

Plymouth First United Methodist Church



BEACON

REFLECTIONS FROM PASTOR JOHN



“Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.” Such is the way the 10 Commandments, given by God to Moses, transition from specific commands related to our relationship with God to commands relating to our relationship with one another. In a very real way, God says to us, “You shall accept the blessing of the past **SO** you can have a future.”

For those familiar with the Brothers Grimm, you may be familiar with that truth being shared in a rather pointed fairy tale of theirs involving a little old man with trembling hands and feeble eyes, whose uncertain table habits become offensive to his daughter-in-law. Unable to stand it any longer, she removes the man from the table to sit in a corner of the kitchen. One day, in his trembling, he drops his earthenware bowl and it shatters on the floor. His daughter-in-law responds, “If you are a pig, you must eat from a trough,” and she hands him a little wooden trough-shaped bowl.

One evening, the pride of her life – her 4-year old son – is playing with blocks of wood, and when asked by his Dad what he was doing, the little lad looked up and with a smile on his face, he said, “I’m making a trough to feed you and Mamma out of when I get big.” Mom and Dad looked at one another in silence, and then they cried as they went to the corner and led the little old man back to their table, having learned from their child, that in honoring a parent, they possessed their own future.

It's no fairy tale that children learn how to treat their parents by watching us and witnessing how we treat their grandparents. It has been observed that the hand that rocks the cradle, rules the world. Our whole social structure is built on the foundation of our homes. If we never learn to honor our parents, will we ever honor anything or anybody, be they teachers, employers, police officers, or lawmakers? God knows us well, and He shares Divine wisdom – not because we might find such an idea appealing, and not because our parents deserve such – but rather for our own sake and the future of our nation and children “that your days may be long in the land that the Lord our God [has given us].” Exodus 20:12

The fifth commandment is rather realistic. It doesn't demand that we have greeting card sentiments towards our parents. It doesn't even suggest that we are to like our parents. Rather, it insists that we honor our parents. A closer look reveals no hint that we are to honor them because they deserve it or to the degree that they merit such. No, the command speaks to the child's welfare, and the larger welfare of society as a whole. In Ephesians 6: 2-3, the apostle Paul points out, “This is the first commandment with a promise: ‘so that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.’”

You and I stand on the shoulders of giants who have blessed us in many and varied ways, not the least of which is life itself. Folks who have made homes and schools and businesses and churches available to us are numerous and merit our gratitude.

James, the brother of Jesus, was clear, “Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of His own purpose He gave us birth by the Word of Truth ...” James 1:17-18

We fast approach the day of Thanksgiving, and we become wise as we become willing to be thankful – for family, for friends, for the fellowship of our church family and community of faith, and in doing so to care for our future responsibly. May **abundant joy** inspire acts of giving as you express your thanksgiving unto our Father in Heaven!

John

GIVE
Thanks
WITH A
GRATEFUL
heart

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Music at First Fine Arts Academy is going strong! We now have 31 students enrolled in piano, guitar, voice, flute and percussion lessons. Last fall we had 23 students, so our enrollment has increased tremendously! Most of our students are from the greater community. The Fine Arts Academy operates under the umbrella of the PFUMC Music Ministry and is a self-sustaining ministry. For more info, contact our coordinator Barb Levegood 734.453.5280, ext 112 or fineartsacademy@pfumc.org



**Thanksgiving Bell Festival
Sunday, November 19 4:00 pm**

The bell choirs of PFUMC, First Presbyterian and Our Lady of Good Counsel with organ and brass join forces for a festive afternoon of music.

Admission is free; donations will benefit the Salvation Army.

Ushers are needed for both concerts. If you can help, contact Marcia Van Oyen marcia@pfumc.org



Thank you for making our Swiss Steak luncheon a big success! We raised \$1800 towards our choir trip to Washington, DC. We truly appreciate your support!

The Chancel Choir

**NOTEworthy Concert – the Detroit Lutheran Singers
Sunday, October 22 3:00 pm**

Come enjoy an afternoon of wonderful choral music!



The program theme is “Divide and Conquer: Music of Unity” featuring many different composers, double choir, brass and organ.

Admission is FREE; a free will offering will be collected to benefit hurricane relief and the Chancel Choir trip to Washington, DC.

Ushers are needed for this concert. If you can help please contact Marcia Van Oyen (marcia@pfumc.org)

Do You Know...

The Christian Education Committee is a working committee that assists the Christian Education Director in planning and implementing the Christian Education programs for Plymouth First. Elizabeth helps chair the meetings, co-ordinate VBS, supervise Lenten Dinners and the Easter Egg Hunt.

Other Areas in the church where Elizabeth volunteers is Sunday School, Monday Morning Women and VBS.

Fun Fact: She likes to collect cow Christmas tree ornaments.



Elizabeth Penney
Chair of
Christian Education

Tidings of Comfort and Joy: Christmas Music from England & Italy

This is a benefit concert in support of “Pearls of Great Price Coalition” (a non-profit organization that fights human trafficking). It will be presented in the newly renovated sanctuary of St. John Neumann Church (Canton) on Saturday, November 25, 7:30 pm.

The concert features the Community Chamber Singers (conducted by Darlene Kuperus) members of the Michigan Sinfonietta Orchestra, and guest soloists: Lorna Hildebrand, Kristin Clark, Carrick Secorski and Ko Kaiden.

Music includes: Corelli “Christmas Concerto” for orchestra; Vaughan Williams “Fantasia on Christmas Carols” (which features several traditional English carols) and Handel’s “Messiah” (Christmas portion). The concert concludes with the “Hallelujah” chorus.

Tickets are not required. Suggested donation: \$25 per person.



REMINDER TO
BRING YOUR
PLEDGE CARDS
COMMITMENT
SUNDAY
OCTOBER 29TH

NOVEMBER 5TH

Thoughts from PASTOR NICK



*That Sunday evening disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! "Peace be with you," he said. As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord! Again he said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you. **John 20:19-21***

Many of you may not know it, but I'm sure you feel it, change is coming for Plymouth First. What that change looks like we don't know yet, but people are working on it. Currently there is an ad hoc committee made up of the pastors and the committee heads, tasked with doing some wrestling with the question, what does the future hold for PFUMC? One area of focus that has been universally adopted by this group is a refocus on families and youth. This was a strength of PFUMC, and we're ready to put some muscle behind making that a pillar of who we are again. However, doing what we used to do isn't the answer.

On any given Sunday morning walk through our community; what do you see? You see families and young people playing sports, having coffee and brunch, or just taking advantage of the fact they finally have a day free from work. There is the reality of life in America now, and where the mission field is today.

It wasn't that long ago that Sunday worship was a requirement of society, but that day has passed. Now there are many more pulls on people's time. Especially on the time of young families. So the question is, how does the church spread the Good News when we know just opening the church doors on Sunday isn't the answer anymore? That is the question that faces us as a church, and us as Christians.

I'd love to hear your thoughts? What has been your experience with Sunday outside the church? What would resonate with someone you know who needs God's message, but isn't open to the Sunday morning thing? There are lots of places where the mission field is wide open, and Jesus sent us to go to those places. Even those places right in our community.

So are you ready for change? Are you ready for the next chapter of what church is like at PFUMC? Are you ready to be sent?
Blessings!

Nick F. B. G.





Are you currently serving on one of the many committees @ PFUMC? Are you getting ready to join a committee in January? Do you teach Sunday school or lead a small group? If you answered YES to any of those questions, plan on joining us on **Saturday November 4, from 8:30am - Noon** for **Leadership Training**.

We will look at why leadership is important and how we can all work together toward a common goal, sharing the love of Christ with all people.

8:30 - 9:00 - Continental Breakfast

9:00 - 9:15 - Opening Activity

9:15 - 10:30 - Large Group Session

10:45 - 11:40 - Breakout Sessions

11:45 - Noon - Closing Remarks and Communion

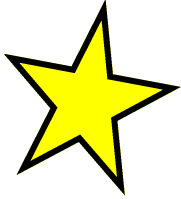
Contact Sarah Sutphin in the office for more information.

GOD SAID "I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU..."

In 2016 many of you gave generous gifts for Clair's Home, to be a large shelter with restorative services for women who have been victims of human trafficking. In October the rains came down, walls we had plastered and painted came down, and we discovered that neither the building nor administration were what we had been led to believe. All of the volunteers said "God must have a different plan." So Pearls of Great Price Coalition withdrew our involvement. We were able to retrieve almost all of the in-kind donations and distributed them to shelters for teens and children who have been trafficked.

By God's grace, except for monetary donations used for supplies to plaster and paint, we were holding these funds until they were much closer to opening the doors for survivors. When everything fell apart, we held onto these funds for the intended purpose of helping a shelter for women. After hearing presentations from *Sanctum House* opening in early November, and *Butterflies 15* already open, we voted to distribute the \$12,400 as follows: 1/3 to *Butterflies 15* with beds for six; and 2/3 to *Sanctum House* that will have beds for sixteen.

God has honored our faithfulness, grown our ministry in amazing ways, and blessed the gifts of your compassionate hearts. Thank you for trusting us as you answered the heart call to assist women victims of these horrendous sins. Both of these shelters are Christ centered.



**Financial Update for
Sept. 2017**

Income \$ 65,507
Expenses \$ 71,506

Income YTD \$ 621,623
Expenses YTD \$ 626,867



NOVEMBER

Sunday

9:00 am Sunday School
10:10 am Worship

FUSION

Monday

BSF Leaders
YMCA Fitness

7:00 pm AA/Alanon



Our Corner News and Updates

TUTORS NEEDED—ONE HOUR PER WEEK

Our Corner/Kids corner at Plymouth Hills is really off to a great start. Many of the kids from last year have returned, along with some new ones.

We are in need of some additional tutors for the elementary grade level kids (grades 3-5). If you have one free hour per week on either Tuesday or Thursday from 4:30—5:30 pm to work with these great kids, please contact either Nancy Navarre (734-459-2221/emailng90@mac.com) or Mary McCully (734 634-6484/email marympfumc@gmail.com). All books and supplies are provided. Tutoring will follow the PCCS school calendar.

5



6 60+ lunch

12 Guest Week

ASP Brunch

13 Guest Week
YMCA Day Camp

19 NoteWorthy Concert

20

26

27

SAVE THE DATE

~ 7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

A quiet and holy **Blue Christmas Service** will hold you close in the darkness of fresh or longstanding grief, sadness, loss, loneliness, or just feeling out of sync with the “merriment” demanded in this season. But we will not leave you there, as Christmas is the celebration of the One who draws us into the Light and Peace of His loving presence. Invite family or a special friend to enter into this sacred time with you and to light a remembrance candle. ~ Pastor Carrie Wood

2017

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
BSF group	6:00 am Prayer Breakfast YMCA Fitness 6:00 pm Bible study 6:00 pm Impact Band Practice 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	YMCA Fitness NEW Bible Study 6:00 pm Small grp 7:30 pm Festival Bells	YMCA Fitness	
	1	2 7 pm Christian Ed 7 pm Griefshare	3	4 8:30 am Leadership Training day
7 6:30 pm SPRC	8 6 pm Men's Bible Study Boy Scouts	9 2pm Knit & Crochet Griefshare 7 pm Trustee mtg	10	11 Guest Wk begins
14 Guest Week 7 pm Evangelism	15 Guest Week 1 pm—Quilting Boy Scouts	16 Guest Week 6pm Monthly Prayer	17 Guest Week	18 Guest Week
21	22 6 pm Finance AA Pie Night	23 THANKSGIVING 	24 CHURCH CLOSED	25 Church Closed
28	29 Poppy Circle	30 Griefshare		

DONATION DEADLINE

Please have all of your pledges and donations in for the year 2017 no later than December 31, 2017. The church office will be closed December 26-29, 2017 and January 1, 2018. If any donations are received for the year 2017 in January 2018, it will be applied to the new year of 2018. We need to do this in order to balance out our records and send out annual statements promptly. If you should have any questions, please contact Susan Henry, Financial Administrative Secretary in the church office (734) 453-5280. Thank you, Susan



Weekly Fusion Events
Sunday School @ 9 am
Confirmation Class @ 9 am
Worship @ 10:10 am
See Sarah Sutphin
for more information.

NOVEMBER

5th & 19th—Fusion; noon –2pm
11-18th—Guest Week, feel free to
come hang out with our guests
12th-ASP Brunch

DECEMBER

10th & 17th—Fusion; noon-2pm
8th—Fusion Outing; details TBD

OCTOBER

20th –Friday Night Fun 6 pm
22nd & 24th-ASP Rummage Sale



Support our youth as they
prepare to go make homes
warmer, safer, and drier.

Join us for Brunch follow-
ing worship on

November 12.



Who doesn't like FUN?

EVERYONE is invited to join us once a month from 6:00-8:30 for a fun filled night. **Save these dates** and plan to be here for some good old fashion fun!

Fun for all ages!! **November & December** - off for the holidays

- January 26, 2018 - details TBD
- February 23, 2018 - details TBD
- March 16, 2018 - details TBD
- April 27, 2018 - details TBD
- May 25, 2018 - details TBD

Our Corner Updates

Great news!

The Fall semester of tutoring has started. Many thanks to all our volunteer tutors who are making a difference in the lives of children.

The Little Free Library is also up and running. Pastor John and Nancy Navarre took 2 boxes of books that our church librarian, Amy Viergutz, selected from the rummage sale. There were already full shelves from the donations of the residents at Plymouth Hills. Laura Pettipher, the manager, is making some additional signage and her staff painted it all license plate blue to match the roofing. Laura reports that both kids and adults have already been stopping by and the kids sometimes pick out books while at the bus stop. Building community and encouraging literacy!

God is good.



Christian Education

Monday Mornings

9:30 - 11:30

Contact Sarah Sutphin for more information



Sunday November 5

Packing Party

Join us to pack up our shoeboxes, pray over them, and get them ready to ship out. We are still in need of some more donations

- Small pads of paper/notebooks
- Pens, pencils, colored pencils, and pencil sharpeners
- Chap stick
- Flashlights and extra batteries
- Small tools
- Hair accessories (headbands, barrettes, pony tail holders, etc.)
- Socks and T-shirts (any size from toddler to adult sizes)

Volunteers Needed

Looking for teachers and assistants to serve in Children's Church for 1st- 3rd graders once a month. Materials are provided and blessings are abundant!!!

See Sarah Sutphin to sign up today!!!

Children's
CHURCH

News From 60+

Lunch With Bob Newhart et al ~

and what fun it was. Bob's droll humor and wonderful face & body language is a great foil for all kinds of funny situations and his many oddball friends. At a time when the world happenings in all its strife can seem overwhelming, laughter is a great antidote. And so it was in Fellowship Hall after 60 Plussers gathered together to share Chef Cheryl's October luncheon fare of lasagna and tiramisu while enjoying each other's fine company. We watched two episodes; first, from Newhart's earlier show when he was a psychologist in Chicago with wacky co-workers and patients, and the second was the famous final episode of his sojourn as an inn-keeper in Vermont with just as wacky a bunch of people as can be imagined. At 88 Bob is still keeping busy. You might catch him as Dr. Proton on a re-run of "The Big Bang Theory" or on a new spin-off of that show titled "Young Sheldon" which premieres on CBS November 2nd.

In November our guest will be Michelle Hodges, President of the Belle Isle Conservancy. We will learn some history of our unique island on the Detroit River and more important will be updated on the great changes that have already taken place to restore Belle Isle to its former beauty and plans for the future. We hope you will join us and invite a friend. So mark your calendars now: **Monday ~ November 6th ~ 11:30 am ~ in Fellowship Hall ~ only \$7.** Sign-up sheet is in the Great Hall, or call Mary (734-927-7551) or Sandy (734-459-5471) for reservations. Look forward to seeing you!



A BIG THANK YOU to all who attended the recent Red Carpet Gala Fashion Show that benefited Pearls of Great Price Coalition. Pearls of Great Price is a grass roots initiative founded by Carrie Wood that is making a big difference in the fight against human trafficking in Metro Detroit. This event not only raised awareness about human trafficking but raised over \$1000 to help in that fight.

Over 125 women attended this event which was sponsored by a team of local fashion consultants with Just Jewelry+ JJ Boutique.

Thanks again, Barbara Levensgood

Box Tops & Tyson Project A

Please save your Box Tops and Tyson Project A Labels. There is an envelope to collect these on the back wall of the church kitchen. These are sent to the Red Bird Mission. This is in an isolated, rural, distressed area of the Appalachian Mountains in southern Kentucky. Over the years the Mission has enjoyed wide support in The United Methodist Church.

For more information about the Red Bird Mission please see their website, <http://rbmission.org/>

Thank You! Chantel Spieth

PRAYER CONCERNS

Family & Friends

Members

Andrew Brown
Linda Calzone
Betty Campbell
Sandy Hackett
Muriel Gyde
Alex Magee
Vince Maiorana
Virginia O'Neill
Dennis Piggott
Nancy Remick
Sandy Rummel

Kathleen Salla
Jean Scheppele
Bill Schlabach
Tammie Todd
Karen Truan
Roger Zerby

Pat Carne
Marilyn Carl
Ethel Culver
Cal Gress
Don Iler
Louise James
Doris Kuhns
Carol Meszaros
Joan McNally
Jean Miller
Tina Powell

Members living in a Senior Facility

Ted Roby
Ruth Ruhl
Geo Schmidt
Ned Stirton
Carol Thomas
Jim Walk
Norma West
Paul Worley

*Cathy Bennet, friend of John & Ruth Cook
Bob Clark, cousin of Ruth Ann Cook
John & Yvonne Burdziak, friends of Pat Richter
Chris, Tammie Todd's Brother
Joanne Duffner, sister of Janet Robertson
Jason Hackett, son of Sandy Hackett
Judi McDonough, sister of Carrie Wood
Cameron Monroe, mother Trista
John Paul, brother in law of Meri Lyn Hill
David Rosenkranz, Thomas Bode
Melissa Rush, Barbara Levensgood
Sarah, Natalie McLaughlin
Marlene Somers, friend—Sharon Minning
Michael Stevenson, (Karen Krot)
Teddy, grandson of Mary McCully
Marti Tousignant, Ruth Cook
Sue Trueman, Sandy Fines sister*

Military

Missionaries

Justin Atkinson
Kevin Clifton
John Dickson
Linda Erickson
Bradley Jodoin
Suzanne Gyde-Hall
Brandon Hill
Michael Pagan
Andrew D. Piggott
Evan Ray (Ramsay)
Tyler Schroeder
Tyler Smith
Tom Uhl

Kris & Sarah Kappler
Johannesburg, South Africa
Partner churches Russia & Poland

Thank You from *United Methodist Retirement Communities* for our donation of \$62 Golden Cross Sunday. This support blesses the lives of older adults by providing a safety net if they outlive their resources.

Wendy Brightman, UMR foundation President
Lisa French



Thank You for your calls, cards, thoughts and prayers! Feeling better than last month; but have a ways to go. Special thanks to Faye Fry, Darlene Little, and Mary Ann Cannon.
Judy Carr



You Are Invited To Celebrate
The
60th Wedding anniversary
Of
Karl and Darlene Little
Fellowship Hour
Sunday
November 5th, 2017

“There are three things that last: faith, hope and love, and the greatest of these is love.”

1 Corinthians 13:13



Beacon

**Plymouth First
United Methodist Church**
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Plymouth, MI 48170-6528
(734) 453-5280
Fax: (734) 453-0375

Beacon & Calendar deadlines:
E-mail articles by 5 pm on the 10th
of the month to pat@pfumc.org

NOVEMBER INFO AND CALENDAR

PERIODICALS

Placed out for pick up at church
Once Monthly

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



11/1
Beth Kuzak
James Person
11/2
Jayla Kuzak
Lucas Larson
Laura Stache
11/3
Christina Butler
Luke Freeman
Carole Sweet
11/4
Bernice Beaudoin
Andrew Magee
Annabella Rivera
11/5
Ethel Culver
Dennis Piggott
Charlotte Williams
11/7
John Filios
Lillian Hetzel
Jillian Hoard
11/9
Judy Kinczkowski
Fred Peckrul
11/10
Jill Brown
Tyler Smith

11/11
Emily Johnson
Marilyn Stevens
Molly Walters
Barbara Stinebaugh
11/13
Cynthia Flora
Karen Harden
Renee McKarge
Rebekah Person
11/14
Bruce Christenson
David Daly
Michael Marble
Janis Migyanka
Sara Novak
11/15
Brandon Tarhanich
11/17
Breanna Anderson
Joan Barrett
11/18
Gene Kornegay
Nancy Remick
11/20
Randall Brown
Zachary Gomrick
11/21
Benjamin Holland
Krista Siddall

11/22
Denise Zander
11/23
Thomas Franklin
Alexis Satterfield
Douglas Underwood
11/24
Diane Carr
11/26
Robert Goud
11/27
Karen Davenport
Sandra Rummel
Ryan Williams
11/28
Jay Siegler
Nicholas Weston
11/29
James Freeman
Alexander Lajoie
Mitchell Madis
11/30
Joellyn Conway
Ashley McDonald
Jim Walk

