

# PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN

## CHURCH

2615 Sykes Rd, St. Helens, OR 97051

Phone: 503-397-0062

Website: [www.PlyChurch.org](http://www.PlyChurch.org)

E-mail: [plymouth@plymouthchurchsh.com](mailto:plymouth@plymouthchurchsh.com)

**Sunday School: 9:15 AM Worship: 10:30 AM**



## 2017

### From the Pastor

The 12 days of Christmas do not end until January has gotten underway. And while our culture likes to clear the dishes and leftovers and put the decorations away as quickly as possible to move on to the next event (Valentine's cards and candy?), it gives me some hope that the light of Christ will persist nevertheless in our worship. According to the Gospel of Matthew the wise men or "Magi" came to a house (2:11), giving rise to the idea that they arrived days after the birth in the manger. They are said to have followed a star in search of the one we call the "light of the world".

The 12 days of Christmas end on the day called "Epiphany", which means the "manifestation of light in the darkness", and is January 6<sup>th</sup>. At Plymouth, our Sunday worship will focus on the Magi on January 1<sup>st</sup>, and the light of Epiphany on January 8<sup>th</sup>. So maybe we can slow down our search for the perfect Valentine's card long enough to light a candle and ponder its light. Hopefully this could even give us a few days to catch our breath as the new year begins.

Each morning will come earlier starting in January. Dawn will break and light will return. When dawn breaks, the only thing broken is the darkness. When dawn breaks a new day begins. When I break something, I immediately want to fix it. Broken mugs, broken promises, broken stubbed toes. But the breaking of dawn might be exactly the fix we need. We don't have to fix the world alone. And we don't have to fix everything in our lives alone. God shines through into our world and our lives.

Grace and Peace

Pastor David Hutchinson



Roger	Liefeld	1	5
Richard	Chulufas	1	9
Jonathan	Dickson	1	10
Julie	Kelly	1	15
Shannon	Gerber	1	23
Marilyn	Brinster	1	25
Helen	Purkerson	1	26
Audrey	Sinner	1	28



**Finance Report  
November 30, 2016**

	November 2016	YTD 2016
Income**	\$12,834	\$80,006
Expense	\$7,267	\$79,215
Net Income	\$5,567	\$790.28

\*\* Income reflects \$5,705 in Bazaar sales

**Deacon's Fund**

There was one request for assistance, leaving a balance of \$528.53.

**Priscilla Circle**



Fourteen members and guests attended the annual Priscilla Circle Christmas Luncheon on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Delicious salads along with meatballs, crab mini-cakes, rolls, and cookies completed the meal. Everyone seemed to enjoy the fellowship of dining together. Charlotte Wilburn again shared lovely Christmas magnets with everyone and we are grateful to her.

Fran Pickering noted that Ida Mae Larsen's little red pail donated \$248.25 from gratuities for the Makindu Childrens' Centre and we thank Ida Mae for her generosity and creativity.

Carol Jones showed the group the \$190+ purchases of pajamas, socks, and underwear for DHS children, which is our local mission. Carol was to deliver them following the luncheon. Thanks to Carol for the shopping and to everyone in Priscilla Circle who contributed each month for this endeavor.

Thanks, also, to everyone who donated cookies for the nine cookie boxes which were prepared for distribution and to everyone who stayed and helped clean up after the luncheon.

The next Priscilla Circle meeting will be on January 11, 2017 with Michele Rae and Helen Purkerson as hostesses and the devotions will be given by Shirley Eaton. The program is still a work in progress.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in the New Year—and bring a friend along, too.



### Adult Sunday School

Sunday morning Bible study is taking a break but will begin again January 15. Rev. Hutchinson will lead the Sunday morning Bible study from January until May.

Linda Dunn is taking a break after teaching many wonderful classes, and it is with much thanks that the class members all recognize her dedication, scholarship and insight over the past years of teaching.

### Monday Night Study Group

The Monday night study group has been taking a break but will begin again January 23, when we will spend 5 weeks on the book **Great Prayers of the Old Testament** by Walter Brueggemann. Each chapter is based on the prayer of an Old Testament figure, such as Moses, Hannah, Jonah, Daniel, etc...You may order the book from many retailers including Amazon. It is a total of 138 pages so each week will be only about 25 pages of reading.

### Spiritual Practices Group

This group will meet on January 16 at noon in the Fellowship Hall.



### Lectionary Readings – January

#### January 1:

Isaiah 63:7–9, Psalm 148, Hebrews 2:10–18, Matthew 2:13–23

#### January 6, Epiphany:

Isaiah 60:1–6, Psalm 72:1–7, 10–14, Ephesians 3:1–12, Matthew 2:1–12

#### January 8th:

Isaiah 42:1–9, Psalm 29, Acts 10:34–43, Matthew 3:13–17

#### January 15th:

Isaiah 49:1–7, Psalm 40:1–11, 1 Corinthians 1:1–9, John 1:29–42

#### January 22nd:

Isaiah 9:1–4, Psalm 27:1, 4–9, 1 Corinthians 1:10–18, Matthew 4:12–23

#### January 29th:

Micah 6:1–8, Psalm 15, 1 Corinthians 1:18



The Bible tells us that maintaining a close walk with God is a command we must obey, not merely a suggestion we may want to consider.

Margaret Fishback Powers



**Boxing Day**

**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> after worship**

Please plan to stay after worship on Sunday, January 8, to enjoy lunch, and help pack boxes. These boxes contain many needed items for people struggling financially. They are packed at Plymouth Church and then distributed by Community Action Teams in St. Helens.

**Annual Reports Due**

In preparation for the annual congregational meeting, please note that Annual Reports are due to the office on January 15.



**Annual Congregational Meeting January 29**

After worship on January 29, the Fellowship Commission will be serving lunch, after which we will hold our annual congregational meeting.

All are welcome at the lunch and to read and hear annual reports. Voting members of the congregation will establish terms of call for Pastor David, and voting on corporation officers. We will also review 2016 annual reports.

Come spend an hour looking back at last year, and ahead to the next.

**North Dakota Access Pipeline**

The Presbytery of the Cascades has written a letter to be delivered and presented to the Native Americans in support of their protest of the North Dakota Access Pipeline. For a copy of the letter, contact Michele Rae.



Thank you everyone for your prayers, hugs and cards during the loss of our Mom.

Zelda & Ken

Thank you.



**Attendance**

November 13	44
November 20	37
November 27	43
December 4	45
December 11	49
December 18	36



Deadline for the February issue is January 20, 2017. Please submit your articles by then to [beckyfrazier35@yahoo.com](mailto:beckyfrazier35@yahoo.com). Thank you.

### The Gathering

There are no gatherings scheduled for January. We will start up again in February.



### New Address

Our snowbird, Jean Anderson, has flown south for the winter, but she has left us her new address:

Jean Anderson  
12205 Gunstock Rd.  
Room A-10  
Colorado Springs, CO 80921

### Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program Supports Plymouth Church!

Don't forget, if you shop at Fred Meyer and use their rewards card, you can sign up to have money donated to the church. It won't affect the rewards you receive; it will simply give additional rewards to the church. Just go to [www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards), register your personal rewards card, and select Plymouth Presbyterian Church (or enter 88921). Questions? Contact Linda Dunn.



### How Did Things Go in December?



Again our bazaar was a success bringing in almost \$6000. The baskets were a big hit with shoppers, and we still a few more to sell if you are interested. Thanks to those who created the baskets, who cooked in the kitchen, and who donated handmade items and food. We also opened the bazaar to vendors this year and that brought even more people than usual to our bazaar



### Christmas Potluck/Sing-a-long

Thirty-one people attended our Christmas potluck and sing-a-long. Thanks go to our gathering coordinator Michele Rae and to Linda Dunn and Julie Kelly for cooking the ham and the turkey. The rest of the congregation brought salads and other side dishes. It was a delicious meal. When it was time for the sing-a-long, David provided the words and Helen Purkerson did her usual outstanding job on the piano, able to play the songs even when she didn't have the music. Everyone had a good time, enjoying the food, the fellowship, and the music.

## Sunday Volunteer Schedule

<b>January 1, 2017</b>	<b>Communion Set-up:</b> Linda Dunn <b>Communion Servers:</b> Adrienne Schilling, Linda Dunn, Nancy Hutchinson <b>Greeters/Ushers:</b> Gary Eaton, Mark Earhart <b>Lay Leader:</b> Bill Eagle <b>Snacks:</b> Al and Audrey Sinner
<b>January 8</b>	<b>Greeters:</b> Jill Turner, Pat Brown <b>Lay Leader:</b> Ron Stites <b>Snacks:</b> Fellowship Commission – Boxing Day
<b>January 15</b>	<b>Greeters:</b> Helen Purkerson, Marilyn Brinster <b>Lay Leader:</b> Linda Dunn <b>Snacks:</b> Helen Purkerson
<b>January 22</b>	<b>Greeters/Ushers:</b> Roger and Linda Liefeld <b>Lay Leader:</b> Lorna Bradley <b>Snacks:</b> Jill Turner
<b>January 29</b>	<b>Greeters/Ushers:</b> Charles and Michele Rae <b>Lay Leader:</b> Gina Harrington <b>Snacks:</b> Fellowship Commission – Congregational Meeting

**Attention: Greeters/Ushers** – Please be at the church by 10:00 AM. Please provide name tags for visitors and 'Welcome Packets' for first-time visitors.

### Welcome Committee

**November:** Fran Pickering, Mark Dinwiddie, Becky Frazier, Michele Rae

Hospitality is one form of worship.

*The Talmud*





# January 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>  <b>New Year's Day</b> <b>Worship at 10:30</b> <b>Communion</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Deacons at 10:30</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Worship Committee,</b> <b>10:30</b>	<b>6</b>  <b>EPIPHANY</b>	<b>7</b> <b>Orthodox Christmas</b>
<b>8</b> <b>Worship 10:30</b>	<b>9</b> <b>Pastor out of the</b> <b>office</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Annual reports due</b> <b>this week</b>	<b>11</b> <b>Priscilla Circle, noon</b>  <b>Session, 6:15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Orthodox New Years</b>
 <b>15</b> <b>Adult Bible Study</b> <b>9:15 a.m.</b>  <b>Worship 10:30</b>	<b>16</b> <b>Spiritual Practices</b> <b>noon</b>   <b>"I Have a Dream..."</b> <b>Martin Luther King Jr.</b> <b>Day</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  <b>Squares and Prayers</b> <b>1 p.m.</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  <b>Newsletter</b> <b>Deadline</b>	<b>21</b>
 <b>22</b> <b>Adult Bible Study,</b> <b>9:15 a.m.</b>  <b>Worship 10:30</b>	<b>23</b>  <b>Study group, 6 pm</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  <b>Prayers and Squares</b> <b>1 pm</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  <b>Men's Breakfast</b> <b>8 a.m.</b>
 <b>29</b> <b>Adult Bible</b> <b>Study, 9:15 a.m.</b>  <b>Worship 10:30</b>  <b>Congregational</b> <b>Meeting</b>	<b>30</b>  <b>Study group, 6 pm</b>	<b>31</b>				



You are not alone. You never have been and you never will be. God has been with you every step of the way.

If you ever feel for a second that He is not right there beside you, it is only because He has gone ahead for a moment or two to keep you safe from harm.

Wherever you go, may you be with God, for God will always be with you.

Alin Austin

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2615 SYKES ROAD  
ST. HELENS, OR 97051

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**