

PLYMOUTH CROSSING

PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2615 SYKES ROAD, ST. HELENS, OREGON 97051, Phone: 503-397-0062

Website: www.PlyChurch.org E-mail: Pastor@PlyChurch.org

Pastor: Marilyn Allen

Bible Study: 9:20 AM, Worship: 10:30 AM

**OPEN HEARTS,
OPEN MINDS IN A
FAMILY OF FAITH**

**VOL 14 - NO. 11
November 2009**

Marilyn's Meditation

"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!" Psalm 118:1

Thanksgiving is the highlight of the fall of the year. We know how to give thanks for our families by gathering around a turkey feast with all the trimmings. We know how to appreciate a day off, by watching football or going shopping. We often give thanks for our blessings by sharing something with those in need.

But do we know how to "give thanks to the Lord?" In the time of temple sacrifices, grain and drink offerings were rituals of thanksgiving. The Psalmist said, "I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord." That is a cup of thanksgiving.

One of our rituals of thanksgiving is the Lord's Supper. Some churches call it "the Eucharist," which means "thanksgiving." At the Lord's table, as we receive the bread and cup, we give thanks for Jesus Christ – for his calling, forgiving, sustaining grace.

Another of our rituals is the offering. Have you ever thought that what you put in the plate or mail to the church is an expression of your thanks to God? There are many ways our offerings say "Thank you." We give thanks for having a job or a reasonable retirement. We give thanks for the fellowship we find here and for spiritual nourishment from the Word. We may be thankful for the Sunday morning break from the pressure or noise or loneliness of daily life. We give thanks for having enough to share. And we certainly give thanks for God's presence in our daily lives.

November is a time to consider whether our lives, including our offerings, reflect our thanksgiving to God. We have time, talents and resources to share. As you decide on a level of giving for next year, let your sense of thanksgiving inform that decision. We understand that some will have to pledge less than this year, and some will be able to give more. Whatever you decide, offer it not just to the church, but to God, as an offering of thanksgiving.

Pastor Marilyn Allen

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**Happy
Thanksgiving**

PRISCILLA CIRCLE

Twenty were in attendance at the October 14 meeting of Priscilla Circle. Genny Vincent and Charlotte Wilburn were the hostesses and Donna McLean closed the meeting with devotions.

Randy Dunn shared his life of faith with the group. It is so interesting to see the many ways God touches our lives. No two are the same, and we appreciated and enjoyed his presentation.

The November meeting will be on the 11th. Linda Gaskill will be the Person of Faith. Les Christie and Carol Jones will host and Audrey Sinner will bring the devotions.

PPC Study Groups

The Sunday morning adult class will continue their studies through November. They meet in Hutchinson Hall, around the corner from the offices, at 9:20 am. The study is led by Pastor Marilyn and all are welcome

The Monday Night Study will complete their study on Spiritual Disciplines on November 16th and then break for the holidays. The class will resume studies on January 11, 2010.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

On October 11, a cool and breezy Sunday afternoon, the Young Adult group traveled to Menucha in the Columbia River Gorge to walk the labyrinth. On October 25, we baked cookies for Community Meals. The next meeting will be on November 8 at 7 pm, place to be announced. This group is for young adults ages 18 and up. See Pastor Marilyn or Marsea, Nicki, Jessica or Kim for more information.



COMMUNITY MEALS

The Community Meals ministry supported by this church and hosted by First Lutheran continues to grow. The high point was 120 hot delicious meals served one Tuesday in October. Many people are touched by this wonderful ministry, but assistance in all forms continues to be needed. Prayerfully consider how you can support this effort. All donations are tax deductible and receipts are available, please see the church office at the 1st Lutheran Church. Donations may be dropped off at Plymouth Church, please mark them Community Meals and we will deliver them. Please contact the church office for additional information. Here are some ways to be involved:

- **Time** – 3 volunteers are needed to complete the weekly teams. Week 1, 2 & 3 need volunteers. Contact Kathy Bauska: 503-397-6793
- **Money** – to buy supplies and perishable food. Make checks payable to ‘Community Meals’ and mail to 1st Lutheran Church, 360 Wyeth St., St. Helens, OR
- **Supplies** –Mayonnaise, Cream of Mushroom or Chicken soup, butter, chicken or beef broth, paper towels, gallon freezer bags, tall kitchen garbage bags, silverware sets and Corolle plates and bowls.
- **Bake dessert items** – contact Jennifer Anderson, 503-397-0417 or jennken@comcast.net
- **Pray** - That this ministry will continue to thrive and be a blessing to this community.

ANNUAL CHURCH CLEANUP

Saturday, November 7th, will be the annual church clean-up in preparation for our Bazaar and winter. Please meet at the church at 9:00 am, coffee and a light lunch will be provided. "Many hands make light work", so we hope you can join us for some fresh air, physical exercise and fellowship.



Tim	Eagle	11	2
Rachel	Connor	11	3
Darla	Knytych	11	3
Sarah	Harrington	11	4
Juanita	Shearer	11	4
Gretchen	Daly	11	7
Mark	Dinwiddie	11	24
Gwen	Asburry	11	26
Andrew	Perry	11	29
Genny	Vincent	11	29
Becky	Frazier	11	30

DEACONS REPORT

The Deacon's met on October 6th. There were 8 prayer chain request and 2 requests for assistance with disbursements totaling \$59.20. The Deacon's thank those who support the Emergency Fund. The next meeting will be November 3rd and Linda Liefeld will have devotions.

Attendance

September 27	45
October 4	52
October 11	37
October 18	47

FINANCIAL REPORT

August 2009	Income	\$ 7,696.07
	Expenses	\$ 7,776.78
	Net	\$ (80.71)
YTD 2009	Income	\$65,117.18
	Expense	\$68,724.27
	Net	\$(3,607.09)

STEWARDSHIP

"Stewardship is all the *tangible* ways in which we express our love of God's church, and our fellowship with all other members of our congregation, the community we live in, and our world community. It includes the sharing of our *time* and *talents*, as well as our *abundance*. The result of all our mutual sharing is the church we all see and love, the presence we have in the community, and the impact we can have on the world to further God's goals." (*From the Plymouth stewardship letter of 1998*)

This year's letter and pledge card will be coming soon. We will receive your pledges for 2010 during the month of November. Stewardship dedication Sunday will be November 15. Please consider prayerfully how you can help support the work of Christ through Plymouth Presbyterian Church.

PRESBYTERY MEETING

Claudia Eagle is our church's commissioner for the November presbytery meeting. The session has also nominated Claudia as a possible elder commissioner to the 2010 General Assembly in Minneapolis. Six elders and six pastors are nominated by churches of our presbytery. At the November meeting, the presbytery will vote for three elders and three pastors to serve as its commissioners, with the others standing by as alternates.

A MISSION MOMENT

Our Presbytery and the San Francisco Presbytery, have been given Bolivia, as our country in need of special help. The Mission Commission decided to hold a bake sale, at the church, to raise some money for the Joining Hands with Bolivia Project. We raised \$204, at the after church sale, and it was decided that we would set aside \$54 for local missions such as Community Meals or the Fix-Byterians project.

On Sunday October 18th, we held our special Mission Day Annual Event. Our speaker was the Rev. Don Shaw, consultant for Peacemaking and Hunger Action for the Presbytery of the Cascades. Rev. Shaw recently returned from Bolivia and was able to update us on the present needs and problems facing the native citizens of that struggling country. Their brand-new constitution includes the right to clean water for all, but making that a reality is another story. The Presbyteries, of the Cascades and San Francisco, have joined with the organization, in Bolivia, that is working on equal rights for all. They, together, are demanding, an environmental audit immediately, on the mining practices, at the most polluted areas. Some areas are so bad, that they may never be able to be cleaned.

Because of the bake sale, and the help that many of you provided by supplying baked goods or buying them we will be able to send our presbytery a check for \$150. You can continue to help by praying for Bolivia and for the missionary, Jay Gregory, who is presently working there. Remember, any good thing we do for others, Christ considers it, done for Him. Matt. 25:34-40.

The Mission Commission

Per Capita

Each Presbyterian church is responsible for paying a certain amount per member to defray the costs of the meetings of its presbytery, synod and the General Assembly. In the Presbytery of the Cascades for 2009, that amount per member is \$22.55. This is in addition to the amount we give for presbytery and church-wide mission activities, so that mission money is not spent on administration. We appreciate having each member contribute that amount above the pledge, if possible.

Birthday Gifts

Plymouth Church thanks you for the wonderful response to the 113th birthday party on September 20. This is what we think is the final tally of gifts:

printer ink, bright copy paper, white copy paper, rolls of tape for dispensers, wallpaper for women's restroom, lots of toilet paper, paper towels, pens, large mailing envelopes, regular envelopes in two sizes, USB drive for office computer, blank note cards with Hutchinson Hall window, white placemats, burners and pans for stove, 12-cup coffee maker, coffee, bottles of juice, lasagna pan, pledge of time, pruning of shrubs and arborvitae.

\$1640 – \$835 undesignated, and the rest designated for:

Paint for Fellowship Hall and women's restroom, utilities, choir equipment or music, choir robe cleaning, piano tuning, 1-year membership in the local Chamber of Commerce, 2-year subscription to church NEWSLETTER newsletter

Thank you for your creative and practical gifts.

Pastor Marilyn and the Session

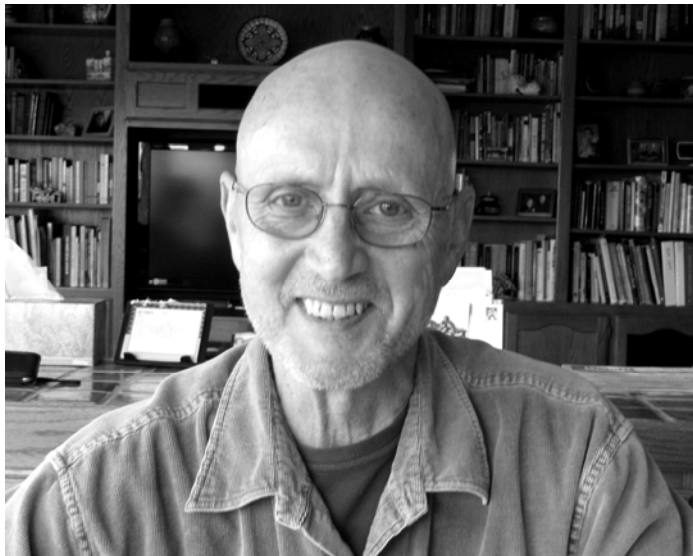


**Let us
Pray**

For Val Gauen and her family as they remember Bob and begin to adjust to life without him.

For Carol Jones as she continues to recover.

For the Presbytery of the Cascades and its fall meeting in Medford, Nov. 13 -14.



Sharing Our Faith

RANDY
DUNN

I was born in Hannibal Missouri to Harry and Mae Emma Dunn. When I was five we moved to Washington, where we lived when my sister Karen was born. We were lower-middle class, my father worked in the paper mill and my mother was a seamstress for Janzten. My parents did not attend church, and I only attended when I went with friends. I rode my bike or walked everywhere, which resulted in my spending a lot of time outdoors. There I had time to think and commune with nature. As far back as I can remember I have believed in God and somehow I have always had the idea that the number 'one' was the universal key. We, with God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit are all one. I graduated from Vancouver High School in 1957 and as planned since Jr. High, joined the Marine Corps. I spent three years in the service and then returned to the Vancouver area where I married and went to work for the paper mill in Vancouver. After two years of marriage, we had our son Gaylen. Gaylen and his family live in Deer Island close to where I now live.

I worked for the Vancouver mill for about 15 years. I was a union officer and involved in labor negotiations. In 1976 I went on salary and was transferred to the St. Helen's mill. In 1983 I left Boise Cascade and went to work for Willamette Industries in Portland. But I continued to live in St. Helens and then moved to our farm in Deer Island where I raise Appaloosa horses. In 1992, I married Cathy, who was Linda's cousin. Cathy diligently fought cancer for four years, but lost that battle in 2001. Cathy had read that people who went to church lived longer, so we went looking for a church. We tried Plymouth where we liked the people, several of whom I knew from the paper mill. In 2002 I joined the church and was baptized. That same year I flew to Florida to drive Cathy's parents to Ohio for a family gathering, there I met Linda. A couple of months later I asked Linda to visit me in Oregon and shortly after that we were married. Today the church is an integral part of my life and the friendships in the church are some of my closest. And, I still believe that we, God and Jesus Christ are truly one.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURES

Nov. 1 All Saints' Day: Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 24; Revelation 21:1-6a; John 11:32-44. **Nov. 8:** Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17; Psalm 127; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44. **Nov. 15:** 1 Samuel 1:4-20; 1 Sam. 2:1-10; Hebrews 10:11-25; Mark 13:1-8. **Nov. 22, Christ the King:** 2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-18; Rev. 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37. **Nov. 29, First Sunday of Advent:** Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36.

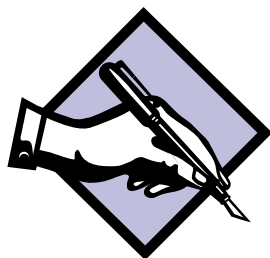
Sunday Volunteer Schedule

November 1	Communion Set-up: Judy Gilbert Communion Servers: Randy & Linda Dunn, Lorna Bradley Greeters/Ushers: Karen & Marsea Roldan Lay Leader: Fran Pickering Flowers: Snacks: Dinwiddie & Dunn
November 8	Greeters/Ushers: Helen Purkerson, Fran Pickering Lay Leader: Linda Dunn Flowers: Snacks: Helen Purkerson & Linda Liefeld
November 15	Greeters/Ushers: Helen Purkerson, Fran Pickering Lay Leader: Fran Pickering Flowers: Marilyn Allen Snacks:
November 22	Greeters/Ushers: Linda Gaskill, Gina Harrington Lay Leader: Flowers: Kathleen Dinwiddie Snacks: Fellowship Commission
November 29	Greeters/Ushers: Linda Gaskill, Gina Harrington Lay Leader: Flowers: Snacks:
December 6	Communion Set-up: Lorna Bradley Communion Servers: Ron Stites, Yvonne Schoonover, Judy Gilbert Greeters/Ushers: Marilyn Brinster, Polly Rice Lay Leader: Flowers: Donna McLean Snacks:

Attention: Greeters/Ushers – Please be at the church by 10:00 AM. And, please provide name tags for visitors and ‘Welcome Packets’ for first-time visitors.

Welcome Committee

November: Ruth Cox, Larry Bloom, Roger Liefeld, Karen Roldan and Lorna Bradley



Deadline for the December/January Newsletter is:

November 18

Please submit articles to Linda Dunn

E-mail: red40@opusnet.com

Please contact Linda if you would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail or if you would like to stop receiving the newsletter.

November 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Day Communion Avamere, 2 pm	2 Adult Study – 7 pm	3 Deacons – 4 pm Music & Worship – 7 pm	4 Pastor’s Study – 10:30 am	5	6	7 Annual Church Cleanup – 9 am
8 Young Adults – 7 pm	9 Adult Study – 7 pm	10 CME – 6:15 pm	11 Pastor’s study – 10:30 am Priscilla Circle 1-3 pm	12	13 Office Closed Presbytery in Medford	14 Presbytery in Medford Kiwanis Dance – 4-9 pm
15 Pledge Dedication	16 Adult Study – 7 pm	17 Prayers & Squares - 1 pm Session – 6:30 pm	18 Pastor’s Study – 10:30 am SNAPP – 11:15 Newsletter Deadline Bazaar Setup	19 Bazaar Setup	20 Bazaar Setup	21 Bazaar 9 am – 3 pm
22 Community Thanksgiving Service – Christ Episcopal 7 pm	23 Office Open SNAPP – 11:15	24	25 No choir rehearsal	26 Happy Thanksgiving!	27 Office Closed	28 Men’s Breakfast – 8 am, Warren Country Inn
29 First Sunday of Advent	30					



Holiday Bazaar, International Gift Market & Luncheon

Saturday, November 22nd
9 am – 3 pm

Handmade crafts, baked goods, pine
wreaths and holiday gift items

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2615 SYKES ROAD
ST. HELENS, OR 97051

FIRST CLASS MAIL