

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, August 24, 2025
Worship in the Sanctuary or Online

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 22:1–8, 12; Psalm 50:1–6;
Hebrews 10:26–31; John 5:19 –24
Rev. Erica Williams

11:30 am Coffee Hour, Lounge/Patio

2:45 pm Black Pride Worship, Hildebrand Hall

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

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.

HOMECOMING SEPTEMBER 7

Plan now to worship with Plymouth **10:30 am Sunday, September 7**, as we begin our church program year. Plymouth Choir will return to fill our worship space with song. Let us move forward together to see what the Spirit has in store!



BLACK PRIDE WORSHIP SERVICE

Join Liberation UCC for a powerful, joy-filled and liberating Black Pride Worship Service as we celebrate the beauty, brilliance and resilience of Black queer identity. 2:45 pm Sunday, August 24, in Hildebrand Hall. All are welcome. Bring friends and family!



PO Box 21368
Seattle, Washington 98111

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), Monica Blume (Family of Kate Forrester), 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), Artrice Gordon (Brother of Michael & Elizabeth Gordon), Floyd Gossett, Carrie Gossett (Mother of Floyd Gossett), Jo-Ann Guthrie, Camille Hagen (Daughter of Jeanette and Ken Hagen), Elvis Gordon (Brother of Michael and Elizabeth Gordon), Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Julie (Friend of Karen Clark), Robert Malae, Dale and Jinny Sewell, Shaniece (Friend of Karen Clark), Sue Shelley (Aunt of Ricky Powell), Gevan Woodke (Friend of Karen Clark)

Our hearts are with Karen Clark on the one year anniversary of the passing of her friend, Mike Correy.

Dialogue with Kelsey Come to Plymouth 3 pm Saturday, September 6, to learn about Barbara Bennett's new book on grief, healing, and a forever relationship. *Dialogue with Kelsey: Before and After My Daughter's Death* will speak to those who have lost a child or a close loved one and also to those who, for whatever reason, are trying to balance sorrow and pain with joy. Park in Plymouth garage.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

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LIFT EVERY VOICE



All voices welcome in Plymouth Choir.

Plymouth Choir will reconvene 5–7 pm Monday, August 25, for a choir retreat to refresh our souls through the power of music. We will meet in Hildebrand Hall to sing through upcoming pieces and share a potluck dinner afterwards, enjoying friendship, connection, and nourishing food. We'd love as many people as possible to join our choir community each Sunday. All are welcome each week because as the song says, *"All God's creatures got a place in the choir!"*

Contact Choir Director Eliza Woodyard (EWoodyard@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) to learn more.

FAITH IN THE TIME OF MONSTERS

Come to Town Hall Seattle (1119 Eighth Avenue) 6 pm Saturday, September 6, for an evening with Dr. Cornel West, presented by Valley and Mountain UMC. Get tickets now at TownHallSeattle.org.

As the nation faces significant turmoil and division, faith institutions have a unique role to play in healing the national rupture. Valley and Mountain Fellowship—a progressive faith community—is committed to helping create a more just world. In service of this mission, the Fellowship has invited noted public intellectual Cornel West to share his wisdom with the community. The event serves as a fundraiser for the ongoing work of the Center for Faith, Art, and Justice, which launched in 2023. Through the Center, Valley and Mountain has trained communities in nonviolence and supported social movements across the country.

A Church that Reads Together Leads Together Purchase your copy of *Black Prophetic Fire* by Cornel West. Discussions of the book will begin in September, so begin reading today! Available at Beacon Press (Beacon.org).



Cornel West at Town Hall Seattle September 6.

DETENTION LOTTERY

The Church Council of Greater Seattle invites you to a special presentation of Detention Lottery 4 pm Sunday, September 7, at Seattle First United Methodist Church (180 Denny Way, Seattle).

Detention Lottery brings awareness to the realities of migrant detention in our country, including the hidden costs of detaining migrants to our democracy and to our communities. Attorneys from the area play different roles, which include a judge, defense attorney, prosecutor, and ICE officials. Detainees are played by members of the audience, who are "detained" (assigned their roles and handed their scripts) after they've taken their seats. As in real life, they don't have much time to prepare, and they have little understanding of the legal proceedings that will decide their fate. This event is a powerful exploration of the effect our immigration enforcement system has on US citizens and permanent residents, including millions of children. Following the production there will be a 45-minute open discussion. Read more and RSVP at TheChurchCouncil.org/News.



September 7 at Seattle First United Methodist.

YOU HOLD THE KEY TO HOPE

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 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 where community and connection help residents rebuild their lives. Learn more and register now at PlymouthHousing.org.



Help provide stability through community.

NEWS FROM THE NURSE



Faith Community Nurse June Hayakawa-Fung

Feeling in need of support? Please consider joining our Transitions Support Group. We meet monthly on Zoom and support each other in life’s ups and downs of care-giving, loss and empty nesting. Contact Faith Community Nurse June Hayakawa-Fung (JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) with questions or to join.

COVID Cases On The Rise

Washington is among a dozen states seeing elevated levels of COVID as a new variant ripples through the nation. The XFG “stratus” variant is driving up cases just as kids return to school. Emergency room visits and hospitalizations roughly doubled from mid-June to the beginning of August, according to the state Department of Health’s respiratory illness data dashboard. Remain aware of the risks and learn more in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES STILL NEEDED



Please bring school supplies on Sundays.

The Community and Care Board continues to collect donations of school supplies every Sunday through September. Supplies will go to Urban Impact, a local organization dedicated to helping people and communities thrive. Supplies most needed are:

- Lunch box
- Composition notebook
- Graph paper
- Blue or black pens
- #2 pencils
- Pencil pouch
- Metric/standard ruler
- Small pencil sharpener w/shavings holder
- Eraser
- Tape
- Box of crayons
- Glue stick
- Spiral notebook (single or multiple w/dividers)
- Backpack (no wheels)
- Water bottle
- Fine tip markers (8-10 ct)
- Thick markers (8-10 count)
- Colored pencils (12 pack)
- Scotch tape
- Dry erase markers

EMBRACE JOY

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 is “Embrace Joy” and registration is now open. Get set to join us November 7-9 for a fantastic event at Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, WA.



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

This open and affirming gathering warmly welcomes all who identify as women. Our aim is to create a supportive and empowering environment where everyone feels valued and included. Come and take time just for yourself. Breathe deeply, relax fully, and explore, enrich, and rekindle your spirit. This is a retreat created for YOU.

Learn more and register now at NRWR.org.

ADVOCATE FOR A MORAL BUDGET



With the support of the United Church of Christ Office of Public Policy & Advocacy, Washington Faith Action Network is hosting a Moral Budget Advocacy Week, September 22-26. During this week of action, registrants from around the state will have in-district meetings with

their members of Congress to urge the importance of a moral budget that funds our social safety net and rejects increases to the administration’s mass deportation campaign.

You are invited to register in advance for two 1-hour trainings to teach you how to (1) set up a meeting with your senators and representatives and (2) prepare for that meeting. Register now at FANWA.org.

- **12 pm PT August 27:** Zoom Webinar on How to Request a Meeting with a Member of Congress
- **12 pm PT September 17:** Zoom Webinar on How to Meet with a Member of Congress

You will receive the tools, talking points, and materials to lift your voice in support of these critical programs, with no experience necessary! Please join us to urge Congress to prioritize funding for social safety net programs and humane policies that protect the rights and dignity of migrants. Read more at FANWA.org.

PRAYERS FOR PEACE

The United Church of Christ extends an open invitation to anyone who feels called to offer a prayer to end violence in any manifestation, and to bring about peace. Read prayers and share your own at UCC.org/Peoples-Prayers-For-Peace. New prayers are published daily. The following prayer was recently shared by Reed Kirkman of McKinney, Texas.



Share your prayers for peace at UCC.org.

God of Compassion, Love and Wisdom—hear our cry
May peace arise in every corner of the earth.
May the winds of war grow still.
May hatred, and anger dissolve like morning mist
beneath the sun.
God of Infinite Compassion,
Guide us to walk the path of loving-kindness.
Where there is pain, may we bring healing.
Where there is anger, may we offer forgiveness.
Where there is fear, may we radiate peace.
May we see all beings as kin.
May the fire of wisdom burn away the roots of greed, cruelty, and hate.
May our thoughts be pure and our hearts open.
And all embraced in love.

MEETING THE NEED



Help by providing goods or your time.

Plymouth Housing Plymouth Supply Center (PSC). in Belltown provides personal care items, household goods, pet food and other essentials, free of charge, to help Plymouth’s 1,400 formerly homeless residents rebuild their lives.

When someone moves into a Plymouth apartment, having a quality, permanent home is just the beginning. With residents’ annual income averaging under \$9,000, not needing to worry about the cost of essential goods can go a long way in helping someone find stability—allowing them to focus on their healing journey. The center also provides residents with a sense of agency in choosing which products and supplies fit their needs best. The PSC provides a critical service to residents. With your support, we hope to keep in stock the PSC with home essentials and basic necessities most requested by our residents. Learn about donating new and used items or volunteering at PlymouthHousing.org.

TAKE 5 TO SAVE LIVES

Suicide doesn’t have one cause. We can all learn more about what causes suicide and how to prevent it. To this end, The National Council for Suicide Prevention (NCSP) has launched the Take 5 to Save Lives campaign. Take 5 encourages everyone to complete several action steps under 5 important themes: LEARN, KNOW, DO, TALK, and SHARE. The campaign broadens recognition of these important suicide prevention activities and includes public awareness events including World Suicide Prevention Day, National Suicide Prevention Month, and National Suicide Prevention Week.



- **LEARN** Learning the warning signs, risk factors, and protective factors of suicide will better prepare you to take action and could help save a life.
- **KNOW** By knowing exactly what to say and do, you’ll be ready to act and keep yourself, your friends, and your family safe.
- **DO** Preventing suicide requires action. Everyone can do something to get involved in the suicide prevention movement.
- **TALK** Talking about suicide safely and responsibly can reduce negative stigma and lead to increased help-seeking.
- **SHARE** Help spread the word about one of the most important public health issues of our time.

“Suicidal thoughts can plague anyone regardless of age, gender, or social status. Many people suffering from depression or suicidal thoughts cover them up quite well.”

Suicidal thoughts can plague anyone regardless of age, gender, or social status. Although linked to depression, there is no foolproof indicator of suicidal tendencies. Many suffering from depression or suicidal thoughts cover them up quite well.

Every year on National Suicide Prevention Month in September, mental health advocates, survivors, friends and family, and mental health organizations across the country and around the world share their experiences and work towards eradicating this most tragic act. Learn more at 988Lifeline.org

If you or someone you know is in a mental health crisis, dial 988 for The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, or 911 if in immediate danger.