



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

May 2023 Edition

Grapevine next publishing: June 15th.

Day of Pentecost

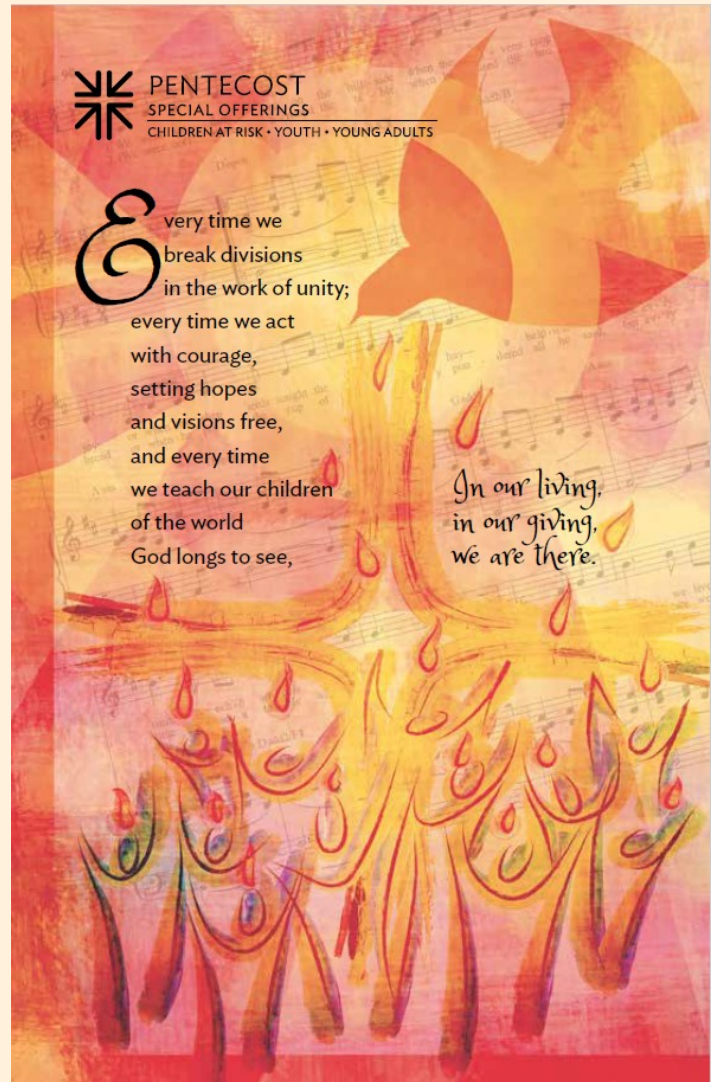
When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ~Acts 2:1-4

Pentecost in the church we always read from Acts 2 about the Holy Spirit coming upon the disciples and other believers. Pentecost has sometimes been called the birthday of the church because believers began to move outside their own small community to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with others.

We traditionally use the color red in worship to represent the colors of fire and the Holy Spirit touching those who had gathered. Join us for worship on Pentecost Sunday, May 28, and remember to wear red or orange or yellow.



The focus of the Pentecost special offering is children and youth programs. 40% of the offering received will be used locally as Plymouth Presbyterian Church decides. The offering is received until May 28th.

PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Upcoming Dates

Sunday, May 21 at 9:30 am: Worship. Next steps on the search process after worship.

Sunday, May 21 at 10:45 am: Meeting about search process.

Wednesday, May 24 at 1 pm: Book Club.

Sunday, May 28: Pentecost. Remember to wear red!

Wednesday, May 31 at 5:15—7 pm: IOCP volunteer night.

Next Steps on the search process

As we continue to move through the process to find a permeant pastor, join us after worship on May 21 for the next step in setting goals for the future of the church.

Financial Gift Matter

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

"The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work."

At this time we are aware that there are many ways for each of us to give. Some have set up automatic payments with their bank account, some use the online giving option, some give, weekly, monthly or yearly. In lieu of passing the offering basket we have set up a bird house offering box on a table behind the sanctuary.

If you would like to provide a donation by cash or check, please leave it in this bird house or mail your offering to the church address on the back of this bulletin. Thank you!

Tech Corner Update

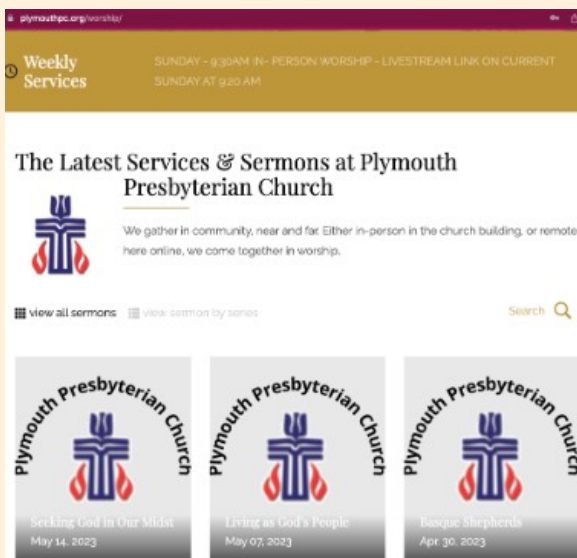
“How to access live-streaming and archived ‘on-demand’ church services”

Do you know that our worship services are streamed live over the internet for you to worship remotely? They are also archived for later viewing at a time more convenient to you. The ability to live-stream our worship services has been a blessing to our congregation in many ways and we are grateful to and thank our previous pastor, Rev. Jeff Foels, who was instrumental in getting it set-up and working. Not only are members and guests able to view the stream from home while isolating from sickness or otherwise home-bound, but our well-traveled members can view the stream while traveling, whether from up-north, from overseas, or from their snow-bird nests! Additionally, since our services are publicly available, anyone interested in learning more about our congregation can and have easily done so.

There are two ways to watch the services online.

1. Church Website

Go to the church website at <https://plymouthpc.org/worship/> and scroll down for the service you are interested in.

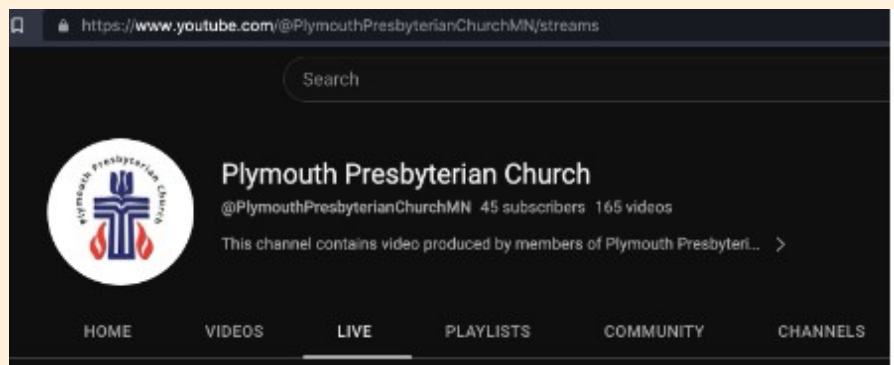


Note, however, that the live-stream won't be available on our website until the stream has actually been started! This typically occurs about 5 to 10 min prior to the start of the service. To get notified when the live-stream is available, subscribe to the church YouTube channel, as described next.

The church website contains a link to that service's printed bulletin to enhance your worship experience. Also, in case the your internet browser fails to play the service video, we include a link for you to directly access the YouTube video stream.

2. YouTube

Go to the PPC YouTube channel (PlymouthPresbyterianChurchMN) at <https://www.youtube.com/@PlymouthPresbyterianChurchMN/streams> (see below) and select the worship service to watch.



If the streaming hasn't yet started, it will be labeled "UPCOMING" as shown below and you can click on the "Notify me" button, and YouTube will notify you when the live-stream begins. At this time, the printed bulletin must be viewed on the church website.

Article continues on last page

Updates on Presbyterians Preventing Pollution



Thanks to everyone who created displays on our celebration of Earth Day, April 16.

Compost Bins

We have added compost bins at Plymouth Presbyterian. They are located next to the outside door next to the kitchen. We and Bloom are putting compostable materials to the bins. “Green” compost materials include vegetable and fruit scraps and green vegetation. We are avoiding putting grass in as it often has pesticides. “Brown” compost materials include dead vegetation (like fallen leaves and old plant stems), paper towels, shredded paper, and coffee grounds. Egg shells can also be added as a calcium source. For small-scale composting like this, we avoid large pieces of paper as the heat generated is not enough to break them down. For good composting, there should be a ratio of about 1/3 green material and 2/3 brown material. If you have a bag of leaves or shredded paper you want to get rid of, drop it off at the church or dump it in one of the bins. Bloom is generating enough green material from their kitchen so you don’t have to bring any from home. While at church, though, you can through paper towels and coffee filters and grounds in the bins.

Gordon Doshier

Solar Energy

A group have begun exploring the possibilities of having solar panels at Plymouth PC. Stay tuned for exciting developments!

Eunice and Page like learning how we are all part of the Kingdom of God.



Per Capita

The Presbytery approved an individual per capita amount of \$37.50 for 2023. Per capita is allocated between the Presbytery of the Twin Cities, General Assembly and Synod of Lakes and Prairies to sustain programs and ministries. Per capital allows us to work with other churches to further the mission of Jesus Christ around the world. Please mark your check per capita when making this contribution.

An interesting fact about per capita is that the first-known mention of per capita dates back to 1734 in a letter to ministers!

Thank you in advance for your prompt payment of the per capita amount!

PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH				
Budget for 2023				
			Actual	2023 Budget
Income			As of 3/31/23	1/1/23 - 3/31/23
	Pledges		50,694	53,800
	2022 Pledges Rvcd in 2023		5,055	-
	Unpledged Income		1,318	588
	Per Capita Income		638	375
	Interest Income		1	300
Total Income			\$ 57,706	55,063
Expense				-
	Christian Formation		-	88
	Worship		-	425
	Presbyterian Mission		-	150
	Fellowship & Membership		(61)	38
	Building Expense		18,325	17,320
	Office Expense		2,542	2,960
	Per Capita		-	1,734
	Personnel Expense		29,772	39,429
Total Expense			50,578	62,143
NET INCOME (SHORTFALL)			\$ 7,128	(7,080)
	The above shows income and expenses for January 1 through March 31, 2023 and the budget for the same time period. Session Ministry Teams and Building and Grounds are watching expenses closely. Personnel is under budget due to Pastor and Administrative Assistant Transitions.			
	If you have questions about these financials please contact Carla Bahls, Treasurer, or Jim Latimer or Tim Huenemann, Session Administrative Ministry Team members.			

2023 Deacon's Auction Results

2023 Deacons Auction Results are in and just over \$4,500.00 dollars was raised. Thank you to all that contributed auction items, as well as plants and baked goods for sale. Also thank you to those that bid on the auction items and/or donated money to the deacons fund. Special thanks to our chefs that prepared the Walking Tacos.

As a reminder, these funds will be used to support the Deacons "Friends Away" program, scholarships for youth to attend camp at Clearwater Forest in Deerwood, scholarships for adult women to attend Chrysalis at Clearwater Forest and those in need within our church community.

Please reach out to any of the deacons if you have any questions or suggestions for fund use in the future. The deacons are the individuals wearing the "red" name tags on Sunday.

Your 2023 Deacons.

Deacon's Auction

Once upon a time, not that long ago, there was a group of nine known as the Deacons. They dithered and dattered and then decided the traditional auction should be held. For fun, for fellowship and to raise funds. But how could it be done?

One of the nine, a guy named Ken, not able to golf, came to the fore. He had not done an auction before. Old documents found, updated and printed, word of the event presented. The other eight did what they could working together to get the deed done.

The people that mattered answered the call, generous with their donations and dollars. The Deacons must give them a holler.

By Bonnie Friedmeyer

New Bloom Director

We are so excited to introduce Larissa Kurth as the new Center Director of our Bloom site at Plymouth Presbyterian Church. Larissa has been our lead preschool teacher there for almost three years and brings a love for children, a passion for early education, and leadership experience. Larissa is married to Austin and they have two preschool children, Ivy and Grayson.

Membership at Plymouth

Are you interested in becoming a member of Plymouth Presbyterian Church? We will have a new member's class this summer for anyone wanting to officially join the church. Interested? See Pastor Carol

Book Club

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

The next meeting is on May 24 at 1 pm, we will be discussing A Promised Land by Barack Obama, led by Melody Baker.

Mission Updates

IOCP Food Collection

With changes to government food assistance, the need for food is great. Our donations are needed more than ever. 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
2. Canned Tomato Products
3. Spices
4. Condiments
5. Hearty Soups

You can also contribute at any time to this campaign with a monetary donation at iocp.org/preventhunger. Thank you for helping feed the hungry in our community!

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 .
- 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.

Presbyterian roots go deep in Scotland

By: Pastor Carol

With a John Knox statue at St. Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh, Scotland



Visit Scotland, especially historic sites, and you find references to the Protestant Reformer, John Knox. Christianity had existed in Scotland since before the sixth century AD. But it changed dramatically when Knox returned from Geneva, Switzerland where he had been influenced by the teachings of another Protestant Reformer, John Calvin.

John Knox was known as a fiery preacher and key instigator in Scotland's dramatic break with the Catholic Church. In 1592, a full Presbyterian system was adopted by the Scottish Church and Parliament. (<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/about-us/our-faith/history>) The new system had power resting not with bishops and a pope but with ministers and elders, the Session, Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. Sound familiar? We Presbyterians follow the same structure in this county.

Visit Scotland and you see Presbyterian Churches, although a church sign may say: The Church of Scotland. (If you watched any of the recent coronation of King Charles, you heard about the Church of England which is Anglican or what we in the U.S. call Episcopalian.)

It was exciting to visit Scotland and see where our Presbyterian roots are so deep. My thanks to all who helped in my absence, and to Rev. Chris Hagen and Rev. Erica Schemper for leading worship.

Prayer Chain

To ask for prayers of the Plymouth prayer chain, send a message to

PPCprayerchain@plymouthpc.org. Alternatively,

feel free to contact Pastor Carol:

Pastor@plymouthpc.org or contact

Office@plymouthpc.org. If you would like to join

the prayer chain, contact Loni Gradick or the church office.

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.

Volunteer

We are in need of worship leaders and ushers. If you are interested in helping, please sign-up online or contact the Office, or visit the website at plymouthpc.org and hover over the Events tab on the top right and click on Volunteer Sign-ups!

Church Office Hours

Peacock is in the office Monday through Wednesday.

Please send any announcements and information for the bulletin to office@plymouthpc.org by the end of day on Tuesday.

Tech Corner continued



We recommend subscribing to our YouTube channel. As of this writing, we currently have 45 subscribers. As a subscriber, you can choose to be notified automatically when streaming starts!

YouTube also gives you the options to download the service for offline viewing; to share the service with friends and family; and to give a "thumbs up" if you like the service!

Tech Corner is written by the PPC Tech Committee to enlighten readers on relevant applications of technology and tools that enhance our congregational life together. To reach us with specific issues you can contact us individually or send an email to technology@plymouthpc.org which forwards to committee members.

Spring Clean– Up Update

Thank you to everyone who helped with the spring church cleanup. We got everything done plus some extras!

Gordon Doshier

PLYMOUTH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

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