

Waymarks

Plymouth Church | Helena Montana

April 2019

Holy Week and Easter Events

Maundy Thursday Soup Supper & Worship – April 18th at 6:00 p.m.

You are invited to join us for a simple meal of soup, bread, fruit, and cheese, which is incorporated into a special worship experience focusing on the meal Jesus shared with his disciples in the Upper Room. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Narthex for contributing to the food for the meal.



Easter Potluck Breakfast – Sunday, April 21st at 8:30 a.m.

Please join us for a breakfast potluck on Easter Sunday morning. Bring your favorite breakfast food to share. Enjoy this opportunity for fellowship.

Easter Morning Worship – Sunday, April 21st at 10:00 a.m.

Come join us as we celebrate God's gift of New Life! We will sing and pray together. We will laugh and be silent together. We will worship and celebrate together. We are anticipating a large crowd, including a group of children from Intermountain (who always add such a delightful energy to the service), so plan to arrive early. In fact, why not join us for breakfast at 8:30 a.m.!



Let's Talk About It—Thursday, April 25

This year's Let's Talk About It event will take place at Plymouth on Thursday, April 25. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served at 5:30 p.m. and dinner, catered by Chili O'Brien's, will be served at 6:30 p.m. Please get your registrations in soon! Choose from this interesting list of conversation topics and leaders:

- Laura Ferguson—Ivan Doig's Montana
- Dan Hawkins—Disaster Communications: Responding to Hurricane Maria
- Melissa Jensen—Evening News from the Capital
- Dr. Tyler Ream—Superintendent of Helena Schools
- Ana Cortez—Helena's New City Manager
- John Adams—Watchdog Reporting, a Dying Breed
- Kelly Parsley—Prevention & Current Public Health Issues
- Jim Henne—131 Back Home & Counting
- Sue Dostel—A Call from Uganda
- John Finn—Our Country's Living Room
- Liz Cavin—Creating Your Own Natural Medicine Cabinet
- Gloria Soja—Compassion Fatigue

Notes from the Journey . . .

Springtime in the Rockies is most definitely a transitional “now and not yet” sort of experience. The piles of snow are melting, but not yet gone. The temperatures are increasing, but the snow is still falling. The sun is shining, except when it is overcast. And the truth is that “now and not yet” is also a pretty good description of what it is like to be a person of faith. Our awareness of God’s presence provides us with experiences of love and grace and connection, except when we forget to notice. We have learned to reach out beyond ourselves and touch the lives of others in our community and our world, but sometimes we get overwhelmed and pull inside ourselves out of weariness or fear. The light of God’s unconditional love shines through our lives like a beacon on a hill, except when we get distracted by the mundane, everyday challenges which fool us into believing we don’t have anything valuable to contribute. Faithful living is not all sublime sunshine and spring flowers. It is also difficult and painful and ordinary. In each moment we have the opportunity to once again remember who we really are, way down deep in the core of our being, and then let that awareness inspire and empower us to take one more step into the light. “Now and not yet” is the paradox we are invited to embrace. What is “now” is the presence of God. What is “not yet” is our awareness and embrace of that presence. And all of it, every single bit of it, is a part of what it means to be a person of faith living in this world. May we remember to keep taking one more step into the Light!



— **Pastor Roger**

(keeping my feet firmly planted in the flow)

Report From a Refugee Camp in Greece

Dick Weaver will be giving a presentation on his two-week experience at a refugee camp on the island of Samos, Greece. Dick, with experience as a massage practitioner, went with locally organized Hands On Global to provide medical and health-care services at this camp, where about 2,000 refugees live in the “official” camp and another 5,000 or so live in the adjoining “overflow” camp.

Hands On Global has traveled twice previously to the island of Lesbos, one of a number of locations in Greece where refugees are housed “temporarily.” They were invited by the director of Refugee4Refugees to come to Samos, where conditions are more unsettled and the needs greater, as there are very limited services provided. Working out of the back of a van and under a 3-sided gazebo tent, the team included Valerie Hellerman, Paula Thiede, and Dr. Mark Ibsen from Helena, and others.

This event will be held at Plymouth Congregational Church, at 2:00 p.m. April 14. All are welcome.

Council Update

The Church Council met March 12th. There were a couple of leaking water issues which were quickly taken care of and the kitchen stove was cleaned at a cost of \$360. Otherwise, the church is physically and financially stable. Guest Brian Coplin discussed his involvement with Veteran assistance.

- **Mary Drysdale, Council Secretary**

In Our Prayers Today

At Home: Sharon Henderson (CO); Ed and Margaret Miller; Betty Barraugh; Pete McKinley

At Edgewood: Kenneth Quickenden

West Mont Residential Housing: Terri Barraugh

Hunters Point: Joan Hart

Legacy: Harold Pederson

To add someone to the prayer list, please call the church office at 442-9883 or email pccofficemgr@gmail.com

Bereavement Support Group Beginning April 9

St. Peter's Hospice is offering a seven week bereavement education support group for adults who have experienced the death of a loved one. The focus of the group is to provide participants the opportunity to learn about the grief process and strategies for coping and healing. Group members will also be able to discuss their thoughts, feelings, and experiences with others who are living with a significant loss. Topics of information and discussion include the individual and unique pathways of grief, the emotional, physical and spiritual aspects of grief, strategies for healthy self care and exploring the opportunities for personal growth and transformation in the grief process.

Sessions will begin Tuesday, April 9, and will continue every Tuesday from 5:30-7:00 p.m. through May 21. Hospice bereavement team members will facilitate the group. Participants should call at their earliest convenience as group size is limited and registration is required by Friday, April 5.

For further information or to register, please contact Lynne Grant at 447-2464 or Melanie Trost at 422-6431.

In March, Plymouth gave \$500.00 to the Willis Cruse House run by the Montana Veterans Foundation. We received this note:

Thank you so much! Your support means a lot. So grateful for the wonderful people you are!

— Desiree and the Fellas of Willis Cruse

In February, Plymouth gave \$500.00 to the Green Valley/ Sahuarita Samaritans, a ministry of the Good Shepherd United Church of Christ. This ministry has been making weekly trips from Sahuarita, Arizona to the shelters in Nogales, Mexico, that the faith and humanitarian community has set up for migrants detained at the U.S. borderlands. For the past 15 years, they have been “welcoming the stranger”, and delivering toiletries, towels, blankets, jackets and clothing to asylum-seekers and offering love and hospitality. We received this note from the Rev. Randy Mayer.

Dear Plymouth,

It was such a nice surprise to receive such a nice check to support our migrant ministries. Plymouth is where my journey as a Faith Leader all began and it is good to receive your blessings and support!

*Paz,
Randy Mayer*



Help for Helena YWCA

As part of Plymouth's Outreach ministry, we are providing shampoo and hair conditioner to the women at the “Y”. If you would like to help with this effort, bring new hair care products to the church by Sunday, April 13 so that we can make an Easter delivery. There is a large basket on the table in the narthex where contributions may be deposited. The YWCA is requesting new, large or family-sized products (not samples or previously used items) so that their supply shelves will always be well-stocked for new, incoming residents. If you have questions, call Mary Barrett or Jennifer Thompson.

*Thank
you!*

*Dear Pastor Roger & Entire
Congregation,*

We can never thank you enough for your kindness in welcoming us to your church to have the funeral of our dear Christopher Petaja. Your Church is such a beautiful example of what God would wish—inclusion of all!

On behalf of our entire family we thank you so very much.

— Pat Seiler & Petaja Family

Plymouth Church, U.C.C.

400 S. Oakes St.

Helena, Mt. 59601

Plymouth's Mission is to nurture our congregation and the wider community with acts of love and a vision of God's image in all things.



Plymouth Church

400 S. Oakes St.

Helena, MT 59601

Office Hours

- Pastor Roger Lynn: 9 a.m.-noon (M-Thur)
- Office Manager Allison Rowland: 11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. (M-Thur)
- Bookkeeper Karen Hendricks: 11:15 a.m.-2:15 p.m. (M)

Contact Us

Church Office: 406.442.9883

Web: www.plymouthmontanaucc.org

Email: pccofficemgr@gmail.com

Also: www.facebook.com/plymouthcongregational

Sundays

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, April 1

7:30 p.m. Helena Chamber Singers

Tuesday, April 9

6:00 p.m. Council Meeting

Wednesday, April 10

10:00 a.m. Women's Group

Tuesday, April 16

8:30 a.m. Retired Sinners

Thursday, April 18

6:00 p.m. Soup Supper & Worship

Sunday, April 21

8:30 a.m. Easter Potluck Breakfast

Wednesday, April 24

11:30 a.m. Women's Luncheon

Thursday, April 25

5:30 p.m. Let's Talk About It

Tuesdays

2:00 p.m. Bible Study

Wednesdays

7:00 p.m. Faithful Conversations