

THE BEACON

PLYMOUTH
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
ucc

"NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE, OR WHERE
YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE
WELCOME HERE.

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PASO ROBLES

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PASTOR'S LETTER

REV. WENDY HOLLAND



And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'

~ Matthew 25:40 ~

In theory, the Buy Nothing group is meant to eliminate waste, keep people from buying when there's something available to share, request a needed item, and pass on lovely or useful things we no longer need.

In my community it's become much more than that.

I've seen this space provide for multiple people in circumstances like that of my friend. I've seen us rally to support kids who are being bullied with play dates, and gift cards, and words of encouragement. I've seen hurt and broken people post about being impacted by ignorance and discrimination right in our midst, to have a hundred people remind them they are loved and seen, and to show up in tangible ways.

All of this requires effort. We think of social media as being effortless, but used for its best purposes it requires practical and emotional vulnerability and sacrifice . . . In sharing about our struggles. In responding to things that feel painful and overwhelming when we're already overwhelmed. In arranging pick-up or drop-off when it would be so much easier to drop our stuff in the Good Will bin. And in digging through our storage for a needed item that's literal treasure to someone else, but that we will likely never use again.

This clearly isn't only about social media. It's about seeing each other in our needs, our struggles, and our celebrations. It's about reminding people that they genuinely matter.

I just posted the following to my local Facebook "Buy Nothing" (BN) group:

BIG ASK: I have an amazing friend who moves into an actual house after a year-and-a-half of being homeless, and she has next to nothing. Her husband told her early last year that he was leaving her, and had already given their landlord 30 days notice, leaving her with literally nowhere to go. This, after she supported him and their family through years of his unemployment and the pandemic by working full-time, and then draining the retirement she'd been building for almost 20 years so he could go to trade school, and just so they could survive. For months after this she spent half the week living in her car, and the other half of the week in motels so she could maintain joint custody of their five-year-old son. It also meant giving up living with her two teen sons, who now had to be with their dad full-time. She's spent the last nine months in a friend's spare room, but finally once again has a place of her own. This Thursday she moves into a two-bedroom house with little more than a queen mattress, a few blankets, a few pots and pans, very basic toiletries, and the clothes she has for her and her youngest son (now six). She needs just about everything, but please no junk. This is a 40-year-old woman who until recently had things she loved (and worked so hard for), and safe space, and could not imagine being in this type of situation. Think of the things you would need and would like to have if you were in her situation, and please reach out with any questions. This community has shown up in so many incredible ways. Thank you for being a safe space to make a request like this.

With gratitude,

Pastor Wendy

A WORD FROM OUR DIACONATE

August is here and summer is in full swing.... The Fair, the heat and yes... church in the park. Get your folding chairs dusted off and find your straw hats. August 11, by the gazebo, we will have a potluck breakfast at 9:30 provided by church members. Juice, coffee, and whatever your heart desires. Just sign up on the clipboard to let us know what you are bringing. If you cannot sign up, just bring something to share. A church service will commence at 10:00 with music, singing and of course a message to inspire us.



Due to popular demand, there will be a blessing of animals during the church service at the park. Put your dog, cat, rabbit, or lizard on a leash and throw them in the car with your chairs or blankets and food. We will have plates, silverware, and cups. Or bring your own mug.

We are bringing back a tradition in church of Rose on the Alter. Bring a rose for new babies, loss of a loved one, or any thing or person you would like to honor. Let Wendy know that morning who it is for. We have bud vases in the cupboards. Ask any diaconate member if you need help finding one.

There are many Sundays where we have had to find flowers or snacks last minute because no one signed up. Please take a moment to look at the Sundays that are blank and fill in a slot. It is a small way to offer service that is greatly appreciated.

We all love Plymouth Congregational Church. Remember it takes all of us to keep it running.

Blessings, Sharon Rowe
Head of Diaconate

Youth Ministry



A NOTE FROM OUR YOUTH DIRECTOR

Hello Plymouth families, and happy August! I hope everyone had a wonderful July, and enjoyed the fair if you went. This month, we're continuing our focus on all-church activities for all ages, so read on to hear about upcoming events!

We'll be kicking off the month with Bingo Night at the Backyard in downtown Paso! Join us on Tuesday August 6th from 6-8PM for a night of bingo and fellowship with our church family. It's super simple; just show up at the Backyard, find our tables, buy a drink or a snack, and enjoy a fun game night. We're hoping to do this more in the future, so please join us if you can, but also know that there will be future bingo nights to attend if you can't join us this month.

This month, we will not be holding a Date Night event, as myself and some other members of our church family are participating in a community theatre production of Cinderella, and our show opens in mid-August! It runs the last three weekends of August, and we are planning to have a night when our church members can meet up and come together. You're invited to join some of our church members on Friday August 30th at the Park Ballroom at 7:30PM to watch the show together, and we will likely have a few tables reserved for our Plymouth folks!

This month, our monthly Youth to Yogurt will be a week early, on the 2nd Sunday of the month rather than the 3rd. This Sunday is also Worship in the Park, so we will coincidentally already be downtown! Youth Group members 6th grade and up are invited to join me after service ends on Sunday August 11th to head across the street to SLO Sweets for a frozen treat. We'll take it back to the park and spend some time discussing upcoming youth events and plans, while also still getting to be with our church family in the park after service. I hope you can join us!



The last Sunday of the month, 8/25, will be our monthly Youth Sunday. Youth of all ages are invited to participate in our service in whatever way they would like; they can read as liturgist, light the candles as acolyte, pass out bulletins as greeters, help with music, run slides, and more! It's a great way for them to be involved in our service, and to showcase their talents and dedication to the congregation. If you're available on this Sunday, please join in!

Finally, the 4th Wednesday of the month, 8/28, will be our monthly "Let's Talk About That" meeting for our Youth Group. Youth 6th grade and up are invited to join us in the Youth House from 6:30-8:00PM. This is a night of youth-led conversations over pizza, where we discuss the topics our church youth most want to talk about. We hope to see you there! And keep an eye out for an announcement regarding our Youth Band/ Bible Study, which will be resuming soon!

Thanks all, and I hope everyone has a wonderful end to their summer breaks, and a peaceful transition back to the school year, in whatever way that looks for you.

Take care,
Julia Schulte, Youth & Family Director

MISSION OUTREACH NEWS



We have a New Donation Process for Loaves & Fishes and Zozu Youth: The offering envelopes in the pews now have a checklist on the back to accept donations of any denomination for both Loaves & Fishes and Christmas and birthday money for our Zozu boys.

The offering envelopes can also be used for other church giving. Just mark the checklist to indicate where you want the donation to go. This means that loose \$1 bills placed in the Sunday offering plates will now go to the church general fund instead of to Loaves & Fishes.

Of course, offerings by check and by giving at plymouthchurchpaso.com will continue to be directed to where noted. We hope this process will make it easier to donate to Loaves & Fishes and for special gifts to our Zozu boys. If you have any questions, please contact John Svith.

Zozu Project Update: Kizito Munguci is one of the two boys we sponsor in Uganda. Kizito turned 10 years old on June 15 and sent a wonderful thank-you letter that you can read on the Outreach bulletin board.

Thanks to our congregation's generosity we sent \$107.50 of birthday money that was collected last spring. Kizito will go shopping for gifts with half of the money while the other half is placed in a saving account for his family.

BY JOHN SVINTH
MISSION OUTREACH

Donations Box for the Unhoused

The Donations Box for the Unhoused provided a nice pair of sneakers and jeans that was delivered to the ECHO Paso shelter to benefit their residents.

Also provided for our youth group's Care Kits was a large bag of airline amenity kits and a large bag of assorted toothbrushes, toothpastes, soaps, and lotions.

Plymouth Cares

The Plymouth Cares meal on July 2nd served 87 dinners and all 75 sack lunches.

Hotdogs, buns, and potato salad was the delicious and patriotic fare organized and prepared by Melinda with JoAnne and Tanya. Chris and Finn prepared the crisp and colorful green salad. Alison provided her authentic and popular Scottish shortbread for dessert. The wonderful sack lunch crew was Britt, Ronny, Carlie, Sharon W., Olivia, Nikol and John S. All of this food was joyfully served at the ECHO Paso shelter by Ronny, Melinda, JoAnne, Chris, and John S.

Wonderful fellowship and feeding the hungry is a great way to spend part of an afternoon. The next Plymouth Cares meal is August 6th, with helpers always needed and always appreciated.

Blood Drive

We conducted a Blood Drive on July 27th in Fellowship Hall, but the results were not available when this Beacon went to print. This is the quarterly blood drive we conduct with St. James Church. We will report the outcome in the September Beacon.

Mission-Outreach Team

The Mission-Outreach Team continues to seek more board members.

We are a board of only four and would greatly benefit from additional members. If you feel a tug on your heart when you participate in or hear about the activities we conduct, please consider joining to add your ideas and good energy to help serve those who need a helping hand.

For more information, please see John Svinth, Pearl Munak, Chris Macy, or Sally Vogl.



CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS



- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Pam Quealy | 15. Melinda Sterling |
| 5. Marlyn Hope | 23. Shawn Rowe |
| 5. Anne Crabbe | 26. Greg Waters |
| 6. Jacob Mottard | 29. Andy Anthony |
| 7. Marie Boling | 29. Steve Austin |
| 8. Pat Sayne | 31. Carolyn Kelso |
| 12. Pearl Munak | 31. Julia Schulte |



1. Jim & Charity Marlatt
4. Allen & Barbara Kossett
8. Chuck & Marlyn Hope
11. Nevin & Carol Linthacum
17. Eric & Jill Ogorsolka
17. Bruce & Shirly Mark
21. Bill & Narda Krum

- Prayers for five-year old Scarlett's ongoing battle with cancer: healing, comfort, and peace for her and loved ones.
- Prayers for Renee Athey, for healing & strength, body & spirit, as she undergoes chemo f/pancreatic cancer.
- Lily Kate Comstock and her family ~ For healing and comfort as she lives with a rare form of epilepsy.
- Dix DeGraaf ~ Has an upcoming surgery for an aortic embolism. Prayers for healing.
- Pete DeGraaf ~ Parkinson's
- Maisie Egger
- Rachana Feit ~ Prayers for comfort of Cancer

- Barb Hill
- Rev. Wendy Holland and family
- Mary Hyatt ~ Friend of Pearl Munak. Extreme trouble breathing-AST, COPD, Crohn's Disease, etc.
- Prayers for Hart & Nancy Junge.
- Carolyn Kelso
- Alyssa Reid ~ Alyssa is 35 and her liver has failed. She's waiting for a transplant at Scripps in San Diego. Please pray for Alyssa and her family. Her mom works for Marlyn and Chuck Hope.
- Anita Yates
- For multiple families dealing with health and cognition issues.
- For the continued good health of all.

- For God to bless PCC with continued, abundant, love and unity, and to add to our numbers, as we can be a mutual blessing to those who join us.
- Prayers for all people in War Torn Countries.
- May God heal, bless, comfort; and give wisdom to the doctors and all medical personnel.




TO ADD TO THE PRAYER LIST OR MAKE CHANGES, PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL LUCY IN THE CHURCH
OFFICE: (805) 238-3321, OR PLYMOUTHCHURCHPASO@GMAIL.COM

AUGUST CALENDAR

SUN JULY 28	MON JULY 29	TUES JULY 30	WED JULY 31	THUR AUGUST 1	FRI AUGUST 2	SAT AUGUST 3
Worship PCC Sanctuary 10am	PCC Office Closed	Coffee at Cider Creek 9:30am Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Youth House 5-7pm	Men's Bible Study Plymouth Hall 8-9am	Wendy's Bible Study Plymouth Hall 10-11:30am Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Youth House 5-7pm	*Just for Today Library 6pm NA Mtg. (use 13th St. Entrance) *held each Friday except 3rd Friday of the month	God's Garden 8:30am

SUN AUGUST 4	MON AUGUST 5	TUES AUGUST 6	WED AUGUST 7	THUR AUGUST 8	FRI AUGUST 9	SAT AUGUST 10
Worship PCC Sanctuary 10am Holy Communion Sunday	PCC Office Closed	Coffee at Cider Creek 9:30am Bingo Night at The Backyard 6-8pm Plymouth Cares Meal Serving Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Youth House 5-7pm	Men's Bible Study Plymouth Hall 8-9am	Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10-11:30am Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Youth House 5-7pm	*Just for Today Library 6pm NA Mtg. (use 13th St. Entrance) *held each Friday except 3rd Friday of the month	

SUN AUGUST 11	MON AUGUST 12	TUES AUGUST 13	WED AUGUST 14	THUR AUGUST 15	FRI AUGUST 16	SAT AUGUST 17
Church in the Park at Downtown City Park Potluck Breakfast at 9:30am, Service at 10am Blessing of the Animals  Youth to Yogurt After Service Diaconate Board Meeting 11:40am	PCC Office Closed	Coffee at Cider Creek 9:30am Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Youth House 5-7pm	Men's Bible Study Plymouth Hall 8-9am	Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10-11:30am Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Youth House 5-7pm		

SUN AUGUST 18	MON AUGUST 19	TUES AUGUST 20	WED AUGUST 21	THUR AUGUST 22	FRI AUGUST 23	SAT AUGUST 24
Worship PCC Sanctuary 10am Mission Outreach Meeting 11:40am	PCC Office Closed	Coffee at Cider Creek 9:30am Mission Outreach Library 4:15pm Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Youth House 5-7pm Trustees Meeting 6pm Council Meeting 7pm	Men's Bible Study Plymouth Hall 8-9am	Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10-11:30am Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Youth House 5-7pm	*Just for Today Library 6pm NA Mtg. (use 13th St. Entrance) *held each Friday except 3rd Friday of the month	

SUN AUGUST 25	MON AUGUST 26	TUES AUGUST 27	WED AUGUST 28	THUR AUGUST 29	FRI AUGUST 30	SAT AUGUST 31
Worship PCC Sanctuary 10am Youth Sunday Youth and Family Board Meeting 11:40am	PCC Office Closed	Coffee at Cider Creek 9:30am Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Youth House 5-7pm	Men's Bible Study Plymouth Hall 8-9am Let's Talk About That (Youth) 6:30pm	Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10-11:30am Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Youth House 5-7pm	*Just for Today Library 6pm NA Mtg. (use 13th St. Entrance) *held each Friday except 3rd Friday of the month "Cinderella" at the Park Ballroom, 7:30pm	

AUGUST SERMONS

SUN AUGUST 4	SUN AUGUST 11	SUN AUGUST 18	SUN AUGUST 25
"Signs and Performances" John 6:24-35	"Truthful and Kind" Ephesians 4:25-5:2	"Meal Prep" John 6:51-58	"Offended" John 6:56-69

Rodgers & Hammerstein's

CINDERELLA

Presented by Wine Country Theatre

THE PRINCE IS GIVING A BALL

AUGUST 16 - SEPTEMBER 1

Friday & Saturday, 7:30pm

Sunday, 2pm

you are cordially invited

His Royal Highness Prince Tophar will host a formal ball for the entire kingdom in hopes of finding his bride.

Christopher Rupert

His Royal Highness



Sabine

Lady Protector

Park Ballroom 1232 Park St, Paso Robles, CA

FOR MORE INFO AND TICKETS VISIT



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The Paso Robles Press
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THE BACKYARD
on thirteenth
WINE & BEER GARDEN



To access our online worship, to find out more about Plymouth Congregational Church, or to make an offering online, please visit: plymouthchurchpaso.com.

May God bless us all!
