

PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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2018



The 40 days of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 14, and stretch until Easter. We began our Lenten journey on Ash Wednesday as we remembered “that we are dust, and to dust we shall return”. During Lent we often prepare for Easter by increased prayer and contemplation, or by giving something up.

This year our worship services and gatherings offer an opportunity to experience the deeper meaning of the Christian meal. The preaching text for the first Sunday of Lent was an account of Jesus being tempted to turn a stone into bread. But Jesus said “We do not live by bread alone”. While that is true, bread and the meal are opportunities for deep faithful reflection.

According to Gordon Lathrop, faithful Christian meal practice resisted the power of the banquet, in both Greek and Jewish settings. Christian meals sought openness and grace. Christians became a community around the table and took collections for the hungry. The bread and cup were for the many, the meal was an assembly of grace, and the cup was for forgiveness. They accentuated the bread and wine and the rest of the food was given away. And their meal prayers referred to Jesus’ power to help them stand before God. (*Holy People* p. 195)

In St. Helens this year we gather for two meals back to back that point us to the power of the Christian meal as a spiritual practice. On Maundy Thursday at Plymouth Church we will celebrate Holy Communion and remember the events of Jesus’ life that include the first Passover communion. Then the following day, Good Friday (March 30) at noon the wider Christian community is invited to join us for a community Good Friday service followed by a soup lunch. The congregations invited to this Good Friday lunch are those that participate with us in our service and feeding ministries throughout the year. If you have the opportunity to attend both gatherings, you might reflect on the connection between the meals, and how they reconnect us to ancient Christian practice.

May we open ourselves to the journey of Lent with hope and contemplation.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor David Hutchinson



Alexa	Gaskill	3	16
Melissa	Wolfe	3	16
Bob	Kelly	3	17
Patricia	Ayerza	3	17
Adrienne	Schilling	3	23



January 2018 Income and Expense

	January 2018	
Income	\$11,997	
Expense	\$12,903	
Net Loss	(\$906)	

Note: Income included \$4,030 for the building fund and expenses included \$4,650 for the painting of the sanctuary.



View from the Pews

Attendance

December 28	40
February 4	35
February 11	41



Be a Teacher

Are you interested in helping with our visiting children? We are looking for volunteers to take the children out for a short class during service. In addition to the few we have that visit now, there may be a few more coming. If we can get a number of volunteers, it will ensure there is a teacher available when needed. Resources are available to pre-plan lessons or craft activities. If you can help, please contact Adrienne to get more details



Wendy Wells is starting to work on our list of volunteers to serve as the welcoming committee each Sunday morning. If you are willing to serve, or continue to serve, in this important form of outreach, please let her know.



Fred Meyer Rewards

The 15 households from Plymouth Church who have signed up to participate in the Fred Meyer Rewards program have earned our church \$72.35 for the fourth quarter of the year. If you want to sign up, too, go to www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. For help, contact Linda Dunn.



Lectionary Readings For March

March 4 Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19 1;
Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

March 11 Fourth Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22;
Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

March 18 Fifth Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12 or
Psalm 119:9-16; Hebrews 5:5-10;
John 12:20-33

March 25 Palm Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms

Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16;
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Liturgy of the Passion

Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16;
Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47 or
Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)

March 29 Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10) 11-14;
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26;
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

March 30 Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22:1-31;
Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9;
John 18:1-19:42



Sunday Morning Bible Study

Sunday morning Bible study continues each Sunday morning **at 9:15** in the library with Pastor David and Elder Linda Dunn leading. All are welcome to attend as we study the lectionary readings for the day. Bring your Bible and your comments and/or questions. Class will NOT meet on Palm Sunday (March 25) or Easter (April 1).



Lenten Monday Evening Prayer Services Each Monday evening in Lent at 6:00pm: March 5, 12, 19

Gather in the social hall for a time of prayer and reflection and singing. Services last one half hour and conclude at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged to stay for the study that follows, but if you choose to attend only the worship service, there will be an opportunity to leave at 6:30 p.m.

World Day of Prayer

Following the theme "All God's Creation is very good", the World Day of Prayer will be held at Bethany Lutheran Church, 34721 Church Road, Warren, on March 2 at 11:00. A light luncheon will follow and "to go" will be available.



Evening Study Group

Ruth the Moabite: Insiders, Outsiders and God's Covenant

During the weeks of Lent (February and March) the Monday Night study group will read and discuss the Old Testament book of Ruth. This story is concise, well told, and maybe a little more challenging than we first think. The story of this amazing woman is full of insight for our present day. Each evening after the first one, we will focus on a particular chapter, so if you have to miss one you can read along in the Bible and join us the following week. The class is led by Pastor David and all are welcome and encouraged to bring a snack to share (though it is not required).

Class meets Mondays from 6:30pm-7:45pm in the social hall at church. You may want to also attend the ½ hour prayer service that precedes the study from 6 pm-6:30.

- February 26 - Ruth chapter 1
- March 5 - Ruth chapter 2
- March 12 - Ruth chapter 3
- March 19 - Ruth chapter 4



One Great Hour of Sharing

We will be collecting money for One Great Hour of Sharing on Easter Sunday, April 1st and for the next few Sundays after. This is the single largest way Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.



Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday Communion Service Thursday, March 29 at 7pm at Plymouth

Readings and Music will retell the events of Jesus' last week leading up to Good Friday. Holy Communion served.

Community Good Friday Service Friday, March 30 at noon at Plymouth

Community members are invited to this service. Dramatic readings tell the events of Jesus on the cross. Soup lunch to follow. Service and lunch together are designed to last only until 1pm.

Easter Sunday

Mark your calendar! **Easter IS ON April 1st** (no fooling!)

Easter Sunday Brunch

On Easter Sunday, Plymouth will be having our traditional brunch after service featuring everyone's favorite – deviled eggs. Please bring your favorite deviled eggs, fruit or pastries to share. Please let Linda Dunn know if you can help in the kitchen.



Thank you!

Thank you so much for all the beautiful cards and your prayers and good thoughts when our Mother passed away. Each time she was ill, she always appreciated the prayers from this congregation. It is such a blessing to have such amazing friends!

Love,
Linda and Roger Liefeld



PRISCILLA CIRCLE February 14, 2018

On Valentine's Day, Priscilla Circle met with eleven in attendance to enjoy fellowship and a delicious dessert prepared by hostess Fran Pickering. A valentine's theme was carried through even to the cute little magnets again prepared by Charlotte Wilburn and we were so happy to see Charlotte present at circle. Thanks so much for coming and treating us!

Carol Jones, Gina Harrington, and Helen Purkerson will represent PPC with committee work and food prep for the World Day of Prayer on March 2nd at Bethany Lutheran Church.

Our Woman of Faith, Sue Dacus, gave an interesting and emotional presentation of her faith journey including a photo album she put together including a number of historical photos centered around her early church, Lebanon Presbyterian Church in Lebanon, Pennsylvania. We are glad that she and Jay found their way to Plymouth Church.

Following Joys and Concerns, Becky Frazier gave two lovely devotions—one, "Keep Trusting God" from the book, *Close to God* and then read an Apache Blessing.

The next Circle meeting will be on March 14th with Helen and Fran as hostesses. Devotions will be given by Fran, and Jay Dacus will share his Faith Journey. We will look forward to that.

Come and bring a friend.



Daylight Savings Time Returns

Don't forget to set your clocks forward on March 11.



Woman of faith Sue Dacus

I was raised in Western Pennsylvania in the early 50's, near Pittsburgh. Dad's immediate family were strong Catholics, and I was baptized at their church to assure my soul was saved. At age 4 my start in faith came from teachings I received weekly from Jehovah's Witnesses, where I learned all the normal Bible stories. But at age 6 my parents made me switch to become Presbyterian. I formally joined Lebanon Presbyterian Church at age 13 making my parents very proud. During that time, I felt deeply devoted and read the Bible quite a bit on my own. I've had many people over the years who tried to "save" me. This was frustrating because I believed I had already been saved when I joined at Lebanon. I have some thoughtful, funny, and somewhat sad memories about these incidents. While moving to Oregon in 1990, my children asked if we could join a church, and we joined Reedville Presbyterian Church. There I became a Bible Study teacher, Mission Outreach leader, and a Deacon. When my husband and I retired, moving to Scappoose, we joined Plymouth Church. I thank God daily for all the blessings my faith in Him has provided.

Newsletter
DEADLINE

The deadline for the March newsletter is March 16. Please submit your articles and/or information to beckyfrazier35@yahoo.com



Sunday Volunteer Schedule

March 4, 2018	Communion Set-up: Ken and Zelda Anderson Communion Servers: Angie Meres, Zelda Anderson, and Michele Rae Greeters/Ushers: Nancy Hutchinson and Mark Earhart Lay Leader: Linda Dunn Snacks: Deacons
March 11, 2018	Greeters/Ushers: Linda Dunn and Jon Dickson Lay Leader: Fran Pickering Snacks: Nancy Hutchinson and Lorna Bradley
March 18, 2018	Greeters: Helen Purkerson and Marilyn Brinster Lay Leader: Becky Frazier Snacks:
March 25, 2018	Greeters/Ushers: Wendy Wells and Jill Turner Lay Leader: Fran Pickering Snacks: Zelda Anderson, Linda Liefeld
April 1, 2018	Greeters/Ushers: Larry and Angie Meres Lay Leader: Snacks: Easter brunch



Welcome Committee: March

Linda Dunn, Kathleen Dinwiddie, Helen Purkerson

Thank you for being especially "welcoming." Introductions, name tags, the newsletter, and connecting during coffee hour make our church warm and inviting. It's helped many of us become a part of this congregation. Thank you to all for your kindness

Hospitality is one form of worship.

The Talmud

March, 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4  THIRD SUNDAY Bible Study 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Worship Committee noon Avamere 1:30 p.m.	5 Deacons meet 1:30 p.m.  Prayer service 6 p.m.  Study group 6.30 p.m.	6	7  CHOIR Choir rehearsal 7 pm	8	9 Presbytery Meeting in Portland	10 Presbytery Meeting in Portland
11  Sunday in Lent Bible Study 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 Daylight Savings Time begins  Time to Spring Ahead	12  Prayer service 6 p.m.  Study group 6.30 p.m.	13 St. Helens Ministers' Meeting at Plymouth 11:15 am	14 Priscilla Circle 1 p.m. Session 6:15 p.m. No choir rehearsal	15	16  Newsletter DEADLINE	17  St. Patrick's Day
18  Sunday in Lent Bible Study 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.	19  Last Prayer service 6 p.m.  Last Study group 6.30 p.m.	20	21 Prayers and Squares 1 p.m.  CHOIR Choir rehearsal 7 pm	22	23	24
25  Palm Sunday No Bible Study Worship 10:30 a.m.	26 No Study group	27	28 No choir rehearsal	29  Maundy Thursday communion, 7 pm	30  Good Friday Community Good Friday worship and lunch 12:00 noon	31



There are fewer sadder sights on earth than the sight of a person who has lost all hope. But if you place your faith in God, you need never lose hope. After all, God is good. His love endures. He has promised us the gift of eternal life; and he always keeps his promises.

HUGS, Daily Inspirations, Words of Comfort

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