



January 2024

The Grapevine

*"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower."
(John 15:1)*

HAPPY
New Year

A Prayer for the New Year

May all wonder find a place in your soul
and dance with you unexpected steps;

May all joy be at home within your heart
and weave a sacred rhythm throughout
this life and all to come;

May unsolved mysteries make your life an
adventure and pull you towards unknown
places waiting for you since the very
beginning;

May blessing be your forever-companion
and cradle you, strengthen you and love
you always;

May all stillness snuggle into your soul
forging a peace that gives to all things a
place;

May the ebb and flow of life be a daily gift
offering times of pain and celebration and
healing;

and may God let you see what others
miss:
promise cradled in every wonder,
the flow of life shaping a sacred story
where love, and you, dance together daily.

And when eyes that have seen all living
draw into focus salvation's intent,
may they recognize at day's end
a promise, a deed, a gift
fresh born in the world.

*- Reverend R. Hamilton,
the Church of Scotland*



PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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www.plymouthpc.org

Thank You So Much!

Thanks to everyone who has supported the church financially in the past year. If you have not yet turned in a pledge card for this new year, the budget is still being finalized, so it is not too late! You may leave a note or the pledge card in the birdhouse just next to the sanctuary doors.

Gift

Growing in faith Together Bible Study group will meet on Wednesday, January 10th in the Fireside Lounge at 10 AM. Carol Reed will be leading Lesson 5. Newcomers are welcome!

PPC Book Club

Our January 24th meeting is at 1 PM in the Fireside Lounge. We will be discussing the 2023 Newbery Medal Award winner (Freewater, by Amina Luqman-Dawson) and the Caldecott Award winner (Hot Dog, written and illustrated by Doug Salati). This is also the date we will be choosing our 2024 book selections. Please come with 1-3 book title suggestions for the coming year! Questions? Contact Melody Baker.



Interfaith Outreach™
Igniting the power of community

5th Monday Volunteering at IOCP

We had a great turnout of 10 volunteers in November. We are in the process of setting up 2024 dates with IOCP. We will continue to volunteer on the 5th Wednesdays, which will be January 31, May 29, July 31, and October 30 at 5:30-7:15pm. We will continue to use the same link for signing up:

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

The group of volunteers from Plymouth Presbyterian Church who were at IOCP in November, were thanked for the church's continued service and volunteer work. Not all churches have been able to return to volunteering after Covid and so they are doubly

ANNUAL MEETING

Annual Meeting

The Session has set the date for our **Annual Meeting** to be **Sunday, February 4**, following worship. A reminder if you are on a Session ministry team, you need to get your annual report in so it can be included and approved by Session at that next meeting, January 16. Deacons will also be included in the report this year. (Emailing it to the office by the weekend prior to that meeting would be very helpful!)

Thank You!

Thanks to everyone who has served the church this past year as an Elder, Deacon, sang in the choir, was a worship leader, helped with Lenten activities/services, worked with education programs, tackled projects around the church building, served on one of the ministry teams and helped with their work or activity, and many other tasks that kept the church running. It takes a group of people to make a church run and your gifts and talents were much appreciated!!

First-Aid Equipment at Church

There have been a lot of questions lately on the availability of first-aid equipment in the church. We have an automated defibrillator (AED) and first-aid kits. The AED is located on the wall of the hall next to the kitchen. Building and Grounds keeps the battery and pads up-to-date via a schedule. The AED is fully automatic. Once you open it, it starts speaking instructions as to what to do, where to place pads, etc.

In addition, there is a full first-aid kit in the kitchen near the door to the Narthex. There is also a first-aid kit in the office. Thanks to **Pam Koehler** and **Carol Reed** for getting the office first-aid kit stocked.



Christmas Memories 2023

There were many blessings in the Advent and Christmas season - caroling at Summerwood and Cornerstone Care Centers & the Christmas Eve children and youth pageant.

Special thanks to Dawn Anderson for the Christmas Eve photos!



Pastor Nominating Committee

The mission study was turned into the Presbytery and received their approval for a job well done. That information that is included will be helpful to the team who compiles the materials needed for the beginning steps of the search process for the next called pastor. Thanks to everyone who was a part of that process!

We are now ready to form a Pastor Nominating Committee. There are several people who have expressed interest. We will want to have an informational meeting shortly into the new year so please let Pastor Carol know if you are interested in serving on that or have another name to recommend. The informational meeting in early January will be to discuss what all is involved in serving on this important committee. Please prayerfully consider if you would like to be a part of this group!



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.

Pastor Carol's Office Hours

Pastor Carol will be in the office Tuesday through Thursday, 9am to 1pm. She is off on Mondays. For an appointment with Carol, please contact her at

pastor@plymouthpc.org.

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

Per Capita

Did you know that individual Presbyterian Church (USA) congregations pay the denomination a set amount for each individual member on its rolls? Those fees help support the materials and services we use (like assistance the church will receive with the pastor search process), and it provides funds for the greater mission of the denomination. Part of per capita goes to our local Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area, part goes to our Synod of Lakes and Prairies, and part goes to the national denomination.

The per capita amount for 2024 is \$38.50. If you are able to pay for each individual member within your household, that helps Plymouth's own budget!

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