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*The Plymouth Placard*

Plymouth Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
916 West Prospect Road  
Fort Collins, CO 80526

# *The Plymouth Placard*



**August 2004**

## **WORSHIP FOR AUGUST**

ALL SERVICES ARE AT 9:30 AM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

### **AUGUST 1**

LUKE 12.13–21  
“FOOLISH SELF-TALK”

### **AUGUST 8**

THE REV. DR. CURT MINTER WILL PREACH  
ON COMMITMENT TO A JUST PEACE

### **AUGUST 15**

JOIN US FOR OUTDOOR WORSHIP AT PLYMOUTH!  
LUKE 14.1 & 7–14  
“INVITED TO THE BANQUET”

### **AUGUST 22**

HYMN SING  
HAVE YOUR FAVORITE REQUESTS READY!

### **AUGUST 29**

INSTANT SERMON  
DICK & HAL WILL ANSWER YOUR THEOLOGICAL QUESTIONS

PLEASE NOTE: OUR TWO SERVICES (8:15 AND 10:45) WILL BEGIN  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.



Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ  
916 West Prospect Road • Fort Collins, CO 80526 • 970.482.9212  
www.plymouthucc.org • plymouth@plymouthucc.org

## Summer Spiritual Renewal

Our spiritual lives are not unlike our bodies, in that they need care and feeding to thrive. We need a balance of exercise, recreation, and rest to keep our bodies and spirits in good shape, and for many of us, summer is a time to work on that balance.

During the first week of August, I'm going to have some spiritual R&R at Ring Lake Ranch in Dubois, Wyoming. Ring Lake was established by an Iliff alumna as a retreat and continuing education center. It's a glorious place, nestled among lakes and streams near the Wind River. There are forests to hike in, horses to ride, and trout to catch. There is a chapel service each morning and great food, as well. All of that is quite wonderful, but the part that really feeds my soul is getting to study with internationally renowned scholars as part of Iliff's summer school at Ring Lake.

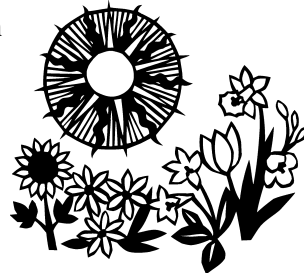
Last year, I spent nearly two weeks studying with Marcus and Marianne Borg. One of the things I derived was a sneak peek at *The Heart of Christianity*, his recently published book, which we used as a Lenten study and which we'll use as a "text" for the senior high Sunday School class this year. I love parish ministry, but it is a challenging, and at times draining, experience. Spending time in class and one-on-one with Borg was a wonderfully regenerative experience for me. And I'm grateful to Plymouth for your support of

my study leave each year and the opportunity it gives me to recharge my batteries.

I have often credited (blamed?) John Dominic Crossan's writing with my decision to enter divinity school, and I'm thrilled that I'll get to study with him and with Marcus Borg this summer. Crossan is a brilliant, wry, very Irish former priest, whose research on the historical Jesus plays a big part in the way I approach my faith. (I had never heard him speak, until we brought the confirmation class to hear him in Boulder last year, and Jean asked me if I touched the hem of his garment!)

My wish for you is that you find a way to tap into your spiritual fitness, whether it's an adult ed. class, being a part of our Calling/Caring Ministry, spending a retreat day away, going on a mission trip, or being part of our contemplative prayer group. I'd encourage you to get engaged, find out what recharges your batteries and go for it!

Shalom!



## No Yard Sale

After substantial discussion, a decision has been made not to hold a Church Yard Sale this year. For those of you saving items, there are several places accepting charitable contributions of clothing, household items, etc. First Christian Church on South Lemay holds a monthly clothing donation, at which items are available to those in need—free of charge. Other organizations include Goodwill (drop-off location at Wild Oats), Savers store (South College), Habitat Home Supply Store and the Salvation Army Thrift Shop. To the congregation, many thanks for your efforts and participation in years past!

## Calling/Caring Consultation Meeting

The calling/caring visitors will meet on Sunday, August 15 at 10:45 a.m..

### Agenda

- 1) Confidentiality review
- 2) Briefs reports

## The Nursery Has A/C!

For many years the nursery was one of the warmest rooms in the church on summer mornings. It is now air-conditioned and cooler than the sanctuary! Please know your children are always welcome.

**Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ**  
**An open & affirming congregation**  
**Gathered in 1903**  
**www.plymouthucc.org • plymouth@plymouthucc.org • 970.482.9212**

<b>The Rev. Hal Chorpensing</b>	<b>Senior Minister</b>	<b>hal@plymouthucc.org</b>
<b>The Rev. Dr. Dick Einerson</b>	<b>Interim Associate Minister</b>	<b>dick@plymouthucc.org</b>
<b>Donna Greene</b>	<b>Youth Education Director</b>	<b>donna@plymouthucc.org</b>
<b>Alice Clark</b>	<b>Adult Education Director/ Parish Assistant</b>	<b>aclark@plymouthucc.org</b>
<b>Karin Marsh</b>	<b>Church Secretary</b>	<b>plymouth@plymouthucc.org</b>
<b>Donna Solverud</b>	<b>Choir Director</b>	<b>tdsolverud@aol.com</b>
<b>Jan Welch, Carrie Hansen</b>	<b>Organists</b>	
<b>Alda Frucci, Porter Industries</b>	<b>Custodians</b>	

Please keep the following members and friends in your prayers.

Recently in the Hospital:

- † Laura Martin
† Debbie Clark
† Rickie Calkins
† Austin Harley



Congratulations to:

- † Jason Thiel and Chad Peters who were united in a ceremony conducted by Hal on July 17 at Plymouth.
† Lisa and Steve Stiles on the birth of their twins; Jacob Joseph was born July 6, and Adeline Kuch was born July 7.
† Marietta and Don Zimmerman on the marriage of their daughter Rachel on June 26.
† On the safe return of Sarah Blessing and Karen Smith from their mission trip to Venezuela.
† Scott Pandy who is now a master electrician.
† Dorothy Richardson for being elected to serve the Larimer County Dept. of Health and Environment.

Plymouth Prayer Tree

The Plymouth Prayer Tree has 22 active members. The congregation's "Joys and Concerns," expressed during the Sunday morning prayer time, are forwarded to these members each week. If you have additional prayer requests, please contact Betty Clark at 229-9944 or e-mail her at bettyclarkfc@juno.com.

(Continued from page 5) expressed, explored, and worked through in mutual understanding and growth.

A community of empowerment, renewing and training people for making peace/doing justice.

A community of solidarity with the poor, seeking to be present in places of oppression, poverty, and A community of financial support, developing programs and institutions for a Just Peace. violence, and standing with the oppressed in the struggle to resist and change this evil.

A community of loyalty to God and to the whole human community over any nation or rival idolatry.

Continued in the next issue of The Placard.

"Karen Nesler and her family are grateful for the prayers and gestures of support during her father's illness and passing."

Attention Golfers!!

Have fun and help the Navajo Work Mission. Members of Plymouth have participated in this Mission for four years. By sponsoring this golf event, we are able to help defray costs of construction materials for home repairs on the Navajo Reservation. This year's event will be September 11 in Loveland. Get your team together and send in your registration (form included with this Placard). There's only room for 100 golfers and there's a chance you'll win a prize!

Breakfast for Current and Future Ushers

Please mark October 23 on your calendars! The Deacons will host a breakfast

and usher training for all current ushers and anyone who would like to be an usher. It will be delicious and fun. Details will be forthcoming, as we get closer

Notice of Ordination Service

The service of ordination for Kelly Carter Clark (daughter of Jane Clark) will be Sunday, August 22 beginning at 4:30 p.m. at First Congregational UCC in Longmont, 1500 Ninth Avenue. You are invited to stay for dinner following the service. Please RSVP to Plymouth Church at 482-9212 by Thursday, August 12, if you plan on attending the meal. If you are unable to attend, please send your regards to Kelly Carter Clark at P.O. Box 726, Crested Butte, CO.

Decorative border of palm trees surrounding the text: Youth Group Summer Events. Thursday, August 12 The Junior and Senior High Youth Groups are invited to Water World in Denver. We will be meeting at the church at 7:45 AM and car pooling to the park. Admission is \$15. per person. Please bring extra money for food or pack a lunch. The park closes at 3PM. Parents please plan to pick your children up at church at 4:30 PM. Saturday, August 21 Join us from 4-7 PM for a luau at the church. Both groups are invited. We will provide food, music and games. Wear a Hawaiian shirt and bring your friends! Feel free to contact Senior High Youth Group Leaders, Elizabeth and Peter Lin-der at 493-3415, or Jr. High Youth Group Leader, Jon Dodson at 310-9646 with any questions.

### XYZ Is Going to the Mountains in August.

Plan to retreat to the Stockovers' cabins in Rocky Mountain National Park from **Friday August 13 at 5:00 P.M. through brunch on Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup>**. This is a special time of fellowship and renewal. We talk, walk, sing, swing and eat. Please come when you can, and stay as long as you can. There are two sign up sheets on the bulletin board. One is for meals and the other is for beds. The only cost is for food and the gas to get there. The beauty of this wonderful place – priceless. Call Mary Mosier at 484-9356 if you have questions.

### Sign up now to play coed volleyball!

We're in the process of organizing a Plymouth team. The league begins at the end of August and games are usually played on Monday and/or Tuesday nights. Adults and teens 14 & up can play. There will be a registration fee. If you have interest please sign in the Fellowship Hall or e-mail Andrea Kelly at 4kellyfam@comcast.net



### Upcoming Events for The Middle-Third Herd

**Friday, Aug. 6: Herd Happy Hour at SportsCasters Bar and Grill** (165 E. Boardwalk Dr.) We'll meet at 5pm for discounted drinks and appetizers. Please RSVP to Andrea Kelly at 4kellyfam@comcast.net or 282-7511 so we can reserve a table.

**Sunday., Aug. 15th: Pool Party at City Park Pool** from 2-5pm. Please bring your own drinks and snacks. Admission is \$2.75 for more information e-mail Andrea Kelly at 4kellyfam@comcast.net.

**Friday, Sept. 3: Herd Happy Hour and Gallery Walk.** We'll meet at the Crown Pub (134 S. College) for drinks and appetizers/dinner at 5pm then we'll take the Gallery Walk in Old Town to see some local art. Please RSVP to Andrea Kelly at 4kellyfam@comcast.net or 282-7511.

### **Reminder!**

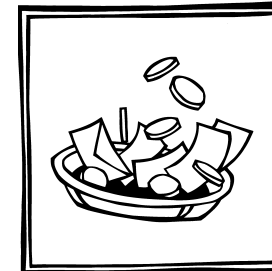
The deadline for the September Placard is **Monday, August 23**. Please e-mail your articles to: Karin Marsh (plymouth@plymouthucc.org) and Lauren Mingus (lpmingus@earthlink.net).

### Capital Campaign Consultant Selected

Exciting news! After many meetings and interviews with consulting firms, the Capital Campaign Exploratory Committee has selected Beatrice Stoner of SPIRIT MATTERS to work with our congregation on fundraising. We believe Bea is the person who can most help us move forward to put our faith dreams into action in the areas of worship, education, and mission.

The Strategic Planning Committee, after meeting with various small groups within the congregation, has identified major capital funding needs to help Plymouth further our interpretation of God's presence among us. Potential areas of funding include building renovation and possible expansion, organ replacement and mission/outreach. This fall we will have a congregational gathering and vote on proceeding with these faith dreams. Bea Stoner will then help us begin exploratory work on how best to raise the funds needed to continue to serve God in our unique Plymouth style.

Watch for more updates from the Capital Campaign Exploratory Committee, Hal Chorpenning, Tom Dille, Steve Freeland, Harry Halac, Sharon Smith and Betty Weber.



### News from the Associate Minister Search Committee

We continue to meet often as a committee. During this time, we are reviewing profiles which were submitted to the conference office.

Additionally, we have taken the next step in the search process. Several phone interviews were conducted during the month of July. A DRAFT of our associate minister job description has been sent to prospective candidates. We feel blessed and encouraged by the number of qualified candidates who are excited about an opportunity to become a part of our faith community.

### "Just Peace" Pronouncement

The Peace & Justice Ministry Team presents here, continuing from page 9 of the June Placard, some portions of the "Just Peace" Pronouncement and Proposal made at the Fifteenth (XV) General Synod of UCC in 1985:

"The General Synod affirms the following as marks of a Just Peace Church, calling upon each local church to become:

A community of honest and open conflict, a zone of freedom where differences may be

*(Continued on page 6)*