

Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

May 2016

Published monthly by
Plymouth UCC
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This edition of the newsletter is sponsored by an anonymous benefactor.

Cross illumination for May is sponsored by Craig Zehms and the Zehms Family in memory of Jeanne Zehms.

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Strengthen the Church

Each year, we receive a special offering called Strengthen the Church, that calls our congregations to be “church” in new ways. Your gift will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches, and

develop spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Because of this offering, many more will hear the good news that “God is still speaking.”

We will receive this offering on May 15—the birthday of the church—Pentecost Sunday. We invite you to celebrate by giving to Strengthen the Church. Your generous gift today ensures a vibrant church tomorrow.

Thrift Sale

May 14 is our Spring Thrift Sale. We need lots of goods to fill the church. This is a good time to clean out your closets, cupboards, basements and garages.

Start bringing in your pre-priced items now. If you have a friend or neighbor who is having a sale before ours, let them know we would be happy to take their leftovers. We will even pick it up! And don't forget to sign up to help set up and/or work at the sale!



May Worship Notes

10:30 A.M. Worship

Communion the first Sunday of the month

May 1

6th Sunday of Easter

St. Francis Food Pantry offering

Acts 16:9–15; Psalm 67; Revelation
21:10, 22–22:5; John 14:23–29 or John
5:1–9

May 8

7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16–34; Psalm 97; Revelation
22:12–14, 16–17, 20–21; John 17:2–26

May 15

Pentecost

Strengthen the Church offering

Acts 2:1–21 or Genesis 11:1–19; Psalm
104:24–24, 35b; Romans 8: 14–17 or
Acts 2:1–21; John 14:8–17 (25–27)

May 22

Trinity Sunday

Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31; Psalm 8;
Romans 5:1–5; John 16:12–15

May 29

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 18:20–39 or 1 Kings 8:22–23,
41–43; Psalm 96 or Psalm 96:1–9;
Galatians 1:1–12; Luke 7:1–10

In May, we are praying for these individuals/families: Kevin & Jean Phillips, Kenny (Annette) Polden, Gloria Polden, Aurora (Matt) Robison, Mel & Bobbie Rude, Doug & Nancy Salter

Food for Thought

Let's celebrate Memorial Day with a brat fry and pot luck. Join us Sunday, May 29 for brats and burgers and bring a dish to go with! Don't forget our Food Pantry offering will be taken on May 1.

Please don't forget our homeless friends. As always, the Street Ministry can use money or gas cards or water.

Thank you!

I'd like to thank the members of Plymouth, the Leadership Team, and Pastor David for the thoughtful gifts and flowers for Administrative Professionals' Day. The folks at Plymouth sure know how to make someone feel appreciated! Mimi

May Birthdays

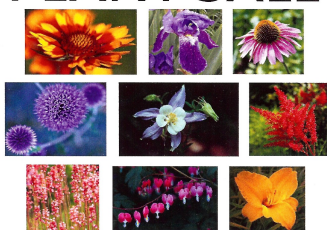
- 1 Tami Eisberner
- 6 Tyrone Stygar
- 7 Sandy Moore
- 8 John Stecher
- 11 Ann Leipnitz
Tony Shepler
- 15 Azariah Ivkovich
- 16 Lilah Eastzman
Paul Gilbertson
Ericka Leipnitz
- 18 Micah Adams
- 22 Ashley Page
- 30 Linda Jaenke

Plymouth Tee Shirts

Did you miss out on ordering the new Plymouth tee shirts? It's not too late! We have already had a few people who would like to order. So let Mimi, Pastor David, or Deb know the size/s and numbers, and as soon as we get six requests for tee shirts, we will be able to place the order. Payments go to Mimi. Checks should be made out to Plymouth UCC. The cost per shirt is \$10, and order forms are available on the table outside the sanctuary.



PLANT SALE



May 21
9:00 A.M.–Noon

Piedmont College Choir

The Piedmont College Singers, Demorest, Georgia will present a concert at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 310 Broadway Street, Eau Claire, WI on Tuesday, May 3 at 7:00 P.M. The Singers, under the direction of Dr. Wallace Hinson, is a select, 52-voice choir that is known for their vocal precision and expressive singing. Piedmont College is a private, liberal arts institution with campuses in Demorest and Athens, Georgia. The College, founded in 1897, is historically linked to and supported by the national Association of Congregational Christian Churches and the United Church of Christ. The concert is free and open to the public. For more information regarding the performance, please contact First Congregational Church, 715-834-2668.

Mark your calendars!

- ✓ **May 14** is our Spring Thrift & Bake Sale. The Westridge Neighborhood Association and Unity Church are also having sales that day
- ✓ **June 4** is our clean-up-the-yard day. There is a job for everyone. Weeding, cleaning up the patio, windows, painting, we can find a job for all.
- ✓ We want to clean up the yard in time for the Pie & Ice Cream Social on **June 8**. As soon as the Thrift Sale is over, sign up sheets will be out for that event.
- ✓ **July 17** We are signed up to do the Brat Stand at Festival Foods that day. Details will be coming next month.



Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

I thank you all for your generosity in the past year. We recently received our report from the Wisconsin Conference about our giving to our denomination's special offerings in 2015. You, the members and friends of Plymouth, gave a total of \$2,355.70 to our denomination.

You gave \$190 to Neighbors in Need, which supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the US. One-third supports the Council for American Indian Ministry, two-thirds is used by the Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

You gave \$325 to One Great Hour of Sharing, which provides relief to refugees and to people in areas suffering natural disaster by providing clean water, food, medicines, shelter, healthcare, education and so much more.

You gave \$405.70 to our Christmas Fund, which provides financial help to low-income retired church workers, such as clergy, missionaries, teachers, and so on.

You gave \$1,385 to Our Church's Wider Mission, 80% of which stays here in the Wisconsin Conference to provide staff and resources to support our two beautiful outdoor ministry sites, clergy training and education, our lay academy, multiple youth events and confirmation retreats, and so much more. Twenty percent goes to our denomination to support our national ministries and our foreign ones, missionaries, seminaries, publishing house, curriculum, worship materials, and so much more.

Thank you for your generosity to the special ministries of the United Church of Christ! Your generosity helps make the mission and ministry of this denomination a reality, just as your generosity also makes the mission and ministry of this congregation a reality.

Coming up we are baptizing Graham Gilbertson on May 8.

Pentecost is May 15, so please wear red—the color of fire and the Holy Spirit!

And our May pot luck will be May 29!

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor David".



Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

April 18, 2016

Members present: Rob Jaenke, Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Louise Partlow, Deb Zehms, and Jim Welk

Plymouth's Leadership Team met on Monday, March 14 at Culver's on Folsom Street at 7:00 P.M. The minutes from the March meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

Financial Reports:

As of March 31, 2016

Year to Date Income	\$28,770.21
Year to Date Expenses	\$28,627.95
Ahead (Behind)	\$142.26

Treasurer's Report:

Income for March was \$8,310.27. This includes \$1,500.00 from Reserve Fund. Total expenses for the month were \$8,254.12, leaving us with a March gain of \$142.26. Envelope income was up \$3,300.00 from previous seven years' average.

Reserve Fund Report:

The balance is \$2,194.33.

Memorial Fund Report:

The balance is \$969.82.

Street Ministry Report:

The balance is \$2,316.96.

Financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Building and Grounds:

Jim Welk has been working in removing some downed trees. He also checked the garage roof—will make some minor repairs needed. A new sign for special events will be made—a more permanent sign. It will be moved slightly to make exiting the driveway easier to see. Clean-up Day is June 4.

Christian Education Commission:

No report at this time.

Stewardship Commission:

Thrift & Bake Sale—Saturday, May 14.

Pie & Ice Cream Social—June 8

Service Commission:

Visits are ongoing by Pastor David and other church members. Please remember to fill out a visitation card—even for phone visits. Sending cards would be appreciated also.

Worship Commission:

Neighborhood Association meeting April 25. Joanne Miller and Mary Burns will act as hostesses for this. Mother's Day is May 8 and we'll have a baptism that day. Garden Club will have a plant sale on May 25.

*Minutes continued on
page 6 ...*

*Council Minutes
continued ...*

Women of Plymouth:

Election Day Bake Sale was very successful. Yielded approximately \$450. Thanks to everyone for all of your help.

Pastor's Report:

Chippewa Valley Dementia Choir will be using our church for practice on Thursdays starting in August. Pastor David was not at the meeting as he had another meeting on this night.

Old Business:

- Tee shirts—Deb will place another order. Please let her or Mimi know if you would like one

Next meeting of the Council will be Monday, May 16 at Culver's.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.


Respectfully Submitted
Louise Partlow

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.

Don't forget your SCRIP cards!

SCRIP cards are now available for Mega Holiday, Gordy's, Festival, and Kwik Trip. It is a painless, cost-free fundraiser for our church. Here is how it works: They are available for \$25, \$50, and/or \$100. We keep 3% of what is paid for Festival, 5% Gordy's, and Kwik Trip cards, and 10% for Mega Holiday cards. And at Kwik Trip, when the card is used *inside* the store (with some restrictions like tobacco, alcohol, stamps) they will deposit a 10% rebate into our bank account. So, for example, if you buy a \$100 Gordy's card, we pay \$95 and keep \$5 to help pay our bills. In 2015, we earned over \$1,500! This is a great way to add to our income without feeling the pinch.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>May 2016</h1> 						
1 St Francis Food Pantry offering 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	2	3 10:00 A.M. Quilters	4	5	6	7
8 Prayers for the People 10:30 A.M. Worship	9 7:00 P.M. Leadership Team	10 10:00 A.M. Quilters	11	12	13	14 Spring Thrift Sale 8 A.M.–3 P.M.
15 Pentecost Strengthen the Church offering 10:30 A.M. Worship	16	17 10:00 A.M. Quilters	18	19	20	21 9 A.M.–Noon. EC Garden Club plant sale
22 OCWM offering 10:30 A.M. Worship	23	24 10:00 A.M. Quilters	25	26	27	28
29 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Pot luck	30 Memorial Day Office closed	31 10:00 A.M. Quilters	