



PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

FROM PASTOR BLAIR'S DESK

FEBRUARY 2025

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. But who can detect one's own errors? Clear me from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me.

Then I shall be blameless and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer. (Psalm 19:7-14, NRSV)

The imperfection of faith is a challenge regardless of the level of one's theological education or dedication. It is not that we don't believe or want to be true in our faith in God. We are just overwhelmed, more often than we would like, with our inability to be consistent in living up to the tenets laid before us by our faith in God. The Apostle Paul puts it this way as he describes the inner conflict that he has as person of faith:

For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold into slavery under sin. I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me. For I know that the good does not dwell within me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do the good lies close at hand, but not the ability. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it but sin that dwells within me." (Romans 7: 14-20, NRSV)

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Whether it is in the words of the Psalmist in the Old Testament or the apostle Paul in the New Testament, there is a recognition of the challenge for everyone living a life of faith and that is challenge of living out faith as an imperfect person. The Good News that has always come in response to the despair inherent in such knowledge is that God does not call upon us to be perfect but to be faithful. Part of the value of faith is that desire to live perfect in the face of our imperfections. We believe that we worship a God who is perfect and it is in that worship that we can taste the perfections that we seek to experience. God is at work perfecting us and when we give ourselves to God, that work by God continues in us. That is the hope that we profess. My prayer for us all is that we can be more forgiving of ourselves and, therefore, of others in light of this consistent love and forgiveness that we receive from God.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Blair

FOLLOW THE LECTIONARY

February 2, 2025

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

Prophet on the Edge

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalms 71:1-6

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30

February 9, 2025

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 6:1-18,(9-13)

Psalms 138

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Luke 5:1-11

February 16, 2025

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Surprising Teaching

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Psalms 15:1-11

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Luke 6:17-26

February 23, 2025

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Love your Enemies

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Luke 6:17-38



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Dustan Burgard, Kristy Cihak, Cooper Davis, Alan Eppen, Karen Filegar, Eric Gerber, Linda Mork, Jaxon Kaiser, Bob Olson, Joyce Ochsner, Marjorie Ormand, JoAnn Sanborn, Eddy Schaeffer, Jeannette Sorge, Shirley Schaeffer, Janet Von Eschen, **Alan Chapman**, Corene Chapman and Greg Wilson.

Pray for our members and friends who reside in care facilities or are shut-ins, wherever they reside:

Betty Betten, Colleen Carman, Dorothy Dockter, Erna Gross, Betty Gutjahr, **Lovila Hanson**, Emma Heiser, Alice Hopfinger, Ruth Overby, Priscilla Pfeifle, Joan Sanders, Leo Schumacher, Lois Wales, Kelli Wells, Nancy Wells, June Whites and Joan Williams.

REMEMBER OUR SERVICE PEOPLE

And All the Troops Stationed Around the World

*Please contact the church office (225-2557)
to be added to or removed from the Prayer List.*

Yes! We still have nuts for sale!

Slivered Almonds....\$8.00

Whole Almonds....\$8.00

Gourmet Mixed Nuts....\$10.00

English Walnuts....\$8.00

**Call the Church and place your
order today! (225-2557)**



A MESSAGE FROM OUR MODERATOR

As I begin this year as your moderator, please know that I have much to learn, but will do my best to guide and represent the membership of the church. Sunday was a great day, with good discussion about issues facing the congregation as we go forward. Having been active in the last 3 years, I find all the members so friendly and willing to do what is best for all. Pastors message is always with thought and wisdom, and always gets my attention. Praying for a great 2025. Please feel free to contact me with your thoughts and needs.

God Bless you all.

Brad Olson

*Please send prayers to
Lovila Hanson and her family.
Lovila is in St Lukes with covid
and pneumonia. Her daughter
Karen called to let the church
know and asked for prayers for
her mother.*



*This was as of January 19th, I
have not heard any updates.*



REMINDER & THANKS

Thank you to all those who have
sent in or dropped off their
pledges.

If you haven't yet please do so
ASAP.

THANK YOU

CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Feb. 01	Patricia Haigh
Feb. 02	Lu Van Beek Alice Hopfinger Walter Hoffman
Feb. 05	Jason Heagley
Feb. 08	Dayton Cook
Feb. 16	Dan Bader
Feb. 22	Erna Gross Mary Davis
Feb. 26	George Cross
Feb. 28	Cherie Biel



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Feb. 14	Bill & Tammi Regula	28 yrs
Feb. 18	Doug & Vicki Mundt	36 yrs

Note: If you know of a birthday or an anniversary that was missed, we are deeply sorry. Please advise the Plymouth Congregational Secretary and she will make sure the dates are calendared for the future.



2025 Visioning Team Members

Moderator	Brad Olson-(605)216-2450
Moderator Elect	Mark Gutjahr-(605)228-5150
Facility Manager	Alan Chapman-(605)377-3291
Communications	Patricia Swanson-(605)730-0714
WF Representative	Erin Gutjahr-(605)216-2660
At Large	Dani Roeker-(605)377-3080
At Large	Ron Beil-(605)228-1035
At Large	Chad Masters-(605)225-0498
Financial	Ed Bosanko-(605)228-2486
Spiritual	Roberta Eisenbeisz-(605)380-6578
Auditor	Rod Fouberg-(605)229-1310

Corrections in Events of 2024:***Burt Elliot passed on January 27, 2024, husband to Sheree.******Dick Beil passed on June 23, 2024, son of Delila Beil and brother of Robbie Eisenbeisz.******Marriage: Brad Olson & Sheree Hogan June 29, 2024.***

The end of February I will have been your secretary for a year already!!! Boy, time has just flown by!

I had never thought about what goes on behind the scenes of a church before, so this was a wild rollercoaster ride!! I have learned so many new things and (to be honest) I know there are many more things I will learn in the years to come. Meeting all of you and getting to know as many as possible has been a blessing, I hope you all know how special you are to this CHURCH! A church not just a building, a CHURCH is a group of people who come together in the name of the Lord, and you all fit that description.

Thank you all for your patience and understanding as we went through all the events of the 2024 together. The end of the year and beginning of 2025 was a RUSH and at times I felt as though I was stuck in mud. I always knew I could reach out to anyone for information and it was gladly given or I was sent on the right path to find the answer. And for that, I AM GRATEFUL.

So here is to the next year of service and feel free to call me with anything I may be forgetting or something you would like to see changed or added and I will do my best to make sure everything comes together for all of us.

I am blessed, your secretary,

Laura Bunke



Congratulations Marshall Bunke
for getting OM Tiffany's Student of
the Month Award.

We ALL are so proud of YOU!!



*Come to Supper ,
will begin in April. We need volunteers for this pro-
ject, sign-up sheet will be in Narthex.
Looking forward to some great food and fellowship.*



Please thank the ladies for the Christmas card. I sure hope they will find more people to run the audio equipment, so many of us depend on on-line service.

Please give Pastor Blair a Nice "Hello".

Sending you all best wishes for a Blessed New Year.

Love

Raeleen Schatz

A message from Dee Lauinger.

Dear Friends & Family,

"I won't be home for Christmas!" First time in my 93 years. I am here in warm, sunny Arizona! Love my condo here at Winfield Place.

Two weeks ago I was invited to Lane Kural's Phx home for a "Sister" reunion, with Gladys, Merlene, Cindy, myself and a few cousins too. GREAT DAY!

Now I plan for my Fords, Werth's & grands & Greats to visit me.

Friends here keep me busy with get togethers, cards pool time, sinning & eating out! Lauinger's too!

Had a nice Aberdeen summer, nice garden, lots of flowers & great help! Jody & Dixie live nearby to check on me & include me with visits, great food & sweets!

All in all, I'm good & happy. I thank God every day for my blessings.

Merry Christmas and a Happy 2025! Keep the memories.

Love Dee

(FYI she mailed this December 23rd and we did not receive until January 22nd)



Plymouth Rocks

Church and Family Life

Upcoming Events

Feb 5 - G2G @ 3:30

Feb 12 - G2G @ 3:30

Feb 16 - Youth Group @ 5

Feb 19 - G2G @ 3:30

Feb 26 - G2G @ 3:30

Placerville Camp Schedule for 2025

Women's Camp - June 1-5
Shining Stars (Gr 2-3) - June 2-6
Family Getaway - June 5-8
Seekers (Gr 4-5) - June 8-13
Faith Explorers (Gr 6-8) - June 15-20
Crossroads (Gr 9-12) - June 22-28
Grand Camp - June 20-22
Family Camp - July 20-26

Camperships are available from the church. Early registrations are due by May 1st. See Sheila for more details. Registrations available at the church or online at placervillecamp.net If you are registering online, please let Sheila know so we can pay your registration fees from the church.

Special News

Let's shower our kids and youth with Love Notes!!

Special containers will be available for each of them at the church. Members of the congregation are invited to create or purchase valentines for the special kids and youth of Plymouth Church. Supplies will be available in the fellowship hall or do your own thing! Let's shower these kids with our love!

The kids are working on their own Valentines for Plymouth's shut-ins.



Greetings everyone!

Is there a special project or ministry you would like to see Plymouth get involved with? I'm looking for new ideas that we might be able to try to continue making a difference. Sometimes it is easier to do challenging things together. We can share the load.

So, if there is something you would like to try, let me know. I need to know what members of Plymouth might like to do in ministry.

*Now is as good a time as any other.
Let me know. . .*

*Rev. Sheila Apland-Ottenbacher
Minister of Church and Family Life*


John 17: 21 That they may all be one.

living God's word in our church family and beyond.

Sharing and

NEXT MONTH AT PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL UCC

MARCH 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Transfiguration Sunday 10a: Worship; communion 11a: Fellowship	3	4	5 ASH Wed. 6PM	6	7	8
9 First Sunday in Lent 10a: Worship 11a: Fellowship 11:30a-Project sermon response meeting	10	11 7P: DAV	12 3:30P G2G	13 7P: Women's Fellowship	14	15
16 Second Sunday in Lent 10a: Worship 11a: Fellowship 6:30p-Lent follow-up study	17 St Patrick's Day 	18 6P: Visioning team Meeting <u>Newsletter Deadline</u>	19 3:30P G2G	20 First Day of Spring 	21	22
23 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany 10a: Worship 11a: Fellowship 6:30p-Lent Follow-up study	24	25	26 3:30P G2G	27	28	29
30 Fourth Sunday in Lent 10a: Worship 11a: Fellowship	31					



THIS MONTH AT PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL February 2025

<i>Sat, Feb 1</i>	Fellowship hall Usage(12-6p)
<i>Sun, Feb 2</i>	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany <i>Holy Communion is Shared</i> Worship and Holy Communion; 10a Fellowship; 11a
<i>Wed, Feb 5</i>	G2G; 3:30p
<i>Sun, Feb 9</i>	<i>Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</i> Worship; Gideon Presentation; 10a Fellowship; 11a
<i>Tues, Feb 11</i>	DAV Meeting; 7p
<i>Wed, Feb 12</i>	G2G; 3:30p
<i>Thur, Feb 13</i>	Women's Fellowship meeting; 7p
<i>Fri, Feb 14</i>	Happy Valentine's Day Everyone!
<i>Sun, Feb 16</i>	Sixth Sunday after Epiphany Worship; 10a Fellowship; 11a Youth group; 5p
<i>Mon, Feb 19</i>	Presidents' Day
<i>Tue, Feb 18</i>	Visioning Team Meeting; 6:30p NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
<i>Wed, Feb 19</i>	G2G; 3:30p
<i>Sun, Feb 23</i>	Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany Worship; 10a Fellowship; 11a
<i>Wed, Feb 26</i>	G2G; 3:30p



Plymouth Congregational Church

FEBRUARY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Noon-6P Fellowship Hall Usage
2 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany 10a: Worship; communion 11a: Fellowship	3	4	5 3:30P G2G	6	7	8
9 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany 10a: Worship; GIDIAN PRESENTATION 11a: Fellowship	10	11 7P: DAV	12 3:30P G2G	13 7P: Women's Fellowship	14 Happy Valentines Day 	15
16 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany 10a: Worship 11a: Fellowship BETHESDA 2P Youth group: 5p	17 Presidents' Day 	18 6:30P; Visioning team Meeting Newsletter Deadline	19 3:30P G2G	20	21	22
23 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany 10a: Worship 11a: Fellowship	24	25	26 3:30P G2G	27	28	

