



THE PLYMOUTH PLACARD

June 2018

WORSHIP FOR June

Summer worship times are here! ...and the heat of summer is on its way. Every summer, your clergy and music staff plan interesting and unusual times for our Sunday worship. Check it out and join us at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. every Sunday (unless otherwise noted). This month, we'll have a single, all-congregation service at Rolland Moore Park on June 10 at 10:00 a.m. See you on Sunday!

Summertime communion:

first Sunday at 10:00
every Sunday at 6:00

June 3 - 10:00 and 6:00

Mark 2.23-3.6
100% Gospel Music at 6:00 p.m.

Special Forum June 3: Habitat for Humanity 11:00 in the Forum Room

Learn about Plymouth's involvement in Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity this summer! We have two dates for "Plymouth Builds" coming up: Saturdays, July 7 and August 4.

June 10 - 10:00 only

All-Church Worship at Rolland Moore Park

Psalm 130.1-6 & 13-18

Join us for a lay-led service with bluegrass from the Stober-Slocumb band! We'll follow worship with hot dogs and veggie dogs grilled by your clergy, and you are welcome to bring potluck foods to share.

June 17 - 10:00 and 6:00

Ezekiel 17.22-24
Electric Hymnody at 6:00 p.m.

June 24 - 10:00 and 6:00

Mark 4.35-41
Contemplative Piano at 6:00 p.m.



Coming Worship Events: The Instant Sermon returns! (Provide your searching theological questions on July 15 and your pastors will offer their best responses on the spot on **July 22.**)

And in **September:** A sermon series on *Reclaiming and Reframing Christian Language*

Plymouth Congregational UCC

916 West Prospect Rd Fort Collins, CO 80526

www.plymouthucc.org

gathered in 1903

970-482-9212

Hal Chorpenning, senior minister, hal@plymouthucc.org

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Jane Anne Ferguson, associate minister (Sun., Tues., Thurs.), janneanne@plymouthucc.org

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Barb Gregory, office manager, barbara@plymouthucc.org

Jenn and Johnny Wieda, sextons, sexton@plymouthucc.org

Our full-time ministers and program staff work Sunday-Thursday

PASTORAL CONTACTS

Our ministers' normal work days are Sunday-Thursday, but if you have a pastoral emergency (in the hospital, urgent need for a pastoral support conversation, etc.), please do call us on our mobile phones...that's what we're here for! Unlike all other professions, we still make house calls by appointment!

Hal Chorpenning, 970-481-2928 for emergencies

Jake Joseph, 970-412-6114 for emergencies

Jane Anne Ferguson, 303-257-4933 for emergencies

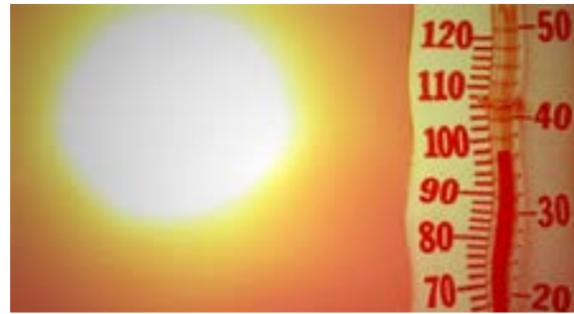


FROM HAL'S DESK: TOP 10 REASONS TO ATTEND WORSHIP THIS SUMMER

I know that a minister shouldn't have to make a special invitation to worship...but I'm inviting you anyway! We love to have you in services and bring our church family together to worship.

No. 10: Air Conditioning

You may not have it at home, but our sanctuary is climate controlled (but never frigid).



No. 9: Lay-Led Outdoor worship

On June 10, we'll meet for an all-church service at Rolland Moore Park at 10:00 (no 6:00 service). The Stober-Slocumbs will again provide Bluegrass music for our worship, members of the congregation will offer reflections, and the clergy will grill hot dogs and veggie dogs afterward.

No. 8: We don't have to rush the first service to be done by 9:50.

It may not feel rushed to you, but you aren't watching the clock in the pulpit and worrying about folks getting to education classes!

No. 7: The Instant Sermon

Your pastors will be answering the deep theological questions you provide the previous week. (The deacons collect and track them...we don't peek...promise!)

No. 6: Don't come for yourself...come for God and your faith family.

Our culture is apt to ask, "What's in it for me? What will I gain?" That may be part of the reason that you come for church, but your presence enhances the experience for someone else. "Ask not

what God can do for you, but what you can do for God." - JFK??

No. 5: There may be a new friend waiting to meet you.

By mixing with the folks who attend our three services, you might just meet someone ready to become a friend. If you're a morning service person, give the 6:00 service a try! (They receive communion every week...even in summer!)

No. 4: God isn't on vacation.

You can call on God anytime, anywhere. But there is something powerful and constructive about being part of a worshipping community. God will be here every Sunday...guaranteed!

No. 3: It's the first element of our mission statement, and it's important!

"Our mission is to worship God and help make God's realm visible..." Getting in the habit of attending worship means you don't even have to think about it on Sunday. Just come!

No. 2: You're going to learn something.

My two pastoral colleagues and I like to keep you on your toes, and we're more than likely to say something each week that would get us thrown out of a dozen other churches.

No. 1: God is still speaking...maybe even at 10:00 or 6:00!

"For the word of God in scripture..." You probably aren't going to be doing a ton of biblical exegesis this summer, so let your clergy friends lead the way.

See you on Sunday!

Calendar Highlights

Go to PLYMOUTHUCC.ORG and click on NEWS to see our full calendar

June 6 - Ethiopian Dinner
Reservations: emdornfest@gmail.com

June 9 - High Tea for Habitat
Reservations: mayziepics@gmail.com

June 7-9 - Rocky Mtn. Conference, UCC
Annual Meeting @La Foret

June 10 - All-church outdoor worship at Rolland Moore Park at 10:00 a.m. (no 6:00 service)

June 14 - Hope for Hops
Theological discussion and Fellowship
6:00 p.m. Odell's Brewing

June 15 - Placard submissions due to communications@plymouthucc.org

June 15-17 - Middle School Mission Trip



BOARD AND COMMITTEE NEWS

Deacon's Bench: Have you ever wondered about the symbolism of the altar candles? As a deacon, I began to wonder as I would light and extinguish the candles and walk out at the end of service with a lighted candle lighter. On doing research, I found that the tradition of altar candles dates to about the fourth century. Prior to that, lamps were used at night and in dark catacombs for light. Gradually, with the influx of converts to Christianity, their habits and rituals were incorporated into worship. Today, many authors attribute various meanings to candles. For example, lighted candles represent Jesus as the light of the world, symbolize light in the darkness, or denote holy illumination of the spirit. For me, the candle reminds me of the presence of God in my life. The carrying of the light from the altar at the end of service reminds me to go out into the world and serve. - Fran Milde

On May 5, the **Stewardship Board sponsored a morning of Centering Prayer** with Dr. Christine O'Brien. It was very well attended by many of our Plymouth members, as well as members from other area churches. **Our theme for this year is *Gratitude: A Way of Life***. Watch for us at Worship in the Park on June 10, where we will be sponsoring the games. - Jackie Schneider

Homeless Gear writes: "We feel extremely fortunate to count Plymouth among our stakeholders and we would like to express our gratitude for your continued support by recognizing it publicly." Thus they have added Plymouth as a **Silver Level Event Sponsor** "to express how much we value our partnership and appreciate what Plymouth Congregational has already done for us and the community at large." Look for our logo on the websites of the Murphy Center and Homeless Gear, in the 2019 calendar, as well as other events and places!

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL UPDATE

Leadership Council continues to look at longer range needs and keeping our strategic plan in mind. We also had some discussion about how many volunteers it takes to accomplish the mission of our church.

We have been working on filling spots on the Deacons Board, Progressive Evangelism and Personnel Committees, and a new Database Task Force. We have so many talented people at Plymouth, and we hope those of you we will be calling on will find a way to say, "Yes, I'll serve."

And you don't have to wait to be asked! If there is something you feel

called to, reach out to one of our staff, the Nominating Committee, or feel free to call your Moderator, Dianne Stober or another member of Council! - Dianne Stober

Income:

Income for April '18: \$65,018.16
Budgeted Income for April '18: \$69,184.50
Income YTD: \$340,644.88
Budgeted Income YTD: \$276,738.00

Expenses:

Expenses for April '18: \$60,994.53
Budgeted Expenses for April '18: \$70,798.11
Expenses YTD: \$250,732.52
Budgeted Expenses YTD: \$288,227.13

YOUTH CHRISTIAN FORMATION



Summer is here and with it comes a break from Sunday School and new opportunities for spiritual growth. **If you are entering 2nd-12th grade, there is a camping ministry option for you!** Each camp is run by well-trained Rocky Mountain Conference volunteers, who love sharing their excitement for God with children and youth. Go to rmcucc.org and click on the Camps/Events tab for more information. We have scholarships available.

The Western Regional Youth Event (WRYE) is at the end of this month. **Be sure to keep the 50+ young people** from across the Rocky Mountain Conference **in your prayers** as they travel to Hawaii to explore their faith through mission, worship, and community.

Do you enjoy baseball, Star Wars, or supporting youth missions? If you answered yes to any of these things, buy your ticket for the **July 28th Star Wars-themed Rockies game**. Tickets are \$35 each and are on sale until July 2nd (\$10 from each ticket goes to the Youth Mission and Camp Scholarship fund). Contact Sarah Parmenter at sparmenter77@yahoo.com for more information.

MINISTRY TEAMS

Learn how to **cook Ethiopian cuisine** on Tues., **June 5** from 1-3 p.m. or 3-5 p.m. or Wed., **June 6** from 4-6 p.m. in Plymouth's kitchen. RSVP to Linda Mahan (Lmahan@alum.bu.edu) or sign up on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. This is in preparation for the **Ethiopian dinner** to benefit the Lango Kindergarten in Wosha, Ethiopia. Wed., **June 6** at 6 p.m. \$15 (\$6 for 12 and under). Sponsored by Plymouth's **World Missions Ministry Team**. *Reservations and payment can be made on 6/3 at the informational table in the Fellowship Hall, or RSVP emdornfest@gmail.com, 970-817-0426.*

The May **Interfaith Council (IFC)** meeting included a discussion with city employees on present and future energy and utility needs: • Increased wind and solar use at Platte River Power Authority will decrease emissions 20% by 2020. • Watch for TAKE TWO, a city promotion encouraging LED bulb use at home and doing one car-free trip around Fort Collins per week (try MAX!). • Qualified Assistance Program (new) and Payment Assistance Fund for low-income residents. • City employees encouraged IFC members to look into the Climate Action Plan for their worship centers. (Plymouth is way ahead of the curve on this!) Need to get away from screen time? Tune in to **KRFC (88.9 FM), on Tuesdays 6:30-7:00 p.m.** IFC member, Rabbi Hillel Katzir, emcees "Faith in Progress," an explanation of people, organizations, issues, and events in NoCo from a progressive and multi-faith perspective. Next meeting of the IFC is **June 7: Faith and Belief spotlight on Baha'i**. - Hermi LaPoint

Fancy hats are optional but encouraged for a fun-filled afternoon of **High Tea** sponsored by the Habitat Ministry Team on **Saturday, June 9th, 3-5 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall. Please join us for finger sandwiches, tasty pastries, and comforting tea. Bring your friends and prepare to be pampered, with proceeds from this delightful event going to help send church members on mission trips. Tickets: \$20 for adults, \$10 for children 3-12, free for children under 3, will be available Sundays during coffee hour beginning May 13, or you may contact or waylay Lynn Wartgow (563-249-9829, mayziepics@gmail.com), Ruth Lieurance (970-420-4481, rlieuran@gmail.com), or Susan Rayner (201-280-7638, sampietro2rayner@gmail.com).



The **Intergenerational Hikers** will travel along the North Fork of the Big Thompson River on **Saturday, June 9**. A great hike for kids and dogs, we'll hike six miles on the new trail constructed after the 2013 flood. Meet us at Plymouth at 8:30 a.m. or the Kmart in Loveland (Eisenhower & Wilson) at 9:00 a.m. *RSVP by June 7 to medlock.james@gmail.com*. We'll celebrate with treats at the newly reconstructed Glen Haven General Store.

Hops for Hope had a great first meeting in May. It is open to all for community and fellowship. Every second Thursday of the month starting at 6 p.m. at a different brewery, we will meet, have a designated discussion leader, and share in fellowship. There is no pressure to get a beer, as all the breweries also have non-alcoholic options. June Meeting: **Odell's Brewery, June 14th**, leader will be Jake Joseph, *Topic: What is the importance of friendship in the church?* Try to sit with someone you don't know and tell them your Plymouth story.

Rev. Jake Joseph is celebrating his 30th birthday with a fundraiser. On Wednesday, **June 27**, from 6-9 p.m., Comet Chicken in Fort Collins is donating 20% of proceeds from the event to Habitat for Humanity, and the amount will be matched dollar for dollar by Thrivent Financial.



Bubble Up to Gratitude: The All-Church Retreat 2018 The All-Church Retreat is scheduled for **September 14-16 at La Foret** Conference & Retreat Center in the Black Forest, northeast of Colorado Springs. We will enjoy a full weekend conference focusing on gratitude. Our ministers, Mark Lee and Jake Joseph, will lead us in reflections. Activities also include: hiking, singing, praying, worshipping, eating, laughing, playing, sleeping, connecting, resting, and so much more! The **registration fee** includes four meals. *Cabins:* \$150/person age 5 and up, *Yurts:* \$70/person age 5 and up. Children ages 4 and under are free. Scholarships are available (contact Jake Joseph). Register on Sundays in the Fellowship Hall beginning in June! Questions? Contact Katrina Starkweather at katr3na@gmail.com or (541) 678-0613.

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