



# The Grapevine *"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower."*

**March 2023 Edition**

*Grapevine next publishing: April 15th.*



As we move through the weeks of Lent, the Scripture lessons that guide our worship show us the gift of grace we have from God and what it means for us to be a follower of Jesus Christ. At the end of Lent, we arrive at Easter, the day of resurrection, the most holy day for Christians.

At most churches attendance goes up for Palm Sunday and Easter. There is always wonderful music on those Sundays, an uplifting and celebratory feel to those services. Between those Sundays is Holy Week where we are reminded of things we do not want to dwell on because they are too sad or difficult and ask something of us. However, if we want to truly experience the joy and meaning of Easter, Holy Week is truly important.

Please join us for a quiet, reflective worship service with communion, on **April 6, Maundy Thursday at 6:30PM.**

## **Palms for our Palm Sunday celebration**

Every year Plymouth and congregations worldwide celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem by waving palm branches.



**Join us in worship on Palm  
Sunday, April 2nd.**

In 2007 the PC(USA) teamed up with Lutheran World Relief, Catholic Relief Services and the University of Minnesota to offer congregations the option of purchasing responsibly harvested Eco-Palm branches for Palm Sunday. The palms we are using come from communities in Mexico and Guatemala where workers are paid fairly and engage in sustainable harvesting in order to protect the local ecosystem. For more information, visit: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/hunger/enough/eco-palms-2/>.

### **PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

3755 Dunkirk Ln N  
Plymouth, MN 55446  
763-559-2946

[www.plymouthpc.org](http://www.plymouthpc.org)

### Upcoming Dates

**Wednesday, March 15 at 5:45 pm:** Soup Supper followed at 6:30 pm by a short worship service which will focus on prayer.

**Sunday, March 19:** Session 2 following worship - Churchwide meeting for search process.  
Worship committee meeting.

**Tuesday, March 21 at 7 pm:** Session meeting.

**Wednesday, March 22 at 1 pm:** Book Club.

**Wednesday, March 22 at 5:45 pm:** Soup supper followed at 6:30 pm by a short worship service.

**Sunday, March 26:** Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday. We are recognizing the special gifts women bring to Plymouth Presbyterian. We will display on the front pews quilts, throws, etc. There will be tables for paintings, flower arranging, literary works, culinary arts... art of all kinds. Please label your gifts and take with you following worship.

**Wednesday, March 29** is a regularly scheduled volunteer date for the church at IOCP and so please sign-up to serve at IOCP as a spiritual practice of serving others. No soup this week but a group might opt to grab dinner afterwards.

**Sunday, April 2** is Palm Sunday worship.

**Tuesday, April 4 at 7 pm:** Fellowship & Membership meeting.

**Thursday, April 6 at 6:30 pm:** Maundy Thursday worship service with communion.

**Sunday, April 9** is Easter Sunday worship.

**Wednesday, April 12 at 10 am:** GIFT meeting.

**Sunday, April 16:** Earth Day focus in worship.

**Sunday, April 16 at 10:45 am:** Worship & Music Meeting; Deacon's meeting

### **Easter Flowers**

We are ordering special flowers for Easter Sunday. To participate : make checks out to Plymouth Presbyterian Church with "Easter Flowers" on the memo line. Last day to order is **Sunday, March 19, 2023.**

**Given by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In Honor/Memory of** \_\_\_\_\_

(Circle one)

**Plant**

**Cost/plant**

**Qty**

**Cost**

**Total**

Azalea

\$22.00

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tulip

\$10.00

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mums

\$12.00

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Pansy

\$14.00

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Quantity:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cost: \$** \_\_\_\_\_



### **IOCP 5th Wednesdays**

Next PPC volunteer date will be Wed March 29, 5:15 -7:15 pm. We have a sign-up link specific to our group, <https://iocp.volunteerhub.com/vv2/lp/PlymouthPresbyterian>.

There will not be a separate Lenten program for Wed Mar 29 and with a theme of "Spiritual Practice" you are invited to participate in service at IOCP as a Lenten activity.

### **Spring Clean-Up**

The last Saturday in April (4/29) and the first Saturday in May (5/6) will be our annual spring clean-up, from 8 AM to noon both days. Let Gordon Doshier know your availability and what you'd like to work on. We would love to have as many people participate as can. Most things could be done individually on different date, if one of those Saturdays does not work for you.

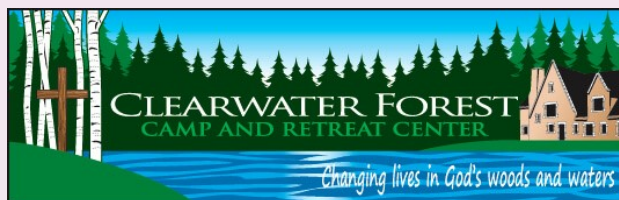
Here is a list of things we normally do:

- Oil/polish the sanctuary pews and other sanctuary furniture (polish will be provided)
- Wash the inside windows in sanctuary, offices, and Fireside Room and all outside windows.  
    Needed: step stool, rags, bucket, squeegee, vinegar (or another favorite window cleaner)
- Replace furnace and air handler filters
- Rinse off kitchen air handler filter
- Drain water heaters
- Put away winter supplies (shovels, sand, etc.)
- Inspect and, if necessary, clean HVAC vents
- Sweep parking lot. Needed: push brooms, scoop shovel, leaf blower
- Clean space under entry rugs (remove rugs, clean space under rugs, replace rugs)
- Pick up trash on lot
- Get snowblower ready for summer

### **Church Family Retreat**

**SAVE THE DATE**

Plymouth Presbyterian Church family retreat at Clearwater Forest, September 29th to October 1st. All are invited! The retreat can be found on the church website calendar. Details later.



## Lenten Service

The Lenten programs have now shifted from Sunday mornings to Wednesday evenings for the rest of the season. Please join us on March 15 and March 22 for a soup supper at 5:45, and stay for a short worship service at 6:30. On March 15 we will focus on prayer as a spiritual practice.

Maundy Thursday Communion Service, April 6 at 6:30 pm.

Thank you to everyone who has helped with food on Sunday mornings in the beginning of Lent!

## Sandy's Famous Kolaches and Cinnamon Rolls

Thank you for Sandy Hawley for organizing the production of the delicious cinnamon rolls and kolaches on March 5. Thanks to all her kitchen crew: Deidre Becker, Spring Becker, Amy Leaf, Anna Becker and Katie Becker.





## **Search Process**

Plymouth Presbyterian Church has begun the process to search for a new pastor. The first step was to get a Transitional Pastor who could help guide you through the steps. Now we need to gather information from the congregation about who you are, where you want to be going, and what kind of a pastor can help you move forward. Some of the work was already completed last summer when you had church-wide gatherings led by Pastor Jeff and the Strategic Planning Committee.

### **When will we start the process of searching for a new called pastor?**

The quick answer is it has already started. Penny Blankenship together with Pastor Carol reviewed the notes of last summer's meetings. There was an opportunity for the congregation to join in the work of what is next for the church on March 12.

If you missed the meeting on March 12, you can still have your voice heard! Speak with either Penny Blankenship or Pastor Carol. Then please plan to attend the meeting following worship on March 19. We want to hear from as many members and friends as possible!

### **What is the difference between a called pastor and a transitional pastor?**

Both are pastors who lead the church, preach and administer the sacraments, provide pastoral care, serve as moderator of the Session and head of staff, work with the various committees and organizations in the church, all the task any pastor does. The difference is that a "called" pastor has been voted on by the congregation while a "transitional" pastor comes to the church with the specific purpose of serving the church during a search time.

### **What are the next steps?**

The Strategic Planning team will be collating information gathered at the meetings as well as other information that will be compiled into what is called a Mission Study. Once that is completed, it will be submitted to the Commission on Ministry of Presbytery. Once they sign off on it a Pastor Nominating Committee can be elected.

### **How long will this all take?**

It is impossible to say, but most churches find it takes at least a year to move through the process and call a new pastor. That sounds like a long time, but in the meantime, there are things you can be doing to help. Participate when there are meetings as the Strategic Planning team helps us do some long-range planning and collecting information from the congregation. Prayerfully consider serving on the Pastor Nominating Committee. And everyone in the congregation can join in prayer for the church during this search process.

If you have questions or concerns or want an update, always feel free to talk with Pastor Carol.

## Credo's Baby Shower

I am so thankful for the all the love and gifts you showered me with. Thanks you so much. May God bless you.

-Credo Aguiya



## Choir Schedule

**Choir Practice Schedule:** (Choir will sing the 2nd and 4th week of the month, Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. (**Not on Maundy Thursday**).

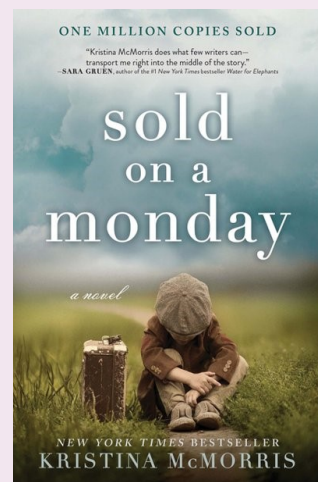
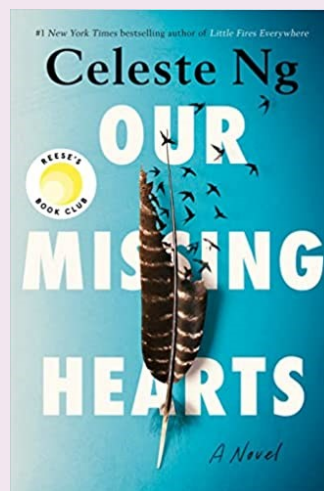
- Wednesday, March 22 at 7pm- 7:30pm
- Sunday, March 26 at 9am– 9:25am
- Wednesday, March 29 at 7pm– 7:30pm
- Sunday, April 2 at 9am- 9:25am
- Sunday, April 9 at 9am– 9:25am

## Book Club

The PPC Book Club meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month in the Fireside Room.

The next meeting is on March 15 at 10 am. We will be discussing Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng, led by Joanne Mann.

March 22 at 1 pm, we will be discussing sold on a Monday, by Kristine McMorris. Led by Pat Johnson



## Presbyterians Preventing Pollution

Earth Day is celebrated across our country on April 22nd. This year at Plymouth Presbyterian Church we will celebrate God's Creation on the Sunday prior to Earth Day, April 16th. Please join us for worship and fellowship time that day. We will be sharing with one another ideas of earth saving products or tips we use and can share with others. Also, please consider being a part of a new group forming at church: Presbyterians Preventing Pollution. Interested? Talk with Loni Gradick or Pastor Carol.



## Message from COVID Response Committee

The following Covid Guidelines were approved at the November Session meeting.

- Vaccinations and up-to-date boosters are strongly encouraged, but proof of vaccination is not required.
- Wearing masks during the church service is strongly encouraged because of the medical community's projections of higher flu and COVID-19 numbers this winter.
- Handwashing and sanitizing are encouraged, and hand sanitizing stations will be provided.
- We have people at risk, so be aware of those wearing masks, and be sensitive to social distancing.
- Those providing food for Fellowship will follow safe food handling procedures.

## Mission Updates

### IOCP Food Collection

We are resuming food collection for ICOP. As you may know, the need for food is great, and Minnesotans have visited food shelves this past year more than any other year on record. We will have a donation bin in the coat closet (feel free to leave bags of food in the bin before then too).

Thank you for your donations!

### Most Needed Items

1. Pull-ups diapers
2. Brand Name Kids' Cereal
3. Canned Meat
4. Pasta Sauce



We also plan to support their "Prevent Hunger" campaign in March-more details to come soon on it! You can also contribute at any time to this campaign with a monetary donation at [iocp.org/preventhunger](https://iocp.org/preventhunger). With every \$1 raised, they can source \$9 worth of goods with their nonprofit partners.

### Donate New and Like-New Home Décor and Clothes to Resale Select

Resale Select Most Needed Items

- Men's Clothing— all sizes, including big and tall; casual wear, active wear, jeans and shoes
- Spring clothing and home décor
- New and like-new home décor

Visit [iocp.org/resale-thrift-store/donate-at-resale](https://iocp.org/resale-thrift-store/donate-at-resale) for hours, address, and Most Needed items.



## Celebrating the Gifts of Women

March is National Women's History Month. On Sunday, March 26 we are celebrating women by recognizing what women bring to Plymouth Presbyterian Church. There will be a display on the front pew in the sanctuary on March 26 representing visible gifts of the women of Plymouth. Please bring your quilts, paintings, drawings, samples of writing or the culinary arts, flower arranging – you get the ideas – we are celebrating gifts of all kinds that women bring to the church. Please label your gift and take it with you following worship.

## Remembering Reverend Janet Shannon and Harold Shannon

For those who have been at Plymouth for a number of years, you will remember Jim and Janet Shannon and their family. Sadly Janet passed away and very soon after their son Hal passed away. Please keep this family in prayer at this difficult time.


## Volunteer


We are in need of worship leaders to read scripture and lead in prayers. If you are interested in helping, please sign-up online or contact the Office so she can get you in touch with those committees, or visit the website at [plymouthpc.org](http://plymouthpc.org) and hover over the Events tab on the top right and click on Volunteer Sign-ups!

## Church Office Hours

Peacock's office hours are Monday through Thursday 11am to 4pm.

Please send any announcements and information for the bulletin to [office@plymouthpc.org](mailto:office@plymouthpc.org) by **end of day Wednesdays**.

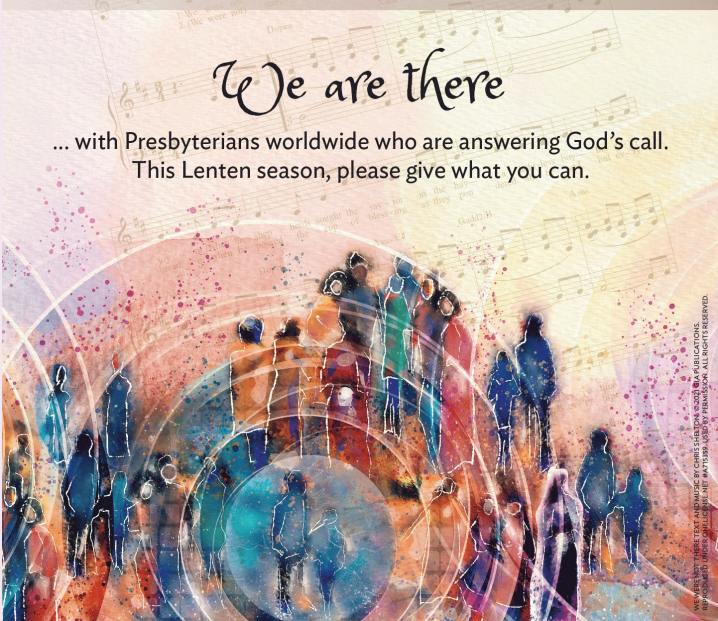
 MATTHEW 25

 ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

02.22.23-04.09.23

*We are there*

... with Presbyterians worldwide who are answering God's call.  
This Lenten season, please give what you can.



One Great Hour of Sharing, taken during the season of Lent, makes a difference in lives!

Collected by Presbyterian Churches across the country, it provides funds to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self-Development of People program. Our gifts help communities recovering from a natural or human-caused disaster, provide food for the hungry, and support grassroots projects in communities experiencing poverty.

We collect the offering on Easter Sunday. Please prayerfully consider giving to this important offering!

PLYMOUTH  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

3755 Dunkirk Lane N.  
Plymouth, MN 55446