

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, March 24, 2024

Worship in the Sanctuary or Online

Palm Sunday

Isaiah 49:5–16; Psalm 22:1–11;
Galatians 3:23–4:7; Mark 14:32–15:47

Rev. Kevin Bechtold

Mosaic Brass will perform prelude starting at 10:20 am

Invitation to Sing!

Choir rehearsal resumes this Sunday, March 24, at 9 am in Hildebrand Hall to prepare for Palm Sunday and Easter anthems. All are welcome. Contact Joe Williams for more information.

Good Friday and Easter at Plymouth

Good Friday, March 29: Service at 2 pm,
WomanSpeak: Feminist/Womanist Reflections at the Cross
Labyrinth walk before and after

Easter Sunday, March 31: Service at 10:30 am
Celebrate with food and fun after worship
in the Lounge and on the patio

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 COOKS



Let us know what's cooking!

Do you like to cook? Have a favorite food to make? Share with us and be a part of the new Plymouth cookbook! Send us old family recipes, or ones you've created yourself. Be sure to include the list of ingredients and instructions. Please let us know something about the dish — what makes it special to you. Often, the story behind the recipes we love is a vital ingredient. Send as many as you want and give others a chance to experience the specialties of your kitchen. Send to Robert Turner: RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.



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!   



1217 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101-3199

Return Service Requested

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...

Afghan Family (Supported by Plymouth), Michelle J. Bennett (Sister of Dawn Bennett), Walter Bethel (Friend of Karen Clark), Wendy Carpenter (Friend of Jocelyn Coit-Durland), Susan Carter (Mother of Heather Banks & Kathleen Bernard), Bruce Chittick & family (Friend of Karen Clark), Mike Correy (Friend of Karen Clark), Sue Ellen Daniel (Friend of Barb Laski), Mark & JT Edwards, Diane Folkert (Mother-in-law of Ara Lawrence), Sally Galliher (Cousin of Doug Stultz), Marni Good (Friend of Ricky Powell), Elvis Gordon (Brother of Michael and Elizabeth Gordon), Floyd Gossett, Carrie Gossett (Mother of Floyd Gossett), Jo-Ann Guthrie, Katherine Guthrie, Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Vance McDill, James McDowell (Cousin of Jerry Rice), Barbara Miller (Friend of Barb Laski), Dr. Maxine Mimms, Ian Nelson (Son of Diane Nelson), Paula Orrego, Nancy Parker, Jean and Richard Paul (Parents of Beth Paul-Russell), Mary Margaret Pruitt, Jose Robles and Family, Shirley K. Shelley (Aunt of Ricky Powell), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Elizabeth Thoreson (Sister of Anne Kiemle, sister-in-law of Kael Sherrard), Irene Wall (Friend of Ruth Williamson)

Our hearts are with Diane Jacobsen on the one-year anniversary of the passing of her father Thomas Graham.

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

PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

Volume 62
Number 28

March 20, 2024


JOIN THE DISCUSSION



We want to hear from you this Sunday.


All are invited to a Congregational Conversation on Sunday March 24 following worship. The gathering will be both in person and online (link in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org). Light sandwiches will be available along with coffee and tea. The Developer Selection Committee (DSC) will provide updates on the current status of the property development feasibility process, including an estimated timeline of future steps, as well as reflections on recent activities and discussions.

We will share the direction we are headed, while honoring confidentiality and acknowledging uncertainties. Please join us as we continue to discern how Plymouth Church's physical presence can serve the community in the future.

—Ruth Williamson for the DSC 

GOOD FRIDAY: 2 PM MARCH 29



Walk the labyrinth in the Sanctuary, before and after worship, 1–2 pm and 3:30–4:30 pm. Park in Plymouth garage or 1200 Fifth garage (formerly IBM). Bring ticket for validation. 


CELEBRATE EASTER NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday, March 31, celebrate Easter at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary and online. Bring a flower for the cross (some flowers will be available at the church). After the service, join in a community festival with food and fun in the Lounge and on the patio. Enjoy a spread of fruit and vegetables, featuring heavy appetizers and desserts from



Service at 10:30 am, food and fun after!

Project Feast (ProjectFeast.org). We'll have fun activities for all ages, including photo booth and bouncy house! Invite family and friends, coworkers and neighbors, to join our celebration of new life and liberation.

If the Plymouth garage is full, free parking is available next door in the 1200 Fifth garage (formerly IBM). Take a ticket from the machine when entering the garage, then park in any non-reserved stall. Get a validation sticker from the welcome table in the Lounge, or ask a greeter for one. When exiting the garage, scan your validated ticket to open the gate arm. 

WALK THE LABYRINTH ON GOOD FRIDAY

This year's Good Friday Service on March 29 will be held at 2 pm in the Sanctuary and online. All are invited to deepen your worship experience by walking the labyrinth, before and after the service, 1–2 pm and 3:30–4:30 pm, in the Sanctuary.

Mona Terry will accompany labyrinth walkers with the meditative music of her harp. Mona began her musical journey with piano at age nine under the guidance of her mother. In addition to piano, Mona plays harp, acoustic bass, organ, djembe drum. With her harp, Mona holds professional status as a therapeutic musician and served fifteen years for hospice patients in palliative care. Her compositions have been published with the International Folk Harp Journal and two CD recordings featuring mixed instrumentation and voice. Read more at MonaTerryMusic.com. 



Walk the labyrinth at Plymouth March 29.

CHURCH WITHOUT WALLS



The following is a summary of a longer article. Read the full article at [UCC.org](#).

When the Rev. Ray Jordan began offering pulpit supply at First Community Church United Church of Christ, he didn't know that it would lead to a position as the church's pastor and a shift in how the Dallas church does

ministry. But over time, that's exactly what happened.

Jordan first preached to the church online because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Within a month of reopening the building in 2021 and resuming in-person worship and meetings, the church board realized that the congregation had only enough money to cover about 14 months of the church's regular expenses. The church building was expansive, and building maintenance was a significant part of the congregation's budget. The space that had served its large membership well decades ago had become difficult to maintain for the group of around 30 worshippers that typically gathered on a Sunday morning. After a \$30,000 air conditioning repair arose, it "felt like we weren't being good stewards of God's money," Jordan said.

“Doing things the same way didn't give the desired result, so let's do something different.”

First Community Church made the difficult decision to put the building up for sale while the congregation discerned next steps. They are among several other

UCC churches who have become too small to maintain a large building, with each making unique decisions about how to move their congregation forward, such as donating their building to a local organization, moving to rented space, or merging with other congregations. Others have developed opportunities for social services or affordable housing on their church properties. And some have faithfully made the decision to close their ministry and redistribute money from the property sale to racial justice work and reparations.

The congregation agreed that it was time to do something different. Jordan presented a model of a "mission-centered church without walls": one monthly worship service in person with the remainder of Sundays a virtual "Coffee and Conversation" time. Other gatherings would be mission-oriented events with local partners, to assist in food pantries, AIDS walks, and other justice advocacy. 2023 was the first full year that the church implemented this model, and Jordan described it as "working like gangbusters."

"We're being church in a different kind of way...They said doing things the same way didn't give the desired result, so let's do something different." *Read more at [UCC.org](#).*

SHARE EASTER JOY

Each Easter, Plymouth encourages folks to visit and deliver a cheerful flower to members who are isolated or who have suffered a loss. Be part of this tradition and take a card and plant on Easter Sunday.

Support this ministry by making a donation in the name of loved ones. Names of donors and those honored will be listed in the *Herald*. Email names to Robert Turner at RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org, or include a note with your check to the church. You can also donate online (Click the "Give" tab at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](#), then click the green "Make a Gift" button and choose "Flower Fund" from the drop-down menu).



Thank you for supporting this ministry.

LENTEN SPECIAL OFFERING



This year's Lenten Special Offering will be evenly divided between One Great Hour of Sharing and Plymouth UCC Scholarships.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) supports disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the UCC within Wider Church Ministries.

From disaster response to ongoing community development, OGHS provides people with safety, sustenance, and hope, improving the lives of people in challenging situations.

Plymouth UCC Scholarships support members and friends in financial hardship to take part in opportunities offered by and through Plymouth UCC. Half of our annual special offerings replenish the amount available to offer scholarships.

Your faithful giving is vital to maintain the ministries of Plymouth UCC. We give thanks for all you contribute.

THEY'LL KNOW US BY OUR LOVE

The former sign boards outside our building are now pantries for the community, filled with food, and comfort items. The pantries provide a display of compassion and solidarity with those experiencing homelessness or who are under-resourced. Please contribute bottled water, protein bars, or even notes to remind the reader they are beloved.

—Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown



Your kindness makes a world of difference.

WE STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH TRANS/NONBINARY SIBLINGS

Each year on March 31, the world observes Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV) to raise awareness about transgender people. It is a day to celebrate the lives and contributions of trans people, while also drawing attention to the poverty, discrimination, and violence the community faces.



International TDOV was created in 2010 by trans advocate Rachel Crandall. Crandall, the head of Transgender Michigan, created TDOV in response to the overwhelming majority of media stories about transgender people being focused on violence. She hoped to create a day where people could re-focus on celebrating the lives of transgender people, empowering them to live authentically, while still acknowledging that due to discrimination, not every trans person can or wants to be visible.

Please visit Glaad.org/Transgender/Resources to learn more and get involved.

BRING GIFT CARDS DURING LENT



Show migrant siblings some love.

As we enter the late days of Lent, the Immigration Ministry Team is expanding our Gift Card Transformation Campaign to include cash donations. Rest assured we can always transform ordinary 'cash' or 'card' donations to groceries, shoes and clothing.

Please continue your search for unused gift cards as well. A special basket awaits your donations on the Sunday offering table each week. We hope you will enthusiastically join us in this effort to offer our immigrant neighbors a bit of help. For online worshipers, please mail your donations to Plymouth (1217 6th Ave. Seattle, 98101) with a note indicating they are for IMT.

Thanks in advance for joining us in making our immigrant friends feel cared about, welcomed and supported. They deeply appreciate our support in the uncertain situation they are in. In God's Love, *The Immigration Ministry Team.*

HELP LEAD WORSHIP

The Plymouth Worship Team welcomes lay leaders to help with worship, both in person and online. If you feel called to serve Plymouth and deepen your spiritual life by assisting in worship leadership, contact Rev. Kevin Bechtold: KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

HONORING SEATTLE WOMEN

Women make Seattle the place it is — a place where inclusion is cherished, differences are honored, people help those in need, and progress is made. From Belle Alexander, one of the first African Americans to work at Boeing starting in 1943; to Bertha Knight Landes; who in 1926 was not only the first woman mayor of Seattle but also the first woman mayor of a major American city; to Ramona Bennett, elected as Puyallup Tribal Chairwoman in 1971 and activist fighting for indigenous fishing rights; to Thelma Dewitty, one of the first African American educators hired by the Seattle Public Schools in 1947 and served as president of Seattle's NAACP chapter — Seattle's history would not be what it is today without extraordinary women.

Today, there are so many women who are making Seattle a better place and making strides in their respective fields. These names include soccer player and activist Megan Rapinoe, Ijeoma Oluo, who wrote the best-seller *So You Want to Talk About Race*, and Justice Mary Yu, the state's first Asian, first Latina, and first member of the LGBTQ community to serve on the Washington State Supreme Court.

There are several notable organizations in Seattle that make a difference for women.

- Seattle-based Mary's Place** helps women and families move out of homelessness into more stable situations. For example, their Women's Day Center in downtown Seattle provides meals, showers and access to resources for over one hundred women each day and has been serving the community for more than 20 years.
- Dignity for Divas** provides help for women experiencing homelessness by providing Diva Survival Kits which include self-care essentials and hosts skill-building programming.
- Women in Film Seattle** is a nonprofit organization that is committed to advancing women in the film, digital, and media industry. The organization offers events, programs, and screenings for members.
- The Seattle Area Chapter of the Association for Women in Science** creates a welcoming environment to advance the careers of women in science and technology. Programs held monthly and accessible to all.

Women's History Month serves as a poignant reminder of Seattle's legacy of, and continued need for, activism and advocacy, inspiring ongoing efforts to champion gender equity in all facets of life. By celebrating and supporting women-owned businesses and events, we not only honor our past but also reaffirm our dedication to fostering an inclusive and equitable future for all.

