

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, April 21, 2024

Worship in the Sanctuary or Online

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Earth Sunday

Acts 6:1-7

“Chosen to Serve”

Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

11:30 am Coffee Hour, Lounge/Patio

12:30 pm Melodious Sounds for the Times
Free Concert, Sanctuary (donations welcome)

Please Note: There will be no *Herald* next week.
Regular weekly publication will resume May 1.

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**.

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.



United Church of Christ

PO Box 21368
Seattle, Washington 98111

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), 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), Katherine Guthrie, Kay Heekin (Mother-in-Law of Kate Forrester), Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), **Tom Lemly** (Father of Hayden McManus), Beta Utu Malae (Sister of Robert Malae), 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, Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Elizabeth Thoreson (Sister of Anne Kiemle, sister-in-law of Kael Sherrard), Irene Wall (Friend of Ruth Williamson)

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

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PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

April 17, 2024

FORWARD TOGETHER: CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 26-28



At Plymouth April 26-28: help needed!

Join us in welcoming Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson as our keynote speaker. We will also welcome new churches into our conference and hear from representatives from the Christian Centre for Justice, Peace and Nonviolent Action and missionaries from Bogota, Colombia, sponsored by Global Ministries and our conference.

Volunteer help is needed and much appreciated.

We need greeters, office reception and help with parking validation. Please visit PNCUCC.org for information on full volunteer positions and consider assisting with this year's meeting. Email Arlene@pncucc.org before the meeting, or let us know when you arrive on site if you are willing to help. We hope to see you there, in person or virtually.

REGISTER FOR SPRING SUMMITS

Faith Action Network is in our Spring Outreach season, where we connect with you about what happened this legislative session. We seek to hear your concerns and priorities for what we might do together in the months ahead.

Essential to this outreach is our annual Spring Summits, scheduled for two Sundays: 3-4:30 pm May 5 and June 9. These summits will be held online to allow more people to join and to enable advocates from across the state to hear from each other. During this year's summits, we'll be able to celebrate legislative wins and hear about what is needed to move forward next session. Your voices matter to us! Last year, many attendees expressed concerns for young people and mental health—we heard you and worked with NAMI this year to advocate for some important bills that passed! Please visit FANWA.org for more info and to register.



Put faith in action.

MELODIOUS SOUNDS FOR THE TIMES

Josephine Howell Productions presents a musical extravaganza that will leave you better than when you came. 12:30-2:15 pm Sunday, April 21, at Plymouth. The program is filled with laughter, music, singing, & celebrating. Come, treat yourself to an afternoon that will revive your spirit and comfort your soul.



Josephine Howell, photo by Susan Fried

Special Guest Artist Atlanta-based musical genius, Collette “CC Sunchild” Coward, will gift us with her incredible style and brilliant delivery. Musical talents of Josephine Howell & Friends are Jake Sele on keys, Medearis Dixson on Sax, Christopher Patin on Drums, and more. Don't miss this experience! Freewill offering, no charge to attend.

PRAYERS FOR PEACE

This Eastertide and beyond, United Church of Christ General Minister and President Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson is inviting the wider church to participate in an interactive season of prayer. The People's Prayers for Peace initiative is an open invitation to read — and write — prayers, which will be posted daily at UCC.org.

The call for prayers comes amid ongoing war and violence globally as well as continued social issues and injustice in the United States. “We are all praying for many things,” Thompson said. “This is a time for us to be reminded we are not alone in our desire to see change in the world. Our collective voices in prayer can make a difference. This is an act of faith.”

Prayers will be collected and shared daily throughout the remainder of 2024 and into 2025, culminating in General Synod 35 in Kansas City next summer.

“Today is always a good day to pray,” Thompson noted. “We ask for prayers. We support each other in prayer. The time to pray is today. There is no end to our prayer together.”

Share prayers at UCC.org/Peoples-Prayers-For-Peace.



Share your prayers for peace.



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HEALING BEGINS AT HOME



On April 4, Plymouth Healing Communities (PHC) hosted an appreciation gathering to celebrate the sustained relationship in community with Horizon House (HH). As a strategic partner, HH supports PHC’s ability to provide supportive housing to individuals experiencing mental

health challenges to break cycles of hospitalization, homelessness, and possible contact with the criminal legal system.

Robie Flanagan, PHC Board President, shared her long-term journey with PHC, and how PHC taught her much as a peer counselor to residents, emphasizing PHC’s model of companioning as developed by Rev. Dr. Craig Rennebohm. Dakota Dixon, PHC Program Manager, presented community-based programs, interactions with residents and the importance of the companionship model and its four components. Jane Dunkel, former PHC Board President, shared her deep learning as a current companion with focus on mutuality of growth for both the resident and for herself.

While PHC anticipates that change is inevitable with the landscape of unmet needs in the community, including but not limited to acute mental health, what is clear and certain is the model of companioning—a signature part of PHC’s identity, is going to remain at the center of PHC’s future.

New and longtime supporters of PHC were present, including founding board members, Karen Gwilym and Nancy Smith, and others in covenant with Plymouth Church UCC. They are deeply invested in civic engagement and the continuity of PHC to provide healing, care and supportive housing to those who would otherwise be unhoused. HH stakeholders shared stories of participating in gardening at the sites and supporting residents in their wellness, recovery and healing. HH understands its social location of power and privilege to share resources and to use monies as medicine to help our communities heal.

With the changing landscape in Seattle and the need for a strategic plan moving forward, PHC navigates with hope and excitement as our Strategic Planning Advisory Committee drafts recommendations to ensure operations are sustainable and responsive to the growing needs of the diverse community we serve. The planning process will remain confidential until the PHC board is prepared to share. PHC will provide updates to stakeholders such as HH and its residents, who are invited into the planning process to give input and stay along in the journey. We are grateful to Horizon House for our ongoing partnership.

Please watch for communication with updates on the planning process via the PHC blog at plyhc.org/blog and in personal one-on-one conversations going forward.

PLYMOUTH COOKS

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.



Let us know what's cooking!

BE THE 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.

NEW PLYMOUTH UCC PO BOX

Please note that Plymouth Church UCC now has a PO Box. Effective immediately, please send all future postal correspondence to our new mailing address:

Plymouth Church UCC
P O Box 21368
Seattle WA 98111

USPS will forward all mail to the new PO Box during this time of transition.

WHO TO GO TO FOR WHAT

Please remember we have a “Who To Go To For What” guide as well as an Organizational Chart that shows all of the Clergy and Staff You can find the link to the guide on the “Meet our Staff” page under the “About” tab at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org (in the blue banner, under “Meet Our Amazing Team”).

The guide includes contact information as well as particulars about each person’s workweek schedule.



THEY’LL KNOW US BY OUR LOVE



Your contributions make a world of difference.

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.

YOU MAKE PLYMOUTH POSSIBLE

Thank you for your faithful support of the mission and ministries of Plymouth United Church of Christ. Listed below are a variety of ways for you to provide offerings and gifts. Your support makes a difference.



We give thanks for all the ways you support Plymouth.

ONLINE GIVING THROUGH SIMPLE CHURCH Click on the MAKE A GIFT box at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Choose to deduct directly from your bank account or credit/debit card to make a one-time offering, or schedule recurring offerings.

TEXT TO GIVE Simply text to 206.208.1442 and enter a dollar amount. You will receive prompts to complete the transaction. Once set up, you will be able to text offerings with one step.

CASH APP Our Cash App ID is \$PlymouthUCCSeattle. Questions? DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

CHECK BY MAIL Mail your offerings to the church: Plymouth Church UCC/PO Box 21368/Seattle WA 98111

UCC HOSTS EARTH SUMMIT

The UCC Earth Summit takes place 10 am (PT) April 20, the Saturday before Earth Day. This second annual Earth Summit will feature celebrated author and activist Bill McKibben delivering the keynote lecture: “Energy from Heaven or Energy from Hell?”

McKibben has written 20 books and many articles that have been instrumental in bringing climate change and environmental science to the attention of the general public. He helped to found the first global grassroots climate campaign, 350.org, and he founded Third Act, a community of people over the age of 60 organizing action around climate and justice. While he often speaks in secular contexts, McKibben grew up in the UCC and personally offered congratulations following the 2019 General Synod’s decision to become the first Christian body endorsing the Green New Deal.

In addressing the climate crisis, McKibben has not only been one of the foremost writers and activists in the world, but he has also been a leader in connecting faith communities to the climate movement. From writing in Sojourners magazine to speaking in churches on a regular basis, he has long helped people of faith connect their values to some of the most critical issues of our time.”

The following panel of award-winning activists will speak about the multi-national struggle against the pollution of Formosa Plastics, one of the world’s largest plastics producers:

- Sharon Lavigne, 2021 Goldman Prize Winner, Rise St. James
- Diane Wilson, 2023 Goldman Prize Winner, San Antonio Bay Estuarine Waterkeeper
- Nancy Bui, International Monitor Formosa Alliance and Justice for Formosa Victims

The two-and-a-half-hour summit will also feature the announcement of the Dollie Burwell Prophetic Action Award winner, a celebration of the UCC’s newest Creation Justice Churches, and a video showcasing the environmental ministries of our host congregation, The Church of Christ at Dartmouth College.

This event will be both in-person and live streamed via Zoom. Along with The Church of Christ at Dartmouth College, cohosts include the UCC’s Council for Climate Justice, the National Setting of the UCC, and the New Hampshire Conference of the UCC. Even if one cannot make the event at its scheduled time, all those who register will receive a link to a recording of the event. **Register using link in news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.**

