

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, June 18, 2023

Worship In Person or Online

Service in the Sanctuary

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Ruth 4:9–17; Psalm 78:1–8;

1 Timothy 5:1–8; Matthew 15:1–9

Rev. Dr. Joanne Braxton

11:30 am Coffee Hour, Lounge/Patio

12:30 pm Celebrate Black Joy Concert, Sanctuary

PLEASE NOTE!

Worship service on Sunday, June 25, begins at 10 am. The earlier start will help with the logistics of joining the Pride Parade.

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.



1217 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101-3199

Return Service Requested




BE THE CHURCH



Covenant giving includes your time and using your gifts. There are many tasks that you can do. Training provided if needed. Here are a few volunteer opportunities. Please 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

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!   

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...

Afghan Family (Supported by Plymouth), Michelle J. Bennett (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Susan Carter (Mother of Heather Banks & Kathleen Bernard), Sue Ellen Daniel, John Daniels, Mark & JT Edwards, Skylyr Effler (Nephew of Bill & Marilyn Bumpas), Susan Emerson (Mother of Kate Forrester), JoAnn English (Relative of Lucian Guthrie), Anna Florey, Diane Folkert & Family (Mother-in-law of Ara Lawrence), Marni Good (Friend of Ricky Powell), **Carrie Gossett (Mother of Floyd Gossett)**, Lucian Guthrie, Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Irma Johnson (Friend of Toni Arthur), **Lindsey (Niece of Nan Macy)**, Shirley K. Shelley (Aunt of Ricky Powell), Concetta Lewis (Sister of Jo-Ann Guthrie), Barbara Miller (Friend of Barb Laski), Montecino Family, Paula Orrego, Jim Oswald (Friend of Bing Tso), Anna Partch (Friend of Sari Breznau), Joshua Robinson (Grandson of Patricia Valentine), Jose Robles and Family, Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Beta Utu Malae (Sister of Robert Malae), Charon Washington (Sister of Michael Gordon), Pluma Wright (Friend of Glenda Carper)

Our hearts are with Mary Ryan and family on the passing of her brother, Doug Ryan.

A service celebrating the life of Ruth Kiemle will be held at Plymouth 3 pm Saturday June 24.

A memorial service for Nancy Schoettler will be held 2 pm Sunday, July 2, at Horizon House Sky Lounge.

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PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

June 14, 2023

DR. MIKHAIL JOHNSON BEGINS RESIDENCY



Dr. Mikhail Johnson,
photo: Adolfo Estrada

Plymouth Church is pleased to announce that internationally renowned composer and keyboard virtuoso Dr. Mikhail Johnson will serve as Organist in Residence beginning Sunday, June 25, 2023. In this role, Dr. Johnson will continue to lead profound worship experiences for Plymouth Church. Dr. Johnson's seven-week residency will culminate in a recital

immediately following the service on Sunday, August 6.

He reflects, "A Residency of any kind is a creator's space to explore, learn, experiment and shape the very things that mean the most to them: their art. In the context of this residency, I am for a time, a steward of music to this church. I assist in elevating the worship experience, bringing joy, solace, healing, exuberant praise, and essentially the church's congregation a little closer to that foretaste of glory divine, through music. Many thanks to The Reverend Dr. Kelle J. Brown and Mr. Joe Williams for the opportunity to present musical offerings in this capacity to God and to God's congregation at Plymouth Church."

Mikhail Johnson (1989-) born in the rural hills of Maroon Town in the parish of St. James, Jamaica, is one of the country's most promising pianists and composers. He was winner of the Jamaica Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition for Young Musicians Senior Division in 2009, and in the same year, won the piano section of the Jamaica Music Teachers' Association Music Competition. He has won numerous gold medals and national awards in the Jamaica Cultural Development Commission (JCDC) Festival of the Performing Arts, and he was also a finalist in the 2017 American Prize Music Competition for Piano (collegiate division). In 2021 he was two-time First Prize winner of the Charleston International Music Competition and the first Jamaican to enter the competition.

Johnson's compositional style merges traditional European classical music and avant-garde with traditional Jamaican cultural idiosyncrasies. His compositions, published on Johnno Muzik, comprise sacred and patriotic choral works, African American Spiritual arrangements, song cycles and instrumentals. Read more in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. ✨

CELEBRATE BLACK JOY

On June 18 at 12:30 pm, soprano Stephanie Ann Ball will join Director of Music and Arts Joe Williams for a special Juneteenth recital highlighting Black joy. The program will showcase the work of prolific Black writers Maya Angelou and Langston Hughes, masterful Black composers, as well as some of the most beloved and timeless melodies in the classical repertoire.



Stephanie Ann Ball at Plymouth June 18

Stephanie Ann Ball, lyric coloratura soprano is swiftly taking her place in the world of classical music with her warm, strong, lyric voice. Ms. Ball has been invited to perform as a guest artist on concert series across the country including St. Peter's Cathedral in Mansfield, OH, the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Denver, CO, and has commanded the stage of the famous Red Rocks Amphitheater in Colorado as a soloist for the Colorado Council of Churches. Read more about her at StephanieAnnBallSoprano.com.

Plymouth Church's stunning Sanctuary provides the perfect setting for an intimate and enchanting musical experience that will take your breath away. Make your afternoon truly special by joining us for a day of magical music that will transport you to another world. All are welcome. Suggested donation \$20. ✨

JOIN DR. BROWN IN TUKWILA'S JUNETEENTH COMMEMORATION



Join Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown at Tukwila's Third Annual Juneteenth Commemoration, 2–4 pm Saturday, June 17, at the Sullivan Center (14350 Tukwila International Blvd). Dr. Brown delivers the keynote address at this year's celebration of emancipation that also serves as an opportunity to honor African Americans through continued learning and understanding of the impacts of enslavement and

resiliency. To learn more, contact Jo.Anderson@TukwilaWA.gov or 206-658-7849. ✨

WELCOME REV. DR. JOANNE BRAXTON JUNE 18



Rev. Dr. Joanne Braxton

This Sunday, June 18, Plymouth welcomes Rev. Dr. Joanne Braxton to preach at our 10:30 am worship service. Dr. Braxton is the CEO and president of the board of the Braxton Institute, a nonprofit organization that heals cycles of violence through research, education, and community-based public health interventions. Her early work on Black women’s literature and particularly the outraged mother in the slave narrative genre constitute a foundational contribution to Womanist Thought.

Dr. Braxton is a member of All Souls Church Unitarian in Washington, D.C. and The Great Awakening United Church of Christ in Portsmouth, Virginia. She is an ordained UCC minister and Emeritus Research Professor in Africana Studies at William & Mary, where she founded the W&M Middle Passage Project and continues to serve as special advisor to The Lemon Project: A Journey of Reconciliation. She is a poet and author whose books include *Black Female Sexualities* (2015) and *Monuments of the Black Atlantic: Slavery and Memory* (2003). Dr. Braxton has served as a pastoral and spiritual caregiver in clinical, congregational and movement settings.

Please welcome Dr. Braxton to Plymouth this Sunday, June 18. ✨

PLYMOUTH WALKS WITH PRIDE

Plymouth UCC and University Congregational UCC are co-sponsoring a parade entry on behalf of the Pacific Northwest Conference UCC for the Seattle Pride Parade on Sunday June 25, starting around 11 am (**Note: Worship service begins at 10 am Sunday, June 25**). Bring your signs and your friends for a day of celebrating and supporting our LGBTQIA+ siblings!

We welcome all to march together in solidarity and celebration. The parade route is along 4th Ave in downtown Seattle, starting at 4th & Pike and ending at Way (Seattle Center). More info on Seattle Pride at SeattlePride.org.

For planning purposes and further details, please email Br. Stephan Gerhardt at Gerhardt_Stephan@yahoo.com to let us know you are interested in helping us plan our presence at the 49th Annual Seattle Pride Parade. ✨



Represent Plymouth June 25.

UCC RESOLUTION CONDEMNS SOLITARY CONFINEMENT

The 2023 General Synod of the United Church of Christ will consider 17 resolutions and several bylaw changes when it meets June 30-July 4 in Indianapolis. Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown will be present to participate. Full texts of each of the proposed resolutions are available at the General Synod website, GeneralSynod.org.



Dr. Brown will be at Synod June 30-July 4.

Over a decade ago, the United Nations special rapporteur on torture aligned solitary confinement with torture and said that indefinite or prolonged isolation beyond 15 days should be prohibited due to the mental damage caused after only a few days of isolation. Yet, it remains a widespread practice in the United States with estimations that, at any given time, there are over 75,000 people in solitary confinement in the country’s prisons.

Further, solitary confinement is used far more on certain populations, including people of color, transgender and gender non-conforming people, people with mental health needs and young people. Studies have detailed the lasting negative impact solitary confinement creates, including a “prison to poverty pipeline” that the proposed resolution describes as lowering the earning potential of formerly incarcerated people and causing significant impact on families.

Previous General Synods have passed a Pronouncement on Human Rights resolution that includes denouncing torture and a resolution to dismantle discriminatory systems of mass incarceration in the United States. This newly proposed resolution explicitly opposes solitary confinement as a form of torture and points toward replacing a widespread practice with “humane, rehabilitative alternatives rooted in community and racial justice.” Read more at UCC.org. ✨

UNDO INSTITUTIONAL RACISM

The Undoing Institutionalized Racism workshop is offered by The People’s Institute for Survival and Beyond, a national multiracial, antiracist collective of organizers and educators dedicated to building an effective movement for social change. The workshops are designed to educate, challenge and empower people to “undo” racist structures that hinder effective social change. Cost is \$350 per person. Next workshop is **July 10-12**. Plymouth scholarships available. Contact Diane Jacobsen for information on scholarships: DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Find full schedule and link to register at PinwSeattle.org. ✨



CARE TEAM IS HERE FOR YOU

Your Plymouth Care Team is committed to responding to all care concerns that come our way. Please use the Plymouth Care Line phone number to get in touch with the Care Team should anything arise: **206-639-7739**. Messages are checked at least once a day. The Plymouth Care Line is for non-emergency issues. For acute crises, call 988 or text “Home” to the Crisis Care Line at 741741. Members of the Care Team are:



Let us know what we can do for you.

- **Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown** (KBrown@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)
- **Rev. Kevin Bechtold** (KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).
- **Rev. Donene Blair** (DBlair@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

Faith Community Nurse June Hayakawa-Fung (JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) ✨

988: A LIFELINE



Sometimes, because of the stigma and shame associated with mental health challenges, people are hesitant to share when they are struggling or having a hard time. It is important to be especially present with our loved ones, to listen attentively and let them know you care.

If you or someone you know is struggling, dial 988 to connect with trained mental health professionals. 988 is an easy-to-remember number to connect with suicide prevention and mental health crisis resources. The 24-Hour Crisis Line provides immediate help to individuals, families, and friends of people in emotional crisis. We can help you determine if you or your loved one needs professional consultation and we can link you to the appropriate services.

The Lifeline is available for everyone. Get help for yourself, or be the vital difference for a loved one by offering support and understanding. ✨

COME TO CAMP

Plan to join Plymouth campers July 16-20 at N-Sid-Sen on Lake Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. *N-Sid-Sen* means “Point of Inspiration” in the language of the indigenous Coeur d’Alene people. Enjoy woodland and waterfront activities, faith-based experiences, and meaningful connections. Keep reading the *Herald* and website for updates and details. ✨

NO MORE STOLEN SISTERS

During the first week of May, Faith Action Network remembered and honored missing and murdered indigenous women and people (MMIW), as well as their relatives. FAN advocated for and helped win statewide alerts for missing indigenous people in 2022, and establishment of a MMIWP cold-case unit in 2023, which will bring more capacity to investigations.



We invite you to take the follow-up action of subscribing to Washington State Patrol email alerts about missing and murdered indigenous women and people. Receiving these alerts will give you an opportunity to hold these endangered persons and their families in prayer, as Rev. Linda Smith, retired Lutheran pastor and Tulalip elder, suggested in a recent meeting of our Interfaith Network with Indigenous Communities. Subscribe at Wsp.Wa.Gov/Media/Subscribe.

You might also want to watch the powerful TEDxYouth talk “Running for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women” by Rosalie Fish, member of the Cowlitz and Muckleshoot tribes, youth athlete, and former intern with the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WSCADV). Link to the video in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org, along with links to other resources. ✨

SEATTLE PRIDE COMMUNITY EVENTS



Visit SeattlePride.org/Events

In addition to the June 25 Seattle Pride Parade, there are dozens of community events this month and beyond. A few are listed below. Check out the full calendar at SeattlePride.org/Events

June 17 Lambert House: Pride Disco A youth-planned LGBTQ+ youth pride celebration, with a Disco theme!

June 22 Seattle Storm Pride Night Seattle Storm vs. Indiana Fever at Annual Pride Night 7 pm Thursday, June 22 at Climate Pledge Arena.

June 24 Considering Matthew Shepard: A Choral Suite The profound work *Considering Matthew Shepard* has been moving audiences around the world with its compelling message of love and acceptance. 7 pm at First Congregational Church, Bellevue.

June 24 Seattle Sounders Pride Match \$5 of your ticket purchase will be donated directly to Seattle Pride to support their important work within our LGBTQIA+ community. ✨