

The Herald

PLYMOUTH UCC DODGEVILLE

JUNE
2022



Plymouth Congregational
United Church of Christ

From the Pastor's Keyboard...

Dear Friends,

And just like that, it's summer!

It seems like we live for summer here in Wisconsin. Or maybe it's just me. Being from the south, I find winter to be more of a challenge than most folks here, but either way, when summer shows up, I know that we always breathe a collective sigh of relief as we head off in new directions to take advantage of the sunshine, warmth, and ease of mobility that is so sadly lacking during the winter months.

And this year will be particularly noteworthy after two years of pandemic and shutdowns. The pandemic may always be with us, but it looks as though we have finally come to an understanding of how to mitigate the risk and live with the virus. We have come a long way! And there is much to celebrate, because the last two years have been an endurance test of epic proportions.

So, I think a celebration is in order.

I remember during those long, isolated months going through our church records to see if I could find any references to the pandemic of 1918. I wanted to know how Plymouth fared during that time. Did the church close? Were masks required in worship? And how was it perceived theologically? Unfortunately, I couldn't find anything on it. Actually, I couldn't find much going back that far and it seemed like such a shame.

So, an idea began to formulate in my mind, and I wondered, what if we all tell our pandemic stories to the future? What if we tell our stories to the upcoming generations who find themselves facing the unknown? What if we have a post-pandemic, time-capsule celebration?

Our diaconate and council members received the idea enthusiastically, and we have set a date! So, here's the plan:

On September 11, 2022, we will host a time-capsule celebration. On that day we will bury our time-capsule in the garden with instructions that it is not be opened for 100 years, or until there's another pandemic – whichever comes first. And everyone is



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

OUR MISSION "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."

Church Office:

Pastor Availability Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday
10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday

2:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Office Administrator Hours

Tuesday-Thursday
8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Pastor:

Joylynn Graham
Cell 553-0149
pastorjoylynn@gmail.com

Office Administrator:

Mary Haag
935-5727
plymouth@mhtc.net

Maintenance:

Organist:

Marilyn Dunn

Choir Director:

invited to tell their story. Our stories should be limited to one page each, as a time-capsule is about the size of a banking cylinder. And each story should be followed by a favorite pandemic recipe, or particular food that sustained you.

On that day, we will have a celebration potluck, and we will all bring our favorite pandemic foods to share. Spoiler alert, I am bringing Tater Tot Casserole! Additionally, we will contact the newspaper to invite the entire town!

What should your story include? Whatever you like! It could even be a drawing if you find that to be an easier form of expression. The purpose is to humanize our experiences and make them real for the future. And to encourage and reassure the future that life does go on. Also, to bring a sense of closure to us all.

So now you have an entire summer to think about it and to compose your story. And we have something to look forward to!

The summer months are long and many of us will be absent at some point, but as you travel, know that you are in my heart and in my prayers.

Blessings on you all,

Pastor Joy

Reminder...if you would like to make donations online, please follow this link <https://www.plymouthuccdodgeville.org/> once there, you may click on the donate link and follow instructions.

Thank you for considering a donation to help us fulfill our mission and look to the future. [Donate](#)

IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH...

You are the life of the church



Mission

Would you like to get involved? Volunteer for one of our missions.

Little Free Pantry - Serves the members of the community by providing food for anyone in need. The Pantry is found outside in the front of the church. Donated food items should be easy to open and easy to eat with minimal to no preparation. We could also use some toiletries and personal items. Food pantry shelf is located downstairs next to the door leading into the fellowship hall.

Pasty - Pasty season is October through April.

Wacky Wednesday - Wacky Wednesday is not in session this semester. While Wacky Wednesday after-school program is not happening this time, they are always in need of volunteers. If you have a special talent you would like to share with the after school participants or you would just like to help where needed, please contact the office or Judy Campbell.

Be a part of the Church

Faith Explorers - Wednesdays, 10:30 am via Zoom and Faith Explorers Evening Edition, which takes place Wednesdays at 6 pm via zoom. If you have questions or doubts, you are in the right place. If you want to meet with others who have questions and doubts, then this group is for you. Please contact Pastor Joylynn for more information.

Plymouth Pathfinders - What is Plymouth Pathfinders? It is our newly organized Sunday School class. This class is on hold until further notice.

Plymouth Circle of Care - This is a group of volunteers who are ready to help you if you need help. Whether it's a ride or a hot meal that is needed please contact a member of this group.

Care Team - We are in the early stages of forming a Plymouth Care Team for the purpose visiting those members who are no longer able to get out and about. The Care Team, along with the Pastor will visit on a monthly basis and offer communion as well. If you are interested in joining the Care Team, we need you! If you are interested in

CHURCH COUNCIL

Moderator

Gary McHone

Vice Moderator

Melody Thompson

Trustees

Mark Pepelea

Diaconate

Randy Thompson

Mission

Chuck Roethe

Clerk

Denise Whitish

Christian Education

Judy Campbell

Treasurer

Steve Pieroni

Financial Secretary

Earl Barnes

If your address, phone/
cell number, or email
have changed, please con-
tact 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.



joining the Care Team please see Pastor Joy.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

June 23 @ 8 am

Announcements/Coming up...

Father's Day – June 19

June 9 - Trustee Meeting

June 21 - Diaconate and Council Meeting

Mini Food Pantry – The mini food pantry is in need of donations. Donated food items should be easy to open and easy to eat with minimal to no preparation. We could also use some toiletries and personal items. Food pantry shelf is located downstairs next to the door leading into the fellowship hall.



Farmer's Appreciation Day Parade is July 10. Plymouth UCC will be participating. Please let the Diaconate committee or the office know if you would like to participate.

Schedules

Usher

June 5 - Maureen Teubert

June 12 -

June 19 - Chuck and Jill Roethe

June 26 - Denise Whitish

Reader

June 5 - Maureen Teuber

June 12 -

June 19 - Jill Roethe

June 26 - Gretchen Pearson

Communion

June 5 - Gary and Harry McHone

June 12 -

June 19 - Dave Pearson

June 26 - Jan Helmich

***If you would like to volunteer to help with Worship, please contact Randy Thompson.**

Joyful Noise

Strengthen The Church

Feeding Friends

Fellowship

June 5 - Rick and Mary Stellick

June 12 - Jean Brown

June 19 -

June 26 -

JOYFUL NOISE

Thanks to your generosity in March

Mini Pantry
Friendship Camp
OGHS

June Joyful Noise Offering is designated for:

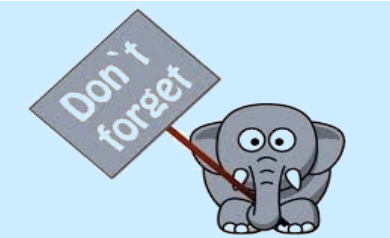
STC
Feeding Friends

Thank you!!!

Happy Birthday:

I ACCIDENTALLY DELETED THE BIRTHDAY LIST. PLEASE SEND YOUR BIRTHDAY TO US SO THAT WE CAN WISH YOU A HAPPY BIRTHDAY.

THANK YOU,
MARY



Join us for in-person worship on Sundays at 10 am.

Circle of Care

Earl and Shirley Barnes
Liz Bothfeld
Harry and Gary McHone
Dave and Gretchen Pearson
Lisa Pepelea
Chuck Roethe
Nancy Schmidt
Ross Vivian

Pastor Relations Committee

Jill Roethe
Lisa Pepelea
Gary McHone
Earl Barnes
Harry Zelhofer



**Every Sunday is a good
time to bring a guest with
you to Sunday Worship.**

Plymouth UCC Council Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2022

Members present- Gary McHone, Earl Barnes, Melody Thompson, Randy Thompson, Mark Pepelea, Chuck Roethe, Judy Campbell, Denise Whitish and Pastor Joylynn.

Presentation from guest attorney John Pipal representing Terry Slaney and family. Gave information regarding a small plot of land that was left to the church decades ago. The church then sold the incorrect piece of land to someone else- see attached copies of legal documents. A quick claim deed needs to be signed so current owner can clear deed for tax purposes. Council agreed to sign deed to settle the matter.

Gary called regular meeting to order.

Prayer by Joylynn.

Review of April minutes- motion to approve as written by Mark. Second by Randy. Motion passed unanimously.

Pastor's Report-

Has been completing training to keep ordination status intact. On June 10 will be in Green Lake for a conference. Thus there will be no sermon on the 12th so having a hymn sing that day.

Has been visiting a lot this last month.

Ecumenical service has been delayed until August- date not set yet. Will use as fundraiser for Ukraine relief. Joylynn will be arranging with other pastors- Methodist and Lutheran. Some discussion about a picnic- decided will have separate Plymouth picnic.

Earth Day service went well as did the Mother's Day service.

Will be on vacation the last two Sundays in June.

Diaconate Report-

Signs by the mini food pantry repaired. Arranging to have the other sign hung.

Discussion regarding the Family Resource Center sign- should it be taken down? FRC uses the church's physical address to apply for grants etc...cannot use post office box. Judy will check to see if sign is required to confirm physical address.

Farmer's Appreciation parade is July 10- will have entry as done last year. Will move service to 9:00 am that day.

Gary and diaconate members will handle services June 19 and 26.

Board will decorate the church for Pentecost.

Planning a time capsule Sunday on September 11. Will be having members write pandemic experiences and recipes. Will have potluck using some of the recipes after service.

Trustee Report-

Side door shattered- unsure how it happened. Mark finding company to have repaired. Will check with insurance company also- do have a \$1000 deductible.

Treasurer/Financial Report-

No reports from Arayna to review as yet. Steve absent- emailed his report- see attached. Will try and reach out to Zander Accounting one more time- has not replied regarding taking on our account. Joylynn will call to check and let Steve know.

Earl reports that stewardship down \$7000 compared to last year at this time. Did have \$7900 in pasty revenue- probably half profit.

Gary will have Mary put note in next newsletter stating stewardship down \$7000 over last year. Melody will write something and send to Mary to put in newsletter.

Joylynn states that the money she raised for Sierra Leone is still in account. She would like to donate the money to the Sierra Leone orphanage. Earl will send the actual amount available to Joylynn who will arrange the donation. Joylynn will update church members about this change.

Mission Report-

Chuck has been following up on Joyful Noise collections making sure that the correct amount of money is paid out. Steve and Mary doing good job with that. Unsure where to put money donated for mini food pantry. Mark thinks this is a line item in the budget transferred from the “blessing bags” money. The mini pantry is using the line now. Earl will check with Steve about this budget line item. Discussion about how the food pantry is self-sufficient – the church should not have to raise money to buy food. It was intended to function by members and community people putting food in. Discussed that we may use up the money in account to buy food then close this line item. Randy offered to take care of this. Earl will check on things and report back at next council meeting.

Education Report-

Nothing to report as Pathfinders and Wacky Wednesday are on break at this time.

Discussion about garden- Judy not going to be able to take care of this year. Gary and Harry offered to take over the garden. Judy will plant and mulch then Gary and Harry will take over. All produce will be donated to SW Cap.

Moderator’s Report-

Raffle for Ukraine cancelled due to being handled at the ecumenical service.

The Wisconsin UCC Conference’s Historical Society is acknowledging Plymouth’s years of service to our community at the annual meeting. On June 11 the conference would like to recognize Plymouth at the breakfast meeting. Asking for a history of our church- Mary will compile history to send. Joylynn will review then send. She may also rearrange her schedule to attend this breakfast.

Gary has made crocheted shawls that he is donating- first one given to Judy for her mother.

Meeting adjourned- next meeting Tuesday, June 21 at 7:00 pm.



Plymouth UCC Dodgeville
115 West Merrimac Street
Dodgeville Wisconsin 53533