

Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

March 2012

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**Cross Illumination for
March is sponsored by Kay
Stecher**

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Coming soon to Plymouth

Some nice changes are coming for our SCRIP program here at Plymouth. Until now, we have sold SCRIP cards from Mega and Gordy's, but they had to be ordered a week ahead of time. Soon, the SCRIP cards you want will be "in house" and available the same day. In addition, we'll be adding cards from Kwik Trip. Mega and Gordy's give us a 3% discount* and Kwik Trip will give us a 10% discount! (*During February, March and April, Gordy's has increased our discount to 5%.) This program is a great way to provide extra support for *our* bottom line without affecting *your* bottom line.

The Annual Thrift Sale is coming up April 27 and 28.

Now is the time to check your closets, attics and garages for all the extra items you no longer want or need.



Pre-priced items should be brought to church beginning April 23 for this all-important money raising event. Please watch for the sign-up to help at the sale too!



Daylight savings begins March 11. Be sure to set your clocks *ahead* before retiring on March 10.

GETTING READY FOR CHURCH

March Worship Notes

10:30 A.M. Worship

Communion the first Sunday of the month

March 4

2nd Sunday in Lent

St. Francis Food Pantry offering

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9

March 18

4th Sunday in Lent

OCWM offering

Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

March 11

3rd Sunday in Lent

Prayers for the People

Daylight Savings Begins

Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

March 25

5th Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

In March, we are praying for these individuals/families: Faye LaPean, Catherine Lee, Esther Lee, Bill & Julie Leipnitz, Steve & Ann Leipnitz, Joanne Lowry



Wednesday evenings we will gather at 6:00 P.M. for a soup supper followed by study focusing on the Lord's Prayer.

March 7 *Give us this day our daily bread.*

March 14 *And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*

March 21 *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*

March 28 *For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.*

Food for Thought

We will have pot luck on March 18 after church to celebrate St Patrick's Day. Bring your favorite St Patrick's Day dish.

During the months of March and April, St Francis Food Pantry will receive a matching grant for all the money donated and will also get money toward any canned item donated. So let's try to donate a little more money or canned goods during these two months! We will take our Food Pantry offering on March 4 and April 1.

As you travel, remember that the food pantry needs those travel size shampoos, etc that motels/hotels provide.

March Birthdays

- 2 Doug Salter
- 3 Stacy Kleist
- 4 Claire Cramblit
- 5 Esther Lee
Kay Stecher
Judy Insteness
- 6 Erma Phephles
- 8 Aurora Robison
Steven Gilbertson
Joyce Holmen
Dakota Stygar
- 10 Jeremy Green
- 11 Andrew Salter
- 20 Loraine Berg
- 24 Peter Holmen
- 29 Dorothy Kruschke
- 31 Gladys Green

Memorials

● Gifts to the **General Fund:** *In memory of Bill & Carole Knight:* Tom & Sue Thompson

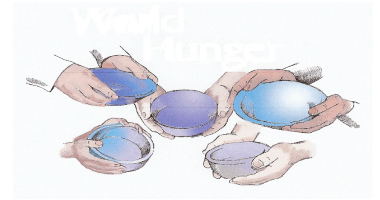
● Undesignated gifts to the **Memorial Fund:** *In memory of Bill Knight:* Gary & Jacqueline Reich

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.

Empty Bowls Benefit

This benefit for Feed My People Food Bank will take place Thursday, March 8 from 11:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1314 E Lexington Blvd. The meal includes choice of four soups, delicious breads, beverage and choice of dessert. The price for the meal and a hand-made pottery bowl is \$18; the meal alone is \$8. Children 10 and under may eat for free. Tickets are available from Barb Kleist. You can also order tickets online at www.fmpfoodbank.org



The Need List

The following is a list of items that are needed by the church. Next time you are in the grocery store and see these items, pick one up and donate it! This is one way to help out with the church budget!

1. Paper towels
2. Kleenex
3. Hand soap
4. Toilet paper
5. Garbage Bags-XL
6. "The Works" toilet bowl cleaner
7. Pledge Wipes
8. Pine Sol
9. Lemonade
10. Napkins

Here is another way to help: Instead of donating these items, buy a SCRIP Card from Mega Foods and then someone can buy the items as needed. The church will get the items needed plus make a little money on it!



PASTOR'S PEN



Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

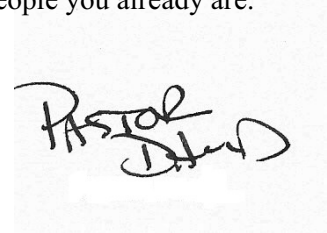
Darrick Carter, George and Kay Stecher, and I are learning about how to be a fruitful congregation. Our first meeting with our trainer, Julie (from the Osseo UCC), was about Radical Hospitality. We are good at that, and our trainer was impressed with the hospitality of our building and grounds and our members.

We learned that hospitality begins with simple things like inviting someone to church. Most people who come to church do so because of an invitation (sometimes from the pastor, most times a member). Also important is inviting visitors to enjoy coffee and snacks before worship, and pointing out the bathrooms.

We learned that some church's hospitality includes rocking chairs in the sanctuary for mothers with babies. Or things like unlocking all the entrance doors, especially double doors like ours. (Speaking personally, I consistently choose the locked

one at double doors, and it does get frustrating). Providing first-time visitors name tags then making official ones so they have it when they return. Inviting a visitor to lunch after worship. Taking cookies to their home. Sending a letter of thanks for visiting. Having the sanctuary at a comfortable temperature and music that is singable and meaningful.

My number one lesson is this: how someone experiences our hospitality is how they will experience Christ. I am glad the Christ we offer, through greetings and the content of our worship, is a friendly and inviting Christ of love and grace. We have made and will make some changes. We also ask that you all say "hello" to visitors and help them with directions, wear your nametags, and be the welcoming people you already are.



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. Please fill out the information below and return it with your payment to the church office by **March 26**. Checks should be made out to Plymouth United Church of Christ.

Your name(s): _____

In memory/honor of (Please circle one) _____

____ Lily plants at \$8.25 each \$ _____

____ Daffodils at \$8.25 each \$ _____

____ Tulips at \$8.25 each \$ _____

____ Hyacinths at \$8.25 each \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

February 13, 2012

Members present: Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Rob Jaenke, Louise Partlow, Kay Stecher, Jim Welk, Charline Kozlowski, and Pastor David Huber

Barb called the meeting to order. The January Council minutes were approved as written.

Financial Reports:

As of January 31, 2012

Year to Date Income	\$8,524.29
Year to Date Expenses	\$9,181.11
Ahead (Behind)	(\$656.82)
Building Fund Balance	\$10,827.58
Memorial Fund Balance	\$6,720.42

Treasurer's Report:

Income this month was \$8,524.29, expenses were \$9,181.11; leaving us with a January loss of \$656.82 and a check book balance of -\$651.55. In February monies were transferred from the Nut Fund to cover this negative balance.

Reserve Fund Report:

Balance of \$394.63 at the end of January.

Memorial Fund Report:

The balance for the end of January is \$6,720.42. Amount for General Fund of \$1,200 will be transferred to General in February.

Building Fund Report:

The balance remains \$10,827.58.

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Christian Education Commission:

The February Film Festival will continue through the end of the month. Thanks to all who loaned movies to us. All money raised goes to help our campers go to Moon Beach this summer. There will be no Sunday School for Youth on Feb. 19. The Youth helped promote the Souper Bowl of Caring on Feb. 5. Thanks to the congregation for donating \$378.00 to be given to the St. Francis Food Pantry. Well done!

Stewardship Commission:

Met Feb 12. Ash Wednesday's meal will be soup, bread, and bars. The Thrift Sale will be April 27 and 28 (tentative). SCRIP will be pre-funded so you will be able to receive your cards on the same day you order. Kwik Trip cards, with 10% of purchase going to church, will also be available along with Mega and Gordy's cards.

Worship Commission:

Lenten services were discussed. The theme will be "The Lord's Prayer." Services will begin at 6:00 with a soup supper and discussion at 7:00 each Wednesday, including Ash Wednesday. Changes to our Sunday morning bulletins: On Communion Sundays, the note in the bulletin will leave out "baptized Christians" and add "interested persons." New bulletins with sign-up sheets included so we will not need pew pads. Easter Sunday will again be at 9:30 A.M.

Service Commission:

Has new cards for visitation.



Minutes continued on page 6 ...

*Council Minutes
continued ...*

Building and Grounds:

Motion lights: need to repair or check on new motion lights. The lawn mower should be working. A schedule will be done closer to spring.

Women of Plymouth:

No meeting yet, but they are talking about planning a “Cabin Fever Break-Out.”

Pastor’s Report:

He made 26 visits this January. The UCCI board will be voting on a new Managing Director at Pilgrim Center.

Old Business:

- Council given homework to look at congregational ideas to see which ones we think would work.

New Business:

- Membership list review: We need to update and make necessary corrections.
- We have been asked by First Congregational to join them and Truax in a Summer Worship.

The next meeting is March 12, 2012 at 7:00 P.M.

Jim moved to adjourn and Kay seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted
Louise Partlow

Shut-in visits

The Service Commission has been expanded to include all members of Plymouth. If you visit, call, or even send a card to one of our shut-ins or another member of the congregation, we’d like to know (so that no one “falls through the cracks”). Visitation Report cards are available on the table and are easy to fill out. If you feel that something should be brought to the pastor’s attention, there’s even space to jot it down on the back of the card. Completed cards can be dropped into the manila envelope marked for them.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>March 2012</h1> 						
				1	2	3
4 St. Francis Food Pantry offering 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	5	6 9:00 A.M. Bible study 10:00 A.M. Quilters	7 6:00 P.M. Soup & Scripture	8	9	10
11 Prayers for the People 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 9:30 A.M. Stewardship Commission 10:30 A.M. Worship DST Begins	12 7:00 P.M. Executive Council	13 9:00 A.M. Bible study 10:00 A.M. Quilters	14 6:00 P.M. Soup & Scripture	15	16	17 
18 OCWM offering 9:15 A.M. Sun Sch & Adult Study 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Pot luck	19 7:00 P.M. Christian Education Comm.	20 9:00 A.M. Bible study 10:00 A.M. Quilters	21 6:00 P.M. Soup & Scripture	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 10:00 A.M. Quilters	28 6:00 P.M. Soup & Scripture	29	30	31