given to St. Francis Food Pantry

Other Business:

- Plymouth participated in the Chippewa Valley Pride festival with a booth and flyers about our Open and Affirming views.
- We received a letter that the wooded lot needs to be tidied where it is dropping on neighbor's lawns.
- Deb and Hannah are painting the

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>September 2011</h1>  <p>September</p>						
				1	2	3
4 St. Francis Food Pantry offering 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	5 Labor Day Office Closed Pastor David gone Sept 5–12	6 10:00 A.M. Quilters	7	8	9	10
11 Prayers for the People 9:30 A.M. Stewardship Commission 10:30 A.M. Worship	12 7:00 P.M. Executive Council	13 10:00 A.M. Quilters	14	15	16	17
18 Rally Sunday Backpack Blessing OCWM offering 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Pot luck	19 Pastor David gone Sept 19–26 7:00 P.M. Christian Education Comm.	20 10:00 A.M. Quilters	21	22	23	24
25 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Worship Commission	26	27 9:00 A.M. Bible study at Loraine's 10:00 A.M. Quilters	28	29	30	