



Plymouth Congregational Church ~ UCC ~ 1301 Oak Street, Paso Robles, CA 93446  
(805) 238-3321 ~ plymouthchurchpaso@gmail.com

“No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.”



## Pastor’s Letter ~ July 2023

### Reverend Wendy Holland

A friend of mine (we’ll call her Liz) recently posted a picture on Facebook showing a plush and gorgeous very light-colored couch—with a glaring black sharpie mark in the center of one of the cushions. And the caption read, “We have lived here less than 5 days & there is absolutely no eating in the living room but they have already done this! I am so angry right now. They are 7 & 8 yrs. old; that’s old enough to not do stuff like this, right?”

Before I go further, let me share a little bit about Liz. She’s one of those people who has tons of online followers, not because she gravitates towards sensationalized posts, but because she is an *encourager*. She knows her value but is never braggy, instead using her accomplishments to remind others of their own potential. She always has a kind word, and never comes off as arrogant. And for all of Liz’s humility and transparency, she always seems to have it together—which made this post all the more surprising.

But in retrospect, it wasn’t that surprising. Before responding in anger to her kids, Liz turned to community for help. And it wasn’t long before the comment-section filled up. Many responses were from parents of older kids, encouraging grace, and regretting some of our own harsh responses. Others made recommendations for stain removers. But no one attacked her for her transparency. They were much more motivated to extend the same love and grace Liz has modeled countless times, and to provide wise counsel.

And just a short time later Liz shared how this led not to an angry exchange with her kids, but in conversation, and real awareness on both sides, and hugs.

When we are aware of how we come across, and are focused on making the world better not just for ourselves, but providing an example to others, people take notice. And it makes them better people in response, who perpetuate that same goodness.

May we be aware, and may we always seek to perpetuate goodness.

With love and gratitude,  
Pastor Wendy

The way forward is love.  
The way to open doors is love.  
The way to social change is love.  
The way to peace is love.  
The way to equality is love.  
Let go of the anger and fear  
and let love show you the way.



Submitted by Julia Schulte

**Sunday 7/16 - Youth to Yogurt after service (6th grade and up)**

**Friday 7/21- Date Night, 5:30-8:30PM at the Youth House; followed by Youth Group Overnight**

**Saturday 7/22- Overnight pickups 10AM at the Youth House**

**Wednesday 7/26- "Let's Talk About That", 6:30-8PM at the Youth House**

**Sunday 7/30- Youth Sunday**

Hello Plymouth Church families, and happy July! I hope is having a fun start to their month and getting to enjoy the summertime. We have lots of events upcoming this month, so I hope you can join us for them!

On Tuesday, July 4th, our church youth have been invited to join Plymouth Cares to serve meals at the ECHO shelter in Paso. I will be there to help coordinate youth; we will be serving meals from 5-6PM at the ECHO location by the Paso fairgrounds. Please let me know if your youth would like to participate!

**Our monthly Youth to Yogurt will be the 3rd Sunday of the month, July 16th.** Our Plymouth Youth Group (6th grade and up) are invited to join me after church as we walk to downtown Paso Park for a frozen treat. We then spend some time in the park discussing upcoming events; it's a great way for our church youth to have their voices heard and to have a say in planning our youth programming.

**Friday the 21st will be our monthly Date Night!** Youth of all ages are invited to join me at Plymouth's Youth House from 5:30-8:30PM for a night of games, crafts, snacks, and fun with friends. Youth are welcome to bring friends as well!

Parents, we are looking for parent volunteers to help on Date Nights, whether that's volunteering your time during the 3-hour event or helping provide food for the kids. It's been difficult to coordinate volunteers the past few months, so please let me know if this is something you're interested in! It's very chill; you just help keep an extra eye on the kids in case of emergency. It's parent help that often makes our youth events possible, so please let me know if you're able to contribute!

Date Night will be followed by an overnight for our Youth Group, 6th grade and up. We will be staying overnight at the church for a night of lots of snacks, lots of games, and lots of fun. Youth are welcome and encouraged to bring friends; just be sure to give me a heads up, so we can have enough snacks!

**Youth Pickups are the morning of Saturday 7/22, 10AM at the Youth House.**

**Our monthly "Let's Talk About That" meeting will be the 4th Wednesday of this month, July 26th.** This is a time where our Youth Group, 6th grade and up, are invited to join myself and Pastor Wendy for an evening of conversations over pizza. It's a youth-led discussion, where we talk about what they most want to discuss. It's a great environment for getting answers to their questions and for having meaningful, faith-based discussions with a group of peers. We meet at the church from 6:30-8:00PM. I hope our youth can make it!

**Finally, our monthly Youth Sunday will be the last Sunday of the month, July 30th.** Youth of all ages are invited to participate in our church service in whatever way they would like. They can read as the liturgist, bring the light as acolyte, welcome as greeters, help with tech, and more! Anything they are interested in helping with, we would love to have them try-out. It's a fun opportunity for them to get involved in our church services, and for our congregation to see them in positions of leadership. If your youth would like to participate in any way, let me know. We would love to have them!

There may be some additional events occurring this month that have yet to be finalized, **so please keep an eye on your emails!** I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer, and don't hesitate to reach out with any questions. I hope to see you at our events this month! Take care all.

"Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time." -John Lubbock

Julia S., Youth & Family Director

*"Find joy in everything you choose to do."*  
Chuck Palahniuk

Nobody's  
**PERFECT,**  
that's why  
**PENCILS**  
have  
**ERASERS!**



~ Submitted by John Svinth

**The Strengthen the Church – Strengthen Our Church** special mission offering collected \$745 through the end of May, with donations continuing to be accepted through June. This offering supports UCC leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations to promote their stability. One-half this year's offering will support Plymouth Church to help defray significant projected facilities expenses in the coming years.

**Our Plymouth Cares meal on June 6<sup>th</sup> provided 75 servings** at the ECHO Paso shelter. The entrée was the delicious reappearance of Aunt Eleanor's Beef Noodle Casserole by Stu and JoAnne, along with buttered Hawaiian rolls by John & Linda T., Pearl's green salad with Ranch dressing, Alison's Scottish Short Bread (Extras were requested by guests and staff.), and PBJ sack lunches assembled by John B., Melinda, Chris and John & Carlie S. The shelter now provides drinking water and so no longer requests bottled waters. Stu, JoAnne, Chris and John S. were our servers on that damp and cool afternoon. We reduced the amount of provided food according to ECHO's prediction for fewer guests, so our preparation worked well. Our next Plymouth Cares meal is July 4<sup>th</sup>, with helpers always appreciated and always needed. We look forward to PCC youth again helping to serve at the shelter.

**Our next blood drive is Saturday, July 15**, in Plymouth Hall, from 10 AM – 2:30 PM. If you are eligible and would like to be a donor, please join us or attend one of the other local blood drives by making an appointment online at [donors.vitalant.org/dwp/portal/dwa](https://donors.vitalant.org/dwp/portal/dwa) or by calling 877-258-4825. A flyer is at the back of the sanctuary or on the Outreach bulletin board that provides a QR code that can also be scanned to make an appointment. A wealth of information about giving blood is available online at [vitalant.org](https://vitalant.org) or by calling the above number. So, if you are eligible and willing, give blood and **Save a Life!**

**Volunteers Requested to Serve the Homeless in the Riverbed:** The Hope and Faith organization is seeking volunteers to participate in their team outreach ministry to provide resources to the homeless residing in the Salinas Riverbed. If you would like to participate on a team to help people residing in the riverbed, or if you would like information about this outreach program, please contact Hannah Jones at 805-769-0876.

**Pridefest's "Pride in the Plaza" 2023** was the afternoon of Sunday, June 4th, at the SLO Mission Plaza. It was a wonderful celebration of LGBTQ+ to support and empower people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and expressions and to strengthen and unite our Central Coast Community. Plymouth Church was well represented at the UCC booth where we served alongside members of the Community Church of Atascadero and the San Luis Obispo UCC.

**The gift money for Kizito Munguci's 9<sup>th</sup> birthday** saw \$142 and a birthday letter sent to help celebrate his special day as one of our two boys we sponsor in Uganda via the Zozu Project. A Zozu staff person will help Kizito use some of this money to purchase gifts, while the remainder will be set aside for future support of his family. Per the guidance of the Zozu Project, we send gift donations for our boys on birthdays and at Christmas. The US dollar goes a long way in Uganda, so this is a wonderful present for Kizito.

**The "Donations for Homeless" box** was filled to overflowing with a wonderful assortment that included a blanket, toiletries, shoes, shirts, pants, sweaters, towels and a backpack. The ECHO shelter was thrilled to receive these items. A list of acceptable donations is attached to the box in Plymouth Hall, for which we ask for continued items on the list among unwanted possessions at home or perhaps that you might purchase to donate. Thank you for helping the unsheltered.

*"The purpose of life is to serve, and to show compassion and the will to help others." — Albert Schweitzer*



Submitted by Sharon Rowe

Greetings, Happy July!!

There is a sign up sheet for our **Church in the Park Breakfast on the Fellowship Bulletin Board**. Back in the day, all the ladies made the same casserole. It was from my mother-in-law, Elizabeth Ann Rowe.

I think there are still some recipes on the bulletin board.

Now **ALL** recipes are welcome.

We will need : **Breakfast casseroles, Fruit, Juices, and Coffeecakes, etc.**

There is **ALWAYS** a very nice **fellowship breakfast served at 9:30 AM**.

**Our Church Service will be at 10:00 AM in the park, August 13<sup>th</sup>.**

**\*Bring your chairs or a blanket so you can get comfortable.**

In the sanctuary pews you will find cards to put in the collection plate if you would like some help or prayers. The praying chain is private and your concerns will be kept confidential.

See you in church.


Blessings to all, Sharon Rowe



## Youth Pen Pals Requested For Our Boys In Uganda ~ Submitted by John Svinth

We are seeking youth to be pen pals for our two 9-year-old boys in Uganda, Daniel and Kizito, who are sponsored by Plymouth Church via the ZoZu Project. The world in which our boys reside is full of uncertainties, including material poverty and a lack of family stability and resources. Letters from sponsors remind them that they are valued and supported, as well as give them an opportunity to practice their English writing skills. Letters need only be written a few times a year, primarily at

Attached are sample letters from our boys. For more information, please see John Svinth on Sundays or leave a message at jsvinth@pacbell.net or phone 805-674-9464.



DEAR, Praise Heland      DATE: 28th Feb 2023

Plymouth Congregational Church.  
Thank you so much for the birthday wishes!!  
I feel so loved and happy.  
Yes I am nine and I feel so good to be  
nine. 😊 😊

With your gift, I promise  
to buy a cake, juice, sweets  
and rice. Thank you so much for loving  
me. Katy said you loved my previous letter  
I was very happy to know that. Thank you!  
I will send pictures from my shopping. yes, my  
family is doing fine. I love you so much.

LOVE, DANIEL OPKUBUA      541

---

Contact us: 805-610-3589      Mail: P.O. Box 1635 Templeton, Ca 93465      Email: katz@zozuproject.org  
to reply to your sponsor child.      to reply to your sponsor child.

Today's Date Tuesday 14th Feb 2023

Praise the Lord Plymouth  
Congregational Church  
Thank's so much for the  
letter you sent to me. I and my  
family are doing ok and hope  
you are fine too.

I enjoyed the christmas  
season with my family and it was  
a good time. Thank you so much  
for choosing to sponsor me. I am in  
grade one this year and so happy  
to be at solid rock. I will ask  
my teacher about California.

When I grow up I will also  
help little children so God can bless  
me. Thank you for having a big heart  
to care for so many people. May God Bless you and all the  
works of your hands. Love's

Moses Kizito      546



Pearl Munak, Jim Hawkins, and Melinda Sterling at the Parkfield Blue Grass Festival 5/11/23

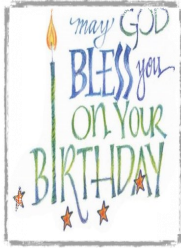
### A Day Away

Some feelings are shallow, some are deep.  
Some make us smile, some make us weep.  
Some we love, some we don't.  
Some we'll savor, some we won't.  
Some are grounding... some uplifting...  
Some long-lasting... some are shifting.  
No matter what feelings I'm feeling today,  
tomorrow is only a day away.

Brian E. Pardee

# JULY CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS

## JULY BIRTHDAYS



Sally Vogl	2	Zoe Kingsbury	24
Jennie Doherty	6	Mary Ann Paul	26
Dylan Fairchild	7	Curtis Svinth	27
Hobie Smith	14	Joel Peterson	30
Nevin Linthacum	15		
JoAnne Stoddard	20		

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES



John & Carlie Svinth	8
Amy & Russell Baker	12
Alex & Becky Dreese	14
Robert Dudley & Meghan Ball	15
James & Margaret Schaefer	24
Sean & Marie Boling	26
Guillaume & Solene Fabre	26

### Updates to Directory:

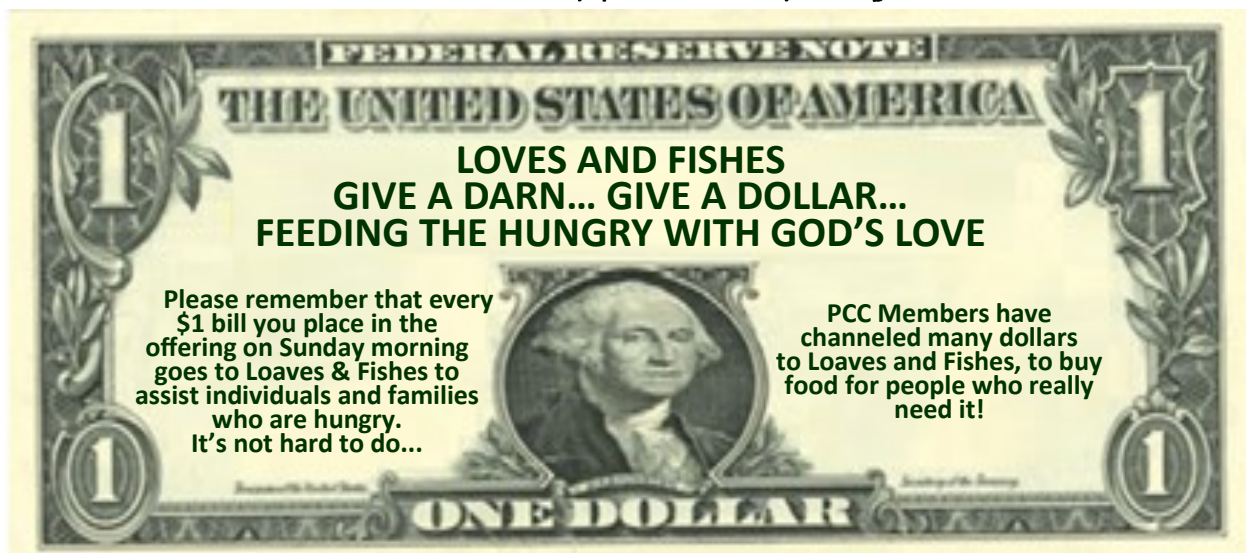
Joyce Singelman ~ 140 S. Dolliver St., ~ Space 127 ~ Pismo Beach, CA 93449

Evelyn Bradley ~ 55 Broad St. #118 ~ San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

## † HOPE AND HEALING

- † Prayers are requested for Scarlett Rose Andreotti, 3 years old, diagnosed with Childhood Leukemia.
- † Tom Bradley ~ Please pray peace and comfort for all of Tom's loved ones on his passing April 30, 2023.
- † Pete DeGraaf ~ Parkinson's
- † Maisie Egger
- † Barb Hill ~ For her son Ron's recovery and good health
- † Rev. Wendy Holland and family
- † David Jennings ~ Now in hospice with PSP.
- † Prayers for Hart & Nancy Junge. Hart suffered a stroke on June 29th and is currently in the hospital.
- † Carolyn Kelso
- † Prayers for Chris Macy after 'right eye' surgery.
- † Sherry Sauret ~ For a swift, healing in her recovery from hip surgery.
- † Anita Yates
- † For multiple families dealing with health and cognition issues.
- † For the continued good health of all and a final end to Covid.
- † 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 the people in all War Torn Countries.

\*Please contact the church office to add/remove anyone from our prayer list:  
805-238-3321 ~ plymouthchurcpaso@gmail.com



# Plymouth Congregational Church

## Paso Robles, CA

### July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
<b>ROOM LEGEND:</b> All Rooms Booked - (AR), Courtyard - (C), Plymouth Hall - (PH), Kitchen - (K), Library - (L), Office - (O), Sanctuary - (S), Youth House - (YH) Church Office Hours: Tues. - Fri. ~ 10 A.M. - 2:P.M. ~ Office Phone #: 805-238-3321 Office Email: <a href="mailto:plymouthchurchpaso@gmail.com">plymouthchurchpaso@gmail.com</a> Website: <a href="http://plymouthchurchpaso.com">plymouthchurchpaso.com</a>						<b>1 God's Garden</b> 8:30am 	
<b>2 WORSHIP ~ PCC</b> Sanctuary 10A <b>HOLY COMMUNION</b>  "ASK ANYTHING" Sunday" - Rev. Wendy and Jeff Railsback 	3	<b>4 Plymouth Cares</b> Dinner Prep 1:30-4:30PM Volunteers Welcome   <b>INDEPENDENCE DAY</b>	5	<b>Men's Bible Study 8AM (PH)</b>	<b>6 Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10:00-11:30 (S)</b> <b>Youth Ministry Zoom Meeting 5:30pm</b>	7	8
<b>9 WORSHIP ~ PCC SANCTUARY 10am</b> *Diaconate Meeting 11:30AM (L)  <b>C. Anthony (PH) 3-6pm</b>	17	<b>11</b>  <b>(PH) 6-9:30pm(PH)</b>	12	<b>Men's Bible Study 8AM (PH)</b>	<b>13 Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10:00-11:30 (S)</b>	14	<b>15 Vitalant Blood Drive 8am - 4pm (PH)</b> 
<b>16 WORSHIP ~ PCC SANCTUARY 10am</b> Youth to Yogurt After Service 	18	<b>*Trustees 6PM</b> <b>*Council 6:45PM</b>	19	<b>Men's Bible Study 8AM (PH)</b> *Mission Outreach Mtg.3:45pm (L)	<b>20 Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10:00-11:30 (S)</b>	<b>21 Youth Date Night 5:30-8:30PM @ the Youth House</b> Followed by an Overnight for 6th grade and up <u>Bring a blanket and pillow</u>	<b>22 Youth overnight pick ups 10am Youth House</b> 
<b>23 WORSHIP 10am PCC SANCTUARY</b>  <b>YOUTH SUNDAY</b> <b>30</b>	24	25	26	<b>Men's Bible Study 8AM (PH)</b>  <b>Youth: Let's Talk About That ~ 6:30pm (PH)</b>	<b>27 Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10:00-11:30 (S)</b>	28	29
31							

JULY WORSHIP PLANS ~ We hope you are able to join us for our July Sundays, 10am, in our Church Sanctuary.  
 SUNDAY SERMONS:

- Week One (7/2/23): "Ask Anything" ~ James 3:13-18
- Week Two (7/9/23): "Audience" ~ Matthew 10:5-8, 40-42
- Week Three (7/16/23): "Dirt" ~ Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
- Week Four (7/23/23): "Weeds" ~ Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
- Week Five (7/30/23): "Who Can Govern" ~ 1 Kings 3:5-12

To access our online worship; To find out more about Plymouth Church; or To make an online offering; please visit: [plymouthchurchpaso.com](http://plymouthchurchpaso.com). God bless us all!