

BIBLE STUDY IS GROWING!

Our Bible study group has grown so much we needed to add another table! From 5-8 regular participants each week when we started just over two years ago, we now typically have over a dozen people gather every Tuesday morning to discuss the scripture selection from the lectionary that week. We never know where these discussions will lead us, but it is always a wonderful learning experience for all, an hour filled with curiosity and laughter, deep introspection, and rich dialogue. It is no longer a surprise to find how strongly the scripture relates to the events happening around us, and the discussion helps us to respond with wisdom, patience, and understanding. Having so many people look at a particular selection of scripture together is always eye-opening. Everyone present gets to contribute their wisdom and experience, bringing a depth and insight to the reading that we could never have on our own.

If this sounds like something you might be interested in, we encourage you to join this lively group for a wonderful start to your Tuesday! These scriptures and insights stay with us throughout the week, giving us the strength and courage we need for the challenges we face.



Bible study, Tuesday, April 14.

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“ALL MY RELATION” – A 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION EXHIBIT

The Fireside Room Exhibit currently on display is titled “Mitakuye Owas’in”, when translated means “All My Relation” in Dakota Sioux.

The five panels remind us that even though the origins of the American Revolution were far, far away, that history reaches Montana peoples and landscapes. Looking at Montana Heritage, Innovation, Service and Inspiration, the exhibit features 10 different Montanans, each contributing in astounding ways to the history and culture of this nation.

The exhibit is on loan from the Montana Historical Society and commemorates the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution and Declaration of Independence. It will circulate among other cultural centers throughout the state in the coming year.



TIME FOR PLANTINGS FOR THE FRONT OF THE CHURCH

Once the threat of frost has passed we will begin to prepare the five large urns outside the church entry. You can help in a couple of ways. To prevent future damage to the planters, Don Harriott proposes we fill each planter half-way with empty aluminum cans, then cover the cans with landscape cloth, topped with soil. It seems that when the planters are full of dirt they are more inclined to freeze and crack. We will need approximately 200 empty and cleaned aluminum cans. A drop box is provided in the hall outside the sanctuary.

Secondly, you are welcome to supply plants or to make a financial contribution for the purpose of purchasing plants for our entrance. There will be an update in next month’s newsletter regarding preferred colors and plants that have done well in that very sunny and sometimes hot location. Thank you for thinking about it.

BIBLE HUMOR

Q: What kind of man was Boaz before he married Ruth?

A: Ruthless!

Q: What do they call Pastors in Germany?

A: German Shepherds

Q: Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A: Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation!



Making sandwiches for those in need. It was a joint UCC/UU operation!



Any concerns or suggestions for ongoing needs, please call Gus at **(406) 202-8768**

The new Sign, already approved by the city.

Watch for the rock work to be done next.



In Our Prayers

Special Prayers: Maxine Ferguson, Art Gilreath, Loraine Hopgood, Doris Powell, Marlyce Taylor, and Giles Walker. All those who are experiencing the horrors of war and natural disasters.

Medical Treatment: Michael Blanchard, Greg Bolin, Gus Byrom, Carl Carlson, Brian Coplin,

Karen Senne Hayes, Frank Kromkowski, Kelly Murphy, Donna Randolph, Phyllis Weaver, Tommy Williams.

To add someone to the prayer list, please fill out the prayer card in the pew backs, call the church office at 442-9883 or email pccofficemgr@gmail.com.



“HOPE IS BEING ABLE TO SEE THAT THERE IS LIGHT DESPITE ALL OF THE DARKNESS” Desmond Tutu

Hope is more than a feeling; it is a quiet spiritual force that moves through the human heart like light through a stained-glass window. It doesn't erase struggle, but it reminds us that we are held by something larger than our circumstances. Hope whispers that even in the darkest valley, there is a path we cannot yet see.

In many spiritual traditions, hope is understood as a gift—an inner flame placed within us by the Divine, the universe, or the deep wisdom of life itself. It is the assurance that renewal is always possible, that no winter lasts forever, and that every soul carries the capacity to rise again.

Hope invites us into relationship: with ourselves, with others, and with the sacred. When we offer hope to someone else, we become instruments of grace. A gentle word, a prayer, a moment of presence can lift another person's spirit in ways we may never fully know.

Most of all, hope calls us to participate in the unfolding of something better. It asks us to trust that our small acts—our kindness, our courage, our willingness to begin again—are part of a larger story being written through us,

In a world that often feels uncertain, hope is a spiritual anchor. It steadies us, guides us, and reminds us that light is always on its way.



Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?

Pharaoh's daughter: She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?

Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Also, probably a Honda, because the apostles were all in one Accord.



Thanks to you, Plymouth, the Pu'ula UCC in Pahoia, Hawai'i, now has hymnals that are not falling apart, and that have all of their pages. We fundraised on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, and between the two we made exactly the amount to buy them 25 NCH hymnals and the piano version, plus shipping. They are so happy and grateful to you, and they were kind of flabbergasted that anyone would want to help them get something that they were unable to get for themselves.

Now comes the important part—everyone needs to go to Hawai'i so they can thank you in person!



The trees and foliage are so dramatic over there! This is the corner of the church building, and people visiting after worship.

Unison Prayer for 4/19/26: God of All Creation, we thank you for this beautiful green world. We thank you for the miracle of life, and for the bounty of life all around us. Help us to take care of this wonderful world of flowers and trees, mushrooms and birds, frogs and fish and all of the animals. Give us insight and understanding, to see you in everything living. And, give us the strength and the courage we need to protect and renew our world, so that it can protect and renew us, and all of the generations that come after.

Upcoming UCC Webinars:

Economic Justice

Wednesday, 4/21 3 pm
Economic Justice and the Special Mission Offerings

Nuture the Soul

Monday, 4/20 3:30 pm
Future of Faith: Faith in Chaotic Times

Thursday 4/23, 3:30 pm
Let's Talk About It - Mental Health Sunday

Thursday, 5/7, 3:30 pm
Proclaiming "Love Knows No Borders"

Creation Justice

Saturday, 4/25, 1 pm

Go to the UCC home page, then click on News on the top right, then click on Events on the right. Click on the title of the event you are interested in, and it will show you how to register for the zoom meeting.

FROM THE TREASURER—Gail Tronstad

Quarterly the Council receives a review of the budget. Below is a recap of information presented at the April 16, 2026 Council meeting for the first quarter (25%) of the year.

To date we have received 35% of the pledged income for this fiscal year. This is fairly common as some individuals prefer to make one payment per year. We are grateful for your generosity and attention to your commitment to Plymouth.

Administrative expenses are above budget in some areas but are expected to even out in future months. This is due to meetings in late 2025 and the various annual reports that must be filed with the US Treasury in January.

Office Supplies are higher than 25% at this time due to the upgrade of two new computers and ancillary equipment. This expense was planned for in the budget and will even out later. Thanks to Al Simons for finding excellent equipment at a very good price. And many special thanks to Al for all of the work in transferring files and setting up the new computers. It is a great gift to have these new, speedy computers and beautiful screens.

The Sabbatical / Search CD matured on April 4. An additional \$4670 was added to this and renewed for six months at a rate of 3.25%. The total amount of this CD is now \$19,393.71.

Structural repairs and maintenance is over budget and we are thankful for that as it means much needed work is being completed on our aging building. The risers at the front have been completed and carpeted (thank you, Terry) and the south steps to the daycare are in the process of being repaired (thank you, Marcia). In the process of completing the risers, Terry was very fortunate to find and purchase the last small remnant of this carpet that existed on planet earth. It is safely tucked away in the Ho Chi Minh Trail for times when we need other repairs.

In April, we received a donation of \$5000 for the repair of the elevator. This is indeed a rich blessing for our building and to those in our midst who need an alternate form of transportation downstairs.

To each of you – please accept our deep appreciation for all give in time, talent and financial resources to keep the structure and the mission of Plymouth humming along inside our walls and outside of our walls in the community and the wider world. Blessings!

Would you be willing to drive someone to church who can't get here by themselves? Contact Lynn Bolin for details.



Happy April Birthdays to:

**6 Brenda Senne
26 Ed Barrett
Don Harriott**

Early May Birthdays:

**1 Lucinda Sheldon
8 Delores Haslip
10 Ed Field**





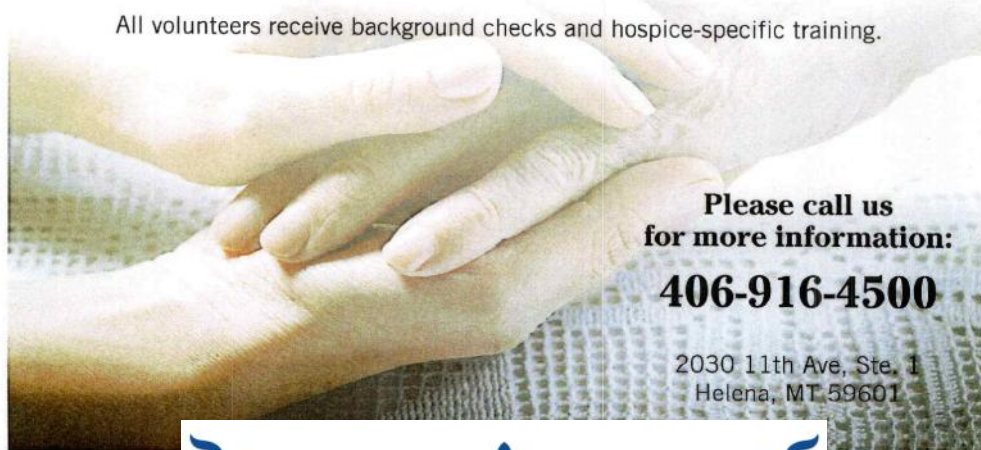
Hospice Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are an essential part of hospice care. No matter what your abilities and interests are, there are volunteer opportunities for you!

Volunteers Can Help In Many Different Ways:

- Providing companionship and emotional support
- Helping to write letters or record life stories
- Reading aloud
- Staying with hospice patients while caregivers take a break
- Household chores and yard work
- Bedside music and art projects
- Assisting with hospice office tasks
- Phone calls and visits to bereaved families

All volunteers receive background checks and hospice-specific training.



Please call us for more information:

406-916-4500

2030 11th Ave, Ste. 1
Helena, MT 59601



Plymouth Women's Fellowship is considering replacing the metal folding chairs in the Fellowship Hall with a more comfortable chair. We are looking at folding chairs with either fabric or plastic padded seat and back. The chairs will be 18 inches high.

To help raise funds we will try to sell the old choir robes on E-Bay and maybe advertise our old metal folding chairs on Helena Market Place. Please contact Lynn Bolin with any questions, or suggestions.

You're Invited!

Bible Study:

Every Tuesday
9:00 a.m.
Fireside Room

Sandwich Ministry:

Second & Fourth
Wednesday of the
month. 9:30 a.m.
Kitchen

Chime Choir:

Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m.
Sanctuary

Women's Fellowship

Tuesday, April 28
Overland Express
Lunch at 11:30
All Women Welcome!

Cleaning Crew

Saturday mornings
Contact Kathe to
volunteer:

603-860-4539 or
kathe@simonshome.
org



Plymouth
Congregational Church

United Church of Christ
400 S. Oakes St. Helena, MT 59601

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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.



Office Hours

Pr. Charles Wei: 9:00 a.m.—1:00 pm
Tuesday—Thursday,
and by appointment

Administrative Assistant
Kendall Larson:
9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. (Mon—Fri)

Contact Us

Church Office: 406.442.9883

Web:
www.plymouthmontanaucc.org

Email: pccofficemgr@gmail.com

Also: [www.facebook.com/
plymouthcongregational](https://www.facebook.com/plymouthcongregational)

Sundays

10:00 a.m. Worship Service
In Person and Online

