

The Herald

PLYMOUTH UCC DODGEVILLE

JULY
2023



Plymouth Congregational
United Church of Christ

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The search committee has started to interview pastoral candidates and are excited about one we believe to be a good fit! We hope to begin negotiations soon. We will keep you updated as we learn more...

Ecumenical Worship in The Park

Sunday, August 6, 9 am.

Please come and represent Plymouth UCC and see friends from the area churches.

Plymouth UCC is responsible for at least 4 dozen cookies. Contact the office if you will be bringing 1 or more dozen cookies.

608-935-5727 Plymouth@mhtc.net

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:
Office Administrator Hours
Tuesday-Thursday
8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Pastor:

Interim Pastor

Office Administrator:

Mary Haag
935-5727
plymouth@mhtc.net

Maintenance:

Organist:

Marilyn Dunn

Choir Director:



Seeking help with Usher/Reader/Communion duties during worship!

There's nothing difficult here, but all is necessary to ensure the service runs smoothly.

Usher Duties:

- **Unlock doors and turn on lights and fan**
 - **Unlock side door and use key to ensure it stays in unlocked position**
 - **Turn automated door opener on**
 - **Unlock main (front) door**
- **Turn on sound system (1 button located in sacristy)**
- **Light candles during prelude prior to start of service using candle lighter/snuffer**
- **Ring bell during prelude (no set number of chimes, just "several")**
- **Collect offering and Joyful Noise donations**
 - **Before collection, wait at back of church until pastor brings the collection plates down**
 - **After collection wait at back until doxology starts then bring plates forward**
 - **Finish doxology and prayer of thanksgiving, then return to your seat**
- **Hold/pass the microphone around for Prayers of the People and Announcements as needed**
- **Extinguish candles during last hymn and carry flame back down the aisle with lighter/snuffer**
- **When sanctuary is empty after service, lock the front door and turn off the lights and sound system**

Reader Duties:

- **Sit up front by the lectern at the start of worship.**
- **Read the Call to Worship and Opening Prayer after pastor does the Welcome**
- **Invite the Congregation to Passing of the Peace**
- **Read the scripture after the first hymn**
(Mary Haag will email you the readings and prayers prior to worship)

IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH...

You are the life of the church



- Return to sitting with the congregation after the gospel reading.

Communion Duties:

- Purchase and bring with you a loaf of bakery bread (unsliced)
- Cut ends off and set aside.
- Cut part way through the center portion across the middle to make it easier to tear during service
- Cut ends into small pieces (20 or so)
- Place large partially cut piece on one side of bread dish and small pieces on the other side.
- Place bread dish on the right side of the altar (from behind the altar) and cover with the the cloth
- Get wine from under the sink in sacristy and pour approx. 1 cup into the small pitcher
- Take a small bottle of grape juice from under the sink and pour approx, half into the small chalice
- Place the pitcher, large chalice (empty), and small chalice on the left side of the altar and cover with the cloth
- When communion starts, get the chalices and serve communion with the pastor.
- After worship, clear the communion dishes from the altar and wash in sacristy sink, placing in rack to dry

Leftover wine and grape juice in chalices can be poured down the drain.

Discard leftover bread downstairs and save opened 1/2 bottle of grape juice in refrigerator in Fellowship Hall.

It sounds like a lot, but all of it can be easily accomplished by 2 people, arriving 30 minutes prior to service. If you've never done some of these tasks before and want someone to walk you through it, please contact Lisa Pepelea lkpep@yahoo.com

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 here. Pasties are on the minds of members of the community and even those outside of the community who have heard about Plymouth's pasties. 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. Pasty dates - October 9, November 13, December 11, January 8, February 12, March 12, and April 9.

Be a part of the Church

Faith Explorers - Wednesdays, 11:00 am via Zoom and Faith Explorers. 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 Earl Barnes 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 - Fourth Thursday of the month, noon, at Country Kitchen. "Plymouth Circle (or as we call ourselves sometimes "The Out For Lunch Bunch") this is the week! Open to all, men, women, couples, singles, everyone. We always have fun and good conversation.

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.

Moderator

Gary McHone

Vice Moderator

Open

Trustees

Shirley Barnes

Diaconate

Mission

Chuck Roethe

Clerk

Mary Stellick

Christian Education

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.



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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
August 15

Announcements/Coming up...

Aug 6 - Ecumenical Picnic in the Park. Worship will begin at 9 am. Bring your chair. Plymouth UCC is responsible for 2 dozen cookies. Please contact the office if you will be donating cookies. Thank you!

Schedules

Usher/Reader/Communion

July

2 – Gary McHone & ?
9 - Mary & Rick Stellick – Usher Dave Pearson – Reader/Communion
16 - Earl & Shirley Barnes
23 – Gary McHone & Dave Pearson Stellick
Communion/Reader
30 – Mark & Lisa Pepelea

August

6 - Ecumenical Worship in the Park
13 – Mark & Lisa Pepelea
20 – Mary & Rick Stellick
27 – Earl & Shirley Barnes

September

3 - Lisa & Mark Pepelea
10 - Gary McHone & ?
17 – Mary & Rick Stellick
24 - Earl & Shirley Barnes

***If you would like to volunteer to help with Worship, please contact Lisa Pepelea or the church office.**

Joyful Noise

July 2, 9 - Plymouth Mini Food Pantry
July 16, 23, 30 - Food Pantry

Fellowship

July 2 - Rick and Mary Stellick
July 9 - Farmer's Appreciation Day
July 16 - Jan Helmich
July 23 - Steve Pieroni
July 30 -
August 6 - Ecumenical Worship, Plymouth 4 dozen cookies
August 13 - Mark and Lisa Pepelea
August 20 - Earl and Shirley Barnes
August 27 - Mary and Rod Lukes

Happy Birthday:

June

17 - Elise Lindeman

Chuck Roethe

July

10 - Joan Steele

23 - Harry Zelhofer

26 - Marilyn Dunn

Bill Fitzgerald



JOYFUL NOISE

Thanks to your generosity in May

Hodan Center

287.00

July Joyful Noise Offering is designated for:

Food Pantry

Plymouth Mini Food Pantry

Thank you!!!



Join us for in-person worship on Sundays at 10:30 am.

Circle of Care

Earl and Shirley Barnes

Liz Bothfeld

Harry and Gary McHone

Dave and Gretchen Pearson

Rod and Mary Lukes

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.**

May Council Meeting Minutes

Plymouth UCC Council Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2023

Members Present: Shirley Barnes, Earl Barnes, Gary McHone, Steve Pieroni, Chuck Rothe

Absent: Mary Stellick, Randy Thompson

Meeting was called to order by Gary at 7:10. There was a motion to approve the minutes by Earl, second by Steve. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Diaconate

Pastor Martens will not be available this Sunday. Jill and Mary H. will prepare service for this Sunday. Gary will cover the date in the future when Pastor Mertens is not available. Randy will change the colors to red and green at the appropriate times.

Trustees

Shirley reported that we need to record data quarterly regarding our boiler. She will contact a specialist. Possibly Terry Wolfe or Ken Reese.

The elevator is inspected on a regular basis.

Shirley will call the fire department to see who can perform a fire inspection of the building as well as to inspect the condition of our fire extinguishers and if we have a sufficient number.

Shirley also reported on the successful brainstorm session regarding the use of our church building. Attorney Tim McKinley will be contacted to create a 501.C3 nonprofit organization to handle community activities.

Regarding our endowment, there was a question raised as to whether the constitution, or the endowment document determines how it is to be distributed upon dissolution of the church. That is something that will have to be looked into.

Rachel Bowman suggested we consider using the UCC foundation for our assets. That was taken under advisement.

Financial

Steve reported that we have \$12,500 in our farmers bank account. There was a discussion about how to pay Midwest roofing for the roofing repairs when those repairs are completed. We don't have a date as to when those repairs will be started. It was decided that we will coordinate the timing of the endowment interest distributions with the payment to Midwest roofing. We want to minimize selling our funds to harvest cash for payment to Midwest Roofing.

Steve confirmed that we will be receiving a check for \$1007 in the next couple of weeks from Laforce for the door glass that failed. The new glass is on order from Cardinal in Spring Green and when that is installed by Tri State Custom Windows it will cost a total of about \$350.

Earl reported that stewardship donations year to date is \$14,500. Last year at this time it was \$10,300. But, the year to date donations in 2021 were more than \$14,500. So we are behind the 2021 donations. The Pasty revenue was \$9000 for the last year; expenses were deducted from this amount. Last year our revenue was \$8000 so we were about \$1000 ahead this year.

Earl noted that the endowment data was not included in this months financial report. Steve and possibly Earl will meet with Tracy to review what data we want and to possibly have it limited to one document.

Missions

Chuck reported that the returns on our Endowment are consistently 5% per year. There was a brief discussion about our investments and the rate of return.

We also discussed how the mini pantry funds will be recorded. The mini-pantry will now be under the jurisdiction of the mission committee. It was decided that there will be an accounting entry in our monthly reports for the mini pantry donations. Steve will follow up with Tracy to make this happen.



Old Business

There was no Old Business.

New Business

There was no New Business.

Motion to adjourn made by Shirley seconded by Steve. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Next meeting is Tuesday, June 20, 2023.

Submitted by Steve Pieroni