

The Herald

PLYMOUTH UCC DODGEVILLE

2019
SEPTEMBER



Plymouth Congregational
United Church of Christ



PRIDE FESTIVAL

What has 3000 people and a whole lot of hugs? Madison's Gay Pride Festival. Sheryl and Dave Pinnow, Pastor Joylynn, 7 members of Memorial UCC Fitchburg, Gary, and I were there to hand out over 350 brochures and numerous hugs to anyone who needed one. So many people thanked us for our support in being there. The Love of God was abundant at Warner Park on August, 18. Thanks

to all who participated and made this day so special. We plan on doing it again next year; so if you missed it this year, we hope you will join us next year when we take the love of God out of the church and into the community. May Gods love abound in your lives; it sure did in ours.

Birthday Bash

What an amazing day with the most amazing people! Today was about us and "enjoying this life" - together. We had a big old fashioned picnic/birthday party on my deck a I got to show off my new place. The weather was pristine and I managed to knock back enough of the giant ragweed so that we could enjoy the view...at least standing up. The dogs behaved themselves, and I think Elijah made a little girl trust dogs again. 🐕. Happy birthday us Plymouth! Way to go and way to "Be The Church!"

A post of Facebook by Pastor Joylynn

Picnic





A Note from the Pastor...



Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

Hebrews 11:1-3

Beloved Community,

What an incredible month we just had! The first Sunday in August was our annual ecumenical worship in the park, and for the first time in 3 years the weather cooperated! Once again worship was led by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, but this time, since the weather was nice, we were able to gather on the lawn under the giant trees and that seemed to make it even more special. Our offering went to the Free Clinic this year, and we were incredibly generous!

On the third Sunday in August, several of us headed out immediately after worship for Madison Pride Fest. Harry and Gary arranged for us to have a booth there where we could hand out free hugs, and they also invited other area UCC churches to join us. Memorial UCC in Fitchburg shared our space, and we sure did hand out a lot of hugs!

Also on the third Sunday in August, Feeding Friends had its first big fundraiser – an auction – where we raised \$6002.! Since I was at Pride I could not be at the auction, but I did manage to score two items that were up for auction thanks to my good friend Pastor Jim!

On the third Wednesday, the Faith Explorers group enjoyed an extra special treat; we had a Skype call with the Biblical Scholar, John Dominic Crossan. From a scholarly perspective, this was actually a pretty big deal, and we were very grateful for his willingness to share so generously with us about how an understanding of the historical setting of the Biblical world can help us better interpret the Bible in the 21st century.

And finally, on the fourth Sunday in August, we had our big birthday bash where we wished ourselves a happy birthday and celebrated together the gift of life! I was so happy to see that nearly every member of our congregation was there, and I truly enjoyed showing off my new home to you all!

Throughout the month we focused on our summer sermon series, “Be the Church,” and I believe that we were actively engaged every step of the way. Our attendance for the month was up, and I thank you for that.

So now September is upon us and to get us started, September 8 is designated as “Bring a Friend to Church” Sunday. On that day we will be having a pancake breakfast before worship at 9 am, and the idea is to fill the church with as many people as we can. We all love it when there are a lot of people in worship, so if each one of us brings at least one person, attendance will be double that day!

Also, on September 8, we will be resuming our study of the Narrative Lectionary for the fourth year in a row! Since the Narrative Lectionary is a four-year cycle, that means we will complete the entire NL next spring. That’s pretty impressive! The NL is new and there are still a lot of congregations that have not experienced it.

In this final year we will be concentrating on the Gospel of Mark. Mark actually falls in Year 2 of the NL cycle; we got started with the NL in Year 3. Mark’s gospel is the earliest account of the four canonical gospels, and it definitely stands out from the rest. In the fall, as in every year, the preaching texts come from the Old Testament, sampling the story of Israel’s Lord from creation in the garden (Genesis 2) through the return of the exiled Judeans from Babylon.

The overarching theme for the year is “God at the Center.” That theme is taken from this year’s “David story” -- in which David moves the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem, thereby placing God at the physical center of the new capital and thus placing God spiritually at the center of the nation.

I think that is a particularly pertinent theme for Plymouth this year. As I said in my last letter, this is the year we begin having some serious conversations about the future of this ministry. Things have changed – considerably. Many of us are gone – for one reason or another. And the old model of church is vanishing right along with payphones and checkbooks.

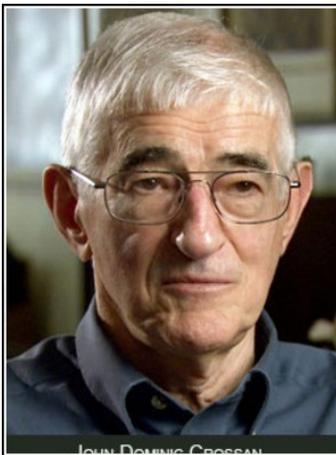
It seems kind of painful, but it’s really not. It’s just change. But it does have to be managed. And that’s something we have to do together.

Like I said last month, we still have plenty of choices. We have options – good options – attractive options, all we have to do is come together and recommit ourselves to God, to this ministry, and to each other.

And that is what we’re going to do. I still do not know the date, but soon we are going to begin the conversation. So start thinking about it. Do you have ideas? Things you want to bring up?

This is an exciting time for us Plymouth. With God at the center, we get to write a whole new chapter; we get to be a turning point in the history of this church. And I feel truly blessed to be your spiritual leader as we chart this new course together.

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Joy



My point, once again, is not that those ancient people told literal stories and we are now smart enough to take them symbolically, but that they told them symbolically and we are now dumb enough to take them literally.

— John Dominic Crossan —

AZ QUOTES



The Faith Explorers group felt very honored to have an online conversation with Dominic Crossan who is considered to be the premier Jesus scholar in the world. Julie Weiskircher, a member of Faith Explorers and a long-time friend of Dominic Crossan, arranged the teleconference. Dominic brought to us an understanding of the Bible that is based on what the gospel writings meant in their historical setting. We also asked about his views on the nature of God and the importance of the environment.

A brief summary of some of Dominic's points:

- The thrust of the life of Jesus was to bring justice combined with love – the two cannot be separated. The idea of what constitutes justice comes from family life -- for example, that everyone has a right to their fair share.
- Dominic accepts what science says about the origin and nature of the universe. But beyond science lies the mystery of why there is something rather than nothing and why the universe is evolving the way it is. He sees God as the Mystery that cloaks evolution. He said he has never prayed to a personal God. To him, prayer is more about living in union with God through attitude and action.
- As for caring for the environment, he simply said consider the phrase: "For God so loved the world".

In the coming weeks Faith Explorers is taking up his book, How to Read the Bible and Still be a Christian: Is God Violent? An Exploration from Genesis to Revelation.

Thanks,
Earl

— Bring a —
FRIEND
WEEKEND



Back to Church Sunday, September 8, Plymouth UCC will celebrate with a Back to Church Pancake Breakfast. The theme is Bring a Friend to Church, so please invite your friends. The Diaconate will serve up pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, applesauce, juice, and coffee all at no charge to you. So bring your friends, enjoy breakfast, and worship together. It starts at 9 am.

Volunteers are needed for Feeding Friends. Plymouth UCC hosts Feeding Friends the 2nd Wednesday of the month beginning at 5 pm. Salad and dessert donations are always needed if you cannot help with the preparation, serving, or cleanup. Please contact the office or Jill Roethe and let us know how you would like to help with Feeding Friends.



VOLUNTEER
here!

Pasty Sale Dates

2019

October 12

November 9

December 14

2020

January 11

February 8

March 14

April 4

(Easter April 11)

Pasty Season will be here soon...

Pasty sales begin again in October. Pasties are on the minds of members of the community and even those outside of the community who have heard about Plymouth's pasties. Already we have calls into the office to check on the date of the first sale and to make sure they are on the list. Workers are needed to make this successful each month. Please sign up to work one or more Saturdays through the entire season. Call into the office or contact Denise Whitish. Please let us know how you can help. Let's keep the best pasties in town available.



The Wacky Wednesday After School program begins again next week. Please sign up to help with the activities or in areas where an extra hand from an adult is needed. 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 .



Plymouth UCC Dodgeville



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

plymouthuccdodgeville.org

Or

On Facebook look for Plymouth United Church of Christ, Dodgeville

Or on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5k-NdBxPS-0&t=7s>



The Friendship Center would like to thank Plymouth UCC for their Joyful Noise donation. This helps pay expenses, as many of the children are unable to pay for the week they participate at the Friendship Center. There is information about what they did at camp, including photos sitting on the desk outside of the church office.

Ecumenical Worship in the Park Offering

Thank you for the \$1055.31 donation from your recent worship in the park to the Community Connections Free Clinic! We typically see 100 patients each month who are uninsured or underinsured, and we couldn't do this without volunteers and donations.

Thank you!

Kathleen Bramlett,
Free Clinic Board Chair



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."

Schedules

Usher

September 1 - Earl and Shirley Barnes
September 8 - Maureen Teubert
September 15 - Rod and Mary Lukes
September 22 - Earl and Shirley Barnes
September 29 -

Reader

September 1 - Shirley Barnes
September 8 - Chuck Roethe
September 15 - Rod Lukes
September 22 - Gretchen Pearson
September 29 -

Communion

September 1 - Dave Pearson
September 8 - Jill Roethe
September 15 - Jan Helmich
September 22—Julie Neal
September 29 - Gary McHone

Fellowship

September 1 - Earl and Shirley Barnes
September 8 - Bring a Friend to Church Pancake Breakfast
September 15 - Gretchen and Dave Pearson
September 22 - Tina Valenti
September 29 - Jean Brown

Joyful Noise

September 1, 8, 15 - Hodan Center
September 22, 29 - Multicultural Outreach Program





Grandma & Grandpa Neal with Ethan at the Black Earth Children's museum

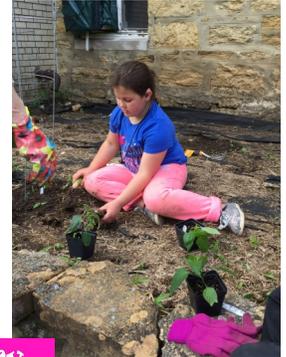
FLAT
JESUS
JESUS
JESUS



Feeding Friends, August 14



CHURCH-Wide
BIRTHDAY
BASH



Wacky
Wednesday



Wacky Wednesday planting the garden that has now produce lovely green plants and produce.

Outdoor Ecumenical Worship



Justice for Workers in their Workplaces

You shall not withhold the wages of poor and needy laborers, whether other Israelites or aliens who reside in your land in one of your towns --Deuteronomy 24:14

We know that our loving God cares about all aspects of our lives, including our work lives. Conditions and events at work absorb our energy, occupy our minds, and impact our psyches when we are both at work and home. Our work situations can be fulfilling and empowering, or demeaning and humiliating. For many of us, our job is the main factor determining the size of our income, whether we have health insurance and a pension, whether we live in a big house or any house at all, and whether we send our children to college or to bed with an empty stomach.

Some workers confront particularly unjust situations such as extremely low pay, unsafe conditions, racism, or sexism. All workers, whatever their position in the hierarchy of jobs, may suffer from indignities, large and small, that cripple their spirit and hinder their journey to greater wholeness.

One-quarter of all jobs in the U.S. pay wages so low that a full-time worker cannot keep a family out of poverty. For some, the biggest problem is no job at all. Even when the economy is considered to be "strong," millions of people who want to work cannot find a job or can only find a part-time one.

God's reign does not stop at the door to the workplace. The Church, the body of Christ, is called to seek out and accompany people wherever they are. So the church must also be in our offices, factories, stores, farms, schools, and all the places where people work.

Follow this link to read the rest of the article on the UCC website https://www.ucc.org/justice_worker-justice
Follow the links in the article for more information.

Why People of Faith Support Labor Unions

Why People of Faith Support Labor Unions Sometimes we wonder: why do people of faith support workers? Why support unions? Christians are called to accompany people wherever they are and especially through the rough places of their lives. So we must be in offices, factories, stores, farms, schools, health care facilities, and all the places where people work and, particularly, where low-wage workers are employed. The reign of God does not end at the door of the workplace. People of God stand with workers as they seek dignity on the job, a voice at work, safe workplaces, and fair and adequate compensation for their labor. The right to form, organize, or join a union is a fundamental, internationally-recognized human right listed in the 1948 United Nation's Declaration of Human Rights. But our nation's laws provide weak protections for workers' right to form a union. Laws are frequently violated, penalties are minimal and do not serve as a deterrent, and redress is often delayed or inadequate. We are called to stand with workers in this in-between space: between what is and our vision of God's reign where all workers are treated with justice and dignity.

To continue the article, click on this link http://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/unitedchurchofchrist/legacy_url/7216/Why-Support-Unions-Color-with-logo-2.pdf?1418431872

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.



DIACONATE NEWS

The Diaconate Committee met on August 20th at Joylynn's home. Those present were Gary McHone, chairman, Joylynn Graham, Jill Roethe, Harry Zelhofer-McHone and Jan Helmich.

The following items were discussed:

1. Report on Pride Fest. Plymouth had a booth at Pride Fest on August 18th in Madison. About 350 brochures and cards from our church were handed out as well as many, many free hugs to participants. Over 3,000 people attended. Next year plans will be made early and will probably have more churches sharing our booth. A lot of people showed interest in our Flat Jesus cards so these will be available for handouts next year. We will probably hand out candy as well as this was very popular in other booths.
2. Plans were finalized for the Birthday Bash this Sunday. Joylynn will provide brats and beverages. Gary and Harry will be making homemade ice cream. Jill will get a birthday cake and look for paper bowls for the ice cream. Those attending are asked to bring a dish to share and their own lawn chairs. From the church we will bring a cooler of lemonade, plates, plasticware, napkins and glasses. This will be a birthday celebration for everyone attending.
3. September 8th will be our Bring a Friend to Church Day. This will start with a pancake breakfast at 9:00 AM before our church service. The menu will be pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, juice and coffee. Gary will do the shopping for food. Diaconate members should be there by 8:00 AM to prepare and bring extra griddles, electric skillet, etc. There will be no charge for those attending.
4. September 29th Pastor Joy will be on vacation and the Diaconate Committee will be in charge of the service.

Our next meeting will be September 16th.

Jan Helmich, Secretary

On September 29th - Pastor Joylynn will be on a Wilderness Retreat for required continuing education.



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 at CornerStone

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

Choir, 7 pm, September through May.

Feeding Friends - 2nd Wednesday of the month.

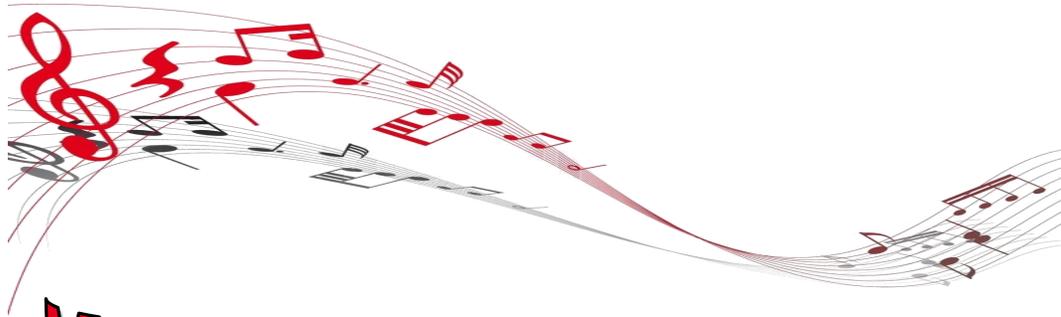
Thursdays

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.



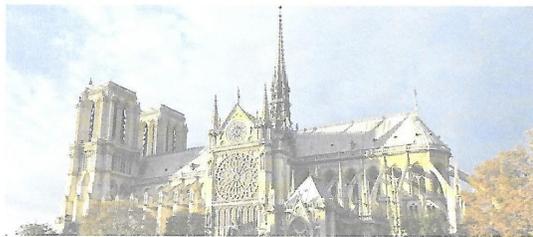
Wyoming Valley Hymn Sing

All voices are welcome to join in an afternoon of inspirational music when the Wyoming Valley Hymn Sing takes place on Sunday, Sept. 1

The event begins at 2 p.m. and will conclude by 3:30 p.m. There will be a short intermission for refreshments.

The 40th season of this non-denominational gathering takes place at the Wyoming Valley School Cultural Arts Center, 6306 State Highway 23, five miles south of Spring Green and 12 miles north of Dodgeville. The facility is air conditioned with easy access and lots of parking.

Sponsors of the event include the Spring Green Area Arts Council and the Wyoming Valley School.



Sounds of the French Masters in the River Valley

RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY CHORUS

Gabrielle Faure, Requiem

for chorus and orchestra

Louis Vierne, Messe Solennelle

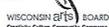
for chorus and two organs

Directed by Michael Davidson

Sunday, September 29, 4:00 PM

St. Luke's Catholic Church, Plain, WI

Free will donation



This concert is supported, in part, with funding from the Spring Green Area Arts Coalition and from the Sauk County UW Extension, Arts & Culture Committee, and the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of WI and the National Endowment for the Arts.

This poster is for the choir concert that Jeanie Kamholtz, Earl Barnes, Lisa, and Joan Bettner-Steele will be singing in at the end of September. There may be others that people from church know, like Mary Gottschalk of Dodgeville.

The pieces are really deluxe and Notre Dame may be pictured on the poster because the Vierne piece was written specifically to be performed at Notre Dame. He was the titular organist there at the turn of the last century.

If you are curious:

This is the organ at Notre Dame:

<https://youtu.be/-zjLRHPotjk>

and then the Faure:

<https://youtu.be/TtJeTMRzn8A>

September 2019

1 Worship 10 am Fellowship	2 	3	4 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm Faith Explorers 10:30 am Wacky Wednesday, 2:20 - 5:30 pm	5 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm	6	7
8 "Bring a Friend to Church" Breakfast 9 am Worship 10 am 	9	10 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm	11 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm Faith Explorers 10:30 am Wacky Wednesday, 2:30 - 5:30 pm Feeding Friends, 5pm	12 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm Trustees, 7 pm	13	14
15 Worship 10 am Fellowship	16	17 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm Diaconate, 5:30 pm Council, 7 pm	18 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm Faith Explorers 10:30 am Wacky Wednesday, 2:20 - 5:30 pm	19 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm	20	21
22 Worship 10 am Fellowship	23	24 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm	25 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm Faith Explorers 10:30 am Wacky Wednesday, 2:20 - 5:30 pm	26 Office Hours 8:00 am - 12:30 pm Pastor Available 10 am - 2 pm Plymouth Circle, Noon 	27	28
29 Worship 10 am Fellowship	30					

Plymouth UCC Dodgeville

Church Office:

Pastor Availability

Hours:

Tuesday-Thursday
10:00 am - 4:00 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:

Eric Leighninger



Newsletter Deadline

September 19 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

AUGUST 4	33
AUGUST 11	OUTDOOR ECUMENICAL
AUGUST 18	25
AUGUST 25	27

ATTENDANCE



September 16

Earl Barnes

September 25

Jill Roethe

September 30

James Steele

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



THANKS TO YOUR
GENEROSITY IN JUNE

FRIENDSHIP CENTER \$328.83

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH \$84.88

WACKY WEDNESDAY \$107.83

SEPTEMBER JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING
IS DESIGNATED FOR:

HODAN CENTER

**MULTICULTURAL OUTREACH
CENTER**



Joyful
noise



Plymouth Congregational
United Church of Christ
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Email: Plymouth@mhtc.net

Website: plymouthuccdodgeville.org

