

PLYMOUTH  
CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
BURLINGTON, WI

VOL XVII, ISSUE II  
FEBRUARY 2022



**Special points of  
interest:**

**Time, Talent,  
and Treasure**



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# The Plymouth Epistle

Monthly Newsletter

## PASTOR'S WORDS:

Dear Members and Friends of Plymouth UCC,  
Last month I wrote about the difference between being anxious about getting a new pastor and being concerned for keeping your pastor. One of the biggest ways to attract and keep a pastor is to make sure your church is financially stable. In too many churches this falls on the shoulders of a few and when those few are no longer with us the church is left in a panic. There are some myths about churches and financial health that I would like to address.

**We're asked to give of time, talent or treasure. I give a lot of my time to the church so I don't have to give money.** We are actually asked to give of time, talent AND treasure to the church. We can't pay the bills with donated time. I put together a chart below (see next page) that shows the number of people who give within certain ranges. If everyone is doing their part to support the budget then the prospect of losing one of our top givers doesn't become a crisis. Right now we are financially stable, but we also had an exceptional auction this year. Hoping that becomes the norm isn't responsible. We need to actively work to ensure our church's financial viability.

**Everyone who's giving 0 are young and can't afford to give.** Not true. Certainly a number of them are our youth and young adults, but I have served churches where the youth were in many ways more generous than their parents. I always talk about percentage giving. I suggest you start small. Give 1 or 2% to the church and then as you become more comfortable increase that amount. The Bible talks of tithing as 10%. I think it should be a family's goal to give 10% to charity, it doesn't need to be just the church, but a variety of charities. Talk about this with your family and decide which charities are important to you, including the church.

**If you talk too much about money people will get mad and leave.** Churches that don't talk about money experience financial difficulty on a regular basis. When there's a significant deficit the first thing I hear is, "We didn't know, Nobody told us." Don't wait for there to be a problem to step up. Step up now so there isn't a problem in the future.

**It's that way everywhere else too.** You're in the beginning stages of a search. Do you want to be like everyone else? (And it's not true that EVERYWHERE is experiencing the same problems.) If we know of other churches that are struggling why would we want to be like them? Why not be the exception to the rule by being exceptional?

I encourage you all to pray about your level of commitment to this church. These past couple of years have been difficult, but Plymouth has weathered the storm quite well and can continue to weather the storm by everyone pitching in and doing their part. Our God is a generous God, let's all respond with exuberant generosity.

Blessings,  
Rev. Becky

Give  
Unto  
the  
Lord

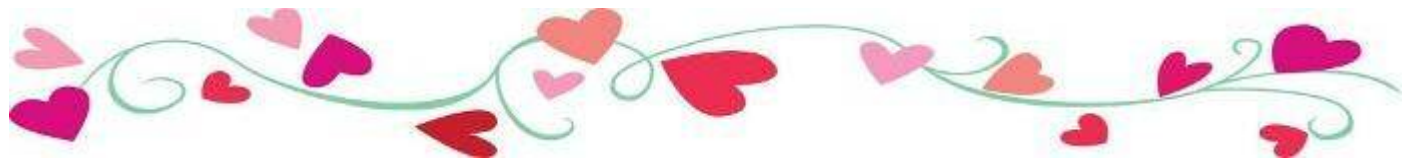


Giving Range	No. Giving	Amount Given	Budget
\$0.00	128	\$0.00	
1-100	12	\$505.00	
101-500	11	\$3,411.00	
501-1000	10	\$7,819.00	
1001-3000	26	\$48,079.77	
3001-5000	13	\$47,015.00	
5002-10000	13	\$85,783.48	
10001+	2	\$22,300.69	
	87	\$214,913.94	\$223,502.00



As soon as the word spread, the people of Israel gave in abundance the first fruits of grain, wine, oil, honey, and of all the produce of the field; and they brought in abundantly the tithe of everything.

2 Chronicles 31:5 (NRSV)



## Worship Opportunities for February

### **February 6 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany**

**Scripture:** Isaiah 6:1-8

**Note:** The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be shared.

### **February 13 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany**

**Scripture:** Luke 6:17-26

### **February 20 - 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany**

**Scripture:** Luke 6:27-38

### **February 28 – Transfiguration**

**Scripture:** Luke 9:28-36

### **March 2 - Ash Wednesday**

### **March 6 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent**

**Scripture:**

**Note:** The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be shared.



Any cancellations due to dangerous weather conditions will be on our website, Facebook page, or WISN News Channel 12.





**MISSIONS**

**Tornado Relief Fund Thank You**

The Missions Team would like to thank all who generously donated to the Tornado Relief Fund. Our congregation donated \$2000! Continued prayers appreciated for all of those who were impacted by this devastation.



**TLC Donation Thank You**

Plymouth church members, your generous nature has shown through once again this holiday season. Thanks to all of you, much needed supplies were donated to TLC (Transitional Living Center) through the reverse advent basket collection. TLC is very appreciative of all the donations they receive to help members of our community in need. The giving spirit certainly thrives in our church. The Missions Team thanks you, too, for your participation in this mission. A special thank you to Don Howell for delivering our donations.

**Search Committee News**

Watch your U.S.P.S. mail for an upcoming survey to complete. The search committee relies on everyone's input to move forward with finding the best-fit pastor. Keep this endeavor in your prayers.



Lent begins on Wednesday, March 2. I have a new devotional for lent "Full to the Brim" which uses art, scripture and prayerful practice to guide you through the season. If you would like a copy, please let me know and we will have them available in the church office. I will only print them if you ask ahead of time in order to not waste paper and ink.

~ Rev. Becky

- 2 - Sue Nelson  
Matt Pieters
- 4 - Kiffie Scott
- 5 - Brett Moen
- 6 - Dave Willick  
Bill Wald
- 7 - Mary  
Skwierawski  
Olivia Marty
- 9 - Kelly Diem
- 10 - Royce Kennedy  
Stacy Striegel
- 11 - Meghan Peterson  
Ellen Graham  
Jordan Cowan



- 13 - Eric Lunderskov  
Henry Zusan
- 14 - Emma Iselin  
Elias Tremmel
- 16 - Brad Brenner
- 19 - Caden VanSwol  
Olivia Greeter
- 20—Logan Hill
- 23 - Mollie Wang
- 24 - Donna Schellpfeffer  
Tim Iselin
- 25 - Diane Hanson  
Rob Oxley-Hase
- 27 - Sue Alby
- 28 - Chad Peterson  
Aimee Bigelow  
Jonathon Striegel



Ron & Pam Moersfelder  
February 2

Glenn & Nicki Stoll  
February 13

Terry & Katie Simenson  
February 26



Christmas season ended, but the spirit of giving continues. Please remember that Love Inc. accepts donations to assist our community members year-round. Consider donating on a regular basis.

- Boxed Variety Oatmeal
- Canned Carrots
- Canned Corned Beef Hash
- Bags of White Rice
- Jelly
- Shampoo
- Body Wash
- Deodorant

- Boxed Variety Cereal
- Canned Soups
- Canned Beef Stew
- Bags of Brown Rice
- Canned Fruits with low sugar
- Conditioner
- Kids Bubble Bath

Love, Inc. also accepts clean clothing and functional household items during their drop-off hours:  
 Tuesday-Friday 12:00PM-3:00PM    Saturday 9:00AM-2:00PM    Sunday Closed

Drop-off location is 401 Milwaukee Ave, Burlington, WI 53105

Items NOT accepted:

Car seats, encyclopedias, pianos & organs, televisions, entertainment centers, mattresses & box springs, paint, oils, hazardous materials, tires

## Children's Ministry

We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We would like to thank everyone again for helping out with the children's Christmas Pageant & Advent Wreath lighting! We especially would like to thank all our kiddos; they all did an AMAZING job!

We are looking forward to our IMPACT Youth Ministry in 2022! We are hoping to have the kids have more opportunities this year to get involved with helping the community. We also are hoping this year we can have our Spring Bake Sale!

We continue to invite any children K-8th grades to join us for our IMPACT Youth Ministry.

We meet on Sundays after church from 11:00-12:00. (Note time change)

Thank you to all who donated snacks for our youth.

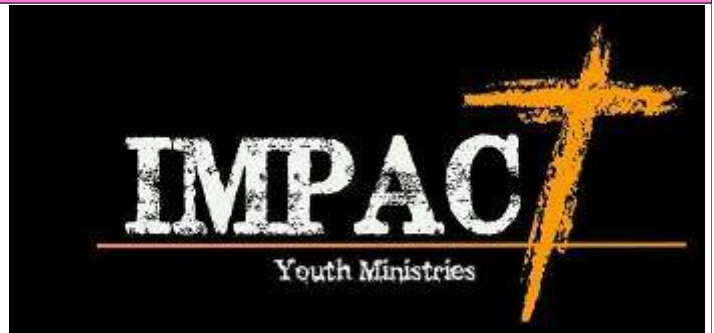
Still looking for anyone to donate JUICE or WATERS for our IMPACT classes.

Tracy is still looking for Volunteers to help sub for lead/teacher for 3rd-5th grade. Please contact Tracy if you can help out in any way.

Thank you so much!

Blessings,

Tracy Freitag





# VOLUNTEERS

Ministry	Feb 6	Feb 13	Feb 20	Feb 27
<b>Acolyte</b>				
<b>AV</b>	Aaron Jenson	Aaron Jenson	Aaron Jenson	Aaron Jenson
<b>Liturgist</b>	Steve Picazo	Jim Burd	Carolyn Schoneck	Jamie Kennow
<b>Ushers</b>	Joe & Karen Iselin	Tim & Kay Burd	Don Howell & Barb Freeman	Glenn & Nicki Stoll

**Deadline for the March issue of *The Plymouth Epistle* is  
Thursday, 17 February.  
Thanks, Kathy**

**PLYMOUTH UCC ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

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

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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)



# CALENDAR

| Sun                                     | Mon                                                        | Tue                                    | Wed                        | Thu                                                   | Fri              | Sat                           |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                         |                                                            | 1<br>6:30pm Choir                      | 2                          | 3                                                     | 4                | 5                             |
|                                         |                                                            | 6<br>10:00am Worship<br>11:00am Impact | 7<br>6:00 pm<br>Bell Choir | 8<br>10:30 Prayer<br>Grp<br>6:30pm Choir<br>postponed | 9<br>6:30 OC Mtg | 10<br>6:30 pm<br>Missions Mtg |
| 13<br>10:00am Worship<br>11:00am Impact | 14<br><br>6:00 pm<br>Bell Choir                            | 15<br>6:30pm Choir                     | 16                         | 17<br>Epistle<br>Deadline                             | 18               | 19                            |
| 20<br>10:00am Worship<br>11:00am Impact | 21<br>6:00 pm<br>Bell Choir                                | 22<br>6:30pm Choir                     | 23                         | 24                                                    | 25               | 26                            |
| 27<br>10:00am Worship<br>11:00am Impact | 28<br>1:30 pm Call to<br>Care Mtg<br>6:00 pm<br>Bell Choir | 1<br><b>MARCH</b>                      | 2<br>Ash<br>Wednesday      |                                                       |                  |                               |



PLYMOUTH  
CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
124 W. WASHINGTON  
STREET  
BURLINGTON, WI  
53105-1423  
262-763-6890

ADDRESS SERVICE  
REQUESTED  
DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY  
FEBRUARY 2022  
EPISTLE

*If you no longer wish to be  
on our mailing list, please  
notify us by mail,  
telephone,  
(262-763-6890)  
or  
email  
[plymouthuccoffice  
@gmail.com](mailto:plymouthuccoffice@gmail.com)*

The word "LOVE" is written in a large, bold, stylized font. The letters are filled with a gradient of pink and magenta colors, with a thick black outline.

By this everyone will know that you are my  
disciples, if you have **love** for **one another**.  
John 13:35 NRSV