



Good News

Plymouth United Church of Christ

September 2020

Published monthly by
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*Cross illumination for
September is sponsored by
Lillian Savage in memory of
Marie, Durward, and Carl
Savage.*

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Dear friends and family of Plymouth,

Our church life has changed, but it continues: we are still a worshipping community and our ministries continue! And now we can do some of our ministries virtually in a way that we've not been able to do before.

I am so happy to say that in July we have acquired the last of the technological pieces we need, and then we learned how to use it, so that starting in August we have been able to livestream our worship services on both YouTube and Facebook!

It has been quite a gift, and we have been having as many or more joining us online (either live or watching the recordings later) as we have had in-person! We are reaching a far larger community now, including some who are outside of the Chippewa Valley, like our members who live in other states.

Many thanks to our Leadership Team and our tech people who have been making this happen for us!

I am writing this before I leave for vacation for some rest and recuperation and hoping to hike some state parks. I will be back in the office after Labor Day, and I look forward to seeing you all again! In the meantime you are in the good hands of Jim Oliver who will fill in to lead worship and preach, and Lynn who will continue to provide music (and who will preach one Sunday!) and your Leadership Team who do such a wonderful job of making everything go so well at Plymouth.

Blessings,



September Worship Calendar

10:30 A.M. Worship

September 6

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Community Table offering

Exodus 12:1–14 or Ezekiel 33:7–11;
Psalm 149 or Psalm 119:33–40;
Romans 13:8–14; Matthew 18:15–20

September 13

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayers for the People

Exodus 14:19–31 or Genesis 50:15–21;
Exodus 15:1b–11, 20–21 or Psalm
103:(1–7), 8–13;
Romans 14:1–12; Matthew 18:21–35

September 20

16th Sunday after Pentecost

OCWM offering

Exodus 16:2–15 or Jonah 3:10–4:11;
Psalm 105:1–6, 37–45 or Psalm
145:1–8; Philippians 1:21–30; Matthew
20:1–16

September 27

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 17:1–7 or Ezekiel 18:1–4,
25–32; Psalm 78:1–4, 12–16 or Psalm
25:1–9; Philippians 2:1–13; Matthew
21:23–32

Our on-site worship services will be live streamed on YouTube for those who are not able to attend in person. Links to the recorded YouTube service will be posted on Facebook by noon on Sundays.

Prayer Ministry

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

September Birthdays

- 1 Linda Oliver
- 2 Steve Strassman
- 13 Benji Stygar
- 20 Keith Zehms
Christian Shufflin
- 29 Nancy Salter

Memorials

(Received April–August)

Birthday Challenge: Joanne Miller, Lil Savage, Cathy Lawler, Louise Partlow, Mary Stygar

A/V System: Larry & Barb Kleist, Mimi Pederson, Cathy Lawler; *In honor of the wedding of George & Sue Stecher:* Larry & Barb Kleist; *In memory of William Rau:* Larry & Barb Kleist

General Fund *In honor of the wedding of George & Sue Stecher:* Dorothy Gilbertson; *In memory of Faye LaPean:* Mary Ellen Brue

Leadership Musings

Come join us for worship on Sundays at 10:30! Wear your mask! Social distancing is encouraged. We still won't be having coffee time, Communion, singing or passing of the peace as we knew it. If you feel you'd prefer not to come, join us live at 10:30 on YouTube or Facebook.

In these times of uncertainty, it is important that we all stay connected. I'm challenging all our members to contact someone in the congregation at least once during the week. We all need to hear a familiar voice! Let's check on each other. Also, don't forget the video chats via Zoom with Pastor David on Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. (They resume September 8.)

We are still collecting empty prescription bottles, with the labels removed. We can also take over the counter pain reliever bottles, also without the labels. Save your bottles and bring them in the next time we meet.

Remember the Birthday Challenge? We revived the Birthday Challenge last year. In your birthday month, we are suggesting you make a donation to the church corresponding to your age or some amount you feel appropriate. The money will go to future capital improvements, such as resurfacing the parking lot. We want to be proactive in raising funds for future needs. Those of you who have September birthdays are challenged to make a donation.

A sign up sheet will be out for flowers to brighten up the Sanctuary. Please sign up if you are interested.

Food for Thought

Come worship with us Sunday mornings at 10:30 or virtually on Facebook or YouTube.

Our offering to the Community Table will be taken on September 6. It is most important we keep up this offering now because many more people are using the Community Table due to this time of high unemployment.

Please make sure you keep up to date on your pledges. We still have bills to pay. We won't be doing any of our fund raisers this year, so it's really important to keep our offerings coming in. Also, since we are not doing a Thrift Sale this year, please hold off on bringing more stuff to church. We are running out of storage space!

Please don't forget our homeless friends. Mike and his crew are out checking on the homeless to make sure they are okay. Please keep them in your prayers. They especially need donations of money at this time. Their drop off centers are closed, so they need to purchase some things for the homeless. The mailing address is Chippewa Valley Street Ministry, PO Box 51, Eau Claire, WI 54702. If you prefer, you can go to the website, chippewavalleystreetministry.org, and donate through PayPal.

Leadership Team Minutes

August 10, 2020

Members present: Larry Kleist, Barb Kleist, Rob Jaenke, Linda Oliver, Lil Savage, Mimi Pederson, and Louise Partlow. Pastor David is on vacation.

Our Moderator, Barb Kleist called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Minutes of the July meeting were reviewed and approved.

Financial Reports:

As of July 31, 2020	
Year to Date Income	\$71,206.54
Year to Date Expenses	\$71,316.24
Ahead (Behind)	(\$109.70)

Treasurer’s Report:

Income for July was \$9,735.98. Expenses were \$9,670.57. All expenses were paid and up to date, including quarterly insurance paid in July.

Reserve Fund Balance: \$8,538.32

Memorial Fund Balance: \$10,481.41

The undesignated balance in the Gladys Ulry memorials will be moved to the A/V System line.

The financial reports were reviewed and accepted.

Stewardship:

Please do not bring any thrift sale goods at this time—we don’t have enough room for more. We will let you know when we know.

Worship:

In person and live streaming going well.

Women of Plymouth:

No report

Building and Grounds:

The leak in the ladies’ room ceiling is no longer leaking. Larry and Rob working on fixing the leaky soap dispenser.

Pastor’s Report:

Pastor David is gone through September 7. Everything seems to be covered at this point. Paul Holmen is running the A/V system while David is gone.

Old Business:

- The Tuesday Morning Book Group is taking all necessary precautions at this time.
- Barb reminded everyone to stay in touch.
- The housekeeper will clean the first and third weeks of the month until we are back to full capacity.
- Larry moved to pay for the A/V work that has already been done, but to hold off on further purchases until we have the money in the A/V System line of the Memorial Fund. Motion was seconded and passed. More information is needed, and will be available when Pastor David returns. Further action was tabled until next month.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35. Our next meeting will be September 14 at church.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Partlow



Message from the Moderator

Last month we asked for your help in giving money to upgrade our Audio/Visual system so that we could purchase television screens for the Sanctuary and Gathering Room. We have raised a lot of that money. Thank you for that.

Now we are realizing that the virtual worship services are probably going to be a part of the “new normal.” Our attendance at the virtual service on Sunday mornings is in the range of 40–50 viewers. That’s more than we had been getting to our building before CO-VID19. So, the Leadership Team wants to insure we have the best possible viewing for our virtual worship.

We would like to upgrade our WiFi in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall, so that we have a strong signal for our virtual worship and for people or groups who use our facility. This, of course, will cost extra money. We are asking you to dig a little deeper for your church as we look to raise about \$1500 to cover this cost.

We will still have our regular Sunday service, but we feel we would be reaching more of our members and friends by continuing with the virtual service. We believe this to be a positive development of our church growth which will come from this unusual time.

We would really be in the 21st century!

Make your checks payable to Plymouth Church and designate it for the A/V system. Let’s help our congregation move forward!

Barb Kleist
Moderator



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<h1>September 2020</h1> 						
		1	2	3	4	5
6Community Table offering 10:30 A.M. Worship	7Labor Day Office closed	8 9:00 A.M. C & C	9	10 3:30 P.M. C & C	11	12
13Prayers for the People 10:30 A.M. Worship	14 7:00 P.M. Leadership Team	15 9:00 A.M. C & C	16	17 3:30 P.M. C & C	18	19
20OCWM offering 10:30 A.M. Worship	21	22 9:00 A.M. C & C	23	24 3:30 P.M. C & C	25	26
27 10:30 A.M. Worship	28	29 9:00 A.M. C & C	30			

What's C & C??

It's *Coffee and Conversation*, a virtual gathering via Zoom for folks who miss the Sunday morning coffee time at church. There is no set topic of conversation, and it's a nice way to keep in touch while we have to maintain social distance. Pastor David hosts the gatherings and posts the link on the church Facebook page. Check it out!

<https://tinyurl.com/ybmkvmf7>