

# PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## 2024

“Make Lying Wrong Again” the T-shirt and bumper sticker said. I couldn’t agree more! It’s well past time we stood for speaking truth! (Yep, I’m on the subject of politics in this article and the importance of character.) Our society seems to be devolving; lying and its cousin, cheating, seem to be okay, unless one is under oath and subject to punishments for perjury. What’s more, lying and cheating have become particularly prevalent in politics, where truth and justice are most needed.

Strangely enough, cheating seems to be more anathema in sports than in decisions that affect the lives of millions of people and the future of the world. Take for example, quarterback Tom Brady received a four-game suspension for arranging to have some air removed from Super Bowl footballs (called “deflategate”); and University of Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh received a three-game suspension for allegedly having scouts figure out opposing team’s signs.

These cheating incidents made big news! Yet, we are at the point where lies by politicians hardly make any headlines at all.

Recently, we all viewed the presidential debate between Joe Biden and Donald Trump. Both candidates performed horribly. It was President Biden who stumbled with answers, and lost his train of thought. Potential voters, long been concerned about Biden’s age and increasing feebleness, viewed his performance in this debate with great concern. It, in fact, has caused panic in Democratic party officials. I agree with this concern. Many Democratic party members are now suggesting the search for a new nominee to replace Biden.

Yet, I have just as much concern about the other participant in this debate, the former president, Donald Trump. While he demonstrated greater vigor and vitality than Biden, Trump, who is just three years younger than Biden, spewed almost nothing but outrageous lies. Yet no one from the Republican party is calling for him to be replaced with another candidate.

I do not know if there is evidence of dementia for either Biden or Trump. What I do see with Biden are the normal deficits of age; slower cognitive processing, losing train of thought, and word finding difficulties. These are not deficits I would think would affect his ability to perform as president, although they are deficits that likely will affect his ability to gain votes. In my view, neither candidate is qualified for office of the President of the United States for 2024. Character matters!

**A key question:** What are the qualities and skills necessary for a good president? Intelligence, knowledge (current events, history, political philosophy, science and so much more), emotional maturity and stability, honesty, altruism, empathy, humility, and self-sacrifice (the desire to be a *servant* leader). **Another key question:** What are the worst traits for a president to have? Lust for power, selfishness, willful ignorance, lack of intellectual curiosity, dishonesty, instability, lack of empathy, and lack of a conscience.

Character is important in sports. It is important for teachers, CEOs, doctors, lawyers, judges, pastors and psychologists. It is important for every single one of us. It is particularly important for our leaders, and most certainly the leader of the free world. In fact, I can think of nothing that is more important than character. Neither could Jesus.

Folks, we have a tough election season ahead. Let’s do this together and not lose our own character along the way. It matters.

Keep the faith, (yes, hope and love, too)

Pastor Peter



## August Lectionary Readings

### August 4 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 16: 2-4, 9-15 and Psalm 78; 23-29; Ephesians 4: 1-16; John 6: 24-35

### August 11 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

I Kings 19: 4-8 and Psalm 34: 1-8; Ephesians 4: 25-5: 2; John 6: 35, 41-51

### August 18 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Proverbs 9: 1-6 and Psalm 34: 9-14; Ephesians 5: 15-20; John 6: 51-58,

### August 25 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 24: 1-2a, 14-18 and Psalm 34: 15-22; Ephesians 3: 10-20; John 6: 56-69



## FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AUGUST 9 AND 10

We know that is a busy weekend, but here we go. We do not take clothing, broken items or any chemical products. If you can wait to bring your donations that week, there will be someone at the church throughout the week to assist. If you need to bring them earlier, please work directly with Adrienne.

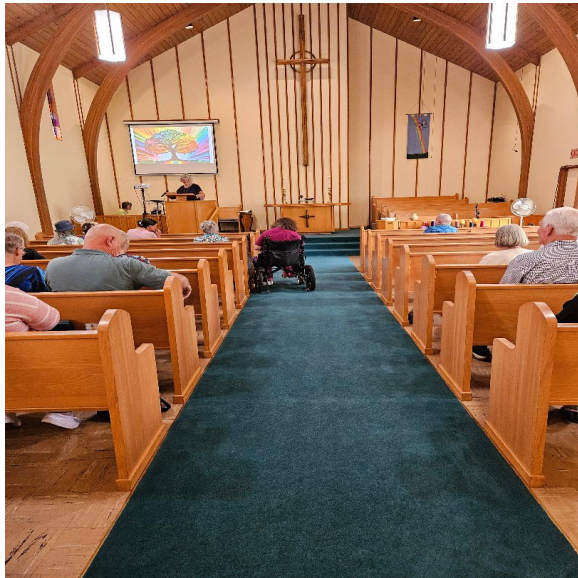
All those able to assist either during the week for set up or on sale days, please let Adrienne know. We will especially need help at the end of the sale, to clean up and be ready for church the following day. Thanks in advance for all those who can assist.



August 1	Chuck Gaskill
August 10	Lynnea Eagle
August 16	Judy Dinsmore
August 21	Linda Liefeld
August 22	Gayle Harmen
August 24	Zelda Anderson
August 26	Fran Pickering
August 27	Bill Eagle

## GATHERING

Our Gatherings at Plymouth will start again next month. What is a Gathering? It is a fine time had by all; we GATHER at one of our homes, and the food and the chatting go on and on – very much fun. The first one was to have been last weekend at the Dinwiddies; however, COVID raised its ugly head and that needed to be cancelled. (Best wishes for a quick recovery, Mark.) Our next opportunity to Gather is August 10, at the home of Ken and Zelda Anderson, at 5:00. Please bring your favorite side dish and join us.



### Attendance

June 16	25
June 23	27
June 30	32
July 7	25
July 14	25
July 21	24

(And now: not only is it **our** sanctuary that is shown with our attendance figures – we also have **our** people! Our people! Many thanks, Sharon Fraser!)



The deadline for the September newsletter is **August 18**. If you have articles you would like to see in the newsletter, please send them to [pfbb1202@yahoo.com](mailto:pfbb1202@yahoo.com), or phone her or give her articles on Sundays.

## MEETING SCHEDULES

### DEACONS

Deacons have a summer vacation from meeting! Their next meeting will be held on September 10, at 10:30, in person at the church.



Session's next meeting will be on Wednesday, **August 14, at 5:30 p.m., on Zoom**. Please note the new meeting time: **5:30 p.m.**



### CHANGE FOR CHANGE

This quarter we are raising money for the Warm Springs Presbyterian Church and community. One thing that the church needs is a new communion set. There are, of course, many other things on their list, including most of a new manse! They are being very careful with the funds that are coming their way; any extra that you have hanging around will be put to very good use. (See future newsletters for more info on Warm Springs.)



## Sunday Volunteer Schedule

<b>August 4, 2024</b>	<b>Communion Set-up:</b> Linda Liefeld <b>Communion Servers:</b> Linda Liefeld <b>Greeters/Ushers:</b> Jon Dickson and Doris Perry <b>Lay Leader:</b> Pat Berger <b>Coffee hour:</b> Sharon Fraser and Karen Roldan
<b>August 11, 2024</b>	<b>Greeters/Ushers:</b> Mark Earhart and Jill Turner <b>Lay Leader:</b> <b>Coffee hour:</b> Helen Purkerson
<b>August 18, 2024</b>	<b>Greeters/Ushers:</b> Karen Roldan <b>Lay Leader:</b> Bill Eagle <b>Coffee hour:</b> Ken and Zelda Anderson
<b>August 25, 2024</b>	<b>Greeters:</b> Marilyn Brinster and Linda Gaskill <b>Lay Leader:</b> Doris Perry <b>Coffee hour:</b> Anita Kjos

### PRAYER QUILTS

from Marilyn Brinster

It all started in 1999, when Pastor Marilyn Allen told us about the concept of prayer quilts. A group of ladies soon got together and Gayle Clemmer headed up the group. The purpose was to create quilts for members facing life and health issues for themselves, or for family or friends. They called their group Prayers and Squares, Helen Purkerson made the first quilt which was gifted to member Irene Nelson who passed away shortly thereafter.

Pre-Covid, we used to hang a quilt in the fellowship hall and invite our members to say a prayer while tying a knot in the quilt designated for a recipient. The quilt was then delivered to the person either by a deacon or pastor. Since Covid, we have had to limit the knot tying to one person, and we send out a request online for members to say a prayer for the person receiving the quilt.

We have gifted many quilts since it all started. Since August of 2018, we have presented 27 quilts to very appreciative and thankful people. So far in 2024, we have given out five quilts to members and friends.

We want to thank all those, including Judy Dinsmore and Linda Dunn, for their fabulous sewing skills, dedication and generosity, in the donation of many beautiful prayer quilts throughout the years.

We don't know how long we can continue this mission, but we do know we have made a difference in many people's lives.

# August 2024

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

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**01**

**02**

**03**

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**04**

**05**

**06**

**07**

**08**

**09**

**10**

Worship  
10:30  
Avamere  
12:30

Rummage  
Sale  
Gathering  
Andersons  
5:00

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**11**

**12**

**13**

**14**

**15**

**16**

**17**

Session  
5:30

Worship  
10:30

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**18**

**19**

**20**

**21**

**22**

**23**

**24**

Worship  
10:30

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**25**

**26**

**27**

**28**

**29**

**30**

**31**

Worship  
10:30

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**PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

2615 SYKES ROAD  
ST. HELENS, OR 97051

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