

## SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

**Worship In Person or Live Online**

**10:30 am Sunday, November 20, 2022**

*Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

John 2:1-11

Rev. Kevin Bechtold

11:30 am Coffee Hour on the Patio

### PLEASE NOTE

There will be no paper/pdf edition of the *Herald* next week.

Look for the electronic *Herald* on Wednesday, November 23, and the regular worship reminder email on Saturday, November 26.

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.

*Whether you are a seeker, skeptic, believer  
or somewhere in between on life's journey,  
you are welcome here. We are grateful for your presence and  
invite you to participate in worship and service  
of Plymouth Church UCC.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Looking Ahead** The Community and Care Board will again assemble Christmas food boxes of fresh produce and poultry on Saturday, December 17. Click the “Give” tab at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org to contribute financially (choose “Christmas Boxes” from drop-down fund menu). Keep reading the *Herald* and website for other ways to help.

**Watch Now!** The two-part *Challenge 2.0* program, *Emerging from the Prison Behind Bars: Since I Been Down*, featuring Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown and Dr. Gilda Sheppard (first broadcast in late September and early October) is now on YouTube, available free. Find links in the Announcements section of “Sunday with Plymouth” on the News Page at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

**Did You Know...** You can view past services on our website, PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Under the “Worship” tab, click “Recent Services.” You can also view past services, musical performances and special events on our YouTube channel, Plymouth Church UCC.

**All Aboard!** Horizon House residents can ride the charter bus to Plymouth the first Sunday of every month. The bus will pick you up at Horizon House and bring you to Plymouth in time for the 10:30 am service and return you to Horizon House afterward.






Return Service Requested

## OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...

Afghan Family (Supported by Plymouth), Toni and Tiffany Arthur, Sue Ellen Daniel (Friend of Barb Laski), John Daniels, Mark and JT Edwards, Susan Emerson (Mother of Kate Forrester), Jim Halfaker, Darline Jones (Aunt of Karen Clark), Connie Logothetis (Friend of Bill and Marilyn Bumpas), Dawn Mason, Barbara Miller (Friend of Barb Laski), Montecino Family, Nancy Parker, Jerome Robinson (Friend of Kathy Rood), Jose Robles and Family, Charon Washington (Sister of Michael Gordon)

Our hearts are with Kristine Danzinger and family on the passing of her grandmother, Marjorie Minea.

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

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!   



# PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

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## TRANSITIONS



Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown, Senior Pastor.

I am writing to give context to some of the changes that are happening regarding staff. There are details related to human resources that will not be shared. However, I can offer some context regarding the processes and the trends going forward.

In response to several factors, we are “right-sizing” our staff and organization for a smaller church.

Plymouth Church has fewer members and we are now at the place where a faithful, realistic response to years of a downward trajectory in financial giving must happen. In addition, we have not had consistent human resource (HR) management for the past several years, which has led to over-staffing in some areas and under-staffing in others.

In an effort to address these HR challenges, conversations regarding adjustment of hours, review of job descriptions, and other personnel matters are happening across staff. For years now, I have advocated that we maintain current positions, as well as for salary increases for many staff who were being paid less than standards in other nonprofit and faith organizations. Additionally, I have promoted cost of living increases over the years for staff and clergy, and recently brought on a human resources firm to assist with the evolving organizational landscape. Thus, our current need to “right-size” our staffing is challenging on multiple levels, including the very real sense of loss I personally have as we face the reality that the staffing models of old are simply not sustainable for Plymouth at this point on our journey.

As the head of staff, I honor the challenge of doing the necessary work required by our current circumstances, the loss and leaving of members in covenant, as well as the impending recession. My heart’s desire is for us to do ministry together in ways that heed the spirit’s call and that faithfully steward our resources.

There will be more conversations.

While this is by no means meant to fully respond to the grief and surprise regarding Dr. Wanda Griffith’s resignation, I will close this message with gratitude for her gracious spirit in the face of change and transition. I pray that as we move forward together, we can find such grace among us. —Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown ✨

## THANK YOU, PLYMOUTH

I did not want to miss a chance to offer my heartfelt gratitude for the celebration of my ministry yesterday, both in worship and at the reception afterward. Your cards, well-wishes, and financial contributions meant so much. And I will always cherish my glassybaby Advent set! I feel very loved as you send me into my ministry at the Congregational Church on Mercer Island.



Rev. Jennifer Castle

The UCC Ministerial Code of Ethics calls for a no-contact boundary for a period of two years after leaving a congregation. This is meant to support and foster your relationships with your clergy team and your church leadership. This boundary also includes contact over social media. In making this change to limit online interactions with Plymouth congregants, I am prioritizing the needs of the congregation and ministerial leadership over my own desire to maintain relationships. I know this will be difficult, but I also know it will be important.

As I said last Sunday, I look forward to the ways God will move in and through you as Plymouth grows into the future. I will be sending my love and cheering you on, always!

With gratitude and much love, —Rev. Jennifer Castle ✨

## TIME TO PREPARE



Join the Hanging of the Greens!

at the church). Questions? Contact June Hayakawa-Fung at JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. ✨

Please join the work party **1-4 pm Saturday, November 26**, to decorate the church building in preparation for Advent. We’ll hang greens in the Sanctuary and around the building as a symbol of our anticipation of the eternal coming to dwell among us. Bring a friend or two and join this time of fellowship and service. All COVID protections will be observed — masks must be worn in the building (masks available



## STANDING WITH THE DUWAMISH



“Rethinking Thanksgiving: From Land Acknowledgement to Land Back,” 1 pm Sunday, November 20

Interrogate the legacy of the ‘Thanksgiving’ holiday this season and hear from frontline Indigenous leaders on how to join efforts to protect land and water. Indigenous-led movements are building power and leading

us towards a liberated future in this moment of climate catastrophe and reckoning.

Tonatierra, American Indian Law Alliance, NDN Collective, Sogorea Te Land Trust and the Indigenous Solidarity Network invite you to hear from Indigenous leaders who will give updates from the frontlines of this fight. Speakers will include Betty Lyons, Tupac Enrique Acosta, Demetrius Johnson, Corrina Gould, and Jake Edwards; moderated by Eve Reyes-Aguirre.

Live captioning, Spanish Interpretation and ASL interpretation will be available.

Link to register in news article at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](https://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

### An Evening with David Buerge, Duwamish Historian, 6-8 pm Monday, November 21

David M. Buerge is a biographer and a historian to the Duwamish Tribe, as well as the author of “Chief Seattle and the Town That Took His Name.” Starting with a brief overview of the time from receding glaciers through the populating of Puget Sound, he will focus his talk on the years leading up to, during, and since Chief Seattle’s time, including the Treaty of Point Elliott, the establishment of reservations, and federal recognition of some tribes but not others. Recounting key events through stories, language and knowledge of this particular place, Buerge will highlight key events that shaped the situation and dynamics that exist today. This webinar is free, but registration is required, as space is limited. Link to register in news article at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](https://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

Please invite friends and neighbors to become Real Renters and learn other ways to support the Duwamish Tribe. Visit [DuwamishTribe.org](https://DuwamishTribe.org) to learn more.

*We are grateful for your support, for David Buerge’s generous sharing, and for the ongoing leadership of the Duwamish Tribe.* ✨



*Duwamish Historian David Buerge*

## COMPANIONS: FAITH IN ACTION



*Join the Companion Ministry.*

Plymouth’s Companion Ministry exemplifies social justice in action. Companions learn to develop compassionate awareness for those struggling with mental illness, insecure housing or chemical dependency. Companions develop skills to listen with openness, understand an awareness of limits and boundaries and how to ease isolation. Being a Companion also stretches us beyond our comfort zone, and it is truly ‘walking the talk.’

We stand at a crossroads, a place where both dire need and great opportunity exists. Become a Companion. Live out your faith and put social justice in action. Contact Faith Community Nurse June Hayakawa-Fung to talk about what it means to be a part of this vital ministry of Plymouth: [JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org), ✨

## GIVING FOR LIVING

Creation care and environmental justice will once again be the focus of Giving Tuesday, November 29 — a commitment that builds on the United Church of Christ’s historic prophetic leadership and continues to address a priority that will be underscored for several years to come. UCC’s Environmental Justice Ministries is deeply engaged in answering our first calling as people of faith: caring for God’s creation. Our movements include addressing the climate crisis, environmental racism, and a host of issues affecting our planet. Your generous donation to Giving Tuesday will move us further to success. Read more at [UCC.org](https://UCC.org). ✨



## 2023 CALENDARS FOR INMATES

Visitations have started again for Monroe Correction Complex inmates and we are excited to reconnect with our friends there. The inmates really appreciate a calendar for the coming year. As you receive free calendars, please donate those you can’t use. Ask your neighbors to see if they might wish to donate theirs.

Leave calendars in the box at Plymouth. If you live at Horizon House, please put them in Sue Jones’ cubby in the mailroom (#1S). If you can’t make it to Plymouth, contact Christine Hanson ([HansonChristineAnn@gmail.com](mailto:HansonChristineAnn@gmail.com), 509.679.7430) to arrange a pick up. Thank you for bringing cheer to our incarcerated friends. —Christine Hanson and Mike Pierson ✨

## WORLD CHILDREN’S DAY

World Children’s Day was first established in 1954 as Universal Children’s Day and is celebrated on November 20 each year to promote international togetherness, awareness of issues among children worldwide, and improving children’s welfare. World Children’s Day also marks the anniversary of the date that the UN General Assembly adopted Declaration of the Rights of the Child in 1959 and the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1989.

Parents, teachers, healthcare providers, government leaders, civil society activists, religious and community elders, corporate moguls and media professionals, as well as children themselves, can play an important part in making World Children’s Day relevant for their societies, communities and nations. World Children’s Day offers each of us an inspirational entry-point to advocate, promote and celebrate children’s rights, translating into dialogues and actions that will build a better world for children.

From climate change, education and mental health, to ending racism and discrimination, children and young people are raising their voices on the issues that matter to their generation and calling for adults to create a better future. This World Children’s Day, it’s more important than ever that the world listens to their ideas and demands as they stand up for a more equal, inclusive world. Take action at [Unicef.org](https://Unicef.org). ✨

## SHARE THE SPIRIT



*Help spread Christmas cheer.*

The Community and Care Board continues a long tradition of delivering cheerful Christmas flowers to Plymouth folks who are isolated or have suffered a loss. We are arranging to make deliveries to Horizon House and other senior living facilities, and to some individuals on Sunday, December 18. If you can safely deliver flowers, please email June Hayakawa-Fung.

You can support this ministry by making a donation in the name of loved ones. Names of donors and those honored will be listed in the *Herald*. Please email names of those to be honored to Robert Turner, or include a note with your check to the church. You can also donate online and list names on the form (link to form in news article at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](https://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)). Thank you for helping continue this tradition. ✨



*November 20 is World Children’s Day.*

## TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

For generations, the transgender population has suffered various forms of abuse (and even death) for challenging the views, notions, and stereotypes around “male” and “female” identity. Every year we set aside November 20 as a Transgender Day of Remembrance. This holiday is meant to honor, commemorate, and memorialize those who face discrimination and stigma (often on a daily basis) across the nation. This holiday is also meant to advocate for transgender people’s rights as well as focus on the persistent struggles they face in their everyday lives, and how others can share their love, support, and hope.

Transgender Day of Remembrance encourages us to stop and reflect on the transgender community — specifically the abuse many of them face as they attempt to lead their everyday lives. It’s also meant to help spark transgender advocacy, support, and change across the U.S. This day offers the opportunity for others to better understand the stigma, discrimination and barriers that many transgender people face. This understanding can lead to deeper empathy, and can remind us that we are all more alike than we are different. It is an invitation for communities to come together and unify against the powers of hate and fear.

Join the cause of equality for the transgender community — visit [TransEquality.org](https://TransEquality.org) to get involved. ✨

## BEHOLD THE STAR



*Presented by Seattle Pro Musica*

with some classic choral pieces such as *Gaudete* (anon) and *Here is the Little Door* (Howells).

- **Saturday, December 10, 3 pm or 7:30 pm: In person at Bastyr University Chapel, Seattle; pre-concert conversations at 2:30 pm and 7 pm.**
  - **Saturday, December 17, 3 pm: In person at Seattle First Baptist Church, Seattle, and streaming live online for free (donations accepted); pre-concert conversation at 2:30 pm.**
- Tickets and more information at [SeattleProMusica.org](https://SeattleProMusica.org). ✨

