

PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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2023



Spring is here! There are actual flowers blooming. I remember the Spring of 2021 after the big February ice storm in the Northwest. Our neighborhood was changed forever. So many trees snapped in half or were distorted in other ways. We were without power for 5 days. It really seemed like we would never recover.

Then Spring began to happen anyway. The distorted cherry trees still bloomed. Spring was still beautiful, but it looked different. In worship, we are in the seven weeks of Eastertide liturgically. We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, and figure out with the disciples how the new life springing up will look. As Jesus ascended into heaven, the disciples knew everything would be different. They and those who came after would be the body of Christ here on earth. Community took on a whole new importance.

We are the church, the body of Christ. Serving together we seek to continue the ministry of love and healing that Jesus started. As the congregation of Plymouth Presbyterian Church, you are a uniquely gifted band of followers who love and support each other and the community through service.

The Mission Study Leadership Team is almost finished with the Mission Study Report which includes a look at the illustrious past of PPC, the present and the future with all its hope and potential. Thank you for your participation in the different events we held this past year. Your

involvement aided the Team to understand better where PPC is heading as a community. Together Plymouth Presbyterian Church is "Called as Partners in Christ's Service."

Read these words from Jane Parker Huber:

Called as partners in Christ's service.

Called to ministries of grace.

We respond with deep commitment,
Fresh new lines of faith to trace.

May we learn the art of sharing. Side by
side and friend with friend.

Equal partners in our caring, To fulfill God's
chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring. Christ's
clear call to work and worth.

Let us follow, never faltering, Reconciling
folk on earth.

Men and women, richer, poorer, All God's
people, young and old.

Blending human skills together, Gracious
gifts from God unfold.

On May 28th we remember Pentecost and the joy and mystery of the Spirit coming down upon Christ's followers creating the Church. It is often called the Birthday of the Church. Let's celebrate and seek the Spirit's guiding.

In Christ,
Pastor Paulette



May Lectionary Readings

May 7

Acts 7:55-60; Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16;
1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

May 14

Acts 17:22-31; Psalms 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22;
John 14:15-21

May 18 Ascension

Acts 1:1-11; Psalms 47 or Psalms 93;
Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

May 21

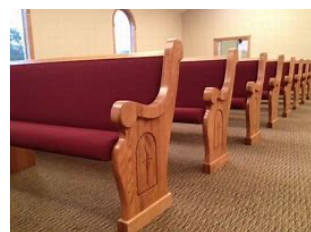
Acts 1:6-14; Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35;
1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

May 28 Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30;
Psalms 104:24-34, 35b;
1 Corinthians 12:3B-13 or Acts 2;12-21;
John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39



May 7	Jennifer Daly
May 11	Karen Roldan
May 16	Doris Perry
May 24	Shirley Eaton
May 27	Sharon Fraser
May 28	Linda Gaskill



Attendance

March 12	26	
March 19	31	
March 26	35	
April 2	34	(Palm Sunday)
April 6	10	(Maundy Thursday)
April 9	41	(Easter)



First Tuesday Lunch and Fellowship

Bring your own lunch and enjoy fellowship with your church family. We will meet on **May 2** at **noon** in the Fellowship Hall.



	March 2023	2023 YTD
Income	\$7,338.63	\$19,582.41
Expense	\$4,209.03	\$18,208.21
Net Gain	\$3,129.60	\$ 1,374.20



PPC Website

Looking for information on church events, schedules, contacts, etc? Check out the church website at plychurch.org

This information and more is available on the website:

1. Monthly calendar listing events, schedules and times. You can add an event directly to your google or outlook calendar from the website.
2. Leadership
3. Church History
4. Who we are
5. Pastor's Meditation
6. Sermons, available in both audio & print
7. Mission
8. Prayer request options

If you have questions, suggestions or corrections to the website, contact Kathleen Dinwiddie.



An easy way to donate to the local food pantry in St. Helens is to put your donations in the H.E.L.P. jar on the table in the Fellowship Hall.



Change for Change

Our change for change will now be going to a program run by the St. Helens DayBreakers Kiwanis in conjunction with the St. Helens School District primarily to help teens who are unaccompanied and not living with a parent or guardian.

This program provides food bags during the long school breaks, gift cards for emergency food, Christmas gifts, clothing, school supplies, personal care products, bedding, and gas so they can get to school.

The goal is to help these teens stay in school, increase attendance, and graduate.

Currently, the school district has over 100 students who have housing insecurity and about 33 students who are considered unaccompanied and are helped with this program. This program provides positive messages and lets the students know the community cares about them,

Newsletter DEADLINE

The deadline for the June newsletter is **May 20**. If you have articles you would like to see in the newsletter, please send them to beckyfrazier35@yahoo.com



Plymouth's "New" Parish Associate!

With praise and gratitude, Pastor Paulette announced on Sunday, April 2, that Pastor Patricia Berger is now Plymouth's Parish Associate! The Presbyterian term "Parish Associate" is used for an ordained PC(USA) pastor who is a participant in a congregation and not serving as the installed pastor. During previous seasons of her life, Pastor Berger served as a Christian Educator before going to seminary. After being ordained on her 60th birthday, she served as an installed pastor for 10 years and is now honorably retired.

We are thankful that Pastor Pat chooses to worship with us at Plymouth Church. We are also pleased that she wants to continue to serve this congregation through education, preaching, pastoral care, and other invitations extended to her by Pastor Paulette. The only thing that has changed is her title, which is now bestowed as an official relationship approved by the Presbytery and our Session.

Congratulations, Pastor Pat! We are so glad to have you as Plymouth's Parish Associate,



Thank you, Larry and Candy Cole who donated a bunch of cookies to the church for use during coffee hour. They will be especially helpful on those Sundays when no one signed up to host coffee hour.

And thank you to everyone who brought food to coffee hour on Easter. It was a great spread.



Market Fresh Receipts

Once again, we are collecting Market Fresh (Red Apple) receipts. The church will receive 1% of all purchases. There is a jar on the table in the fellowship hall to place them in. Karen will pick them up periodically and tally them. This is the work of the Lord!



Fred Meyer Rewards

From January 1, 2023 through March 31, 2023, Plymouth Presbyterian received **\$34.65** from the Fred Meyer Rewards program due to the fifteen households who signed up with Fred Meyer.



We owe a very sincere thank you to all the donors and volunteers who have contributed to the success of this home build. This double lot was originally a single family home that had fallen into disrepair and was attracting criminal activity. This project represents the culmination of Habitat's work to rehabilitate this property and to provide affordable home ownership opportunities to three local families. New home owner Dre had this to say about her experience: *"Habitat has opened a door that I never thought would open for me and my kids. After getting so many doors slammed in my face, or just walking through the wrong ones, you lose hope! Habitat has brought so much hope, love and light back into our lives."*

Nutrition News

Staff continues to work with Kibwezi South Stores to deliver maize, beans, rice and cooking oil to all 320 households on a quarterly basis. Many of these households are 10-25 km from town, often on dirt roads, and so the distribution takes logistical organization and teamwork. None of our households own vehicles so guardians and children walk to the distribution areas to collect the food. With famine and drought continuing in the area, food deliveries will remain an important tool to stay healthy.

At the Center, at least 200 children come and eat a nutritious meal daily, with well over 500 children coming on Saturdays. During the recent holiday break, when kids were home from school, we fed 500 children DAILY. When at the Center, they can also bathe, launder their school uniform, check in with staff, and play with the other kids. The one-acre farm continues to produce vegetables and fruits, irrigated by the solar-powered borehole.

Heavenly Humor Special Service on May 21

Get ready for some laughter and wear something fun on Holy Humor Sunday. Gina and Adrienne are putting this together. Don't miss it!

Plentiful milk from the dairy cow, Thelma Mae, continues to provide daily calcium and other nutrients to all children who visit the Center. We are excited that Thelma Mae is expecting another calf this spring, a sibling for the young calf Winnie. Excess milk is delivered to the neediest of children and/or sold in the community to help offset costs.



Pentecost Offering in May

We will recognize Pentecost on May 28. We will also be accepting donations that day. This offering supports children, teens, and young adults. Forty percent of the money donated will remain in our community.

The ongoing goat program, as well as the chicken program implemented last year, provide essential nutrition for all in the households. Each household now has at least two chickens and two goats making protein available daily. The egg is the favored food for kids to carry for school lunch. For some kids, this might be their only meal of the day. The goat milk provides another daily nutritional boost, while maize, beans and cooking oil help supplement the daily meals. All guardians have completed animal husbandry training.

Children and guardians on HIV care receive vitamin and mineral supplements to help boost their immune systems. They also receive excess produce from the Center's garden and excess milk from the dairy cow.

Sunday Volunteer Schedule



<p>May 7</p>	<p>Communion Set-up: Jill Turner Communion Servers: Jill Turner, Marilyn Brinster, Doris Perry Greeters: Doris Perry, Jon Dickson Lay Leader: Pat Berger Coffee Hour Host: Karen Roldan, Sharon Fraser</p>
<p>May 14</p>	<p>Greeters: Karen Roldan, Mark Earhart Lay Leader: Gina Harrington Coffee Hour Host:</p>
<p>May 21</p>	<p>Greeters/Ushers: Mark and Kathleen Dinwiddie Lay Leader: Becky Frazier Coffee Hour Host: Anita Kjos</p>
<p>May 28</p>	<p>Greeters: Helen Purkerson, Pat Brown Lay Leader: Bill Eagle Coffee Hour Host: Lorna Bradley, Helen Purkerson</p>