

PLYMOUTH
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST
BURLINGTON, WI

VOL XI ISSUE V
MAY 2016



Special points of
interest:

**Confirmation Sunday-
May 15th!**

**Building Dedication-
May 22nd!**

**Memorial Dedications-
May 29th**



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The Plymouth Epistle

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

WORDS FROM WANG – *“Forget the Half-glass Analogy; Just Have Hope”*

I do so tire of certain overused sayings used for the purpose of evaluating a person's sense of ambition or lack of it. Our faith stresses the three “greatest” things (as Paul wrote in Corinthians), faith, hope, and love; and that the greatest of these is love. But what would come in 2nd place? Faith or Hope? I would say hope (but with faith a very close 3rd).

I am saddened at the increase of and more common diagnoses (and un-diagnosed) labeled depression in the 21st century. We all know someone suffering from this debilitating condition; a condition that is acted out in so many ways. From anger to withdrawal, from fear to eating disorders, and even suicide, depression and anxiety can be very devastating to those suffering from it and those closest to them. Though medication is often a necessary evil the simplest cure always seems to resemble something like hope; as difficult as it can be to find (the glass is half full).

I share a few tips that I found recently so whether you are clinically depressed or simply having the blues lately you may find them useful.

- * Hope looks for the good in people instead of harping on the worst...
- * Hope opens doors where despair closes them...
- * Hope discovers what can be done instead of grumbling about what cannot...
- * Hope ‘Lights a candle’ instead of ‘cursing the darkness’...
- * Hope regards problems, small or large, as opportunities...
- * Hope cherishes no illusions, nor does it yield to cynicism...
- * Hope sets big goals and is not frustrated by repeated difficulties or setbacks...
- * Hope puts up with modest gains
- * Hope realizes that ‘the longest journey starts with one step’...
- * Hope accepts misunderstanding as the price for serving the greater good of others...
- * Hope is a good loser because it has the divine assurance of final victory."

May the Spirit of Hope abide in all the members and friends that make up the body of Christ here at Plymouth Church.

See ya' in church. Pastor Bob

Reminder

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

Worship Opportunities for May

May 1 — 6th Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Acts 16:9-15

Sermon Theme: "Lydia's Legacy"

Note: The sacrament of Holy Communion

May 8 – The 7th Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Acts 16:16-34

Sermon Theme: "Unexpected Ministry"

May 15— Confirmation Sunday (Pentecost)

Scripture: TBD

Sermon Theme: "Hope For Tomorrow"

May 22— 1st Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Sermon Theme: *Forward in Faith*

Note: Our new Associate Conference Minister, Rev. Jane Anderson will be present in worship to help us celebrate the completion of our building projects.

May 29 — Memorial Sunday

Scripture: Isaiah 55

Sermon Theme: "On Being Remembered?"

June 5 - 3rd Sunday after Pentecost - 9:30am

Scripture: Psalm 146

Sermon Theme: "I Will Sing Praise to God All My Life Long" Celebration of our *Music Ministry*



PLYMOUTH PRAISE IN WORSHIP – May 29

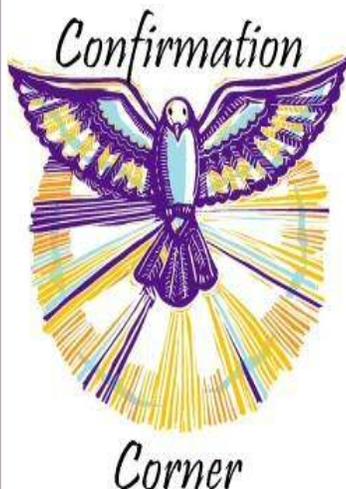
With May being a 5-Sunday month and due to Confirmation Sunday we are switching things around a bit. Therefore, Plymouth Praise will help lead worship on the 5th Sunday which is also Memorial Day weekend.

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 May.

Rehearsal: May 22 @ 11:30 (followed by Church Open House/luncheon)

Worship: May 29 (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. This will be our last official Sunday leading worship but look forward to *Plymouth Praise* appearing during summer months.



Confirmation Sunday - May 15th

Confirmation Sunday is rapidly approaching; **May 15th at 10:00am**. We hope confirmands have informed any family members wishing to attend. Mentors are also asked to be present and participate in the laying on of hands. There will be a special reception following the worship service to honor the students and celebrate this important rite of passage in their faith journey.

A REMINDER: Confirmation students should be wrapping up their meetings with their mentors very soon and be completing Chapters 16-21 in their journals. Also, a couple students have make up work to complete a.s.a.p. from being absent from certain Wednesday night faith formation sessions.



FORWARD IN FAITH – Building Dedication and Celebration (May 22)

For the better part of the past three years, as a congregation, we have boldly gone where we have never gone before. First, conducting a successful capital campaign and raising in excess of \$700,000 in pledges and second, completing several phases of capital and programmatic improvements. And the jewel in that crown of completion is 1,400 square feet of new and improved space for conducting ministry in our little niche in downtown Burlington.

Therefore, tell your friends and neighbors that Plymouth Church is holding an open house with a delicious luncheon (grilled meats a la Scott Wilson) and tours of our new building on **May 22 from noon until 3:00 p.m. with a special dedication at 2:00.**



May 29 (during 10:00am worship)

It has been a while since we have had any viable memorial projects to mention and/or dedicate at Plymouth Church. As memorial funds and gifts have accumulated for several years since being established we are happy to announce that several projects have been or soon will be completed and done thoughtfully in memory of some wonderful members and friends of Plymouth Church.

The following is a list to date of those saints departed who will live on in our memories as we are reminded on a daily basis of their love for Plymouth Church:

Dedicated to the New Parlor Door

Pat Weygand
Max Tsuchida
Bob Jay
Cornelia Snyder
Faye Gluesing
Sally Spitzer
Agnes Oldenberg
Kathleen Cowan
Candy Soetenga

Dedicated to the Fireplace in the Building Addition

John Rowntree
Ann Rowntree

Dedicated to the new round dining tables

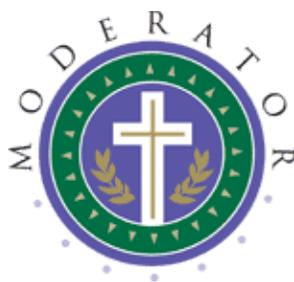
Ann Rowntree
Rod Anderson

Dedicated to framing the stain glass windows removed for construction

Dorothy Baker
Tom Peacock
Kay Connor

Dedicated to the New Church Office Furniture

Dick & Sally Picazo



FROM THE MODERATOR.....

For all of those who contributed to the *Forward in Faith* campaign, thank you. Your contributions made our recently opened new addition possible. If you have been at church recently, you have watched the progress as the rooms took shape. On May 22 there will be the official grand opening and the dedication of the space. The festivities will go on from the time worship service ends through mid-afternoon, so please plan to come for the grand tour.

During the past several weeks, people have been moving into the new offices and repurposing the older spaces. An extra thank you goes out to those who gave their time and effort for the spring cleaning day April 23; they became movers as well as cleaners.

Here is a quick summary of some of the changes:

The secretarial staff now has their office at the main entry, making it possible for people coming to the church to be greeted and directed to their destinations without getting lost in the stairs and hallways behind a closed door. Staff from the Plymouth Children's Center will be using the old office.

The choir room is now only a choir room, not a storage locker. The cabinets for the choir robes will partition the room, leaving a separate area for the custodian.

Pastor Bob has a new office located off the parlor. His old office will serve as a meeting room and library. The meeting tables that were formerly in the chapel and lately in the basement will anchor the room, and books that were housed on the landing will have space on shelves here.

The small meeting room next to Pastor Bob's new office provides a comfortable and welcoming space for any small groups that want to meet there, including the Prayer Group, Bible study groups, and those who seek pastoral counseling or who simply want a quiet place to meditate.

The former kitchen is now Plymouth's dining room. It is furnished with round tables that are ready to be used for any church function that involves serving food, including the LOGOS suppers, church potlucks, and funeral luncheons.

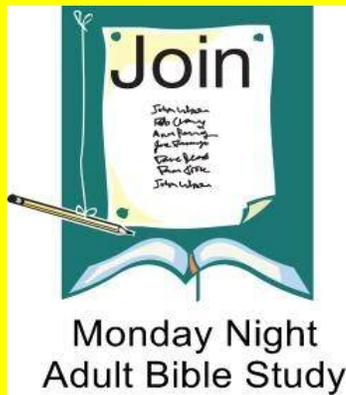
The Plymouth Children's Center has been a partner both in redesigning and in funding some of the changes in the education wing. The nursery and the classroom next door have become one large space. There is one newly remodeled bathroom and a second entry has been created for another bathroom. Representatives from the Children's Center also had input into the design of the new kitchen that opens off the dining room, and they made a monetary contribution to the new commercial grade stove there.

This building project was a major undertaking for our church. Pastor Bob, church secretary Beth and financial secretary Stephanie, Dave Snyder and the P.I.T. volunteers, and many others invested a lot of time and effort in making this happen. Let them know it was worth it and appreciated. Come see the results and help us think of new ways to use our new spaces to move Plymouth's message *Forward in Faith*.

-Mary Ellen Close



Visit www.ucci.org to see all the camps that are available and for scholarship and registration information.



The last week of this session will be Monday, May 2.

Look for the group to resume in the fall!



This has been a fast year at LOGOS!! We celebrated our last LOGOS Sunday on April 24th. Our youth sang a beautiful song during the service and many of our youth led prayers and liturgy in our service. It is such a blessing to watch these children grow in our church. I am blessed to be apart of our LOGOS program for the past 4 years. Thank you for trusting in me to help lead the youth in our church. I think I have learned more from them than they have learned from me. I would like to say THANK YOU to ALL my teachers and assistants: Marcia Harlfinger, Stephanie Eveland, Kylara Horner, Steph Rediger, Sara Graham, Diane Hanson, John Kranich, Julie Stier, Jenn Brenner, Rev. Jim Burd and Pastor Bob. I would also like to say THANK YOU to our Kitchen Crew: Jackie Kastengren, Elaine Burd, and Sue Dunn. Helpers in the kitchen: Shannon Souther, Ellen Gyger, Betty Peterson, Jill Albrecht, Karen Schmidt, Nicky Henning. Thank you to Laura Murin for helping with check in and attendance; Set up Crew: Ray Amdahl, Gloria Powell, John Kranich and Dick Peterson, Clean up Crew: Beth Picazo, Sara Foster, Kim Straube. If I have forgotten anyone, I am sorry!! But I think this has been our list of volunteers this year. I hope we have even more volunteers this fall for our program, it's a simple and minimal commitment to be apart of our youth in our congregation. I cannot forget to also say THANK YOU to Don Howell and Sebastian Rediger, these two guys helped out with our games, and Sebastian was also a fill in with clean up and assisting classes. Thanks again to Plymouth Church for your support with this wonderful program for our youth!! God Bless and see you in the FALL!!

-Nikki Burd, Children's Ministry Director

We Move FORWARD IN FAITH!



Occupancy!!
In MOST of addition...
Church office, Pastor's office, new bathroom and fireside room

April 15, 2016



Mission News:



The Missions Team celebrated Earth Day this year by handing out pine tree saplings to the Congregation. Deanna Snyder also shared some of her pepper plants that will be ready to put in our Gardens as soon as the weather warms up and we can all get to playing in the dirt.

Please bring your donations of Peanut Butter and Jelly to help stock the Love Inc food pantry. The demand for these staple foods increase in the summer as many children who get lunch provided at school during the school year are now reliant on the food pantry for these meals. Collection dates will be **Sunday, May 15** and **Sunday, May 22**. Our congregation has always been amazing in meeting these needs in the past and I'm sure will Once again do awesome! Thank you!

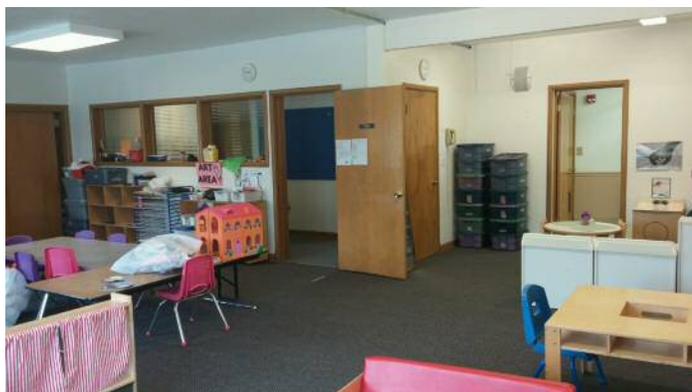
Other building projects....



Left: New Fellowship Hall dining area and storage closets

Below: Renovated bathroom at the end of the hall in education wing. 2nd toilet added and access to bathroom is now inside the classroom!

Below: Renovated Nursery room/classroom Wall removed between the 2 rooms and additional access to upstairs bathroom added inside the classroom





MAY
BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 - Bryce Clark | 12 - Barb Church | 19 -Katie Simenson |
| 2 - Pam Wanasek | 13 - Bob Zygowicz | Tina Wightman |
| Barb Freeman | Ann Edwards | 23 -Molly Keller |
| 3 - Nan Wilson | Kate Bonner | Erik Kerkhoff |
| 4 - John Olisar | Jaeda Mendez | 24 - Casey Reich |
| 6 - Sara Wanasek | 14 - Kim Wessinger | 25 - Carmen McKinney |
| 7 - Sam Jagodzinski | 15 - Jj Kastengren | 27 - John Kranich |
| Sebastien Rediger | 18 - Jack Simenson | Alex Wilson |
| 10 - Margaret Mihalyi | | 31 - Jayne Bella |
| Dorothy Winkler | | |

Special birthday blessings to Nan Wilson who turns 92 on May 3rd.



MAY
ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Bob & Jackie Kastengren – May 3 | Joe & Karen Iselin – May 25 |
| Ken & Sue Nelson – May 10 | Bill Wald & Penny Yanke – May 26 |
| Rollie & Debbie Witte – May 15 | John & Janet Hamric – May 27 |
| Bernie & Linda Yanke – May 15 | Steve Sullivan & Kiffie Scott – May 28 |
| Rob & Jennie King – May 22 | |

Congratulations to John & Janet Hamric who celebrate their 60th anniversary on May 27.

&

Bernie & Linda Yanke who celebrate their 62nd anniversary on May 15.

THANKS
— from the —
HEART

To my friends at Plymouth,

Your empowering thoughts and prayers, cards, phone calls, visits and meals all are so appreciated. I know that they all contributed to my healing after my recent bone marrow/stem cell transplant. There will be continuing healing in the months to come. Thank you for your continued support and I can't wait to get back into the swing of activities at Plymouth!

Love,
Julie Klaehn

Plymouth Epistle Editor, Susie Krumholz resigns. I would like to thank Susie for all the work that she has put into formatting and editing our newsletter since October, 2011. It has truly been a joy to work with her and I have appreciated the efforts she has made in working around my schedule and helping to create the congregational connection that so many have come to rely on. Anyone who has knowledge of Microsoft Publisher and feels led to help with the newsletter in this capacity, please let me know. Thanks again Susie!!!

- Beth Picazo



GAME DAY- May 21st

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
- toothpaste, toothbrushes
- hair spray, hand soap
- feminine hygiene products
- canned spaghetti
- brown sugar, sugar
- mayonnaise, mustard, catsup
- disposable razors

- mouth wash, shampoo
- tissues, toilet paper
- diapers (all sizes)
- macaroni, cereal
- jelly, peanut butter
- laundry detergent
- dish soap, deodorant



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 May 8th
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!!



May Volunteers



SUNDAY	May 1	May 8	May 15	May 22	May 29
DEACONS	May 1: Carolyn Schoneck- Bread Toni Kranich, Kiffie Scott, Jackie Kastengren				
USHERS	Dick & Joan Shecterle Kiffie Scott	Scott, Peggy and Halie Behnke	Ron & Pam Moersfelder Jamie Ellingstad	Tim & Kay Burd Paul Schultz	Joe & Karen Iselin Don Howell
LITURGIST	Don Howell	Carolyn Schoneck	Confirmation Kids	Jim Burd	Margaret Mihalyi
FELLOWSHIP SERVERS	Steph Eveland Diane Hanson	Nikki Burd Beth Picazo	Karen Iselin Betty Peterson	Kathy Pieters Gidget Brown	Joe & Karen Iselin
AV OPERATOR	Jamie Ellingstad	John Kranich	Dave Snyder	Al Murin	Ron Patla
NURSERY CARE	Meghan Peterson	Betty Peterson	Ellen Gyger	Sara Graham	No Nursery
ACOLYTE	Sedona Souther	Raegan Rediger	Ethan VanSwol	Chloe Rediger	None



Ladies Lunch Brunch - Wednesday, May 4th "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 June issue of *The Plymouth Epistle* is :
 Thursday, May 19th 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. – 3:30p.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



May Calendar



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:45am Choir Rehearsal 8:45am Adult Education 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:00am Coffee & Conversation 11:15am Annual Meeting	2 6:30pm Adult Bible Study	3 7pm Choir	4 Noon – Ladies Lunch Bunch 6:30pm Bell Choir	5	6 6am Men's Breakfast	7
8 8:45am Choir Rehearsal 8:45am Adult Education 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:00am Coffee & Conversation 11:00am Fair Trade Sales 11:00am Blood Pressure Screening	9	10 7pm Choir	11 6:30pm Operating Council Meeting 6:30pm Bell Choir	12 6:30pm Missions Team Meeting	13 6am Men's Breakfast	14
15 8:45am Adult Education 10:00am Worship – Confirmation 11:00am Coffee & Conversation (No Sunday School... will not meet again until September)	16	17 7pm Choir	18 6:30pm Bell Choir	19	20	21 11am Game Day
22 8:45am Bell Choir Rehearsal 8:45am Adult Education 10:00am Worship 11:00am Coffee & Conversation 11:30am Plymouth Praise 3:00pm Open House/Dedication	23	24 7pm Choir	25	26	27	28
29 8:45am Plymouth Praise 10:00am Worship 11:00am Coffee & Conversation	30	31 7pm Choir				



**PLYMOUTH
CONGREGATIONAL
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53105-1478
262-763-6890
252-763-6802 FAX**

**ADDRESS SERVICE
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DELAY
MAY 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



Summer Worship Begins!

June 5th

9:30 a.m.

