

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, September 29, 2024

Worship in the Sanctuary or Online

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Mark 9:14-29

Rev. Kevin Bechtold

9 am Choir Rehearsal, Hildebrand Hall

11:30 am Coffee Hour, Lounge/Patio

11:30 am New in Covenant Lunch, Hildebrand Hall

The Community and Care Board will collect donations of school supplies every Sunday through the end of September. All contributions are appreciated.

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.



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), The Colwell Family, 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), William Chapman Nyaho, Beta Utu Malae (Sister of Robert Malae), Dr. Maxine Mimms, Mari Mitchell & Alex Putnum, Jaime Rubio Sulficio

We grieve with Hayden McManus and family on the passing of her father, Tom Lemly, on September 18. A December memorial will be held.

Our hearts are with Gary Robins and family on the one-year anniversary of the passing of his mother, Charlotte.

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



BLESSING OF THE BANNED BOOKS

We invite you to hold a book in your hands. As you hold it, imagine a person for whom this book could be the life-giving words they need, the good news they have been waiting for, the story that reminds them of the sacred truth of their own story. For that person, and all the people who might read it, pray a silent prayer into the pages of that book.

Created by Dr. Sharon R. Fennema, Join the Movement toward Racial Justice Curator



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PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

September 25, 2024

HEALING REQUIRES LOOKING BACK



Salish healing ceremony. Photo by Susan Fried.

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.

Coast Salish tribal members, including those from the Duwamish, experienced these schools and bear the legacies of their experiences. We must recognize their pain, acknowledge that this ancestral trauma is real and present today, and advocate for the government to make good on the recommendations in their report. Read more at TulalipNews.com.

NEW IN COVENANT LUNCH

Our newest members in covenant and visitors are invited to Hildebrand Hall after worship on Sunday, September 29, for a lunch and brief introduction to the clergy, staff and ministries of Plymouth Church. Time permitting, we'll also offer a tour of the building. Please email June Hayakawa-Fung to let us know you will join us, so we can plan on enough food. We welcome you in covenanting with God, Plymouth, and one another.



Join us after worship Sunday, September 29.

HELP AT PLYMOUTH ASYLUM CLINIC

Thank you so much all of the Plymouth folk who turned out to greet, copy, give directions, interview, interpret, comfort and play with children, and fill out forms at the September 7 Asylum Seeker Legal Clinic! It went so well that we are going to do it again!

In partnership with the Riverton Park United Methodist Church Asylum Legal Clinic organizers, Plymouth will host another all-day asylum legal clinic **Saturday, October 19, from 9 am to 6:30 pm**. Asylum seekers will be assisted with completing their asylum applications.

Volunteers are needed to fill many roles including: welcoming and providing directions to the applicants and volunteers; interpreting (Spanish, French, Portuguese, and Lingala); completing legal forms (law students, paralegals, non-immigration attorneys, and community members); copying; serving as immigration attorneys; and providing child care. Some volunteer tasks will include transferring information to a fillable asylum application prior to the clinic. We also welcome donations of snacks and baked goods to keep everyone going throughout the day.

The Plymouth parking garage will be open for volunteers and applicants. Most volunteers will need to arrive before 9 am to complete a brief orientation and training, with materials and a video to review before the clinic opens. Client work begins at 9:30 am. Most volunteers will be finished before 6 pm, but some will work together until the last minute. Pizza lunch provided!

If you are available on October 19 and willing to devote your day to helping an asylum seeker, please e-mail Janet Gwilym, J.Gwilym@hotmail.com, or contact Carol Mooney to let us know what role you are able to fill no later than **Friday, October 11**. We will send you further instructions. Thank you for making Plymouth a welcoming space for our immigrant neighbors.

FAITH & LABOR REUNION

Help revive the tradition of faith + labor communities working together for progressive change. 2-4 pm Sunday, September 29, at the Seattle Labor Temple (5030 1st Ave S, Seattle 98134). Together we'll build solidarity this election season and beyond. Read more at TheChurchCouncil.org.



Volunteer at Plymouth's legal clinic Oct. 19.

OUR FAITH, OUR VOTE: HOUSING FOR ALL



Read more at [UCC.org/Our-Faith-Our-Vote](https://ucc.org/Our-Faith-Our-Vote).

As we approach the November general election, it’s essential to reflect on what’s truly at stake—for our neighbors and communities across the nation as well as for ourselves. The right to decent, safe, and affordable housing is not just a policy issue; it is a moral imperative. For many, the ability to live in a secure, affordable home is the foundation upon which all other aspects of life are built.

Studies consistently show that housing insecurity is linked to higher rates of chronic illness, lower educational achievement, and increased mental health challenges. The current housing market, where rents are skyrocketing and homeownership is increasingly out of reach for many, only exacerbates these issues.

However, affordable housing is only one part of the equation. A recent Supreme Court decision is already having a profound impact on the homeless population, signaling a troubling trend towards criminalizing houselessness rather than addressing its root causes. The ruling, which allows local governments to enforce anti-camping laws even when there are not enough shelter beds available, has intensified the challenges faced by people experiencing homelessness.

Instead of criminalizing the unhoused, we need policies that increase access to affordable housing, expand mental health services, and provide support systems that help people get back on their feet. This election, we have the power to influence the future of housing and homelessness in our communities. We must elect representatives who understand that affordable housing is not just a social issue, but a critical public health concern.

Voting is not just a civic duty; it’s about standing up for what is right and ensuring our government reflects values of justice, equity, and compassion. Every vote counts, and every local, state, and national elected office is consequential, especially in a time when housing policies can mean the difference between stability and homelessness for so many. Let us choose leaders who will work to ensure that everyone, regardless of their economic status, has a place to call home. Our votes are powerful tools in the fight for a more just and compassionate society. Let us use them wisely.

—*Jamar Doyle, Council for Health and Human Service Ministries (excerpted)*. Read more at [UCC.org/Our-Faith-Our-Vote](https://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.



Art courtesy of Tracy Simpson

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 weeks, 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 on the Campaign News page at [UCC.org/Our-Faith-Our-Vote](https://ucc.org/Our-Faith-Our-Vote). Stay up to date and learn how you can “vote with love” this year.

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.

GIVE THEM 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.



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. 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.

We hope to see you October 17. Visit IWantRest.com for more information and tickets.

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.

EXPLORE VANPORT AND SELMA

Take a deep dive into complex social history with upcoming educational trips to Vanport, Oregon and Selma, Alabama, led by Museum Without Walls. Contact Suzzanne Lacey (Admin@MuseumWithoutWalls.org) with questions. Space is limited on both trips. Make plans now and sign up soon.



Learn about the Vanport flood Nov. 15-17.

Trip to Vanport, Oregon, November 15-17, 2024: 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.

Limit 20 persons. Register by Oct. 10. Trip details and registration link in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.



Learn about Bloody Sunday March 6-14, 2025.

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.

Limit 26 persons. Register by Nov. 15. Trip details and registration link in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

2025 CALENDARS FOR INMATES

Each year we collect calendars for the coming year to take to the Monroe Correctional Complex. The inmates really appreciate them. If you get free calendars in the mail, please donate them. Ask friends and family to donate theirs. There is a box at church to leave calendars through December. If you live at Horizon House, please put them in Sue Jones’ cubby in the mailroom (#1S). If you won’t be at church, call or email Christine Hanson (509-679-7430; HansonChristineann@gmail.com) to arrange a pick-up. Thanks for bringing joy to our incarcerated friends.