

Plymouth Congregational Church
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Fargo, ND 58107

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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.

Plymouth Congregational Church
901 North Broadway
Fargo, ND 58102
Phone: 701-235-9226
E-mail: info@plymouthfargo.org
www.plymouthfargo.org
Amelia's office hours: Monday – Friday; 10 a.m.– 1 p.m.



Special points of interest:

- **Pastoral Ponderings**
- **Fry Bread Taco Dinner**
- **Rally Sunday**
- **Youth Rally**
- **State Women's Retreat**
- **Runnige Sale**

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The Chronicle

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ
Volume 10 Issue 9
September 2010

A reprint from Pastor JoBeth

By request I have reprinted my greeting from the 8/8/2010 Worship bulletin

Greetings to all at Plymouth Congregational UCC

I so enjoyed joining you for worship on August 1st. Since then I have been unpacking, getting started meeting with staff, finding gas stations, grocery stores, places to eat, discovering just which way all the one way streets go and learning which stairway goes where and generally how things work here at Plymouth Congregational UCC. Thanks for the lovely flowers, calls and words of welcome.

A big thank you to all who have kept the church going during this most recent time of transition at Plymouth Congregational UCC in its great 125 year history. As we prepare to worship today, let us give thanks to our God who created us with a special sense of gratitude for all our forebearers of

faith in this congregation known as Plymouth Congregational UCC in Fargo, ND and those in the wider church too. Those whose faith, commitment, hard work and caring have brought us to this time and place in God's creation. We are all here because they built the foundations and planted the seeds of the church today. They are those on whose shoulders we stand and under whose trees we receive God's protective shade and the fruits that sustain us daily. Let us celebrate those gifts of faith and just plain hard work as we live faithfully today.

Daily we build bridges in the present. We are what connects yesterday to today-one moment at a time. And one moment at a time is how God shares the magnificent creation in which we live. And it is how the future becomes the past. We must faithfully build our bridges and live to the very best of our abilities in the present

moment God has given us. It is our turn to build foundations and plant seeds for the present and future generations.

The first of the interim/transitional period tasks under the UCC tradition is for us as persons of faith in this community to address and come to terms with the church's history. We need to investigate, learn about and celebrate its past, its strengths, struggles, grief and accomplishments. And yes for everything, gratitude and celebration is correct. We need to celebrate who we are today giving thanks to all of those who made this community and its gifts possible. I look forward to all the ways we can find to celebrate one another, build bridges, and give thanks to God for all.

Blessings as we share our journey together. In Christ, Pastor JoBeth

For September's note see p.6

"Pennies from Heaven" Needs Your Gifts

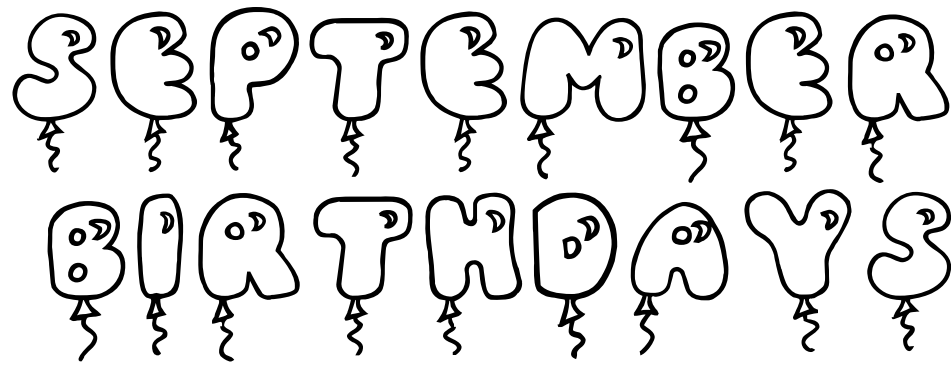
Almost every day we have people come to Christ's church looking for help. Our collection called "Pennies from Heaven" provides this help for those in need, but we also need YOUR support!



We are out of money orders for State IDs, so consider buying a money order in the amount of \$8 made out to NDDOT.



- 1-Kiana Le
- 7-Khadijah Leary
- 11-Ben Mohr
- 11-Jordyn Cameron
- 12-Casey Vargo



- 17-Tom Sylvester
- 18-Mary Schuldheisz
- 19-Judy Maxson
- 19-Marlys Skaarer
- 19-Russ Ruppert
- 19-Gillian Lura
- 27-Joshua Hummel
- 29-Joel Livingood
- 30-Amy Neiss

Thank You!



I would like to thank everyone who helped with the 125th Anniversary. I made an obligation to be responsible for this event then I am out of circulation. Many, many thanks to Jim and Marie Martin for taking over for me and Jake who was my co-chairman. It turned out we both were not well. The event turned out to be a great success. The Saturday night party with all the food and looking back over the years was a very pleasant evening. Sunday was great with dinner that no one had to prepare. Jake and I applaud all. Jim & Marie left great records for the next generation.

This knee surgery turned out to be a long haul. I want to thank everyone for cards, flowers, and many other pleasant surprises. Your thoughts and prayers were very special. My love to all of you and God Bless.

-Vi Taylor



The Women's Fellowship Fall Rummage Sale will be held September 10th & 11th! Please bring items to sell and put them in the rummage sale room downstairs.

A note from Our Church Moderator

Our financial church year begins in January and our budget process starts in September. Not many days left of August. All teams or committees needing money to operate the programs they support need to have their budget request presented to the Church Council at the September 7, 2010 meeting. The budget for our new year will be assembled in October for presentation to the Church Council in November for finalization. We ask each team and committee to meet this coming week and discuss the monetary needs for the coming year. The budget numbers can be presented to the council by your team leader or sent in to the church office. Thanks for your help and continued support of our church.

Tom Payne, Moderator

September 2010

			1	2	3	4
5 10:30 a.m. Communion Worship Service & Sandwich Ministry	6	7 6:30 p.m. Trustees 8 p.m. Church Leadership Council	8	9 9 a.m. Men's Retirees Group Meet at Fry'n Pan	10	11
12 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	13	14 11:30 a.m. Women's Fellowship Board 12:30 p.m. Women's Fellowship	15	16	17 4-8 p.m. Fry Bread Taco Dinner	18
19 10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Sandwich Ministry	20 Deadline for October Chronicle	21 9:30 a.m. Mayflower Circle	22	23	24	25 4-7 p.m. Serve at Churches United
26 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	27	28 1 p.m. Margaret Sherwood Circle	29	30		

You can always find the latest calendar on our website—www.plymouthfargo.org. If you have anything to add to the calendar, please send it to info@plymouthfargo.org.

IMAGES OF MARY

Mary mother of Jesus and other Mary's in the Bible

STATE WOMEN'S RETREAT

SEPTEMBER 17-19, 2010

Camp of the Cross

1228A 47th Avenue North West
Garrison, North Dakota

Susan Blain Main Presenter

Elaine Blanchard Storyteller

Mary Kay Sauter UCC History

Presentation for Service Project

Service Project:

Items for our Soldiers in Military Service

List of Items available on website.



No Housing Price: \$40.00, 5 Meals
Lodge: \$90.00, 5 Meals
Cabin: \$66.00, 5 Meals
Cabin: \$47.00, 3 Meals

Presented by Sisers' In Christ, Women's Ministry Committee
Registration Form Available on Conference Website under the forms tab

Any questions, call the Conference Office at 701-255-1104.

COME AND JOIN THE FUN!



SEPTEMBER

SERVING

GROUP

CHAIR:

Marion & Russ Ruppert

CO-CHAIR:

Dale Larson

Edna Middlestad

Sarah Fries

Krista & Chris Le

Doris & Ken Ruby

Connie Schmidt

Ann Smith

Ellen & Rob Sylvester

Mary & Rene Vargo

Upcoming Worship Services at Plymouth



Sept. 5—Communion

Sept. 12—Rally Sunday Come celebrate!

Great Gathering! Great music! Great worship!

Rev. Wade Schemmel Northern Plains

Conference Minister will help us

acknowledge the shared journey of

Transitional Interim Pastor JoBeth Marshall

and Transitional Interim Congregation

Plymouth Congregational UCC.

Pastoral Ponderings

Greetings to all connected with Plymouth Congregational UCC and receiving this newsletter!

Thank you for your personal and printed words of welcome. Our shared journey has begun.

The weather in Fargo yesterday went from 88 degrees with high humidity and dew point that took your breath away to today an absolutely beautiful 70 degrees with comfortable humidity and dew point. It was change to the more comfortable for us. And yes, we know it will change again, but for these moments I am enjoying it. It is often surprising how a moment can change everything. How many of us have been unexpectedly overwhelmed or amazed by the power of a moment?

The Twins went from winning to losing to winning again...all in less than a week. It is change going both ways. I love this quote. I hope you will too.

"You win some. You lose some. Some get rained out. That's baseball!" - Lou Gehrig

I guess that's why I enjoy baseball so much....It is life. It includes all the ups and downs, hits and misses, strikes, rain delays, walks, curveballs, outs, screwballs, fouls, and sometimes a beautiful homerun! Hopefully, the hit is with the bases loaded and for the team for whom you are cheering on to win the game.....but as in life off the baseball field, we all know it doesn't always happen that way.

Change, no matter what we think about it..... happens! It is life! It is God's pattern for life on earth. God gives us new life out of situations we humans thought were dead ends-no possible way out! As of this moment on earth, God has called us to be on a journey together. Pastor JoBeth Marshall and Plymouth Congregational UCC of Fargo, ND are companions on this sacred journey together to become more than either of us can be separately. We can't know exactly what the journey will be..... until we live it together....one moment at a time.

As Christians, we need to trust God. God gives us one precious moment at a time-one breath in/one breath out. God knows each moment is precious beyond measure, but this is often lost to humans who are so busy with the past and the future that those precious moments can slip away.

God knows we can learn from past experience and cherish memories. God also knows we can speculate about the future. Yet, each and both belong to God only. As human beings on earth, we can only live in the present moment-the now. Whatever it is, each sacred moment is given to us by God for the time being.

God has brought us together to experience all the moments of life in our shared journey. In the church, we call this our time of Transitional Ministry for together we are all ministers of God through Jesus the Christ. I trust God that it will be meaningful for us all-for we are all in God's hands.



As a specifically trained Intentional Transitional Interim Pastor, I bring all my skills, talents, knowledge, experience and yes, even human foibles to our shared journey. As a congregation, Plymouth UCC brings all its history, members, individuals, groups, teams, accomplishments and yes, its human and congregational foibles to our shared journey. Together we journey one precious moment at a time, listening to the God who created us - all humans, all creatures and all parts of the cosmos. We must listen to God through one another to be able to follow God's hope for us as we work together.

I know what many of you may be thinking.. ...something like "Yeah, yeah, yeah, easier said than done!!!!@#\$\$%^&*(*&^%\$#@#\$\$%^&*(*&^%\$#@!!!"

But that is just God's point. God never said life would be easy, but Jesus the Christ shared the message that God would always be with us through all the moments of life on earth....and then beyond our human comprehension.....through all eternity. God, the angels and Jesus give human beings the same message over and over and over again through Holy Scripture: "Do Not Be Afraid"/"Fear Not". Can we open our hearts to God? It just takes a moment.

As we trust in God, all things humans think are impossible situations can be changed into miraculous situations over and over and over again. In God's precious time, in God's moment, God always brings new life out of death. We can trust God with our hearts, souls, minds and strength.

This is a quote about mutual ministry from a wonderful hymn by D. Schutte we sang recently in worship. It is in response to God's Call To Us:

"Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart"

I close with this final quote from a beautiful hymn by J. Ylvisaker about all the stages of life. It reminds us of God's Promise To Us:

"I was there to hear your borning cry. I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized to see your life unfold.

When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes, I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise"

I look forward to sharing the moments God gives us. Let us together be fruitful during the moments of our journey arranged by our God, the Creator of all.

Blessings, Pastor JoBeth

News & Events Continued...



Growing in God's Love



Begin the journey...

Please call or email:

- About Sunday School teaching or Christian Ed. Team: Roxane Meidinger 701-237-9197 rmeidinger@cablone.net
- About nursery help: Karen Schur 701-280-0167 karenmouse30@hotmail.com

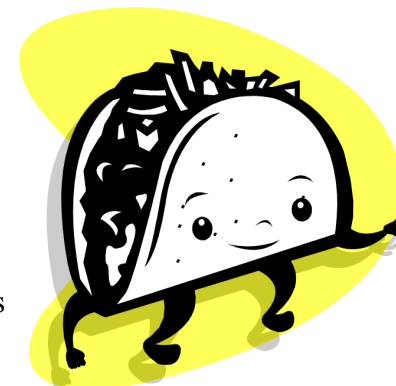


Ice Cream Social
Choose various yummy toppings!

Fry Bread Taco Dinner Friday, Sept. 17, 4-7 pm

Items Needed for the Fry Bread Taco Meal September 17

- 100 Bottled Water
- 100 Cans of Soda
- 100 Small bags of corn chips (Doritos)
- 100 Soft Tortilla Shells
- 10 jars Salsa
- 10 jars Taco sauce
- 30 lbs Hamburger
- 30 packets Taco seasoning
- 3 bags 5lb Colby Jack Cheese
- 10 tubs Sour Cream
- 6 heads Lettuce
- 50 Tomatoes
- 10 Lg cans Sliced Black Olives
- 10 Onions
- 200 Plastic Forks
- 250 Napkins
- 200 Styrofoam to-go containers
- 200 Scotcheroo Bars



Sign up at the back of the sanctuary to help prepare, serve, set up or take down on Thursday or Friday.

We would like to have the event in the parking lot and have live entertainment to make the church more visible. We are accepting musical groups to perform if you or someone you know might be interested please contact the office.

Thank You!

Thank you to all the wonderful friends at Plymouth for all their kindness—visits, food, gifts, prayers, and blessings. It means so very much.

May God bless you all.
-Marian and Russ Ruppert



Karibu!
(Welcome!)
Northern Plains
2010 Fall Youth Rally
October 21 – 23
For Grades 6-12

To be held @
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Wishek

Featuring: International Storyteller - Dancer / Drummer - Educator - InterPlay Leader
Mr. Masanhko Banda

The 2010 Fall Rally theme will revolve around
Psalm 95:

"Come, let us sing for joy to GOD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song."

Bring your instruments to play... Enjoy the story and make your own drum

Registration Forms will be available at
www.npcucc.org soon

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

Supplies needed for the YWCA Women's Shelter

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 August 10, 2010, their most urgent needs include:

- Disinfecting spray/wipes
- Gas and grocery gift cards
- ANY AND ALL FOOD IS NEEDED (especially fresh/frozen meat, pro-

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

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
cass clay

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 Plymouth Church's Feeding Ministries

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.

CUH 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.



Shelter and Support in a Spiritual Setting.

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

What's Happening at United Campus Ministry

Greetings from UCM,

Well, another school year has begun. The students are back and UCM is once again full of life and energy. This year we are trying to get new students involved by offering lots of different activities in the first few weeks of school when they aren't as busy and don't know very many people yet. Move-in weekend we had our annual lemonade stand set up by the NDSU dorms while freshmen were moving in and we also attended the

annual MSUM Sidewalk Café, which is a student organization and local business fair. We gave out 300 promotional cups and got over 100 new names and contact information. On Sunday we served breakfast for over 60 students and their parents. We are also looking forward to our weekly programming started back up, our annual canoe trip, another free breakfast, our biannual pig roast, an ice cream social, and a movie marathon. We have been blessed with the

addition of Ashley, our new intern to help us with all of this, but still, by mid-September we are going to be wiped. Good thing the students bring us so much energy and joy.

We barely get to take a breath after all of that before we host our annual Gala on October 10th. This year's theme is God's House: Where Students Find a Welcoming Home. So many students tell us that they love UCM because it feels like home and we decided that was an excellent thing to highlight at this year's event. Students are

busy getting donations such as massages, opera tickets and gift baskets for our silent auction at 5 pm. Dinner starts at 6 pm, and we'll end the evening with a worship service at 7 pm. If you are interested in attending tickets are \$25/plate or \$150/table of eight. Please call the office at 235-0672.

I hope you had a great summer! Here's to a great year!
God Bless,
Amelia Shoptaugh
UCM Intern

Support Farmers and their families—Buy Fair Trade

You can support this cause by purchasing Fair Trade Coffee in our Dining Fellowship Hall for \$6.99/bag.



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

Discipleship Groups

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.

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.

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.

