

Plymouth First United Methodist Church

BEACON

Message from Pastor Bob

“If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you.” (James 1:5, NRSV)

True confession: while driving, I like to know where I am, where I am going, and what I can expect to encounter along the way. This is admittedly not so difficult to achieve when driving on familiar roads. But when in a place that is completely unfamiliar, this becomes a bit more challenging. Fortunately, map apps on today’s smart phones are pretty good. But go back 20 years, and one is left with a paper map and a navigator in the passenger’s seat. And when that *navigator in the passenger seat* is one’s spouse ... well, let’s just say that its ability to test a couple’s compatibility rivals that of wall-papering a bathroom together.

But on a more serious note, this really touches on the topic of reliable source material. Where does one go where one can truly trust the knowledge and guidance one seeks. Knowing what highway and exit to take in order to get to a particular destination is stressful enough. But the stress of choosing how to live one’s life, how to spend one’s time, where to invest one’s energies, which pathways to follow and which to avoid, can make the stress of driving seem like child’s play. Having wisdom we can count on and lean against, becomes much more paramount when it involves something that is rightfully deeply important to us. And when stressed, such wisdom is more important than ever.

So, where does one go to acquire such wisdom? Where does one go to dissipate the stress of particularly difficult situations or important decisions? Where can we go where we can fully trust in the guidance we truly seek? The above focus text from James 1:5 clearly tells us the correct answer. The ONLY infallible and completely trustworthy source of wisdom and guidance is God. God does not possess ulterior motives. God cannot be misguided by incomplete information. God wants what we truly want—that is, that which is in our best interest—and God uniquely can get it to us.

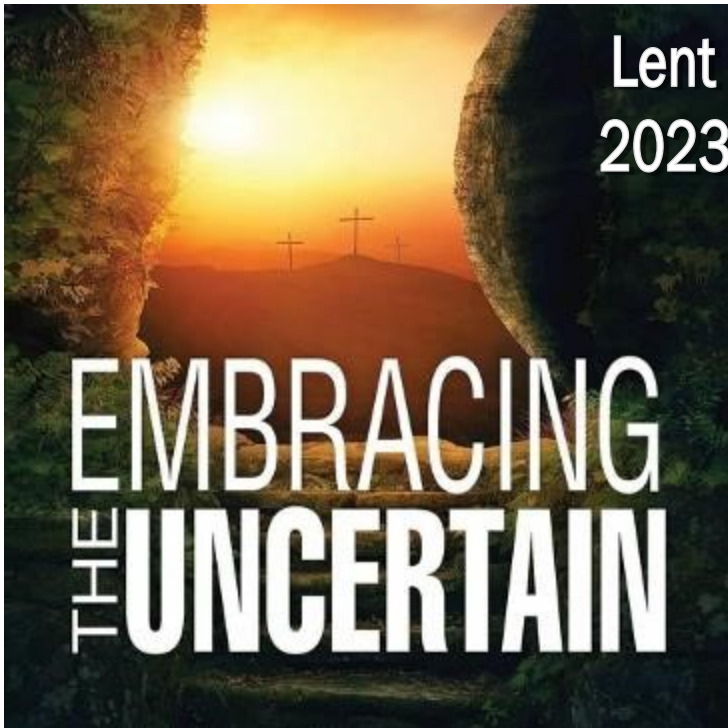
So, where do we go to release stress? Where do we go to acquire wisdom? Where do we go where we can fully trust in the answers, the guidance, and provision? There is only one place that can deliver ... or should I say one person. When under stress, when unclear about what direction to go, when needing to acquire what we lack, we go to God in prayer. Make such prayer the very first go-to ... always ... and for *every* need or desire. Asking God, first, will lead to peace, confidence, answers, and joy.

I’m still going to use my phone navigation app to help me navigate the road system. But I choose God as my first go-to for navigating life. May it be so for you.

Blessings ... Pastor Bob



Message from Pastor Suzy Todd



Embracing the Uncertain: An invitation to engage life's uncertainties, not ignore them.

Lent is the sobriety before the celebration.

On Ash Wednesday, the touch of ash on our skin and the reminder that we are dust call to mind the precariousness of our existence.

Relationships break, discernment fails, confidence falters, fears loom, shame builds, temptations grow, doubt increases.

Chaos convenes without notice, even in times of apparent blessing.

Uncertainty abounds in our individual lives and in the twenty-first-century world in which we live.

You are Invited

Ash Wednesday, February 22 @ 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary: “Uncertainty”

Sunday, February 26 worship services: “The desperate Father and Uncertainty of Faith”

Sunday, March 5 worship services: “Peter and the Uncertainty of Forgiveness”

Sunday, March 12 worship services: “The Crowd and the Uncertainty of Worry”

Sunday, March 19 worship services: “Lazarus and the Uncertainty of Mortality”

Sunday, March 26 worship services: “Zacchaeus and the Uncertainty of Surrender”

Passion Sunday, April 2 worship services: “Jesus and the Uncertainty of Obedience”

Maundy Thursday, April 6 @ 7:30 PM in the Impact Center “The Uncertainty of Humility”

Good Friday, April 7 @ 7:30PM in the Sanctuary “The Uncertainty of Tomorrow”

EASTER Sunday, April 9 worship services
“The Empty Tomb and the Proof of the Resurrection”



Music Notes



Plymouth Community Band

Friday, February 10, 7:00 pm
free admission



Detroit
Symphony
Orchestra



Friday March 10th 8:00 pm
North Ridge Church

NEIGHBORHOOD

SINKOVSKY PLAYS BACH

MICHIGAN
PHILHARMONIC

MUSIC IN 3D

Sunday March 19th 2:00 pm at PFUMC

For complimentary tickets to either performance, contact
Marcia Van Oyen 734.453.5280 x115 or marcia@pfumc.org

Message from Pastor Jackie

Greetings Friends,

Just an update as to what is happening on the digital campus; today, there are 85 followers, meaning there's still lots of work to be done and more people I need to meet and invite to the digital campus.

Some groups started in January and will continue through February, March, and April. There is an in-person group meeting at the Plymouth Coffee Beanery, which will meet once a month. This group meets to knit/crochet or do other types of needlework.

For the digital campus, we have a group that meets once a month to "Gather at the Table." This group meets via zoom for those who eat alone to get a chance to eat with others in the comfort of their homes. We also have a family that joins the group as well. This group's primary purpose is to lift prayer requests and connect digitally on a private page during the week.

Starting in February, I will begin a digital bible study on the book *Hope for Hard Times* by Magrey de Vega to prepare the digital campus for Lent. Then I will start a Lenten bible study using the book "*Embracing the Uncertain*." Also by Magrey de Vega. This study will go on until the week after Easter. Along with the bible study "*Embracing the Uncertain*," I will offer a 40-day daily devotional.

These are a few things going on with the digital campus as I continue as the campus host on Sunday mornings at the church. Please let me know if you have any questions or interest in what's going on with the digital campus; I would love to share it with you.

Peace, Pastor Jackie



Ash Wednesday service February 22
@ 7:30 pm (Sanctuary)

Passion Palm Sunday services April 2
@ 9:15 am (Impact) & 10:30 am (Sanctuary)

Maundy Thursday service April 6
@ 7:30 pm (Impact)

Good Friday service April 7
@ 7:30 pm (Sanctuary)

Easter Sunday services April 9
@ 9:15 am (Impact) & 10:30 am (Sanctuary)





9:15 & 10:30 am classes

Sunday school for kids is back! Sunday morning classes are available, kids are learning about Jesus and we have great teachers lined up. Consider how you might support and help with this vital ministry.

Sign up to teach a class, be an assistant and spend time with kids who need focused attention from adults who love Jesus. Contact Pastor Suzy (suzy@pfumc.org).

Sunday Morning Coffee & Treats



*Who loves a good cup of coffee and a tasty treat?
Do you enjoy gathering with friends
while enjoying coffee and treats on Sunday mornings?*

Help ensure this ministry is available every Sunday not only for you and your friends but for our guests as well. Sign up is available in the Garden Café on Sunday mornings to help make coffee, provide treats or clean up at the end of the morning. The sign up is available in the kitchen by the large coffee makers during the week.

Sign up with a friend or as a group. If everyone takes a turn we can spread the joy and workload.

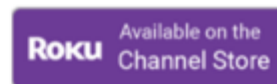


Join Pastor Suzy on Mondays @ 3:00 pm for a cup of coffee and great conversation at The Coffee Bean on Penniman Ave in Downtown Plymouth.



Access a wide variety of amazing videos and Christian material @ <https://myamplifymedia.com/amplify/register>

Access Code: DCBJVY



**Fast
Easy
Secure**





Online

www.pfumc.org/give/
To set up and manage your one-time or recurring gifts.



Text

1-844-208-0637
the amount you want to donate.



Mobile App

Download the Vanco Mobile app to make contributions.



Check/Cash
Direct Bank Bill Payment

Drop off or mail check/cash. Set up automatic giving through your bank provider.

2022, Roof Expense Recovery Initiative			
	2021 Year	2022 Year	Difference of 2022 compared to 2021
<u>Month</u>	<i>Monthly entries shown are cumulative totals received YTD for the trustees Capital Fund in 2021.</i>	<i>Monthly entries shown are cumulative totals received YTD for the trustees Capital Fund in 2022.</i>	<i>The difference of offerings received for trustees Capital Fund. Amount received YTD in 2022 compared to the amount received in 2021.</i>
Jan	\$3,941	\$1,538	-\$2,403
Feb	\$8,829	\$5,347	-\$3,482
March	\$10,407	\$8,532	-\$1,875
April	\$11,670	\$11,507	-\$163
May	\$13,010	\$15,642	\$2,632
June	\$14,103	\$18,747	\$4,644
July	\$15,646	\$21,930	\$6,284
August	\$18,384	\$24,830	\$6,446
Sept.	\$20,117	\$33,452	\$13,335
Oct	\$21,265	\$35,566	\$14,301
Nov	\$23,102	\$39,057	\$15,955
Dec	\$24,155	\$45,163	\$21,008
Total	\$24,155		

Note: The values shown by month are cumulative totals.

Did you know?

..you can donate your IRA assets to the church. IRS rules mandate that individuals aged 72 1/2 and older take a required minimum distribution from their IRA each year. (This doesn't apply to Roth IRA's which has tax-free withdrawals and no required distributions.) You are allowed to make charitable contributions from your traditional IRA to a church or charity at age 70 1/2. You can transfer up to \$100,000 per year from your traditional IRA to the Church or Charity. You can enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that you are contributing to a worthy cause while effectively lowering your tax bill.

Financial Update December 2022

Income = \$77,652
Expenses = \$68,993

YTD 2022

Income YTD= \$691,014
Expenses YTD \$731,936

Prayer Concerns



Congregational Care

Beverly Bazzell
Casandra Best
Margie & Tom Brown
Lorraine Daley
Lorraine Dermyre
Ray & Winn Good
Darlene Little
Mitch & Betty Madis
Vince & Lois Maiorana
Cleo Pappin
Lucy Shaw
Jan Shettler
Virginia Stefan
Jim Walk

Missionaries

Hannah Kappler
South Korea

Military

Suzanne Gyde—Hall
Brian Krautler (Ramsay)

Family & Friends

Matt Carter, family of Stella Smith
Clay Good, Dale Good's son
Mike Petri and family, friend of Dale Good

**The Intercessory
Prayer Group
meets the 1st Thursday
of the Month
in the Garden Café.
All are welcome to join.**

**Change of Address
(for winter)
Bev Forsyth :
P O Box 501
Oxford, NC 27565**

Ruth Slade passed away
January 2, 2023- -
There was no service .
Continue prayers for her family.

PRINTING OF NEWSLETTER

**Moving forward the newsletter will not be printed monthly.
The next copy will come out in May— then middle of August.**

VOLUNTERS NEEDED -Counting Ministry

The Counting Ministry counts all monies received by PFUMC and prepares a weekly bank deposit. Counting is done after the weekly Sunday service (time involved is about 30 minutes). Our regular teams are on a rotating 6 week schedule or about 8 times per year.

Since COVID appeared, we have transitioned from 4 person to the minimum of 2 person teams and moved to a single count. Our group has shrunk from 34 to 16.

Substitutes serve based on their availability when needed due to sickness, travel, personal conflicts of regular team members.

The Ministry is in need of volunteers so our reserve of substitutes increases (which is down to FOUR - was 10 before COVID).

Please consider volunteering as a way to serve our church. Contact

Gene Kornegay at 'gene@pfumc.org' or call 734-455-5108 for more info or to 'sign up'.

RETURN ADDRESS
45201 North Territorial Road
Plymouth, MI 48170
www.pfumc.org
Phone (734) 453-5280
Fax (734) 453-0375

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY—THURSDAY 9 AM—3 PM
OFFICE CLOSED ON FRIDAY

PERIODICALS

Printed January 2023

February Birthdays

2/2 Lois Merriman
Barb Lehmann
2/3 Sharon Minning
Matt Schroeder
2/4 Bob Butler
Christy Haradean
Debra Magee
Jeff Berliner
Kim Kuzak
2/5 Carrick Secorski
2/7 Hank Salla
Samantha Darragh
Evan Smith
2/8 Sharyn Hoard
2/9 Rich Anderson
2/10 Mike Cox
Ryan Schilling
Zachary Patterson
2/11 John Prueter
2/13 Faye Fry
2/14 Margie Kappler
Carey Maiorana
2/16 Wilford McWhirter
Carl Christenson

2/18
Gene Overholt—**will be 99 !!**
Dave Pruitt
Tammie Lansingh
Heather Balog
2/19 Penny Joy
Jackson Cross
2/20 Corinne Robertson
Gabe Trost
2/22 Jan Shettler
Maria Evans
2/24 James Conway
2/25 Greg Giles
2/26 Chuck Davis

