

PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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September, 2020



We often characterize the return to fall programs at the church with the term: "kickoff". We talk about a kickoff Sunday, or a Stewardship kickoff. And while we DO return to some things this fall, this is a different kind of "kickoff". In a year in which the Pac-12 and the Big 10 have cancelled their games and kickoffs, and postponed them until January, and schools have either gone all virtual, or experienced outbreaks within a few weeks of opening and had to close back down, things are clearly not "back to normal" with regard to the Covid virus situation. So in order to stay safe we are continuing forward with alternatives. There are a bunch of alternatives, however.

The sermons continue to be posted on the website, and I prepare worship services along with music staff which are posted each week, as they have been since April. You can listen to a half hour service with sermon, prayers, and music, recorded and easy to access on the church website. Just click on the "audio file" for each week on the sermon page. Also, there is a virtual meeting on the internet each week attended by an average of 25 people. This has also been happening since April, and anyone is welcome if they contact the pastor or church office to let us know to send you an invite.

Additionally, a few informal gatherings have bubbled up, with small numbers of people, meeting outdoors, socially distancing, but connecting. I encourage these types of gatherings done in a safe way. There may be a few new possibilities in the next few months, but we will be in the experimental stage for a while yet, and it will depend on scientific and medical advice, and the comfort level of people involved. The main concern of the elders and myself is the safety of people at risk. So we do not expect to gather in a large group in the sanctuary for some time to come.

New online opportunities include a Monday study group, meeting for 5 weeks at 6:30, which is described in more detail in this newsletter. I will also offer an online Sunday School class at 10:15 for a half hour prior to the worship and coffee hour gathering, that has been meeting at 11am.

And I will be returning! Thanks for your continued support throughout my sabbatical. I will be in the office at church on Tuesdays recording worship with Gina, and available for meetings with a mask by appointment Monday through Wednesday. Please wear a mask to the church building whenever you are indoors. I will be making more phone calls and fewer in person visits, so give me a call or text.

There will be more updates in the October newsletter after the Elders on Session have had a chance to meet with me on the 9th of September. Meanwhile, thanks for giving, and praying, and waiting, and staying in touch.

Grace and Peace,

David Hutchinson



September Lectionary Readings

September 6

Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149;
Romans 12:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

September 13

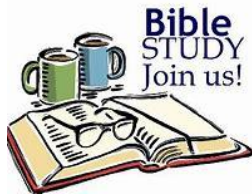
Exodus 14: 19-31; Psalm 114 or
Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21; Romans 14:1-12;
Matthew 18:21-35

September 20

Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45;
Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

September 27

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16;
Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32



Return to Adult Bible Study on Sunday

Beginning **September 6 at 10:15am** pastor David will lead a half hour Sunday School class on **Zoom**. This will be very similar to what happened in the library before worship in years past. We will read the preaching text for the week, and discuss the reading. You can either listen to or read the sermon prior to attending as it will have been online since midweek, or you can wait and listen to the worship recording after the online coffee hour and prayer meeting. If you want to be included, email pastor David at: davidplychurch@gmail.com for an invite.



Monday Evening Study Group

Topic: Five Evenings of Prayer

This five part class will look at a few ideas about prayer from some of the masters: Mother Theresa, Brother Roger of Taize, Henri Nouwen, Anne Lamott, Ted Loder and Thomas Merton. These people have guided Rev. Hutchinson on sabbatical. We will spend time praying prayers written by them, after a brief time considering a key idea about prayer from one of them. And we will have opportunity to write and pray our own prayers. To sign up for the class email pastor David at davidplychurch@gmail.com, and you will receive an invite to use to attend the online class from your computer or phone.

Dates: **September 28 – Oct. 26, 6:30pm** on **Zoom**

1. September 28
Mother Theresa and Brother Roger
Some ideas from Roger and Theresa
Some prayers from Roger and Ted Loder
2. October 5
Henri Nouwen
Some ideas from Nouwen
Prayers from Nouwen and Ted Loder
3. October 12
Anne Lamott
Some ideas from Lamott
Prayers from Lamott and Ted Loder
4. October 19
Ted Loder
Some ideas from Ted Loder
Our prayers
5. October 26
Thomas Merton
Some ideas from Merton
Our prayers



Zoom Attendance

June 7	19
June 14	22
June 21	20
June 28	21
July 5	15
July 12	19
July 19	19
July 26	23
August 2, 9	18
August 16	20
August 23	24



At last, **David has returned** from his sabbatical. Because of Covid, it wasn't quite what he planned, but he was still able to accomplish much of what he had intended to do. We are happy to see him home again, even though we still have to do things differently. Who knew that this many months later we would still be fighting Covid. Thankfully, we have computer programs to help us. Even though Sunday morning Bible classes and Monday evening study groups will be held on Zoom, at least we are able to return to some of our fall routine. Thank you, David. We are looking forward to hearing about your experience while you were gone.



July 2020 Income and Expense

	July 2020	YTD 2020
Income	\$4,210.00	\$63,786.89
Expense	\$5,319.27	\$54,815.78
Net Gain/Loss	(\$ 1,109.27)	\$8971.11



Lorna Bradley	September 1
Gayle Clemmer	September 2
Candy Cole	September 13
Linda Dunn	September 30



The Women's Retreat, scheduled for 9\11-13 has been **postponed indefinitely**. We want to meet in a safe manner, and so we will go to the Trudeau's beach house when things have calmed down and meeting in groups is safe once again



Priscilla Circle

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, we will be unable to meet for our September Priscilla Circle Dessert but all is not lost. One of these days we will be together again and have a BIG celebration!

We are still a group and **we are still supporting our two missions**—locally, **the PJ's project for DHS** and the global mission for the **Children of Makindu**. If you would like to donate to either or both of these endeavors, **please send a check to the church with the notation on the envelope: Attn: Carol Jones**. Carol does the shopping for DHS usually in November and delivers to them and she makes our donation to Makindu at the end of December.

We thank you in advance for your generosity, and we look forward to seeing you as soon as it is safe for us to gather together and CELEBRATE !

With blessings and joy,



Faith Build Project

It has been difficult to continue to work during this time of Covid, but some work is still progressing. And the good news is that all five participating churches have met their financial pledge. Thank you to everyone.



There will be no rummage sale this year. We had hoped to be able to do it in August or September, but it is just not possible at this time.

If you have donations you cannot continue to hold you have a couple of options. 1) You could sell items directly and donate the amount or a portion to the church. Just note "rummage sale" on any donations. Some are already doing this. Or 2) we still have limited space to store items for a future sale, contact Adrienne at 503-975-4201 to arrange storage.



A short time ago we gave a prayer quilt to a friend of my niece who is battling aggressive breast cancer. She has a new baby and is on some pretty intense treatment. She will be facing surgery in a few months, so continued prayers are requested. Kristen sent the following note to be given to the church.

"Thank you so much for the beautiful quilt. I can tell a lot of hard work was put into it. I had chemo & I was absolutely miserable & this quilt brightened my day. Thank you for thinking of me. ♡ always, Kristen"

Thanks, Adrienne



Again we want to thank Pat Berger for the super job she did filling in while David was on his sabbatical. It was a challenging time, but she came through. She had to buy a new phone and become acquainted with Zoom. Technology is not her first love, so this was a learning curve for her, but she did it. Thank you, Pat.



This is a picture of Pat after she received a gift from the church for all she did.

And my God will provide all of your needs according to his riches in glory in Jesus Christ.
Philippians 4:19 NASB



Peace and Global Witness Offering

We will be starting to receive the Peace and Global Witness Offering in September. A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness. The Session at it's September meeting will decide where that portion will go. You can donate by sending a check to the church at 2615 Sykes Rd, St Helens, OR 97051. Make sure to put P&GW in the memo line. You can go online to PCUSA Special offerings and go to the "Give Now" tab and give. You can also text "peace" to 20222 to give \$10. I encourage you to go to the PCUSA website and look at what the offering provides around the world and closer to home.



The deadline for the October newsletter is **September 21**. If you have articles you would like to see in the newsletter, please send them to beckyfrazier35@yahoo.com



Boxing Day is still happening. The Covid -19 pandemic has upturned so much in our world. We are still going ahead with Boxing Day, though it might look a little different. You can still donate items for the totes. Contact the office for a time to drop them off. Or you can send a check to the church with "Boxing Day" in the memo line. Thanks for all your generous donations to these worthy causes, especially during these tumultuous and scary times. These are tangible ways to help in the world.



"Look to the Sky" ...A prayer for 2020
Music and Lyrics by Kathy James

This piece of original music was recorded for our October 4 worship service. It was written for and inspired by Kathy James' work with the church during the summer of 2020.

The musicians:

Vocals	Anandi Gefroh
Sax	David Hutchinson
Drums	Fred Ingram
Piano	Kathy James



Fred Meyer Rewards

From April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020, 15 household from Plymouth Presbyterian were signed up for the Fred Meyer Rewards program. This resulted in a donation to Plymouth from Fred Meyer of **\$41. 67**. This program costs nothing to participate, so if you are not already signed up, please consider doing so,



September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 10:15 Online (Zoom) Bible study 11:00 Online (Zoom) Communion and coffee hour	7	8	9 6:15 pm Online (zoom) Session meeting	10	11	12
13 10:15 Online (Zoom) Bible study 11:00 Online (Zoom) Coffee hour and prayer	14 10:00 a.m. Online (Zoom) Deacons meeting	15	16	17	18	19
20 10:15 Online (Zoom) Bible study 11:00 Online (Zoom) Coffee hour and prayer	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 10:15 Online (Zoom) Bible study 11:00 Online (Zoom) Coffee hour and prayer	28 6:30 Monday night study group on Zoom	29	.30			

Coming on Sunday, October 4:

World Communion

Special online recorded music

10:15

Online (Zoom) Bible study

11:00

Online (Zoom) Communion and coffee hour

I am asking God to give you all the
strength, courage, and hope you need today.
With Him, nothing is impossible,
You've got this!
(100 pass along Bible promises)



The giant in front of you is never bigger
than the God who lives in you.
(Christine Caine)

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