

# The Plymouth Placard



May 2003

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## Worship Opportunities in May

all services are at 8:20 and 10:45 a.m.  
unless otherwise noted

**May 4**

***Open & Affirming Sunday***

***The Rainbow Chorus sings with our choir!***

Acts of the Apostles 3.1–16

“Outcast No More”

**Taizé Service**

6:00 p.m., followed by a fellowship meal

**May 11**

***Recognition of Teachers***

*Mother's Day*

*Baptism of Fei Steininger and Helen Hansen*

John 10.1–10

“Abundant Living”

**May 18**

***Confirmation Sunday***

Acts of the Apostles 8.26–40

“New Understandings”

**May 25**

***Honoring Our Graduates***

John 15.9–17

“Loving Each Other”

**Summer Schedule:**

Last Sunday for choir: May 25

Last Sunday School: May 18

Single Service (9:30 a.m.) begins July 6

## Taizé Info

**Who:** YOU! Everyone is welcome!

**When:** Sunday, 4 at 6:00 p.m.  
(and the first Sunday of each month)

**Where:** Plymouth Cong'l UCC

**Cost:** free-will offering for supper

**Childcare:** You bet!

**More info:** [www.taize.fr](http://www.taize.fr)

## *Celebrating 100 Years – 1903-2003*

### *Interested in Exploring Membership?*

We will be having another series of evening inquiry sessions for those who are interested in church membership. We'll get to know each other better, explore the history of Plymouth and our denomination, the United Church of Christ, and also meet representatives from various boards and committees to learn more about how Plymouth operates.

The first session is from 7:00-9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20 at the home of Hal Chorpenning and Jean Sanfaçon. The next sessions will be held in the Fireside Room at Plymouth on Thursday, May 29 and Thursday, June 5. New members will be received on Pentecost, June 8.

Please call Karin Marsh in the church office, 482-9212, to let us know if you'll be attending.

### Plymouth Church Grounds Spring Clean-Up Day!

Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. We'll start at 8:30 a.m. and continue until the church grounds are gorgeous! Refreshments and good fellowship will be provided!

#### Please Bring your own:

- Water
- Outdoor broom, dustpan
- Gloves
- Leaf rake
- Shovel
- Trowel
- Trashcan for hauling leaves and debris
- Pick-up truck (if you have one!)
- Chain saws welcome, too!

Questions? Call Janet McCulloch at 223-3418.

## *From Hal's Desk:*

### Too Soon for Easter in Iraq?

When I was writing my Easter sermon last week, I pondered different types of “resurrection”: recovery from addiction, “coming out” as GLBT, discovering a life of faith. And I also thought about broader, international implications of this type of “resurrection,” especially the prospects for a new government in Iraq.

In spite of the circumstances of the war, I am hopeful for the future of Iraq. In part, this comes from my own study of postwar Japan and the American military occupation of that nation, which lasted from 1945-1952.

You may recall that Gen. Douglas MacArthur, Supreme Commander for the Allies in the Pacific, was essentially viceroy of Japan for years. The occupying forces worked with diplomats who had served in Tokyo before the U.S. entry into the war, and who insisted upon retaining the emperor. They knew Japanese traditions, embryonic democratic impulses in Japanese society, and the ways Japanese culture could (or could not) assimilate elements of non-Japanese cultures. The United States wrote and “suggested” a constitution for Japan, which the Japanese Diet (legislature) approved almost without debate, and for the first time, women and Socialists were part of the legislative process. Though one may wonder about a document so little debated, that constitution is still in force in Japan. American educational reformers dramatically revamped curricula in public schools, and at one point even suggested that *kanji* be eliminated! The great Japanese *sogoshosha* or *zaibatsu* industrial powers were stripped of much of their might, only to re-emerge later as such huge multinational corporations as Mitsubishi, Sumitomo, and Mitsui.

The outcomes in Japan were mostly positive...very positive. But were the means toward that end ethical? Can we use the ends to justify the means? No. But, when we're left with the means, we must choose the best possible ends.

Now, we come to Iraq. We have an active general in charge and a retired general as our “viceroy.” Our government has already started revising curricula for public schools; we're determined to control (either overtly or by less-obvious means) their oil industry; we'll hopefully protect the rights of women (women in Iraq already enjoyed greater status than their sisters in almost every other Islamic country); and who knows about constitutional reform – imposed or otherwise.

So, as I wrote my sermon, I thought about including Iraq as an example of resurrection: that it has now endured its Good Friday experience and is awaiting rebirth as a new nation. But what have been the costs in the loss of Iraqi lives? We may never know.

It is more akin to Jesus' three-day descent into the realm of death. As the Rev. Tony Robinson of Plymouth Congregational UCC in Seattle wrote, "this is not an Easter moment." Perhaps not yet.

I do have hope that Iraq will emerge from the twin nightmares of Saddam's rule and the American invasion. Unfortunately, we have been cast (jointly with Saddam) in the role of Pilate in this Passion Play.

What can we learn from the occupation of Japan in helping to push forward an "Easter" for Iraq? That we need to put the interests of Iraq first. That we need to build upon culture, working with people in the State Department and academia who are familiar with Iraq. That we need to ensure economic infrastructure for Iraq without pork-barrel politics for the likes of Halliburton and the big American oil interests. If this wasn't a war about oil, let's prove it.

As Christians, rather than rushing to convert Muslims (as Franklin Graham and others are doing), we ought to be pushing for self-giving solutions to the reconstruction of Iraq, ensuring that the future of Iraq looks more like Easter and less like Good Friday.

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'H.L.', written in a cursive style.

Thank You!!

- The Junior High Sunday School class would like to thank the congregation for supporting their Bake Sale in April. \$134.50 was raised for the Red Cross Measles Initiative in Africa. More children in Africa die from measles than any other disease, including HIV/AIDS. This tragedy can be prevented by vaccination. These funds will save over 134 children.
- On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, we accepted the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. Total One Great Hour of Sharing received was \$4,062.00.
- Thanks to the Memorial Committee, we now have more new white round tables.

## Senior High Youth Group Events For May – June - July

- **Sunday May 11: 6-8pm – movie Night at the church.** Bring movies you would like to watch and \$3 for pizza.
- **Sunday, June 1: Meet at 12:15 p.m. at Megan and Zach's house for a BBQ. We will BBQ and have a little celebration for our seniors and finish up at 2:30.**
- **Sunday, June 8: 12-2pm Meet at the church and we will go to City Park for some Ultimate Frisbee, then head out for lunch. Please bring \$ for lunch.**
- **Sunday, July 6: Mission Trip meeting after church. (approximately 10:30 a.m.) If you are going on the Mission Trip, you must be at this meeting. We will discuss what you should bring, what you should not bring, and what out plans are for departure and arrival.**
- **July 13-18: Mission Trip !!**
- **Week of July 20: MADD Camp!! Your forms need to be turned in to the Conference Office ASAP. Camp fills up fast.**

## Centennial Celebration

Our fundraiser, the sales of the porcelain medallions and marble plaques, continues throughout this centennial year for Plymouth. They will be on sale the first Sunday of every month after each worship service. They can also be purchased at other times by contacting Carol Halac at 223-9288. The proceeds received from the sales will be used to defray the cost of the banquet. So look for these great items, featuring a drawing of the church done by Phil Hoefler to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> year of Plymouth Church, on our next sale date of **May 4th**.

## Welcoming Smiles?

Would you like to help welcome new faces to Plymouth? All you need is a smile! The Evangelism Committee has started a welcome table in the narthex each Sunday morning and could use more volunteers. We need help from 8am to 11am, but could arrange for 2 volunteers to share the time if necessary. Please call Karen Nesler at 223-8491 or email [tpnes5@mac.com](mailto:tpnes5@mac.com) if you can help.

## Attention Graduates or Loved Ones of Grads!

We'd like to get information on anyone who is graduating this spring from high school, college, or graduate school. We will be acknowledging all graduates at our May 25 10:45 a.m. service and invite you all to attend and be recognized. Information about graduates can be sent to Dianne Stober (deacon) at [dstober@mindspring.com](mailto:dstober@mindspring.com).

## Mother's Day Cards

Sunday, May 4th, members of the Mission Committee will once again be offering beautiful Mother's Day cards after each service as a fund raiser for our Child Sponsorship program. These cards state that a donation has been made in your name to Global Ministries. The money will support the education of a Palestinian child at Rawdat El-Zuhur School in East Jerusalem. Currently, we are supporting two children, Nada Abu Diab and Fakhry Nofal. The suggested donation for each card is \$5.00.

### Items Collected For Global Partner In Venezuela

>From June 29 – July 7, a small delegation from the Rocky Mountain Conference UCC will be in Venezuela involved in a program called "Education in Ministry" with our Global Partner, the Evangelical Pentecostal Union in that country. Curt Minter, a member of Plymouth Church, will be in the delegation.

Curt will take with him items collected for distribution by the partner church. Members of Plymouth Church may contribute to this collection. Needed items that may be deposited in a box in the fellowship hall are these: children's vitamins, Tylenol for infants, children and adults, new and used eye glasses, first aid supplies, children's sneakers, children's books in Spanish, notebooks and pencils, and small toys.

Last year, Barb Lehner, a member of Plymouth Church, took part in a Medical Mission Trip to Venezuela. This activity was an expression of the Global Partnership. From June 29-July 7, the delegation from the Rocky Mountain Conference will be engaged in sessions with Venezuelan students involved in theological education and training, and who aim to be pastors in their congregations.

## Habitat For Humanity Update

Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity completed two homes this spring, one for the Jenny and Aveshi Karni family and one for the Christine Hart family. Numerous Plymouth members worked on these homes, including those that participated in the Plymouth Work Day on the Hart home back in January. Thanks to all of you!! You have made an incredible difference in the lives of these two families.

Looking Ahead: Construction on a new home is slated to begin in June. Stay tuned for another Plymouth Work Day. In addition, Habitat Fort Collins is planning construction on a second home—one built entirely by women. The kick-off for this build (called "Women Build") is tentatively planned for Mother's Day. If you would like to be involved in the planning for the Women Build, contact Jann Fox, 267-9247, or [J-JFox@msn.com](mailto:J-JFox@msn.com). To sign up as a Habitat volunteer, call 530-0068, or sign up online at <http://www.habitatstore.org/voluntr.htm>.

## ***News from the Plymouth Peace Group***

Though the war in Iraq seems to be ending, we are still very concerned about the course our country is taking. We are worried about our military personnel abroad and their families, and we grieve for the victims of war. Now, with anxiety, we wonder what will happen next. Through our prayers and actions, we continue to work for peace and justice -- at home and abroad.

To that end the Plymouth peace group is pursuing the following activities:

- **Dialogue groups** -- We are considering a church-wide and/or community-wide faith-based dialogue about war, in small groups. Each group of 10-12 people, including youth, will have two trained facilitators; the City's Human Rights Office has offered to train the facilitators. Groups might not happen until the fall. Please let Jane Ellen Combelic (407-0153, [jec@riverrock.org](mailto:jec@riverrock.org)) know if you are interested in helping with this project, either as a facilitator or organizer.
- **Church World Service** -- This might be a very appropriate way for our children to get involved. The CWS is part of the All Our Children campaign and is sending out emergency appeals. "The AOC campaign is a \$1 million, multi-agency effort to provide for medical and health supplies to Iraqi children. The campaign continues the long-term commitment of CWS to assist with ongoing humanitarian needs in Iraq, regardless of the current war's outcome. Church World Service has provided more than \$3.8 million since 1991 for humanitarian assistance in Iraq." Go to <http://www.churchworldservices.org/news/Iraq/index.html> for more info on faith-based responses to the Iraq war. Contact JoAnne Jensen (221-5398, [jjensen@lamar.colostate.edu](mailto:jjensen@lamar.colostate.edu)).
- **Support for our military families** -- We want to provide special support for Plymouth's military families. We are considering posting photos of servicemen/women somewhere in the church. We should also include them in our prayers and invite the family members to our vigils. Contact Mike Byrne (493-3255, [michaelfbyrne@attbi.com](mailto:michaelfbyrne@attbi.com)).
- **Peace prayer vigil** -- We have started holding weekly prayer vigils at Plymouth, on Thursdays at noon. When the weather is nice, we stand outside, on the lawn by the church sign. Please join us. Contact Barb Lehner (225-1950, [blehner@frii.com](mailto:blehner@frii.com)).

Meetings in May will be Sunday, May 11 and Sunday, May 25, after the second service. All are welcome. If you'd like to be added to the Plymouth peace group mailing list, to be notified of meetings and special activities, write to Jane Ellen at [jec@riverrock.org](mailto:jec@riverrock.org).

## LIVING Open and Affirming

The ONA Committee of Plymouth Church has adopted a mission statement that has been presented to, and approved by, the Church Council. The statement is this:

“The responsibility of the committee shall be to ensure that Plymouth’s open and affirming statement exists as a living document through the celebration and advocacy of inclusion within the life of the church and its community. Working cooperatively to connect with the mission of other committees within the church, ONA will offer educational and outreach opportunities to affirm the dignity and worth of every individual while advocating for a safe, loving community of faith.”

are various human conditions that have been known to cause persons to FEEL marginalized or even excluded from communities of Christian faith. This can be true even when there is NO INTENTION on the part of the community to exclude or marginalize anyone. The ONA Committee aims to heighten awareness of ways in which barriers to inclusion There, however unintended, may nevertheless be present. We will be exploring ways in which barriers or even perceptions of barriers may be addressed creatively and effectively. The Open and Affirming declaration, adopted by congregational vote, refers to “persons of every race, language, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnic origin, physical and mental ability, economic status and nationality.” In the months and years ahead, we invite careful consideration of ways in which our church may be an increasingly inviting, safe and loving community of faith.

*A family went out to eat after church. Grandma was in a wheel chair, and was being pushed by her adult son. The greeter at the restaurant said hello to each person who was standing.*

*They got Grandma settled in a place at the table, and the waitperson said to the adult son sitting beside her, “Now what would she like?” referring to Grandma.*

*The son said, tactfully, “I don’t know. Let’s ask her.”*

- Being a person without a disability...doing well in a challenging situation is a typical expectation of my abilities.
- Being a person without a disability...for the most part, I don’t inspire pity.
- Being a person without a disability...I can join a group without people avoiding contact with me for fear of making a mistake.
- Being a person without a disability...I can expect appropriate and reliable transportation options.
- Being a person without a disability...I can turn on the television or open the front page of the paper and see people without disabilities widely represented.
- Being a person without a disability...I am considered to be normal.

# HILLTOPPERS

**THURSDAY, May 8, 2003 – Fellowship Hall**

**1:00 p.m. Program**

**2:00 p.m. Dessert**

**Program: Book Review by Joyce Manchester**

**Title of Book: Memories from Down Under**

Please sign up in the narthex.

## EXTRA YEARS OF ZEST!

XYZ is a fun-loving Plymouth Fellowship made up of people aged 50+. We get together on the second Saturday (usually) of each month for some type of activity. Everyone is welcome – couples, singles, men, women – the only requirements are that you like to get better acquainted with people and that you enjoy having a good time. Sometimes we have educational programs and sometimes we just plan something that sounds like fun. We almost always have good food! Some of us come to almost all activities, and some to just a few. If you're 50+, we would love to have you join us.

- The next **xyz** gathering will be Saturday, May 10, in our fellowship hall at 7:00 p.m. The program is entitled "Fly with Fred"! (Herr). Please bring a snack/finger food to share. Sign up on the narthex bulletin board.

## **Living Well Into Your Future. . .**

This Monday night series started on March 17th. Here is the plan for the remaining sessions in May, all of which begin at 6:00 p.m. sharp at the church and include dinner. Child care is provided.

**5 May: Spirituality, Jane Vennard, Professor at Iliff and author**

**12 May: Potluck**

If you are interested in attending the remaining sessions and did not pre-register, please see John Henry Peck or Larry McCulloch.

## Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 a.m. at the Church.

All men are invited!

There will be an opportunity for service (yard projects) after breakfast. Watch for details. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex.

## Get-A-Grip

... is a social group that was formerly started as "Parents of Adolescents." They are no longer limited to being parents of adolescents, but their children are generally pre-teens, teens, or young adults. Anyone is welcome to join the group. It meets once a month at a member's home to eat, have fun, and get better acquainted with others in the church.

They will hold a potluck meeting Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at the home of Colleen and Wayne Shepperd, 1401 Patterson Place, beginning at 6pm. If you would like to attend, please call Colleen or Wayne at 223-8229.

Their June outing will be to Estes Park for a picnic and Choice City Singers Concert at the Y camp the evening of Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. Details in the June Placard.

## Women's Friendship Group Potluck Picnic

Thursday, May 22, 6:30 p.m. at Karen Smith's, 1224 Centennial Road, Ft. Collins, 282-9015. Please bring a dish to share, and your table service. Beverages will be provided.

After dinner we will share Womanly Wisdom such as:

- a better way you've discovered to do something
- a helpful Bible verse or poem
- a great product you've found
- a super recipe
- Some recent insight about life.

Do join in the fun! All women are welcome! There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

**The Next Placard Deadline is Monday May 19th . All information on events for the month of June is due in the church office by the above date. Thank you!**

## Youth Health and Sexuality Program

Beginning in the fall of this year, Plymouth will be offering a Health and Sexuality program for the Junior and Senior High youth. All church members interested in learning more about this program or in having input are invited to an informal discussion during the education hour on **May 18<sup>th</sup>** from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Junior and Senior high youth are included in this invitation. We will meet in the educational wing of the church, in the first classroom on the left across from Hal's office. Marsha Scott, Nurse Practitioner, will be facilitating the discussion.

## **THIRD ANNUAL MEN'S FELLOWSHIP - COED - CANOE TRIP**

We're going to the Niobrara River in Nebraska. As plans stand now, we will depart Ft. Collins early on Saturday, May 31, and drive to Ft. Robinson, an historic reconstructed fort in Nebraska. We will camp there and "see the sights" until late morning on Sunday. We will then proceed to Valentine, Nebraska and Smith Falls State Park, and camp for two nights. The plan is to canoe the Niobrara River all day Monday, and possibly part of Tuesday. We will return to Ft. Collins Tuesday, June 3.

- There will be a **group meeting for all participants** in the North Room at 12 noon on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Please plan to attend, or let the leadership team know if you will not be there. (The Niobrara Leadership Team: John Henry Peck, Les Fraley, Bruce Preston, Tom Dille, Tobey Yadon or Margaret Stockover.)

## Save The Dates ... Youth Education Committee Summer Events

- June 21-22: All Church Camp-in at Plymouth. Last summer this included water activities, food, hiking, and singing.
- August 3: --After church--Fishing at Watson Lake – We'll start with a potluck lunch. You can catch fish or crawdads, and we might include a tour of the fish hatchery.

**We will continue having two worship services each Sunday morning at 8:20 and 10:45a.m. through June 29<sup>th</sup>.**

## Visiting/Caring

Along with visiting and telephoning by Plymouth's "Visiting Angels," comes also the need for everyone to furnish names of those persons who would benefit from receiving cards, calls and other expressions of caring and encouragement. If you know of someone who you feel would appreciate such contacts, please call Barb Lehner at 225-1950 or Ruth Jakubauskas at 223-7428. We don't want to overlook anyone.

## Do You Have An Extra Half-Hour Once A Month?

One of the more enjoyable tasks a loving congregation does is that of visiting people. In that it doesn't involve particular expertise and is pleasurable, it is scarcely a task at all. Yet it is an important aspect of our life together here at Plymouth. Do you have an extra half-hour per month that you could give to visiting someone who is not as able to get out and around as s/he once did? Sometimes even just a phone call now and then can make a very positive difference in another's life. If you might enjoy connecting with someone here at Plymouth who would appreciate it, please call Barb Lehner at 225-1950.

## Special Notice From United Campus Ministry

The students and board of United Campus Ministry want to **thank you** for your support. Because of you, the service trip to Belize really happened over Spring Break! It was a profound experience for everyone involved.

We would like to invite you to a cookout/potluck and presentation so that we can share the highlights of the trip with you.

Please join us on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1709 West Elizabeth in Fort Collins. If you can, Please bring a dish to share. (We'll provide hamburgers, veggie burgers, and drinks.) Come celebrate with us and let us say **Thanks!**

"While there is genuine disagreement on U.S. foreign policy, the members of Plymouth Church fully support our men and women serving in the Middle East. We would like to recognize in a **photo display** all those serving in the current conflict that have family in Plymouth Church. If a relative of yours is serving, or if you know of someone at Plymouth whose relative is serving, please let Mike Byrne know at 493-3255 or [michaelfbyrne@attbi.com](mailto:michaelfbyrne@attbi.com).

## Walk To Combat Cystic Fibrosis

Jim Poole Walks to Combat Cystic Fibrosis. Last year several Plymouth folks contributed to my joining the "Great Strides" walk in Oklahoma City to combat cystic fibrosis, helping the local chapter to exceed their goal. I am scheduled to join the walk again May 3, departing May 1. I'll be walking with my daughter and her family, including my 5-year old grandson Andrew, who has CF. If anyone would like to help again, checks to the "Cystic Fibrosis Foundation" can be delivered or mailed to me. Thanks again for your past and prospective support! Jim Poole (472-5028).

### SAVE THE DATE!

Friday, October 3, 2003, 6:30 p.m.

### The Second Annual La Foret Dinner and Silent Auction at The Terrace Gardens, Englewood, CO

We need the facilities at La Foret for the programs to happen. The "Capture the Spirit" capital campaign continues to maintain, restore, and build the place where we grow, learn, have fun, and are transformed. We have invested \$1.8 million over the past 5 years to upgrade and restore existing buildings, and we have added a new water system and the new Inglis Hall, a multipurpose activity center. Please mark Friday, October 3 on your calendars for another inspiring and enjoyable evening for raising funds for La Foret's capital programs. In particular, if you know of something that could be offered during the Silent Auction, please let us know.

If you or someone you know could be a contact for the La Foret dinner, also let us know.

If you want to be on the La Foret Newsletter Mailing list, call us. Thank you.

Contact: Alan Johnson (720) [304-6918/rajohnson8@aol.com](mailto:304-6918/rajohnson8@aol.com)

## May Is National Older American's Month!

In honor of Older Americans Month, Poudre Valley Foot and Ankle Clinic is offering a complimentary consultation and exam to all senior citizens during the month of May. America's senior citizens are more active than ever before and this enhances their quality of life. They participate in walking, golf, biking, swimming, dancing or tennis, and their feet are the center of their active lifestyles. However, many people have problems with their feet and lower extremities which keep them from being as active as they would like.

Call Poudre Valley Foot and Ankle Clinic to schedule a free exam and consultation at 970-484-4620. Poudre Valley Foot and Ankle Clinic is located at 1355 Riverside Avenue, Suite C, in Fort Collins.

### Interfaith Council Report.

1. Plymouth Congregational hosted the meetings of The Fort Collins Area Interfaith Council during the month of April – 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. **The Health Team** provided a panel presentation entitled: “**Navigating End of Life Issues**” at the April 17 meeting.
2. **The Housing Team** reported:
  - The **2002/03 Homeless Prevention/ Rental Assistance Fund** surpassed their goal of \$75,000, with the receipt of a \$25,000 grant from the Bohemian Foundation of Fort Collins. The total raised for 2002 – 2003 is more than \$100,000.
  - The Interfaith Council has set aside \$10,000 with a view to providing start up funding for a permanent non-profit agency for the Homeless Prevention/ Rental Assistance Program.
  - The Westminster Presbyterian Church has been lost as an intake site for those seeking assistance from the Homeless Prevention Program. Plymouth Congregational UCC, under the able leadership of Alice Clark, has trained a number of their members to serve as intake personnel. Persons seeking assistance can make an appointment to submit an application and be interviewed by calling 308-2048.
  - Payment of \$2,500 to Neighbor to Neighbor for administrative costs of the Homeless Prevention/Rental Assistance Program for the year of 2003. In 2002, The United Way had provided \$1,000 to cover these costs, but for 2003 The United Way is not making an appropriation
3. The following persons were elected to fill positions of leadership within Interfaith Council: Janienne Rewerts as Interim President, Grace Harris, Vice President, for leadership of the Housing Team, Dayna Ring, serving as co chair of the Health Team, as VP of Program, Georgia Burba serving as interim co chair of the Social Concerns.
4. Interfaith Council has endorsed the local, Colorado Council of Churches-trained, Hate Incident Response Team of Fort Collins. (Our representative Phil Koster serves on this team).

### Announcements:

#### *Integrating Spirit and Caregiving*

A Contemplative and Holistic Approach to End-of-Life and Elder Care Conference, **May 12-14, 2003, Sponsored by Naropa University School of Extended Studies, Boulder, Colorado. Co-sponsored by Balfour Senior Care and National Prison Hospice Association.**

This is a teaching conference for professional and lay caregivers, family members, and anyone working with end-of-life and elder care issues. Participants will be exposed to the most innovative models in the field and have the opportunity to learn new clinical and caregiving approaches and skills from highly skilled practitioners.

Four of the Plenary Speakers: Sogyal Rinpoche, (keynote speaker) world renowned author of *The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying*, an international bestseller in the hospice and palliative care field, Joan Halifax Roshi, Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, and Frank Ostaseski have developed professional training programs for clinicians based on their work and teaching. Judy Lief, is the author of several important books in the field. Additional presenters will provide a variety of hands-on approaches to contemplative care in the concurrent sessions.

Cost: \$325 per person. TO Register: 303.245.4741 or 800.603.3117 or [www.naropa.edu/spiritualcareextend@naropa.edu](http://www.naropa.edu/spiritualcareextend@naropa.edu)

## **HOUSING JUSTICE SUMMIT**

June 2, 2003 at Regis University – Student Center in Denver at 3333 Regis Blvd.(50<sup>th</sup> & Lowell). Housing Justice will organize, mobilize and equip local and statewide action groups that will:

- Arouse concern and compassion for the 20% of Coloradoans who struggle to meet housing needs. Of the 14,000 homeless persons in Colorado on any given day, 60% are families with children.
- Educate about the opportunities to solve the affordable housing crisis in Colorado.
- Empower people of faith to share the benefits of housing for all.
- Generate a call to action within the faith community to implement solutions to this crisis.

Registration fee: \$25. Keynote Speakers: Sister Lillian Murphy and Bill Faith.

For registration information: 303 282-8343 or [www.housingjustice.org](http://www.housingjustice.org)

# **Fair Trade Coffee**

## **Where does it come from?**

Café Richeesse coffee is grown on the Neves family plantation in Bahia, Brazil and roasted by the owners, Palo and Peggy Neves, right here in Fort Collins. Interestingly, the Neveses and Many of their family are CSU graduates and have a 30 yr. History with Fort Collins. In fact their most popular coffee is named “The Choice City Blend”.

## **What makes it fair trade?**

The company is a humane company. The Neveses employ approximately 700 rural workers as coffee pickers during the harvest season. They provide employees with housing and allow them to grow their own food between the coffee bean trees. Neves said that he usually stays in the homes of employees while he visits the farm in Brazil, writes many of the workers regularly, and is godfather to about 25 of the workers. They are not migrant workers and are among the best paid farm laborers in Brazil.

## **Where can you get it?**

Sold the fourth Sunday of every month in the meeting room by the Social Concerns Committee. Sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

## Plymouth Parishioners

*Please keep the following members and friends of Plymouth in your prayers.*

### *Recently in the Hospital:*

Ray McCulloch  
Bobbi Brooks  
Paul Ohland  
Bob Rankin  
John Nortier

### *Our Sympathy is with:*

the family of Madge Graham, whose memorial service was held at Parkwood on April 3rd.

the family of Dale Johnson, whose memorial service was held at Plymouth on March 14th.

the family of Herman Uhrich whose service was held at Plymouth on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

### *Congratulations to:*

- Carrie and Bruce Hansen, on the birth of their daughter, Helen Antoinette Hansen, born March 11.
- Emily Thurston-Moench and Randy Moench on the birth of their daughter, Olivia Chloe Moench, born April 3.
- Mary Robinson, on the successful completion of her Ph.D.
- Liz McGrew, recipient of the Excellence in Education Award from the Poudre School District
- Shelby Blessing, National Merit Scholar finalist

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Plymouth Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
an open & affirming congregation  
gathered in 1903

www.plymouthucc.org  
970.482-9212

<b>The Rev. Hal Chorpenning</b>	<i>Senior Minister</i>	<i>hal@plymouthucc.org</i>
<b>Alice Clark</b>	<i>Parish Assistant</i>	<i>aclark@plymouthucc.org</i>
<b>Donna Greene</b>	<i>Youth Education Director</i>	<i>donna@plymouthucc.org</i>
<b>Donna Solverud</b>	<i>Choir Director</i>	<i>tdsolverud@aol.com</i>
<b>Carrie Hansen &amp; Jan Welch</b>	<i>Organists</i>	
<b>Karin Marsh</b>	<i>Church Secretary</i>	<i>plymouth@plymouthucc.org</i>
<b>Kevin Nielsen</b>	<i>Grounds Maintenance</i>	
<b>Alda Frucci &amp; Tom Marsh</b>	<i>Custodians</i>	

### **Plymouth Website**

**<http://www.plymouthucc.org>**

Plymouth's updated website is ready for viewing. It's loaded with Plymouth info and even a calendar of events. The site is a work in progress and we appreciate your feedback. Please contact Brian or Andrea Kelly with comments, suggestions, new ideas, etc. [webmaster@plymouthucc.org](mailto:webmaster@plymouthucc.org)  
282-7511

Non-profit organization

*Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ  
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Fort Collins, CO 80526*

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Shalom!



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JHL.', is written below the word 'Shalom!'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

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