

PLYMOUTH
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST
BURLINGTON, WI

VOL XVI ISSUE XI
NOVEMBER 2021



Special points of
interest:

Heritage Sunday



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The Plymouth Epistle

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

WORDS FROM PASTOR

Dear Members and Friends of Plymouth UCC,

How do you know it's time to rethink your church structure? The governing body has meetings that last no less than 2 or 3 hours, people don't feel like they know what is going on, people feel like one small group of folks makes most of the decisions...does this sound familiar?

Talking about structure isn't necessarily the most exciting thing to do, but sometimes it is necessary. Many years ago when I was directing a youth camp I was told, "If you have enough structure, you don't have to be strict". I have found that to be true in so many areas of my life. Perhaps when it comes to talking about a church's structure it can be better summed up, "If you have an effective structure, you don't have to spin your wheels putting out fires."

I have had a number of people tell me how the current structure came into being and why it came into being. That information has been helpful, but sometimes what we intend when we create something is not what it ends up being. There are so many things that are going very well at Plymouth UCC, but communication isn't one of them. We are working on this, trying to make sure we use our resources at hand in the best way possible.

In the meantime, what can you do? Read the Epistle, read the Points, read the bulletin announcements. In each of these places you will find upcoming meetings, what the mission group is currently involved in and how you can participate, who to contact to help with the Love Inc meals and much more information about what is happening at Plymouth.

What else can you do? Be kind to those who are heading-up different projects. When we say, "Call me if you need anything," that is not helpful. Can you imagine planning and implementing a sizable project and then having to call all of your volunteers? If you are willing to help with the Love Inc meals, call Julie and volunteer; if you want to help with the auction, call Nikki or Tasha and let them know; if you are willing to help with IMPACT, call Tracy. Our leaders are working very hard on the important programs we have to offer at Plymouth, but they can't do it by themselves. We all need to pitch in and help and we can't just wait to be asked; our leaders don't have time to call everyone to see if they can/will help.

So friends, John Gibbon and I are working on the structure which will only be implemented after we share it with you and have you vote on it. Our other leaders are working to make sure Plymouth is a vital congregation. Now we need you to pick up the phone or send an email and say, "Hey, I want to help, too". Together we can be a church that is alive and vital without burning out our volunteers.

Thank you to all of you who are working tirelessly. I'd love to name you all, but I know I'll leave someone out. You make a difference, and you are GREATLY appreciated. Again, thank you!!

Blessings as we move forward,
Rev. Becky

WORDS FROM PASTOR, cont'd

The following is from our IMPACT curriculum. I thought it worth sharing here for us all to think about. “November 9–10 is the anniversary of Kristallnacht, or the Night of Broken Glass. In 1938, 17,000 Jews of Polish origin were expelled from Germany and dumped in a small town across the Polish border. At first, Polish authorities refused to accept them, and they were forced to live for weeks in filthy, manure-covered stables until Poland changed its mind. On November 7, a 17-year-old boy, Herschel Grynszpan, angry and distraught upon learning that his parents were among those who had been deported, shot and killed an official at the German embassy in Paris. This was the excuse the German Nazis had been looking for to unleash a deadly massacre against the Jewish population. Nazi regional chiefs were instructed to destroy Jewish shops, synagogues, businesses, and homes. On the evenings of November 9 and 10, in plain clothes and armed with crowbars, axes and firebombs, soldiers of the German army set fire to at least 1,118 synagogues and looted and destroyed hundreds of Jewish-owned stores and homes. More than 1,000 Jews were killed and 30,000 others, mostly males between 18 and 65, were arrested and sent to concentration camps. The night became known as Kristallnacht (Crystal Night), or “The Night of Broken Glass” because the streets of so many German cities were strewn with the broken glass from the windows and storefronts of Jewish homes and businesses. The damage was estimated in the millions. To add insult to injury, Jews were forced to make all repairs themselves and pay for them. Any insurance money they collected was to be turned over to the government, or they were fined 1 billion reichsmarks (\$400 million). Sadly, Kristallnacht was seen as a test of “the German spirit.” It is said that Hitler believed that “if the German people could stomach Kristallnacht, they could swallow anything.” Following Kristallnacht, law after law was passed limiting the freedom of Jewish people, forbidding them to own valuables, buy rationed food, go to school, or own businesses. In September 1941, a law was passed stating that “all Jews from the age of 6 are forbidden to appear in public without displaying the Jewish star.” The “Final Solution,” the Nazi plan to liquidate all Jews in Europe, began the same year. It is important to reflect on how this hatred of Jews, and other acts of racism, continue to be expressed today.”

OPERATING COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Below are your Operating Council members and positions. If you need to contact one, you can find their information in the directory or inquire with the church office.

POSITION	NAME	GROUP FACILITATOR OF
Minister	Rev. Rebecca (Becky) Johnston	n/a
Moderator	John Gibbon	n/a
Vice Moderator		Mission & Social Action
Past Moderator	Nikki Burd	Stewardship & Budget
Recording Secretary	Carolyn Schoneck	n/a
Treasurer	Mary Ellen Close	Finance
Member at Large	Tasha Escobar	Membership & Involvement
Member at Large	Deanna Snyder	Spiritual Enrichment
Member at Large	Karen Iselin	Christian Education & Fellowship



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Bells 6:00 pm	2 Choir 6:30 pm	3	4	5 Fall Fundraiser	6
7 Choir 10:00 Worship 11:00 Impact	8 Bells 6:00 pm	9 Prayer Mtg 10:30 am Choir 6:30 pm	10 6:30 pm OC Mtg	11	12	13 Shoeboxes Assembly 9:00 am
14 Bells 10:00 Worship 11:00 Impact	15 Bells 6:00 pm	16 8:00-12:00 Sanctuary Reserved Choir 6:30 pm	17 Love Meal	18 Epistle Deadline	19	20
21 Choir Heritage Sunday Hymns 10:00 Worship 11:00 Impact	22 Bells 6:00 pm	23 Choir 6:30 pm	24	25  Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27
28  Choir 1st Sunday of Advent 10:00 Worship 11:00 Impact	29 Bells 6:00 pm	30 Choir 6:30 pm				

From the Moderator:

As we begin to select our Search Committee, I want to be sure you understand how we will do this. It is a nomination process in which any member can nominate another member of the congregation that they believe has the talents to serve with that group.

We need five to seven spiritually mature individuals who represent a cross-section of the congregation. Each of these persons needs to be willing to commit the time and energy needed to find our next pastor.

Some of the personal qualities to consider in considering individuals are:

- a passionate commitment to Christ's church,
- a positive attitude (not bringing any grudges with them),
- an open approach to the task rather than a pre-determined agenda,
- a sense of integrity and respect for others,
- the ability to listen, participate in a group, and reach a consensus,
- an active supporter of the church in worship, financial support, and participation.

They also need to be willing to commit to understanding this process as an act of faith and service to God, to maintaining confidentiality throughout the process, to being open to what various candidates may have to offer Plymouth Church, and to coming to a consensus about the chosen candidate. Additional details about these five commitment areas are posted on the bulletin board. Finally, each will need to be willing to serve on the PPRC for the new pastor

The nominations need to be submitted in writing. They should include three things:

- a. the name of the person nominated;
- b. a brief description of why they would be a good choice to serve on the committee;
- c. the name of the person submitting the nomination.

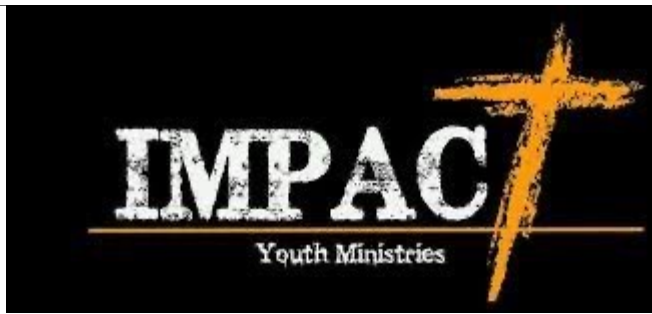
There are also a few restrictions based on the experience and best practices observed throughout the United Church of Christ. The following will not be considered:

- a. Self-nominations;
- b. Anonymous nominations;
- c. Members of the Council and the PPRC, or church staff.

Finally, not all nominations may be selected. The Operating Council will prayerfully and seriously look through all the recommendations and select what we believe to be the best candidates to form the Search Committee.

Please give your nominations to any of the Operating Council members (listed on page 2 in this month's Epistle), to Rev. Becky, or our secretary, Kathy. Feel free to contact me if you have questions about any of this.

John Gibbon,
Moderator



It's so nice to see that our IMPACT YOUTH MINISTRY kids are enjoying this year so far! It's wonderful to see almost all the kiddos every Sunday!

It feels like fall has just begun but it's that time of year when we start planning for Christmas! The kids have been working on the letters that go in the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. The kids are invited to help with assembling the shoeboxes Saturday November 13th at 9 am.

We are having our IMPACT children & families help out with our Christmas Advent Wreath Candle Lighting starting November 28th & every the Sunday until Christmas.

We are also planning and preparing for our Christmas Pageant which is on Sunday December 12th. We are really looking forward to having all the kids participate in it this year since last year we weren't able to!

I really want to again thank our leaders, assists/helpers, parents & kiddos for making IMPACT happen! A very special thank you to all who helped get our youth areas spruced up and making it all look wonderful!

Thanks everyone for making an "impact" on this program!

Spread the word.... We invite any children ages K-8 to please come join us! If you know of any families that might be interested, please have them contact Tracy! We truly appreciate it!

We meet Sundays 11:00-11:45 after church.

We are still looking for Assistants/Helpers & Sub. Leaders for the 2nd Semester when we return back after Christmas on January 9th! We really need all your help!

We are also looking for people to donate SNACKS/TREATS/JUICE for Sunday IMPACT. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the parlor. Please help us out in any way you can. Thank you

Any questions please contact Tracy.

(262)206-5572

plymouthuccimpact@gmail.com

Looking forward to our upcoming IMPACT meetings!

Blessings,

Tracy Freitag

Plymouth Children's Ministry Director



MISSIONS:

LOVE MEALS:

Many thanks to the following generous people who contributed to the Love Meal on October 20: Deanna, Jackie, Ev, Lori, Karen, Tracy, Marcia and Betty. We assembled our famous chicken and rice dish, broccoli salad, Fall apples, and homemade cookies. After the food is brought to church it needs to be assembled. Thanks to those that helped and also handed out the meal. We really need YOU to donate and help with this project. Our next meals are scheduled for Wednesday, November 17 and Wednesday, December 15. Please call Julie if you can, 262-492-4713.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX ASSEMBLY

The annual Operation Christmas shoebox assembly will take place on Saturday morning, November 13 at 9 am. Please feel free to join us in packing the shoeboxes for the kids. It's a fun experience, hope to see you there.



REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR



Be on the lookout in December for a new updated version of the Reverse Advent calendar. The Missions Team will be asking for cleaning & other supplies needed in support of the Transitional Living Center (TLC) this holiday season. Our new mission will be in lieu of donating food items to LOVE Inc. replacing our previous calendar. The supply list will be posted in the December Epistle and Sunday bulletins.

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.

Worship Opportunities for November

November 7 – 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17

Note: The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be served

November 14 – 25th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: I Samuel 1:4-20

November 21 – **Heritage Sunday** - 26th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: John 18:33-37

HERITAGE SUNDAY

Heritage Sunday celebration was first suggested by our Pastor in 2009. Since then, it has been a cherished day to celebrate our church heritage and honor the legacies of those in spirit who have come and gone but also to recognize those who are still with us in spirit, body, and mind.

November 28 - **First Sunday of Advent**

Scripture: Luke 21: 25-36

2 - Isaiah Brenner
3 - Jennifer Sulik
4 - Gidget Brown
8 - Larry Gyger
11 - Kyle Kowalczyk
13 - Bob Kohout
Al Hahn
14 - Jon Anderson
15 - Paige Wightman
16 - Jan Kitzrow
Joel Befort
Ethan Van Swol
Kyle Hoffman
17 - Steph Eveland
18 - Rollie Witte



19 - Penny Yanke
Nicolas Escobar
20 - Greg Hoffman
Amanda Konkel
23 - Craig Wightman
25 - Dave Snyder
Allen Jones
26 - Ron Nebinger
Dylan Morrow
27 - Alice Peterson
28 - Justin Mushel
Emanuel Boman
30 - Nick Bellante



Justin & Lisa Mushel – November 8
Tim & Kay Burd – November 9
Bob & Janet Wren – November 18



Name	Year Joined
*Marjorie Jay	1950
*Ann Edwards	1951
*Marjorie Hoffman	1953
*Betty Mathews	1954
*Dick Peterson	1955
*Pam Wanasek	1956
*Paul Gander	1961
*Marilyn Gander	1961
*Julie Klaehn	1962
*Judy Yonk	1964
*Carmen McKinney	1965
*Scott Wilson	1965
*Greg Hoffman	1966
*Bob Kohout	1966
*Scott Hoffman	1967
*Susan Nelson	1967
*Chuck Alby	1969
*Sue Alby	1969
*Bill Schellpfeffer	1969
*Donna Schellpfeffer	1969
*Bill Meinel	1970
*Toni Meinel	1970
*Dick Pieters	1971
*Kathy Pieters	1971
*Pat Sandstrom	1971
*Carolyn Schoneck	1971
*Dick Shecterle	1971
*Joan Shecterle	1971

Name	Year Joined
Janet Hamric	1973
Bernice Zygowicz	1975
Gidget Brown	1976
Dave Brown	1977
Pat Brown	1977
Don Howell	1977
LaVonne Howell	1977
Alice Peterson	1978
Pam Peterson	1978
Debra Pieters	1978
Correne Wilson	1978
Tim Burd	1979
Barbara Church	1979
Diane Hanson	1979
Karen Iselin	1979
Stephanie Eveland	1980
Joe Iselin	1980
Marlene Peacock	1980
Betty Peterson	1980
Evelyn Price	1980
Marilee Hoffman	1981
Bob Kastengren	1981
Jackie Kastengren	1981
Jayne Bella	1982
Steve Bella	1982
Susan Dunn	1982
Deb Lindell	1982
Bernard Yanke	1982

**Indicates a Member for 50 or More Years*



Name	Year Joined
John Wanasek	1983
Deanna Snyder	1984
Jane Olisar	1984
John Olisar	1984
Peggy Behnke	1985
Lori Benstead	1985
Rod Benstead	1985
Stacie Coleman	1985
Pam Moersfelder	1985
Ron Moersfelder	1985
Paul Edwards	1986
Jill Albrecht	1987
Chrystal Hameau	1987
Keith Krumholz	1987
Sue Krumholz	1987
Kay Pockat	1987
Jill Rehberg	1987
Nan Wilson	1987
Krista Klaehn	1988
Tracy Freitag	1991
Sarah Peterson	1991
Shannon Souther	1991
Don Striegel	1991
Sandy Striegel	1991
Debbie Witte	1991
Rollie Witte	1991
Barbara Freeman	1992
Dave Kerkhoff	1992

Name	Year Joined
Kim Kerkhoff	1992
Pat Van Swol	1993
Scott Behnke	1993
Dan Iselin	1993
Ken Nelson	1994
Kathy Patla	1994
Clayton Kruse	1995
Kathy Kruse	1995
Laura Lewandowski	1995
Lisa Mushel	1995
Beth Picazo	1995
Steve Picazo	1995
Chad Van Swol	1995
Nanct Vonderohe	1995
Ellen Gyger	1996
Larry Gyger	1996
Fenton Harder	1996
Kyle Harder	1996
Marge Harder	1996
Chris Springer	1996
Julie Springer	1996
Mike Springer	1996

**Indicates a Member for 50 or More Years*

NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS



SUNDAY	Nov 7	Nov 14	Nov 21	Nov 28
COMMUNION SERVERS				
USHERS	Pat Sandstrom Barb Freeman	Don Howell Ellen Gyger	Tim and Kay Burd	Nikki Burd Andrew Picazo
LITURGIST	Jim Burd	Jamie Kennow	Lori Benstead	John Gibbon
AV OPERATOR	Aaron Jenson	Aaron Jenson	Aaron Jenson	Aaron Jenson
FELLOWSHIP SERVERS	None >	At >	This >	Time
ACOLYTE	None >	At >	This >	Time

Deadline for the December issue of *The Plymouth Epistle* is :

Thursday, November 18th

PLYMOUTH UCC ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Rev. Rebecca Johnston, Interim Minister
 Financial Secretary, Stephanie Eveland
 Office Secretary, Kathleen O'Brien

~~~~~  
 Children's Ministry, Tracy Freitag  
 plymouthuccimpact@gmail.com  
 Custodian, Jeffrey Hughes

Choir Director, Jamie Kennow  
 Organist & Bell Choir Director, Diane Olson  
 Wedding Coordinator, Marty Baker

**PLYMOUTH CHILDREN'S CENTER  
 ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Sara Trewyn, Program Director  
 Phyllis Hancock, Assistant Director



**REV. REBECCA JOHNSTON,  
 INTERIM MINISTER**

**OFFICE HOURS**

By appointment only; please call or  
 email Pastor for availability.

**PLYMOUTH UCC OFFICE HOURS**

Steph: Mon & Wed 8:30am-2:00pm  
 Kathy: Tues & Thurs 8:00am-2:00pm  
 Fridays: \*8:00am-12:00pm

\*Labor Day-Memorial Day only.

Church Office: 262-763-6890

Web Site: [www.plymouthucc.church](http://www.plymouthucc.church)

Minister: [plymouthuccpastor@gmail.com](mailto:plymouthuccpastor@gmail.com)

Financial Secretary: [plymouthuccfinance@gmail.com](mailto:plymouthuccfinance@gmail.com)

Office Secretary: [plymouthuccoffice@gmail.com](mailto:plymouthuccoffice@gmail.com)

Contact Information Form

It is time update our records again for the 2022 directory. Please complete for each member of your household who would like to be included in the church directory. If there are certain months of the year pertaining to a specific address, please indicate so. Please circle any information you do not wish to have published in the Directory but will allow church staff to have for communication purposes. Otherwise, leave blank.

| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | PHONE    | AREA CODE | ### - ### | ADDRESS          |
|-----------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|
|           |            | CELL     |           |           | STREET           |
|           |            | LANDLINE |           |           | CITY, STATE, ZIP |
|           |            | CELL     |           |           | STREET           |
|           |            | LANDLINE |           |           | CITY, STATE, ZIP |
|           |            | CELL     |           |           | STREET           |
|           |            | LANDLINE |           |           | CITY, STATE, ZIP |
|           |            | CELL     |           |           | STREET           |
|           |            | LANDLINE |           |           | CITY, STATE, ZIP |

| LAST NAME | FIRST NAME | EMAIL ADDRESS | BIRTH DATE | ANNIVERSARY |
|-----------|------------|---------------|------------|-------------|
|           |            |               | mm/dd/yyyy | mm/dd/yyyy  |
|           |            |               |            |             |
|           |            |               |            |             |
|           |            |               |            |             |

When completed, please return this form to the church office via e-mail: [PlymouthUCCoffice@gmail.com](mailto:PlymouthUCCoffice@gmail.com) or by mailing to Plymouth Church, 124 W. Washington St., Burlington, WI 53105



**PLYMOUTH  
CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH  
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124 W.  
WASHINGTON  
STREET  
BURLINGTON, WI  
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262-763-6890**

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EPISTLE**

*Enjoy our newsletter filled with church events. If you no longer wish to be on our mailing list, please notify us by mail -*

*124 W Washington St, Burlington, WI 53105*

*telephone -  
262-763-6890*

*or email -  
plymouthuccoffice@gmail.com*

