



Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

December 2017

Published monthly by
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*This issue of the newsletter
is sponsored by an
anonymous donor.*

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Candlelight Family Service of Lessons and Carols Sunday, December 24 4:30 P.M.

A family-friendly
worship service of
praise for the birth of
our Savior with special
music and a beautiful
candlelit Silent Night.



Advent decorating

We will decorate our worship area on Saturday, December 2 starting at 10:30 A.M. and have lunch following the decorating. Come and join us for this traditional day.

December Worship Calendar

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

December 3, 1st Sunday of Advent,
St Francis Food Pantry offering
Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19;
1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

December 10, 2nd Sunday of Advent
Prayers for the People
Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13;
2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

December 17, 3rd Sunday of Advent
OCWM offering
2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:47-55 or
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; Romans
16:25-27; Luke 1 26-38

Blue Christmas service
at 6:00 P.M.

December 24, 4th Sunday of Advent
Christmas Fund offering
NO MORNING WORSHIP

Candlelight Service of
Lessons and Carols at 4:30 P.M.

December 31,
1st Sunday after Christmas
Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148;
Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

Food for Thought

Our Christmas pot luck will be December 10, so bring a special Christmas dish. Just remember, we don't have access to ovens or stove tops, but you can bring crock pots.

On December 2 at 10:30 A.M. we will decorate the Chapel for Advent. This will be followed by a soup lunch. Please join us for this great fellowship time.

We will collect our Food Pantry offering on December 3. Please don't forget our homeless friends. As always, the Street Ministry can use money or gas cards. Check with Pastor Mike for other needs for our street ministry.

Prayer Ministry

In December, we are praying for these individuals/families: Vivian Waltmire, Len Weisfeld, Jim Welk, Ron & Nancy Wendt, Marie Williams, Keith & Deb Zehms

December Birthdays

2	Pete Spitt
4	Irma Shepler
5	Terri Gilbert
9	Pastor David
22	Cathy Stygar

Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

We enter the time of Advent, the time of expectantly waiting for the birth of the Messiah who is called Jesus, and called also Emmanuel (or Immanuel) which means "God is with us." We enter this

time of waiting soon after we have ended a much longer time of waiting: holding our breaths as we waited for construction on our new building to begin, which started October 29 with our groundbreaking during worship, and on October 30 when the contractor moved in and began moving earth! See pictures of the construction elsewhere. As I write this, the last

of the slab has been poured and they will begin work on the walls. An exciting time that we waited more than a year to get to. But our patience has paid off!

We begin Advent on December 3, which is the latest date that Advent can begin. That means that our decorating day of December 2 at 10:30 (with lunch) will let us be decorated for all of Advent this year! As we like to do, we will be lighting the Advent candles during

worship on the Sundays leading to Christmas. Our Plymouth Brass Trio will play on December 10, and we'll also have a potluck after worship that day. Please note that we will NOT be worshipping on the morning on December 24, but will offer our beautiful Christmas Eve worship service of Lessons and Carols and candlelight Silent Night at 4:30 P.M. (You are invited to worship with Grace Lutheran at 10 A.M. on December 24 if you would like to do so). We end the year on a Sunday this year on New Year's Eve, and we will have worship in the morning at 10:30 A.M., doing a special New Year's Eve - centered service.

We will hold our Blue Christmas worship service on Sunday, December 17, at 6 P.M. This is a worship service designed especially for those who are grieving, feeling anxious or sad, or otherwise stressed out during this holiday season. We started this three or four years ago, and it has been a source of healing and comfort for those who have come. Please consider attending if you are feeling down and find spiritual healing, and if you know of anyone who would be helped by this ministry, please be sure to invite them.

May you have a blessed December and a very Merry Christmas!



Leadership Team Minutes

November 17, 2017

Members present: Deb Zehms, Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Louise Partlow, Rob Jaenke, and Pastor David

Minutes from the October meeting were reviewed and accepted as written.

Financial Reports:

As of October 31, 2017

Year to Date Income	\$80,243.07
Year to Date Expenses	\$80,608.74
Ahead (Behind)	(\$365.67)

Treasurer's Report:

Income for October was \$9,363.23.
 Expenses for October were \$8,847.07.
 October envelope income was down from last year by \$11,180. In 2016, year to date (as of 10/31) envelope income was \$53,392. This year the year to date income is \$42,213. Leadership Team will try to find out why such a large decline.

Bank balance October 31: (\$6.52)

Reserve Fund Balance: \$1,175.32

Memorial Fund Balance: \$7,225.03

The financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Building and Grounds:

No report at this time. Foundation, etc going in.

Stewardship:

Leadership will work on a letter to members about our financial situation. Nut sales are almost complete. Approximately \$1,226.00 income at this point. Pledges will be collected sometime in mid-December. More info to come in the newsletter and church services.

Worship:

December 2 is Christmas decorating in the chapel at 10:30 A.M. Everyone is welcome. A Blue Christmas service will be held December 17. Planning on

Christmas Eve at 5:00 P.M. Hoping to have Grace meet at the same time because of noise for both congregations. More to come on Christmas Day. We may not have morning service on December 24 because of Christmas Eve service in the evening.

Service:

Keep calling and visiting members and let Mimi know if you have contacted someone. Thank you.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor David will be preaching at the Thanksgiving Eve service at First Congregational. Our new member service on November 12 went very well.

New Business:

- Construction Report: Leadership Team will meet with the architect after worship November 19 to discuss colors etc. for the exterior of our new building and maybe other choices.
- Stand in the Light Choir would like us to help them with ADRC to get a 501C for their organization. Rob will open a checking account for them and Barb Kleist will take care of it until other arrangements are made. This was okayed by the Leadership Team.
- We are also considering changing our Food Pantry fund from St. Francis to Community Table as they really need help at this time. This would be done in 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

The next meeting is Monday, December 11, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,
 Louise Partlow



Photo Gallery ...



On November 12, we welcomed Pete Spitt, Louise Sanders, and Lil Savage as members.



Serving at the Community Table



Plymouth chefs at work.



October 29 Breaking ground!



A "sure" foundation.



Plumbing in



The entire slab is now finished! (Soon we'll see walls!)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 10:30 A.M. Advent Decorating & Lunch
3 St Francis Food Pantry offering 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship	4	5 10:00 A.M. Quilters 7:00 P.M. Dartball Plymouth—bye	6	7	8	9
10 Prayers for the People 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Pot luck	11 7:00 P.M. Leadership Team	12 10:00 A.M. Quilters 7:00 P.M. Dartball Plymouth at Concordia	13	14	15	16
17 OCWM offering 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship 6:00 P.M. Blue Christmas	18	19 10:00 A.M. Quilters	20	21	22	23
24 No morning worship 4:30 P.M. Lessons and Carols Please note the time change for this service!	25 Christmas  Office closed	26	27	28	29	30
31 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship						