



THE PLYMOUTH PLACARD

July 2018

WORSHIP FOR JULY

So, you miss communion every Sunday morning? Well, give our 6:00 service a try! You might like the smaller worship setting and you'll still get good theology. 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, the Instant Sermon returns on July 22 with your pastors attempting to answer your theological questions on the spot at both 10:00 and 6:00.

Summertime communion is on the first Sunday at 10:00 and every Sunday at 6:00.

July 1

Mark 4.35-41
American Composers at 6:00 p.m.

July 8

Mark 6.1-13
The Summer Choir sings at 10:00 – try it! Rehearse with us at 9:15!
Musical potpourri at 6:00 p.m.

July 15

Mark 6.14-29
Shulski baptism at 10:00
World folk music at 6:00 p.m.
Drop your theological questions for next week's Instant Sermon in the offering plate.

July 22

Psalm 23
Instant Sermon Sunday!
A Celtic Romp at 6:00 p.m.

July 29

Jazz Services at 10:00 and 6:00
John 6.1-21
Jazz worship at 6:00 p.m.



Summer Choir will be offered on Sunday, **July 8** and Sunday, **August 12** during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday services. All are welcome! Rehearsals will be at **9:15 a.m.** just prior to the services. If you like to sing (or even just wish to try something different), come on in! Hope to see you in the chancel. - Mark Heiskanen, Director of Music

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

FROM HAL'S DESK: MINI-CAMPAIGN ON THE MOVE!

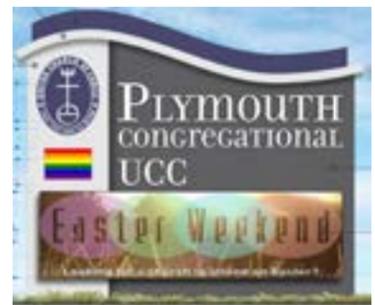
By now, you've heard a lot about the mini-campaign for the new signs that will be installed at Plymouth in August to replace their aging predecessors on Lake Street and Prospect Road. And you may wonder what all the fuss is about. In a presentation to the Leadership Council last year, I showed photos of **a driver's-eye view of Plymouth's current signs – both are practically invisible to motorists** on Lake Street and on Prospect Road...they blend in too well, and the 17-year-old sign on Prospect has been patched and coaxed along by the trustees for years, but its useful life has come to an end. (RIP)

In our current political and cultural context, it is important for us to lift up our voice as a congregation and let the community know who we are and what we stand for. As Vice Moderator David Petersen said, **we have two challenges right now.** One is a collective one for us *as a congregation*: to let people know that our take on the gospel is different from many other churches' – and that we have a mandate to proclaim it. The second challenge is for us *as individuals*: to discern how we can participate, invest, and support our congregation's efforts to spread the word.

The LED displays on the new signs will help us to let folks know that we are a congregation that values the life of the mind and the heart, that is rooted in the best of biblical tradition, and that we welcome people wherever they are on their journey. Our mission statement describes three stages in our congregational journey: **inviting – transforming – sending.** The new signs help us invite people who need a church like Plymouth into our midst.

We received a generous \$25,000 pledge from one of our Plymouth families to encourage us all to participate... that's **half the cost** of the signs themselves, and other pledges are coming in quickly.

How can you participate? If you received a mailing from the church with a sign on the front, it has a pledge card inside...just detach it, fill it in, and drop it in the offering plate on Sunday (or mail it to Barb Gregory at Plymouth...or just email barbara@plymouthucc.org with the amount of your pledge, and she will record it). And if you'd like another look at our mini-campaign video, you can find it online at vimeo.com/274781866



The time line for the mini-campaign is rapid! We will be done by the end of this month, and construction will begin in August so that our signs will be **in place before the first CSU home football game.**

Questions? Our mini-campaign team is Nic Redavid (chair), Irene Wherritt, Claudia Demarco, and me. Feel free to ask any of us questions. **Thank you** for all the ways that you help our congregation fulfill its mission as an outpost of the kingdom of God.

Shalom!

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
- Jake Joseph, associate minister, jake@plymouthucc.org
- Jane Anne Ferguson, associate minister (Sun., Tues., Thurs.), janneanne@plymouthucc.org
- Mark Heiskanen, music director, music@plymouthucc.org
- Mandy Hall, CF director (children & youth), mandy@plymouthucc.org
- Mark Lee, CF director (adults...Sun., Tues., Thurs.), mark@plymouthucc.org
- Anna Broskie, IT/comm. coordinator (mornings), anna@plymouthucc.org
- 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



Calendar Highlights

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

June 25-July 2

Senior high youth at Western Regional Youth Event in Hawaii

July 8-15

Plymouth hosts Faith Family Hospitality families (changed from September)

July 12

Hops for Hope at Funkwerks Brewpub, 1900 E. Lincoln Ave.

July 13

Lake Street Pop-Up Theater at Plymouth: Disney's Coco

July 22

Instant Sermon at 10:00 & 6:00

July 28

Rockies game...Star Wars at Coors Field!



Looking Ahead:

August 18 - Plymouth Yard Sale!

August 26 - Jubilee Sunday (services at 9:00, 11:00, 6:00)

BOARD AND COMMITTEE NEWS

Congregational Life invites you to the first **Lake Street Pop-up Cinema and Tailgate** on **Friday, July 13** in the Plymouth UCC parking lot. Beginning at **6:30 p.m.**, hot dogs, ice cream and lawn games will be provided. Please bring the rest of your family's evening meal. At 7:30 we will have a sing-along and some special surprise entertainment outside, followed at 8 p.m. by the movie *Coco* in the mosquito-free Fellowship Hall. Don't miss this all-ages, fun-filled evening!

The Board of Stewardship presents **"Generosity — The New Tax Law — Wise Financial Practices"** led by Dean A. Rodahl, CPA, on **Sunday, July 29, 11:20 a.m. to 1 p.m.** in the Forum Room (lunch included). Please register on bulletin board. Learn how to be generous within the new tax law. Avoid pitfalls in your finances. Ask questions.



Plymouth's new labyrinth was dedicated on May 20, 2018.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL UPDATE

Leadership Council is currently investing time in a wide variety of issues. These include updating position descriptions for church officers and members of Council, consulting about the signage campaign and the Database Task Force, and brainstorming about ways to conceptualize categories of ministry at Plymouth as they might be used in this year's stewardship campaign.

In addition, the seven committees of Council and the church officers continue to work on an equally varied agenda, e.g., starting work on the 2019 church budget.

Plymouth is blessed to have so many talented and dedicated people

integrally involved in the life of our Church. - David Petersen

Cash Position May 31, 2018

Checking Account: \$102,694.28
 Money Market Account: \$255,324.79
 Total Cash Position: \$360,816.95

Income

Income for May '18: \$54,222.66
 Budgeted Income for May '18: \$69,184.50
 Income YTD: \$394,867.54
 Budgeted Income YTD: \$345,922.50

Expenses

Expenses for May 2018: \$62,711.11
 Budgeted Expenses for May '18: \$70,798.11
 Expenses YTD: \$313,443.63
 Budgeted Expenses YTD: \$359,025.24

YOUTH CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Although July is a seemingly sleepy month in Christian Formation for Children and Youth, our **high school youth return from the Western Regional Youth Event** on July 2nd. They spent a week with 400 youth exploring their faith through worship, mission, workshops, and fellowship. Be sure to ask one of our seven youth who attended what their experience was like.

Meanwhile, this month a group of people are working on recruiting our teaching teams for Sunday School in the fall. As we begin to set the stage for our new program year, I invite you to **prayerfully consider how you might get involved with Christian Formation at Plymouth**. Will you attend a new class, teach, mentor youth, help behind the scenes, pray for our leaders, or ask a child about their faith? There are lots of different ways to get involved; ask a member of the Christian Formation Board how you can dig deeper in your faith through one of our many Formation ministries.

Grace and Peace, Mandy :-)

MINISTRY TEAMS

Aaron and Ashley McGrew will be hosting a summer party for the **YUCCA 20s and 30s fellowship group** at their home (202 E. Elizabeth St., Fort Collins) on **Friday, July 6th at 6:30 p.m.** Bring a side or beverage, or just bring yourself, as we enjoy the warm weather and sunshine! Please RSVP to Ashley at ashinton98@hotmail.com or 303-941-8440.

Join community members for an **interactive e-course "Changing Systems, Changing Ourselves" on Tuesdays (7/10, 7/31, 8/14) from 7-9 p.m.** in the Fireside Room. Discussion takes off from an online course from the American Friends Service Committee. We'll explore how we can best accompany our immigrant brothers and sisters in this community. Attend all or drop in. *Questions: Linda Mahan 484-2259.*

- 7/10 - The accompaniment model, philosophy and best practices
- 7/31 - Learning from experience through case studies
- 8/14 - Detention visitation, court accompaniment & physical sanctuary

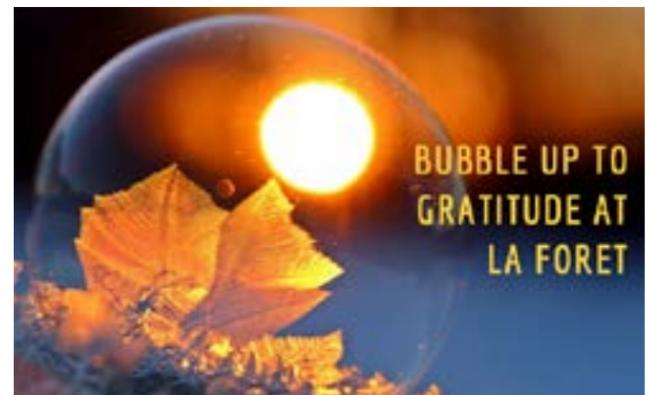
Following the 2018 theme of "We are Better Together," the June **Interfaith Council** gathering was at the LDS (Mormon) Swallow Stake and featured a presentation on the traditions, beliefs, and practices of the Baha'i Faith. Rich Thompson will lead the spirituality book of the month club. This month's book is *Spiritual Ecology: The Cry of the Earth*. The **July 12 meeting** will be the annual business meeting at First United Methodist Church.

Hops for Hope (Theology on Tap) meets next at **Funkwerks Brewpub** (1900 E. Lincoln Ave.) on **July 12th at 6 p.m.** All are welcome! Leader will be Jake Joseph, topic: *Summer Travels: What is the most important trip you have been on in your life?* Bring pictures on your phone or printed to share.

The July gathering of **Get A Grip** (open to all adults) will be at the Zimmerman's mountain house on **Saturday, July 14 at 5 p.m.** It will be a potluck, and you may come early if you want to hike or use the hot tub. The house is at 51 S. Cucharas Mt. Ct. in Glacier View, near Red Feather Lakes. You might consider carpooling. RSVP to Don.Zimmerman@colostate.edu or 221-5474 by July 12. If you need to reach the group on July 13 or 14, the land line at the mountain house is 970-493-2069.

Your prayers have been answered! (Assuming your prayers involved a thought along the lines of: *I need to do something with all of the stuff that has accumulated in my garage and basement. If only there were a garage sale!*) Mark your calendars, as there will be a sale at Plymouth on **Saturday, August 18**. The **Plymouth Yard Sale** is a fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity, plus it will involve our CSU Outreach efforts. Donated items for the sale will be collected at Plymouth during the week prior to the sale. Volunteers will be needed (of course!) during the week prior to the sale (to help collect and organize donated items) and during the sale on the 18th. Expect to hear more in late July or early August.

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! *Questions? Katrina Starkweather* katr3na@gmail.com or (541) 678-0613.



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