

PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Plymouth is a wonderful church. I am enjoying my time as your interim pastor. In a year I think we have accomplished a great deal. We have explored the beautiful long history of the church, and have celebrated her impact on the community and beyond. (The church is the bride of Christ and therefore referred to as a "her.") We have examined the budget and found ways to balance the finances for the longevity of the congregation. We have continued to learn and grow and serve as followers of Jesus on the way together. We have worshiped faithfully. We have surveyed the congregation to find out things that are important to you. We are trying to implement the ideas and values most important to Plymouth as a community. You care for one another well. You make people feel welcome! You are lovely!

February, the month of love, moves us through the teachings of Jesus towards Lent and the powerful impact Jesus had and continues to have and will have for all eternity on all humanity through his life, death and resurrection. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday February 22nd. We will have a service with the imposition of ashes. Lent is a season of spiritual preparation as we commemorate the death and resurrection of Jesus. Lent is 40 days minus the Sundays because every Sunday is a celebration of Christ's resurrection. How will you observe Lent this year? Think about taking on a



spiritual discipline. Maybe you could spend 5 minutes silently pondering the life of Jesus.

Our Lenten theme this year will be "Seeking the Face of Jesus." We will see Christ's own face glow at the Mount of Transfiguration. We will see Nicodemus seek Jesus at night, and we will see the woman at the well seek Jesus in the heat of the day. We will see the blind man seeking Jesus beyond sight, and we will see Lazarus seeking Jesus beyond death. The song "Oh Lord, You're Beautiful" in Lift Up Your Hearts, written by Keith Green will be our response.

Oh Lord, You're Beautiful, your face is all I seek.

For when your eyes are on this child, your grace abounds to me.

Dear ones, we journey together forward, knowing that God holds each of us in the very palms of the very hands that made all of creation.

Much Love,
Pastor Paulette



February Lectionary Readings

February 5

Isaiah 58:1-9 a (9b-12); Psalms 112:1-9 (10);
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16); Matthew 5:13-20

February 12

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 or Sirach 15:15-20;
Psalms 119:1-8; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9;
Matthew 5:21-37

February 19 Transfiguration

Exodus 24:12-18; Psalms 2 or 99;
2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

February 22. Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12;
Psalms 51:1-17;
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10;
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 26. First Sunday of Lent

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Psalms 32;
Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11



First Tuesday Lunch and Fellowship

Bring your own lunch and enjoy fellowship with your church family. We will meet on **February 7** at **noon** in the Fellowship Hall.



Attendance

| | |
|-------------|----|
| December 25 | 8 |
| January 1 | 22 |
| January 6 | 20 |
| January 8 | 34 |
| January 15 | 18 |

Newsletter DEADLINE

The deadline for the March newsletter is **February 18**. If you have articles you would like to see in the newsletter, please send them to beckyfrazier35@yahoo.com



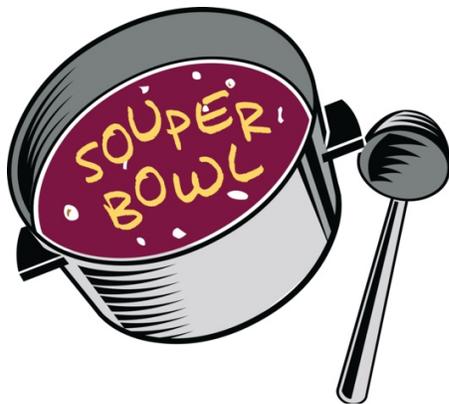
December 2022 Income and Expenses

| | December 2022 | January – December 2022 |
|----------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Income | \$7,300.37 | \$103,278.09 |
| Expense | \$6,073.81 | \$92,376.11 |
| Net Gain | \$1,226.56 | \$10,901.98 |



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- February 3 Nancy Hutchinson
- February 9 Jassa Gunn
- February 9 Ron Stites
- February 13 Robert Harmen



Souper Bowl of Caring

After Sunday service on February 12, we will be collecting change to fill our soup bowl or soup pots. This is part of a national movement to fight hunger and poverty.



Deacons will meet on **Wednesday, February 1, at 7:00 p.m.** on Zoom.

Session will meet on **Wednesday, February 8 at 6:15 p.m.** on Zoom.



Boxing Day Success

We filled 20 totes after church on January 1. Thanks to all who helped fill the totes and thank you to all who donated toward this project. A special thanks to Adrienne Schilling and Gina Harrington who organized the project.



Plymouth Celebrates Years of Service

With cake and small bonuses, Plymouth recognized and celebrated two special people who have each served Plymouth for 20 years.

Margaret Smith, an accomplished musician, provides us with beautiful piano music. She is so organized, she is able to transition from one musical selection to another without ever dropping any of her music.

Gina Harrington is our church administrator. Among the many responsibilities that Gina carries out, she provides our weekly bulletins and lets our lay leaders know in advance what they need to know.



*Per Capita -
For Love of
Christ's Church*

2023 Per Capita - \$45.60/member

What is per capita?

Per capita is the amount of support, per member, that our congregation remits to our Presbytery that is then sent onto our Synod and the General Assembly. This money is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together. It is the money that enables us to work with other Presbyterian churches in our Presbytery and across the country. It is also money that allows us to work with other churches to further the mission of Jesus Christ around the world.

If you wish to contribute your portion, place your contribution in the offering plate with a note "Per Capita". Your contribution will be noted on your giving statement.

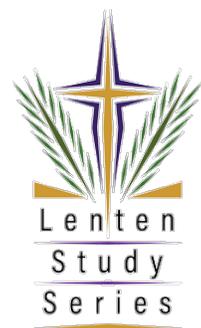
Thank you to all of you who have already paid your per capita. By contributing your portion of per capita, you have freed up dollars in our regular budget for the work of your congregation in this community.



Change for Change

Thank you for continuing to contribute your loose change to our Change for Change program.

This quarter we are contributing to the Warm Springs Indian Reservation which is experiencing water trouble.



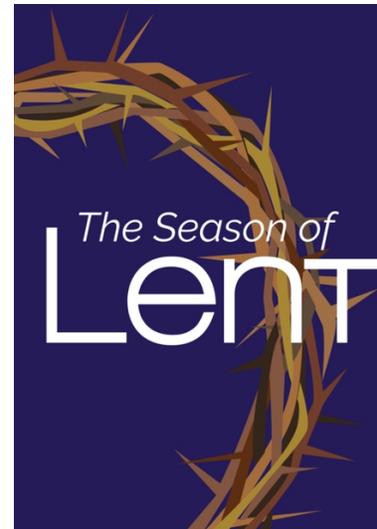
Our next evening study will be held Monday evenings, 6:30, on Zoom, during Lent. We will begin on February 27, and finish on Monday, April 3. The class is titled, "Reflections on the Lord's Prayer." Carol Wehrheim, a Presbyterian church educator and author, has written this study. Her hope is that the study will help us to deepen our understanding of the Lord's Prayer. In the first session, one of the things we will discuss is different names to use for God, and she has prepared a list of some of those. We hope you will be able to join us for this study! Study booklets will be available on the table in the narthex. Pat Berger will be leading the class. See you there



Ash Wednesday is on February 22. We will hold a special service where everyone in the congregation will be invited to come forward and receive ashes on the forehead in the shape of the cross. The concept behind Ash Wednesday is penance. It is a day to confess sins, ask forgiveness from God, and consider the transitory nature of our physical bodies. Even in this ashen mark of death, we anticipate the new life of Easter. The time for this service will be announced in church.



Pastor Paulette will lead a one-day Confirmation class for those who wish to join the church. It will be held the afternoon of February 19. Get ready to welcome our new members!



Lent is the season 40 days plus the Sundays leading up to Easter. It is a time to continue to examine ourselves and ask for forgiveness, as begun on Ash Wednesday. We use the season of Lent to correct our faults and purify our hearts so we will be prepared to celebrate Easter joyfully.

Paul Galbreath, an associate for worship with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s national staff, suggested that we talk of preparation and spiritual discipline, mirroring Jesus' 40 days of prayer and temptation in the desert before he was killed.

To some, Lent means giving something up, like chocolate or dessert. But Galbreath instead encourages us to commit ourselves to doing something that will deepen our faith during Lent. He suggested daily Scripture reading, working in a homeless shelter, or cutting back on our spending so we can give more to help others.

Whatever you choose to do, do it with your eyes on Jesus.

Sunday Volunteer Schedule



| | |
|--------------------|--|
| February 5 | Communion Set-up: Gina Harrington Communion Servers: Gina Harrington, Doris Perry, Jill Turner Greeters: Karen Roldan and Mark Earhart Lay Leader: Doris Perry Coffee Hour Host: Ken and Zelda Anderson |
| February 12 | Greeters: Helen Purkerson and Jon Dickson Lay Leader: Gina Harrington Coffee Hour Host: Roger and Linda Liefeld |
| February 19 | Greeters/Ushers: Anita Kjos and Bonnie Childs Lay Leader: Marilyn Brinster Coffee Hour Host: |
| February 26 | Greeters: Carol Jones and Jill Turner Lay Leader: Becky Frazier Coffee Hour Host: |

Coming soon: One Great Hour of Sharing

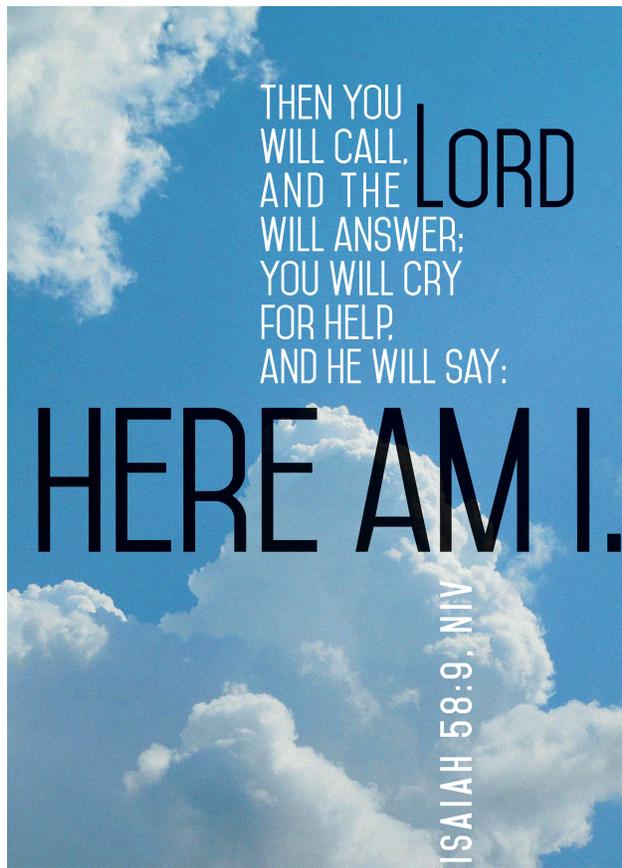
February 22-April 6





2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|--|-----------------------|--------|--|
| | | | 1 7 p.m. Deacons meeting on Zoom | 2 Groundhog day | 3 | 4 |
| 5 Worship 10:30 a.m. with communion 12:30 Avamere | 6 | 7 1 st Tuesday Fellowship lunch, noon Music & Worship 7 pm Zoom | 8 6:15 Session on Zoom | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 Worship 10:30 a.m. Souper Bowl of Caring | 13 | 14 Valentine's Day | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 Newsletter deadline |
| 19 Worship 10:30 a.m. Afternoon Confirmation class. | 20 Presidents' Day | 21 | 22 Ash Wednesday | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 Worship 10:30 a.m.  FIRST SUNDAY in LENT | 27 Lenten Study 6:30 p.m. on Zoom | 28 | | | | |



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FIRST CLASS MAIL