

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, February 16, 2025

Worship in the Sanctuary or Online

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Luke 7:36-50

“The Sin of Transaction”

Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

9 am Choir Rehearsal, Hildebrand Hall

11:30 am Annual Meeting, Hildebrand Hall

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has recently announced an end to their long-standing policy of not entering places of worship on enforcement operations. We have no information that ICE is planning such action in Seattle, but if for any reason you are concerned about the possibility, we encourage you to worship with us online.

Members and Visitors in the church building can access Plymouth Guest wi-fi network using password: peaceonearth.

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

The Plymouth Herald is published every week. Deadline is **Monday, 10 am**, for Wednesday publication.



PO Box 21368
Seattle, Washington 98111

Return Service Requested

Liberation UCC PRESENTS

BLACK HISTORY BLACK HEALTH BLACK WELL-BEING!

COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE/RESOURCE FAIR!

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23RD | 1:00 PM

Liberation UCC invites you to our Black Health and Wellness Roundtable, an engaging space to discuss critical topics that impact our community, including:

Mental, Physical, Spiritual Health | Repercussions of Resource Insecurities | Why Representation Matters | Access Insecurities | Art Wellness | Sacred Rest | And Much More!

Enjoy lunch and meaningful conversation as we center Black health and wellness. We'll have representation from key community healthcare organizations, including:

P.O.C.A.A.N | AARTH | Plymouth Church | Alain Locke Initiative | The Therapy Fund Foundation

This is more than just a roundtable—it's a movement toward building healthier and stronger communities. Don't miss this opportunity to connect, learn, and grow together.

COMMUNITY LEADERS

PHOTO: JAMARIE WARDEN, SEANNE THOMPSON, SHANTAYE BRADY, TONYE WILSON, TONYE WILSON

PHOTO: JAMARIE WARDEN, SEANNE THOMPSON, SHANTAYE BRADY, TONYE WILSON, TONYE WILSON

Plymouth Church Seattle, Hildebrand Hall, 1217 6th Seattle, WA 98101

Come to Hildebrand Hall 1 pm Sunday, February 23, for Community Roundtable/Resource Fair! An engaging space to discuss critical topics that impact our community, including: mental, physical, and spiritual health. Enjoy lunch and meaningful conversation.

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...

All who live in fear of expedited removal, detention, or deportation., Ahmed Black (Nephew of Michael & Elizabeth Gordon), Wendy Carpenter (Friend of Jocelyn Coit-Durland), Diane Folkert (Mother and Mother-in-Law of Alex & Ara Lawrence), Louis Ford (Friend of Karen Clark), **Eleanor Fordyce**, Elvis Gordon (Brother of Michael and Elizabeth Gordon), Floyd Gossett, Carrie Gossett (Mother of Floyd Gossett), Kay Heekin (Mother-in-Law of Kate Forrester), Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Julie (Friend of Karen Clark), William Chapman Nyaho, Patricia Valentine, Shaniece (Friend of Karen Clark), Gevan Woodke (Friend of Karen Clark)

Our hearts are with Bob & Kate Forrester on the one year anniversary of the passing of their father and father-in-law, Bob Forrester, Sr.

bold=newly added. Names will remain on list for 6 weeks unless requested.

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.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH

HERALD

Volume 63
Number 24

February 12, 2025

ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 16



155th Annual Meeting Sunday, February 16.

Plan to attend Plymouth’s 155th Annual Meeting Sunday, February 16, after worship in Hildebrand Hall and live online (the link to join online via Zoom will be shared closer to the meeting date). Light lunch provided.

The Annual Report will be reviewed, and your vote is needed to install new lay

leadership and approve the 2025 budget for our church family. Celebrate 2024 and look ahead to 2025. Please join us for this important time to gather with our beloved community. 🌍

STAND UP, SPEAK OUT

The United Church of Christ Office of Public Policy and Advocacy urges people of faith to say NO to xenophobic immigration policies.

President Trump has signed or is poised to sign multiple executive orders mentioned in his Inaugural Address that punish immigrants all while wasting government resources.



Stand up and speak out against injustice.

We believe that all people, including immigrants, are made in the image of God. Yet the punishment of asylum seekers fleeing persecution, the building of border walls, and the mass deportation of undocumented immigrants fails to respect the God-given dignity of every person and our call to welcome the stranger.

Regardless of what policy the Trump administration rescinds or puts forth, faith communities will continue to look to our sacred texts and centuries of tradition to live out our faith by welcoming immigrants and protecting the most vulnerable among us. Tell President Trump that people of faith oppose these proposed policies today.

Visit UCC.org to learn more and make your voice heard. 🌍

RESIST!

Get prepared with Rev. Osagyefo Sekou for nonviolent action in response to the Trump administration’s actions. This training will be held 10 am-12 pm Monday, February 17, in the U-District (location and agenda will be sent to you after registration). Parking and child care available on site. Accessible by bus lines and light rail.



There is no charge. Advance registration is required. Link to register in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Confirmation email will include site address.

We expect all participants to commit to a few basic principles:

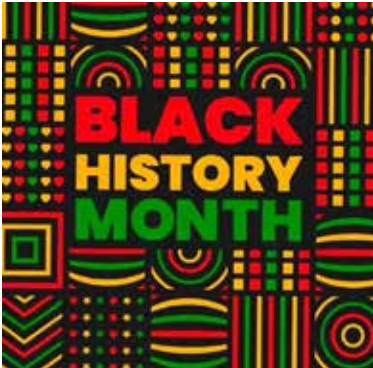
- I have a foundational understanding of addressing systemic forms of oppression.
- I am committed to working against oppression in my community.
- I am willing to look at the role of privilege and supremacy play in inter-personal and structural harm. This includes white supremacy, Christian supremacy, heteronormativity, cis-gender, economic status, formal education, citizenship status, patriarchy, and all other forces that create imbalance of power in our communities.
- I am committed to learning how to effectively organize for change while caring for my neighbors.
- I commit to using the skills developed at this training in support of, and following leadership by, impacted communities. 🌍

CALL TO CONSCIENCE

Rainier Avenue Radio has converted the Columbia City Theater during the month of February into the “Call to Conscience Black History Museum,” featuring installations, exhibits, artifacts, interactive activities, and virtual experiences celebrating the achievements of Seattle’s Black community. Open Tuesdays – Sundays, 11 am–7 pm. Read more and get tickets at CallToConscience.world. 🌍



TODAY IN BLACK HISTORY



“If we accept and acquiesce in the face of discrimination, we accept the responsibility ourselves and allow those responsible to salve their conscience by believing that they have our acceptance and concurrence. We should, therefore, protest openly everything that smacks of discrimination or slander.”
—Mary McLeod Bethune

February 13

- Southern Christian Leadership Conference organized at New Orleans meeting with Martin Luther King Jr. as president, 1957
- First Black pro Basketball team, “The Renaissance,” organized 1923

February 14

- National Negro Congress organized at Chicago, 1936
- Morehouse College organized in Augusta, Ga. The institution was later moved to Atlanta, 1867
- New registration law in Tennessee abolished racial distinctions in voting, 1867
- Frederick Douglass, “The Great Emancipator,” is born, 1817

February 15

- Henry Lewis becomes the first Black person to lead a symphony orchestra in the United States, 1968
- Black abolitionists invaded a Boston courtroom and rescued a fugitive slave, 1851
- Sarah Roberts barred from white school in Boston. Her father, Benjamin Roberts, filed the first school integration suit on her behalf, 1848

February 16

- New York City Council passes a bill prohibiting racial discrimination in city-assisted housing developments, 1951
- New registration law in Tennessee abolished racial distinctions in voting, 1867
- Frederick Douglass elected President of Freeman Bank and Trust, 1857

February 17

- Virginia House of Delegates votes unanimously to retire the state song, “Carry Me Back to Old Virginia,” a tune that glorifies slavery, 1997
- Congress readmits Mississippi on condition that it would never disenfranchise Black citizens, 1870

ORBIT AND ORACLE

Hear The Esoterics in concert at 8 pm Saturday, March 8 at Plymouth UCC, performing *Orbit and Oracle: A Reimagining of Ancient Astronomical Legends*. German composer Michael Ostrzyga is hosted in Seattle by The Esoterics for a concert of astronomical proportion! Michael has composed a cappella choral works for each of the planets in our solar system — *Mercurius, Venus, Mars, Iuppiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptunus* — and arranged them into a cycle called *Planets and Gods*. These pieces explore the astronomical and mythological aspects of each planet and the god or goddess for which they are named, while exploring where science and belief intersect. The variety and innovation of Ostrzyga’s music is truly astounding.

More information and tickets at TheEsoterics.org.



8 pm Saturday, March 8, at Plymouth.

CELEBRATE LUNAR NEW YEAR



Join the festivities February 22.

The Lunar New Year Celebration highlights each zodiac animal and celebrates the year’s symbolism in the historic Chinatown/ International District. The festivities feature traditional dragon and lion dances, martial arts demonstrations, Japanese Taiko drumming, and other cultural performances.

This year marks the transition to the Year of the Snake, and will be publicly celebrated in the International District from 11 am–4 pm Saturday, February 22.

Hungry visitors can enjoy our food walk, sampling a wide variety of dishes from local businesses. With family-friendly activities, arts and crafts vendors, and cultural exhibits, the event offers something for everyone. Visit SeattleChinatownID.com to learn more.

PASTOR PUSHED OUT

Frank Langfitt of NPR reported last week on Pastor Ben Boswell of Myers Park Baptist, a liberal church in Charlotte, who was forced out of his position after parishioners complained about his focus on racial justice.

Read the full story at KUOW.org.

FREE MEDICAL CLINIC

A project of Seattle Center and Seattle Center Foundation, Seattle/ King County Clinic brings together healthcare organizations, civic agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and volunteers to produce the largest community-driven free health clinic of its kind in the United States.



April 24-27 at Seattle Center.

This four-day clinic, April 24–27 at Seattle Center, provides FREE dental, vision, medical, and social services to more than 3,000 people who struggle to access and/or afford care each year. All are welcome. As a low-barrier clinic, patients do not need any form of documentation or proof of income, insurance, or immigration status to receive care. Patients do not need to be residents of Seattle or King County. Interpreters are available.

Learn how to volunteer at SeattleCenter.org/skccclinic/volunteers.

Information for patients at SeattleCenter.org/skccclinic/patients.

SHELTER FROM THE STORM



Access resources to stay warm at Kcrha.org.

King County is expecting freezing temperatures. If you or someone you know is in need of a place to get and stay warm, overnight and daytime shelters are open around the county. Visit Kcrha.org for a list and links to resources and information about work being done to help end homelessness.

HELP PROVIDE COMFORT

The Community and Care Board requests your help to provide items for comfort bags to be distributed to visitors in need. Please bring gloves, socks, tissues, hand sanitizer, hand warmers, granola bars and other shelf-stable foods that don’t require a can opener. Leave donations in the bin by the Welcome Table in the Lounge. Thank you for your compassionate care.



Bring your contributions on Sundays.

THIS IS CHRISTIANITY

Not only is Christian Nationalism un-Christian –it’s un-American. Defying the separation of church and state by claiming our country a Christian nation, Christian Nationalism, with its focus on power and control, stands in stark contrast to the teachings of Jesus, which center on love of God and neighbor.



Visit ThisIsChristianity.org.

Christian Nationalism is a political ideology advancing the myth that the United States was established as a Christian nation and should continue as such. This belief system intertwines faith with political identity and is deeply rooted in ideologies that run counter to the life and teachings of Jesus. It is crucial for concerned Christians to provide a strong and clear counter-narrative, emphasizing that genuine Christianity is centered on loving God and neighbor, values that often stand in stark contrast to those promoted by Christian Nationalism.

Former UCC General Minister and President, the Rev. John Dorhauer, spoke on the subject in 2023. He warned the audience that these extremists don’t just want to rewrite the history of the United States but its laws, too.

“What Christian nationalism wants, what it demands, what it is willing to fight and, yes, kill for is the eradication of any idea inconsistent with its own,” Dorhauer said. “It also espouses the eradication of those who propagate those ideas. It wants written into the Constitution the instantiation of Christian fundamentalism and the recognition of biblical literalism that uses strict — though utterly contradictory — moral codes within their canon as the foundation of law.”

THIS is Christianity seeks to reclaim the narrative with stories of God’s love and light in action, shared by Christians from diverse backgrounds and communities. **THIS is Christianity** is a video-driven social media initiative designed to combat the rise of Christian Nationalism by showcasing the true essence of Christianity: love, compassion, and inclusion. The campaign encourages Christians to share personal stories of encountering God’s love and light in the world.

You can participate by submitting a short video that shares your personal story of experiencing God’s love and light. Your video may be featured on our campaign website and social media channels. Visit ThisIsChristianity.org for guidelines and to learn how to submit your message.

Help spread the word and encourage friends and family to counter the growing threat of Christian Nationalism.