



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

John 15:1

Calendar for April 1—15

Tuesday, April 2

12:30 p.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, April 3

9:30 a.m. GIFT (Growing in Faith Together) Group

6:00 p.m. Confirmation

6:00 p.m. Lenten Supper and Service

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 5

10:30 a.m. Bloom Construction Meeting

Saturday, April 6

10:00 a.m. Bloom Baby Shower

Sunday, April 7

Last Day to Order Easter Flowers

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Sandwich Making

10:45 a.m. Worship Committee Meeting

11:30 a.m. Friends of Bloom/PPC

Monday, April 8

7:00 p.m. Session Meeting

Tuesday, April 9

12:30 p.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, April 10

11:00 a.m. GIFT to SummerWood

12:00 p.m. **Grapevine Deadline**

6:00 p.m. Confirmation

6:00 p.m. Lenten Supper and Service

7:00 p.m. Deacon's Meeting

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 12

10:30 a.m. Bloom Construction Meeting

Saturday, April 13

9:30 a.m. Baker's Group



Sunday, April 14 Palm Sunday

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. Leaf Pancake Breakfast



From: Rev. Jeff Foels,

All through Lent, we've been singing "Restore in Us, O God" as a part of our Sunday services. I like having a theme hymn or repeated worship element during our church

seasons – it's a signal, a reminder that we are in a special time in the church. I was drawn to this hymn partially for its evocation of spring as an example for faith (and you're all seeing how much I've loved spring as a metaphor this year!). "O Spirit, wake in us the wonder of your power; from fruitless fear unfurl our lives like springtime bud and flower."

We are continually seeking to unfurl our lives here. We are doing so in worship as we think about turning our lives toward God in Lent. We do so in our Lenten Wednesday worship as we think about growing in God through light and earth, water and waiting. We do so in our common life together – as a church, we are unfurling our life towards the goal of loving our neighbors. There are lots of opportunities to do so in the coming weeks: the welcome shower for Bloom, making sandwiches for the hungry, enjoying fellowship with each other over pancakes, making a difference with the Deacon's auction

So in this last stretch of Lent, come, and unfurl your life! Welcome the stranger, feed the hungry, be filled with the goodness of community. A restorative journey for us all.

Jeff

PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

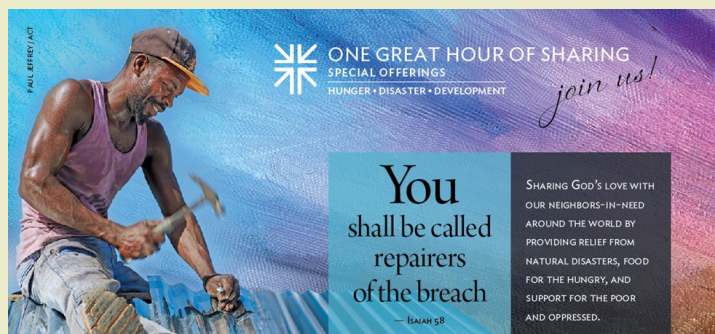
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Plymouth, MN 55446

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www.plymouthpc.org

One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference in the world.



One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) received during season of Lent. A gift to OGHS enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

Our gifts go to fund Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-development of People. Consider how you can give. Our One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be received each Sunday in April.



Lenten Wednesdays

Join us midweek during Lent for a simple soup supper at 6:00 p.m., followed by a short service of worship at

6:30 p.m. As we gather, we will be thinking of the journey through Lent as we consider the metaphor of a seed - preparing, planting, watering, seeking the light, growing, and blooming. Take up this Lenten practice together as we grow in community with each other.



Annual Deacons Auction!

This year's auction will be **Sunday, April 28th**, after worship and will feature silent and live auctions, delicious home baked goods, fun activities for the children, a tasty lunch, and fellowship. Proceeds this year will be donated to the mortgage (75%) and to mission (25%).

If you have items to donate to the auction (new items only please) contact a Deacon or the church office (office@plymouthpc.org). Donation forms are available in the Narthex. **Mark your calendars and plan to join us for fantastic fellowship, walking tacos, a bake sale, and an all-around good time!**



Celebrate Easter with Flowers

Easter Flowers will be available to be ordered on **March 31st** and **April 7th**. April 7th will be the final date to order.

Please contact Sarah Kipp (763-404-2476 or email skipp17@comcast.net) for questions.



Lenten Soup Suppers

We will be gathering together for a light soup supper at 6:00 p.m. A tentative menu is outlined below:

April 3rd: Potato Soup

April 10th: Vegetable Beef Soup

Soups will be made with low sodium and reduced fat diets in mind. It's not a problem to include other special diet requests especially gluten-free, so please contact Janet Menary at 763-549-0055 or wimenary@gmail.com



Donate your shoes -clean your closets!

Ben Hollman & PPC youth are again leading a **Soles4souls** shoe drive in **March & April**. They are

collecting used and new shoes. Last year they donated 125 pairs and are looking to double that this year! Please consider going through your closets and donating shoes no longer needed to **Soles4Souls**. We have a drop box set up in the coat room and narthex.

Used Shoes = New Opportunities

Your new and gently-worn shoes help individuals start and sustain small businesses to lift themselves out of poverty. Donated shoes are a viable resource to help entrepreneurs provide crucial necessities for their families.



PPC NEW SIGN STATUS

An Encroachment agreement for new PPC sign was among consent items passed by Plymouth City Council on March

26. With that approval, we are awaiting response from City on issuance of permit for new sign. Once sign permit is issued, we will coordinate completion of sign fabrication and installation with finishing power supply work and connection. Hopefully we will get the sign permit soon and can get the sign installed, and perhaps connected and operational, by Easter. Watch our corner at County Road 9 for the sign soon!



Bloom Early Learning and Child Care at Plymouth Presbyterian Church

As you know, we anticipate opening **Bloom Early Learning and Child Care** in **May 2019**. But you don't

have to wait to get involved! **Volunteer today!**

- Quilters needed! We provide every child who comes to Bloom with a hand-made quilt to wrap them in love. Start now! We can share samples of what others have made to show the size.

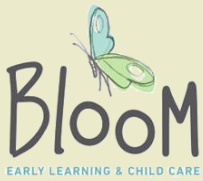


- Join the Marketing Committee. We especially need people experienced in marketing, public relations, social media, writing, videography and photography. Share your talents with us!

- Sign up for one-time volunteer activities, such as stuffing envelopes or providing hospitality at an event.

For more information and to sign up, please contact **Melissa Musliner, Bloom Executive Director**, at melissa@bloomearlylearning.org or 612-325-2077.





Bloom Early Learning Update

The **Friends of Bloom/PPC group** will meet the first Sunday of the month at 11:30. Bring a little food to share. All are welcome!

The **Friends of Bloom Quilt Group** held three fun and successful quilting bee days. At least 10 quilts are in process or finished! Also, some of our members provided sweat equity by helping to paint the nursery/crib and toddler rooms for which Bloom extended a big thank you!

Bloom's **Baby Shower** will be in the Fireside Room on April 6, from 10-12. This is a chance to let the greater community know about Bloom and to purchase items that will be needed, from sippy cups to rocking chairs. There are registries at Target (click on the tiny print to *find an organization*) and Amazon. Drop off your gift and share a cup of coffee, a tasty bite and some conversation. If you can't attend the shower, we will be collecting gifts at the service on April 7th and 14th. Abby Larson is leading this project!

Construction work has started on the **kitchen**. Until it is finished, slated for April 13, the kitchen is off limits to the congregation. All coffee supplies are in the kitchenette.

Center Director **Audrey Heavens** has hired an assistant director and is interviewing teachers and finding prospective families. Bloom is accepting applications for **children** aged 6 weeks through 5 years from both scholarship and full-pay families. The center is opening May 15th. See Bloomearlylearning.org

The nature-scape playground plans are in progress. Stay tuned!

Upcoming events include an **open house** for the prospective families April 30th and a **ribbon cutting ceremony** in early May, which will include the Twin-West Chamber of Commerce, Bloom friends and representatives from the Plymouth Area. This means you!

The big open house celebration will be the "get the scoop" **annual meeting** on June 13th with ice cream

sundaes and tours from 7:00-8:30 with a VIP reception for capital campaign donors at 6:00. It was great fun last year envisioning what was to come. This year it will be even more joyful!

As with Messiah United Methodist Church, PPC will be credited with being a **Bloom Partner**. It is crucial for fund-raising to be clear that Bloom is not a religious institution, though of course the curriculum is values-based. For that reason, our site will be referred to as Bloom Early Learning at Dunkirk Lane N. and Rockford Road. Of course, for PPC's purposes this is a mission, and providing the use of our space is an outward sign of our passion for mission.

Thank you. Penny, Suzy and Janet



It's time for Minnesota Sandwich Project (formerly 363) again!

Actually, with our camaraderie and our many hands, we make sandwiches **after church** for The Sandwich Project of Minnesota. Isn't that amazing?

The sandwiches will be distributed to hungry people on the 363 days of the year except for Thanksgiving and Christmas, when so many people are already involved in that cause.

Save the date **Sunday, April 7th** and plan to stay and be part of the fun.

Donations are welcome and Mission funds the rest.

Kyle Larson and Mark Kipp



The **Time 4 Change** offering on March 17th yielded \$158.75 in coin and \$71 in bills for a total of \$229.75. Two personal checks for IOCP from our members in the amount of \$120 were also delivered.