



The Grapevine

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower."

John 15:1

Calendar for March 15-31

Wednesday, March 15

11:00 a.m. GIFT (Growing In Faith Together) Group to Presbyterian Homes, SummerWood
6:00 p.m. Lenten Supper
6:30 p.m. Lenten Service
6:30 p.m. Youth Group
7:00 p.m. Building and Grounds Committee Meeting
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 19

9:30 a.m. **Worship**
9:45 a.m. Education
10:45 a.m. Inquirer's Class
10:45 a.m. Prayer Chain Group
10:45 a.m. Adult Forum - *The Last Week of Christ*
3:00 p.m. Confirmation Class

Tuesday, March 21

12:30 p.m. Staff Meeting
6:30 p.m. Zumba Class
7:00 p.m. Worship Ministry Meeting

Wednesday, March 22

9:30 a.m. GIFT (Growing In Faith Together) Group
1:00 p.m. Book Club
6:00 p.m. Lenten Supper
6:30 p.m. Lenten Service
6:30 p.m. Youth Group
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, March 25

12:00 p.m. **GRAPEVINE DEADLINE**

Sunday, March 26

9:30 a.m. **Worship** - New Members and Baptism
9:45 a.m. Education
10:45 a.m. Adult Forum - *The Last Week of Christ*

Tuesday, March 28

12:30 p.m. Staff Meeting
6:30 p.m. Zumba

Wednesday, March 29

9:30 a.m. GIFT (Growing In Faith Together) Group
5:30 p.m. **VOLUNTEER NIGHT AT IOCP**
6:30 p.m. Youth Group
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

From: Rev. Anne Fisher, Transitional Pastor

One of my prior churches had a mission partnership with a small town, Atebubu, in Ghana. The church raised funds for a badly needed kitchen at a local hospital, they provided backup generators for the town's water treatment and they helped build a new sanctuary for the local Presbyterian Church. I was part of a group from the church that visited our partners in Ghana. It was a long bus ride from the capital of Accra to the Atebubu. As we approached the town, we saw a crowd of people in the middle of the road in front of us. When the bus stopped at the town's edge, we realized that the crowd was waiting for us. A brass band started playing and the people began to sing. We tentatively stepped down from the bus not sure what would happen next. The people surrounded us in dance and song. Together we created a procession slowly making our way down the main road to the Presbyterian Church. I can honestly say that it was the first time I truly felt like a Rock Star! Once inside the church, the music continued with drums added to the brass band. There were more people, more singing and more dancing. The joyful cacophony took in all the senses. I have never experienced a friendlier welcome than from the Presbyterians of Atebubu Ghana!

A strength of Plymouth Presbyterian Church is our relationships with one another. We appreciate our connection as fellow Christians coming together to worship God. How do we translate that to others who join us? We may not have a band meeting them at the edge of our property to walk with them into our church building, but being welcoming and showing hospitality is an intentional endeavor which involves everyone. We cannot leave it to someone else to welcome, and provide hospitality.

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If connecting with each other is a part of who we are, we cannot assume that it will simply happen. We need to plan and practice and continue to work at being a welcoming friendly place that we call home. Considering how we open our arms and our hearts to those who come, may be one of the most enjoyable things we do!

The top of our letterhead reads: Building Faith; Making Friends; Serving People. How can we be better at making new friends?

Blessings,
Anne



Interested in learning more about Plymouth Presbyterian Church?

Join us at 10:45 a.m. this Sunday, March 19, in the Conference Room. Those wishing to join Plymouth Presbyterian Church will be able to do so on March 26.

Plan to attend the All Church Retreat at Clearwater Forest October 13-15 As our Calendars fill up, set aside this weekend for building up yourself in renewal, reflection and being in God's beautiful nature.



Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area

Invite you to our Spring Gathering

'Caring for Yourself and Caring for Others'

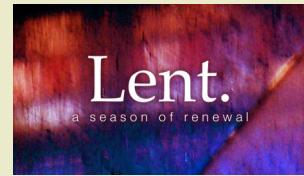
"And what does the Lord require of you?"
Micah 6:8

Saturday, April 22, 2017
9:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Registration, coffee and fellowship at 9:00 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church
6201 Osgood Ave. N., Stillwater

More information is available on the bulletin board in the Narthex.



Midweek Lenten Services

"Stepping to the Beat of the Beatitudes"

March 15 - 6:00 p.m. Light Soup Supper
6:30 p.m. Service

"Blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted" **Led by:** Confirmand Lucas Feterl and mentor Bruce Koenen

March 22 - 6:00 p.m. Light Soup Supper
6:30 p.m. Service

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth." **Led by:** Confirmand Katie Larson and mentor Janet Menary

March 29 - 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. Service Day at Inter-faith Outreach Food Shelf and Retail 101 Shop

April 5 - 6:00 p.m. Light Soup Supper
6:30 p.m. Service

"Blessed are those who hunger and search for righteousness, for they will be filled"

Led by: Rev. Anne Fisher

Holy Week Services



Palm Sunday, April 9

Service at 9:30 a.m.
Pancake Breakfast

Maundy Thursday, April 13

Service at 7:00 p.m.
Communion



Easter Sunday, April 16

Service at 9:30 a.m.

Adult Christian Formation: Rev Fisher is teaching a series, based on the book *The Last Week of Christ*, on Sundays March 5 - April 2 from 10:45 - 11:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room. You do not have to attend every class, each one is a different day in Christ's last week. Please join us!



Sharing Our Faith Securing Our Future

Building upon Plymouth Presbyterian Church We are almost there! As of Sunday, March 12, **27 pledges/checks** have been received with a **total commitment of \$51,075!!!** Thank you for your generous response. We are in reach of our goal. If you have not yet indicated how you can help, please carefully consider a pledge to help attain our 2017 goal of \$60,000. Every dollar will go toward our principal montage payment.

News from the PPC Deacons:



Letters from your Deacon Care Team are on their way!

The Deacon Care Teams are looking for fun ways for us to connect the folks and families within our care teams. Maybe a potluck or coffee and tea for the group after church? Please let us know what would be of interest to you!



Keep an ear out for announcements and opportunities to contribute to and participate in the Deacon's Auction. This event has been described as "the best Sunday in the year" at PPC so you won't want to miss out!



Annual Deacon's Auction
Sunday, April 23
(following the worship service)

Nominations for the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) will be accepted through March 19. There are forms and a submission box on a table in the Narthex.



Mark your calendars! On Palm Sunday, April 9, we're having a Pancake breakfast with Jerry Leaf's secret recipe. A free will offering will go to Clearwater Forest Camp. Please join us!!!

Mission Ministry



We will continue to collect non-perishable food items throughout the month of March. In addition, envelopes are in the pews for monetary contributions. Please make checks out to IOCP with MN FoodShare on the memo line and place in the offering plate. The Mission Team will deliver donations to IOCP, and they will tabulate them so we can celebrate our generous congregation's total giving.

March 29 is PPC Volunteer Night at IOCP Let's help our community by taking the time to work at the Food Shelf on Wednesday, March 29. In order for Interfaith Outreach to plan for volunteers, please sign up in the Narthex.



Wanted: Kitchen Angels to Watch Over Our Kitchen

Where do you usually find the center of a home or community?

The kitchen is the first place to look! Our church kitchen has been the source of much joy and fellowship over the years. We need 2-3 people who can become our Kitchen Angels. The job description is simple: keep an eye on the kitchen to make it is well-supplied and in good order. If you feel called to be on the Kitchen Angel team, please email fellowship@plymouthpc.org, or see Belinda Hollman, Jan Lillemo or Anne Fisher.

Youth Update

- Matt Spoden

Children and Youth Ministry Intern

We had a powerful time together during the 30 Hour Famine, March 3 - 4. We experienced hunger ourselves and thought of ways to combat world hunger. Thank you to Mari Thompson and Loni Gradick for chaperoning the event. We could not have done it without them! On March 12, the Youth collected a Noisy Offering for their 2017 Mission Trip to Martin, SD and would like to thank everyone for their continued support. As we journey through Lent, Youth Group will be structured around the three things mentioned in 1 Corinthians 13:13 - Faith, Hope, and Love. We will be wrestling with how these three things impact our lives, and why they are important.