

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, January 15, 2023

Worship In Person or Online

First Sunday After Epiphany

Matthew 3:1-17

Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

Find links to video stream and worship bulletin and participate online at **PlymouthChurchSeattle.org**.

If you have personal concerns, you may contact a minister or member of the Pastoral Care Team by calling the pastoral care line, **206.639.7739**, checked daily.

View past services in our online worship center at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

You can also view past services, musical performances and guest speaker presentations on our Plymouth UCC YouTube channel.

The Plymouth *Herald* is published every week. **Deadline is Monday, 10 am, for Wednesday publication.** Stay current with Plymouth happenings on our website. Join us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram! [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [g](#)

BE THE CHURCH



As we begin a new year, you are invited to volunteer at Plymouth Church! Remember that covenant giving also includes your time and using your gifts. There are many tasks that you can do. Training provided if needed. Here are some available volunteer opportunities. Contact Toni Arthur,

TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org, to get started:

- Participating in money counting after worship
- Preparing communion (first Sundays)
- Becoming a greeter on Sundays and special events
- Answering phones 2 days a week from 10 am-2 pm
- Cleaning/decluttering (short-term commitment)
- Food preparation and service on needed occasions
- Join the Companion Ministry

This is a partial list. If you have a talent you would like to share, please contact Toni and discuss how best to contribute your gift to our community. We are grateful for all you bring to the life and ministries of Plymouth UCC.



1217 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101-3199

Return Service Requested

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...

Afghan Family (Supported by Plymouth), Emily Blaine-Davis, Sue Ellen Daniel (Friend of Barb Laski), John Daniels, Lauren Davis, Mark and JT Edwards, Susan Emerson (Mother of Kate Forrester), Diane Folkert & Family (Mother-in-law of Ara Lawrence), Megan French (niece of Sue Jones) & David Dixon & Family, Shirley K. Shelley (Aunt of Ricky Powell), Mamadou Diakhate (Friend of Floyd Gossett), Barbara Miller (Friend of Barb Laski), Montecino Family, Jose Robles and Family, Bill Stanley (Father of Michael Stanley), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Charon Washington (Sister of Michael Gordon)

Our hearts are with the family and friends of Rev. Tom Stiers who passed away January 10. Tom was Interim Sr. Pastor at Plymouth where he and his late wife, Rev. Brenda Stiers, developed many dear connections. He will be deeply missed.

Congratulations and love to Garrett and Bridget Anacker as they welcomed son Graham Joseph Anacker, born on January 5, in Denver. All are home now and doing well.

We grieve with Gary Magnuson and family on the passing of his mother, Mary Magnuson on January 2.



PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

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CELEBRATE DR. KING'S MISSION



Join Dr. Brown at the rally and march.

There has been over 400 years of oppression of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color; which includes human trafficking, enslavement, genocide, torture, disenfranchisement, segregation, imprisonment, dispossession of land, and so much more, and yet none of this has ever broken the spirit of our Peoples to achieve justice and equity.

2023 marks forty years that the residents of Seattle and King County have and continue to honor the legacy and the mission of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with a rally, march, internships, workshops, youth led programming and job fair. The first forty years were but the beginning. Seattle's annual MLK celebration aims to inspire this and future generations to live up to Dr. King's dream of achieving the Beloved Community.

Plymouth's Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown, invites us to come together on the anniversary of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's birthday, to honor the past and the countless champions who came before, stood alongside, and have continued after King was taken from us — fighting for both our present and our future because “an injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”

- Youth Event: 2-4 pm January 15: Virtual workshops on topics important to young people in our community, including Gun Violence and Laws; Youth Mental Health; Gentrification; Reproductive Rights; Education. Read more at SeattleMlkCoalition.org.
- Workshops, January 10-16: Come prepared to be engaged on a full range of topics, either online or in person. schedule of workshops at SeattleMlkCoalition.org.
- Workshop, Rally and March, January 16: Gather at Garfield High School. Workshop at 9:30 am, Rally at 11 am, March at 12:30 pm. Dr. Brown will speak on Economic Justice. The day will conclude with a community meal, free to march participants. Questions? Contact MLKseattle@gmail.com. ✨

PUT FAITH IN ACTION

Interfaith Advocacy Day in Olympia, 9 am-3 pm Thursday, February 9, brings the voices of compassion and justice to our elected leaders. Meeting with your legislators and their staff on this day is putting your faith into action! Please register to attend in person by January 29. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, there is no cost to attend this year. Visit FanWa.org to register. We will gather at The United Churches of Olympia (110 11th Ave SE Olympia, WA 98501) in the morning and meet with legislators in the afternoon. Lunch will be provided. We are unsure at this point which portions of the day we will be able to offer for online participation; we will provide updates about that and registration for any online activities as more is known.



Meet with legislators in Olympia February 9.

On Interfaith Advocacy Day, you will be able to:

- Join workshops that will break down the issues on Faith Action Network's 2023 Legislative Agenda.
- Learn how to most effectively advocate in today's legislature.
- Meet with advocates from your legislative district to prepare for your legislative visits.
- Meet with your legislator! Once you register, FAN will set up an appointment for you and others from your district.

This year, we are limited to 250 participants due to regulations at The United Churches of Olympia. We encourage you to sign up early so that we can guarantee you a spot. Please join us to raise voices of faith and conscience in our State Capitol! —Faith Action Network ✨

JOIN 153RD ANNUAL MEETING

Plan to attend Plymouth's 153rd Annual Meeting Sunday, January 29, 2023. The Annual Report will be reviewed, and your vote is needed to install new lay leadership for our church family. Celebrate 2022 and look ahead to 2023. This meeting will take place in person and live online. ✨

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER



Thank you for your faithful participation.

In case you haven't heard the great news, the congregation voted this past Sunday to support the Exploratory Development Committee's recommendation to move forward with redeveloping our property!

Over 100 of us gathered in Hildebrand and online after worship for the Congregational

vote, which means we solidly met our quorum requirements. Those present voted overwhelmingly in favor of pursuing redevelopment. The next step in the process is that a new committee will take the baton from the EDC and will obtain further information from all 6 developers who have expressed interest in the project. This committee will then move to the Request for Proposals (RFP) stage with a subset of the developers.

The Council is meeting off-cycle this week to start preparing the charge for the next committee and to establish how we are going to form that committee. At this point I am not sure exactly what our timing will be, but please be on the look out for announcements from us about these crucial steps in the next couple of weeks.

If you have feedback for Council on the past month's meetings and discussion opportunities about the redevelopment question, please let us know either by emailing me, TracySimpson7@gmail.com, or the Church Council email address: Council@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. We would love to hear what worked well for you and what you think we can improve on going forward. This "after action" information will help guide Council as we invite the congregation into the next phase of conversations about our path forward with redevelopment.

I will close by saying that as excited as I am about our decision to pursue redevelopment I am even more excited about how we came together as a faith community to make this decision. It is clear to me that we were not all on the same page all of the time, and it is equally clear to me that we listened to one another with open hearts and used our relationship covenant to stay respectful and kind. I am confident that if we continue these ways of being together, we will stay grounded in the spirit and in our love for one another and that the rest of this process will unfold in ways that we can feel very, very good about.

I'm so happy to be on this journey with you all.

Peace and love,

Tracy Simpson, Plymouth Church Moderator ✦

"We listened to one another with open hearts and used our relationship covenant to stay respectful and kind."

ANTI-RACIST GIVING WORKSHOP

Social Justice Fund, the Coalition of Anti-Racist Whites (CARW), and Plymouth Church lead a two-part workshop to address questions like:

- How do we decide when, where, and how much to give?
- How do our social and racial identities shape our relationships with money and giving?
- What does it look like to center the giving of money as part of our anti-racist practice?

Through learning and discussion, you'll gain the tools to begin building your personal social justice giving plan.

- Part 1: 6-8 pm PT January 19, 2023
- Part 2: 6-8 pm PT January 26, 2023
- Location: Zoom (link will be shared with registered participants in advance of the event)

Open to all, this workshop has been designed specifically for folks who benefit from the history of white wealth accumulation. We are committed to making our online event spaces accessible. Please let us know how we can support your access needs, including the use of captioning, ASL interpretation, and more, in the RSVP form.

Registration fee on a sliding scale of \$5 - \$50. You will be redirected to the payment page after filling out the initial form. The money we raise through the fees will be collectively redistributed as part of the workshop. ✦

UNDO INSTITUTIONAL RACISM



The Undoing Institutionalized Racism workshop is offered by The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond (PISAB), a national multiracial, antiracist collective of veteran organizers and educators dedicated to

building an effective movement for social change.

The UIR workshop is designed to educate, challenge and empower people to "undo" the racist structures that hinder effective social change. The training is based on the premise that racism has been systematically erected and that it can be "undone" if people understand where it comes from, how it functions and why it is perpetuated.

Cost is \$350 per person. Next workshop will be held **February 16-18**. Find full schedule and link to register at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org or PinwSeattle.org. ✦



IMMIGRANT RIGHTS 101

Buses of migrants from the U.S. border may be coming to our city, and the new arrivals will need help from local churches. The busing started last spring as a political statement by some state governors to show their displeasure with U.S. border policy by relocating migrants to "sanctuary cities."



Online, 10 am-1 pm February 1

UCC members, congregations and other entities have been pitching in to welcome these migrant siblings. More importantly, they are finding ways to help them begin the next step of their journeys. However, more help is and will be needed.

Northwest Immigration Rights Project will host Immigration 101 training to support all responding to this humanitarian crisis. This virtual training is completely free to attend and is aimed at helping social service providers learn how to better serve and support immigrants in their work. The training will take place via Zoom, 10 am-1 pm PT February 1. Find link to register in news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. ✦

FINDING MEANING AND HOPE AND DYING WELL



Save the date: Saturday, February 4

This day-long workshop is appropriate for those contemplating mortality and curious about what a good death means. Explore these concepts in a community setting led by Rev. Lorraine Leist, a palliative care chaplain in Seattle. At Plymouth and online Saturday, February 4. Times yet to be determined. Look for more

information and registration details coming soon in the *Herald* and online news. Contact Faith Community Nurse June Hayakawa-Fung with questions or to volunteer at the event. ✦

REGISTER FOR MEN'S RETREAT

Register now for the Conference Men's Retreat at Pilgrim Firs February 3-5, with optional silent retreat Thursday evening, February 2. Find link to the registration form in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. The topic is "Gratitude and Practices to Enhance Gratefulness." There will be music, singing, and a wisdom circle. This retreat welcomes all who identify as male. Read more at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

—Charlie Torres, Don Jenkins, Hans Dankers, Jim Gaudino, Larry Kiriluk, Paul Withington and Rick Russell ✦

END HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Fifty years ago, the abomination of slavery seemed like a thing of the past. But history has a way of repeating itself. At this moment, men, women and children are being trafficked and exploited all over the world: 2.4 million have been trafficked into forced labour worldwide of these, 600,000 to 800,000 are trafficked across borders each year and 12,000 children are working as slaves on cocoa plantations in West Africa.



It is impossible to ever reach a consensus on the true scale of the problem. What matters is that every number represents a human life destroyed. It is happening on every continent and in almost every country: whether the place we live is a source, destination or transit point for trafficking, none of us can claim to be wholly unaffected by this crime.

As the extent of human trafficking is recognized, a number of approaches to tackling it have been developed. *Stop the Traffik* is one such approach. Born out of witnessing first-hand the effects of human trafficking, we started out in 2006 as an informal coalition dedicated to raising awareness of trafficking and generating the political will necessary to stop it.

Learn more and get involved at StopTheTraffik.org. ✦

THANK YOU, KNITTERS & DONORS



The Plymouth Immigration Ministry Team and Plymouth Welcome Circle worked together at Gethsemane Lutheran Church to wrap warm things as New Year's gifts for families from Central America who live or worship there. You donated more than 100 warm items -- beautiful hand-knit hats, gloves, mittens, scarves and other warm articles of clothing. Your response within such a short time frame was phenomenal! We even had enough to share with Afghan families at Park 16. Thank you for warming hearts as well as bodies with your generosity! —Carol Mooney ✦