



Good News

Plymouth United Church *of Christ*

August 2025

Songs & S'mores



Published monthly by
Plymouth UCC
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*Cross illumination for
August is sponsored by
Linda Oliver in memory of
Jim Oliver.*

Wednesday, August 13 at 7 P.M.

Come and enjoy fellowship, music, and dessert around the campfire!

Extra Expenses

We have certainly enjoyed our new facility and the lack of repair bills. The time is coming where we will start having more repair bills. The last two years, we had repair services out for our coffee pot, the dishwasher and toilets. The copier is coming soon. We've been told they probably won't be able to get parts for our current copier (because of its age) the next time it needs repair.

The electric piano has been acting up also. The only technician available is in the cities. It will cost us \$160 to bring it to them (their service charge). This fee does not include whatever is wrong with it.

We have a Contingency Fund for large items. We used most of that on our parking lot, so we need to build that up to pay for these upcoming expenses. BUT...do not forget about your regular giving. We still have a budget with monthly expenses we need to make. So don't give toward up coming repairs and not your regular pledge. Give toward the up coming repairs as an extra gift to our church!

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August Worship Calendar

10:30 A.M. Worship

Communion the first Sunday of the month

August 3

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Community Table offering

Guest preacher: Rev. Eric Nielsen

Hosea 11:1–11 or Ecclesiastes 1:2,
12–14; 2:18–23; Psalm 107:1–9, 43 or
Psalm 49:1–12; Colossians 3:1–11; Luke
12:13–21

August 10

9th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayers for the People

Guest Preacher: Jill Christopherson

Isaiah 1:1, 10–20 or Genesis 15:1–6;
Psalm 50:1–8, 22–23 or Psalm
33:12–22; Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16; Luke
12:32–40

August 17

10th Sunday after Pentecost

OCWM offering

Isaiah 5:1–7 or Jeremiah 23:23–29;
Psalm 80:1–2, 8–19 or Psalm 82;
Hebrews 11:29–12:2; Luke 12:49–56

August 24

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 1:4–10 or Isaiah 58:9b–14;

Psalm 71:1–6 or Psalm 103:1–8;

Hebrews 12:18–29; Luke 13:10–17

August 31

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 2:4–13 or Proverbs 25:6–7;

Psalm 81:1, 10–16 or Psalm 112;

Hebrews 13:1–8, 15–16; Luke 14:1,
7–14

Prayer Ministry

In August, we are praying for these individuals/families: Mel Rude, Jim Rusch, Doug & Nancy Salter, Louise Sanders, Lil Savage

August Birthdays

- 2 Mike Tschumperlin
- 8 Heidi Sprouse
- 10 Gabe Sprouse
- 15 Haddie Mayer
- 16 Sam Zehms
- 24 Mary Stygar
- 25 Dana Wachs
- Sue Thompson
- Peggy Larson
- 31 Matt Gilbertson
- Ken Snart

Memorials

Birthday Challenge:

Harlan Hartwich
Louise Partlow
Lyle Carlson

Food for Thought

Communion will be held on August 3. We will take our offering for the Community Table and we will also have a potluck! Bring a dish to pass!

We are still recording our worship service to view on Facebook, for those who feel safer at home or can't make it to worship. Masks are always available at church if you would like to wear one.

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. With federal funding being cut, there are very few options for the homeless. We have a collection box in the Gathering area for clothing, or else you can send a check to CVSM, PO Box 51, Eau Claire, WI 54702-0051. Here is a needs list from the Street Ministry: hooded sweatshirts, especially men's L, XL & 2XL; sleeping bags & blankets; men's underwear—new is preferred, especially L or XL; sweatpants, men's L, XL & 2XL; tarps 4x6 or 6x8. Also, monetary gifts are very welcome. They purchase city bus passes to provide to those who need transportation to work or appointments. Also if they need some items not donated, they have to purchase them.



Also, don't forget our Birthday Challenge. We are challenging you to make a donation in your birthday month corresponding to your age. The money will be put toward our next big repair project, which now is a new copier for the office. August birthdays—it's your turn. Plus if anyone wants to give extra toward a new copier, now's a perfect time.

Come and visit our libraries. We have one curbside for anyone to use and we've started one inside in Fellowship Hall. Different books are added frequently.

If anyone knows of a family member or member of this congregation who is in the hospital, please let the church office know. Unless someone tells us, we don't know if you're in the hospital. Also, make sure the hospital knows you belong to Plymouth UCC.

Upcoming Sale!

On September 20 we will have a Thrift Sale, Bake Sale, Craft Sale and Quilt Sale. Mark the date on your calendar! Any crafts are welcome. Our quilters are busy quilting. Think of the things you want to bake (our Bake Sales are very popular), and start collecting things for the Thrift Sale. Thrift Sale items must all be marked except for clothing and books. We will let you know when you can bring your items to the church

Dear Plymouth,

Have you ever thought about what it means that Plymouth is part of the United Church of Christ? You may know a lot or very little about the UCC, and that's okay! Knowing a lot about the UCC is not a requirement to be part of a UCC local church, but it can be helpful to know that we are not alone. The United Church of Christ has over 4,500 local churches and over 700,000 members.

In mid-July I had the privilege and important responsibility of attending the United Church of Christ's 35th General Synod in Kansas City, which is its national gathering. Up to this year General Synod (GS) has been held every two years since the UCC's birth in 1957 (the UCC will turn 70 in 2027!), but from now on it will be held every three years, the next gathering in 2028.

General Synod is a gathering of the delegates sent by the 36 conferences of the UCC, which number over 700, along with typically about 1,200 visitors. Anyone can attend. At the meeting, dynamic worship services, uplifting celebrations, and helpful workshops are held, along with plenary sessions where the delegates debate and vote on resolutions. Many of the resolutions passed at General Synod have been important statements speaking to the UCC's mission to the world (You can find out more about General Synod resolutions at: <https://uccresolutions.org>).

The Wisconsin Conference sent close to 30 delegates. I typically attend as a Conference staff person but this year also served as a delegate.

What does any of this have to do with Plymouth? It depends on whom you ask, but I would say, "A lot!" The resolutions and actions of General Synod can be exciting, uplifting, and frustrating all at the same time. General Synod represents local UCC churches as much as we let them, and there may be actions of GS that surprise you. If you have questions about General Synod, please let me know. I would be happy to do a presentation on GS 35 before or after church on a future Sunday.

I'll see you in church!

Peace,

Pastor Michael



**FROM THE
PASTOR**

Leadership Team Minutes

July 13, 2025

Members present: Barb Kleist, Larry Kleist, Rob Jaenke, Lil Savage, Lyle Carlson, Cindy Halfen, Deb Zehms, Mimi Pederson, and Dorothy Ann Divine

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 A.M. Our next meeting will be Sunday, August 10, 2025 after worship.

The meeting was called to order at 11:25 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Mimi Pederson

Old Business:

- At our last meeting on June 8 we passed a resolution to obtain a credit card for the church. Today Larry Kleist moved to list Rob Jaenke, Treasurer and Martha (Mimi) Pederson, Financial Secretary as people who have authority to sign loan documents (both signatures required) and be authorized to have cards, with Rob Jaenke designated as the "Control Person." Lyle Carlson seconded. Motion passed.

New Business:

- It was moved and seconded that we have the Clavinova serviced/repared at the Yamaha facility in the Twin Cities. Motion passed. Lynn will let us know when we need to do this.
- It was moved and seconded to have our web page updated by the company that Pastor Michael recommended. Motion passed.
- Our "Songs and S'Mores" event will be August 13. More details to come.
- A Stand in the Light Memory Choir representative will be here August 17 to give a short talk about the choir. (This will be in place of the sermon.)

Financial Reports:

As of June 30, 2025

Year to Date Income: \$64,821.90

Year to Date Expenses: \$70,219.93

Ahead (Behind): (\$5,398.03)

Treasurer's Report:

Year to date envelope income is \$15,015 less than last year at this point, but still more than the YTD average going back to 2009. \$2000 was transferred from the Reserve Fund. Expenses included the quarterly water bill. Will need to catch up OCWM and Community Table payments in July.

Memorial Fund Balance: \$6,904.56

Reserve Fund Balance: \$20,055.61



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>August 2025</h1>					1	2
3 <i>Hunger offering</i> 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Communion Worship 11:30 P.M. Pot Luck	4	5 10:00 A.M. Quilters	6	7	8	9
10 <i>Prayers for the People</i> 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	11	12 10:00 A.M. Quilters	13 1:30 P.M. Bible Study 7:00 P.M. Songs & S'mores	14	15	16
17 <i>OCWM offering</i> 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	18	19 10:00 A.M. Quilters	20	21	22	23
24 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship	25	26 10:00 A.M. Quilters	27 1:30 P.M. Bible Study	28	29	30
31 10:00 A.M. Coffee 10:30 A.M. Worship						