

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, August 18, 2024

Worship in the Sanctuary or Online

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ruth 3:1–18

Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

11:30 am Coffee Hour, Lounge/Patio

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.

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!



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IS SOCIAL JUSTICE



Faith Action Network urges you to vote NO on Initiative 2117. I-2117 would repeal the 2021 Climate Commitment Act and prohibit all state agencies, counties, and cities from implementing any type of carbon tax credit trading. If passed it would:

- Devastate billions in funding that protects our water, farmlands and forests, air quality, fish, clean transportation and school health improvements.
- Cancel investments to mitigate climate change and pollution on highly impacted, low-income communities.
- Shift the burden of paying for the impacts of pollution from big industries responsible for carbon emissions onto communities, workers, and families.
- Take away a significant tool for slowing life-threatening climate change and ending pollution

Visit No2117.com to learn more and get involved.



PO Box 21368
Seattle, Washington 98111

Return Service Requested

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...

Afghan Family (Siblings of Plymouth), Susan and David Anderson (Cousins of Jeanette Hagen), **Christian and Kim Arvin** (Son and Daughter-in-Law of Donene Blair), Michelle J. Bennett (Sister of Dawn Bennett), Ahmed Black (Nephew of Michael & Elizabeth Gordon), 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), **Larry Fung** (Husband of June Hayakawa-Fung), 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), Kay Heekin (Mother-in-Law of Kate Forrester), Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Julie (Friend of Karen Clark), Concetta Lewis (Sister of Jo-Ann Guthrie), Beta Utu Malae (Sister of Robert Malae), David, Mary, Patrick & Amanda McGee, Barbara Miller (Friend of Barb Laski), Dr. Maxine Mimms, Shirley K. Shelley (Aunt of Ricky Powell), Jaime Rubio Sulficio

We grieve with the family and friends of Ann Sandstrom on the one year anniversary of her passing.

We grieve with the family and friends of Greg Harris on the one year anniversary of his passing.

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



HELP MAKE IT A NIGHT OF HOPE



Catherine Walker, Presenting Sponsor

As one of the founders of Plymouth Healing Communities, who also served on the board for nearly 20 years and then had the privilege and challenge of acting as the interim Executive Director for a year, I have a deep personal connection to PHC. This connection fuels my unwavering support, and I remain in awe of the

organization's transformative impact on its residents, volunteers, and the wider community.

Since its inception, Plymouth Healing Communities has been a beacon of hope. PHC addresses housing instability for those living with mental illness by providing permanent supportive housing and access to services and support networks that significantly improve their physical and mental health outcomes. The impact of PHC's work is not just about reducing homelessness and emergency services but about changing lives and communities.

While I appreciate the many aspects of PHC's mission and work, my overarching inspiration is the individualized approach to each resident and their needs. PHC residents experience healing and belonging and help create community with and for others through their participation in group events, celebrations, workshops, and outings. The Companionship Program, PHC's touchstone of human connection and healing, offers residents a one-on-one supportive relationship that honors and respects their well-being and self-determination.

Any first-world society ought to look out for the health and well-being of adults with chronic mental illness and at risk of being homeless. We aren't there yet, but PHC has lived this commitment for 24 years and counting. I want PHC's work and impact to continue for decades to come, which is why I support PHC financially and encourage you to do the same. Register now to attend a special evening of philanthropy and community at PHC's annual fundraising event, *Night of Hope*, **5:30-8:30 pm Thursday, September 12 at 415 Westlake Ave N. Seattle. Purchase your tickets by August 28.** The early bird special is \$50 through August 19; \$65 thereafter. Visit Plyhc.org to get tickets now. I hope to see you there. Gratefully yours,

—Catherine Walker, 2024 *Night of Hope* Presenting Sponsor

FIVE EVILS: OUR DEMANDS AND PRIORITIES

Over the past several years, The Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival has reached out to communities in more than 40 states across this nation. We have met with tens of thousands of people, witnessing the strength of their moral courage in trying times. We have gathered testimonies from hundreds of poor people and we have chronicled their demands for a better society. The following moral agenda expressed in these priorities is drawn from this deep engagement and commitment to these struggles of the poor and dispossessed.



The Five Evils: Our Demands and Priorities:

(Read detailed analysis at WashingtonPPC.org)

- **Systemic Racism** There are fewer voting rights today than there were 50 years ago when the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act were passed.
- **Poverty** As the U.S. economy has grown, wealth inequality has expanded, the costs of living have increased, and social programs have been cut dramatically.
- **Ecological Devastation** 3.8 million U.S. households cannot afford clean water.
- **The War Economy** Currently 53 cents of every federal discretionary dollar goes to military spending and only 15 cents is spent on anti-poverty programs.
- **Our Distorted National Morality** Many people die every year from anti-poor policies, while religious and "Christian" agendas deliberately divert attention from key issues and challenges.

Visit WashingtonPPC.org to learn more about these priorities and strategies to address them.

HOMEcoming SEPTEMBER 8

Plan now to attend worship **10:30 am Sunday, September 8**, as we begin our church program year. Enjoy a celebratory luncheon after the service. Let us move forward together to see what the Spirit has in store!

TIME TO RECOMMIT



Before August 6, 1965, the sacred right to vote was inaccessible to most people of color because of both explicit law and normalized systemic voter intimidation. Discrimination tactics, such as literacy tests and poll taxes, made the voting booth unavailable to entire communities.

Throughout the 1960s, activists in Birmingham and Selma organized powerful protests and actions, making voting rights an issue the federal government could no longer ignore. On August 6, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act, formally removing all race-based restrictions on voting and offering enforcement mechanisms to prevent common voter discrimination tactics. The legislation enfranchised millions and empowered underrepresented communities to elect candidates of their choice to public office. But this was far from the end of the fight. As we honor the anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, we must recommit ourselves to uphold everyone’s sacred right to vote and stand up against voter suppression.

“Now is the time to stay engaged, informed, and hopeful! Join us as we recommit ourselves to protecting our sacred democracy and upholding a free and fair election.”

are all children of God and all deserve a voice in the direction of our country. As people of faith, we know every voice matters and every voice must be heard.

The voting rights of millions remain under attack today. Multiple legal challenges of the Voting Rights Act have gutted the legislation, making entire sections unenforceable. Attacks on voting rights continue in other forms of legislation, as well. Just this year we have seen legislators advance bills which would curb the voting rights of millions of Americans.

While these acts use the language of “protecting democracy,” their implications are devastating for voting rights. Recent acts by Congress and the Supreme Court will make it harder for voters of color and naturalized citizens to exercise their right to vote.

We are less than 100 days away from the US election. Now is the time to stay engaged, stay informed, and stay hopeful! Join us as we recommit ourselves to protecting our sacred democracy and upholding a free and fair election. —*Hannah Santos, August 6, 2024 (excerpted), UCC Our Faith Our Vote Blog*

Read more at UCC.org/Our-Faith-Our-Vote.

VOTE WITH LOVE

The United Church of Christ’s Our Faith Our Vote Campaign is our ongoing commitment to equip all with the tools for nonpartisan faithful engagement in our democratic process. The campaign is made up of three main components: voter registration, issue education, and voter empowerment.



The 2024 campaign asks the church to answer the call of 1 John 3:18 to “Let us not love with words or speech, but in action and in truth,” by “voting with love.” Vote with love for creation, for our neighbors both here and abroad, for a just peace, for repair and reconciliation of the brokenness of our nation. Encourage your family, friends and neighbors to do the same.

As the 2024 election season enters its final, crucial months, please check for updates and keep up with the campaign’s latest news. Recent articles include “*Truth in Voting: Combating Disinformation and Misinformation in the 2024 Elections*,” “*Ending Gun Violence: Our Call to Peace*,” and “*Losing Faith in the Supreme Court*.” Read these and more at the Campaign News page at UCC.org/Our-Faith-Our-Vote. Stay up to date and learn how you can “vote with love” this year.

PATHWAY TO THRIVING



Plymouth Housing’s signature luncheon returns on Wednesday, September 25, bringing our region’s forward-thinking community together to help end homelessness. Will you join us? Together we can create a brighter future—where everyone has the care and stability to thrive.

This year’s timely and inspiring keynote speaker is Esmy Jimenez, senior reporter for the *Boston Globe* and co-producer of *Lost Patients*, a podcast from KUOW, *The Seattle Times*, and NPR. *Lost Patients* explores the intersection of mental health and systemic inequities, providing valuable insights into improving behavioral health care for the most vulnerable—the people whom Plymouth also serves. Join us in building a future where everyone has a permanent home and the whole-person care needed to live their best lives.

Noon-1:30 pm Wednesday, September 25, at the Seattle Westin. Registration is now open. More information and link to register at PlymouthHousing.org.

SOUND MEDICINE MEDITATION

Tory Trujillo offers a deeply healing Sound Medicine Meditation, sometimes also referred to as a sound bath. Tory will center the group with breath work and embodiment practices to relax, heal, and help anchor and amplify intentions. Participants are encouraged to bring yoga mats, blankets, pillows and other items of comfort. Some yoga mats and blankets will be available to borrow. Sessions last between 60 and 75 minutes.



Next session is after worship Sunday, Sept. 22

Fall sessions are scheduled for Sundays, September 22, October 20 and November 17, at 11:45 am in Hildebrand Hall. (Note: start time is subject to change, determined by the length of Sunday service.) Suggested Donation \$20.

HELP MAKE COMFORT BAGS



Bring items and assemble bags.

The Community Care Board continues collecting donations to create comfort bags for our neighbors. Please bring non-perishable snacks and basic toiletries and add them to the donation basket at the welcome desk. On Sundays, we will have items at the back of the Sanctuary for you to assemble bags during worship. Thank you.

BE THE CHURCH

Covenant giving includes your time and talents. There are many tasks that you can do. Training provided if needed. Below are a few 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 at 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



A NIGHT OF REST

Plymouth Church UCC has provided financial support for REST (Real Escape from the Sex Trade), a Seattle-based nonprofit organization dedicated to helping individuals escape the sex trade and build brighter futures. A Christian organization, REST provides respectful services to individuals of all faiths, with a focus on unconditional care, relationships, strengths, minimizing barriers, and walking with clients on their journey to freedom.



Get tickets now for October 17 event.

You’re invited to an inspiring evening of community, commitment and courage at our annual *A Night of REST Gala*. Join us Thursday, October 17, at the Sheraton Grand in downtown Seattle. Visit IWantRest.com for tickets (discounted pricing until August 18). Evening begins at 5 pm with drinks, appetizers and silent art auction. Dinner, live auction and program starts at 6:30 pm. Join us for a memorable event of storytelling, inspiration, and impact as we come together to raise funds to help survivors of sex trafficking.

The need for compassionate care and comprehensive resources for those affected by the sex trade is critical. REST has been at the forefront of this mission, providing safety, recovery, and empowerment to countless individuals in our community. For 13 years, our team has been offering a full continuum of care from outreach to permanent housing for survivors of sex trafficking. Throughout our history, we’ve served over 1,300 individuals and provided education on sex trafficking to hundreds of community members. Today, we currently serve over 600 people per year and are seen as a leader on the national level of the anti-trafficking movement. As excited as we are about the impact we’ve had, the need in our community continues to be greater than the resources available. Around 2,000-3,000 people are sold for sex in King County every night, including between 500-700 children. Our work would not be possible without the generous support of community partners like you.

We look forward to seeing you on October 17. Your continued support allows us to provide essential services, including emergency shelter, long-term housing, and holistic care programs. More information at IWantRest.com.

PRAYERS FOR PEACE

United Church of Christ General Minister and President Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson welcomes all in 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, now posted daily at UCC.org. Share prayers at UCC.org/Peoples-Prayers-For-Peace.