



www.plymouthfw.org



BELL

Three Rivers Festival Fireworks Event Sunday, July 19, 6:00 to 10:00 pm

Trinity English Lutheran Church has again invited us to partner with them in this annual event in their parking lot directly behind our building. We're thrilled that our two churches, being good neighbors to one another and the surrounding community, can join together for a terrific evening of music by *Endgame* and some of our talented youth. Enjoy food, fun, and ultimately the Three Rivers Fireworks, with the best seats in town! As we have done in past years, Plymouth will be selling hot dogs, chips, and soft drinks.

Bring your own lawn chairs and blankets. If you prefer, bring your own snacks and your favorite non-alcoholic beverage – just be sure to show up! This will be bigger and better than last year!

Music Series Summer Arts Festival—July 12-19

The Plymouth Music Series presents fun programs to delight audiences of all ages ~ Free admission! Freewill offerings to support charity! All concerts are held in the Plymouth Church sanctuary.

Sunday, July 12, 7:00 pm

A Musical Theatre Revue: featuring Megan Meyer and William Dawson

Monday, July 13, 7:00 pm

Let the Spirit Soar: David Foster and Ken Nelson, guitar duo

Tuesday, July 14, 7:00 pm

Rising Stars in Concert: DePauw Music School Student Concert

Featuring Phillip Blaine, Katherine Walker, Lauren Palmer, and Emily Smith

Wednesday, July 15, 7:00 pm

The Best this Planet has to Offer

Featuring Alexander Klepach, piano and Olga Yurkova, violin

Thursday, July 16, 7:00 pm

Heartland Sings for YOU! A 2009-10 Season Sampler by Heartland Chorale

Friday, July 17, 7:00 pm

American Idol at the Organ: Organists Rip at the Keyboards for the Idol Title

Saturday, July 18, 7:00 pm and Sunday, July 19, 2:00 pm

Everything I Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten: A Stage Play

2009

Summer Worship at Plymouth Church One Service—10:00 am each Sunday

Hospitality—9:30 am to 10:00 am
*Infants thru K Childcare available
9:30 am-11:30 am*

July

5-Communion

12-Word

19-Communion

26-Word

August

2-Communion

9-Word

16-Communion

23-Word

30-Communion

September

6-Communion



Summer Church School

Now through September 6, we will have weekly activity time for elementary children during 10:00 am worship time. Children will be able to pursue personalized activities on biblical topics of their choice with the guidance of an adult facilitator each week.

In Our Prayers ...

Partners in Mission

During the month of June, we pray for the AIDS Task Force and the Center for Nonviolence, whose work is supported, in part, by Plymouth benevolence.

Conditions of Special Need:

Karen Anderson, Juliana Bordner, Norm Braksick, Scott David, Tom Hambrook, Clifford Gordon, Richard Payne, Tasha Sutter, and Jim Watson.

In the UCC every day is a day of prayer for peace.

SSgt. Nathan Glassley, Rick Foster, SPC Matthew Johnson, and David Worcester; and chaplains from the UCC, Bruce Farrell, and Anthony Taylor.

Sympathy is extended to Riet Zwiep and family on the death of her husband, Jan Zwiep, on May 20.

Sympathy is extended to Loretta and Myron Henderson and family on the death of their daughter-in-law, Tracy Henderson, on May 30.

Sympathy is extended to Carole, Terry, and Susan Green; Clare Walter, Pat McCombs, and their families on the death of Tom Green on June 1.

Sympathy is extended to Stan Pflueger on the death of his mother, Sharon Pflueger, on June 7.

Congratulations to Joshua Lasley, who married Breanne Risner on June 6 in Noblesville, IN. Happy parents are Diane and Jim Lasley.

Congratulations to Joe Hildenbrand and Lee McSorley, whose union was blessed on June 13.

What Really Matters ...

Dear Friends,

In late May the Plymouth program staff met together for a day-long retreat. We gathered in a cottage made available for our use on the south shore of Clear Lake, a beautiful spot located in the far northeast corner of the state. The leader for our retreat was Dr. Dan Moseley, a professor of preaching and church leadership at Christian Theological Seminary. It was time well spent, providing a break from the regular rhythms that typically govern the work we share.

Dan Moseley is the author of a book entitled, *Living with Loss*. It is an insightful work in which he reflects upon the jarring intensity of a condensed time when his life was unraveling (the loss of a parent and spouse to death, loss of daughter to marriage, and a change in job); he muses as well on a subsequent discovery of new life. Near the end of the book, he speaks of a valuable lesson offered to him by William Stringfellow, who helped his journey. Stringfellow wrote but a simple note, which said: "**Few people know how few things really matter.**" That statement pushed Moseley to question: What really matters?

Simple question, wouldn't you say? But often it proves remarkably hard to answer. We delight in life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. An uncurbed quest, though, is perilous, often resulting in frenzied, empty lives. The never-ending race is exhausting; it is never settled, always shallow. Only

Cedars HOPE Offering

The generous hearts of Plymouth Church contributed a *total of \$1,977.50* in support of our May offering for the ministry of our next-

with loss, only through loss, are we able to measure and account for what really matters.

Moseley contends grief needs be learned. He writes: "**Learning to grieve, learning to live again in the absence of something significant, isn't a matter of simply getting through some preordained process. It is a matter of living fully the life you have been given as you go through it.**" Such a life is ours only when we know what really matters. Then we are able to focus upon life, love, the people and community that form the heart of our lives. Moseley puts it this way: "**To live is to love. To love is to lose. To lose is to live.**" What a strange mystery of grace.

You may be asking: what came of the retreat? What emerged was a collective affirmation that worship really matters. As the staff of Plymouth Church, we voiced our hope that we might worship well, day-to-day, week-to-week.

The initial weeks of summer are just beginning to unfold. Whatever your plans, I hope there is time and place for you to ponder: what really matters. Whether you venture near or far, I hope you worship well. And I hope, too, that in the few things that come by way of Jesus, we all might be blessed.

Rev. John P. Gardner

door neighbors, Cedars HOPE, Inc. The Benevolence Subcommittee, as well as the staff and residents of Cedars, thank you!

It is Official! We are now the *AMAZING GRAYS!*

After Pastor John's sermon on June 7 calling for a "Point of Ignition—daring to have fun in the church," the very same morning, an enthusiastic group of seniors met in the Folsom Room to proclaim our presence as the *AMAZING GRAYS*. With over 35 interested members attending an informational meeting, it was evident that the idea of community building for seniors was well received. This umbrella organization, the *AMAZING GRAYS*, will meet once a month. Beginning in September, we will have various interest groups such as wellness, service, travel, study, dining, and a bucket list of things to do before you are 100! These interests were determined by responses to the survey that was sent out a month ago.

The first official meeting will take place in the Folsom Room on Sunday, July 19, at 4:30 pm, after which we will join the Three Rivers Fireworks party at the Trinity Lutheran parking lot at 6:00 pm. This will be a meeting to sign up for the special interest groups as well as time for informal fellowship. We are asking

Another Use for Old Sheets

Old sheets are used by volunteers who make bed pads for people with cancer who are clients of Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana (CSNI). The more the sheets have been used and laundered, the better they are for this purpose. The sheets can be any size, plain or patterned, and any color. The need continues throughout

Peanut Butter Sunday

The next opportunity to collect our *100 jars* of Peanut Butter for the Wellspring Food Bank is Sunday, July 19. You can contribute jars of Peanut Butter on any Sunday by put-

ting them in the box near the front office. The demands on our community food banks continue to increase, so your support in providing the staple food item is greatly appreciated!

10 volunteers to bring snacks or nibbles to serve six for that meeting. There will be a signup sheet outside the church office door. The membership will always be open to anyone interested in this opportunity to fellowship and find community within the larger church organization.

For those who prefer not to drive at night, several volunteers have graciously offered rides. Following up on the suggestion given at the meeting in the interest of "being green" and building community, we are asking members, if possible, to carpool with members living near their home.

The following members have offered to give rides. We need additional volunteers who would serve the southern and western portion of the city.

Mel Lehrman NE 486-2891
Maryellen Beitman NE 485-9346
Barb Hill NE 492-1938
Pat Pendleton NE 485-5188
Rick Stoerker NE 486-3794
Joe Laudadio S 745-2396
Bill and Carol Shedd NE 492-9500
Dee and Curt Smith NE 482-1185

the year. Bring in your old sheets whenever you have any available, and Linda Balthaser will take care of making them available for the CSNI volunteers. If you prefer to deliver the sheets directly to the CSNI office, the new location is 6316 Mutual Drive (north of Washington Center and between Coldwater and Lima).

ting them in the box near the front office. The demands on our community food banks continue to increase, so your support in providing the staple food item is greatly appreciated!

Knife and Fork

Knife and Fork is a group of Senior Citizens who enjoy getting together once a month to share a meal and fellowship. Their next gathering is Wednesday, July 8, 11:30 am, at Cork & Clever.

Please call your reservation in to the church office by Tuesday, July 7. Transportation can be arranged if needed.

Samaritan News

Samaritans deliver chancel flowers every week following Sunday services. We are unable to do this important service work if there are NO fresh flowers to deliver. Wouldn't you enjoy CELEBRATING SOMETHING on one of the weeks left blank on the Flower Calendar on the bulletin board outside the church office?

The following dates are open: July 5, 19, August 9, 30, September 13, 20, November 8, 15, 29, December 6, 20. Please sign up for one open week. The cost is only \$40.00 to bring joy to shut-ins.

Our Heritage Sunday will be September 20 this year, and the majority of opinions favor having a dinner following the service to honor those who have been members of Plymouth for 50 years and more. We would like you to submit your favorite recipe for the cook's consideration, especially if you are a Heritage member of Plymouth. Also, Samaritans would really encourage your assistance on September 20 in helping us serve and cleanup.

Please contact the church office to let us know of your interest and willingness to join us in celebrating our longtime members. You will be contacted by a member of Samaritans as we get closer to Heritage Sunday.

July Birthdays

1	Vanessa Kreider	12	Nelda Sunday	19	Kristi Lewark
2	Greg Eid	13	Betty Barry	20	Olene Kelsey
	Ashley Stewart	14	Michael Popp	21	Arianna Crumpacker
4	Bob Nicholson		Harriet Rinehart		Joan Hartwig
	Diana Swayze		Sarah Springer		Larry McDonald
5	Carole Green	15	Karl Bandemer		Jeanette Sowers
	Marty Krestik		Betsy Bonham	22	Joe Hildenbrand
	Luis Loera		Kay Lewark	23	Leslie Frohberg
6	James Hendrix	16	Elisabeth Kolkman	24	Eric Black
	David Lewark	17	Dennis Roembke		Dave Joliff
	Rebecca Talarico		Ben Fogt		Luanne Root
7	Joyce Augspurger		Ruby Gates	25	Samuel Feasel
	Jody Feasel		Todd Phillips		Michael Lewark
	Madison Moore		Barbara Powell	26	Russell Siples
	Michael Wing		Delbert Wilson		Ed Turk
8	Kim Feasel	18	Carla Gilliom	27	Tim Borne
	Beth Lybarger Walden		Scott Lasley		Bev McFadden
	John Musgrave		Mel Lehrman		Stan Pflueger
10	Kent Greer		Susie O'Shaughnessy		Lisa Worrell
11	Jim Lasley		Sandy Shumaker	28	Trey Yarman
	Dave McKinnon		Beth Toth	29	Ross Gregory
12	Phil Ankenbruck	19	Jenny Kratzat	31	Irene Hiatt
	Cheryl Milligan				



Staff Appreciation

The Plymouth staff wishes to express a heartfelt thanks to Jan Gibson and the Deacons' Worship Committee for the staff appreciation luncheon on June 16, and for the staff recognition done during worship on June 21. We also thank you, our Plymouth congregation, for the support and faith you bestow upon us as we continue to work together to grow the life and ministry of our church.

Blessings, *The Plymouth Staff*

Next Bell Deadline

The next deadline for submission of material for the Bell is **Wednesday, July 8**. The deadline is always the 2nd Wednesday of each month, with publication the 3rd Wednesday of the month. We appreciate your prompt submission of articles!

Don't Want to Get Dirty?

Phase II plants now available!!!!

If you like to dig in the dirt but don't like to get dirty or you really like new plants but don't have any more room in your yard or garden for them, we have the solution for you! The "Dirty People" of Plymouth will take care of everything.

We offer you the opportunity to contribute to the exterior beauty of Plymouth and downtown Fort Wayne by subscribing to one (or more) of the plants listed in the notebook with the pictorial display in the Folsom Room.

The initial list of the Phase II plants has been added to the notebook and is available for you to look over in the Folsom Room. We hope that you decide to support Plymouth by donating a plant. The plant(s) can be

donated in honor of or in memory of a special event or person or for no reason at all. Please take a moment to look through the notebook on the easel in the Folsom Room each Sunday, as there will be more plants added to the list in the next weeks as the final planting takes place.

Payment for your selection may be left in the envelope in the front of the notebook or directed to the church office. Make all checks payable to Plymouth Church with the notation "plants" in the memo line.

We thank all of those who have so generously contributed to this project already and hope that more will take the opportunity to select a plant to support.

What's New on the UCC Website?

John B. Cobb Jr. issues challenge to the UCC

<http://www.ucc.org/news/cobb-challenge.html>

Faith leaders press Obama on torture commission

<http://www.ucc.org/news/faith-leaders-press-obama-on.html>

Holocaust Museum shooting elicits response from UCC leadership

<http://www.ucc.org/news/religious-public-witness.html>

OC, Inc. policy director offers Capitol Hill testimony on low-power radio

<http://www.ucc.org/news/oc-inc-policy-director.html>

During Synod, Stillspeaking will launch media blitz in Grand Rapids

<http://www.ucc.org/news/during-synod-stillspeaking.html>

Arizona pastor invited to lead preaching symposium at Windsor Castle

<http://www.ucc.org/news/arizona-pastor-invited-to.html>

South African hails American church vote to confess racism as a sin

<http://www.ucc.org/news/south-african-hails-american.html>

UCC students awarded FTE national leadership development fellowships

<http://www.ucc.org/news/ucc-students-awarded-fte.html>

UCC Justice leader decries Tiller murder

<http://www.ucc.org/news/ucc-justice-leader-decries.html>

PSR faculty and staff arrested following Prop. 8 decision

<http://www.ucc.org/news/psr-faculty-and-staff.html>

John H. Thomas named to CTS senior staff

<http://www.ucc.org/news/john-h-thomas-named-to-cts.html>

New Reformed movement will open local congregations to global connections

<http://www.ucc.org/news/new-reformed-movement-will.html>

Mindful Living: Human Health, Pollution, and Toxins

<http://www.ucc.org/news/mindful-living-human-health.html>

Across the UCC: Getting a green light on saving the planet

<http://www.ucc.org/ucnews/june-july-2009/getting-a-green-light-on.html>

United Church News to cease print publication, move news online

<http://www.ucc.org/ucnews/june-july-2009/united-church-news-to-cease.html>

Youth to Blog from General Synod

Our Plymouth Youth and Advisors attending the General Synod 27 Youth Event will post blog comments and descriptions of their activities during the week-long trip online at

<http://plymouthyouth.livejournal.com/>. Visit the blog site to follow their activities during the June 24 through 30 trip to Grand Rapids and the UCC General Synod.

Plymouth Youth at General Synod 2009

June 24-30, a group of our youth will spend a week in Grand Rapids, Michigan experiencing General Synod 2009. Tim Price, Cher Jackson, and Kara Jaurigue will lead the group. The youth and their leaders will enjoy concerts, workshops, and work camp opportunities with other UCC youth. The youth from Plymouth attending are Jackie Brabbs, George Gardner, Stephen Stachofsky, Paige Yarman and Kenosha Phillips.

Expressions of Thanks!

Plymouth Church is blessed with dedicated volunteers whose stewardship of their time and talent have helped to further the ministry of our congregation. Let us all be grateful and say a good word to these good folk for their service:

- * Plymouth Landscaping project – we have curb appeal thanks to volunteers and donors! Thank you Laura and Rhys Rudolph, Jon Allmandinger, and all who have helped with the various tasks.
- * Sanctuary looks great – thanks to seasonal decorations for the sanctuary prepared by Scott Rigdon and Brent Blalock – KUDOS!
- * Volunteers that regularly help with Music Ministry events and concerts. Special thanks to Jan Younger, Music Ministry Subcommittee chair, and members of the subcommittee who organize ushers, arrange for meals and receptions, and provide housing for artists. Special thanks also to Mariellen Beitman for her reception skills – we always have a nice spread!
- * To all Plymouth Church members for their hospitality and living the mantra “all are welcome!”

July 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Abbreviations: <i>BKFC—Senior High Breakfast Club</i> <i>EC—Executive Council</i> <i>MSYG—Middle School Youth Group</i> <i>MSX—Middle School Explorers</i> <i>P&J—Peace/Justice Subcommittee</i> <i>S&F—Stewardship & Finance Comm.</i> <i>WNL—Wednesday Night Live</i>			1 8:30a Retired Men's Breakfast@ Atz 9:00a East Side West Side-YC 5:00p Tom Green Calling	2 9:00a East Side West Side-YC 3:00p Celebration of Life service for Tom Green	3 Office Closed in observance of July 4	4 Independence Day
5 Share Your Shopping 9:30a Hospitality 10:00a Worship & Communion 5:30p Divorcing Support Group	6 9:00a East Side West Side-YC 5:00p Samaritans-MR 5:45p Yoga	7 9:00a East Side West Side-YC 10:00a Staff Meeting 5:30p Sitters-C 6:00p EC-FR	8 Bell Deadline 9:00a East Side West Side-YC 11:30a Knife&Fork @ Cork & Cleaver 12:30p Memorial Gifts-AR 7:00p We the Living-MR	9 9:00a East Side West Side-YC	10 9:00a East Side West Side-YC 5:00p Ulmer/Howe Rehearsal	11 9:00a Comm. on Ministry 4:00p Ulmer/Howe Wedding
12 9:00a Summer Choir 9:30a Hospitality 10:00a Worship 5:30p Divorcing Support Group 7:00p Summer Music Festival-Meyer/Dawson-S	13 9:00a East Side West Side-YC 5:30p Property 5:45p Yoga 7:00p PFLAG-MR 7:00p Summer Music Festival - Foster/Nelson Guitar Duo	14 9:00a East Side West Side-YC 10:00a Staff Meeting 11:45a Women's Study Group-AR 4:45p Benevolence-AR 5:00p E&M-CR 5:30p Sitters-C 5:30p Congregational Life 7:00p Summer Music Festival-S-Blaine/Walker/Palmer/Smith	15 9:00a East Side West Side-YC 7:00p Summer Music Festival-S-Klepech/Yurkova	16 9:00a East Side West Side-YC 7:00p Summer Music Festival-S-Heartland Sampler	17 9:00a East Side West Side-YC 7:00p Summer Music Festival-S-American Idol @ the Organ 2	18 7:00p Summer Music Festival-S-Drama.. All I need to Know..
19 Peanut Butter Sunday 9:30a Hospitality 10:00a Worship & Communion 2:00p Summer Music Festival 4:30p Amazing Gray's-FR 5:30p Divorcing Support Group 6:00p TRF Finale Cook Out 7:00p TRF Finale Concert	20 9:00a East Side West Side-YC 5:45p Yoga	21 9:00a East Side West Side-YC 10:00a Staff Meeting 5:30p Personnel Committee-AR 5:30p Sitters-C 5:45p S&F-CR	22 9:00a East Side West Side-YC	23 9:00a East Side West Side-YC 1:00p Moderator's Meeting-MR 5:00p Cedars-AR	24 9:00a East Side West Side-YC	25 Pride Fest @ Headwaters Park Plymouth Workshop @ Pride Fest.
26 Parent's Day 9:30a Hospitality 10:00a Worship 5:30p Divorcing Support Group	27 5:45p Yoga	28 10:00a Staff Meeting 11:45a Women's Study Group-AR 5:30p Sitters-C	29	30	31 8:00a Easter Seals/ARC-YC	

It Is Time Again To Plant The Seed!

Plymouth is partnering for the fifth year with Salem UCC in Magley, Indiana, in a corn growing project to benefit the Foods Resource Bank (FRB). This is a wonderful opportunity for Plymouth to reach out and continue our partnership with another UCC church in a project that helps those in need to support themselves. The FRB, an innovative organization that funds food security programs in the developing world, is supported by a group of 19 different member denominations and partner organizations, including Church World Service and the UCC's One Great Hour of Sharing.

Foods Resource Bank emphasizes:

- community ownership,
- smallholder sustainable agricultural production,
- crop and dietary diversification,
- kitchen gardens and nutrient-rich vegetables and fruit production,
- orphan caretakers and schools producing a portion of their own food,
- renewable water resources through retention ponds,
- protein food sources from animals raised by the individuals.



The farmers of Salem UCC/ Magley provide the land, the equipment, labor, and the knowledge to grow the corn. When the harvest is completed, the crop has been sold, and the expenses all paid, Plymouth's and Salem's donations are blended with the profits and designated to support people in special need. We have had very successful previous harvests, being able to donate slightly less than \$90,000 in the past four years through these joint efforts. This is one of our largest benevolence projects, and it truly makes a difference in people's lives!

We are asking the people of Plymouth to help by purchasing a $\frac{1}{4}$ bushel, a $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel, or a full bushel of "seed corn." Please take a moment to fill in the form below and send it to the church office or place it in the collection plate. There also will be pledge forms available in the Folsom Room. Your gesture of support for this project can help sustain a family for a lifetime!

Mark your calendars now for October 18 when we will join the congregation at Salem UCC, 10:30 am, to share in worship, eat lunch together, and then head to the fields to harvest "our corn."

Task Force Chairs:

Gale Cunningham, Judy and Dan Kaufman, and Laura Rudolph

I would like to purchase: (please circle one)

1 bushel of seed corn - \$200.00

$\frac{1}{2}$ bushel of seed corn - \$100.00

$\frac{1}{4}$ bushel of seed corn - \$50.00

other amount - _____

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____



Please make checks payable to Plymouth Church and indicate "**For FRB**" in the memo line.




**Plymouth Congregational
Church of Fort Wayne**
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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*Take obsolete electronic items to
OmniSource, 1143 Fairview Ave.,
Gate #7, from 8:00 am –4:30 pm,
Monday through Friday. There is a
\$5 fee per vehicle with a limit of 5
items per trip and 3 drop-offs or 15
items per household per year.*

Looking for our email addresses?

Church General Office and Newsletter

office@plymouthfw.org

Senior Pastor and Teacher

jpg@plymouthfw.org

Associate Pastor

rep@plymouthfw.org

Minister of Christian Education

jrw@plymouthfw.org

Music Director

music@plymouthfw.org or

bob.nance@verizon.net

Associate in Pastoral Care

cgreen@plymouthfw.org

Youth Director

kkjaurigue@verizon.net

Office Manager

lme@plymouthfw.org

Church Secretary

dln@plymouthfw.org

Financial Administrator

financial@plymouthfw.org

Custodian

maintenance@plymouthfw.org



Plymouth Outreach Statement

We welcome all who are seeking God's presence in their lives to join in our common mission through participation and leadership in this communion of faith. We recognize each individual as a child of God, believing that we are called to be one reconciled body of Christ with many members.

As Christians and members of Plymouth Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, we are a diverse group of people. We are persons of various ages, races, accomplishments and goals, abilities, sexual orientations, theological and political beliefs, socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds. In our diversity, we find strength and a way to understand the inclusiveness of God.

No Matter Who You Are, or Where You Are on Life's Journey, You Are Welcome Here.