



# THE PLYMOUTH PLACARD

November 2019

## WORSHIP FOR NOVEMBER

Our worship this November begins with our annual observation of **All Saints and Totenfest**. In our service on November 3, we invite anyone who has lost a loved one this year to come forward and speak their name aloud. It isn't easy to do that, but it is one of the ways we work through our grief and into healing. That evening, our Dinner Church Ministry Team is preparing a lovely, warming meal for us, and you are welcome to come and share in that experience. The month ends with our Associate Conference Minister, Erin Gilmore, preaching. Erin grew up here at Plymouth, so you won't want to miss hearing her!

**Sunday worship times (unless otherwise noted) are**  
9:00 communion service  
11:00 choral service (communion on first Sunday)  
6:00 evening service with communion

**Every Tuesday**  
Noon Communion Service

**November 3 – All Saints and Totenfest**  
Isaiah 25.6-10a  
For All the Saints

Special All Saints and Totenfest Dinner Church  
6:00 p.m.

**November 10**  
Luke 17.20-21  
Whose Kingdom Is It, Anyway?

**November 17**  
Isaiah 12  
Giving Thanks

**November 24**  
Psalm 46  
The Rev. Erin Gilmore preaching



The Rev. Erin Gilmore

*Looking Ahead:*  
**Advent begins** on Sunday, December 1

## Calendar Highlights

Go to [PLYMOUTHUCC.ORG](http://PLYMOUTHUCC.ORG) and click **NEWS & EVENTS** to see all events.

**Sundays All Month** (10 a.m.): Christian Formation's Spiritual Practice Interterm, "Rooted in Love"

**November 3** - Totenfest/All Saints Sunday

**November 10** – Pie Potluck in Fellowship Hall after each worship service

**November 10-17** - Faith Family Hospitality, Fellowship Hall and North Wing

**November 18** - "American Heretics: The Politics of the Gospel" film on Progressive Christianity 7 p.m. Sanctuary

**November 24** – Alternative Giving Fair, Fellowship Hall, 8:30 - 1:00.

**November 28, 29** - Thanksgiving Holiday, Office Closed



### Getting *The Placard* but not *The Overview*?

Our weekly eNews showcases news and events in the near future. If you aren't receiving it (or the Tuesday *Staff Reflection*) and would like to, visit [plymouthucc.org](http://plymouthucc.org) and scroll to the **bottom of any page** to subscribe.

### Parking Lot Gates

**Both gates** are now closed to reduce through traffic in our parking lot. Use **key pad code 0916#** to open gates. The gate will stay open for 30 seconds, then close automatically while beeping. For exiting, automatic sensors open gate. Gates will be left open for Sunday services. Contact Keith Schulz (970-556-3282) if you have special parking needs during the week.

### FROM HAL'S DESK:

## AMERICAN HERETICS, THEN & NOW

If you've been around me for any time at all, you probably realize that I am an unabashed history geek. I recently found *Household Gods* by Sara Georgini, which details the religious lives of the Adams family (*not The Adams Family*). John Adams, the second president, who called himself "a notorious church-going animal," was a descendant of Henry Adams, a dissident English Puritan from Dorset who came to Massachusetts Bay as part of the Great Migration (1629-1640), when 21,000 refugees fled Great Britain for New England. The Adamses became members of First Church in Braintree (now Quincy), Massachusetts, which later grew into a home for "liberal Congregationalism." John Adams's father was a Deacon in that congregation, and John himself entered Harvard College to prepare for Congregational ministry, but after two years, he wisely turned to law.

Their son, John Quincy Adams, a diplomat, secretary of state, and sixth president of the United States, continued membership at First Church, which became "Unitarian Congregational." Late in life, he was also the defense attorney for the *Mendi* captives aboard the *Amistad* – an important part of our UCC heritage. In his diary, he prayed for "the mercy of Almighty God, so to control my temper, to enlighten my Soul, and to give the utterance that I may prove...equal to the Task." That episode helped bind Christian conviction to issues of social justice for the first time in American history.

We tend to think of the Separatist Pilgrims of Plymouth as less doctrinaire, perhaps more open than their

Puritan brethren in Boston to new ideas and ways of doing things. Yet, both Puritans and Pilgrims were dissidents who challenged the religious status quo and fought pitched battles with religious authority (and each other) in the struggle for freedom to think about theology, God, Christ, and the Church in new and changing ways. Together, the Pilgrims of Plymouth and the Puritans of Boston became Congregationalists, some of whom later became Unitarians, which is why we consider them our cousins.

Part of the genius of this inheritance means that both we and our Unitarian sisters and brothers keep changing and growing in our perspectives. So, when we celebrate Thanksgiving this month, remembering our lineage from those refugees who settled in Plymouth, let us remember with thanks that we have a faith tradition that is open to what God next has in store for us and

is willing to continue to evolve and change.

To celebrate this tradition, Plymouth is hosting a free screening of a new film, *American Heretics*, which examines the liberal Christian tradition today...in Oklahoma! (You can see a preview at [americanhereticsthefilm.com](http://americanhereticsthefilm.com)) The documentary features Dr. Robin Meyers, senior minister of Mayflower Congregational UCC in Oklahoma City. Please join us at Plymouth on Monday, November 18 at 7:00 – and invite friends!

Happy Thanksgiving!



Join us at Plymouth for a free showing of this film on Monday, Nov. 18 at 7:00 p.m.

### Plymouth Congregational UCC

916 West Prospect Rd., Fort Collins, CO 80526

[www.plymouthucc.org](http://www.plymouthucc.org)

gathered in 1903

970-482-9212

- Hal Chorpenning, senior minister, [hal@plymouthucc.org](mailto:hal@plymouthucc.org)
- Jane Anne Ferguson, associate minister (Sun., Tues., Thurs.), [janeanne@plymouthucc.org](mailto:janeanne@plymouthucc.org)
- Mark Heiskanen, director of music, [music@plymouthucc.org](mailto:music@plymouthucc.org)
- Mandy Hall, CF director (children & youth), [mandy@plymouthucc.org](mailto:mandy@plymouthucc.org)
- Mark Lee, CF director (adults...Sun., Tues., Thurs.), [mark@plymouthucc.org](mailto:mark@plymouthucc.org)
- Anna Broskie, IT/comm. coordinator (mornings), [anna@plymouthucc.org](mailto:anna@plymouthucc.org)
- Barb Gregory, office manager, [barbara@plymouthucc.org](mailto:barbara@plymouthucc.org)
- Yendra Tencza, business manager (Mon., Tues., Thurs.), [yendra@plymouthucc.org](mailto:yendra@plymouthucc.org)
- Jenn and Johnny Wieda, sextons, [sexton@plymouthucc.org](mailto:sexton@plymouthucc.org)

## PASTORAL CONTACTS

Our ministers' normal work days are Sunday-Thursday, but if you have a pastoral emergency (in the hospital, urgent need for a pastoral support conversation, etc.), please do call us on our mobile phones...that's what we're here for! Unlike all other professions, we still make house calls by appointment!

**Hal Chorpenning**, 970-481-2928 for emergencies  
**Jane Anne Ferguson**, 303-257-4933 for emergencies

# LEADERSHIP COUNCIL UPDATE

At its October 14 meeting, the Leadership Council discussed a number of issues, including our intent to more solidly staff the Welcome Table in the Fellowship Hall between services.

The Designated Search Committee noted progress in its process.

We reviewed the financial statements from September and reflected on Dr. Buck's "heavenly economy" as we move towards 2020.

- Harmony Tucker, Vice-Moderator.

## Income

September Income for 2019: \$64,677  
Budgeted Income for September 2019: \$70,848  
Income 2019 YTD: \$717,787  
Budgeted Income 2019 YTD: \$658,250

## Expenses

September Expenses for 2019: \$76,169  
Budgeted Expenses for September 2019: \$72,842  
Expenses 2019 YTD: \$648,989  
Budgeted Expenses 2019 YTD: \$655,579

# DEACON'S BENCH

Being a deacon is a rewarding way to contribute to worship at Plymouth. It may seem intimidating, but we are a very friendly team, and experienced deacons are dedicated to helping new members learn the ropes. The Stewardship Board is beginning its efforts to fill several deacon slots that will be open next year. If you get a call, please consider saying "yes." We'd love to have you on our team! - Al Sanders

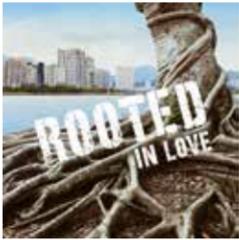
# STEWARDSHIP

**To those of you who have pledged, thank you.** To those who have not yet pledged, please do so ASAP. Your pledge is crucial to help turn the proposed budget into the actual budget for 2020, and to turn the actual budget into programs, activities, and facilities to help bring the kingdom of God to earth.

Please keep your pledges up to date. If you can't attend, you can **make your contribution electronically!** Contact [yendra@plymouthucc.org](mailto:yendra@plymouthucc.org)

**How can I make a Planned Giving gift to Plymouth?** You can support Plymouth's future health through: 1. your will, 2. charitable gift annuities, 3. beneficiary gifts from your retirement account, 4. appreciated assets, 5. gifts of personal property, such as real estate, 6. life insurance gifts. Learn more at [plymouthucc.org/give](http://plymouthucc.org/give) and clicking "How Do I Learn About Planned Giving?" Thanks!!

# NOVEMBER INTERTERM



Join **Christian Formation** this November for Spiritual Practice Workshops on the theme **Rooted In Love**. Every Sunday at 10 a.m. there will be prayer practices and activities set up in each of our Sunday School rooms. These intergenerational practices are designed to get you out of your head and to rest in God's loving embrace.

For more information go to [plymouthucc.org/rooted](http://plymouthucc.org/rooted)

# ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

**Tues. evenings**, 7-9 p.m. Fireside Room **The Heart of Christianity: Re-discovering A Life of Faith**. Marcus Borg provides a progressive vision for Christian faithing, including contemporary Biblical, scientific, interfaith, and social science insights for 21st century people. Led by Ken Freese.

Contemplative Outreach of Fort Collins presents **Listening Within A Contemplative Retreat in the Celtic Tradition, 11/9**, 8:30-1:30. Lectures and Centering Prayer. \$25+ suggested donation or sliding scale. Bring lunch. Led by Cami Twilling., experienced retreat leader and Spiritual Director. Sign

up at [events@cofortcollins.org](mailto:events@cofortcollins.org) or on the bulletin board.

Jeff & Janet Wright, Global Ministries Global Service Workers, are hosting a People-to-People **alternative tour to Palestine and Israel 1/24 - 2/4, 2020**. Information: [footstepsofJesustour.org](http://footstepsofJesustour.org).

## THE MOST UP-TO-DATE CHRISTIAN FORMATION INFORMATION IS ON THE WEB

Go to [plymouthucc.org](http://plymouthucc.org) and select the **Living Our Faith** menu item.

You'll find an **Overview**, as well as pages for **Children, Youth, and Adults**.

# MINISTRIES

**Last call for sign-ups for Dinners for 7.** Groups to be organized in early Nov., so **11/3** will be the day that the registration comes down. This is a social group: seven people get together to share a meal -- breakfast, lunch or dinner, eat in or out -- the group's choice. Questions, Kathee Houser: (928) 600-4610.

**Introducing Plymouth Social Club!** YUCCA and The 345 Fellowship have joined together to form PSC as the fellowship group for Gen X and Millennial members, family, and friends of Plymouth. Email Adam Redavid ([ajredavid@gmail.com](mailto:ajredavid@gmail.com)) for information on PSC. Join us for our first event as PSC on Fri., **11/8** at 7 p.m., hosted by Ashley & Aaron McGrew. More details in the Overview.



**Get A Grip** is **11/9** at 6 p.m. at Bob and Meg Jeffrey's. Please bring your own table setting and a favorite Thanksgiving dish. Turkey and beverages provided, but feel free to bring your own. Location: The Clubhouse at Trails on Timberline, 2451 S Timberline Road, NW corner of Drake and Timberline. RSVP 970-443-9328 or [megjeffrey2co@gmail.com](mailto:megjeffrey2co@gmail.com).

**Pie Potluck Sunday, 11/10.** It is once again time to celebrate that most beloved of desserts, pie. After all services, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall to sample the bounty. Please drop your pie off in the kitchen before the service you attend. It can be sweet or savory (pizza, quiche), made with your hands or those of someone you don't even know. All will be cheerfully devoured.



**Faith Family Hospitality** remaining hosting week for 2019: **11/10-17**. Contact [scotthous@gmail.com](mailto:scotthous@gmail.com) or 970-631-4037 to volunteer.

World Wisdoms Project is holding its second fall event at First United Methodist Church on Thurs., **11/14** at 6:30 pm. **"Encountering the Holy in a Complicated World,"** with Laurie Gudim, Sivea Key, and Trinity Wilbourn. From their unique perspectives, our presenters explore the hunger for a sense of connection and wholeness in an era marked by personal and collective trauma.

**El Otro Lado II.** A 3-day experience **11/18-22** to learn and enlarge our understanding of border/immigration issues, in dialogue with a wide variety of people and communities. You may also elect to attend "the Ajo Opportunity" 11/22-24 to participate in a desert excursion and, hopefully, visit migrants in Sonoyta, MX. Participant information on flyer available in Fellowship Hall. Email: [bordertripnov@gmail.com](mailto:bordertripnov@gmail.com)



**Alternative Giving Fair.** Be a part of a sharing tradition of 18 years, Sunday, **11/24**, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. We look forward to another successful year helping others.

**Advent Pizza and Craft Night** is Fri., **12/6**. Pizza is at 6 p.m., and the crafts follow. We'll be doing cookie decorating, tree ornaments, and holiday treats for one and all. This is a fun evening for all ages, kids to grandparents. Questions call Kathee Houser (928) 600-4610.

We invite you to the 15th Annual **Neighbor to Neighbor Sleep-Out Interfaith Vigil** on Sat., **12/7!** Come to Plymouth at 4:30 p.m. for N2N's annual Soup Supper followed by an outdoor Vigil at 6:15 p.m. Donations for N2N and cold weather gear donations for Homeward Alliance will be accepted at the Vigil and at church on Sunday morning. RSVP for the soup supper by November 30th on [n2n.org/events](http://n2n.org/events). Full info and registration at [plymouthucc.org/sleepout](http://plymouthucc.org/sleepout).



Mark your calendar: **Plymouth Has Talent** Fri., **1/24/20**. Details to come!

The **Habitat Ministry Team** is organizing a trip to Antigua, Guatemala, **March 21-29, 2020**, to help build a house and smokeless stoves. No construction experience needed, but must be physically fit for manual labor. There will be opportunities to explore Antigua and learn about its culture. If interested, contact Lynn Wartgow 563-249-9829 or [mayziepics@gmail.com](mailto:mayziepics@gmail.com). Join us!

**Let's Fill the Cookie Jar!** Everyone seems to like a cookie with their coffee or tea on Sunday morning. Could you bake a batch of cookies or pick up an extra box at the grocery store? Just leave your offering in the kitchen on Sunday morning, and we'll see it gets in the right place. Thanks so much.

**Need to get on the church calendar?** Go to [plymouthucc.org](http://plymouthucc.org) and select **News & Events**. Click the button: *Request to Add an Event to the Church Calendar*.

Plymouth Congregational UCC  
916 West Prospect Road  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526



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THE PLYMOUTH PLACARD

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