

the GRAPEVINE

"I am the vine, you are the branches."

-John :15:5

April 1, 2011



Dear Friends:

This year the holiest of all Christian days arrives on the last Sunday of April. It is Easter – the Day of Resurrection! The days before we recall the incredible sacrifice of our Master – his arrest, trial, execution, and death, but on this particular day (Easter) we recall the almost unbelievable result – his resurrection!

Resurrection is a word too easily bandied about by people without taking time to contemplate its significance and its implications for us. Some Christians have difficulty wrapping their minds around it. They want to completely and without question accept it and embrace it in every aspect of their lives – heart, mind, and soul. But as they live in a so-called rational world where they think science is somewhat on par with faith, they just aren't sure. They want to believe, but

That may be where most of us are!

One hurdle we place in our path is that we give resurrection a very narrow definition and anything outside of those confines either shakes our faith to the core or is quickly tossed aside and left unaddressed.

Resurrection from a Judeo-Christian faith perspective is the physical resurrection of Jesus Christ from death. For some, that's where it ends. For others, that's where it begins. For the disciples, the resurrection is where their lives took a major turn in the road.

They were happy to be followers, students, 'gophers for their lord,' but something happened to them and their comfortable places and roles turned into uncomfortable and unfamiliar roles. God, through Jesus Christ, transformed them and said: "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." [Mark 1:17] They were made to see how their secular trade (fishing) had a spiritual dimension and call. They were transformed!

This is the transforming power of the Christ! When we are able to see beyond the moment and take a new path that may be unknown may even be somewhat rough, then we have accepted into our lives the opportunity to be transformed – the be changed – and to take on a new dimension in our lives.

Maybe it's how you relate to members of your family. Maybe it's seen in how you approach your daily work and co-workers. Maybe it's becoming more flexible and willing to be open to new experiences – new situations. Maybe it's a conscious effort to be more humble and less self-righteous.

If you let the transforming power of the risen Christ touch you, then, I believe, you are experiencing the reality of the resurrection. You have just moved it from an intellectual exercise to a life-changing reality for yourself and those around you.

May your Easter Moment be a transforming one!



Plymouth Presbyterian Church

Building Faith Making Friends Serving People

Worship: Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Education Hour: 10:45 a.m.

3755 Dunkirk Lane North, Plymouth, MN 55446

(763) 559-2946 Web Page: www.plymouthpc.org



News Around PPC



Bonnie and Dave Waterfill at the death of Bonnie's mother.

Sarah Lutz at the death of her mother.



Birthdays & Anniversaries This Month!

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Alex Bahls | Tim Huenemann | Caroline Sassan |
| Josh Blankenship | Jennie Lillemo | Steve Simenson |
| Tom Breidenbach | Mark Kipp | Sue Snyder |
| Kristin Brynsvold | Ken Knipe | Mari Thompson |
| Tyler Dando | Brad Koenen | Justin Wilmot |
| Andy Feterl | Andrew Kovach | Carole Youngs |
| Greg Foote | Jan Leaf | |
| Phil Fox | Jerry Leaf | |
| Audrey Gabe | Carole Marsh | |
| Gwen Goblirsch | Abby Miller | |
| Tim Goblirsch | Andreas Nahr | |
| Kay Hackel | Inenya Ndingwan | |
| Bill Halverstadt | Martin Nicchetta | |
| Lori Haskamp | Ellen Olsen | |
| Ryan Haskamp | Zack Peek | |
| Belinda Hollman | udrey Perkins | |
| Joe Hollman | Elaine Ressimeyer | |
| Kevin Honius | Julia Richard | |

Anniversaries

Kevin and Shirley Nivison

"Fare For All"

Upcoming Distribution Dates

April 16 May 21 June 18

9:00 - 10:30 (PPC church office door)

Call 763-450-3880 to place your order.

Different Yet Same? Same Yet Different

That's one idea to ponder when PPC's Book Club meets on April 25 to discuss "Same Kind of Different as Me" by Ron Hall and Denver Moore. In their own words and Language styles, the authors tell their individual experiences of growing up that led to their shared experiences after Hall's wife, Deborah's dream project brings them together. It's a true story that unites a "dangerous homeless drifter, an upscale art dealer and a gutsy woman". Conversation begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Everyone is welcome!

What is Per Capita?

There is a lot of confusion about what "per capita" is and the church has added to this confusion.

Per capita is an annual assessment each congregation voluntarily gives to each of the governing bodies of our denomination (presbytery, synod, general assembly) to support the administrative support to fulfill the church's ministry and mission.

The amount each congregation is asked to give is determined by the number of active members of a previous year. In the case of Plymouth Presbyterian Church, it is \$9,428 for the year 2011.

Every year the Session asks the membership if it would give a separate contribution to the per capita so that annual gifts and pledges can go directly to the ministry and mission of the church. Last year (2010), for example, we were committed to a per capita that totaled \$8,642. After our request to the congregation went out, we received \$3,503 toward the per capita, but the remainder (\$5,139) had to come from our operating budget, where one of the few non-fixed areas affected was mission.

Please consider your per capita. The total per member amount is \$30.46. If we have 100% of the membership contributing to the per capita, we would be able to return the mission giving to a place that would be meaningful to so many. An envelope for Per Capita is in the front of your box of offering envelopes or mark your check or pledge envelope when making a Per Capita payment. Thank You!

Thank You!

Thank you very much for thinking of us with the loss of my dad. Your kind words and prayers are very much appreciated.

Jim, Kim and Kristin Post

Education News



SAVE THE DATES!
Vacation Bible School 2011
July 25 - 29
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
4 years old through 5th grade

Jesus calls us to “shake up” our lives and become his followers. The Bible gives us the recipe! Come for a week of exploring biblical festivals that reveal ingredients for linking the Old Testament, the New Testament, and our lives today.

If you are planning to attend VBS (even if you aren't 100% certain), please let us know at christianformation@plymouthpc.org so that we can start gathering supplies. This helps us save money on supplies and reduces the cost for participants!

Vacation Bible School Needs YOU!

Without the commitment and leadership of many adult and youth volunteers each year, VBS is not possible. Thanks for your ongoing commitment and support to this ministry!

There will be a brief meeting on **Sunday, April 10 at noon** to begin making plans for VBS. If you are available to help with VBS for one or more days this summer, or in behind-the-scenes roles, please plan to attend this meeting to find out what options are available. If you can't make the meeting but still want to help out with VBS, let us know at christianformation@plymouthpc.org so we can get you in the right role!

Children's Choir

The Christian Formation Commission, in partnership with Rick Brynsvold and other Session commissions, have created a new format which combines Children's Choir with Sunday School opening music time. This new format eases some of Rick's workload and allows the children (and Rick) to remain in worship with their families for the offering, prayers of the people and communion.

Beginning April 3, the children will remain in worship until the *final* hymn, just prior to the benediction. At that point (around 10:45 a.m.), all children will be dismissed to go straight to the Children's Choir room, where a tray of snacks and lemonade will be provided for them. They will remain in the choir room until 11:00 a.m. they will go to their Sunday School class.

A letter has gone out to all parents with children in Kindergarten through 5th grade explaining the change. This new format will continue through the last

day of Sunday School (May 22nd). At that time we will ask for feedback to determine if it will continue in the fall. If you have questions, please contact the Christian Formation Commission at:

christianformation@plymouthpc.org.

Children's Offering

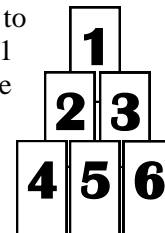
Special, smaller-sized children's offering envelopes are available to pick up in the narthex. Children may put their offering in the plates as they are passed down the pews. Any offering collected in these envelopes will be counted on the Sunday it is collected, regardless of the dates printed on the envelope and will not be reflected on the parent's giving statement.

At this time, the money from these envelopes will go into the mission budget, for the Mission Commission to determine the recipient. In the fall, the children will have the opportunity to decide where the money will go for the 2011-2012 program year.

Youth Mission Trip Fundraisers

In June, 8 youth and 4 adults at PPC are headed to Nashville, TN to help clean up and rebuild after the devastating floods of last spring. To get there and back, we need to fundraise about \$350 per person. You can help by supporting us in these upcoming fundraisers!

During the month of April, you will see a pyramid of numbered envelopes. The number on the envelope corresponds to the amount you donate to our mission trip. They will range from 1 to 50. But wait! Inside some of the envelopes, the lucky donor will find a \$25 Holiday Station car wash card, a gift certificate for Smashburger, a \$25 gift card for Joe Senser's, or maybe even a coupon for a free Angeno's pizza. The more envelopes you take to donate, the better your chances of finding a treat inside! Will you be one of the lucky winners?



The Mystery Brunch Returns!

Don't take Mom out to brunch at a restaurant on Mother's Day. Instead bring her to our Mystery Brunch fundraiser! Complete with a full menu from which to order a variety of meal items and wait staff (tips gladly accepted), you will eat in style! This is a great time full of good food and lots of fun.

You can even purchase a special “Mom upgrade package” with an extra treat for Mom! Tickets will be available for \$10 each, on sale in the narthex starting later in April. More information and details will be provided as this delicious event approaches, but put the date on your calendar now!



WORSHIP COMMISSION NOTES



Mid-Week Meditations Continue

On **Wednesday April 6** and **Wednesday April 13**, we continue our journey through the Lenten season with a light supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by a brief meditation at 6:45 p.m.



During Holy Week, two special services will be held, a **Maundy Thursday Service with communion at 7:00** and a unique meditative Lenten tenebrae presentation by our youth on **Good Friday at 7:00 p.m.**

Easter Flowers

If you would like to help decorate the sanctuary with spring flowers for Easter, order forms are available by the Worship Commission bulletin board in the narthex. Select from a hydrangea, pansy bowl, or tulips in honor or memory of a special person(s). The deadline for ordering is April 17.

After the Easter service, you can take your flowers home to enjoy.

This I Believe

This summer we will be sharing our faith stories once again at a "This I Believe" service. If you care to share a 5 to 10 minute story about your belief journey or experience of faith, call the church office or email worship@plymouthpc.org.

2Q is Here

The second quarter of Sign Up Genius is out and ready for you to use. Watch for email invitations and sign up to enjoy the Sunday morning fun. The number of participants is steadily increasing. Thanks to all of you !!

MEMBERSHIP COMMISSION

We Welcome New Members

Gail and Glenn Nordhaus

Gail and Glenn Nordhaus have been worshipping with us since last fall, so many of you have already met them. They're both from the Twin Cities and have been married 29 years. They attended Valley Community Presbyterian Church when their daughters were younger and still at home. Heather, their oldest daughter, lives in Hanover, has a degree in accounting, and is also a dance judge. Heather's son, Merrick, joins them in awaiting the arrival of another grandchild in June. Their youngest daughter, Ashley, lives in Plymouth and has a communications degree.

Gail has been employed by Wells Fargo since 1988. Her job requires a lot of traveling but sometimes Glenn can meet her for a little vacation time while she's away from home. Gail is also the President of the Women of Influence Giving Circle, an organization that helps women develop their own businesses. It sounds like a very interesting organization so ask her about it when you see her next time.

Glenn retired from his first career in 2005 after 30 years in the printing business. Although it doesn't sound like retirement, he spent the first two years remodeling a lake home. He then decided that his love for restoring cars could become a new career, so he started and continues working for NAPA Auto Parts in Rogers. He also enjoys water skiing, collecting coins and sports memorabilia, fixing up old cars, and a little gardening and landscaping when it's warmer outside. Please give them a warm welcome!

Sally Ackerman and Judy Maul
Membership Commission Elders

Deacon's Auction Update

A huge thank you to everyone, for items that were donated as well as purchased at the Deacon's Annual Auction on March 20. The initial total is \$4,059.00. There are a few items that still need to be paid for from the Silent Auction so the figure will increase a bit.

The bake sale raised \$418.50, and proceeds from the free-will offering for the lunch were \$313.00. The \$731.50 combined total will go to the Mission Commission to support 363 Days.



Dear members,

This year as we move into Lent and also prepare for One Great Hour of Sharing, we can't help but be grateful for the ministries made

possible by this church wide special offering. From Detroit to Darfur, from Louisiana to Libya, those most in need are finding hope and help through the work of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, the Self-Development of People program and their partners in ministry. Our hearts are full of compassion, but our ears are full of whatever is on the mind of the media this week. In this environment, it becomes incredibly easy to forget the pain of those in trouble spots around the world like Haiti, New Zealand, Pakistan, and Japan and all the other places where poverty, disaster, and war cause displacement and suffering.

I say all this to remind you that this is why we at Plymouth Presbyterian Church give to One Great Hour of Sharing. This one time a year when we give our gifts, we know that staff in the three One Great Hour of Sharing programs will be listening to the cries of our sisters and brothers throughout the next year. And they will be responding for us in Christ's name to those cries. To new emergencies they will respond as they have in Haiti—immediately, directly and through our partners wherever the emergency occurs. But equally important, they will stay there long after the news cameras have moved elsewhere—stay there and help rebuild lives and communities on a firmer foundation.

Feeding the hungry, helping people build up their own livelihoods, responding to disasters— these are all ways that One Great Hour of Sharing is changing lives, changing communities and changing the world. We'll read about examples of this in bulletin inserts during Lent, but I invite you as well to go on our church website, www.plymouthpc.org, to see an inspiring short video about the offering's impact around the world.

That brings me to the challenge, which also relates to our support of One Great Hour of Sharing. Just as we trust our OGHS programs to respond to the needs of the world's poorest and hungriest people, those programs can only do so to the extent of our generosity. I challenge you to give strong consideration to doubling your gift to the offering. The offering will be received on Easter Sunday, April 24, and I hope that you will join Christians all across the country in opening their hearts to witness tangibly to the abundant love of God through One Great Hour of Sharing.

Kyle Larson and Chad Robran
Mission Commission Elders



PSALMS STUDY

“Old Songs for a New Millennium” is the next Bible study chosen by the Wednesday morning GIFT (Growing in Faith Together) group. Beginning in late March, we will lift thirty of the one hundred fifty Psalms (in nine categories) for study and reflection. Each lesson is self-contained, so come join us for any one or all. Conversations begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

The schedule of study is as follows:

- March 23 *Psalms of Celebration*
Psalm 33, 96, 98
- March 30 *Psalms of Instruction*
Psalm 1, 15
- April 6 *Psalms of Remembrance*
Psalm 78, 105, 106, 136
- April 13 *Psalms of Trust*
Psalm 23, 27, 131
- April 27 *Psalms of Vengeance*
Psalm 58, 137, 139
- May 4 *Psalms of Confession*
Psalm 32, 51, 130
- May 11 *Psalms of Communal Lament*
Psalm 44, 74, 80
- May 25 *Psalms of Individual Lament*
Psalm 13, 22
- June 1 *Psalms of Praise*
Psalm 100, 146-150

Psalm of Praise 150:6

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord!



PPC 2011 Spring Clean Up Event **Saturday, April 30**

Join the Building and Grounds Committee on Saturday, April 30 as we put that spring shine on the PPC property. We are betting that the snow will be gone, the sun will be out and you'll have a chance to start your spring tan! Starting time is 8:30 a.m. with a little fellowship, coffee and doughnuts and then the work will begin around 9:00 a.m. Items on this year's list include:

1. Window washing (inside & out)
2. General grounds cleanup
3. Sweep the lot
4. Gutter repair
5. Light maintenance

We should have everything wrapped up by 1:00 p.m. or so. The more folks we have the faster the work gets done! Watch the Sunday bulletins for additional information. We hope to see you there!

PPC Girl Scouts *keeping the church safe* *one shovel full at a time*

The PPC Building and Grounds Committee want to extend our sincere thanks to the Girl Scout members of PPC for their help in keeping the church property fire hydrants clear of snow. With this year's extraordinary snow fall, it has been difficult to keep the hydrants accessible in case of a fire emergency. In mid-February, Troy Ess cleared the bulk of the snow with his Bobcat. The Girl Scouts, coordinated by Karen Ess, have been keeping them cleared with shovels in hand since then. The girls, representing several troops are:

Lauren Durdin, Madelyn Ess, Marissa Ess, Julia Fox, Hannah Hagen, Grace Huenemann, Natalie Kovach, Abby Larson, Katie Larson, Hannah McMahan, Emma Nahr, Kaycee Peek and Caroline Sassan. Thanks again, girls, for your important contribution to PPC!

Got Veggies?

This summer PPC will again serve as the Plymouth drop-off point for a local community-supported agriculture (CSA) farm, Culinary Delights Farm LLC of Big Lake. The fresh-picked produce is delivered to PPC every Wednesday afternoon during the CSA season, which runs over 18 weeks starting the third week of June and ending the third week of October, weather depending. They still have 8 large/full shares and 5 small/half shares available at this time, but shares usually sell out by April. If you are interested in a share, please contact Nancy Welty at cdfarms@izoom.net for more information.



LET'S GET TOGETHER!!! **SUNDAY, MAY 1**

Bowling - "Fellowship of the Lane"

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Medina Entertainment Center

Put a spring in your step with Springtime Bowling! It may be rainy, it may be sunny, make time for bowling, post-Easter bunny! Ok, the rhyme wasn't very good, but the fun will be. We will have bumper lanes for kids (as well as regular lanes) for fun bowling party games (don't worry, nothing crazy). Build a "Fellowship of the Lane" with church members of all ages. Join them in the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat.

Sign up on the bulletin board at church, or email Tim Huenemann at tim@musicola.com. (Sign-up is not mandatory, but helpful for lane reservations.)

We the Deacons of PPC....

Your PPC Deacons are here to help and strongly encourage you to inform us of needs that you or someone you know may have. Requests are kept confidential. The funds we raise at our annual auction allow us to fulfill our mission and care for our members and community.

Mission Statement: "The Plymouth Presbyterian Board of Deacons will minister to the spiritual, physical, and emotional needs of our community by praying, listening, acting, and rejoicing in order to share the love of Jesus and build a stronger Christian community."

2011 Board of Deacons

Rick Ackerman	763-545-1233	rick_ack@msn.com	<i>FINANCE/DEACON FUND MEALS and VISITATION</i>
Melody Baker	763-476-4786	mark_melody1977@hotmail.com	<i>VISITATION</i>
Anne Crooks	763-557-5734	crooksanne@msn.com	<i>CARDS AND FLOWERS</i>
John Dando	952-541-5404	jbdando@usfamily.net	
Krissy Green	763-496-1149	krissy@familiaverde.com	<i>COLLEGE CONNECTION</i>
Mike Hawley	952-944-8066	mjhawley19@aol.com	<i>FUNERAL AND MEMORIAL</i>
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