July 2025

The Grapevine

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

I feel like June went by in the blink of an eye. Is anyone else wondering how it is already July? And at the same time, big things happened in June. I write this as Iran responded to the attacks on their nuclear plants from the US. This was not a class in seminary, so I admit, I have little training for what is going on in the world. Except…

What I do know is that every Sunday I say we are the body of Christ. Together. I truly believe this, and I mean it every week. Paul writes to the Corinthians:

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, through many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:12

After the attacks on local lawmakers, ***Senator John Hoffman*** and his wife ***Yvette***, and the murder of ***State Rep Melissa Hortman*** and her husband ***Mark***, and beloved dog, ***Gilbert***, I wondered what to say to you all that Sunday. It was Trinity Sunday. I reminded us that God is communal. God is love. We are made with, in, and for community. We are made with, in, and for love. We are individual members of the Body of Christ. I asked friends from around the US to share prayers and blessings for us—to truly be the body of Christ in the world—near and far—who lift one another up when we need it. Perhaps these prayers and blessings will help us as we seek to understand the world we live in. Keep these close. Remember them. Perhaps come back to this when you've had a particularly hard day.

Pastor Brooke: We lift up our prayers…for safety for our people...and may justice prevail as we seek to bring heaven on earth, *even now.*

Pastor Laura: May our hearts be filled with the Spirit of Peace and perfect love that together dislodge fear and make room for audacious hope.

Pastor Sylvia: May Jesus, God's Love made flesh, empower you to love one another.

Pastor Miriam: May your pain be soothed by God's healing presence. May your sadness be enfolded in God's comforting arms. May your fear be reassured by God's infinite strength. And may your anger be emboldened by God's righteous justice.

Pastor Mark: May we be blessed with enough discomfort to do something and enough peace to know it is of God.

And in deep gratitude for ***Rev. Katy Stenta*** who wrote this prayer for us:

God of Many Names,
We have so many feelings right now

We feel fragile
and human
scared
Angry
And concerned

God of Patheos
And
empathy

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PLYMOUTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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may we walk
with one another
in this time of
deep tragedy

Human Jesus Christ
You of Course know
the human capability
To be death dealing
in violence and assassination
and yet you preach
Teach and walk the ways of
peace and love

Holy Spirit
We are in deep need of your
Life Giving and
Helping presence
to Comfort
Console
Encourage
Inspire and
Advocate for all the things
That we can only sigh for
right now
with prayer and groans
too deep for words

And so we will breathe
a prayer
in community
And prayer
Remembering
even in times such as this
You are love
And that it is ok not to have all the answers
It is ok to sit with one another
and be present.

Lord hear all of our prayers
spoken and sighed
we pray.
Amen.

We cannot make sense of the world and all that is happening around us. We can continue to be the body of Christ in the world.

In gratitude for each one of you,

Pastor Joanna

Food Donations

IOCP most in-demand items currently
(Drop-off in labeled baskets on coatroom floor):

- Bottled water
- Feminine Hygiene products (especially pads)
- Brand name cereals

Bloom
(Drop off in labeled cabinet on the right in the coatroom):

- Canned vegetables (except green beans)
- Canned Fruits
- Soups
- Mac & Cheese (boxes and individual cups)

Let's recycle these items and save IOCP from having to purchase new!

- Empty Egg Cartons
- Reusable Grocery Bags (new)
- Paper Grocery Bags

5th WEDNESDAY AT IOCP
JULY 30 - 5:15-7:00pm

Please join us if you're able; we'll be working in the resale area sorting donations. We have 10 spots to fill.

https://iocp.volunteerhub.com/vv2/lp/PlymouthPresbyterian/event/aa995e85-9b2a-4bfa-8e10-f6edbe21cf31

Bloom Early Learning invites you to their annual meeting on July 31! This year, in recognition of their 25th anniversary, Bloom is conducting their annual meeting during Bloom's Family Fun Fest. The event will take place on Thursday, July 31, from 4:30-7:00pm in the parking lot of one of our center sites.

Plymouth Presbyterian Church

3755 Dunkirk Lane North, Plymouth, MN 55446

This event is open to the public and designed to raise awareness about our mission. Instead of hosting pizza, there will be food trucks selling food for you to enjoy, inflatable obstacles for the kids, activities for all ages, musical entertainment and a brief program that will share highlights of the past year and Bloom's 2024 annual report.

Please RSVP by July 24th using the link below:

https://dsnp.co/ErcUMu

All are welcome!

Bloom
EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE

Thank you!

Thank you, PPC, for all the cards and prayers after the deaths of both our Moms during May. We are comforted with the outpouring of love and support during this difficult time.

-Joe and Belinda Hollman

DEEP DIVE

July 20
Following Worship

Join us for this special "Deep Dive!" *Carol Reed* will be telling us about her time serving at Iona Abbey in Scotland.

Bakers' Group
10:00am
Saturday, August 2

The Bakers' Group will resume on Saturday, August 2. If you like to bake, learn new recipes, or just spend some time with others in fellowship, mark your calendar now for this fun

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Greeters, worship readers and fellowship hosts are needed in the coming weeks. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex or on our website, under the events tab.

JULY BOOK CLUB

Book Club meets on Wednesday, July 23, at 1:00pm. *Drew Becker* will be leading the discussion on our July book choice, *The Wartime Book Club* by Kate Thompson.

PPC Members' Night Out

Note time and date changes!

Due to Independence Day we are gathering on **Thursday, July 10**, at **Surly Brewing** in Minneapolis at **5:30pm.** The address is 520 Malcolm Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414 surlybrewing.com/beer-hall-and-beer-garden/

Please save the date and join us for a casual evening of relaxed conversation and fellowship! There is a food menu for adults and kids, along with many non-alcoholic options. Everyone is welcome, including kids and teens (with a parent or guardian).

Can You Help Our Kids?

With the school year coming to an end and summer approaching, we are transitioning to a kids' arts and craft table in the rear of the sanctuary with art supplies, crafts, and quiet fidget toys for during the worship services. Would you consider signing up to sit at the kids' table to oversee that area and help when needed? Contact *Drew* with any questions or email office@plymouthpc.org to sign-up.

CLEARWATER CHRYSALIS: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2025

IOCP Volunteers Wanted - 2025

We'll continue to volunteer at the ReSale shop within IOCP, sorting donations on the 5th Wednesdays of 2025. 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 Lilemo*.

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!

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.

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.

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!

Office Administrator

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

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