



Plymouth Congregational Church ~ UCC ~ 1301 Oak Street, Paso Robles, CA 93446
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Pastor's Letter ~ September 2023

Reverend Wendy Holland

"The essence of life is to communicate love."

"Be careful who you hate. It could be someone you love."

"Love Is Louder."

"Do No Harm."

My day was punctuated by these thought-provoking phrases that just kept popping up.

We expect to find sentiments like these in a devotional study, or more modern paraphrases of the Bible. But how do we respond when we find them out in the world? In my case these came from the label of a teabag, a couple of t-shirts, and a bumper sticker.

I could have rejected them outright because they weren't "Scripture—" but they impacted me as if they were. The first one motivated me to show extra grace to a loved one who really needed it (and with whom I was ready to be ungracious).

The others also came at just the right time, reminding me that we *constantly* have the opportunity to counter the more negative dynamics around us with words and actions that foster trust and build relationships instead of tearing down those who (maybe justifiably) tick us off. Even as I write this, situations come to mind where I could be more about others, and less about my own rights.

As you go about your day, watch for words and examples that motivate you towards showing the mercy and goodness of Jesus. We could *all* use some love.

With gratitude,
 Pastor Wendy

Love Is the Greatest

13 If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.² If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing.³ If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing.

~~1 Corinthians 13:1-3 (NLT)

Worship in the Park, August 13, 2023



Blessing of the Animals



Submitted by, Sharon Rowe and JoAnne Stoddard

Thank you to everyone who came to Church in the Park. There was such a wonderful assortment of delicious food for the breakfast. Thank you to Paul, Deb and Julia for the beautiful music. Thank you, Joel and Joy, for all the technical set up and take down. We had tables brought and supplies from the church. We have gratitude to our youth that sang such a sweet song. Thank you to all my Diaconate

Everyone chipped in to help this be one of the best events ever. Of course, a huge thank you to Wendy for a wonderful message and service.

If you are not involved with the church in some way, check out the various boards. Youth and Family, Diaconate, Mission Outreach, and Endowment Committee are the different board you could join. We always need greeters, and liturgists, flowers and fellowship. Ask and ye shall receive a way to help.

Blessings to all, Sharon Rowe

Our Diaconate has been organizing a CARE Group, to help those who are going through difficulties. If you have a need for transportation, meals, or other types of support, please reach out to us.

We have an ongoing list of people who are ready to help with transportation, preparing a meal, sending a card, etc... If you would like to be a part of our CARE effort, please let me know.

Gratefully Submitted by Joanne Stoddard

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*Caring for others is an
expression of what it
Means to be fully human.*

*Faith is not believing that God can,
it's knowing that He will.*



Submitted by Julia Schulte

Friday 9/15: Date Night 5:30-8:30PM at the Youth House; Youth Group overnight (6th grade and up)

Saturday 9/16: Youth overnight pickups 10AM at the Youth House

Sunday 9/17: Youth to Yogurt (6th grade and up) following service

Sunday 9/24: Youth Sunday

Wednesday 9/27: "Let's Talk About That" 6:30-8:30PM at the Youth House

A *New Youth Event - Wednesday 10/4: Youth band & Bible study 6:00-8:30PM

Hello Plymouth youth and families, and happy September!

I hope you are all having a wonderful start to your month, and are looking forward to the exciting days ahead.

To kick off our events this month, our monthly Date Night will be Friday, September 15th from 5:30-8:30PM at Plymouth's Youth House! Youth of all ages are invited to join us for a night of themed crafts, fun games, good snacks, and time with church peers. Youth are also welcome to bring along a friend! Thank you to Jennie Doherty for providing the food for August's Date Night! Parents, if you are available this coming month to provide food for the kids or serve as parent volunteer for the three-hour event, please let me know. It's parent involvement that makes our youth events possible, so thank you so much in advance!

Date Night will be followed by an overnight for our Youth Group, which is 6th grade and up. We will be staying overnight in the Youth House to play games, eat lots of snacks, and spend time connecting with friends. Just don't forget a blanket and pillow! Youth are welcome and encouraged to bring a friend. Pickups will be the following morning, 9/16 at the Youth House at 10AM, and breakfast muffins will be provided. I hope to see our youth there!

On Sunday the 17th we will be doing our monthly Youth to Yogurt! Youth Group members are invited to join me after service ends to walk to the downtown Paso park for a frozen treat. We spend some time discussing upcoming youth events, and it's a great way for them to get their voices heard in the planning of our programming! We are typically out for about half an hour before heading back to the church around 11:30AM.

Now for a new exciting thing! We are going to be kicking off a Youth Band AND Youth Bible study! Starting on October 4th, Youth Group members are invited to join us at the Youth House; we will talk about our plans for a youth band and get organized with instruments, songs, vocals, and more. We'll practice music and get acquainted, and then we will switch over to the Bible study portion! We will have icebreakers, followed by a Bible-based activity and conversation with the youth. I want to extend a huge thank you to Trago Wallace for being a driving force behind this and for lending his talents to our Plymouth youth program.

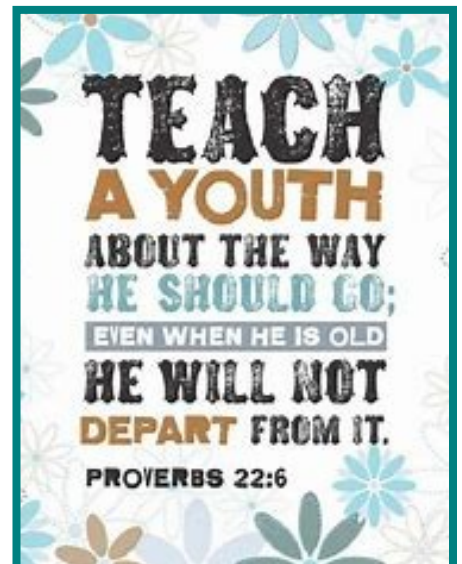
Going forward, our youth band AND Bible study will meet every Wednesday from 6:30-8:30PM at the Youth House, starting in October. The 4th Wednesday of the month will still be "Let's Talk About That", where we meet with Pastor Wendy to discuss topics chosen by our youth. This month, that will be Wednesday, September 27th. We are updating the time to 6:30-8:30PM, rather than 6:30-8:00PM. I really hope everyone's able to join us for our Youth Group Wednesdays!

Finally, the last Sunday of the month, 9/24, 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 everyone has a beautiful month and a smooth transition into the fall.

See you at our upcoming events!

Julia Schulte, Youth & Family director





~ Submitted by John Svinth

Our Plymouth Cares meal on August 1st served 77 dinners at the ECHO Paso shelter that were joyfully served by Stu, JoAnne, Pearl, Tanya, Chris and John S. The dinner entrée was taco salad accompanied by refried beans and topped with corn chips that were prepared by Stu, JoAnne, Gwen (Stoddard), Pearl, Ronny and Tanya; dinner dessert of big M&M cookies specially made by Meghan and daughters Hazel and Argentina; PBJ sack lunches by John B., Melinda, Ronny, Sharon W., Tanya, Mary, Olivia, and John & Carlie S.; and a special lunch dessert of Alison's Scottish shortbread. As you can see, we had many hands, which made for light work, but also enjoyed wonderful fellowship as we performed the Lord's work serving those in need. Our next Plymouth Cares meal is September 5th, with helpers always appreciated and always needed; it is truly a great way to spend part of your day.

The "Donations for Homeless" box continues to receive wonderful gifts, which were appreciatively received by the ECHO Paso shelter. This month's donations included toiletries, new socks, pajamas, shirts, a skirt(?), pants, and a large assortment of shorts. If you are interested in donating to the homeless, please see the list of acceptable donations attached to the box in Plymouth Hall. Contributions may come from unwanted possessions at home or perhaps items you choose to purchase. Bottled water is no longer needed at the Paso shelter as drinking water is now provided on site. Should you wish to donate items not on the list, please see me about the possibility of gifting them to other local nonprofits that serve the homeless. These gifts are greatly appreciated for helping the unsheltered.

Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering

The Neighbors in Need offering supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States, and will be taken on **World Communion Sunday, October 1st**. Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace advocates), Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice.

One-third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hockak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM, which is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S.

Introducing
'The Wallace Family'
Welcomed as Members of
Plymouth
Congregational
Church
August 6, 2023

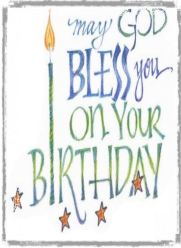
If you haven't already met them,
please introduce yourself when
you see them.



SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



Ann Dixon	3	Anne Jennings	19
Pattie Simpson	3	Emma Severson	19
Allen Kossett	4	Steven Fairchild	22
Mike Learned	5	Jillian Waters	22
Gail Lloyd	5	John Carroll	23
Dexter Wallace	10	Lindsay Svinth	24
Olivia McPherson	12	Tanya Railsback	25
Megan Tannehill	14	Mary Sayne	27
Joy Patterson	17	Dave Severson	27
Margaret Schaefer	18		



Joel & Dagney Peterson	1
Frank & Vicki Teague	18

"Helping the poor and less fortunate people removes ego and pride from our hearts." ~ Albert Schweitzer



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.
- ✝ Pete DeGraaf ~ Parkinson's
- ✝ Maisie Egger
- ✝ Barb Hill ~ Took a fall last week 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
- ✝ After a long and debilitating illness, David Jennings was delivered into eternal restoration Friday morning, July 14th. Please pray for his wife Anne, his sons Christopher and Michael, and their loved ones, in your prayers for peace and comfort.
- ✝ Prayers for Hart & Nancy Junge. ~ Hart is now home, having completed his rehab., after his stroke on 6/29. He is recovering well, able to walk, and glad to be home with Nancy. Good news indeed!
- ✝ Prayers for Strength and Recovery of Emily Schmalz Kelly, JoAnne Stoddard's niece, recently diagnosed with Stage 3 Breast Cancer. She is 40 years old, married to Brandon, with two small children; Cora 4 & Tillie 1 1/2. Cemo begins on 8/29 f/12 weeks; then moves to Stage 2: Bi-weekly infusions for 8 weeks on 11/20; then surgery and finally radiation. Emily, Brandon, and their girls are entering a year of challenges, but they have a healthy attitude and a very supportive family. They are thankful for your prayers!
- ✝ Carolyn Kelso
- ✝ Nevin Linthacum ~ Nevin took a fall and badly cut his arm. Hoping his arm is now much improved!
- ✝ 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.
- ✝ 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.
- ✝ May God heal, bless, comfort; and give wisdom to the doctors and all medical personnel.

To make changes to the prayer list, or make changes, please call or email, the church office: (805) 238-3321, plymouthchurchpaso@gmail.com

**PLEASE REMEMBER LOVES AND FISHES
GIVE A DARN... GIVE A DOLLAR...
FEEDING THE HUNGRY WITH GOD'S LOVE**

Please remember that every One dollar bill you place in the offering on Sunday morning goes to Loaves & Fishes to assist individuals and families who are hungry. It's not hard to do... and it adds up FAST!

PCC Members have channeled many dollars to Loaves and Fishes, to purchase food for people who are really in need! Please drop a dollar bill in

The deer are back,
please drive carefully!



Plymouth Congregational Church
Paso Robles, CA
September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>"Ah, September! You are the doorway to the season that awakens my soul..." Peggy Toney Horton</p>					1	2 God's Garden 8:30am 
3 WORSHIP ~ PCC SANCTUARY 10am HOLY COMMUNION WTheatre (PH) Rehearsal 6-9:30pm 	4	5 Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH)	6 Men's Bible Study 8AM (PH) WTheatre (PH) Rehearsal 6-9:30pm	7 Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10:00-11:30 (PH) Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH)	8	9
10 WORSHIP ~ PCC SANCTUARY 10am WTheatre (PH) Rehearsal 6-9:30pm	11	12 Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH)	13 Men's Bible Study 8AM (PH) WTheatre (PH) Rehearsal 6-9:30pm	14 Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10:00-11:30 (PH) Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH) WTheatre (PH) 6-9:30pm	15 Youth Date Night 5:30-8:30PM in the (YH) Followed by an Overnight for 6th graders and up Please bring a blanket and pillow	16 Youth overnight pick ups at Youth House 
17 WORSHIP ~ PCC SANCTUARY 10am *Diaconate Mtg. 11:30AM (L) Youth to Yogurt After Service	18	19 *Trustees Mtg (L) 6pm *Council Mtg (L) 6:45pm Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH)	20 Men's Bible Study 8AM (PH) *Mission Outreach Mtg. 3:45pm (L)	21 Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10:00-11:30 (PH) Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH)	22	23
24 WORSHIP ~ PCC SANCTUARY 10am YOUTH SUNDAY 	25	26 Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH)	27 Men's Bible Study 8AM (PH) Youth: Let's Talk About That ~ 6:30pm (YH)	28 Pastor Wendy's Bible Study 10:00-11:30 (S) Friends of Bill W (C, WO) Mtg. 5:00-7:00pm (YH)	29	30

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



SEPTEMBER SUNDAY SERMONS:

- Week One (9/3): "Morale" ~ Matthew 16:21-28
- Week Two (9/10): "A Tax Collector" ~ Matthew 18:15-20
- Week Three (9/17): "Laughter Is A Joyful Noise" ~ Psalm 100 & John 15:9-11
- Week Four (9/24): "Why So Angry?" ~ Matthew 20:1-16

To access our online worship; To Find out more about Plymouth Church; or To make an offering online ; please visit: plymouthchurchpaso.com. God bless us all!