

Plymouth Congregational Church
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Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

We leave judging to God.



We welcome guests any & every Sunday of the year! Worship is central to our life together and our worship facilities are accessible. We seek to come together to experience God's Spirit every week as we pray, sing, cry, & laugh.

Come as you are! Following the example of our teacher & guide, Jesus, we welcome you no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey. You are welcome here.

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Amelia's office hours: Monday – Friday; 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Special points of interest:

- **Pastoral Ponderings**
- **Turkey Dinner**
- **Stewardship & New Members Sunday**
- **Mailing List Sign Up**

Inside this issue:

- Pastoral Ponderings 1
- News & Events 2
- Upcoming Worship Services 3
- Calendar 3
- Mission Opportunities 4-7
- Mailing List Card 7



The Chronicle

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Volume 10 Issue 11

November 2010

Pastoral Ponderings

Greetings!

Twenty years ago there was no public storage industry in the US.....none!!! Hard to believe as we look around today. In the heart of cities and in the sprawling countryside row upon row of for-pay public storage.....and it is a thriving business. Today there are millions of all size units with several companies covering the variety of the more than 12 million public storage units in our country alone. And it is still a growing industry!!!! What are we paying someone else to store for us in these millions of units?.....our stuff. Stuff and stuff and yet even more stuff.....it is a billion dollar/year industry.



What is all the stuff we need to pay to store? Well, I can speak for myself as I have pondered this very question. As a traveling interim minister I have lots of books and resource materials to use in ministry settings....and often I find I could use these materials, if only, I had them with me....But as I have moved from church to church and office to office, I have discovered that pastoral offices vary widely especially in relation to the size of available bookshelves and filing cabinets.

Now....one might ask me the important question-"Available for what?" And I would answer-"Available to store my books and resources.....store my pastoral stuff".....Then I might ask myself "What is really necessary in my life right now?....for I seem to be doing alright while many of those "precious boxes" are tucked "safely" away (Are they safe???? for I find myself worrying sometimes because I haven't checked on them lately...????) in my paid for storage unit...far....away.

Since I have been dealing with several water leaks and their damage in my apartment in the last few weeks, it has reminded me once again about stuff and the importance of it in my life....What if it gets damaged in flood or fire?....What would I save if I had only seconds to get out safely? And these questions always remind me of the first scripture I learned in church school so many years ago.

It is from the Gospel of Matthew and is part of the many teachings of Jesus to the disciples then and to us today to prepare us for everyday earthly life. It is from Chapter 6:19-21:

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasure on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where

thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also".

Where is my heart? What do I value most in life? What is ultimately the important stuff of my life? Where do I choose to put my time, talents, money and resources? Do I really want to pay for empty space for "my stuff"?.... or do I want my legacy to be one of supporting new and old relationships and neighbors that God has put in my life right now? The church is one precious constant in my life. How will I choose to support it as we move into the weeks of stewardship?

These next weeks are the end of the church year, a time of thanksgiving and recognizing the abundance and grace we have been given.....maybe for you as me, gratitude raises the questions of "What do I hold precious and why?.... And will I support that precious stuff in ways that praise God?".

Blessings and safe travels to you and your families.
 Shalom, Pastor JoBeth

P.S Guess you all know what I will be doing over Thanksgiving. Hopefully the sorting of my stuff will happen with the help of those I hold precious.....and maybe that stuff will help the next rummage sale have more stuff to sell to help those who God puts in the life of the church.



November Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 6-Casey Lusk | 15-Brady Scufsa |
| 10-Shannon Farha | 16-Al Bauder |
| 10-Denise Scufsa | 17-Ben Sunde |
| 10-Dale Larson | 19-Steve Larson |
| 10-Chad Murray | 24-Alma Levi |
| 10-Alison Zinck | 26-Connie Schmidt |
| 11-Lori Schenck | 27-Kristie Heisler |
| 11-Luke Shropshire | 27-Caleb Mohr |
| 12-Todd Lautt | 29-Tacye Pearson |
| 15-Sharon Fettes | |

Marilyn R. Zimmerman

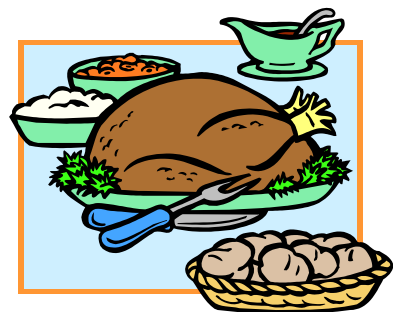
Marilyn R. Zimmerman, 74, Rapid City, died Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at the Rapid City Regional Hospital. She was born May 2, 1936 in Yankton, SD to Harry and Rahlys Nelson. She graduated from Yankton High School in 1954 and was married to Orville Zimmerman on November 25, 1956. They resided in many towns throughout South Dakota, Montana, Wisconsin, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Minnesota where Orville served as a UCC pastor and she often worked as an office manager/bookkeeper. Upon retirement they moved to Rapid City and spent their summers in Red Lodge, Montana.

Marilyn was an avid gardener and devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She cared for all around her selflessly with boundless love and compassion. Her love and laughter will be sorely missed.

Survivors include her husband, Orville Zimmerman, Rapid City; three daughters, Joyce Zimmerman, Casper, WY, Cheryl Stockburger, Fargo, ND, Christine Doyle, Savage, MN; brother, Charles Nelson, Yankton, SD; and four grandchildren, Brandon and Cassie Stockburger and Kyra and Brady Doyle.

Services will be held at a later date at the Red Lodge Cemetery in Red Lodge, Montana.

Family and friends may sign Marilyn's online guestbook at www.kirkfuneralhome.com.



Please mark your calendars for the Plymouth Church Turkey Dinner Sunday November 14 following church. Good food, games and fellowship so save the date.

December is fast approaching. Women's Fellowship has their Christmas Luncheon December 14th at 12:30. All ladies of the church are invited as well as the men. Our cooks will serve a delicious meal and there will be entertainment.

Fellowship Board will meet at 11:30.

What's Happening at United Campus Ministry

Greetings from UCM,

We are well into the fall now, which for UCM is gala time. On October 10, we held our second annual Gala and Silent Auction. The theme of the evening was "God's House:



Where Students Find a Welcoming Home." We really wanted to center the evening around student testimonies about how UCM is a place they call home. As co-chair of this event

I can tell you that a lot of time, effort and love was put into this event. UCM has become my home over the last two years, both figuratively and literally, as I live in the apartment in the basement of the UCM center, which is why I really wanted to center the evening around the concept of UCM as home.

The evening started off with a silent auction with over 60 items, including symphony tickets, quilts, massages, and gift cards. We then had a dinner served by

students to celebrate our donors and encourage new ones. And we ended the evening with a worship service, with a sermon given by Bishop Sally Dyck of the Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church.

We hold this event as our major fundraiser for the year and I am happy to report that we made over \$4,000 this year, which was about \$1,000 more than our goal, and got several people to commit to donating monthly for a year. We are already looking ahead to next year's event, so stay tuned

for updates on that. We'd love to see you there!

We could not have had such a successful night of ministry and celebration without you. Thank you so much for your presence, your gift baskets, your table sponsorships, your donations and mostly your prayers.

Amelia Shoptaugh
UCM Intern

P.S. We are starting our Shoebox Christmas project so consider donating items for that.

We are redoing our newsletter mailing lists for 2011 and we need you to help us. Please fill out the following form and send it back to us by Dec. 31, 2010. If you do not return this form we will assume you do not wish to be on any of the mailing lists.

I would like to receive The Chronicle:

- By Mail
- By E-mail
- I will access it on the website.
- Not in any form.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____

“Pennies from Heaven” Needs Your Gifts

Almost every day we have people come to Christ’s church looking for help. Our collection called “Pennies from Heaven” provides this help for those in need, but we also need YOUR support!



If you would rather not give cash, consider donating \$8 money orders made out to NDDOT for State IDs, bus tokens or passes, or grocery store gift cards.



Women’s Fellowship

We are now taking donations for the Nokomis Child Care Centers. Here’s what their website says about them: *Nokomis Child Care Center plays a unique role in the Fargo–Moorhead community. While providing traditional child care in a nurturing, safe, stimulating environment for families able to pay for the care, the program also fills a need for families with special needs, both financial and emotional. Nokomis provides a place for all children to thrive and grow, regardless of their needs.*



They are looking for:

- cleaning items
- baby wipes
- diapers
- paper products
- liquid soaps
- play dough

We are also collecting all Campbell labels and any coupons for baby items. A container has been placed on top of the donations baskets near the parking lot entrance. At the end of November we will have the names for the Christmas Giving Tree ready so you will again be able to adopt a child by purchasing a toy and an item of clothing.



November 2010

	1	2 6:30 p.m. Trustees 8 p.m. Church Leadership Council	3	4	5	6
7 9 a.m. Called to Care Meeting 10:30 a.m. Communion Worship Service & Sandwich Ministry	8	9	10 7 p.m. Bell Choir 8 p.m. Chancel Choir	11 9 a.m. Men’s Retirees Group Meet at Fry’n Pan Veterans Day—Office Closed	12	13
14 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	15	16 9:30 a.m. Mayflower Circle	17 7 p.m. Bell Choir 8 p.m. Chancel Choir	18	19	20 Deadline for December Chronicle
21 9 a.m. Called to Care Meeting 10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Sandwich Ministry	22	23 1 p.m. Margaret Sherwood Circle	24 7 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Service at 1st UCC Mhd	25 Thanksgiving—Office Closed	26	27 4-7 p.m. Serve at Churches United
28 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	29	30				

You can always find the latest calendar on our website—www.plymouthfargo.org.

November Serving Group

CHAIR:
Sandy & Tom Payne
CO-CHAIR:
Joanne Andres

Lorri & Al Johnson
Shana & Steve Larson
Joan Engbretson
Claudia & Chad Murray
Travis & Kacie Siebert

Upcoming Worship Services at Plymouth Church



- November 7—Communion Sunday
- November 14—Stewardship & New Members Sunday
- November 24—Thanksgiving Eve

Service at First Congregational United Church of Christ in Moorhead

Jesus Christ calls us to address and to help those who are in need now.

Supplies needed for the YWCA Women's Shelter

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
cass clay

Plymouth Church supports the YWCA Emergency Shelter with needed items for women & children requiring safe housing, along with advocacy & education, as the look for alternative housing. This shelter serves hundreds of people each year who need shelter from domestic violence, homelessness, & economic devastation.

As of Sept. 20, 2010, their most urgent needs include:

- Disinfecting spray/wipes
- Gas & grocery gift cards
- Tylenol (children's)
- Cold medicine (adult & children's)
- ANY AND ALL FOOD IS NEEDED (especially fresh/frozen meat, produce, dairy, box dinners)

The basket for these items is in the entryway on the north side of the church. Our Women's Fellowship sponsors this mission activity.



Churches United Meal Crew

On the fourth Saturday of each month, our meal crew serves the evening meal at the Churches United for the Homeless Shelter. Call the church office to be part of this service crew or if you are able to help one time. We always need new people to serve!



Shelter and Support in a Spiritual Setting.

Churches United— a mission partner in the fight against hunger & homelessness

Looking for a gift that keeps on giving?



Your donation will purchase a farm animal

for someone who is living in poverty.

"I loved my Heifer gift. I don't need more chocolate or knick-knacks. Knowing that a family gets a goat for milk, & can be self-sufficient is a great positive thing to bring into the

world. It's wonderful to know a family has been given help in my name."

-Eileen in Rochester, New York

Read about lives changed.

There are brochures on the table in the back of the sanctuary with details on how to gift someone through Heifer International. You can also go to their website at www.heifer.org.

Support Farmers and their families—Buy Fair Trade

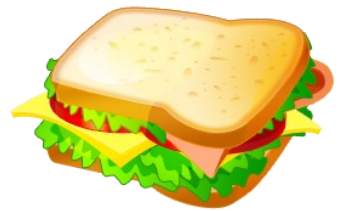
You can support this cause by purchasing Fair Trade Coffee in our Dining Fellowship Hall for \$7.99/bag.



The United Church of Christ Coffee Project sells certified organic products from Equal Exchange.

Sandwich Ministry Sundays

On the first & third Sundays of each month, we provide the midday meal for the families at the Churches United for the Homeless Shelter. We do this by making sandwiches following our worship service &



delivering them to the shelter. We also need donations to purchase bread, lunch meat, peanut butter & jelly.

Discipleship Groups

Chancel & Bell Choirs

Our Chancel & Bell

Choirs practice music to offer in worship of God. You are always welcome! Come & make music to the LORD.



Women's Fellowship Groups and Quarterly Lunches

Two women's circles—Mayflower & Margaret Sherwood—meet each month. These circles are open to all women of Plymouth Church.

Men's Retiree Group Retired men meet the second Thursday of every month at 9 a.m. at the Fry'n Pan Restaurant.

Community Homes News

Community Homes is a ministry of Plymouth Church. Community homes offers Section 8 (low-income) housing to people in our community.

During these hard economic times, there are many people needing affordable housing. Donations help people, families and children stay in their homes.

Plymouth Church, in cooperation, with our partner churches, is looking for ways to stand in the gap for those that need it.

