



## LOOKING AHEAD: UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 2025 GENERAL SYNOD



Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

As we look to General Synod 2025, I anticipate a time of spiritual renewal for the denomination, and by extension, local churches as we learn and vision together. I pray that as we consider all that aches in the world, this will be an opportunity to breathe new possibilities, a moment to listen for God's

call, strengthen our bonds across the denomination and beyond, while imagining how we can help build a just world for all.

The 35th General Synod of the United Church of Christ will take place July 11–15, 2025, in Kansas City, Missouri, gathering thousands from across the country for worship, fellowship, and setting the denomination's priorities for our common ministry. And of course, we will be in the context of a great city known for its hospitality and great barbecue!

The theme, "Into the Deep" invites us to deepen relationships with each other, to explore what it means to go beyond surface expressions of faith and community.

I look forward inspirational worship, generative plenary sessions, and the wide variety of workshops covering topics like leadership development, climate action, spiritual formation, decolonization, and strengthening the church. The Synod will also be an opportunity for public witness, discernment of resolutions, and call to a greater collective of faith in God. I welcome hope.

May we witness solidarity and the amplifying of muted voices. May we recover our moral center and our commitment to action. I pray there will be connections with local activists so that we can join their movement while there. In the end, I will use this time with colleagues as an opportunity to discern new pathways, renewing our commitment to God's reconciling work, and empowering Plymouth and all congregations to become centers of justice and hope in our communities.

—Rev. Dr. Kelle J. Brown

### SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH 10:30 am Sunday, July 6, 2025

Worship in the Sanctuary or Online

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 29:1–14; Psalm 33:8–22;

James 5:7–11; Luke 21:29–36

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

## DISCOVER VANPORT

Take a deep dive into complex social history with a guided educational trip to Vanport, Oregon, led by Museum Without Walls August 15–16.

Between 1942 and 1945, Vanport was the largest wartime housing development in the country and the second largest city in Oregon. By 1948, it was still home to 18,500 residents, including many African Americans. However, in less than two hours, a devastating flood wiped out the town, leaving a displaced community and raising many lingering questions.

We'll visit the former site, hear firsthand accounts, and reflect on the enduring lessons of race, housing, and resilience in America. Museum Without Walls programs bring history alive through personal stories. Plan to join us August 15–16.

Register using the link in the news article at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](https://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org). Learn more about Museum Without Walls at [MuseumWithoutWalls.org](https://MuseumWithoutWalls.org).



Discover hidden history August 15–16.

## COME HOME TO THE LAKE



Rest, recreate, and explore nature at N-Sid-Sen.

This summer you are invited to join families of every size and description for recreation, meditation and play at Camp N-Sid-Sen on the shores of Lake Coeur d'Alene, July 27–August 2 or August 2–8. N-Sid-Sen means "Point of Inspiration" in the language of the indigenous people. Come and be inspired!

Both sessions are open to all ages and all configurations of families – singles, pairs, nuclear or extended. Families participate in most activities together, but there will be time for different age groups to gather. Campers come from a wide variety of backgrounds, faith traditions and community groups. You are welcome here.

Our days begin with morning watch at the outdoor chapel and close with evening campfires. We love playing music and there's space for you to bring your instrument and join in – no matter your skill level. At the lake, options include swimming, pedal boating, canoeing, paddle boarding, tubing and skiing. Bring your sunscreen and enjoy the water.

Visit [N-Sid-Sen.org/Summer-Camp](https://N-Sid-Sen.org/Summer-Camp) to register now.