

Plymouth First United Methodist Church

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Message from Pastor Bob

“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” (Philippians 4:8, NRSV)

On one of those recent picture-perfect Michigan fall days, with the sun shining brightly and the leaves already in full color, I met with a long-time friend I had not connected with for a while over coffee. We shared the latest in each other’s lives while consuming multiple coffees as those leaves of color softly floated in the gentle breeze all around us. It wasn’t long in our visit when my friend asked me what good things were going on in the church I served. Upon briefly reflecting on how I might answer, a warm realization of hope and opportunity washed over me, and I asked in return, how many more coffees do you have time for.

I shared how we were part-way through our church series on *Finding Happiness* in spite of circumstances, how we kicked off that series with our Happy Festival as a gift gesture to our local community, how we raised almost a thousand dollars for local missions, and how grateful I am for all the help offered up from our congregation and for the turnout of folks who came even though it was a chilly day.

I talked about how our new *Fresh Expressions* initiative is helping us reach people in natural social group settings that are not presently engaged in church life, creating non-threatening opportunities to witness to Jesus as Savior simply by how we live our lives.

I explained the great efforts on the part of so many in our congregation to re-boot our children’s Sunday School and Faith Formation programing, and how it is already generating enthusiasm among children and adult congregants as we move toward a Winter launch date. Our Open House to give an advance view of the revamped facilities will be following church services on November 20.

My friend asked me about the issue of the denominational split and what impact that was having on the present life of our church. I talked about our Intentional Discernment Process, how we have set out to make sure everyone has the very best factual information possible, and how we have worked diligently to create a safe and respectful environment where questions can be asked, answers given, and opinions expressed, in an atmosphere that maintains the dignity of all. I shared how pleased (and frankly, proud) I was of our congregation of how those norms have been embraced. I shared about our small group conversation sessions that I was hoping as many people as possible would participate in. (btw, make sure you sign up for one of those conversation sessions)

Even on the topic of stewardship and faithfulness to carrying out God’s ministries, I was able to convey how Plymouth First has been faithful in giving no matter what winds have blown against us, supporting this church’s ministries and outreach financially, but also just as much with time, talents, and prayers.



I shared how positively I am looking forward at 2023 as our planning around worship, missions, and congregational engagement is already in full swing. We continue to see new faces, and some old faces, joining in worship. Also, our Digital Campus initiative is growing our online connection with folks who otherwise would not be present in physical church buildings.

How grateful I am for that question over coffee given to me, and especially for the answers I was privileged to give. May you also be filled with hope and thanksgiving greater than any circumstance that may come your way.

Blessings ... Pastor Bob





Message from Pastor Suzy Todd

I have started my Christmas shopping! Might be half way done. Not sure what the big motivation was this year. Maybe it was those early Amazon Prime Days. Maybe it was a desire to spread out the spending. Maybe it was knowing I had a granddaughter on the way and didn't want to miss any opportunity to spend time with her. I don't know why, but I am glad it is started.

Advent will arrive week by week.

Christmas is coming whether I am ready or not. If you haven't looked ahead to the calendar, now is the time to do so. This year, Christmas Day falls on a Sunday. This always poses a little challenge, and opportunity, for the protestant church. What will worship look like on December 25? Some churches will opt out of worship. Some will do as they always do. Others will see an opportunity to do something new and different. I tend to be in that last camp.

For Christmas Eve, Saturday December 24, we will offer three worship opportunities. At 4PM we will have a multi-generational worship service in the Great Hall. Children, youth and adults will gather for music and video, prayer and worship. The service will include movement and more congregational participation than a typical Sunday morning. At 5:30PM we will have a contemporary worship experience in the Impact Center. It will be filled with band led carols and scripture. at 8:00PM we will have a more traditional worship experience in the Sanctuary. It will be organ-led car-

ols and scripture. Come one and all - invite friends and family to join you!

On Christmas Day we will have a low-key and intimate time of worship and fellowship. Formatted like a traditional Wesleyan Love Feast, we will have a light breakfast and carols. We will share our personal testimonies about how God has moved in our lives offering us transformation and redemption and resurrection. Service begins at 10:30AM. Because of the intimate nature of this worship experience, we are requesting that you **RSVP**. We'd hate to run out of food, or not have a place set at the table! Please contact the church office to RSVP.

If you are interested in helping to host this Christmas Day celebration, please let a member of the pastoral staff know. We'll gladly find a way for you to serve. Now, go turn on some Christmas music and get yourself in the mood for God to do something amazing in this world and in your life.

Blessings, Pastor Suzy





I shared this devotion, written by Lindy Thompson, with the choir a couple of weeks ago, and I think it applies to everybody who worships God:

Glorious Praise

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise.—Psalm 66:1-2

How many ways are there to make a joyful noise to God? Let's brainstorm! Congregational singing. Choir. Handbells. Drum circle. Ukulele group. Band. Orchestra. Soloist. Ensembles. Kindergartners with egg shakers. Clapping. Snapping. Whistling. Singing in the shower. Singing in your car. Acoustic guitar. Piano. Organ. Too many instruments to name. Yodeling. Humming. Drumming on the dashboard. Karaoke. Layered recordings. Spontaneous public singing. Crooning. Harmonizing. Improvising.

How fortunate are we, to be encouraged to make a joyful noise to God, who we love so much! Scripture does not call for perfection. Scripture call for noise that is joyful. We can do that!

Transportation needed for a Chancel Choir member for Wednesday rehearsals at 7:30 pm and Sunday worship with a 9:45 am rehearsal. If you can help, please contact Marcia Van Oyen—marcia@pfumc.org or 734-453-5280x115

Save the Date! Invite Your Neighbors!

Come enjoy music offered by the combined Chancel and Bell Choirs from PFUMC and First Presbyterian Church, accompanied by brass and organ. It's a great way to introduce people to our church. And you can support the Salvation Army through the free-will offering.



Discover new possibilities with Fresh Expressions of Church.

IMAGINATION DAY

Conference Event with Rev. Dr. Michael Beck

This is a day for the whole of the 'priesthood of believers', laity and clergy to imagine together new possibilities with fresh expressions of church using a "blended ecology".

Across the United States, amid a Christian landscape that looks and feels like a desert of decline, God is up to something. Inherited congregations, with long histories, deeply rooted in their traditions, are experimenting with cultivating "fresh expressions" of church. A fresh expression is a form of church for our changing culture, established primarily for the benefit of those who are not yet part of any church. When these congregations commit to reaching new people, in new places, and in new ways, revitalization and communal transformation are taking place. Rev. Dr. Beck describes this as a "blended ecology of church." At the simplest level, the blended ecology assumes that no single form of church life is adequate to the missional task before us in the West. We need traditional and new forms of church operating together, not in competition, but as complement.

Hosted by Plymouth First UMC

Saturday, November 12, 2022

9:00am to 4:00pm

(Lunch included)

Schedule

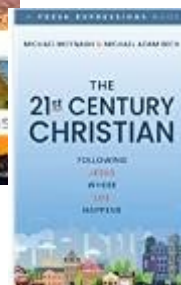
- 9-10:30 Session 1 "A New Missional Frontier"
- 10:30-12 Session 2 "Why the Blended Ecology"
- 12-1 Lunch Break and Contextual Intelligence FYSA
- 1-2 Session 3 "How the Blended Ecology" Awakening and Future- Fitting
- 2-3 Session 4 "How the Blended Ecology" Cultivating/Grafting and Releasing

All registration fees for Plymouth First members will be covered by the church. Mark 'pay by check' when registering.

Register @ https://michiganumc.org/imagination_day/



Rev. Dr. Michael Adam Beck
Author, Pastor, Professor,
Coach, Cultivator of Movements



As the Host Church for this event, we are looking for volunteers. Help is needed to welcome and greet participants, open doors, give directions and assistance where needed. If you would be willing to help, please contact Cathy Montgomery (734) 560-3498.

Pastor Jackie

Greetings Church!

Hopefully, you have been wondering about the hype regarding the Fresh Expressions workshop you have been hearing announced on Sunday mornings. Our church has the opportunity to host a conference event regarding Fresh Expressions with guest speaker Michael Beck on November 12, 2022. I know some may be thinking, who cares because you don't know anything about this speaker, so here's a little background on Michael Beck to better understand who he is and why this is an opportunity you don't want to miss out on attending.

Michael is currently the Director of the Fresh Expressions House of Studies at the United Theological Seminary. Director of Re-Missioning for Fresh Expressions US and Cultivator of Fresh Expressions for the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. He serves as the co-pastor of Wildwood UMC and St. Marks UMC with his wife, Jill. Wildwood and St Marks are traditional congregations and a network of thirteen fresh expressions that gather in tattoo parlors, dog parks, salons, running tracks, community center, burrito joints, and digital spaces. They direct addiction programs, a jail ministry, a food pantry, an interracial unity movement, and house a faith-based inpatient treatment center.

Michael cultivates missional innovators in an individual, regional, statewide, and national capacity. He also teaches as an adjunct professor at several educational institutions. Michael coaches entrepreneurs across the theological spectrum and has consulted with hundreds of churches, districts, denominations, networks, and dioceses. As a practitioner of missional leadership, he has started and developed businesses and planted missional communities most of his life.

Michael has done this for over a decade while pastoring in the local church. His coaching and consulting work are not theoretical only but experiential. Michael believes in maintaining a practitioner's ethos: "I eat my own cooking and share experimental recipes."

Michael earned a Master of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary and a Doctorate in Semiotics and Future Studies at Portland Seminary. He's the author of seven books.

As you just read, this speaker knows a few things about Fresh Expressions. I would love to have you join us on Saturday, November 12, from 9 a.m – 4 p.m., with lunch included.

Starting Sunday, there will be an announcement on registering for this workshop.

I look forward to seeing you at the event, and I look forward to having a conversation with you about your thoughts regarding the workshop and Fresh Expressions. This event is an important opportunity for all of us to learn how to make disciples in our community.

Peace,

Pastor Jackie



You're Invited!

Join Pastor Jackie & Cathy
for coffee and conversation.

We will be at the Coffee Bean
in downtown Plymouth the
1st and 3rd Wednesday
(11/2 & 16)
of the Month from 8 to 10 am.



Guest Week @ Plymouth First in coordination with rotating shelter

cass community social services
fighting poverty, creating opportunity

November 12 - 19, 2022

Many helping hands are needed throughout the week.
How will you help?

EVENING HOST

Put out snacks
Help with video
Clean up at the end of the night

NIGHT MONITOR

Give assistance where needed
1st Shift: 10pm to 2am
2nd Shift: 2am to 6am

CLOTHING

Winter Coats
Athletic Sock
Underwear

FOOD ITEMS

Snacks
Chips
Milk
Coffee
Pop (not Root Beer)

Guest have the opportunity to shower.

Towels and washcloths are needed.
Help laundering the towels for the next day.

MEALS (get a group of friends to help)

Breakfast: Prepare and have ready to serve by 7 am.
Sack Lunches: Prepare any time during the day—they will be handed out the next morning.
Dinners: Prepared and ready to serve in the evening once the guests have arrived.

HYGIENE PRODUCTS

Amazon list
will be available soon.

SIGN-UP

In the hall on Sunday mornings
Contact Dave Barrett (734) 751-0515



100th Birthday celebration November 11th

Please celebrate with Carol Mills by sending a card to:
801 W. Middle —Apt. 374
Chelsea, MI 48118

ADVENT 2022

At Christmas

*God breaks through the darkness
amidst a hard and dangerous
world with the light of Jesus.*



Christmas Eve Services December 24th

- 4:00 pm Family service in Great Hall*
5:30 pm Impact Service (led by Praise Band)
*8:00 pm Sanctuary Service
(Traditional led by Choir)*

Sunday, December 25

10:30 am Informal service

A time of fellowship

Light Continental Breakfast

Carols Singing

Testimonies

To be held in the Great Hall

RSVP church office

Advent Sermons (9:15 & 10:30 am)

<i>Nov. 27</i>	<i>Elizabeth</i>	<i>Longing to Peace</i>	<i>Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122</i>
<i>Dec. 4</i>	<i>Magi</i>	<i>Desolation to Hope</i>	<i>Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-7; 18-19</i>
<i>Dec. 11</i>	<i>Joseph</i>	<i>Fear to Joy</i>	<i>Isaiah 35:1-10 Psalm 146:5-10</i>
<i>Dec. 18</i>	<i>Mary</i>	<i>Trepidation to Love</i>	<i>Isaiah 7:10-16 Psalm 80:1-7; 17-19</i>



Living Learning

Enrichment Center

A Unique Approach to Enriching Lives

We supported local mission donating \$692 through mug sales to each mission.



The weather was a bit chilly but the food was good and a lot of people had fun!





Thank you to everyone for helping make the Happy Festival a success!



Share in the excitement. See the new things that are happening. Join us as we create a new space for our youngest disciples! Attend the Open House and learn how you can be a part of the future growth of the Kingdom of God!



**FINANCIAL UPDATE
SEPT 2022**

Income \$ 47,825
Expenses \$ 57,405

YTD 2022

Income \$ 505,304
Expenses \$ 533,613

Fast
Easy
Secure



Online

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

VANCO
FAITH



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.
Month	<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>
January	\$3,941	\$1,538	-\$2,403
February	\$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
September	\$20,117	\$33,452	\$13,335
October	\$21,265	\$0	
November	\$23,102	\$0	
December	\$24,155	\$0	
Total	\$24,155		

Note: The values shown by month are cumulative totals.

The building has undergone major repairs to the flat roofs. This cost was covered in part by the Capital Fund thanks to the many donations we have received over the last few years. However, the cost to replace these areas of the roof have reduced the funds set aside for unexpected future repairs to our building. We are in the process of replenishing the Capital Fund. To the left is a status report on the Capital Fund in comparison to 2021. We will provide you with a monthly update throughout 2022.

The Finance Committee

NOTE: Values are taken from the Finance Balance Sheet. Line #21909 and 21910 Trustees Capital Fund, 2021 and 2022

PRAYER CONCERNS

Members

Jeff Berliner
Marge Brown
Tom Brown
Lorraine Dermeyer
Lois Maiorana
Vince Maiorana
Bill & Mary McCully
Richard Moore
Nancy Nelson
Dennis Piggott
Bill Ramsay

Members Shut In

Cleo Pappin
John Paul
Jim Walk

Missionaries

Hannah Kappler
South Korea

Military

Suzanne Gyde—Hall
Brian Krautler (Ramsay)

Family & Friends

Matt Carter, family of Stella Smith
Don Fleming—Pat Fleming's husband
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.**

Our Sympathy to the family of Sydnee Paul who passed away. Her service was at Schrader Funeral Home Oct. 17th

Also keep the family of Nancy Braden in your prayers, who passed away Oct. 14th. Service at PFUMC Oct. 22nd

2023 Stewardship Campaign



G.I.F.T.

Growing in Faith Together = Blessings

Celebration Sunday is November 20, 2022

If you have not already pledged, please prayerfully consider doing so as you are able. The church's 2023 Operating Budget is heavily based on pledges received.

Pledge Cards can be turned in anytime
Sunday service offering plate
Electronic device, or by U.S. Mail, Send to:
PFUMC, Susan Henry, Financial Secretary,
45201 North Territorial Rd.
Plymouth, MI 48170

DISCERNMENT PROCESS—Phase 3 Q & A

Small Group Dialog Sessions— Room 306/308
Please Sign Up in the Great Hall

following worship

ZOOM Nov 10th 7—8 pm (details to follow)

Nov. 13 1:345am—12:45 pm

Dec. 11th 11:45am—12:45 pm

Large Group Status Update Jan. 22 Potluck tbd

RETURN ADDRESS

First United Methodist Church
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 October 2022

11/1 Beth Kuzak
11/2 Jayla Kuzak
Eli Salter
11/3 Christina Butler
Avery Shaffer
11/4 Bernice Beaudoin
11/5 Dennis Piggott
Jane Jackson
Charlotte Williams
Nora Fialon
11/7 John Filios
Jillian Hoard
Lillian Hetzel
11/9
Judy Kinczkowski
Fred Peckrul
11/10 Tyler Smith
11/11 Marilyn Stevens
Molly Walters
11/12 Barb Stinebaugh
11/13 Cynthia Flora
11/14 Jan Migyanka
David Daly
Bruce Christenson
Mike Marble
Sara Novak

11/17 Joan Barrett
Breanna Anderson
11/18 Gene Kornegay
11/19 Lynne Reglein
Marge Brown
11/21 Krista Siddall
11/22 Denise Zander
11/23 Doug Underwood
Alexis Satterfield
11/27 Karen Davenport
11/28 Nick Weston
11/29 Mitch Madis
11/30 Jim Walk
Joellyn Conway
Ashley McDonald
Leo DuPont

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

