



Plymouth Congregational Church ~ UCC ~ 1301 Oak Street, Paso Robles, CA 93446
No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!
(805) 238-3321 ~ plymouthchurchpaso@gmail.com



Pastor's Letter ~ November 2023 Reverend Wendy Holland

I've never been a huge fan of beauty pageants, both because I was raised to believe that one's focus should be on intellectual accomplishment and education and, maybe more importantly because I never felt like beauty queen material. (Have you noticed that it's easy for us to have contempt for the things that are beyond our reach?)

It wasn't until I was well into adulthood that I realized the pageant circuit can be a vehicle to scholarships, better education, bringing visibility to worthy causes, and accomplishing genuine good in the world.

Just this morning I heard about Mollie Moon, a Civil Rights Movement activist who hosted fundraising events in the 1940s, '50s, and '60s, including pageants celebrating the beauty of young Black women - women who would likely not feel like the beauty standard in their surrounding environments. Not only was Mollie telling these women they were worthy of being seen *and* heard, and building their confidence and ability to contribute in the process, but she was raising money for to advance causes of freedom and equality.

In sharing Mollie's story, historian Tanisha Ford made the point that too often we don't talk about how we fund the work and movements that change the world because "money sounds dirty when we talk about justice and freedom, and liberation and democracy; we don't think that those things should cost money."

When we think about doing the work of the Gospel - both as individuals and as a church - we can have that same attitude. But throughout the Bible, and throughout Jesus's ministry, we see people generously and unashamedly giving of their time, abilities, and finances to create a better world, and to share the hope we find in Jesus.

As we move into November, focusing on stewardship and our pledge drive to Plymouth's ministry for the year ahead, think about all the different ways Plymouth is serving the world around us. Some of them are surprising and unique, and look nothing like our own lives or context - but they are making a difference; bringing hope and confidence, and bringing spiritual connection and practical provision.

As always, we can only do the work we are funded and equipped for, so we ask that you prayerfully consider all the ways God is leading *you* to make a difference in the year ahead. Don't be afraid to see things in a new way.

We are so grateful for your commitment and contributions.

With love, and in prayer,
Pastor Wendy

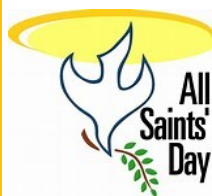
Whoever is generous to the needy honors God.

Proverbs 14:31b

With gratitude,
Rev. Wendy Holland
Plymouth Congregational Church
www.plymouthchurchpaso.com

Greetings from the Diaconate Board

Submitted by Sharon Rowe ~ November 2023



November and December are full of church happenings. We all have so much to be thankful for!!!

November 5th is All Saints Day. We Invite you to bring a picture of a loved one that has passed. We will have a table to place them. Please email the office with the name of your loved one. We will read the names of all who passed this last year and we will ring a bell as we say each name.

Saturday Dec 3, at 9:00am is hanging of the greens where we decorate the church and fellowship hall for Christmas. We need all hands-on deck to get it ready for December 3 which is the first day of Advent. Each Sunday in Advent we will light a candle and speak of its significance.

This is a wonderful time of year to come to church consistently. The message every Sunday is always educational and inspiring.

We look forward to seeing you and your family.
Blessings to all,



MISSION OUTREACH

November 2023

Submitted by John Svinth

The Mission-Outreach Team seeks board members. We are operating with only four board members and would greatly benefit from more. If you are encouraged by our activities, or would like more information, please see John Svinth, Chris Macy, Pearl Munak or Stu Stoddard.

The Plymouth Cares meal ministry seeks an additional main course cook. We seek a cook to add to the rotation for the main course of our monthly meals for the homeless. If you have basic skills at the stove and can spare one afternoon every three or four months, then you could be the blessing we need. We have recipes (if needed), you will be reimbursed for the ingredients, and we will all get to enjoy the fellowship of the Plymouth Church kitchen. If interested, please talk to John Svinth, Chris Macy, Pearl Munak or Stu Stoddard.

The Neighbors in Need special mission offering was taken on October 1st. The amount received thus far is \$590! These and any additional donations will be sent to our regional UCC office to support its ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Another way we are making a better world!

Our Plymouth Cares meal on October 3rd served 97 (ninety-seven!) dinners at the ECHO Paso shelter, including 75 sack lunches, which saw 18 participants contribute to this meal! The entrée was the popular Aunt Eleanor's Beef Noodle Casserole created by Stu, John T., Britt, and Sharon W. Pearl made the crisp green salad with tomato slices and Ranch dressing. John and Linda T. prepared the buttered Hawaiian Sweet Rolls. Meghan, Hazel and Argentina baked and bagged big M&M cookies for the dessert. The efficient sack lunch crew was Sharon W., Melinda, Ronny, John B., Chris, Carlie & John S., five-year-old Ari, and new helpers Nikol and Andrew. Linda and Ronny also emptied the dishwasher of its cleaned load from the previous Sunday's fellowship. Our servers at the ECHO Shelter were Stu, Pearl, Ronny, Carlie and John S., who received many a "thank you" from appreciative guests. **Our next Plymouth Cares meal is the first Tuesday of next month, November 7th**, where helpers are always needed and always appreciated.

The box of "Donations for Homeless" received more wonderful gifts that were happily accepted at the ECHO Paso shelter. The October donations included shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, lotions, and over a dozen, all-day RTA bus passes. If you are interested in donating to the homeless, please see the list of acceptable donations attached to the box in Plymouth Hall. Should you wish to donate items, not on the list, please see John Svinth about the possibility of gifting them to other local nonprofits that serve those in need.

Our Blood Drive on October 21st collected 23 donations! Plymouth Hall was again the scene of lifesaving giving as Vitalant staff collected the precious gift of blood. Donations are in critical need and one pint donation can save up to three lives, including children and adults experiencing traumatic injuries and those needing blood for ongoing medical procedures. Our blood drives occur quarterly and in partnership with St. James Church. **Our next blood drive is planned for Saturday, January 20, 2024.**

Our Christmas Season Missions are approaching! Please watch for more information about the following opportunities to help make the Christmas season merry for those in need: **Christmas donations for our Zozu Project boys** to provide a modest holiday gift for Daniel and Kizito, our sponsored nine-year-olds in Uganda. The **Heifer Project** that sends crops and livestock to farmers in developing countries to help themselves and pay it forward. The **Toy Bank** collects monetary donations or new, unwrapped toys for infants-12 years in a collection box in Plymouth Hall. Bell ringing for the **Salvation Army Red Kettle** will occur in December. The **Christmas Fund** offering will be taken December 17 to support retired and active employees of the UCC who have financial need.



Submitted by Julia Schulte

Wednesday 11/1: Youth Band AND Youth Bible study! 6:30-8:30PM at the Youth House
Wednesday 11/8: Youth Band AND Youth Bible study! 6:30-8:30PM at the Youth House
Wednesday 11/15: Youth Band AND Youth Bible study! 6:30-8:30PM at the Youth House
Friday 11/17: Date Night 5:30-8:30PM at the Youth House;
And Youth Group overnight (6th grade and up)
Saturday 11/18: Youth Pick Ups at Youth House 10:00AM
Sunday 11/19: Youth to Yogurt (6th grade and up) following service
Wednesday 11/22: "Let's Talk About That" 6:30-8:30PM at the Youth House
Thursday 11/23: Thanksgiving Day (Office closed November 23-24)
Sunday 11/26: Youth Sunday!
Wednesday 11/29: Youth Band AND Youth Bible study! 6:30-8:30PM at the Youth House

Hello Plymouth families, and happy November! Welcome to a new month full of fun and exciting events.

To start off, we will have our weekly Youth Band and Bible Study on Wednesday, November 1st. Youth Group (6th grade and up) are invited to join us at 6:30PM at the Youth House for band rehearsal, followed by Bible study from 7-8:30PM. This will be every Wednesday of the month, aside from the 4th Wednesday, which will remain as our monthly "Let's Talk About That" conversation night. Youth Band/ Bible study will be 11/1, 11/8, 11/15, and 11/29 this month.

The 4th Wednesday of the month will still be "Let's Talk About That", where the Youth Group meets with myself and Pastor Wendy to discuss topics chosen by our youth. This month, that will be Wednesday 11/22, at Plymouth's Youth House from 6:30-8:30PM.

Our monthly Date Night will be Friday, November 17th from 5:30-8:30PM at the Youth House! Youth of all ages are invited to join us for a night of themed crafts, games, snacks, and time with church peers. Youth are also welcome to bring along a friend! Parents, if you are available this month to provide food for the night and/or serve as parent volunteer for the event, please let me know. Thanks so much in advance! And thanks to Sharon Schulte for serving as parent helper at our October Date Night.

Date Night will be followed by an overnight for our Youth Group, 6th grade and up. We will stay overnight at the church for games, snacks, and fun with friends. Youth are welcome to bring a guest; just don't forget a blanket and pillow! Pickups will be Saturday 11/18 at 10AM at the Youth House, and breakfast will be provided. Hope to see you there!

Sunday November 19th is our monthly Youth to Yogurt! Youth Group members are invited to join me after service to walk to the downtown Paso park for a frozen treat. We then spend some time discussing upcoming youth events, activities, and plans. We are typically gone for about half an hour before heading back to the church around 11:30AM.

Finally, the last Sunday of the month, 11/26, 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.

I hope that everyone has a beautiful month full of family, friends, thankfulness, and love. See you around at our events!

Julia Schulte, Youth & Family Director

PCC ~ Hoping to Renew the Church Bell Choir.

And as such, we will need some bell ringers!

If you have any interest in ringing the bells for worship service, please contact:

Barbara Kossett at: (805) 227-626

Or email: bkossett@gmail.com

Thank you :)



Poetry

Pearl Munak would like you all to know that she can be seen and heard reciting her poetry. If you go to either 'YouTube' or 'Facebook' and then go to

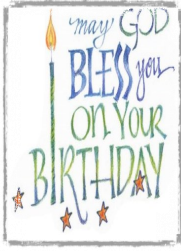
"Pearl Munak" Enjoy!



**PLYMOUTH CHURCH
PIONEER DAY PARADE
OCTOBER 14, 2023**



NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Cynthia Carnahan	2	Jim Marlatt	19
Becky Dreese	2	Susanne Genovese	21
Scarlett Mottard	3	Julie Skanes	22
Kathy Johansing	4	Jim Hawkins	29
Carol Linthacum	10	Chloe Railsback	29
Alex Dreese	12		



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

No November Anniversaries are listed.
Please advise if someone should be on the list but isn't.
Thank you, Ronny

The Gift of Empathy

Empathy, a gift that is given to a few... A quality that is rare, yet so true...
For in empathy, there lies a power... To feel and understand, in any given hour.

Unknown Author

HOPE AND HEALING ~

- † Prayers requested for Scarlett Rose Andreotti, 3 years old, diagnosed w/Childhood Leukemia.
- † Prayers for Renee Athey, for healing & strength, body & spirit, as she undergoes chemo f/pancreatic cancer.
- † Vivian Borden ~ A close friend of Chris Macy's who was just diagnosed with lung cancer.
- † Dix DeGraaf ~ Has an upcoming surgery for an aortic embolism. Prayers for healing.
- † Pete DeGraaf ~ Parkinson's
- † Maisie Egger
- † Barb Hill ~ Took a fall and is healing. Prayers for comfort and for her son Ron's recovery/health.
- † Prayers of hope for Chuck Hope and family ~ Chuck has been diagnosed w/cancer and is in the process of additional testing and connecting with an oncology team.
- † Rev. Wendy Holland and family
- † Prayers for Hart & Nancy Junge. ~ Hart is home, recovering well and glad to be home with Nancy.
- † Prayers for Strength & Recovery of Emily, JoAnne Stoddard's niece, diagnosed w/Stage 3 breast cancer.
Thankful for prayers!
- † Carolyn Kelso
- † Nanette Moreno ~ John Svinth's niece who is grieving for the loss of her baby who died at 14 weeks old.
- † Sherry Sauret ~ Prayers for healing after hip surgery.
- † Victor, who recently attended our church, was hit by a car while riding his bike & badly injured. Pray for healing.
- † 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 the people in all 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, the church office: (805) 238-3321, plymouthchurchpaso@gmail.com



Wishing All A Blessed November!

Plymouth Congregational Church

November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Men's Bible Study 8AM (PH) *Youth Band AND Youth Bible study! 6:00-8:30PM	2 Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10:00-11:30 (PH) Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH)	3 *Just for Today -NA Mtg. Location Library 6PM (Pls Note: use 13th St Entrance) ~ Held Each Fri except the 3rd Friday of the Month- to accommodate Date Night *Stewardship Letters Mailed from Office	4 God's Garden 8:30am
5 WORSHIP ~ PCC SANCTUARY 10am- HOLY COMMUNION ALL SAINTS DAY Daylight Savings Time Ends Set Clocks BACK One Hour	6 M O N D A Y S	7 Plymouth Cares - Dinner Prep 1:30 - 4:30pm (PH) Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH)	8 Men's Bible Study 8AM (PH) *Youth Band AND Youth Bible study! 6:30-8:30PM	9 Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10:00-11:30 (PH) Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH)	10 Fire Dept. Check of PCC Buildings and Extinguishers 10AM *Just for Today -NA Mtg. ~ Location Library 6PM (Pls Note: use 13th St Entrance) ~ Held Each Fri except the 3rd Friday of the Month- to accommodate Date Night	11
12 WORSHIP ~ PCC SANCTUARY 10am *Diaconate Mtg. 11:30AM (L)	13 P C C	14 Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH)	15 Men's Bible Study 8AM (PH) Clipper Club 4-9pm (PH) *Youth Band AND Youth Bible study! 6:30-8:30PM	16 Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10:00-11:30 (PH) Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH)	17 Youth Date Night 5:30-8:30 (YH) - Followed by an Overnight for 6th graders and up. Please bring a blanket/pillow	18 Youth Overnight Pick Ups
19 WORSHIP ~ PCC SANCTUARY 10am Youth To Yogurt After Service *STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY 10AM	20 O F F I C E	21 Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH) *Mission Outreach Mtg. 4:30pm (L) *Trustees Mtg 6pm (L) *Council Mtg (L) 6:45pm	22 Men's Bible Study 8AM (PH) Youth: Let's Talk About That ~ 6:30-8:30pm (YH)	 Happy Thanksgiving Church Office Closed	24 *Just for Today -NA Mtg. ~ Location Library 6PM (Pls Note: use 13th St Entrance) ~ Held Each Fri except the 3rd Friday of the Month- to accommodate Date Night	25
26 WORSHIP ~ PCC SANCTUARY 10am YOUTH SUNDAY	27 C L O S E D	28 Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH)	29 Men's Bible Study 8AM (PH) *Youth Band AND Youth Bible study! 6:30-8:30PM (YH)	30 Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10:00-11:30 (PH) Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH)	December 1 *Just for Today -NA Mtg. ~ Location Library 6PM (Pls Note: use 13th St Entrance) ~ Held Each Fri except the 3rd Friday of the Month- to accommodate Date Night	Gratitude helps us to see what is there instead of what isn't.

November Worship ~ We hope you are able to join us for our November Sundays, 10am, Church Sanctuary



NOVEMBER SUNDAY SERMONS ~ Rev. Wendy Holland

- Week One (11/5/23) "Stewardship Involves Planning" ~ Matthew 25: 1-13
- Week Two (11/12/23) "Stewardship Requires Risk" ~ Matthew 25: 14-30
- Week Three (11/19/23) "Stewardship Creates Change" ~ Micah 6:1-8
- Week Four (11/26/23) "Gospel Reading" Alex Dreese ~ Luke 17: 11-19

To access our online worship; To Find out more about Plymouth Church; or