

Plymouth Presbyterian Church



2025

Dear friends,

We begin Lent this month. It's a challenge to live intentionally: To rediscover the beauty of purpose and reflection—a chance to gently realign our hearts with what truly matters. It's not about grand gestures or loud declarations; it's about the quiet power of choosing, every day, to live in a way that honors our deepest values and faith.

At its core, living intentionally means recognizing that each day is a sacred gift. Psalm 90:12 reminds us to “number our days,” a call to value time not merely as passing moments but as opportunities for growth and wisdom. When we reflect on our lives during Lent, this verse encourages us to embrace each day as a step toward a more fulfilled and thoughtful existence, gently guiding us to invest in what truly nurtures our spirit.

This season also invites us to seek transformation from within. Romans 12:2 offers a subtle yet profound reminder to let our minds be renewed—not by conforming to the noise of the world, but by embracing a more mindful perspective. It isn't about a sudden overhaul of who we are; it's about gradually opening our hearts to new ways of thinking and being. Each small, intentional act—a moment of prayer, a kind word shared, a silent pause for gratitude—adds up, gently reshaping our inner lives and drawing us closer to living the image of Christ.

Intentional living naturally flows into the way we relate with those around us. When our actions stem from a place of purpose, every interaction becomes an opportunity to share love and kindness. Colossians 3:23 encourages us to put our whole heart into every task, however simple it may seem. Whether you're spending quiet time in reflection or lending a hand to a neighbor, these mindful actions help weave a community built on care and respect. In this way, our personal journey of intentional living becomes a quiet force for healing and connection in the wider world.

Lent also gently reminds us of the beauty of sacrifice—a willingness to let go of what no longer serves us. Luke 9:23 speaks of the need to take up our cross daily, not as a heavy burden, but as a thoughtful commitment to release distractions and old habits that hold us back. It is in this honest process of letting go that we create space for renewal, allowing love, compassion, and grace to flourish both within us and among us.

By choosing to live intentionally, we open ourselves to a more mindful, compassionate life—a life where every moment is touched by the divine. This Lent, let your journey be one of gentle reflection and purposeful action. Embrace the small, deliberate choices that, over time, transform not only your own life but also contribute to a more caring, connected world. In each quiet act and thoughtful moment, find the echo of a loving invitation to live fully, with heart and soul aligned to a greater good. Watch on for more details.

In the grip of Grace,
Pastor Peter

MARCH LECTIONARY READINGS

March 2: Transfiguration of the Lord

Exodus 34: 29-35 and Psalm 99; II
Corinthians 3: 12-4:2; Luke 49: 28-36

March 9: First Sunday in Lent

Deuteronomy 26: 1-11 and Psalm 91:1-2,
9-16; Romans 10: 8b-13; Luke 4: 1-13

March 16: Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18 and
Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke
13: 31-35 or Luke 9: 28-36, 37-43a

March 23: Third Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 55: 1-9 and Psalm 63: 1-8;
I Corinthians 10: 1-13; Luke 13: 1-9

March 30 Fourth Sunday in Lent

Joshua 5: 9-12 and Psalm 32; Corinthians 5:
16:21; Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32



March 8: Nancy Federici
March 17: Patricia Ayerza
March 23: Adrienne Schilling



Deadline for the March newsletter is **March 20**. If you have articles you would like to see in the newsletter, please send them to pfbbl202@yahoo.com, phone her, give her articles on Sundays, or send them to her home – 459 NE 3rd Ave., Hillsboro, 97124.



ATTENDANCE

January 12 -- 26
January 19 -- 25
January 26 -- 27
February 2 -- 29
February 9 -- 26

MEETING SCHEDULE

Worship and Nurture Committee

Next meeting at the church on Tuesday, March 4, at 1:00 p.m.

Deacons

Next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 6, **at 10:30, in person, at Pat Berger's home**. Hope to see all Deacons there!

SESSION

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, **March 12, at 5:30 p.m., on Zoom**. Please remember our new meeting time: **5:30**.



JANUARY 2025 OPERATING BUDGET Income & Expense Summary

DESCRIPTION	JAN 2025	YTD 2025
Total Income	\$4,618	\$ 4,618
Total Expenses	\$6,964	\$6,964
Net Operating Budget	\$(2,346)	\$(2,346)

FINANCE NOTES & NEWS

Several annual and quarterly expenses contributed to the \$2,346 operating budget deficit in January.

In 2024, Plymouth Church earned \$6,337 in dividends from Certificates of Deposit invested at InRoads Credit Union. An additional \$118 was earned from savings interest and merchant rewards. The total income from all of these sources was \$6,455.

Session has approved the purchase and installation of new blinds for the Sanctuary windows. The Finance Committee recommended using memorial funds for these beautiful blinds. We will dedicate them after they are installed (approx. 6 weeks).

The Alice Brewer Bequeathment accounting is as follows: \$43,526 reserved to savings; \$23,768 spent on improvements (piano, concrete, fellowship blinds) plus a mission donation (Warm Springs Manse); with \$19, 758 remaining to spend.

Submitted by Sharon Fraser, Finance Editor

HOW TO MAKE AN ONLINE DONATION

Using the camera function on your smart phone, aim your phone at the QR code found on the card in the pew rack. Tap the website link “secure.myvanco.com” that will appear on your screen. (Vanco is the Presbyterian Foundation’s administrator.) The next screen you see will be Plymouth Church’s secure online portal. You can also type <https://plychurch.org> into your computer browser. On the home page, scroll down until you see the GIVE NOW button. Click the button to access the online portal.

There’s also an App for your Smart Phone.

Plymouth Church is also listed in the Vanco Mobile App, making online giving on a smart phone even easier. Plymouth has a unique invite code for the Vanco Mobile app, which can be used as a search term. Our unique invite code is HDS.

SOUPER BOWL OFFERING

Your generosity is amazing! This year’s Souper Bowl offering receipts amounted to \$305.96. All receipts remain here locally. Many thanks!

GO PAPERLESS!

If you currently receive paper copies of the PPC Newsletter, consider going paperless. All you need is a computer. The PPC Newsletter will be emailed to you monthly. The advantages to this are: faster delivery, adjustable print size, it's environmentally friendly, and a cost saving to the church for stamps, paper, and labor in preparation. If this is a good option for you, contact Gina Harrington and let her know you want to go paperless. Our newsletter is also available on our website at <https://plychurch.org>. Our website also has up to two years' worth of prior issues of our newsletter.

PLANS FOR LENT

Plans for Lent are about to be revealed! Ash Wednesday is March 5 this year, the first Wednesday in March. If you asked for a printed copy of the study booklet, it will be available in the narthex; online copies ought to show up in your inbox (if there are glitches, or changes, let the office know and we will get things straightened around).

There will be a class – news of dates and time and name of the book will be in the Sunday bulletins. We hope you will be able to be with us.

FROM CAROL JONES

Take time to work,
It is the price of success.
Take time to pray,
It is the greatest power on earth.
Take time to love and be loved,
It is a God-given privilege.
Take time to be friendly,
It is the road to happiness.

MAJOR EVENT APPROACHES!

Saturday, March 29, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., is our Spring Arts and Craft Fair. You won't want to miss this one! You will find displays in both of our buildings – arts and crafts and products from local vendors. And if all of that inspires you, you will also be finding new and gently used craft supplies to purchase, so that you can return to your home and begin working on projects for next year's Arts and Craft Fair!

We have signed with many vendors in addition to several local artisans, and some of our own people will be showing. There is a wide variety of different kinds of crafts to be displayed, as well as a fine set of art objects – it will be hard to make up your mind!

This is a Plymouth Presbyterian Church event; it is our wish to make this an enjoyable community event in a very friendly atmosphere. We hope you will be a part of that! All church proceeds from this Fair will go to our mission activities.

EASTER BRUNCH

Easter Sunday is April 20 this year. Your Fellowship Commission will again be hosting a light brunch after service that day, so plan to stay and enjoy fellowship. The brunch will be a potluck; soon there will be a sign-up sheet out in the fellowship hall. Menu will consist of deviled eggs, fruit and pastries/desserts. Hope you will be able to join us!



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
(material from PCUSA website, by permission)
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) — Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People — all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Received during the season of Lent (March 5 – April 20), each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God’s love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (PDA): works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters, and support for refugees. PDA receives 32% of funds received.

PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM (PHP): takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed. PHP receives 36% of funds received.

SELF-DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE (SDOP): invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice, and educates Presbyterians about impacts of these issues. SDOP receives 32% of funds received.



Sunday Volunteer Schedule

March 2, 2025	Communion Set-up: Adrienne Schilling and Pat Berger Communion Servers: Zelda Anderson, Adrienne Schilling, (need one more) Greeter/Usher: Ken and Zelda Anderson Lay Leader: Pat Berger Coffee hour:
March 9, 2025	Greeters/Ushers: Kathleen and Mark Dinwiddie Lay Leader: Bill Eagle Coffee hour: Ken and Zelda Anderson
March 16, 2025	Greeters/Ushers: Jill Turner, Jon Dickson Lay Leader: Mark Dinwiddie Coffee hour: Anita Kjos
March 23, 2025	Greeters: Kathleen and Mark Dinwiddie Lay Leader: Sharon Fraser Coffee hour: Kathleen and Mark Dinwiddie
March 30, 2025	Greeters: Sharon Fraser and Karen Roldan Lay Leader: Gina Harrington Coffee hour: Jill Turner

NEWS FROM MAKINDU



A vital component of the MCP (Makindu Children's Program) is its emphasis on global engagement and awareness. Through the participation of international visitors and safari guests, children are given the opportunity to interact with people from all over the world. These experiences are more than just fun cultural exchanges—they serve as an important reminder to the children that they are part of a broader global community. The annual performances and celebrations with safari visitors allow the children to showcase their talents, share their culture, and celebrate their personal achievements. These events build the children's self-esteem and reinforce the idea that they are valuable members of both their local and the wider global community.

March 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Worship 10:30 Avamere 12:30	3 1:00 Worship Comm, @ Church	4	5 4:00 Ash Wednesday worship	6 Deacons 10:30 Pat Berger's Home	7	8
9 Worship 10:30	10	11	12 Session meeting, 5:30 on Zoom	13	14	15
16 Worship 10:30	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Worship 10:30	24	25	26	27	28	29 Spring Arts and Crafts Fair 9:00 am - 3pm
30 Worship 10:30	31					

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FIRST CLASS MAIL