

**Pastor Marie Siroky**

321 North Center St.
Plymouth, IN 46563
(574) 936-3010

Church Office Hours
Mon, Wed, Fri 9am-2pm

Pastor Office Days
Monday & Wednesday
To schedule an appt with the Pastor please call the church office.

Pastor@plymouthfirstucc.org
Office@plymouthfirstucc.org
www.plymouthfirstucc.org

10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
10:45 a.m. Worship Service
Nursery Available

Listen on the Radio at
WTCA 1050AM or 106.1FM
THE CHIEF

Need a ride to Church?
Rex Nifong (574) 935-5706
Trevor Jaynes (574) 210-3069

Pastoral Care, hospitalizations,
emergencies
Call or text Pastor Marie
(317) 902-5830

The Messenger March 2019

*No Matter Who You Are Or Where You Are On
Life's Journey You Are Welcome Here!*

Words from the Pastor

On Wednesday as we receive ashes on our foreheads, we hear the words "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return". Seems morbid. As a teacher in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia I struggled with explaining this to my 31 second graders. Returning to dust? We came from dust? Fortunately, we could opt for the words "Turn away from sin and turn to the gospel". Explaining the good news of Jesus was much easier.

That works for seven-year-olds, yet the traditional returning to dust cannot be swept under the rug. God created us and fashioned us from the earth. Being reminded we will return to dust isn't implying death is imminent, only that life is fragile. The ashes are a symbol that we believe in the power of the resurrection. We must embrace life now, recognize we can choose to live as followers of Christ with support of community, with prayer, fasting from distractions, and giving to those in need.

Lent is compared to planting a garden. We need to prepare the soil and remove the rocks and debris. First, we need to know what we are planting and what we want to grow. IF we are to save the Monarchs we need milkweed! If we are working toward growing church membership, we need to support the ministries of the church and encourage others to visit.

There will be many opportunities during Lent for us contemplate how God can become rooted in our life. Fasting. Almsgiving. That is what Jesus asks us to do not only for others but for ourselves. Seize all 40 days of Lent. Prepare ourselves for the growth to come!

Be encouraged- Pastor Marie

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
•Food Pantry Giving •Communion Sunday •4PM Installation- Rev Marie					Ash Wed Service 7PM	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
•Annual Congregational Meeting & Carry-in •Women's Sunday •Christian Education Giving	11:45AM Retired Group meets at Christos			6PM "Still Speaking Scripture" Bible Study		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
•Building Fund Giving •Tyler Carlton Baptism		7PM Council		6PM "Still Speaking Scripture" Bible Study		Youth Group 12PM-2PM
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
•Radio Mission Giving						Messenger items due to the church office
						31
•Scholarship Giving						
2019						

March

Monthly Emphases

First Sundays (March 03rd) is Food Pantry Sunday. Bring canned goods and other food for the needy of our community.

Second Sundays (March 10th) is Christian Education Sunday; special support for the educational ministry of our congregation.

Third Sundays (March 17th) is Building Fund Sunday; continued support for the vision of our congregation, past, present and future.

Fourth Sundays (March 24th) is Radio Mission Sunday; support for our weekly radio broadcast on WTCA.

Fifth Sundays (March 31st) is for Scholarship Sundays as support for our graduates.

First UCC Mission Projects

March/April Mission Project: As a church, as a community, God calls on us to protect and care for those in need. Our mission is to donate new tennis shoes for the Boys & Girls Club of Marshall County. If we all donate just one pair of shoes, imagine how many children can be provided with a new pair of shoes they otherwise wouldn't have. All sizes are needed.

Stamps for Living: Please put stamps in envelope on bulletin board.

Red Cross: We are an active warming/cooling shelter for those in need of safe accommodations in severe weather. We will send out and email and post on FaceBook when we are set up as a shelter.

We always welcome any ideas on future mission projects. Please contact Pastor Marie or email the church office.

Persons in Nursing Homes

Catherine Kasper

Miller's Merry Manor

Mary Alyce Pentelow Room 50
Edith Tucker Room TBD

Mason Health & Rehab

June Askins Room 404

Prayer Requests

These are special people whom we need to keep in our thoughts and prayers:

»June Askins, Norma Jean Kuhn, Pat Kuskye, Edith Tucker, Suzie Servis, Dolores Gehrke, Alice Lawrence, Mary Alyce Pentelow, Jack & Pat Carpenter, Lily Myers, Janice Warren, Ken Kunze, and C.J. Siroky.«

Please contact Amme Girten at (574) 933-2476 to be added to the prayer chain.



First UCC

Youth Group

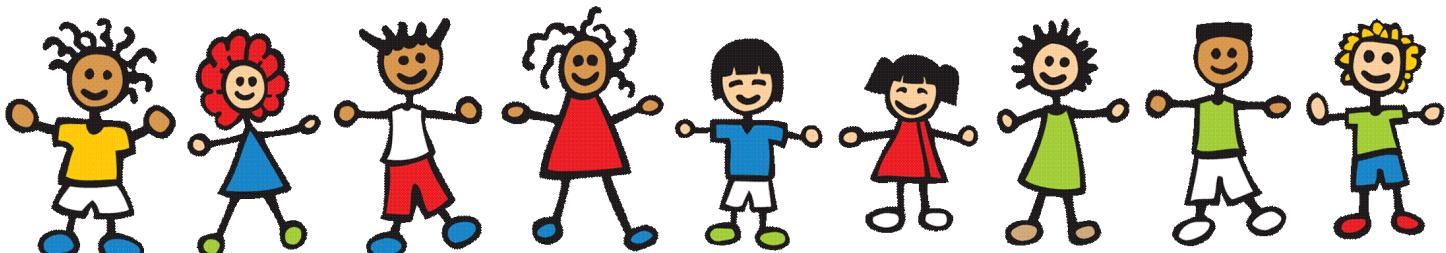


Thank you to everyone who helped out with our Youth Group in February! The kids had a blast making a streamer maze in the hallway, playing hide-and-seek, chowing down on pizza, playing in the orbeez table, and celebrating just being kids.

The Youth Group meets every last Saturday of the month. We will meet again on March 30th, 12PM - 2PM.

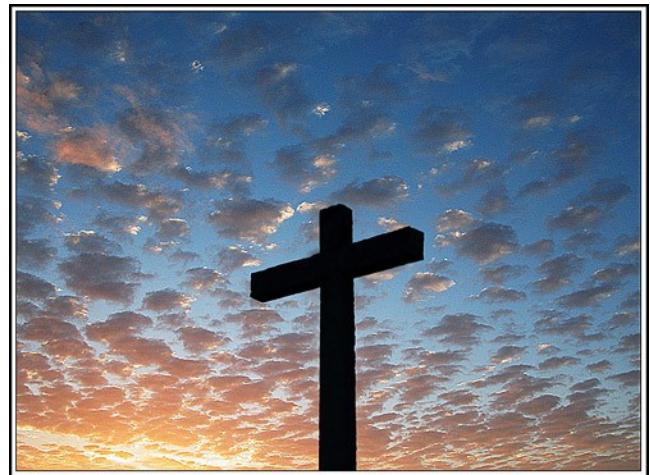
This month we will have a bible scavenger hunt, tie-dye First UCC Youth Group T-shirts, and enjoy a taco bar!

We will be starting our first fundraiser. The Youth Group will be working to raise funds to take a special trip (TBD) once school is out. We will be selling handcrafted notecards (seasonal and all occasion) from Usborne Books called "Cards for a Cause". Our Youth Group will receive 40% of all cards sold. We will pass out more information at Youth Group and have information in the church office for anyone interested.



Church Blessings & Joys

- ♦ March 17th: Baptism of Tyler David Carlton, son of Brooke & Josh Carlton
- ♦ Note from Ken Kunze: Ken says he is very thankful for the note cards the Women of the Church send to him each month.



Community

Be the Church in community. We each have our own cross to bear, but we can pray and support one another with theirs. During Lent we invite the community to add their prayer concerns with ours to the cross outside. It is a visual reminder that we are a community committed to one another. We know thoughts and prayers are healing. Often it is knowing someone is listening and that they are praying for you which gives comfort. There will be pieces of cloth on which to write prayer intentions available beginning Ash Wednesday. For those unable to come to Church, please email or call us with your intention and it will be added. Imagine all the prayer warriors we have!



AA Meetings at First UCC

Al-Anon Hotline Phone # (574) 341-2871

Mondays - (c) 8PM, "Monday Night Candlelight" • **Tuesdays** - (c) 7:30PM, "New Life Group" • **Wednesdays** - (o) 5:30PM, "Ladies of Serenity" (women's group); (c) 8PM "Winners Group" • **Saturdays** - (os) 8PM, "Winners Group" • **Sundays** - (c) 7PM, "12x12 Group"

(w) Wheelchair Accessible, (o) Open: Open to any interested person, (os) Open Speaker: Open to any interested person, special speaker, (c) Closed: Only for alcoholics and other who have a desire to stop drinking, (s) Smoking

First United Church of Christ

Board Members:

Hospitality: Tina Morales
Youth Representative: Aidan Rivera
Personnel & Nominating: Emyle Kruyer-Collins
Church Historian: Elizabeth Brown
Prayer Chain: Amme Girten
Memorial Committee: Elizabeth Brown &
Betty Wenino

Board Members:

Pastor: Marie Siroky
Elders: Barb Bateman
Business & Finance: Rex Nifong
Property: Bob Manuwal
Deacons: Geoff Scarberry
Parish Life/Festivals: Barbara Bateman
Women of the Church: Lily Myers
Education: Nancy Keyser & Christine Jaynes

Executive Committee:

President: Council, Vice-President: Bob Manuwal,
Secretary: Barbara Bateman, Treasurer: Christine Jaynes

First United Church of Christ
321 N. Center Street
Plymouth, IN 46563

Return address service requested