

# PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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## February 2024

Dear friends,

I am starting my second month with you at Plymouth P.C. Already I have received your warm welcome. Thank you for the joy shown at my coming. It's a pleasure to be here and to serve the Lord with you. I have received the keys to the kingdom (I can open doors to my office and more). Gina has been referring to me as St. Peter, so, having keys to the kingdom fits well. You have heard my first sermons. I find myself saying, "Oh, you've come back!" It's a great start. In this new year, we have much to learn about each other and the road ahead.

It is February! We start Lent this month on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Yes, it's early this year. Lent is when we devote ourselves to drawing nearer to God with fasting and penitence. It runs from Ash Wednesday (2/14) to Holy Saturday (the day before Easter), totaling 40 weekdays. We are planning to hold an in-person Ash Wednesday service 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. For the weeks of Lent, we are planning to hold a study series via Zoom called "Wandering Heart: Figuring out Faith with (disciple) Peter". It is a study of disciple Peter, who is steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. By following Peter's journey, we'll watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human being trying to figure it all out – just like us. We'll discover that faith is a constant journey of pursuit with ebbs and flows. In the study, we will look for ourselves in the stepping stones of disciple Peter's story, reflecting on who and what has shaped faith in us. We will use the lyrics from the hymn "Come Thou Fount". I invite you to join in this study for God to tune our hearts to sing God's grace. Through it, may we rest in streams of mercy, never ceasing. Join Parish Associate Pat Berger and I for this faith-deepening study series.

Stay tuned for community worship opportunities for Holy Week, including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunrise services. Those details will be available next month.

In the grip of Grace,  
Pastor Peter J. Blank



### February Lectionary Readings

**February 4 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany**  
Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c;  
1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

**February 11 Transfiguration Sunday**  
2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6;  
2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

**February 14 Ash Wednesday**  
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 OR Isaiah 58:1-12;  
Psalm 51:1-17;  
2 Corinthians 5:20b- 6:10;  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

**February 18 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent**  
Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10;  
1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

**February 25 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent**  
Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Ps 22:23-31;  
Romans 4:13-25;  
Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9

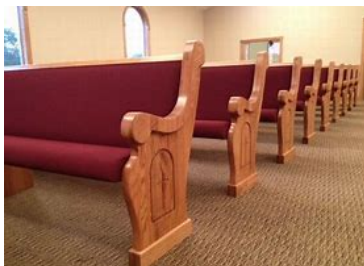


### December 2023 Income and Expense

	December 2023	2023
Income	\$11,769.05	\$86,199.31
Expense	\$7,521.93	\$83,359.91
Net Gain	\$4,247.12	\$2,839.40



February 3 Nancy Moebis  
February 9 Ron Stites  
February 13 Robert Harmen



### Attendance

December 17	32
December 24	36
December 31	26
January 7	30



The deadline for the March newsletter is **February 19**. If you have articles you would like to see in the newsletter, please send them to [beckyfrazier35@yahoo.com](mailto:beckyfrazier35@yahoo.com)



We raised \$553.50 for the Christmas Joy special offering. This money goes to the Presbytery. Thank you for your generosity.

## What is Per Capita?



Per capita is the amount of money, per member, that our church sends to the Presbytery. Portions are then sent on to the Synod and the General Assembly. This enables us to work with other Presbyterian churches in our area and across the country. This year's per capita is \$45.60 which is divided between the General Assembly, the Synod of the Pacific and the Presbytery of the Cascades.

If you are able to donate your share of Per Capita, it would be appreciated since otherwise the money will have to come out of the church's general fund. If you do, be sure to write "per capita" on the memo line of your check.



### Welcoming Visitors

What can you do to make someone feel welcome at Plymouth?

Assist greeters in welcoming all. If you see someone sitting alone, sit with them or invite them to join you at your table. All church members need to know or be reminded that they are an important member of the church. Continued contact and acknowledgement of this is important.



### Happy Anniversary, Helen and Darrel!



Helen and Darrel celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with their family and their church family.

### Happy Anniversary, Larry and Candy

On February 10<sup>th</sup>, **Candy and Larry Cole** will be celebrating their **56<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary**. The Plymouth Church Family is invited to **share the coffee hour time in celebration with the Coles on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**. A basket will be provided for cards. Anita and Helen will make the coffee and set the serving table. The Coles are bringing the treats. Hope to see everyone there.

## Meeting Schedules

### Deacons Meeting



Their next meeting will be on **February 6<sup>th</sup>** at **10:30 a.m.** in person at the church.



Session's next meeting will be on Tuesday, **February 13, at 6:15 p.m. on Zoom.** Please note the change of day due to Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday both falling on February 14, our regular meeting date,



Fred Meyer Rewards  
October 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023  
\$28.09 total donations  
14 households

Please consider signing up for Fred Meyer Community Rewards. By Selecting Plymouth Presbyterian Church as your charitable organization, a reward check is sent to PPC each quarter. It does not cost you anything nor take away any of your rewards. It is Fred Meyer's way of giving back to the community.



### Change for Change

We donated \$97.93 to the Amani Center during the fourth quarter. The Amani Center provides support for victims of child abuse.

This quarter we are raising money for the Warm Springs Presbyterian church and community. The church needs a new communion service and the community continues to have water problems.



### Red Apple Receipts

Remember to save your receipts from Market Fresh (Red Apple) and deposit them in the jar on the table in the fellowship hall. Our church receives 1% of all sales from the receipts.



### Boxing Day

We filled 20 totes to benefit people who are transitioning into their first permanent housing. Good job, everyone!

### Coming in April

Our first annual Craft Fair/Mission Market will be held on April 13 in the Fellowship Hall. The Mission Committee is busy planning this event.



Ash Wednesday is on **February 14**. We will hold a special **in person service** at **6:30 p.m.** where everyone in the congregation will be invited to come forward and receive ashes on their foreheads 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.



We will hold a Lent study series on Tuesdays beginning February 20, on Zoom at 7:00. See the pastor's letter for more details.

### **A Special Message**

PPC received a note from Gary and Shirley Eaton's family with their donation to the church.

"On behalf of the Eaton Family I would like to share this monetary gift left to us by our parents: Gary and Shirley. Plymouth has been a big part of our family history and was instrumental in shaping our lives through faith in Jesus through whom all blessings flow!!"

We're so glad  
**YOU'RE  
HERE!**

### **Welcome to our new Stated Supply Pastor**

Pastor Peter Blank joined us in January, 2024. He comes to us with a variety of experiences. He received his training at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary in Fresno, California, and at George Fox Evangelical Biblical Seminary in Fresno, California. He also participated in several continuing education trainings. He has held a variety of positions including but not limited to Solo Pastor, Associate Pastor, Minister of Music, and Campus Ministry. He also has extensive experience in clinical social work, and creative writing.

Pastor Peter is spending his first few months getting to know the people in our congregation as well as community members.

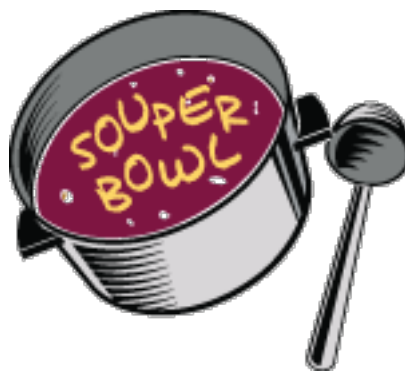
If you haven't been in church lately, you're missing out on a great pastor. He has a great sense of humor and he is a good communicator. We are so fortunate to have him with us.

(Editor's note: I meant to post a picture of Pastor Peter but I was unable to get the picture off my phone. So, if you want to see what he looks like, come back to church!)



## Sunday Volunteer Schedule

<b>February 4, 2024</b>	<b>Communion Set-up:</b> Adrienne Schilling <b>Communion Servers:</b> Marilyn Brinster, Adrienne Schilling, Zelda Anderson <b>Greeters/Ushers:</b> Marilyn Brinster, Sharon Fraser <b>Lay Leader:</b> Doris Perry <b>Snacks:</b> Mark and Kathleen Dinwiddie
<b>February 11, 2024</b>	<b>Greeters/Ushers:</b> Roger and Linda Liefeld <b>Lay Leader:</b> Gina Harrington <b>Snacks:</b> Candy and Larry Cole
<b>February 18, 2024</b>	<b>Greeters/Ushers:</b> Ken and Zelda Anderson <b>Lay Leader:</b> Karen Roldan <b>Snacks:</b> Anita Kjos
<b>February 25, 2024</b>	<b>Greeters:</b> Karen Roldan, Mark Earhart <b>Lay Leader:</b> Adrienne Schilling <b>Snacks:</b> Ken and Zelda Anderson



### Souper Bowl of Sharing

We will be collecting cash and food on February 11. Everything we collect will benefit the Columbia Pacific Food Bank. Let's do our part to alleviate local hunger.

# 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 <b>Worship 10:30</b> <b>Communion</b> <b>Avamere 12:30</b>	5	6 <b>Deacons</b> meet at <b>10:30 a.m.</b> at the church	7	8	9	10
11 <b>Worship 10:30</b>  <b>Souper Bowl of</b> <b>Sharing</b>  <b>During coffee hour:</b> <b>Celebrate the</b> <b>Coles' anniversary</b>	12	13 <b>Session</b> meets at <b>6:15 p.m.</b> <b>on Zoom</b>	14 <b>Ash</b> <b>Wednesday</b> <b>6:30 p.m. in</b> <b>person</b>  Valentine's Day	15	16	17
18 <b>Worship 10:30</b>  <b>1st Sunday in Lent</b>	19 <b>Presidents' Day</b>  <b>Newsletter</b> <b>deadline</b>	20 <b>Lenten</b> <b>Study, 7 pm</b> <b>on Zoom</b>	21	22	23	24
25 <b>Worship 10:30</b>  <b>2nd Sunday in Lent</b>	26	27 <b>Lenten</b> <b>Study, 7 pm</b> <b>on Zoom</b>	28	29 <b>YES! It's a</b> <b>leap year!</b>		







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**FIRST CLASS MAIL**