

The Herald

PLYMOUTH UCC



MARCH 2019



March 3 - Fat Sunday Celebration following worship. Pancake breakfast with a Mardi Gras theme.

March 3 - Watch for Easter Lily order forms with the final order date of April 4th.

March 6 - Ash Wednesday Ecumenical Worship at United Methodist Church with Pastor Joylynn preaching. Worship begins at 6:30pm following Feeding Friends.

Lent Ecumenical Prayer Service - Weekly prayer service on Wednesdays at UMC, 6:30 pm following Feeding Friends.

March 17 - High Holy Day of St. Patrick all are welcome to join us for a special service where story bard Cecilia Farren will offer The Woven Knots of Celtic Grace. Candles lit from the eternal flame of St. Bridget in Kildare, Ireland, will be given to all as a keepsake gift. Following worship, all are invited to a traditional corned beef and cabbage luncheon in the fellowship hall.

April 18 - Maundy Thursday will be held at Plymouth UCC with Pastor Jim Droste preaching. There will be foot washing. Following worship soup and sandwiches will be served. Plymouth will supply the soup and UMC will provide the sandwiches.

April 19 - Ecumenical Good Friday Worship at UMC.

April 21 - Easter Worship at Plymouth UCC 10 am.



A Note from the Pastor...



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last month I wrote about the beauty of the snow. This month I am ready to move to the equator. I don't like being so fixated on the weather, but this winter has totally done me in. It was two weeks ago when I first cried "uncle," but winter only laughed at me and then proceeded to double down on the snow.

So here we are heading into the month of March, and as the saying goes: "March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb." I sure can't wait for that lamb to get here. I have a big old hug just waiting for it, but I imagine that we are going to have to put up with a lot more lion before the lamb finally shows up.

Actually I like both lions and lambs. I like them in real life, but I also like what they symbolize. Lions point to ferocity and strength while lambs point to peace and hope. Lions appear to be the natural enemy of the lamb, but the picture of the lion laying down with the lamb is an enduring image, reminding us that strength and hope are not mutually exclusive.

The prophet Isaiah alluded to this unlikely combination of predator and prey in Isaiah 11:6:

*"The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them."*

Did you notice that the lion doesn't lay down with the lamb in this passage? In fact, nowhere in the Bible does the lion lay down with a lamb, but there is something consistent with the idea.

Life is a mixture of experiences where we need our lion strength one minute and our lamb hope the next. And then sometimes we need our lion strength just to keep our lamb hope afloat. Strength and hope are good words to hold onto both for the weather and for the general state of affairs that we face at this time.

These days we are confronted with casualties and unrest at every turn. There are so many things to get angry about, or grieve over that we just want to cry "uncle" and move to the equator. Yet our faith tells us that the brokenness we see will not have the final word — God's justice and grace will win in the end, and that is our strength and hope.

But sometimes we need real and tangible practices to help strengthen us and give us hope. This month finds us entering into the season of Lent — a time to reflect, draw closer to God, and prepare our hearts to celebrate the Resurrection. It is also a time that you might want to consider trying out something new, a practice to help sustain you when God's justice and grace seem so far removed from everyday reality.

Here are a few practices to consider:

Take a media-fast from the news, T.V. and Facebook either all together or by planning how much media you would like to consume each day.

Schedule time each day for reading scripture, praying, and meditating.

Start a gratitude journal. Take a moment at the end of each day to reflect and give thanks for the people, events, or things that bring you joy, and then spend a moment in prayer thanking God for these gifts.

Take a Pause. If you find yourself feeling overwhelmed and in need of "deep hope," take a moment to pause. Light a candle and remember that the Spirit of God is with you at all times, and is at work in our world at all times.

May the days ahead, whether like a lion or a lamb, be filled with the deep peace of Christ in your life.

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Joy

Church Office:

Pastor Availability

Hours:

Tuesday-Thursday

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Wednesday

2:30 - 5:30 pm

Office Administrator

Hours

Tuesday-Thursday

8:00 am - 12:30 pm

Pastor:

Joylynn Graham

Cell 553-0149

[pastor-](mailto:pastor-joylynn@gmail.com)

joylynn@gmail.com

Office Administrator:

Mary Haag

935-5727

plymouth@mhtc.net

Maintenance:

Keely Thomas

Home 935-9259

Organist:

Marilyn Dunn

Choir Director:

Lisa Duwell

Moderator:

Chuck Roethe

Vice Moderator:

ATTENDANCE

FEBRUARY 3	32
FEBRUARY 10	32
FEBRUARY 17	SNOW DAY
FEBRUARY 24	SNOW DAY



Newsletter Deadline

April 23 at 8 am.

Please submit any items you would like to appear in the newsletter by this time. Email your newsletter submissions to plymouth@mhtc.net

Did we miss a birthday? Please contact the church office and let us know. 935-5727

March 13 Melanie Jones
 March 17 Lisa Duwell



- **MARCH** is named after the god of war and a planet: Mars. In ancient Rome, several festivals of Mars took place in March because that was the earliest month of the year when the weather was mild enough to start a war. At one time, March was the first month in the Roman calendar. The Romans changed the order of months several times between the founding of Rome and the fall of the Roman Empire.



**THANKS TO YOUR
 GENEROSITY IN JANUARY**

FOOD PANTRY \$323.61
WACKY WEDNESDAY \$246.00

**MARCH JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING IS
 DESIGNATED FOR:**

HODAN CENTER
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING





On Sunday March 17, the actual High Holy Day of St. Patrick's, all are welcome to join us for a special service where Story Bard Cecilia Farren will offer *The Woven Knots of Celtic Grace*. Using excerpts and adaptations from W.B. Yeats, Dylan Thomas, Arthur O'Shaughnessy, Patrick Kavanaugh, Tommy Makem and other Celtic authors and poets, Cecilia invites us on a journey into the Celtic mind and spirit using the interweaving threads of knot work as our way map. Candles lit from the eternal flame of St. Bridget in Kildare Ireland will be given to all as a keepsake gift.

Following worship, all are invited to a traditional corn beef and cabbage luncheon in the fellowship hall.

**Our Sunday Worship Service
may be viewed this month
on our website:**

plymouthuccdodgeville.org

on [YouTube](#)

[https://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=5k-NdBxPS-0&t=7s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5k-NdBxPS-0&t=7s)

Sunday March 3, 2019
Following Worship



Fat Tuesday Pancake Breakfast
Mardi Gras Theme! Last year was a blast!
See you there!



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Mission Statement

"To grow and share our faith, worship God, and follow Jesus Christ in the ways of love, peace, compassion, justice and the nurturing of God's creation."

Vision Statement

"To be a welcoming and thriving Christian Community, living our faith through reflection and action, while remaining grounded in God's love."

Wacky Wednesday recently presented the play, "Dodgeville By the Sea," written by Wacky Wednesday friends and directed by Bill Duwell.



Schedules



Usher

March 3 - Gary and Harry McHone

March 10 - Chuck and Jill Roethe

March 17 - Bill and Lisa Duwell

March 24 - Earl and Shirley Barnes

March 31 - Chuck and Jill Roethe

Reader

March 3 - Harry McHone

March 10 - Gretchen Pearson

March 17 - Bill Duwell

March 24 - Shirley Barnes

March 31 - Earl Barnes

Communion

March 3 - Gary McHone

March 10 - Dave Pearson

March 17 - Jill Roethe

March 24 - Julie Neal

March 31 - Dave Pearson

Joyful Noise

March 3, 10, 17, 24 - Hodan Center

March 31 - One Great Hour of Sharing

Fellowship

March 10 - Rod and Mary Lukes

March 24 - Bill and Lisa Duwell

March 31 - Liz Bothfeld



UCC clergy speak out, lobby Senators in support of Green New Deal

February 11, 2019

Written by [Connie Larkman](#)

UCC executives and environmental advocates are joining other allies concerned about climate change in speaking out for the Green New Deal.

"It's a massive program of investment in clean-energy jobs and infrastructure that would transform not just the energy sector, but the entire economy," said the Rev. Brooks Berndt, UCC minister of Environmental Justice. "It is meant both to decarbonize the economy and to make it fairer and more just."

The [Green New Deal](#) is the Democrats' latest plan to tackle climate change. Introduced in Congress on Thursday, February 7, by Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., and Sen. Ed Markey, D-Mass., the resolution calls for a complete transition to renewable energy by 2030.

The UCC National Officers immediately offered their enthusiastic support, [noting in a statement](#) that the legislation mirrors the Church's concern for creation and the marginalized. "Environmental justice is at the heart of the Green New Deal, recognizing that climate change threatens the safety, health, and dignity of ordinary people."

They also urged the wider church to get involved, calling the proposed Green New Deal legislation "our invitation to bring our denomination's decades-long commitment to environmental justice and climate justice into the public square."



Rev. Berndt, looking to make the Green New Deal one of two central areas of focus in the UCC's Environmental Justice Ministry this year, accompanied campus organizer Emily Hudson, several Oberlin College students and other Cleveland area environmental activists to the local office of Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown on Thursday afternoon. They asked for Brown's support of the legislation, presented staff member Ken Williamson with a petition signed by thousands of Ohioans, along with a letter urging these specifics:

- Halt all new fossil fuel extraction, infrastructure and subsidies, and transition power generation to 100% renewable energy by 2035 or sooner.
- Rapidly decarbonize agriculture and transportation sectors and expand access to public transportation.
- Ensure a Fair & Just Transition led by impacted workers and communities, including low income and communities of color, without relying on corporate schemes or market-based mechanisms.
- Uphold Indigenous Rights.
- Pass a national jobs guarantee, creating good jobs with collective bargaining and family-sustaining wages.

On Friday, Rev. Alex Vishio, acting Associate Conference Minister of the Central Atlantic Conference United Church of Christ, represented the UCC's Environmental Justice Ministry at the office of Maryland Senator Christopher Van Hollen. Vishio was one of about two dozen people at a meeting initiated and organized by the Baltimore chapter of 350.org and First & St. Stephen's UCC in Towson, Md. The group presented the Senator's office with a petition consisting of 1,742 signatures urging the senator to become a signatory on the Green New Deal resolution.

"The resolution is very much keeping with our historical commitments to the safeguarding of the earth, the welfare of the oppressed and the marginalized, and the advancement of the common good. It is my fervent hope that a resolution in support of the Green New Deal will be presented for the delegates' consideration at the upcoming General Synod," Vishio said. "Quite simply, we are out of time for half-measures and delayed responses. The problem that confronts us is immediate and on a global scale. Only an urgent response that addresses in a global way — or that is at least a national response that models an address in a global way — the catastrophic problem of climate change with which we are beset is sufficient to our needs and the needs of this good earth. Such is the promise of the Green New Deal. And such, I believe, is what the church in general, and the UCC in particular, is called prophetically to witness to and advocate for at this Kairos moment — a in both its critical and opportune senses — in human history."



Other UCC ministers are following the call of the Executive Officers and the moral mandate declared by General Synod in 2017 that urges "clergy to speak from their pulpits about the moral obligation of our generation to protect God's creation."

"The Green New Deal is the kind of values-driven policy the United States needs to address the reality of climate change and to provide a hopeful vision of the future for America's children. It is a work in progress, and we can debate details, but the approach is much needed," said the Rev. Chuck Currie, university chaplain and director of the Center for Peace and Spirituality at Pacific University. "I hope the faith community works to promote this agenda. Climate change is a worldwide emergency and should be addressed as such. As people of faith, we have an obligation to care for Creation."



DIACONATE NEWS

The Diaconate Committee met on February 19, 2019

Those present were Gary McHone, chairman, Pastor Joy, Harry Zelhofer-McHone, Jill Roethe, Julie Neal and Jan Helmich.

Discussions were held on the following items:

1. Pastor Joy will be on vacation on March 3rd. The Diaconate will be in charge of the service that day. Joylynn will set up the bulletin.
2. March 3rd is also our "Fat Sunday" pancake lunch following our church service. Menu will include pancakes, sausages, scrambled eggs, applesauce, juice and coffee. This is also Ralph Martin's birthday so his family will provide a birthday cake for our lunch. Fellowship Hall will be decorated for the occasion. Diaconate members will start preparing at 8:00 AM. As some Diaconate members are unable to be there that day we would appreciate having a couple of volunteers to assist. If you can help let Gary know.
3. St. Patrick's Day is Sunday, March 17th. After church service there will be a traditional St. Patrick's Day lunch with Corned Beef, cabbage, carrots and potatoes with Irish Soda Bread, desserts and beverages. The service that day will be lead by Cecelia Farren featuring Celtic traditions.
4. Pastor Joy received a letter from the Dodgeville Chamber of Commerce. Plans are being made for a city-wide celebration in conjunction with the Kiwanis Club to open the 2019 Christmas Season. This would involve a Christmas parade and various other activities. This is scheduled for Saturday, November 30th. Plymouth Church was asked if we would take part in the activities. The Diaconate voted to once again do a Live Nativity and an open house offering hot chocolate and cookies and a place to warm up.
5. Ash Wednesday service will be an ecumenical service at the Methodist Church on March 6th. During Lent there will be short worship services every Wednesday evening at 6:00 at the Methodist Church, also ecumenical. Maundy Thursday's ecumenical service will be held at Plymouth. This will include a light meal with Plymouth providing soup and Methodists bringing sandwiches. Good Friday ecumenical service will be at the Methodist Church.
6. It was discussed that the piano in Fellowship Hall needs to be tuned before the Maundy Thursday service.
7. We discussed the new "Prayground" area in the sanctuary for children to use during services. This will provide quiet activities for children like stuffed toys, crayons and Sunday School type coloring sheets and Bible story books, etc.

The next Diaconate Meeting will be March 19th.

Jan Helmich, Secretary

Monthly

Meetings/Events

Sometimes meeting times/dates will change. Please check the [website](#), [Facebook](#), or contact the church office 935-5727.

Sundays

Special Music Sunday -

once a month, usually the last Sunday of the month.

Tuesdays

Third Tuesday of the month:

Diaconate 5:30 pm

Council Meetings 7 pm-

Wednesdays

Faith Explorers - 10:30 am

Wacky Wednesday, 2:30 - 5:30 pm, September through May.

Choir 7 pm, September through May.

Feeding Friends - 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Thursdays

Trustees - Second Thursday of the Month, 7 pm.

Plymouth Circle - Fourth Thursday of the month, noon, at Country Kitchen.

Saturday

Pasty Sales - Second Saturday of the month October through April.





MARCH 2019



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			Wednesday Consistent Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm		1	2
3 Worship 10 am FAT SUNDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST	4	5 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm	6 ASH  WEDNESDAY Ecumenical Worship at UMC 6:30 pm following Feeding Friends Faith Explorers 10:30 Wacky Wednesday 2:30 - 5:30 pm Choir, 7 pm	7 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm	8	9 PASTY SALE 
10 Worship 10 am Fellowship following service First Sunday of Lent	11	12 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm	13 Lent Ecumenical Prayer Service @ UMC 6 pm Faith Explorers 10:30 Wacky Wednesday 2:30 - 5:30 pm Choir, 7 pm Feeding Friends, 5	14 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm	15	16
17 Worship 10 am SPECIAL GUEST CECILIA FARREN CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE LUNCHEON 	18	19 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm	20 Lent Ecumenical Prayer Service @ UMC 6 pm Faith Explorers 10:30 Wacky Wednesday 2:30 - 5:30 pm Choir, 7 pm	21 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm	22	23
24 Worship 10 am Fellowship following service	25	26 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm	27 Lent Ecumenical Prayer Service @ UMC 6 pm Faith Explorers 10:30 Wacky Wednesday 2:30 - 5:30 pm Choir, 7 pm	28 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm		

Plymouth UCC Dodgeville

Mid-Week *Lenten* Worship



Every Wednesday
during Lent,
6:00—6:30 pm, at
UMC of Dodge-

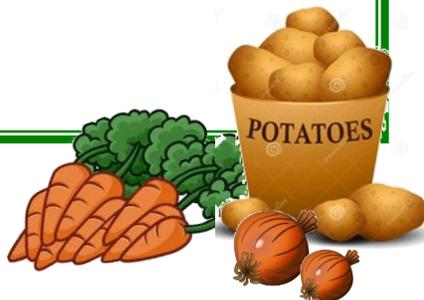
ville, there will be an Ecumenical Mid-week Prayer Service.



There is a child play area in the sanctuary for families to use during Worship.

PASTY HELPERS NEEDED

Making pasties is a major fund-raiser at Plymouth and occurs on the second Saturday of the month from October to April. More workers are always needed to fill time slots. Help is needed for March and April. Please call Denise at 574-5668 or Jill at 935-2561 if you are willing to assist.



Members,

Checkout the new location of the mailboxes. They are now located at the top landing for the stairs going down to the fellowship hall. Please make use of your mail slot and check for any new material or items left for you from another member.

Thank you



**A NOTE FROM
THE MODERATOR**

The Pastoral Relations Committee has been changed. The new committee consists of Jill Roethe, Earl Barnes, Lisa Pepelea, and Gary McHone. Thanks--any questions just call or E-Mail--Chuck jill.roethe@gmail.com



**Plymouth Circle meets the 4th Thursday @ noon
at Country Kitchen**



Choir Practice WEDNESDAYS at 7 pm



CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator

Chuck Roethe

Vice Moderator

Trustees

Mark Pepelea

Diaconate

Gary McHone

Mission

Lisa Pepelea

Clerk

Denise Whitish

Christian Education

Treasurer

Dave Pearson

Financial Secretary

Earl Barnes

If your address, phone/cell number, or email have changed, please contact the office so that we may update our records . You may call the office at 935-5727, or email the office at plymouth@mhtc.net.



Plymouth Congregational

United Church of Christ

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Dodgeville, WI 53533

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Website: plymouthuccdodgeville.org

