

The Perspective

Volume 43

Number 1

January 2020

Upcoming Worship at Plymouth Church
Sundays at 10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

January 5 | Epiphany Sunday

Rev. Dr. Deborah Lindsay | With Open Hands: Silence | Communion

January 12 | The Baptism of Christ

Rev. Dr. Deborah Lindsay | With Open Hands: Acceptance

January 19 | MLK Sunday

Rev. Dr. Deborah Lindsay | With Open Hands: Hope

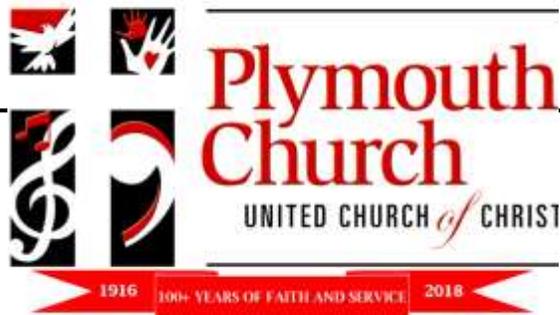
January 26 | Third Sunday after Epiphany

Rev. Dr. Deborah Lindsay | With Open Hands: Compassion



Plymouth Church

UNITED CHURCH *of* CHRIST



***An Open & Affirming and Just Peace Congregation
of the United Church of Christ***

Our Mission is to be a Christ-centered community led by the Holy Spirit that supports the spiritual journey of all who strive to boldly live out their faith in the world. We are committed to diversity, spiritual growth, and putting our faith into action locally and throughout the world.

Plymouth Church Leadership 2020

Council President	Brian Grube
Council Vice-President	Mary Bright
Secretary	Val McClelland
Treasurer	Juanita Faulx
Assistant Treasurer	Lisa Hunziker
Adult Faith & Life - Chair	Vicki Werneke
Building & Grounds (B&G) - Chair	Bill Menges
Caring - Chair	Dave Faulx
Children & Youth (C&Y) - Chair	Brian Shields
Evangelism & Growth (E&G) - Chair	Mendle Adams
Giving - Chairs	Russell Lamb
Partnership & Service (P&S) - Chair	Robin Johnson
Worship - Chair	Mary Powell
Personnel Chair	Kenyon Mau
Foundation Chair	Christine Bretz
Council Member @Large	Ros Gauchat
Council Member @Large	Cindy Hill
Council Member @Large	Nicole Lepley
Council Member @ Large	Shelli Smith
Council Member @ Large	Molly Warmbein

Plymouth Staff

Rev. Dr. Deborah Lindsay
Interim Senior Minister
dlindsay@plymouthchurchucc.org

Rev. Matthew Bauhof
Associate Minister
mbauhof@plymouthchurchucc.org

James P. Riggs
Minister of Music & The Arts
jriggs@plymouthchurchucc.org

Leslie Szalay
Director of Christian Education
lszalay@plymouthchurchucc.org

Nicole Whitcomb
Communication Coordinator
nwhitcomb@plymouthchurchucc.org

Paul Holter
Facility Manager
pholter@plymouthchurchucc.org

Kathryn Kundrat
Finance Administrator
kkundrat@plymouthchurchucc.org

James Lake, Rose Munn
Facilities Staff

Church Office 216-921-3510



Pastor's Corner

I'm not really a fan of New Year's resolutions, probably because I have not had much luck with them. If I had been successful, I would be a fit, organized person who is a great cook and I am none of those things! Researchers say about 60% of us make resolutions and only about 8% achieve them. Not exactly an encouraging statistic, is it? Actually, one year I did manage to keep to my resolutions, but that was the year I committed to eat more chocolate and watch more movies on TV. This is not a strategy I would recommend.

That said, there is something appealing about a fresh start, right? It has that brand-new-box-of-crayons feeling you might remember from childhood. Theologically, Christmas is the ultimate new beginning that promises a new future for all of creation and that new future is ours. As we enter a new decade, we will be looking forward and dreaming about what the future holds for Plymouth Church.

Beginning on Sunday, January 5, I will preach a five-part sermon series called *With Open Hands*, which is based on a little book of the same name by Henri Nouwen. The book is a meditation on prayer. In 2020 my prayer for Plymouth Church is that we will lean into the next phase of the pastoral transition with hands, hearts, and minds that are open to the movement of the Spirit. We will use Nouwen's words as a guide for the process: "To pray is to walk in the full light of God and to say simply, without holding back, 'I am human and you are God.'"

In addition, I hope you will make a special effort to attend one of the after-church brunches that are being hosted by the Transition Team in January and early February. In my short time at Plymouth I have learned there is so much to celebrate and to be proud of here. I know you will enjoy sharing with other church members and friends what you most appreciate about the community and talking about the shape of our mission and vision going forward. Plus, Hans is cooking; what more encouragement do you need? We'll keep the information flowing about this process and if you have a question please contact Jeannie Clarkson by email: jeannie.m.clarkson@gmail.com. You can help the Transition Team in a big way by keeping an eye on your email and making sure to RSVP for your Sunday.

So friends, Happy New Year! Let us walk together in the full light of God and embrace all that lies ahead for Plymouth Church.

Blessings,



Rev. Dr. Deborah Lindsay

After Church Brunches



PLYMOUTH CHURCH, UCC

After Church Brunches

HOSTED BY THE PLYMOUTH TRANSITION TEAM:

CHRISTINE BRETZ, JEANNIE CLARKSON, LEE
MAKELA, JANET NEARY AND TRACY WILLIAMS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12 - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2
FROM 12:30 TO 1:30 PM

Friends & families at Plymouth will receive an invitation to our after-church brunch series that will focus on what is going on now and in the future as Plymouth searches for our new Senior Minister. All members will be invited, by e-mail, to one of the four brunches. If you are unable to attend that morning, you will be asked to join us at another brunch.

We hope you will join us for some great food and updates on our church transition!



Transition Team Update

AS OF DECEMBER 2019: TRANSITION TEAM UPDATE

Plymouth's Transition Team (Christine Bretz, Jeannie Clarkson, Lee Makela, Janet Neary and Tracy Williams) will be hosting a series of Sunday Brunch gatherings (organized around existing Connection Groups) during January and early February 2020. These after church gatherings will provide all members of the congregation an opportunity to initiate a self-assessment of the current state of Plymouth Church as a UCC congregation as we look towards the identification and installation of a new Senior Minister.

In these small group sessions we'll be discussing a series of open-ended questions, such as: WHERE ARE WE NOW? What kind of a church are we at present? What seems to be our priorities? What do we as individuals value about Plymouth? What draws us to this particular congregation?

In partial preparation for these conversations the Team continues to urge the congregation to pick up and fill out the brief individual WE ARE PLYMOUTH surveys designed to provide both our new interim minister and fellow congregants information that will help us all become better acquainted. Completed photo-enhanced survey forms will continue to be displayed throughout the church to give us all (as well as our new Interim Senior Minister) the chance to learn something new about the others in the Plymouth Family.

In other activities, some Transition Team members were present at the after-service meeting held on Sunday, November 3, 2019 to respond to questions or issues members of the congregation might have as the transition period gets underway. Team members were also present at an initial meeting with the Rev. Dr. Deborah Lindsay over brunch on Saturday, November 9, 2019, the day before she conducted her first worship service at Plymouth. We had lunch together again on December 21, 2019, just before Christmas to discuss how things are going.

Look for further updates to Transition Team plans on the church website and on the Welcome Center TV recently installed in the churches main hallway. Please feel free to contact any member of the Team as well with questions, issues or concerns.

- Lee Makela

Keep up the Beat

PLYMOUTH CHURCH, UCC OF SHAKER HEIGHTS



KEEP UP THE BEAT

CPR, AED, AND CHOKING/HEIMLICH MANEUVER

*Learn to be a vital part of responding to an
emergency situation by knowing what needs to be done!*



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8
9 TO 11 AM
AT PLYMOUTH CHURCH**

**\$25 PER PERSON | PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE CPR CERTIFICATION
THROUGH EMERGENCY CARE & SAFETY INSTITUTE (ECSI)**

**Checks made payable to "Jennifer Buss/Keep Up the Beat"*

Ministries & Opportunities

The Many Ways You Can Give: On Line Donation using a credit card number or your checking account number; via Realm – visit PlymouthChurchUCC.org and scroll to the bottom, click “Donate”; via Vanco Text Giving – Text \$XX.00 to 855-914-1060 Text “edit” to update information or set up reoccurring transactions. Text “assist” for help or call Vanco Payments @ 800-675-7430; Cash or Check placed in offering baskets during service, drop in the Office mailbox for Kathryn or mail to the Church: Plymouth Church, UCC Attn: Kathryn Kundrat, 2860 Coventry Road, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120; Donations of Stock or Other Securities Contact Kathryn Kundrat, Finance Administrator, for the Church’s brokerage account number & DTC number to transfer your securities directly from your account into the Church’s account; In your Estate Planning a bequest by will or naming the Church as a beneficiary on your Life Insurance Policy, please contact your tax advisor for details. - Kathryn Kundrat, 216-921-3510 x24

Women’s Bible Study



1 PM | Room 102
First Sunday
of the month

PLYMOUTH CONNECTION GROUPS

Connection Groups serve to bring together the congregation in small groups and are essential in keeping Coffee Hour a priority and a staple in the life of Plymouth Church.

EYEGLASS COLLECTION

Donate used eyeglasses to the Church Office. Benefits go to the Mayfield Heights Lions Club & the Lions Eye Clinic located at St. Vincent Charity Hospital.



Sponsored by Dave & Juanita Faulx

VOLUNTEER AT THE SHAKER HEIGHTS HUNGER CENTER

January 20, 22, 27 & 29

10 AM | 20120 Lomond Drive

440-247-1926 or contact Charlene Nevans

charlene_nevans@hotmail.com

Join the Flower Delivery Ministry!



Contact Juanita Faulx for more information at faulxj@yahoo.com

VOLUNTEER AT THE CLEVELAND FOODBANK

Join us at the Cleveland Foodbank on **Wednesday, January 15 from 6 to 8 PM**. We will gather to sort food for the thousands of hungry people in our community. All adults and children 12 and over are welcome. Please don’t wear open-toed shoes. We’ll have dinner at a local restaurant afterward.

Contact Paul Qua at pqua@driveclassic.com.

PASTORAL CARE

If anyone has a pastoral need, please contact the Associate Minister, Matthew Bauhof at 248-561-6734.

News & Events

Sugar Plum Workshop 2019 – We would like to extend a huge thank you to all volunteers who helped make our Sugar Plum Workshop a fun and organized event! We had nearly 50 volunteers and a room full of families enjoying the gift of giving in the holiday season. Thank you!!



Thank You – Thank you to all the musicians who added much during our Advent and Christmas season. We are grateful for your presence, for your leadership and for the ways you inspire us!

A New Year, A New Opportunity – For the month of January the choir is doing a J-term. We are giving up a few Thursday rehearsals in return for a Saturday morning workshop on January 11 which will include meditation, seated yoga, and a rehearsal. We will also be making a visit to a nursing home to sing. Have you wanted to try choir? Not much time in your schedule? Consider this J-term with the choir. For a complete schedule and for more information, contact Jim Riggs at jriggs@plymouthchurchucc.org.

Church Council – Church Council will meet the 4th Tuesday of each month for 2020. Council meetings are open to all church members. The January meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 28 at 7 PM.



Building Security Update—Primary entrances for Plymouth Church Worship Services will be the main entrance doors from the parking lot near the elevator, and the front exterior doors of the Sanctuary facing Coventry road. On special occasions, including memorial services, concerts, community events and holy day services, the Chapel entry door will be open for use. Otherwise, this door will remain locked for entry, but is always available for exit.

Giving Text Description—The new number to fulfill your Give by Texts is 1-855-914-1060. Text giving that is set up to reoccur will continue to function with the transfer from the old to the new number. To make changes to your account, you need to text “edit” to the new 800 number.

News & Events

Sunday Choir – Will sing on January 12. We meet at 9:45 AM the morning of and sing together as a group for worship. It's that simple. Invite your friends, co-workers, family members. Please email Jim Riggs (jriggs@plymouthchurchucc.org) of your intention to sing or see him after worship.

New Year, New Bible Study – Monday night Bible study will resume January 6, 2020. Rev. Matt Bauhof will lead discussion of Isaiah 42:1-9. Beginning on Monday, January 13, 2020 Plymouth's weekly Bible study group will be doing something new. With Rev. Deb Lindsay leading us, we will work our way through a book by Rachel Held Evans, (Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water and Loving the Bible Again). One reviewer called it "a love letter to scripture." Bible study meets in Room 102 at 5:30 PM on Mondays and all are welcome!

Hey Ushers! – Do you know that Plymouth Church will pay your \$25 fee to attend the "Keep Up the Beat" training session on Saturday, February 8 from 9 to 11 AM? You will learn how to perform CPR, use an AED and save someone who is choking. Do you know where the AED is stored or when to call 911?



PLYMOUTH CHURCH, UCC OF SHAKER HEIGHTS



KEEP UP THE BEAT

CPR, AED, AND CHOKING/HEIMLICH MANEUVER
Learn to be a vital part of responding to an emergency situation by knowing what needs to be done!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8
9 TO 11 AM
AT PLYMOUTH CHURCH

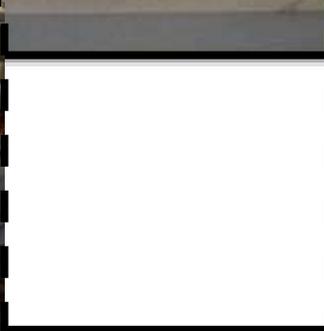
\$25 PER PERSON | PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE CPR CERTIFICATION THROUGH EMERGENCY CARE & SAFETY INSTITUTE (ECSI)
*Checks made payable to "Jennifer Buss/Keep Up the Beat"

Even if you cannot perform CPR you can play a significant role in a successful rescue if you know what to do! This fun and fast paced class covers it all for assisting both adults and infants/children in an emergency– plus bagels and coffee are included!

Please be sure to RSVP to Nicole by January 29.

Please consider joining the Building & Grounds Committee! While you may be reluctant or consider your talents to lie elsewhere, the committee is always welcoming to new members whose expertise may not be in Facilities & Property Management, but who are willing to be educated and assist with the important decisions necessary to maintain an almost 100 year old Main Building and two 65 year old additions! Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM in Room 102. Please join us!

Sugar Plum Workshop 2019





Plymouth Kids Art Show

Plymouth children and youth are invited to share their artistic talents with the congregation in our Fifth Annual Plymouth Kids Art Show! Artwork will be displayed in the second floor atrium during the Epiphany season, January 5 through February 23. Children 0-18 can submit their original artwork to Leslie Szalay no later than January 5. Please complete an "About my Art" form (available in the welcome area) with each piece. Let's share and celebrate all of our artistic gifts!

*School projects are acceptable
Multiple submissions accepted
Open to kids 0-18*

Parents Night Out

Parent's Night Out (PNO) is offered the first Friday of every month September through May. PNO gives parents and caregivers some free time, while the kids have pizza, play games, make crafts and watch movies. PNO is for families with kids pre-k through 5th grade.

Our next PNO will be an Art Theme to kick off our annual Epiphany Kids Art Show. PNO will be Friday, January 3rd 6 PM to 9 PM in Fellowship Hall.

For planning purposes, please register by responding to the email invite or by leaving a message with Leslie Szalay by noon Thursday.

\$5 per child/ \$10 family max

Upcoming Events

Children & Youth Sunday
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Valentine's Cookie Baking
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Coffee & Christ

High School students are invited to join Mr. Szalay for coffee, donuts and conversations on the third Sunday of the month in the Krumbine room. The next meeting is Sunday, Jan 19.

Plymouth Parents

The Children & Youth Department has created a fellowship group for parents to support and encourage each other in this journey of parenthood! Plymouth Parents will meet in room 207 after church 12 to 1:15 PM. Parents and caregivers of children of all ages are welcomed to come connect with others and discuss relevant parenting topics. Lunch is provided, come join us!

We will be offering a Joyful Noise music program for the children during our parent meeting time.

All kids are welcomed to participate in this monthly music exploration, but registration is required.

Our next Plymouth Parents & Joyful Noise programs will be held January 26.

Please sign-up outside the sanctuary for planning purposes, and to request childcare for children four and under. Contact Leslie Szalay with questions at lszalay@plymouthchurchucc.org.

POSTMASTER: Send address change to Plymouth Church, *The Perspective*

PLYMOUTH CHURCH, UCC
2860 Coventry Road
Shaker Heights, OH 44120-2200
216-921-3510



Perspective Deadline
Tuesday, Jan 21

SEND TO:



**Give up Snail Mail and
receive the Perspective
electronically!**

Contact the church office
216-921-3510

**DICK BRUBAKER
GAIL HALL
PATRICIA JURUS
JANET NEARY
PAT POGUE
DAVID RODGERS
GUS SCHRADER
GRETCHEN SMITH**

Happy Birthday!

TO OUR FOUR SCORE PLUS