

PLYMOUTH
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST
BURLINGTON, WI

VOL XI, ISSUE IX
SEPTEMBER 2016



Special points of
interest:

Sunday School & Logos
Begins!

Fall Fundraiser!

9/11 Remembrance

Share A Basket!



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The Plymouth Epistle

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

WORDS FROM WANG – “Community Matters”

We have all become very accustomed to hearing and seeing the words “Black Lives Matter.” And they do. We are also aware of the controversy around this slogan as well as the ones pertaining to gun control and/or violence. We are also entering the most heated time of the election season and emotions remain high as the chasm between groups and organizations continues to increase and divide us as a people. And then there’s the natural disaster; floods, earthquakes, fires. One cannot help but feel overwhelmed and simply want to throw one’s hands up and say I CAN’T TAKE IT ANYMORE. Worse yet, I FEEL HELPLESS.

But I say, do not despair. We are not helpless. And where does our help come from? I’m glad I asked that question. The Psalmist gives us one answer: *I lift up my eyes to the hills from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.* (Cue scratching needle sound across the record). Now hold on just a minute. Is that what we think? Our help comes from the Lord? Well, yes, theologically speaking. Truth be told, although we know God is our strength and our refuge in troubled times, help is often just around the corner, across the street, or even right next door. Help is right here in our own little community of Burlington, Wisconsin.

But if we believe this then we as a church have failed at some level because we have not taken our role as “help” to the community seriously enough. Oh, sure we volunteer at Love, Inc. and we do our free Christmas dinner, and we support some important ministries with our dollars, all noble pursuits. But at some level WE HAVE FAILED OUR COMMUNITY.

One of the questions I heard asked this summer was: “Is the quality of life higher in the community where your church is located as a result of your church being there?” I for one want to take this question very seriously. Therefore I am proposing the formation of a new team at Plymouth Church. I would like to call it “Community Matters.” Furthermore, I would like the main purpose of this team to be about helping to improve the quality of life in Burlington. Who’s with me?

I have already begun recruiting charter members of this team but if you are reading this and feel God is calling you to help in this effort then by all means, let me know. Finally, please read the “9/11” article that follows in this issue of the Epistle. It speaks for itself. In the meantime, let’s get fired up for fall folks!

See ya’ in church.

Pastor Bob

Worship Opportunities for September

September 4 –

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Luke 14:25-33

Sermon Theme: “Strategic Plans”

Note: The sacrament of Holy Communion

September 11 –

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: 1st Timothy 1:12-17

Sermon Theme: “Mercy!”

September 18 – 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Luke 13:18-21

Sermon Theme: “Seeds and Yeast”

September 25 – 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Luke 16:19-31

Sermon Theme: “Spiritual Bifocals”

October 2 – 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: 2nd Timothy 1:1-14

Sermon Theme: “Cowards, Please Excuse Yourselves”

PLYMOUTH PACKER PARTIES ARE BACK !

September 25 - Kick Off @ Noon

Once again Plymouth Church is donning the green and gold to cheer on our favorite team to victory. You can come to church at 10:00 prepared to stay for the game....we are a casual congregation, so feel free to wear your Packer attire to church! Even if you can't come for worship, you can still come watch the game! Once again, Julie and Ken Stier have agreed to coordinate the meals and will announce each month what participants can bring to contribute to the feast. For our September get together we will be making our own subs....a sign up sheet will be available on Sept 11 and Sept 18 or just call the church office.

The schedule for 2016 Plymouth Packers Parties are:

September 25 vs. Lions

October 30 vs. Falcons

December 4 vs. Texans



PACKER PARTY

PLYMOUTH PRAISE IN WORSHIP – September 25

We're back! After a wonderful summer of special music the Plymouth Praise worship team (contemporary song) gang is rearing to go. As usual, we plan on having rehearsals after worship the Sunday prior to leading the service. To kick things off that means we practice on the 18th and lead worship on the 25th.

But this month has a bonus opportunity. We have the privilege of singing in the memorial service for John Hamric (thanks Kiff and Deanna) which is September 10th at 2:00. We will most likely do a song that we have done in the past and that we may use again then on the 25th. We will announce very soon when that practice will happen.

So, in summary:

September 10 @ 2:00 p.m.

September 18 @ 11:30

September 25 @ 8:45 with worship at 10:00 a.m.

We always welcome new singers or players. Come help us make a joyful noise!



Our Choirs start their season!

The voice choir will have its first practice on Tuesday, September 6 at 7 pm. The first Sunday that the choir will be singing for the worship service is Sunday, September 13. New members are always welcome! Please come join us!



The Bell Choir will begin their season with practice on Wednesday, September 6th at 6:30. They will play during worship on Sunday, September 18. We'd love to have new ringers! Even if you've never played before, but think its something you might enjoy, come check us out!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

WOW! I can't believe the summer has just flown by, again! We had a small number of kids for VBS in August, but we still had lots of fun. I feel blessed to connect with our kids one on one. :) Now things are underway for our fall programs. I am very excited for an amazing year with the youth of our church.

Sunday School will be starting Sunday, September 11th. (This is our first Sunday back at our 10am service time) Anyone who is interested in helping teach on Sunday mornings to our little ones, please let me know. We have a rotation schedule so NO ONE has to teach every week. Sunday school is for children ages 3 - 2nd grade. Please contact me to let me know if your child will be joining us this fall.



Sunday School News



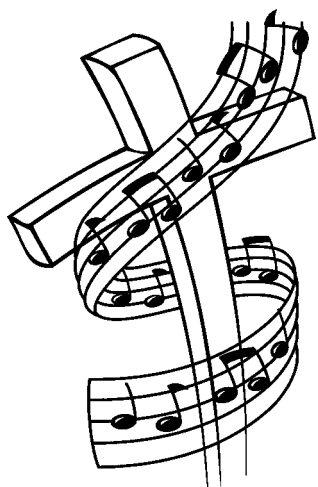
LOGOS starts Wednesday, September 21st from 5pm - 7:30pm. I have mailed out registration forms to our current families, but please feel free to talk about the program to others outside our church. I am always looking for volunteers, so please contact me if you feel called to help with our LOGOS program in any way. We had some generous members of our church sponsor a child for LOGOS last year. THANK YOU!!! We want our kids to come and join our Wednesday night program, even if they can't afford to. Being a part of a church family is SO important to every child. If you feel you would like to sponsor a child this year please contact me.

I am also getting some YOUTH EVENTS together for our teens starting this fall. I know the kids schedules get super busy with school starting, so I will shoot for every other month instead of every month. Thank you for your continued support with our children in our church. I am looking forward to another great year!

Blessings!

Nikki Burd, Children's Ministry Director

WE HAVE A (2) NEW CHOIR DIRECTORS



As most of you know by now we have negotiated a number of options with our current music staff in order to best determine the direction in filling the vacancy created a year ago with the resignation of our bell choir director. After much deliberation and soul searching **Diane Olson** has agreed to continue as our church organist/pianist and has also agreed to be our new hand bell choir director. We do want to thank Diane and Charis Mitchell for seeing that the bell choir was able to continue during the interim period this past year. We are also pleased to continue to offer **Lisa Carnahan** the job of accompanying the vocal choir.

Therefore, we are happy to announce at long last the newest member to our music ministry staff, **Jamie Edwards**. Jamie will take the lead directorship of the vocal choir that provides music and leads worship two Sundays a month as well as the presentation of our annual holiday cantata (Christmas or Easter).

Jamie, of course, is not a stranger in our midst, though still a relatively new member to the church, having sung with the praise team, in the annual cantata, and having provided special music on many occasions. She comes to the position with great qualifications and experience having attended Illinois State University, Normal, IL where she received a bachelor of Music Education in 1995. Many Burlington children and parents know her as a grade school music teacher serving the Burlington School District. Others know her as a "Sweet Adeline" and lover of Barbershop Music having sung with the Riverport Chorus. And still others know her as the mother of Olin and Soren Ellingstad.

Jamie brings much enthusiasm and commitment to our esteemed ministry of music here at Plymouth Church. And most importantly, Jamie is a person of faith who will certainly feel guided by the Holy Spirit in all her continued endeavors as a faithful member of the Church of Jesus. Please help us in welcoming Jamie to her new calling as our choir director and of course, showing our appreciation to Diane Olson for agreeing to take over the bell choir.



Game Day for September has been canceled.

Come out and play again on October 15.



**9/11 @ 15: What Have We Learned? –
October 11 @ 7:00pm. (Veterans Terrace)**

The newly formed “Community Matters” team of Plymouth Church is planning its first community event; this year to acknowledge the 15th anniversary of the horrific day we will always remember as “9/11.” In light of all the tension in our society around the violence and negative rhetoric being experienced across the nation Pastor Bob felt compelled to take the lead on this timely project and was therefore committed to enlisting the support and wisdom of the Muslim community and is pleased to have booked Mr. Ahmed Quereshi to come and address the greater Burlington community.

AHMED J. QUERESHI is the President of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee, the largest Islamic organization in Wisconsin, a position in which he has served since 2009. He has been a board member on the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee’s Cabinet since 2003 and currently serves as Treasurer on its Executive Committee. In 2016, he was elected by U.S. and Canadian Islamic organizations belonging to the Islamic Society of North America, the largest Muslim organization in North America, to serve as a Community Representative on its Board of Directors.

Mr. Quereshi is an occasional instructor for the UWM School of Continuing Education where he teaches courses on Islam. He frequently speaks on Islam to non-Muslim audiences. He is an attorney practicing law with an office in Milwaukee and is a 1984 graduate of Marquette University Law School.

It is with great hope that the response to this event be significant in order that the Burlington community might show some support and solidarity with a people that have so often been misunderstood and mistreated that we might therefore take the opportunity to become more educated, concerned, and aware. As Christians, it is our responsibility to act on our beliefs that no person or group of persons receives anything less than the respect and love that they deserve.

The event is free to the public although Veterans Terrace will be offering assorted beverages at their cash bar during the evening. Light munchies will also be served. There will be an opportunity to make a donation to help defray costs for the event. If you have any questions please contact Pastor Bob or the church office.



FALL THAT JAZZ—OCTOBER 28 6pm at Veteran’s Terrace

More details coming soon!!



SHARE A BASKET.....



We need baskets full of items that carry a theme for the Silent Auction at our “Fall That Jazz” Fundraiser on October 28th!

There will be tags on the bulletin board in the parlor with suggested themes. Please consider taking one or two and sign your name to the list so we know what is coming.

You can create your own basket or if you want to gather items (new) and give them to us, we’ll be happy to create the basket for you. If you have an idea of your own that you will be donating, please list that on the sign-up sheet as well. We will need all this completed by October 21st at the latest.

**Thanks for sharing!
- The Auction Committee**



Mission News:



ITEMS NEEDED FOR SHOEBOXES

Just a few months left to donate much needed items for the Christmas shoeboxes.

Here's what we still need, so please help us be able to fill another 200 boxes again this year:

- Large size flip flops
- Toys
- Sewing kits
- Tools
- Crayons & colored markers
- Child size scissors
- Pencil sharpeners & erasers



Remember these boxes bring huge smiles and happiness to the kids that receive them so be generous. Thank you to all who have already donated, it is very much appreciated.

Mission Team

PLYMOUTH SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The following students have been awarded academic scholarships from Plymouth Church....

Rachel Novak—attending Kennesaw State University studying theater
 Alyssa Rossmiller—attending UW- Eau Claire studying nursing
 Maia Vogt—attending Edgewood College studying communications
 Audra Weis—attending UW-Stevens Pt. studying health promotion & wellness
 Brittany Ehlen—attending UW-Platteville studying civil engineering
 Anna Vogt—attending Edgewood College studying nursing
 Eleanor Monaghan—attending MSOE studying mechanical engineering
 Allison Zeman—attending UW-Madison studying kinesiology (pre-med)

We congratulate them all and wish them much success!



- 1 - Paul Edwards
- 2 - Reid Moen
- 3 - Juliana Pieters
- 5 - Steve Sullivan
- 7 - Joe Iselin
Jess Moen
- 8 - Blanche Klaehn
Ron Patla
Heather Kane-Terhorst
Allison Dukes

- 9 - Jeff Keller
Chad Kane -Terhorst
Spencer Warner
Crue Freitag
- 11 - CJ VanSwol
- 12 - John Wilson
Julie Springer
- 13 - Tim Burd
- 14 - Jenn Brenner
- 17 - Tami Soetenga
Adriana Burd
- 18 - Kelsey Bonner
Ali Knight

- 20 - Ellen Gyger
- 21 - Kim Kerkhoff
Kelly Iselin
- 22 - Toni Kranich
- 24 - Aveah Daniels
- 25 - Marissa Escobar
- 26 - Christine Schultz
- 27 - Jill Rehberg
Rod Benstead
Dave Kerkhoff
Chrystal Hameau
- 30 - Margie Jay
Kathy Kruse

Special birthday congratulations to:
Blanche Klaehn who turns 93 on September 8th
John Wilson who turns 96 on September 12th



- Jeff & Molly Keller - September 6
- Scott & Peggy Behnke – September 11
- Dave & Pat Brown – September 12
- Gary & Pam Peterson – September 13
- Ron & Carol Berndt - September 16

- Dave & Deanna Snyder – September 19
- Rod & Lori Benstead - September 22
- Nick & Anna Rothering – September 27
- John & Leslie Wanasek – September 30



I wish to thank our friends at Plymouth for the many acts of kindness extended to us at the death of my brother, Terry. We love this church and all its members and friends. You have really made us feel at home!
 - Elaine Burd

Thank you also to all who made the church picnic at Wilson Pond such a success....Scott Wilson, Rollie Witte, Karen Iselin, Julie and Don Klaehn, Christine Schultz and LaVonne Howell! We certainly enjoyed great weather and great fellowship!!



Our condolences to Janet Hamric and Kim & Randy Wessinger on the passing of John Hamric on August 19. A Memorial Service is planned for Saturday, September 10th at Plymouth Church. Visiting hours will be Noon-2pm with the service following at 2:00. We send additional condolences to Kim & Randy on the passing of Randy's father, Clarence Wessinger on August 15.

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Deonne Frautschy who passed away on August 11.



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 box
- 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

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 -September 11th

Blood pressure screening will take place
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 can always use 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!!



SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEERS

SUNDAY	September 4 9:30am	September 11 10:00am	September 18 10:00am	September 25 10:00am
DEACONS	September 4: Paul Gander – Bread LaVonne Howell, Barb Freeman, Kiffie Scott			
USHERS	Larry & Ellen Gyger	Dick & Betty Peterson Ron Patla	Tyler & Becky Daniels Nikki Burd	Steph Eveland Diane Hanson Barb Freeman
LITURGIST		Carolyn Schoneck	Jim Burd	Don Howell
FELLOWSHIP SERVERS	Joe & Karen Iselin	Keith & Sue Krumholz	Dick & Betty Peterson	LaVonne Howell Carolyn Schoneck
AV OPERATOR	Jamie Edwards	Ron Patla	Dave Snyder	Al Murin
NURSERY		Becky Daniels	Joel Graham	Betty Peterson



**“Ladies Lunch Bunch” on Wednesday, September 7th
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 October issue of *The Plymouth Epistle* is :
Wednesday, September 21st Thanks, Beth**

PLYMOUTH UCC STAFF

Rev. Robert E. Wang, Minister-262-857-2237 (H)
Beth Picazo, Secretary
Stephanie Eveland, Financial Secretary
Nikki Burd, Children’s Ministry Director
Jeffrey Hughes, Custodian
Marty Baker, Wedding Coordinator
Diane Olson, Organist

PLYMOUTH CHILDREN’S CENTER

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Sara Trewyn, Program Director
Phyllis Hancock, Assistant Director



Rev. Robert Wang, Minister– Office Hours:

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

PLYMOUTH UCC OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Fridays, 8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.
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



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

September 2016							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
Notes: Voice Choir begins September 6 Bell Choir begins September 7 Worship time returns to 10:00am on September 11 th Sunday school starts September 11 th LOGOS begins September 21 st					1	2 6am Men's Breakfast	3
4 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee & Conversation	5 Church office closed	6 7pm Choir	7 Noon Ladies Lunch Bunch 6:30pm Bell Choir	8	9 6am Men's Breakfast	10	
11 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	12	13 7pm Choir	14 6:30pm Operating Council Meeting 6:30pm Bell Choir	15	16 6am Men's Breakfast	17 NO GAME DAY THIS MONTH	
18 8:45am Bell Choir 8:45am Adult Education 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:00am Coffee & Conversation 11:30am Plymouth Praise Reh	19	20 7pm Choir	21 5:00pm LOGOS 6:30pm Bell Choir	22	23 6am Men's Breakfast	24	
25 8:45am Plymouth Praise 10:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11:00am Coffee & Conversation Noon Packer Party	26	27 7pm Choir	28 5:00pm LOGOS 6:30pm Bell Choir	29	30 6am Men's Breakfast		

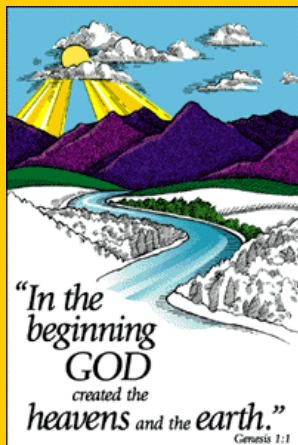


**PLYMOUTH
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53105-1478
262-763-6890
262-763-6802 FAX**

**ADDRESS SERVICE
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SEPTEMBER 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.



Friends of the Waterford Public Library Sponsor:
MARRIOTT THEATRE Day Trip
“Singin’ In The Rain”

Enjoy an afternoon of splashy old-fashion fun!

Sunday, November 27th, 2016

Only \$89 per person

*Tour Escorted by Library Friend
Jackie Kastengren*

Tour Includes:

- Roundtrip transportation in deluxe motor coach
- Lunch at Golden Corral, Gurnee IL
- Admission to “Singin’ In The Rain”

For questions and reservations contact:

Jackie Kastengren 534-3949

