

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, September 15, 2024

Worship in the Sanctuary or Online

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 1:1-6, 9-18

“New Life at the End of Your Rope”

Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

11:30 am Coffee Hour, Lounge/Patio

The Community and Care Board will collect donations of school supplies every Sunday through the end of September. Please bring what you can: notebooks, pens, pencils, crayons, backpacks, rulers, glue sticks, etc. All contributions are appreciated and will be put to good use.

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.

SPECIAL OFFERING OCTOBER 6



Help support mental health justice for all!

Our Worldwide Communion Sunday special offering supports national and local ministries within the United Church of Christ. Our October 6 gifts will be divided evenly between **Neighbors in Need** and **Plymouth UCC Scholarship Fund**. In 2024, the **Neighbors in Need** theme is “*Mental Health Justice For All!*” This year’s focus is on Mental Health Justice. In 2015, the General Synod of the United Church of Christ passed a resolution to become WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health. A just world for all is a world where the human rights and well-being of people with mental health challenges are respected, no matter who you are or where you are in life’s mental health journey.

Plymouth UCC Scholarship Fund remains supported by half of the proceeds from this year’s Worldwide Communion special offering. These funds are dedicated to assisting members and friends facing financial challenges, enabling them to participate in opportunities provided by Plymouth UCC. Thank you for your support and generosity. 🌍



PO Box 21368
Seattle, Washington 98111

Return Service Requested

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...

Christian and Kim Arvin (Son and Daughter-in-Law of Donene Blair), Ahmed Black (Nephew of Michael & Elizabeth Gordon), Wendy Carpenter (Friend of Jocelyn Coit-Durland), Afghan Family (Siblings of Plymouth), 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), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Dr. Maxine Mimms, Mari Mitchell & Alex Putnum.

Our hearts are with all of those impacted by the recent school shooting at Apalachee High School in Winder, Georgia.

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



HONORING HISPANIC HERITAGE



Hispanic Heritage month Sept 15-Oct. 15

vibrant art, popular and traditional foods, and much more.

Hispanics in the United States are a diverse group who bring a rich combination of language, culture, educational backgrounds, and experience to the great American experiment. This multifaceted background brings with it a wealth of ideas and perspectives. One unifying factor within our Hispanic community is the desire to be included and represented in all aspects of American society. When different voices are sitting at the table and included in key decisions, the entire community benefits from solutions that address concerns from all people.

Whether it be education, government, business, or the environment, ensuring that all voices are represented provides results in better and more thoughtful decisions. Hispanic Heritage Month is an opportunity to shine a spotlight on the unique voices and experiences of Hispanic/Latino Americans and recognize their history, journeys, and achievements. We call on citizens of this nation from all walks of life to look around and welcome new voices to the table. This will help us build stronger communities and in turn, a stronger nation. 🌍

CALLING ALL SINGERS

Plymouth Choir rehearses in Hildebrand Hall at 9 am *sharp* each Sunday. Even if you’ve never participated in a choir before, we would love to have you sing with us! We will do our utmost to accommodate a wide variety of skill and experience levels. Plymouth Choir performs each Sunday starting September 22.

—Eliza Woodyard 🌍



Lift your voice in song! Sundays at 9 am.

READ SOME BANNED BOOKS!

Banned Books Week is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read. Banned Books Week was launched in 1982 in response to a sudden surge in the number of challenges to books in schools, bookstores and libraries. Typically held during the last week of September, it highlights the value of free and open access to information. Banned Books Week brings together the entire book community — librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, and readers of all types — in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular.

Banned Books Week 2024 is September 22–28. The theme of this year’s event is “*Freed Between the Lines.*” We can find freedom in the pages of a book — but book bans and censorship threaten that freedom, along with many other rights and institutions. During Banned Books Week 2024 and beyond, let’s share our love of right to read and the freedom found in books. *Let’s be Freed Between the Lines!*

“We can find freedom in the pages of a book — but book bans and censorship threaten that freedom.”

In a time of intense political polarization, library staff in every state are facing an unprecedented number of attempts to ban books. ALA’s Office

for Intellectual Freedom documented 1,247 demands to censor library books and resources in 2023. The number of titles targeted for censorship surged 65% in 2023 compared to 2022, reaching the highest levels ever documented in more than 20 years of tracking: 4,240 unique book titles were targeted for removal from schools and libraries. Titles representing the voices and lived experiences of LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC individuals made up 47% of those targeted in censorship attempts.

Banned Books Week draws national attention to the harms of censorship. The American Library Association Office for Intellectual Freedom compiles lists of challenged books as reported in the media and submitted by librarians and teachers across the country.

Learn more and see list of banned books at ALA.org/bbooks. 🌍



EXPLORE VANPORT AND SELMA



Learn about the Vanport flood Nov. 15-17.

Take a deep dive into complex social history with upcoming educational trips to Vanport, Oregon and Selma, Alabama, led by Museum Without Walls. Contact Suzanne Lacey (Admin@MuseumWithoutWalls.org) with questions. Suzanne will be with us on Sunday, September 22, to talk about the programs.

Trip to Vanport, Oregon, November 15-17, 2024: Join Plymouth Congregational Church, the Congregational Church of Mercer Island, and Museum Without Walls as we explore the complex social history of Vanport. 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.

Read trip details and register at the link in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Trip to Selma, Alabama, March 6-14, 2025:

The Selma Jubilee honors the anniversary of Bloody Sunday, which occurred on March 7, 1965, when 525 African-American demonstrators crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, demanding their right to vote. They were violently confronted by more than 50 state troopers, horses, and possemen, who brutally attacked them when they refused to turn back. This shocking event was broadcast nationwide, revealing the grim reality of racism in the South. Two weeks later, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. led 3,200 civil rights activists on a historic 49-mile march from Selma to Montgomery, which helped spur the passage of the Voting Rights Act.



Learn about Bloody Sunday March 6-14, 2025.

Join us for this special anniversary as we honor those courageous foot soldiers and explore other significant Civil Rights landmarks, including Bryan Stevenson's Legacy sites—the Legacy Museum, Peace and Justice Memorial, and Freedom Monument Sculpture Park.

Read trip details and register at the link in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

THANK YOU

Thanks to all who helped make Homecoming Sunday on September 8 such a special occasion. If you haven't already, please remember to fill out your card to pledge your time, talent, and treasure and to express your desire to covenant with Plymouth. We are grateful for your commitment to Plymouth Church over the coming year and welcome you in covenanting with God, Plymouth Church, and one another.



A special shout-out to grillmaster Bechtold!



Photos courtesy of Rev. Donene Blair

HEALING REQUIRES LOOKING BACK

September 30 has become known as the National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools, taking a long overdue cue from our neighbors to the north. In Canada, Orange Shirt Day, honoring those who endured boarding schools, began in 2013 and in 2021 the Canadian government officially recognized it as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.



Tulalip Tribe healing and remembrance ceremony.

This day is more important than ever this year. In July, the Department of the Interior Secretary Deb Haaland announced the release of the second and final volume of the investigative report called for in the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative. The report details the atrocities committed at 417 Indian boarding schools that had funding from the federal government including 17 in WA state between 1819 through the 1970s, and confirmed the deaths of at least 973 American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian children at these schools. The report includes recommendations on next steps to "support a path to healing the nation."

Read more at TulalipNews.com

SOUND MEDICINE MEDITATION

Tory Trujillo offers a monthly deep healing Sound Medicine Meditation. Tory will begin by centering the group with breath work and embodiment practices. Participants are encouraged to bring yoga mats, blankets, or pillows. Some mats and blankets will be available to borrow. Sessions last between 60 and 75 minutes.



Next session is Sunday, September 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.

STUDY THE BIBLE WITH PLYMOUTH



9 am Wednesdays and 7 pm Thursdays.

Join friends Wednesdays at 9 am or Thursdays at 7 pm to discuss Scripture readings for the coming Sunday. The Zoom link in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org will be the same every week for both Wednesday morning and Thursday evening studies. The link requires the usual Plymouth passcode. Email Rev. Bechtold if you need the code.

If you have questions, please contact Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown. We hope to hear from you in these discussions. (Note: no Thursday study on September 12; next Thursday meeting is September 19).

2025 CALENDARS FOR INMATES

Each year we have collected calendars for the coming new year to bring to the Monroe Correctional Complex. The inmates really appreciate them. If you receive free calendars in the mail you won't use, please donate them. Ask friends and family to donate theirs. There will be a box at church to leave calendars on Sundays through December. If you live at Horizon House, please put them in Sue Jones' cubby in the mailroom (#1S). If you are unable to make it to church, call or email Christine Hanson (509-679-7430) to arrange a pick-up. Thank you for this simple act which brings so much joy to our incarcerated friends! —Christine Hanson



A small gesture makes a big difference.

TAKE 5 TO SAVE LIVES



September is National Suicide Prevention Month. 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 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. Commonly linked to depression, there is no foolproof indicator of suicidal tendencies. Many people 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

The National Council for Suicide Prevention is a coalition of seven national organizations working to prevent suicide. During the last year, these organizations have directly impacted the lives of over 2 million people and generated over 100 million media impressions.

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.