

PLYMOUTH
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST
BURLINGTON, WI

VOL XI ISSUE IV
APRIL 2016



Special points of
interest:

Congregational Meeting!

Joshua In Concert

Building Progress!

Mark Your Calendars!



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The Plymouth Epistle

A Newsletter for the Members & Friends of Plymouth Congregational UCC, Burlington, WI

WORDS FROM WANG –

“A Spring Prayer”

As we continue the Easter Season may the new energy that the resurrection story provides help to fill our cups to the brim and overflowing. No one needs to be reminded of how nature blesses us with images and vistas of God's glorious creation. The Psalms are filled with language that could have only been inspired by the wondrous works of the Creator. In response therefore it only seems fitting to offer a prayer of thanksgiving to the One who provides us with so much.

○ God,

We thank you for this earth, our home; for the wide sky and the blessed sun, for the ocean and streams, for the towering hills and the whispering wind, for the trees and green grass.

We thank you for our senses by which we hear the songs of birds, and see the splendor of fields of golden wheat, and taste autumn's fruit, rejoice in the feel of snow, and smell the breath of spring flowers.

Grant us a heart opened wide to all this beauty; and save us from being so blind that we pass unseeing when even the common thorn bush is aflame with your glory.

For each new dawn is filled with infinite possibilities for new beginnings and new discoveries. Life is constantly changing and renewing itself. In this new day of new beginnings with God, all things are possible. We are restored and renewed in a joyous awakening to the wonder that our lives are and, yet, can be.

Amen.

See ya' in church. Pastor Bob

Worship Opportunities for April

April 3 – The 2nd Sunday of Easter

Scripture: John 20:19-21

Sermon Theme: “*Believe is Seeing*”

April 10— 3rd Sunday of Easter

Scripture: John 21:1-19

Sermon Theme: “*Thrice Loving*”

April 17— 4th Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Psalm 24:1-3, Matthew 13:1-9

Sermon Theme: “*The Domicile of the Lord*”

A Celebration of the Great Outdoors and Ministry Opps!

April 24 — 5th Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Psalm 148

Sermon Theme: “*Praise Is Rising*”

May 1 — 6th Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Acts 16:9-15

Sermon Theme: “*Lydia’s Legacy*”



PLYMOUTH PRAISE IN WORSHIP – April 24

Our theme for April 24 is **Praise**; that’s a tough theme for choosing music (note sarcasm). **Psalm 148 repeats the word praise at least a dozen times.** Don’t miss the opportunity to help lead singing in worship this month all you music lovers.

We are truly blessed with the gift of music and those who can help deliver it as we glorify God in song throughout the season. *Plymouth Praise* celebrates by leading worship once a month. Here’s what’s happening in April.

Rehearsal: April 17 @ 11:30

Worship: April 24 (8:45 run through/10:00 worship)

Be it with your voice or your instrument, come and make a joyful noise. So if you have a voice and ear for the more contemporary worship songs then consider joining the praise team. We typically lead worship on the 4th Sunday of every month with rehearsals the Sunday prior (usually after worship 11:30ish)



A Visit to a Funeral Home

One of the highlights of our Confirmation year has been the meeting and tour that takes place at Schuette Daniels Funeral home. That important gathering **includes mentors** as we also will cover the material in the journals that falls in chapter 22. Please be sure to bring them with.

We will meet for worship skills and family time at church and then head over to the funeral home at 6:30 (or meet us there then). Youth can then be **picked up at the funeral home at 8:30.**

Our Wednesday *Faith Formation* gatherings continue on the 20th & 27th this month to wrap things up in preparation for Confirmation Sunday which, of

course, is May 15.

A REMINDER: Confirmation students should be meeting monthly with their **mentors** for regular discussions using the books provided especially if you are catching up. To keep up this month you should be completing Chapters 16-21.

Congregational Meeting



Special Congregational Meeting – Sunday, April 10

The order of business for this meeting is to vote for Ron Moersfelder to replace Julie Klaehn as Vice Moderator.

The meeting will be held immediately following worship



Monday Night Adult Bible Study

Monday Night Study Resumes April 4th! “The First Seven Words of Christ”

Most of us are somewhat familiar with the last seven words spoken by Christ: 1. “Father, forgive them; they don’t know what they’re doing.” 2. “Today you will be with me in paradise.” 3. “Woman, here is your son.” ETC. What were Jesus’ first seven words?

That’s what we’ll be talking about on Monday nights. In the meantime, if you’re interested in joining the discussion, you have some homework to do!

We meet Mondays at 6:30pm in the new Meeting Room, beginning April 4th.



FROM THE STEWARDSHIP TEAM

Our annual pledge letter went in the mail last week along with this year’s Intention of Giving forms. Please make sure to return them to the church office by April 17th. If you have not received one and would like to make a financial or time & talent commitment to our ministries, please contact Beth or Stephanie and they can get one to you. Thank you!

Joshua Robert Wang

April 10 @ 6:00 p.m.

Most Plymouth Church folk are aware that Josh Wang (Pastor Bob's son) will be completing his Masters degree in piano performance this year. He is a resident teaching assistant/instructor at Bowling Green State University of Ohio where he will receive his degree. In most music masters programs, rather than write a thesis, students prepare and present a recital; Josh will complete this requirement in March. And in April he will take his recital on the road and one stop will definitely be his "home church;" Plymouth Congregational UCC in Burlington, WI.

Therefore, we are pleased to announce that on April 10th Josh will be performing Bach's Partita No. 5, BWV 829, Beethoven's Sonata in B-flat, Op. 22, Chopin's Polonaise in A-flat, Op. 53 "Heroique," and finish with 2 Rachmaninoff Preludes: Opus 32, nos. 2&4.



We are not keeping it a secret that this tour is also for the purpose of raising funds to help defray Joshua's costs for a once in a lifetime opportunity to travel to Austria this summer to attend *The Classical Music Festival*. Josh recently learned that he has been accepted into this select program as a student participant.

He describes it this way: "The Classical Music Festival is a well-established 2-week summer program in Austria which features master classes, lectures, and performances from world class music faculty. The festival takes place at the Haydn Conservatory in Eisenstadt where Joseph Haydn spent most of his career working for the Esterhazy family. Pianists will have the opportunity to perform in this historical Esterhazy palace, tour the birthplace of Franz Liszt in Hungary, and hear the festival choir and orchestra perform in the historic St. Stephen's Cathedral of Vienna."

Members and friends of Plymouth Church are cordially invited by the Wang family to gather and enjoy Josh's performance here on our church's Steinway piano. Following the performance, we are hosting an informal reception which will include some tasty finger foods and beverage. Any monies generated from this event will, of course, go directly toward Josh's trip to Austria. Whether attending the concert or not, if you are interested in making a personal donation, please feel free to contact Pastor Bob.

The Wang family is grateful to the Plymouth Church family for the tremendous support they have given Josh these past 6 years.



MODERATOR CORNER

As you may have heard, Ron Moersfelder has volunteered to step into our Vice Moderator position, and Kiffie Scott has joined the Annual Fundraising team. Jamie Ellingstad has also joined the Social Justice Team. We thank all of them for their service to the church, the congregation, and our missions!

(A confirmation vote to approve Ron will be held shortly, at a special meeting on Sunday, April 10th.)

But, there's still plenty of work for more volunteers to do -- and we'll need to fill a number of positions on the OC come the next Annual Meeting.

Please get in touch with the office or the OC or a team leader you'd like to help.

Plymouth's life blood is its volunteers! We need you as much as you need the Plymouth -- and the work is fun and fulfilling.

See you in church!

-- Steve Sullivan, Past Moderator



April 20 - Jump Up Night
Current 1st graders are invited to come to LOGOS to see what our program is all about before they come in the fall.

If you know any 1st graders, please let Nikki know so she can contact them!

April 27-- our final LOGOS of the school year!
Parents and siblings are invited to attend...
let Nikki know how many of your family will be there!



GREETERS NEEDED for Sunday mornings!
Call the church office if you are interested!

Mission News:



Valentine's Luncheon

The Missions Team hosted a Valentine's Day for our friends at Riverview Manor. An Italian themed lunch was attend by 50 residents. Thank you to Pastor Bob who serenaded us and led us in a sing along of a variety of romantic songs. We look forward to hosting another luncheon later this summer.

Church World Service Emergency Kits

The Mission Teams put together and sent out 100 Emergency Kits to Church World Services. These kits contained personal hygiene supplies- wash cloth, towel, soap, comb, etc. They will be stored and in the event of a disaster Church World Services will get them immediately to where they are needed. As part of this project we did receive a \$250 grant to help offset the cost of this project. A special thank you to the 6th grade Logos kids who helped assemble all of these kits You guys were awesome!



Earth Day Surprise

The Missions Team will have a surprise coming in April to once again celebrate Earth Day. More information coming soon!

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS....



Right and left:
Old kitchen demolition



hood, sink & dishwasher

New Kitchen stove

New dining room storage closets & pantry



Construction progress continued....
The end is in sight!!



Foyer floor and stairs to the Sanctuary



New bathroom

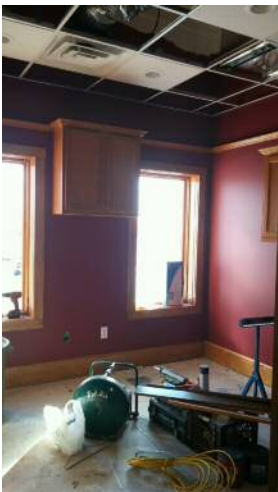


Church office painted and window installed

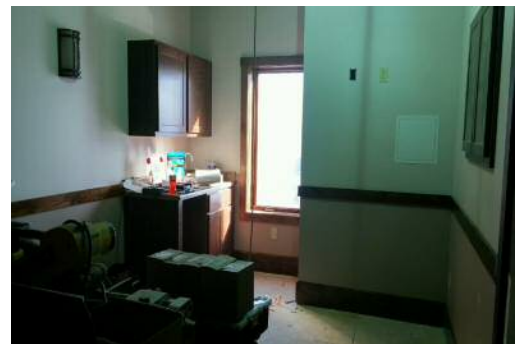


Left and below:

Fireside room



Above: Pastor's office





1-Lee Freeman
 Joel Graham
 Jake Szemborski
 3 - Natalie Stier
 4 - Betty Peterson
 5 - Bernard Yanke
 Justus Brenner
 6 - Bill Schellpfeffer
 7 - Bill Meinel
 9 - Jack Wightman
 10 - Mike Springer
 13 - Debbie Witte

15 -Mary Lou Nebinger
 Josh Wang
 Ashton Campbell
 18 - Lois Hahn
 19 - Marilee Hoffman
 Amber Iselin
 20 - Dave Hill
 21 - Dick Pieters
 Tristan Post
 23 - Betty Anderson
 Scott Wilson
 Jill Albrecht

24 -Dick Peterson
 25 - Avery Peterson
 26 - Max Lindell
 27 - Debbie Pieters
 Pam Peterson
 Marissa Post
 28 - Marge Harder
 Deb Lindell
 Sawyer Wightman
 30 - Gladys Bublitz
 Finn Peterson

Congratulations to Gladys Bublitz who celebrates her 96th birthday on April 30th!



Dave & Kim Kerkhoff - April 1

Jon & Betty Anderson - April 16

Dennis & Jill Witte - April 5

Scott & Meghan Peterson - April 18

Brad & Jenn Brenner - April 12

Randy & Kim Wessinger - April 18



Dear Friends,
 Thank you all for the lovely plate of cookies. I hope to see you soon. I have spent many days in the hospital.

Thoughts and Prayers, Bernie & Linda Yanke

Thanks to all who baked cookies, set them on plates and those who delivered them. Your thoughtfulness means so very much! - Gloria & Ray

Dear Members of Plymouth Church,
 Thank you for your prayers, cards and kind words after the recent death of our mother, grandma and great-grandma, Betty Hevey. Though loss is never easy, your support helped in easing our pain.
 Sincerely, John & Jane Olisar, Steve Olisar, Scottie & Meghan Peterson, Finn and Henry Peterson



GAME DAY- Saturday April 16 11am-5pm



If you can help out, "ANY" 3rd Wednesday during the year - every month a group from Plymouth provides dinner for local residents the 3rd Wednesday of the month. The number of those partaking of meals varies between 25 and 45 people. Sometimes it is mostly men and sometimes children are present. Families from the Transitional Living Center also dine at the center. It is an opportunity for delicious, nutritious meals, but also for socializing.

Please call the church office and we will add you to the list of volunteers to participate in this local mission.

Fair Trade Coffee Project - Items sold 2nd Sunday of the month



- Organic Tamari Roasted Almonds — \$5.00 per package
- Equal Exchange Teas — \$3.00 per package
- Regular Whole Bean and Ground Coffee — \$7.00 per bag
- Decaf Whole Bean and Ground Coffee — \$8.00 per bag
- Regular Flavored Coffees — \$8.00 per bag
- Hazelnut Decaf — \$9.00 per bag
- Hot Cocoa Mix — \$6.00 per can
- Equal Exchange Large Chocolate Bars — \$2.50 each
- Divine Chocolate Bars - \$1.50

We also have Women's Bean Project items:

- Soup Mixes - \$5.50 each
- Cookie Mixes - \$5.00
- Iced Tea Mixes - \$3.50
- Dip Mixes - \$3.75
- Chocolate Covered Espresso Beans - \$5.75

Sharing Sunday — 1st Sunday of every month — All items go to Love, Inc.

Love's food pantry continues to need your help!

The following non-perishable food and other items are greatly needed:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| canned fruit, canned vegetables, soup | mouth wash, shampoo |
| toothpaste, toothbrushes | tissues, toilet paper |
| hair spray, hand soap | diapers (all sizes) |
| feminine hygiene products | macaroni, cereal |
| canned spaghetti | jelly, peanut butter |
| brown sugar, sugar | laundry detergent |
| mayonnaise, mustard, catsup | dish soap, deodorant |
| disposable razors | |



Monetary contributions are always accepted. Just place your check in the offering plate or mail it to Plymouth Church.

Blood pressure screening -

Blood pressure screening will take place April 10th
In the parlor kitchen following worship.



Plymouth Children's Center receives funds from grocery stores

Plymouth Children's Center collects grocery receipts from Richter's Marketplace. We receive 1% of the total on the receipts. Richter's Marketplace receipts require a *Funds for Friends* sticker on the back. There is a blue box on the table outside the office door that you can put the receipts in. Thank you for your continued support.

Flowers for Sunday



If you would like to supply flowers for the altar on a Sunday, please sign up for a date on our new Flower Chart. It is located by the door in the parlor that leads to the nursery and the church offices. Look ahead to important dates in your life that you would like to commemorate by providing flowers for our church service. We thank Marty Baker for the exquisite arrangements she has been providing for the past several months. We have truly appreciated her gifts of time and talent!!



The Worship Team needs more volunteers for the following Sunday morning duties: Usher, Liturgist, Fellowship Time servers, Communion servers and Nursery care.

If you would like to help in any of these areas, please contact the church office and we can put you on the fall schedules. Thank you!!



April Volunteers



SUNDAY	April 3	April 10	April 17	April 24
DEACONS	April 3: Paul Gander- Bread LaVonne Howell, Joe Iselin, Barb Freeman			
USHERS	Tim & Kay Burd Deb Lindell	Dick & Betty Peterson Nikki Burd	Larry & Ellen Gyger John Kranich	Scott Hoffman Diane Hanson Steph Eveland
LITURGIST	Pam Moersfelder	Ron Moersfelder	Lori Benstead	Sara Graham
FELLOWSHIP SERVERS	Paul & Marilyn Gander	Dick & Betty Peterson	Bob & Jackie Kastengren	Marge Hoffman Marilee Hoffman
AV OPERATOR	Jamie Ellingstad	John Kranich	Dave Snyder	Al Murin
NURSERY CARE	Ellen Gyger Becky Daniels (No Kellie)	Joel Graham	Steph Rediger	Tyler Daniels
ACOLYTE	Sedona Souther	Raegan Rediger	Ethan VanSwol	Chloe Rediger



Ladies Lunch Brunch - Wednesday, April 6th Pine Street Café

Come for fun and pleasant conversation.
 Order from the menu and pay for your own lunch.
 If you need a ride, call the church office at 763-6890.

**Deadline for the May issue of *The Plymouth Epistle* is :
 Thursday, April 21st. Thanks, Beth**

PLYMOUTH UCC STAFF

Rev. Robert Wang- Minister - (262)-857-2237(H)
 Beth Picazo, Secretary
 Stephanie Eveland, Financial Secretary
 Nikki Burd, Children's Ministry Director
 Sue Krumholz, The Plymouth Epistle Editor
 Jeffrey Hughes, Custodian
 Marty Baker, Wedding Coordinator
 Diane Olson, Choir Director



**PLYMOUTH CHILDREN'S CENTER
 ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Sara Trewyn, Program Director
 Phyllis Hancock, Assistant Director

REV. ROBERT WANG-MINISTER

- Office Hours:

Tuesday- Friday, 9:30a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 If possible, please call ahead to make sure
 Pastor Bob is available

PLYMOUTH UCC OFFICE HOURS

Beth-Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00p.m.
 Steph -Monday-Thursday, 8:30am – 2:30pm
 Church Office: 262-763-6890

Web Site: www.uccply.org

Email: Plymouth@PlymouthUCCBurlington.org

Minister Email: Minister@PlymouthUCCBurlington.org

Financial Secretary Email:

steph@PlymouthUCCBurlington.org



April Calendar



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6am Men's Breakfast	2
3 8:45am Choir Rehearsal 8:45am Adult Education 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:00am Coffee & Conversation	4 6:30pm Adult Bible Study	5 7pm Choir	6 Noon Ladies Lunch Bunch 5pm LOGOS 6:30 pm Confirmation class at funeral home 6:30pm Bell Choir	7	8 6am Men's Breakfast	9
10 8:45am Choir Rehearsal 8:45am Adult Education 10:00am Worship <i>Special Congregational Meeting</i> 10:15am Sunday School 11:00am Coffee & Conversation 11:00am Fair Trade Sales 11:00am Blood Pressure Screening	11 6:30pm Adult Bible Study	12 10:30am A.S.A.P. 7pm Choir	13 6:30pm Operating Council 6:30pm Bell Choir	14	15 6am Men's Breakfast	16 11am Game Day
17 8:45am Bell Choir Rehearsal 8:45am Adult Education 10:00am Worship - Baptism 10:15am Sunday School 11:00am Coffee & Conversation 11:30am Plymouth Praise	18 6:30pm Adult Bible Study	19 7pm Choir	20 5pm LOGOS 6:30pm Bell Choir	21	22 6am Men's Breakfast	23
24 8:45am Plymouth Praise 8:45am Adult Education 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:00am Coffee & Conversation	25 6:30pm Adult Bible Study	26 10:30am A.S.A.P. 7pm Choir	27 5pm Final LOGOS for this school year 6:30pm Bell Choir	28	29 6am Men's Breakfast	30



**PLYMOUTH
CONGREGATIONAL
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124 W.
WASHINGTON
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53105-1478
262-763-6890
252-763-6802 FAX**

**ADDRESS SERVICE
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DATE MATERIAL
PLEASE DO NOT
DELAY
APRIL 2016
EPISTLE**

We hope you like our monthly newsletter. It is such a great communicator of happenings at our church. However, if you no longer wish to be on our mailing list, please notify us by either mail, telephone (262-763-6890) or email - plymouth@plymouthuccburlington.org.



Mark your calendar....

**May 1, 2016 Plymouth
Congregational Church Annual
Meeting held at 11:15am
immediately following worship.**

**May 15, 2016 – Confirmation
Sunday**

**May 22, 2016 at 3pm - Open
House and dedication of our
addition**

