

# PLYMOUTH CROSSING

## PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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PASTOR MARILYN ALLEN

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

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### PASTOR'S MEDITATION

*I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."*  
Psalm 122:1

What makes you glad to be part of this particular community of faith? That is one of the questions the session is asking all of us to consider this fall. Worship, friendships, prayer and practical support, opportunities for study and service B all these may be part of your answer.

The Psalmist looked forward to the trip to Jerusalem's temple. The people of Israel were expected to live their faith daily and to keep the Sabbath day every week, but the highlights of their year were the three festivals B Succoth, the harvest festival or Feast of Booths; Passover, the retelling of the escape from Egypt; and Pentecost, thanksgiving for Torah, the law of Moses. On their long trip up to Jerusalem, they sang pilgrim songs or songs of ascent, which we know as Psalms 120 through 134. Psalm 122, quoted above, is a song of arrival as well. The travelers are glad to be within the house of the Lord.

I would guess that when people had traveled for days to get to Jerusalem, it didn't bother them if worship didn't start quite on time, or if it went a little longer than last year's, or if people showed up a little early or a little late. The clock didn't matter that much to them.

We do things differently, of course. So in order to make time for Christian education, we are changing the time of our worship service to **10:30 am**, with classes at **9:30 am**. We hope that you will be part of the education time, as student or as a teacher or helper. The plan is to offer two classes B one for children, and one for teens and adults, in Hutchinson Hall.

Part of the purpose of the church is to share our faith with one another and with the next generation. If we want our children to be glad to come to the house of the Lord, we need to provide interesting and helpful activities and discussions. I hope you will call Yvonne Karreman-Schoonover (503-) or Jan Stites (503-) to volunteer to help.

*Pastor Marilyn Allen*

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

#### Sept. 7, 10:30 am

As Love the Answer?@  
Communion  
Exodus 12:1-14  
Psalm 149  
Romans 13:8-14  
Matthew 18:15-20

#### Sept. 14, 10:30 am

AAAn Impossible Standard@  
Exodus 14:19-31  
Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21  
Romans 14:1-12  
Matthew 18:21-35

#### Sept. 21, 10:30 am

AWhat Is Fair?@  
Exodus 16:2-15  
Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45  
Philippians 1:21-30  
Matthew 20:1-16

#### Sept. 28, 10:30 am

AGod=s Grace, Our Work@  
Exodus 17:1-7  
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16  
Philippians 2:1-13  
Matthew 21:23-32



# Session Reports

## PEACE KEEPING AND MISSION

--Words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.

*Adapted from Mother Teresa*

On **October 5th** we will take the **Peacemaking Offering**, so let's take a moment to think about peacemaking. Did you ever think that a few quick, unthinking words, said to one or all of your family, could end up affecting your community or even the world? Think about it.

What you say and do may become more important or more devastating than you might have planned. Let's take a look at a possible situation no matter how improbable.

You went to bed with a nagging headache. The next morning you get up a little late. You feel groggy and out of sorts. Everyone else is already up except your teenager. The kids are yelling and there is a mess of cereal and spilled milk on the counter.

If you are the man of the house you think that this might be a good day for you to go to the office early, so you announce this idea and start gathering up your things. Your other half is not too happy either, due to what she thinks is your disregard for her situation and feelings. Without thinking about it she throws out the following.

"Fine, you are never around when I need you anyway." Now you leave, not only feeling down and out of sorts but also a little angry and maybe a little guilty. How will you be at work, with all the people you meet on the street, at the office or at lunch? Since you feel like griping, you gripe to your friend about everything including politics. Not only does this affect your friend, but the driver of a foreign diplomat overhears or perhaps even the diplomat who's having lunch with a news correspondent hears you. Ridiculous, you think, probably, but a truth lies within.

Think a similar situation from the viewpoint of the children going to school or the mother and what she must deal with at home before she goes to work or whatever she does. How will she be with others she encounters during the day?

Things we do and say can and often do have profound affects on others. How do we become peacemakers? Peace should be promoted and lovingly taught in the church, experienced and lived with in the home and spread throughout the whole community and world.

## FINANCE

### July Report

Income	\$8701.00
Expenses	\$7119.53
Net	\$1,581.47

Thank-you for your generous support of our church's work.

## FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship commission will meet on Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 am at the Warren Country Inn.

## CHRISTIAN ED.

**VBS** – VBS was a hit with 17 children and 22 helpers. A “big” thank-you to our youth who helped in all aspects of VBS: Jesse, Connor, Becca, Jessica, Jose, Sierra, Hiram and Micah. They were “awesome” and we could not have done it without them. Also, thanks to the adult helpers that worked to make this a special time for the children of our community

### **Sunday School – WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Starting in September we will be offering Sunday School for our youth and children. We are looking for “a few good men” and women to be teachers. Two people are needed per classroom. The lessons are planned and easy to use. This is a tremendous opportunity for the church, and we are looking forward to sharing this ministry with you. Please pray about how you can help share your faith and love with the children and youth of our church, our congregation of tomorrow! *A reminder:* All volunteers need to be finger printed at the Sheriff's Office – see Yvonne for details.

**Cans** - Please continue to support our youth with cans and Red Apple receipts. Please rinse and empty the cans before bringing them to the church. Monies from this effort go toward supplies and youth related activities.

# Upcoming Activities and Events



## New Sunday Schedule

September 7<sup>th</sup>  
10:30 AM

Starting September 7<sup>th</sup>, Sunday morning worship will begin at 10:30 AM. Sunday School classes will be offered for children, teens and adults, starting at 9:30 AM. The choir will rehearse at 10:10 AM.

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## PRISCILLA CIRCLE

Priscilla Circle will resume meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup> with Russ and Lois McFann who will share their faith journey as the program. Lorna Bradley and Corrine Humbird will be hostesses and Val Gauen will have devotions. Priscilla Circle meets in the Fellowship Hall from 1-3 pm.

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## DEACONS

The Deacons met on August 12<sup>th</sup>. We paid one request for assistance in July, to help with rent, and we had nine prayer requests. The next Deacons meeting will be September 16<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 pm at the church.

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## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Beginning Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am, Pastor Marilyn will be teaching a class titled "The Sermon on the Mount for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century". All adults are welcome.

**S.N.A.P.P.** Our church serves lunch at the St. Helens Senior Center on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month. Serving: September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30 a.m.

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## MEN'S BREAKFAST

The men of the church meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at Warren Country Inn. There is no agenda--just lively and wide-ranging conversation. **Next meeting –September 27<sup>th</sup>.**

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## CHOIR

The fall picnic will be combined with the first choir rehearsal on Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at **6:00 pm**, at Margaret Smith's home (55559 Fullerton Rd., Warren). We will sing through some of our new music and prepare for our first Sunday, September 7.

Because of the **worship time change** to 10:30 and the education time before church at 9:30, on Sundays please arrive by 10:05 and be ready to warm up at 10:10.

**All singers are welcome!**

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## MONDAY NIGHT STUDY

First class will be Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. The fall study will be Philip Yancey's book – "What's So Amazing About Grace". If you are interested in this class, but have not ordered a book, please contact Linda Dunn.



Recipe for Happiness:

**Happiness you understand,  
Is made from what you have on hand!**



# Announcements

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

*ACome, let us worship the Lord. Let us praise God=s name together. @*

July 20	61
July 27	43
August 3	55
August 10	58
August 17	53

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## Church Office Schedule

Our church secretary, Gina Harrington, will be on vacation Sept. 8-18. Pastor Marilyn's regular office hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings, 8:30 - noon, and on Wednesday 8:30 - 10:30, and some afternoons. The pastors= study group meets on Wednesday mornings at 10:30, in September at First Christian Church.

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## Annual Church Bazaar

The bazaar is coming - mark your calendars for **November 22nd**. Please think about what you can contribute - providing craft items and/or baked goods for sale or help in the kitchen are some of the ways you can contribute.

Do you wonder how the money raised is used? These funds help cover items not in the budget. In the past they have been used to purchase special music, pay for a needed repair and purchase tables for the fellowship hall, just to name a few examples.

Your contributions of time and talents make the day fun and successful as well as add to the life of this church.

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**September 17<sup>th</sup>**, the men of the church will be serving brunch for fellowship hour.

## Church Website

I hope everyone has had a chance to look over the Plymouth Church Web Site. It is a living thing that grows and changes as we grow and change. Recently we added a page about the August Campout at Milo McIver State Park. There are several photos of the event there.

Coupled with the web site is the ability to download "Pod-Casts" of the Heartlight program that is produced weekly by Gina Harrington. The web site has instructions on how to down-load them. This is an excellent way to share our experiences with our shut-in friends.

The web site also has an up-to-date calendar that you can print out from your computer. Better yet it is available to all of our church groups. You can list your events, even several months in advance. You can include details such as who is the host(ess), directions for how to get there and what to bring. I do have to upgrade your privileges before you can enter things in the calendar, but that is easy to do.

If you haven't yet created your own account and become a contributor, I really encourage you to participate. The address is [www.plychurch.org](http://www.plychurch.org). There are several help pages to get you started. Mistakes are very easy to correct. My goal for 2008 is to get each Commission and each Fellowship group to create a page for themselves and include a photo of the group.

If you have problems with your page, either have your teenager to help you or e-mail me at [gary@dinsmore-enterprises.com](mailto:gary@dinsmore-enterprises.com) and I will work with you.

*Gary Dinsmore – aka WikiGary*

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## Attention Greeters!

When you see a new person visiting, please give them a welcome packet (packets are on the table in the vestibule). Also, please make sure they have a name tag.

**Congregation:** Let's be welcoming to visitors and new members of the church. Invite them to fellowship hour and include them in your conversations.



# Heart to heart



## THANK-YOU

To all the wonderful ones of “Prayers & Squares”:

I cannot thank you enough for the beautiful quilt you made for me. I will cherish it always. May God bless each one of you in a very special way. Thank-you,

Janice Smith Cox

(Daughter-in-law of Ruth Cox)

## September Birthdays

Lorna Bradley	9/1
Gayle Clemmer	9/2
Candy Cole	9/13
Jamie Kramer	9/22
Alexander Prettyman	9/25
Sophie Earl	9/28
Val Gauen	9/28
Elizabeth Harrington	9/28
Julie Sinner	9/28
Linda Dunn	9/30



## LETTER TO THE CONGREGATION

### The Future of Plymouth Church

We hope you share the belief that God has a continuing purpose for Plymouth Presbyterian Church. We’ve been here 112 years this month! But what is our purpose, now and in the future? This is a question all organizations need to revisit on a regular basis. About three years ago, we spent quite a lot of time creating our vision and mission. Now it is time to build upon that mission and vision, and to include many who were not here or were unable to participate.

The Session has proposed a way to hear from all of us on this very topic. Here are 3 questions to ponder and to focus our thoughts at this time:

- What makes you excited about being a part of the Plymouth Presbyterian Church?
- What do we need to do to remain viable for future generations?
- What do you feel is an unmet need in our community?

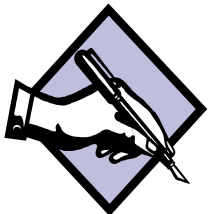
Three venues are planned for sharing and collecting our responses and ideas: one-on-one conversations, small group discussion sessions, or sending letters or e-mails to the Session with personal thoughts. Our responses to these questions will be collated, reviewed and distilled into 2-3 possible directions, and then presented back to the congregation for final approval.

Within the next couple of weeks, you will receive a letter from Session that outlines the process in more detail. It will ask you to tell us your preferred participation venue (small group, letter, one-on-one conversation), and to seek volunteers who are willing to host a small group discussion session.

We do hope everyone will participate in this process.

*The Session*

DATE	COMMUNION SET UP		COMMUNION SERVERS	
7-September	Al & Audrey Sinner		Marilyn Brinster, Linda Gaskill	
5-October	Adrienne Schilling		Adrienne Schilling, Harold Scudder	
2-November	Judy Gilbert		Judy Gilbert, Yvonne Karreman	
*GREETERS/USHERS Arrive at 10:00 am	DATE	SNACKS	FLOWERS	LAY LEADER
Darla & Howard Kynytch	31-Aug			Randy Dunn
	7-Sept			
Lois & Russ McFann	14-Sept			
	21-Sept	Boys Brunch Bunch		
Hiram and Micah Schoonover	28-Sept			
	5-Oct			
Kathleen & Mark Dinwiddie	12-Oct			
	19-Oct			



Newsletter Deadline:  
September 17  
Linda Dunn - Editor  
503-

*"Father, bless the person reading  
this in whatever it is that you  
know they need."*



Every morning lean thine arms awhile  
Upon the windowsill of heaven  
And gaze upon thy Lord.  
Then, with that vision in thy heart,  
Turn strong to meet the day.

Unknown

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**FIRST CLASS MAIL**