



# THE PLYMOUTH PLACARD

August 2018

## WORSHIP FOR AUGUST

Enjoy the last of summertime worship as we prepare for **Jubilee Sunday** on August 26, when our three-service schedule returns. We will also have an Involvement Fair that day, enabling you to explore places where you can fulfill the ministries you are called to participate in.

Summer worship hours through August 19 are 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and beginning August 26, our services are as follows:

- 9:00 Communion Service
- 11:00 Choral Service
- 6:00 Evening Service

**August 5** (10 a.m. and 6 p.m.)  
Exodus 16.2-4, 9-15  
Yearning for the Fleshpots of Egypt

**August 12** (10 a.m. and 6 p.m.)  
Mark 6.30-34, 53-56  
Come Away to a Deserted Place and Rest Awhile  
The Summer Choir sings at 10:00 – try it! Rehearse with us at 9:15!

**August 19** (10 a.m. and 6 p.m.)  
Ephesians 3.14-21  
Far more than all we can ask or imagine

**August 26**  
Jubilee Sunday! Services at 9:00, 11:00, and 6:00  
Ephesians 6.10-20  
Grace  
Involvement Fair following each service



Beginning August 26 and throughout September, your clergy will be offering **a sermon series on some aspects of biblical theology you may struggle with:** Grace, Surrender, Living in Exile, Salvation, and Being the Church.

## FROM HAL'S DESK: RENEWAL IN SACRED WILDERNESS

As I write this column, Jane Anne and I are getting ready to head up to Ring Lake Ranch to spend **a week with Marianne Borg to study the posthumous volume of Marcus's writings**, some published, others not. We are really looking forward to this week of being away in the Wind River Range at an ecumenical study center that has close associations for many of us at Plymouth. Terri Schulz was chair of their board, Lily Schulz was on summer staff, Terri and Keith were married there, Terri and Wayne Shepard have offered week-long seminars, Julie Mavity-Maddalena was on their board, Naomi Hoyer was a youth staff member, our vice-moderator David Petersen has been a presenter, and he and Sara Myers are frequent visitors, and they along with Tom and Paula Dille have even helped with the annual volunteer week at the Ranch. Sharon Benton, Mark Lee, Jane Anne, and I all love the time we spend there.

So, what's the big deal that has attracted all of these folks? The quality of presenters is fantastic, the location is beautiful, but their motto really captures it: **Renewal in Sacred Wilderness. It is a place of great silence and beauty with ancient peaks, lakes, wildlife, and petroglyphs** from the Sheep-eater people who preceded the Shoshone.

**a week there next summer** (or even at one of the August sessions)...children 12 and younger are free! You can find out more at [ringlake.org](http://ringlake.org).

**I am really appreciative that my call agreement with Plymouth includes time away for study and renewal.** In my 16 years of ministry among you, times of sabbatical, retreat, and continuing education have been essential in keeping me fresh. One of my challenges in parish ministry has been to find a balance between the tasks and meeting associated with the demands of my call and taking care of myself and spending time with family and friends. And I'm not always successful. The Leadership Council asked me to track where I was spending my time in May and June, and it came as a revelation to me that I was working 50-60 hours each week and not taking full days off. And I've gotten into a bad pattern of not taking, and then losing, vacation time. I'm going to try to do better at work-life balance! Three-day weekends are not something that happen for clergy, and weddings and funerals often occur on our days off. That is why I am so grateful to Plymouth for having time set apart for study and renewal.

Are there places where you find sacred renewal? George MacLeod, founder of the Iona Community in Scotland, called them **"thin places," where the margin between this world and the sacred is tissue-thin.** Where have you experienced thin places, and how can you call them back into your consciousness to find the quiet center? Thin places don't have to be far away like Iona or even Ring Lake Ranch...yours might be a place you stop on your morning walk, a favorite hike or place you drive, or even the view from your kitchen table. God's presence is available to us everywhere, but thin places make the sacred easier to perceive.

May you find times of sacred renewal and spiritual refreshment!



Photo: Linda Bryant

Every journey I have made to Ring Lake Ranch has resulted in lots of learning and a feeling of well-being and reduced stress. It is one of those places where one can really get away from the hectic pace of life and get in touch with the sacred center. **I encourage you to consider spending**

## Calendar Highlights

Go to [PLYMOUTHUCC.ORG](http://PLYMOUTHUCC.ORG) and click on NEWS to see our full calendar

**August 9 Hops for Hope**  
Zwei Brewing, 4612 South Mason St.

**August 15-17 Yard Sale Item Collection**

**August 18 Yard Sale at Plymouth**  
9:00 – 1:00

**August 25 CSU Home Football Game**  
(Plymouth parking lot leased)

**August 26 Jubilee Sunday**  
Services at 9:00, 11:00, 6:00  
Involvement Fair after each service



**Looking toward September:**  
September 8: CSU Home Football Game  
(Plymouth parking lot leased)

September 9: Youth Car Wash in the morning  
Taste of Plymouth potluck & CSU welcome at 5:00

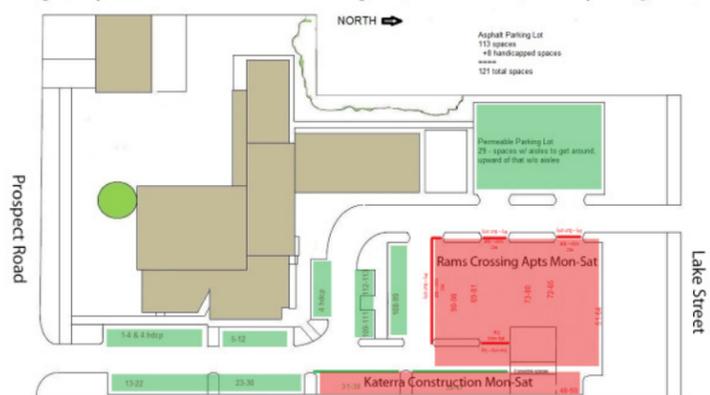
September 14-16: All-Church Retreat

## PARKING REMINDER

**Sunday parking at Plymouth will remain wide open**, but we have leased some spaces Monday-Saturday. We are offering free-of-charge **parking permits** to members and regular attenders who will be parking in the lot on days **other than Sundays**.

If you didn't pick up yours in July, come by after worship **on August 5** when one of the Trustees will be staffing the computer workstation. Thanks for your help!

Parking @ Plymouth Mon.-Sat. **Green is good, red is bad.** (Sundays all good!)



**Plymouth Congregational UCC**

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[www.plymouthucc.org](http://www.plymouthucc.org)

gathered in 1903

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*Our full-time ministers and program staff work Sunday-Thursdays*

# BOARD AND COMMITTEE NEWS

The **Stewardship Board** invites you to stop by our information table on **Jubilee Sunday, 8/26**, where we will be engaging our children in fun activities as they learn to make *Generosity: A Way of Life*. We will also demonstrate additional ways to give financially, including text-to-give, and a **mobile giving app** that will soon be available. Interested but not sure how to get started? Come by the table.

**Deacon's Bench** - This is my first year serving as a Deacon at Plymouth UCC. It has been a time of learning all the little parts that make our services run smoothly and becoming a part of a team. The Board of Deacons provides me opportunities to serve in so many different ways. I enjoy assisting with worship (especially communion), greeting everyone as they arrive for worship, and assisting with our Food Ministry Team so there are meals available for our ministers to take to families in times of emergencies. Working with the other Deacons has brought joy to my life. I truly feel I receive more than I give. - Claudia DeMarco

**Thank you to the 91 Plymouth families who pledged over \$64,000 to the Plymouth Sign Project.** Your generosity helped us achieve **107% of our goal**, and is a beautiful outpouring of support. Construction is on track to have operational signs before the first CSU football game on August 25th. Thank you to the Mini-Campaign Team for all their hard work, time, and energy: Hal Chorpenning, Claudia DeMarco, and Irene Wherit. - In gratitude, Nic Redavid, chair

## LEADERSHIP COUNCIL UPDATE

**Leasing parking spaces has become a significant source of income for Plymouth** -- about \$50,000 annually. Increased demand for parking has also created occasional inconvenience for members and guests during the week, and we are working to minimize that. When we have a special event, our Trustees arrange with our renters to clear the lot. **On Sundays all spaces are fair game!**

**New signage and pavement striping in our lot will help you know where you can park** Mon.-Sat., and those areas are indicated on the map on the other side of this newsletter, bottom right.

For days **other than Sunday**, to help ensure that we know that your car belongs to Plymouth, please pick up a cling-on **window parking permit** free of charge (see article on other side). Thank you!

### Income

June Income for June 2018: \$75,812  
Budgeted Income for June 2018: \$69,184  
Income YTD: \$467,363  
Budgeted Income YTD: \$415,107

### Expenses

Expenses June 2018  
Expenses for June 2018: \$117,929  
Budgeted Expenses for June 2018: \$70,798  
Expenses YTD: \$431,348  
Budgeted Expenses YTD: \$429,823

## YOUTH CHRISTIAN FORMATION

**The Christian Formation Board is looking for individuals who would be interested in leading some new ministry teams.** If any of these roles are of interest to you, please contact Sue Rutherford at [still\\_suave@hotmail.com](mailto:still_suave@hotmail.com).

**Resource Room:** responsible for organizing the Resource Room and keeping it organized throughout the program year. This work can be done at any time during the week. **Children's Worship Center:** update and restock the supplies kept outside the sanctuary in a small bookcase for children to use during our worship services. This work can be done at any time during the week. **Christian Formation Concierges:** available to direct visitors to our different Christian Formation offerings during the program year. **Sunday Morning AV Resource:** available to make sure all AV equipment is working for Christian Formation program needs on Sunday mornings. **We are also looking for our teaching teams for the fall.**

If you are interested in investing in the spiritual growth of our church family, please contact [Mark@plymouthucc.org](mailto:Mark@plymouthucc.org) or [Mandy@plymouthucc.org](mailto:Mandy@plymouthucc.org) to find out how you can get involved! For **Children and Youth ministry partners**, there is a **training and celebration dinner on 8/22 at 6:30 p.m.** If you are on the fence about how God is calling you to serve, this is a great opportunity to learn more. - Grace & Peace, Mandy :-)

# MINISTRY TEAMS

Want to be like Jimmy Carter and build a house for **Habitat for Humanity**? We have a **Plymouth Build Day on 8/4**. Sign up on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall or email [dstubbs243@gmail.com](mailto:dstubbs243@gmail.com) or [brian.betsill@gmail.com](mailto:brian.betsill@gmail.com).

**Hops for Hope** (All are Welcome Theology on Tap) meets next at Zwei Brewing at **6 p.m. on 8/9!** Leader will be Mark Lee. Topic: Since we are meeting at a very German brewery, the focus will be on "Dead German Theologians."

Join community members for the final session of an **interactive e-course "Changing Systems, Changing Ourselves" on Tuesday 8/14 from 7-9 p.m.** in the Fireside Room. Topic is "Detention visitation, court accompaniment & physical sanctuary." *Questions: Linda Mahan 484-2259.*

**The Welcome Back Students Yard Sale** will be in Plymouth's parking lot on **Sat., 8/18 from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** The sale is to raise money for Habitat for Humanity locally. We also hope to connect with CSU students and our campus ministry by providing an affordable way to furnish apartments. **Volunteers are needed** to organize donated items, set up, and clean up. To sign up to volunteer, see the posters on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall (and weekly "Overview" email). **Donation drop-off** will be in the Fellowship Hall on Wed., 8/15 from 7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.; Thurs., 8/16 from Noon - 6:00 p.m.; Fri., 8/17 from 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Zak and Jillian Burkley will be hosting a **YUCCA** (20s and 30s fellowship group) BBQ on **Sunday, 8/19 at 12 p.m.** We'll meet at the Burkleys' apartment clubhouse (2451 S. Timberline Rd, Fort Collins). Bring a side or drink to share, and remember your swimsuit! RSVP to Zak at [zakburkley@gmail.com](mailto:zakburkley@gmail.com).

**Fellowship of the Grape** will be on **8/24 at 6 p.m.** at the home of Bill and Claudia DeMarco, 913 Kimball Road, Ft. Collins, CO 80521. Please bring a favorite wine and an appetizer to share, along with the spirit of fellowship. Those age 21+ are invited.

The 2018-19 **Chancel Choir** season resumes on **Wed., 8/22 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.** New voices are always welcome. Also, consider singing with the **Summer Choir** at the 10 a.m. service on **Sun., 8/12**. Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Questions? Email Dir. of Music Mark H.

**Welcome back CSU and FRCC students!** Ram Fellowship @ Plymouth has activities planned through the fall semester. We kick off on **8/18**, with a garage sale from **8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** to help you get your apartment ready for the semester, and funds raised will be donated to Habitat for Humanity. On **9/9 at 5:00 p.m.**, join us for Taste of Plymouth. Dinner is being provided by Plymouth families! More details below, or email Nic Redavid ([nredavid@gmail.com](mailto:nredavid@gmail.com)).

Please join us for the second annual **Taste of Plymouth college student and community dinner on Sun., 9/9, at 5:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. ALL ARE WELCOME. Plymouth members are asked to bring a dish to share, pot-luck style. Congregational Life will provide dessert. Dinner at 5:00 p.m. will be followed by special music at our evening service at 6:15 p.m. CSU or college apparel is encouraged. Join us for dinner, service, or both!

**Adult Christian Formation 10 a.m. Sunday Forums** return in September! **9/2:** Summer Youth Missions and Camps; **9/9:** Church Council Update on State of the Church, and **9/16, 23 & 30:** Candidate Forums for the fall elections. More info to come in next month's *Placard*.

**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 focusing on gratitude. 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](mailto:katr3na@gmail.com) or (541) 678-0613.*



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THE PLYMOUTH PLACARD

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