

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, May 18, 2025

Worship in the Sanctuary or Online

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:13-22

Rev. Kevin Bechtold

9 am Choir Rehearsal, Hildebrand Hall

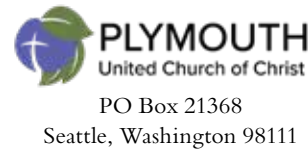
11:30 am Coffee Hour, Lounge/Patio

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.

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

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

Whether you are a seeker, skeptic, believer or somewhere in between on life's journey, you are welcome here. We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in worship and service



Return Service Requested

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), Lin Davis (Wife of Mo Longworth), JT Edwards, 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), Artrice Gordon (Brother of Michael & Elizabeth Gordon), Floyd Gossett, Carrie Gossett (Mother of Floyd Gossett), Julie (Friend of Karen Clark), Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Robert Malae, Don Mayer, William Chapman Nyaho, Richard Paul (Dad of Beth Paul-Russell), Colleen Rood (Aunt of Kathy Rood), Dale and Jinny Sewell, Shaniece (Friend of Karen Clark), Patricia Valentine, Gevan Woodke (Friend of Karen Clark)



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



WELCOME, STEPHEN PRICE



Stephen C. Price, Director of Music

Plymouth is pleased to announce Stephen C. Price will be our new Director of Music, beginning Sunday, May 18. Stephen “Stef” C. Price joined the music faculty at the University of Washington in 2023 as the inaugural Paul B. Fritts Faculty Fellow and Artist-in-Residence and head of organ studies. He teaches courses in

Organ Performance, Church Music, and Keyboard Harmony.

His graduate studies were completed at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, and he participated in international competitions during this time. After his studies, he was appointed Associate Director of Music at First United Methodist Church, San Diego, CA. Subsequently, he received a full-time faculty post (organ) at Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana (2018-2023).

Dr. Price’s debut album, *Paris Impact Organ Suites*, is released on the Raven recording label. Additionally, Michael Barone has featured his recording on the “Pipedreams” National broadcast. His most recent project is available on YouTube, titled *UW Music: Black Composers Project: Music for Organ*.

Plan to attend this Sunday to welcome him to Plymouth. 🌍

HELP WITH HEALING

Plymouth Healing Communities welcomes donations of new and gently-used household items for new residents. Drop off at Plymouth on Sundays through in the PHC donation bin in the Lounge. Reach out to PHC Program Manager Dakota Nixon (dnixon@plyhc.org; 206-707-2801;) for different drop-off times, or questions.



Bring new or gently used items.

For a full list of most requested items, please see the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org or visit Plymouth Healing Communities at Plyhc.org. Thank you for helping make a home for our residents. 🌍

CELEBRATE FILIPINO HERITAGE

The Filipino Cultural Heritage Society of Washington proudly presents Pagdiriwang (the Filipino word for festival), commemorating the anniversary of Philippine Independence, May 31-June 1. Held at the Seattle Center since 1987, the event has grown into the largest festival of Filipino arts and culture in the Pacific Northwest.



May 31-June 1 at Seattle Center

This free celebration is a part of *Seattle Center Festál*, a series of cultural programs sponsored by the City of Seattle. Pagdiriwang is an ideal setting for presenting art, craft, song, dance, music, history, literature, and culture to promote better understanding of the Filipino cultural heritage.

For over 300 years the Philippines was under Spanish rule. After several attempts at insurrection from Spain, a full-blown revolution began in 1896 led by Andres Bonifacio. On June 12, 1898, Filipino revolutionary forces under General Emilio Aguinaldo proclaimed the sovereignty and independence of the Philippine Islands from the colonial rule of Spain.

This independence would not last long, as shortly thereafter the Philippines was at war with the United States and for almost 50 years was under American rule until July 4, 1946, when the United States granted the Philippines its independence. Independence Day was celebrated on July 4 until 1962, when the date was changed to June 12, in tribute to the day Aguinaldo proclaimed Philippine Independence in 1898.

Join friends and family May 31-June 1 at Seattle Center to learn more about Filipino history and culture, enjoy great food and dynamic performances, and celebrate the beauty and strength of our diverse community. Read more at FestalPagdiriwang.com. 🌍

SING, PRAY, SUPPORT

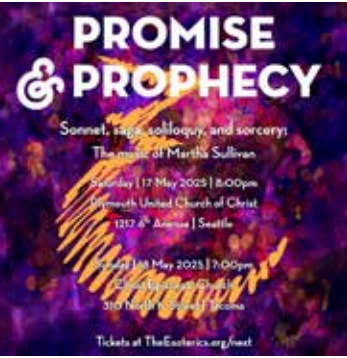
Every Saturday the Church of Mary Magdalene welcomes homeless and formerly homeless women at Gethsemane Lutheran (1830 Ninth Ave, at Stewart) for breakfast at 9 am and worship at 10 am. You can help this community of women to sing, pray and support each other. Contact Pastor Pat Simpson (PSimpsonPnwumc@gmail.com) to volunteer. 🌍



Location: 1217 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101
Mailing Address: PO Box 21368, Seattle, WA 98111
PlymouthChurchSeattle.org, 206.622.4865

The Publication of Plymouth Church Seattle
Submissions:
RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

PROMISE AND PROPHECY



8 pm Saturday, May 17, at Plymouth

The Esoterics will celebrate spring at Plymouth 8 pm Saturday, May 17, with the choral music of New York composer Martha Sullivan. This fully a cappella repertoire presents a collection of compositions featuring adventure, magic, mischief, romance, hope, anguish, joy, loss, longing — and of course, *dragons*.

The centerpiece of the program will feature *Epithalamion*, Martha’s setting of verse from Edmund Spenser’s *Wedding Ode*: 24 stanzas to depict each hour of their wedding day in honor of his bride, Elizabeth. Sullivan sets five of these stanzas that focus on the delights and distractions of the wedding night. Following this are settings from Emily Dickinson and Shakespeare — each depicting moods and metaphors on themes of love, lament and longing. Then comes *Madrigals of Nostradamus* — four French quatrains by the celebrated soothsayer. This cycle will be followed by Martha’s setting of *The new Colossus* by Emma Lazarus.

To finish the program, The Esoterics will premiere Sullivan’s six-movement cycle entitled *Certain Dragons*. In these six songs, we will celebrate the legendary creatures and their extraordinary nature: volatile, violent and virtuous; fiery, fearless and fierce. Please join us for this celebration of lavish literature and sumptuous song! More info and tickets at TheEsoterics.org.

EMBRACE JOY



Register now for Women's Retreat Nov. 7-9

The Pacific Northwest & Central Pacific Conferences of the United Church of Christ join together every three years to offer a spiritual and motivational women’s retreat. The retreat theme for 2025 is “Embrace Joy” and registration is now open. Plan now, mark your calendars, and get set to join us November 7-9 for a fantastic event at Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, WA.

This open and affirming gathering welcomes all who identify as women. Together we will create a supportive and empowering environment where everyone feels valued and included. We are excited to have Andrea Rose Cano join us as keynote speaker, with Rev. Dan   Ashley serving as worship leader. Come and take time just for yourself. Breathe deeply, relax fully, and explore, enrich, and rekindle your spirit. Learn more and register now at NRWR.org.

HANDS OFF!

As Congress considers devastating cuts to Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) as part of a major budget reconciliation bill this spring, Faith Action Network (FAN) is incredibly grateful for the ways you have already taken action through denominational letter campaigns, protests, and town halls to advocate for these crucial programs.

As people of faith and conscience, we embrace a spirit of abundance — we believe that we have more than enough resources to provide food and healthcare for all people and that we are called to hold our leaders accountable for the common good. We need to advocate for a moral budget, and invite you to join in urging your legislators to vote against any cuts to these vital, life-saving programs. Read more and get involved at FANWA.org.

PRIDE IN THE PARK



Pride in the Park June 7 at Volunteer Park.

Seattle Pride in the Park, produced by Seattle Pride, will kick off Seattle’s 51st annual Pride Month celebration on Saturday, June 7 at Volunteer Park on Capitol Hill. This free event features a performances, food trucks, local nonprofit booths, queer vendors, and more. There’s also plenty of family-friendly fare, including a teen space designed and hosted by youth in collaboration with Seattle’s LGBTQ Center and Seattle Pride. ADA accommodations available. See SeattlePride.org.

WALK WITH PRIDE

Plymouth UCC is once again joining the Pacific Northwest Conference for the Annual Seattle Pride Parade on Sunday June 29. Bring signs and friends for a day of celebrating and supporting our LGBTQ+ siblings.

More info on the parade route and the day’s activities at SeattlePride.org. We welcome all who want to march in solidarity and celebration. Keep reading the *Herald* and checking our website for details.



THE POWER OF CONNECTION

Come support Plymouth Housing at *Key to Hope: The Power of Connection*, Noon–1:30 pm Wednesday, September 17, at the Seattle Westin downtown (1900 5th Ave). This inspiring event brings together our region’s forward-thinking community to take meaningful steps toward ending homelessness.

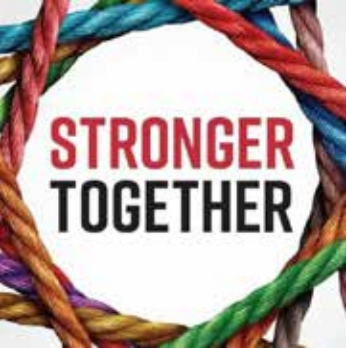
This year’s keynote speaker is Dr. Vivek Murthy, former U.S. Surgeon General. Dr. Murthy is leading a national conversation on the importance of social connection in fostering well-being. His work is particularly relevant to Plymouth, where community and connection help residents rebuild their lives.

Join us in exploring the power of connection and how, together, we can make a lasting impact. Learn more and register now at PlymouthHousing.org.



Keynote speaker Dr. Vivek Murthy.

STANDING STRONG TOGETHER



More than ever, the Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network is doubling down on our commitment to provide unwavering support and resources to immigrant and refugee communities in the state. Acting together is how we protect what matters most: our shared humanity and our collective future. Thank you for

standing strong in this critical time. Visit Waisn.org.

CARE TEAM IS HERE FOR YOU

Your Plymouth Care Team is committed to responding to all care concerns that come our way. Use the Plymouth Care Line to get in touch: **206-639-7739**. Messages checked daily. The Care Line is for non-emergency issues. For acute crises, call 988. Members of the Care Team are:

- **Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown** (KBrown@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)
- **Rev. Kevin Bechtold** (on sabbatical June-August, 2025) (KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)
- **Faith Community Nurse June Hayakawa-Fung** (JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)



Let us know what we can do for you.

PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING

Sunday, June 8 and throughout the month of June, gifts earmarked Pentecost Special Offering will be divided evenly between UCC Special Offering Strengthen the Church and funds to support Immigration Ministry.



The 2025 theme for Strengthen the Church is *Great and Wide*. This phrase, from Psalm 104, represents the diverse and playful nature of the multitude of ministries the offering supports. The images of sea creatures playing reminds us that we each find a unique purpose and calling in God’s creation. These purposes can be big and institutional or small and emerging. Whether the offering supports outdoor worshipping communities or teams who build systems to connect pastors and congregations, the movement of God is apparent.

O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

Here is the sea, great and wide, which teems with creatures innumerable, living things both small and great.

There go the ships, and Leviathan, which you formed to play in it. (Psalm 104)

The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. The Pacific Northwest Conference and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations.

Plymouth UCC Immigration Ministry remains supported by half of the proceeds from this year’s Pentecost special offering.

There are a variety of ways to support these life-changing efforts:

- **Website:** Under the “Give” tab, choose “Special Offering – Pentecost,” in the donate fund drop-down menu
- **CashApp:** [\\$PlymouthUCCSeattle](https://www.cash.app/$PlymouthUCCSeattle)
- **USPS:** Mail to Plymouth Church UCC PO Box 21368 Seattle WA 98111

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity can support congregations in getting the help they need from our Conference and the national ministries of the UCC. Together we can answer the Spirit’s call to be united in Christ for a just world for all.