



The Grapevine

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

December 2025

(John 15:1)



You know what I love about snowflakes? The individual shapes. We were driving back from Clearwater a couple of weeks ago from our retreat, and as I was watching out my window, individual flakes landed on my window. They were all different. I loved seeing the patterns, and quickly tried to memorize them before they melted. I am amazed by snow, and each snowflake's design.

We, too, are like snowflakes. We each are individual, unique in our patterns and design, and created by God.

We have completed our stewardship season where each of you has given your unique gifts, talents, and treasures. Thank you for being you! Thank you for giving!



As someone who grew up without snow, I love living here. There's a magic to winter. I have a childlike wonder and curiosity to snow.

May your uniqueness shine and brighten the world. Just as Jesus will soon brighten our world on Christmas Day.

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Joanna



Stewardship Follow-up:

Thank you to everyone who turned in your Stewardship Pledge Cards and/or Time and Talent Sheets. If you have not yet done so, please turn them in as soon as possible. This will allow the Church's Session to better plan for 2026. If you give through an automatic monthly transfer, we would still appreciate either a Pledge Card or an email to Mike Hawley letting him know the amount. You can put the Pledge Cards and the Time and Talent Sheets in the box labeled "Cards" in the church narthex. Another option is to email the amount you plan to pledge to Mike Hawley, the Financial Secretary, at Finsec@plymouthpc.org. There are extras of both the Pledge Card and Time and Talent Sheets (and blank envelopes for you to put your Pledge Card in if you wish) in the Narthex.

Thank you for your attention to this.

The Administrative Ministry Team



PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Plymouth, MN 55446

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www.plymouthpc.org

CELEBRATING
35 YEARS
TOGETHER



PLYMOUTH
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 7

9:00 a.m. Coffee & conversation

10:00am Worship

11:30am Celebration Lunch, Music & Games

Nut-Free Menu: All food will be peanut & tree nut free.

Everyone's Welcome: Whether you've been here since the beginning or are new to the neighborhood, we'd love to celebrate with you!

Come join us as we remember, rejoice, and renew!



We need you!

There are many ways to support the mission of the church. Please consider volunteering to be a worship reader, greeter, or communion server during worship. For those who like to bake, consider providing treats for the fellowship time and helping with the set-up and clean-up.

Social Night Out - December 4

Our next social night out is scheduled for Thursday, December 4, at Steel Toe Brewing, located at 4848 W 35th St, St Louis Park, MN 55416. Tacos La Muneca - Food Truck is scheduled for the evening. They also have a social run starting at 6 posted on their event calendar and music starting at 7.

Last Call for Church T-shirts!

The order will be placed Wednesday, December 3. Long and short sleeve options are now available. If interested, please fill out this SURVEY or call and/or email the office. Drew will be happy to help you with the survey, if needed. You can call or text on her cell.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSewuQMAkXayj_34RyD4kOQfVDrv9VtW2GRD4Lqgktg0Z2Lfgw/viewform

Cup of Joe with Pastor Jo

It was a hit! Join fellow members and Pastor Joanna for a cup of coffee and caring conversations. The next meeting is December 11 from 10-11:30 at Lunds & Byerlys in Plymouth (3455 Vicksburg Ln N) in the upstairs gathering space. Grab a cup of coffee at Caribou as you enter and then head up the stairs located by the self-checkout area. This will be a monthly gathering on the second Thursday of each month. Note: the coffee shop can be busy. Please allow 5-10 minutes to place your order and grab your cup of Jo.

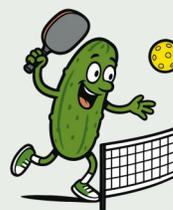


Christmas Joy Offering 2025 - "Prepare the Way"

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we lift up past, present, and future leaders of the church. God has blessed the church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. This Offering provides support for Presbyterian church workers and their families in their time of need and leadership development and education for communities of color at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.



Get Your Pickle On!



We're trying to see if there is enough interest in our church to form a group with the idea of playing regularly somewhere. We know there are a lot of beginner players and others who are interested in trying it out for the first time. So if you are interested only in professional level competition play, this group is probably not for you. Otherwise, it's open to anyone, including family members. This idea is still a work in progress, but if you are interested in putting your name on the list, contact *David R.*, *Franky N.* or *Tim B.* and we will include you as we figure out what works best. And remember: *Stay out of the kitchen unless you're bouncing drinks!*

GIFT Group

The Growing in Faith Together Bible study meets monthly on the second Wednesday of the month at 10:00am in the Fireside room at the church from October through June. This year, they are using the Presbyterian Women's Bible study, "*Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ*," by Rhashell D. Hunter. If interested, please reach out to the church office.

Please Join Us!

GIFT (Growing in Faith Together) will meet on Wednesday, December 10, at 10:00 am in the Fireside Room to discuss Lesson 3: Jesus is Tested in this year's book, *Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ* by Rhashell D. Hunter. If you have not paid for your book, please do so at our December meeting. The cost is \$14. There are extra books in the Office if you want to join us.

Dates: February 20 – 22, 2026

Topic: Our Daily Bread: What Do You "Knead?"

Speaker: Reverend Elaine Boyd

In recent years, bread has gotten a bad rap, but throughout the centuries, bread has been for many people their main source of sustenance. Bread is mentioned over 400 times in the Bible as a sign of both physical and spiritual nourishment. Come explore how this ancient symbol points us to a deeper understanding of God's radical faithfulness, grace and welcomes us, and encourages us to share what we receive with others.

5th Wednesday IOCP Volunteer Nights

Thanks to those who volunteered for our last IOCP night of the year! We remind you that they are always in need of volunteers and you can sign up anytime. We plan to continue this tradition for next year.

We'll continue to volunteer at the ReSale shop within IOCP, sorting donations on the 5th Wednesdays of 2026. The link for sign-up is below.

<https://iocp.volunteerhub.com/vv2/lp/PlymouthPresbyterian/>

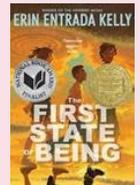
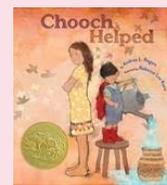
If you have questions or need help signing up, contact *Belinda Hollman* or *Jan Lillemo*.

Book Club



Book Club will not meet in December. The next meeting is January 28, 2026 in the Fireside Room.

The January books are *Chooch Helped* by Rebecca Lee Kunz, the 2025 Caldecott Winner and *The First State of Being* by Erin Entrada Kelly, the 2025 Newbery Award Winner. *Loni Gradick* and *Pat Johnson* will be leading the discussion.



Baker's Group

The Baker's Group will meet again in December to make cornbread to compliment the chili for the 35th anniversary celebration. The group will meet in the church kitchen at 10:00am on Saturday, December 6. Perhaps they will also be preparing for the chili. Always a fun time in the kitchen!

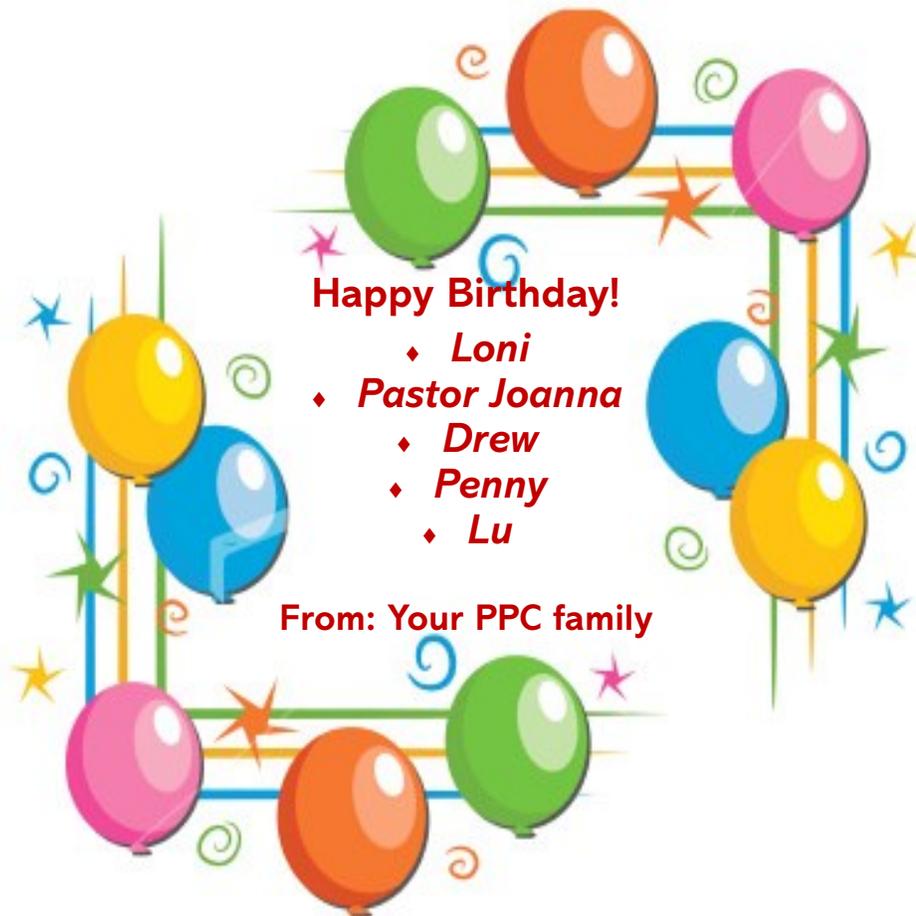
Christmas Toy Drive - Cross Food Shelf

Collecting
at PPC Nov
2-Dec 14

Help bring
joy to local
children in
need this holiday season!
We're collecting:



- NEW, UNWRAPPED toys for children 0-10 years old
- Gift cards gift cards for children 11-18 years



Winter Chrysalis Women's Retreat at Clearwater Presbyterian Forest

Looking for a spiritual getaway? Join other women at this bi-annual retreat. It is an event not to be missed.

Website link: <https://clearwaterforest.org/>

Strategic Planning Committee

Starting in January, the Strategic Planning Committee will begin to meet again. If interested, please reach out to Pastor Joanna.

A Note on Stewardship from the Administration Ministry

We are in the midst of the Stewardship Campaign for 2026, and Commitment Sunday was November 16. If you have not yet submitted your Stewardship Pledge card by then, please bring it to the service on that Sunday. Additional cards are available in the Narthex at Church. If you prefer, you can also pledge by email directly to *Mike Hawley*, the Finance Secretary of the Church, at finsec@plymouthpc.org. Mike will acknowledge your email to confirm it was received. The 2026 Budget will be presented at the Annual Meeting in early 2026.

The theme of this year's campaign is "What is Your Name? What is Your Giving Story?" Each of us has a Giving Story and, as part of that, we strongly encourage you to make a pledge as part of this campaign. First, pledging allows the Church Session to know what resources will be available to better plan and budget for 2026. Second, and perhaps more importantly, the act of pledging allows us to acknowledge that God asks for our commitment and that God plays an important role in our lives.

Finally, please note that your pledges are confidential and are not disclosed to *Pastor Joanna* or the Church Session. Further, your pledge is not a binding obligation but merely a personal commitment to give. If your circumstances change so that you need to change the amount of your pledge, you can let Pastor Joanna know about your situation and/or Mike Hawley know about your change in giving.

Need Information in the Bulletin or Grapevine?

Please send any announcements and information for the bulletin to office@plymouthpc.org by 2:00pm on Tuesday. When sending information for the Bulletin, please put BULLETIN in the Subject Line.

Please send any announcements and information for the Grapevine to office@plymouthpc.org by the 25th of the month. When sending information for the Grapevine, please put GRAPEVINE in the Subject Line.

Reminder: PPC is Peanut and Tree Nut Free



PPC is entirely peanut and tree-nut-free for all food made or purchased for fellowship and special events. Please read the labels to double check ingredients, and any product that states "may contain peanuts or tree nuts" or "made in a facility where peanuts or tree nuts are processed" is unsafe.

We want to keep all our Bloom children plus anyone with severe nut allergies healthy and safe!

Pastor Joanna's Office Hours

Pastor Joanna is usually in the office, but dedicating office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00am-2:00pm. Feel free to drop by during those times!



Prayer Chain

To ask for prayers of the Plymouth prayer chain, send a message to: PPCprayerchain@plymouthpc.org. Alternatively, feel free to contact Pastor Joanna: Pastor@plymouthpc.org or contact Office@plymouthpc.org.

If you would like to join the prayer chain, contact *Pastor Joanna* or the Church Office.

Office Manager

Drew Becker, our Office Manager, will be in the office from 10:00am - 1:30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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