



THE PLYMOUTH PLACARD

October 2018

WORSHIP FOR OCTOBER

October is the month when our worship calendar really begins to get into the groove with World Communion Sunday, Reformation Sunday, and Consecration Sunday. This year the latter two coincide on October 28, and it will not be a day to miss! Mark Heiskanen is planning a Bach extravaganza for all three services that day, and the Stewardship Board will be offering burritos following each service (so, it's Baroque and Burritos!).

We offer three services each Sunday, so please join us!
9:00 Communion Service (large)
11:00 Choral Service (medium)
6:00 Evening Service with Communion (intimate)

October 7 - WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Celebrate the unity of Christians around the globe in sharing communion. *Neighbors in Need* offering (see bottom right).
1 Corinthians 11.17-26

October 14

Don't Worry!
Matthew 6.25-33

October 21

Through the Eye of a Needle
Mark 10.17-31

October 28 - REFORMATION SUNDAY & CONSECRATION SUNDAY

Please bring your pledge card for 2019 and join the Stewardship Board for burritos after each service!
Each of the three services will feature the music of J.S. Bach.

Coming up on November 4

All Saints and Totenfest
We remember those we have loved and lost.
Special Choral Evensong at 6:00 p.m. Music by C.V. Stanford and Maurice Duruflé will be offered.

Calendar Highlights

Go to PLYMOUTHUCC.ORG and click on NEWS to see our full calendar

Sunday, October 7 - noon

Library Grand Opening Reception

Thursday, October 11 - 6:00 p.m.

Hops for Hope (Jessup Farm)

Friday, October 12 - 6:00 p.m.

Heritage All-church Potluck

Saturday, October 13 - 11 a.m. on

CSU home football game *Parking lot reserved*

Saturday, October 13 - 6 p.m.

Ram Fellowship & YUCCA Ghost Tour

Saturday, October 26 - 4 p.m. on

CSU home football game *Parking lot reserved*

Sunday, October 28

Reformation Sunday & Consecration Sunday
Baroque & Burritos with each service - **Don't forget your pledge card!**



Plymouth Congregational UCC

916 West Prospect Rd Fort Collins, CO 80526

www.plymouthucc.org

gathered in 1903

970-482-9212

Hal Chorpenning, senior minister, hal@plymouthucc.org

Jake Joseph, associate minister, jake@plymouthucc.org

Jane Anne Ferguson, associate minister (Sun., Tues., Thurs.), janneanne@plymouthucc.org

Mark Heiskanen, director of music, music@plymouthucc.org

Mandy Hall, CF director (children & youth), mandy@plymouthucc.org

Mark Lee, CF director (adults...Sun., Tues., Thurs.), mark@plymouthucc.org

Anna Broskie, IT/comm. coordinator (mornings), anna@plymouthucc.org

Barb Gregory, office manager, barbara@plymouthucc.org

Jenn and Johnny Wieda, sextons, sexton@plymouthucc.org

Our full-time ministers and program staff work Sunday-Thursday

FROM HAL'S DESK: WHAT

DIFFERENCE CAN WE MAKE?

A rabbi was explaining the geography of the Middle East to a class of young people preparing for their bat and bar mitzvahs, and he showed a map and then photographs of the Sea of Galilee. He described how the Jordan River flows into the Sea in the north and flows out in the south. He showed pictures of people hauling in fish and farming the verdant fringe around the lake. Then on the map he traced the Jordan flowing south and how it finally empties into a larger body of water. Yet, when we showed photos, the students were struck because there were no fish in the briny lake. There was no visible vegetation around its shore...just lifeless crystalline forms of dried salt. And the rabbi explained that fresh water flows in, but no water flows out from the lake, so it becomes brackish and lifeless. "That is why," said the rabbi, "they call it the Dead Sea."

• Because you pledge, people who are hospitalized or homebound receive spiritual support in times of crisis and everyday need.

• Because of the flow of your generosity this year, a formerly homeless family found permanent housing through our One Village One Family program. And we welcome up to 20 people experiencing homelessness to Plymouth four times a year through Faith Family Hospitality Network.

• Because of your giving, smaller congregations (like those in Windsor and



How like the Sea of Galilee we are when we allow energy to flow through us! The Spirit flows freely into us and when we give to others and to God, it flows outward. We become more spiritually alive when we allow that flow to take place: with our time, with our spiritual energy, and with our money. Conversely, when we only receive the flow and do not "pay it forward," part of us becomes dead inside. That flow—of spirit, of time, of money—is what generosity is all about.

This month, you will have the opportunity to pledge your financial support for our congregation on Consecration Sunday, October 28. One of the abiding traits of Plymouth folk is that we want to make a positive difference in God's world. I see this in the way we act for social justice, the way we open our building to community groups, the way we make guests feel welcome on Sundays, and the genuine care and concern we show for one another.

You may wonder what difference your giving to Plymouth makes, and it may not be obvious to you, so let me offer some insights:

• Because of your generosity, community groups like Prairie Mountain Zendo, Laudamus, PFLAG, Campus AA, Neighbor to Neighbor, and Contemplative Outreach have a place to call home.

Loveland) have conference support as they seek new clergy leadership.

• Because you support Plymouth, our clergy reach out to the wider church by providing online biblical interpretation, ecumenical and UCC leadership, guidance on the boards of La Foret, Archway Housing, Housing Catalyst, Clergy for a Safe and Just Fort Collins, and others.

• Because of your financial support, we have excellent programs for children and youth, from Sunday School to OWL to youth groups. And we have the richest Adult Education program in the Rocky Mountain Conference.

Can you imagine what Plymouth would be like if we didn't allow our energy to flow? ...if we didn't send spiritual energy outward each Sunday? ...if we didn't provide learning opportunities for young people? ...if we didn't provide a physical home for community groups? ...if we didn't lead through our mission giving? I think we would become brackish and lifeless. I know that isn't going to happen, because I know that you feel the flow of God's spirit moving at Plymouth, and I know that we are a vital, concerned, and generous people to whom God has entrusted so many blessings.

Yours in the flow,

On 10/7, Christians celebrate World Communion Sunday, and UCC churches receive the **Neighbors in Need Offering**. This year, donations go to the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministry and Justice and Witness Ministries focusing on immigrants. Help make our commitment as an Immigrant-Welcoming Congregation tangible. Make checks out to Plymouth with *NIN* on the memo line, or if giving online/via text be sure to use *NIN* as the fund. Thank you for using this opportunity to follow the Scripture's directive to "love your neighbor as yourself."

BOARD AND COMMITTEE NEWS

Fri. **10/12**, 5:30 p.m., the annual **Heritage Potluck Dinner** (Fellowship Hall): Bring a dish to share from your heritage/family traditions, a hearty appetite, a spirit of culinary adventure, and a copy of your recipe for us to share. After dinner, we'll have a friendly Bingo competition. Please bring a prize (new or used, thrift shop or dollar store, wrapped or unwrapped). All ages food & fun—join us!

Look for information in the mail about the **Stewardship Campaign** • 10/7 – Stewardship Budget & Finance Forum 10 am • 10/14 – Kick Off Campaign • 10/21 – Stewardship Sunday • 10/28 – Consecration Sunday (Last to pledge!)

Music events: 10/21 - Organ Encounter with Dir. of Music Mark Heiskanen after the 11 a.m. service. A guided tour of the organ with opportunities to play! 11/28 - New opportunities for choral singing: The Chamber Choir, primarily at the 9 a.m. service, and the Plymouth Chorale, an auditioned ensemble. Please contact [Mark Heiskanen](#) for more information.

Coffee Hour needs help. It's easy and we will be happy to train you. Sign up right beside the dirty dish window. Questions? [Kathee Houser](#) (928) 600-4610.

Is there a need for a **Plymouth singles** group? All ages, come join us after church on **10/14** for a simple lunch in the Fellowship Hall to see if there is interest. Sign up on the bulletin board. Questions? [Kathee Houser](#) (928) 600-4610

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL UPDATE

In addition to our regular mtg., LC also led a State of the Church Town Hall during the Forum hour. We are working on ways to communicate more broadly than minutes posted in Fellowship Hall and this short update. (Stay tuned!) We also: provisionally adopted updated Financial Policies & Procedures; approved a 4% endowment funds disbursement recommended by Planned Giving to Boards; and continued the discussion of how the church can thrive and grow as the world changes around us ("Adaptive Challenge"), for which we will be forming a Task Force with members of the LC and the wider congregation. Do reach out if you're interested! LC also discussed ways to communicate victories and achievements: so many good things happen within our Ministry Teams, Boards,

Committees, and Staff. LC will be working on processes for gathering these wins and communicating them so we can celebrate God's Realm in the here and now. - [Dianne Stober](#), Moderator

Were you able to log into the directory (F1Go) successfully in September? If not, email [Anna](#) to set up a time to get help over the phone.

Income

August Income for 2018: \$50,761
Budgeted Income for August 2018: \$69,184
Income YTD: \$581,101
Budgeted Income YTD: \$553,472

Expenses

Expenses for August 2018: \$55,547
Budgeted Expenses for August 2018: \$70,798
Expenses YTD: \$539,906
Budgeted Expenses YTD: \$571,419

YOUTH CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Our semester is off to a great start! We have an incredible team of almost 40 adults and youth who are volunteering in Children and Youth Formation! It is incredible to see so many people surrounding our young folks and helping them explore their faith. There are still some open spots on our teams. If you want to join in this exciting and fruitful ministry, contact mandy@plymouthucc.org

Thank you for your support of the Car Wash in September. We raised over \$1000 to send our 8th-12th graders to the Rosebud Episcopal Mission serving the Lakota people on the Rosebud Indian Reservation. We will be going in June and it will be a combined trip with First Cong. Greeley.

October 14th is the first Front Range Youth Event (FRYE) of the year! 6th-12th Graders will be joining the youth from the UCC churches in Greeley, Windsor, Loveland, and Longmont on a spooky trip through a corn maze.

Registration is now open for the Fall Youth Retreat. The theme this year is "La Foret Unplugged" and we'll be exploring ways we can unplug from our stressful daily lives, play and enjoy the presence of God in the beautiful Black Forest of Colorado Springs. Register today at rmucc.org - scholarships available. - *Grace & Peace, Mandy :-)*

MINISTRY TEAMS

Ram Fellowship @ Plymouth (college students) AND **YUCCA** (20s and 30s) - Join us on **10/13** at 6:00 p.m. in Old Town Fort Collins for a Ghost and Goodies Tour, sponsored by the Congregational Life Board. The tour is open to children, but space is limited. RSVP to [Nic Redavid](mailto:nredavid@gmail.com) (nredavid@gmail.com).

The **Wholeness Prayer Group** meets the 2nd and 4th Mon. in the adult ed. room through the school year. **10/8 & 22**, 10-11:30 a.m. We share our prayer concerns for ourselves, family, church and the world, discuss an assigned reading, and end with prayer. We will be using the book *Occasions for Alleluia* by David Adam. [Jean Preslan](mailto:Jean.Preslan@comcast.net), JDPreslan@comcast.net, (970) 484-2595.

Hops for Hope 6 p.m. Thursday **10/11** at Jessup Farm Barrel House (1957 Jessup Drive 80525). [Mark Lee](#), host.

Thurs., **10/11** at noon (Fellowship Hall). Join the Kitchen Angels and the First Name Club for a delicious lunch and a program! Assoc. Minister [Jake Joseph](#) leads a **pumpkin decorating** activity! Sign up on the bulletin board (Fellowship Hall) or [Barb Gregory](#) (office) by 10/9. Suggested donation: \$5 per person.

The long discussed **Mens Fellowship** tour to the arts warehouse will be done on Saturday **10/13**. We will find food after the tour. The facility is next to the Fort Collins Raptor Center at 720 East Vine Drive. For further information contact [Con Woodall](#), (970) 217-6294 or conwoodall84@gmail.com.

As a member of the **Interfaith Council**, Plymouth helped \$9,500 in grants go to community nonprofits in 2018! At the last mtg., SummitStone Health discussed the high suicide rate in NoCo. (They served 10,000+ persons in crisis in 2017.) We came away with a deeper awareness of issues, community resources, and ways to creatively and lovingly support one another. - [Hermi LaPoint](#)

Donating greeting cards for the women at the Denver Correctional Facility is a way of being disciples to those we do not know, and an "all win" for the recipients and for us. The wire basket for dropping off cards is on the cabinet near the kitchen. Questions? [Mary Kay & Ron Graver](#), (970) 631-9005.

Please join Plymouth **Centering Prayer 10/20**, 8:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. in the Forum Room. We will do two sets of Centering Prayer (first timers welcome!), learn about the use of labyrinths, walk the Plymouth labyrinth, and create a personal labyrinth. Coffee and tea provided. By donation. Sign up on the board in Fellowship Hall. [Pat Slentz](#) is a spiritual director and trained labyrinth facilitator.

The sign up for **Dinners for Seven** is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. This an opportunity for a group of folks to gather and enjoy a meal and each other's company. Questions call [Kathee Houser](#) (928) 600-4610.

Fellowship of the Grape (ages 21+) will be on **10/26** at 6 p.m. at the home of [Jim and Carol Goetti](#), 601 Mountain Ave., Fort Collins, 80521. Bring a bottle of wine and an appetizer to share.

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

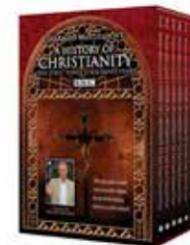
Our **Library's Grand Re-Opening** will take place at noon on **10/7**. Snack and learn how you can take advantage of Plymouth's fantastic collection for your own personal growth and study. Thanks [Sara Myers](#) and the Library Team!

Every Sunday at 10 a.m.:

- **Inspired: Slaying Dragons, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again**, by [Rachel Held Evans](#). [Sarah Parmenter](#), N. Adult Ed Rm., through 10/28.
- **Life Together**, by [Dietrich Bonhoeffer](#). After the Nazi takeover of the state German church, the opposition formed the underground "Confessing Church." One of the leaders was pastor and theologian [Dietrich Bonhoeffer](#), who ran an illegal seminary and was later implicated in the plot to assassinate Hitler, and was hanged by the Gestapo one month before the war ended. [Laura Nelson](#), Fireside Room, through 10/28.
- **Sunday Forums (10 a.m.)** - See website for details.

Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m.: "History of Christianity: The First Three Thousand Years." [Mark Lee](#) (Dir. of Adult Christian Formation), Fireside Rm., through 10/30.

Full information: go to plymouthucc.org and click on **Adult Christian Formation** in the top menu.



Plymouth Congregational UCC
616 West Prospect Road
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526



October 2018

THE PLYMOUTH PLACARD

Non-profit organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Ft. Collins, CO 80521
Permit No. 109