

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, January 1, 2023

ONLINE ONLY

First Sunday After Christmas

New Year's Day

Luke 2:25-38

“When Freedom Comes”

Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

JOIN 153RD ANNUAL MEETING

Plan to attend Plymouth's 153rd Annual Meeting Sunday, January 29, 2023. The Annual Report will be reviewed, and your vote is needed to install new lay leadership for our church family. Celebrate 2022 and look ahead to 2023. This meeting will take place in person and live online.

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.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Real Rent Duwamish is one of six non-profit organizations receiving continued mission support through your donations to the 2022 operating budget. Our collective donations make a tremendous difference! Thank you!



1217 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101-3199

Return Service Requested

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...

Afghan Family (Supported by Plymouth), Toni and Tiffany Arthur, Emily Blaine-Davis, Sue Ellen Daniel (Friend of Barb Laski), John Daniels, Lauren Davis, Mark and JT Edwards, Susan Emerson (Mother of Kate Forrester), Diane Folkert & Family (Mother-in-law of Ara Lawrence), Megan French (niece of Sue Jones) & David Dixon & Family, Mamadou Diakhate, Barbara Miller (Friend of Barb Laski), Montecino Family, Nancy Parker, Jose Robles and Family, Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Charon Washington (Sister of Michael Gordon)

We grieve with Karen Clark and family on the passing of her Aunt Darline Jones.

Our hearts are with Jeanette and Ken Hagen on the passing of their brother-in-law Mark Wilkins.

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! [f](#) [t](#) [i](#)



PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

Volume 61
Number 17

December 28, 2022

MEETING AND VOTE JANUARY 8



Meeting and vote after worship January 8.

The Plymouth Church Council encourages all to join the upcoming **Congregational Vote** on the Exploratory Development Committee's recommendation, **January 8, 2023**, after Worship in Hildebrand Hall and live online.

Link to the meeting will be posted on the Plymouth Worship Page at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org, and sent in a reminder email.

The online meeting requires the Plymouth passcode. Contact Diane (DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) if you need the code, or click the help button on the Worship Page.

To submit questions about the EDC's recommendation and its implications for Plymouth, please send an email to Development_Questions@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Questions will be addressed prior to the vote.

—Tracy Simpson, Plymouth Church Moderator ✨

COMPANIONS: FAITH IN ACTION

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 me to talk about what it means to be a part of this vital ministry of Plymouth: JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org,

—June Hayakawa-Fung, Faith Community Nurse ✨



Are you called to this vital ministry?

IMMIGRANT RIGHTS 101

Buses of migrants from the U.S. border may be coming to our city, and the new arrivals will need help from local churches. The busing started last spring as a political statement by some state governors to show their displeasure with U.S. border policy by relocating migrants to "sanctuary cities."

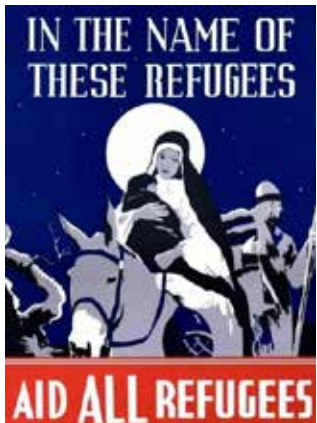
UCC members, congregations and other entities have been pitching in to welcome these migrant siblings. More importantly, they are finding ways to help them begin the next step of their journeys. However, more help is and will be needed.

Northwest Immigration Rights Project will host Immigration 101 training to support all responding to this humanitarian crisis. This virtual training is completely free to attend and is aimed at helping social service providers learn how to better serve and support immigrants in their work. The training will take place via Zoom, 10 am–1 pm PT February 1, 2023. Find link to register in news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

The training will be live captioned in Spanish, recorded and posted to our website (Nwirp.org) as a free resource for the community. Invite friends and colleagues who might benefit from this training session. ✨

A WORD ON YEAR-END GIVING

We count on your year-end contributions to sustain our ministry! Here are several options for how to give. **By mail:** all 2022 contributions must be postmarked by December 31, 2022. **Website:** click on the "Give" tab before December 31. **Cash App:** \$PlymouthUCCSeattle and **Text-to-give:** 206.208.1442 by December 31, 2022. Email DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org for assistance with any of these giving options. Your gifts sustain vital ministries to our community and the world. ✨



The Publication of Plymouth Church Seattle
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HOPE FOR JUSTICE:
STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING



January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, as decreed by presidential proclamation. It is a key time for us all as individuals to educate ourselves about human trafficking and crucially to learn to spot the signs of trafficking. It is also a time

for us take these messages to our workplaces, our churches, our schools, our representatives and everywhere else.

At Hope for Justice, we investigate cases of human trafficking and work closely with law enforcement to rescue victims and ensure evidence is gathered against perpetrators to see them brought to justice. Our team of investigators is drawn from some of the most respected and prestigious law enforcement agencies in the country, such as the FBI and NCIS.

If you commit to do just one thing to mark National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, the single best action you can take is to learn how to spot the signs of

“There are more people trapped in modern slavery today than at any other point in history.”

trafficking. Hope for Justice can help: we have extensive information on our website as well as downloadable resources like posters and flyers. You can learn to spot the signs of the most common kinds of human trafficking, such as trafficking for sexual exploitation and trafficked for the purposes of forced labor. Some of the signs and indicators of human trafficking might surprise you and there are some myths and falsehoods that exist. To get more information or report a concern, contact Hope for Justice on 615.356.0946 or email Info.Us@HopeForJustice.org

There are more people trapped in modern slavery today than at any other point in history. This month, we are asking you to support our Empower, Prevent and Protect campaign. Because National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month is a time for us to educate ourselves and our friends, family and colleagues to ensure that more people are aware of the issues around human trafficking. Because awareness is key for prevention.

We have created a library of social media resources for your use during National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Visit HopeForJustice.org to access these resources. We need more people to be aware of the facts and of the signs and to feel confident to report their concerns to an expert group like Hope for Justice. ✨

REGISTER NOW FOR MEN’S RETREAT

Registration is now open — find link to register in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. We’ll meet at Pilgrim Firs February 3-5 for the Conference Men’s Retreat. The topic is “Gratitude and Practices to Enhance Gratefulness.” There will be music, singing, a wisdom circle and an optional silent retreat Thursday evening (February 2) to begin the weekend. This retreat welcomes all who identify as male.

We all have our own levels of risk tolerance. Vaccines have reduced but have not eliminated the chance of illness or on-going symptoms. Please don’t attend if you are uncomfortable with the risk. Unfortunately, Pilgrim Firs has poor Wi-Fi connectivity so we are not able to offer a remote video option.

Of course, our retreat must comply with state, local and conference center guidelines. We’ll provide more details as we get closer to the date. We hope for safe travels and look forward to a fun and meaningful retreat. ✨



Retreat February 3-5 at Pilgrim Firs.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Flowers given in memory, or in honor of...

John and Jean Haigh (Jeanette’s parents),
Alvin and Dorothy Hagen (Ken’s parents)
from Jeanette and Ken Hagen

Robert Hanson, Carol White,
Ernest Colglazier, Alberta Colglazier,
from Bertha Hanson

Don Frothingham, Juno Griswold, Janet Perry,
from Darlene and Kerry Krenzke

John Blaine, Lillian and Wallace Davis, Sr.
from Lauren Davis

Jun and Alice Hayakawa, George and Helen Fung
from June Hayakawa-Fung

Larry A. Jones, *from Sue Jones*
Geraldine Rood, *from Kathy Rood*

Jim Mohundro, *from Anne Mohundro*

James Edward Kaiton, *from Ann and Jon Palmason*

Sieg Kiemle, *from Anne Kiemle and Kael Sherrard*

Additional Contributions from...

Adele Reynolds
Karen Gwilym

YOU MAKE PLYMOUTH POSSIBLE

Greetings to all in this tender season—I’m writing here with a reminder about thinking and acting on your covenant with Plymouth, as Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown invited us to do by submitting covenant cards. We are grateful for the generosity of those who have already turned them in or notified the church of their covenant commitment for 2023.



Thank you for your faithful giving.

If you haven’t yet done so, you can support Plymouth’s ministries by letting us know what your giving plans are for 2023. We are now in a time of special discernment, listening together for where we are called to go as a congregation. Whatever the details turn out to be, what is not changing is that we, this church, are committed to make our faith visible in the world. There is no expectation of what amount is pledged. Everyone has a different circumstance and we are grateful for any financial commitment you are able to make.

Email your covenant commitment amount to Info@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org, with your full name and contact information, or mail it for arrival by January 3.

—Ruth Williamson, Treasurer, Plymouth Church UCC ✨

AN EASY WAY TO DONATE



It’s quick and easy! Visit CarEasy.org

CARS (Charitable Adult Rides & Services) is dedicated to helping non-profit organizations such as Plymouth Church United Church of Christ raise thousands of dollars in vehicle donations through successful car donation programs.

CarEasy.org is just what it says — easy. As the staff person who activated Plymouth’s participation in the program in 2014 and the donor of 2 work vans, I have experienced both ends of the spectrum. They handle everything from beginning to end of the donation process, including marketing, free pick-up, selling, mailing a thank you letter with tax information to the donor (AKA me) and most importantly, mailing Plymouth a check!

If you would like to donate your used vehicle (includes car, motorcycle, boat, plane or RV), avoid the hassle of a private sale and benefit Plymouth UCC in the process, go to CarEasy.org, or call CARS at 1.855.500.RIDE and they will do the rest. —Diane Jacobsen ✨

CARE TEAM IS HERE FOR YOU

Your Plymouth Care Team is committed to responding to all care concerns that come our way. Please use the Plymouth Care Line phone number to get in touch with the Care Team: 206.639.7739. Messages are checked at least once a day. The Plymouth Care Line is for non-emergency issues. For acute crises, call or text 988. Members of the Care Team are:



Let us know what we can do for you.

- **Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown**
KBrown@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org
- **Rev. Donene Blair**
DBlair@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org
- **Rev. Kevin Bechtold**
KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org
- **Faith Community Nurse June Hayakawa-Fung**
JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org ✨

THURSDAYS IN BLACK



In every country, gender-based violence is a tragic reality. This violence is frequently hidden, and victims are often silent, fearing stigma, and further violence. Globally, 30% of women experience physical or sexual violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime, according to data from the World Health Organization.

The campaign is simple but profound. Join Wider Church Ministries, and our partners, in the campaign by doing the following:

- **Pause** for a moment of silence on Thursdays at noon to remember and honor those who have died at the hand of sexualized or gender-based violence.
- **Pray:** We stand with invisible victims of sexual and gender-based violence. We see you. We hear you. You are not forgotten.
- **Post** your prayers, photos, or inspirations on social media using the hashtags [#ThursdaysinBlack](https://twitter.com/ThursdaysinBlack), [#UnitedChurchOfChrist](https://twitter.com/UnitedChurchOfChrist), and tag us.

If you or someone you know is in an abusive relationship, seek help immediately. You can call the 24-hour National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233). ✨