



*Progressive, Inclusive, Home*  
**firstplymouth**  
 congregational church



**November 2011**

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**Welcome New Members**

We welcomed eight new members into the church on September 25.

**Sarah Herbert:** Sarah and her 16 year old granddaughter live in Aurora. Sarah is retired from working with teenage gang members and now enjoys working as a volunteer in our nursery. Her hobbies include cooking and photography.

**Deborah Arca:** Deborah grew up in Denver (a graduate of Thomas Jefferson HS) and First Plymouth, and has spent many fun filled hours at LaForet. She is the managing editor of the professional Christian portal for Patheos.com, an online destination to engage in the global dialogue about religion and spirituality and to explore and experience the world's beliefs.

**Tyler and Sally Chafee:** Tyler was reared in Denver and is a graduate of East High. He is the Senior Vice President of Strategies 360, a strategic positioning firm. Sally, homemaker extraordinaire, also volunteers with Retriever Rescue of Colorado and is involved with Democratic politics. Tyler and Sally lived together before they ever met. Both were working on a presidential campaign in New Jersey living in campaign housing, but their paths did not cross until after they had already been working for some time. Their three children are Anna (7), Nora (4), and Will (1):

**Colleen Egan and Lois McCloskey:** Colleen and Lois moved from Seattle to Denver two years ago to be closer to Lois's family. Colleen is a legal secretary and Lois a music therapist. When not busy with work, they are busy with their 9-month old Husky mix, and a five-year-old Golden Retriever. If you can't tell by the last names, Colleen and Lois are Irish, and each has five siblings!

**Jay and Melissa Carpenter:** Melissa is a homemaker and a former medical social worker, and Jay is a financial advisor with Ameriprise Financial. Their children are Geyelin (6), Henry (5), Charlotte (5), and Stella (11 months).



**Welcome  
 Our New  
 Members**

**November Birthday Wishes...**



**...to Our Seniors**

- 11/2 Wanda Shanks
- 11/4 Mildred Kelly
- 11/5 Jack Race
- 11/16 William Eha
- 11/20 Larry Barrett
- 11/27 Judy Crossland
- 11/29 Carol Bethune

**...and to Our Children**

- 11/1 Madison Lindstrom
- 11/3 Allison Schroeder
- 11/3 Amelia Schroeder
- 11/9 Joe Bronstein
- 11/14 Caroline Erickson
- 11/17 Natalie Falconetti
- 11/25 Madeline Ruddy
- 11/28 Charles Miller



# Worship Opportunities

## Sunday Morning at First Plymouth

- 8:45 a.m.** Fellowship and Adult Christian Education/Formation  
**9:00 a.m.** Choir/Musician Rehearsal  
**10:00 a.m.** Worship in the Sanctuary/Children's Sunday School  
 Contemplative Worship in the Chapel  
**11:15 a.m.** Fellowship, Children's Choir, Adult Christian Formation

**8:30 through the end of the 10:00 a.m. service: Nursery Care in B09**

### Sunday, November 6 All Saints/All Souls Sunday

**The Rev. George Anastos**  
**Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25, Chancel Choir**

Today we will remember all those saints of our congregation who have died in the past year and celebrate their faith and courage. Many of these are folks who faced enormous challenges in their lives, particularly the Great Depression and World War II. And yet they emerged with strength and grace and a compassion that is extraordinary. With all the strife and even horror they encountered, they still made the choice to follow the Way of Love.

### Sunday, November 13 – Rwanda Sunday

**The Rev. George Anastos**  
**Matthew 25:14-30, Chancel Choir**

Today we will focus on our invitation to recognize the world as a global village, a creation where we are all related and all children of the one God of Love. We will explore a deeply misunderstood parable of Jesus (the parable of the talents). And we may well be shocked by what the parable really says. Good. That is what the parables are intended to do: to shock our accepted sensibilities and force us to consider how we see and frame our world.

### Sunday, November 20 – Reign of Christ

**The Rev. George Anastos**  
**Matthew 25:31-46**

#### Organ Meditation on *Revelation*

It always comes as a shock to many people that Jesus, when he talks of a final judgment, does not concern himself with what people believe. Really. He does not ask we believe in the Christ, or in Buddha, or Mohammed. He does not ask if we are Christian or Jew, atheist or Hindi. He asks if we ministered in mercy and in love to those considered, in worldly terms, as the least. It is interesting that this last Sunday of the liturgical year has such a vision of the future.

This last Sunday of the church year (Reign of Christ) has

been termed the "little apocalypse" by clergy and musicians of the church. The music for this day will be especially poignant, featuring an organ piece entitled "*Revelation According to St. John the Divine*." The organist plays the organ live, along with a pre-recorded CD which contains many high-powered synthesized effects. The piece is a summation, a reflection, and a musical portrait of the entire book of *Revelation*. The winds blowing across cracked earth, the sound of the angel blowing the trumpet, the stars rolling up within the skies, these and others are portrayed in this challenging musical piece which brings the listener into the book of *Revelation* and through an epic journey of sound.

### Wednesday, November 23

**Thanksgiving Eve Service**  
**7:00 p.m. at Temple Sinai**

**The Rev. Eric Smith**

This year we will continue our 40+ year tradition of having a Thanksgiving service with our sister congregation of Temple Sinai. The service will be at the Temple at 3509 South Glencoe Street (at Hampden Avenue), and our own Eric Smith will be the preacher. For many of us this is a highlight of the year and we hope many of those who are not traveling will be able to attend.

### Sunday, November 27

**First Sunday of Advent**

**The Rev. George Anastos**

**Isaiah 64:1-9, Children and Youth Choir**

Advent. That time when we prepare for Christmas and all its joy and angels and mangers and presents. Sort of. It is also when we are invited to look seriously at God's desire for peace on earth, goodwill to all people, and then at the world as it is. And it is a time to prepare for the goodwill, to work toward the peace on earth, to be intentional about offering our society, our world, a different vision of what it means to be fulfilled. Advent. That time when we live in between what is and what will be.

## November Lectionary Texts

Nov. 6	<b>Joshua 24:1-3a</b>	Psalm 78:1-7	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
Nov. 13	Judges 4:1-7	Psalm 123	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	<b>Matthew 25:14-30</b>
Nov. 20	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24	Psalm 100	Ephesians 1:15-23	<b>Matthew 25:31-46</b>
Nov. 27	<b>Isaiah 64:1-9</b>	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37

# From the Minister & Moderator

## Moderator's Corner

I still receive the newsletter from Plymouth Congregational Church in Minneapolis, a very old church in an inner city neighborhood. No longer a wealthy church, it has financial challenges and demographics similar to ours. Yet it has renovated an apartment building for transitional housing for families with children. This weekend we had a friend visiting from Minneapolis who told us how her church, Mayflower UCC, had built a Section 8 apartment building on some of their property. It will house Somali immigrants, many of them refugees, and others. Plymouth, slightly ahead on the journey, partnered with Mayflower to complete its project.

It made me think of transformation--the transformation that those churches went through to take on such large projects; and the transformational effects that those projects are having on the churches and their communities.

At the other end of the continuum, somewhere between 4,000 and 7,000 churches close their doors in the U.S. each year—between 11 and 19 churches every day. Recently I drove by a church on North Kipling. Its outdoor bulletin board read, “Church no longer here.” There is an empty lot where a Baptist church in University Hills used to be.

First Plymouth is on the brink of an inevitable transformation. The next few years will be a time of re-visioning who we want to be as church--based on *realistic* membership numbers and financial prospects. We have the potential to follow in the steps of the Minneapolis churches and truly serve the Gospel--in our own way, of course; and we face the risk of becoming another “church no longer here.”

The Council will be having a

two-part retreat November 16. First, we will look honestly and in depth at where First Plymouth is now, financially and demographically, and trends seem likely. And second, we will begin the process of discerning (listening to God's promptings) about what kind of church God wants us to be, and what new kind of church we want to be, given the constraints and opportunities that our financial and membership numbers present.

But ultimately the congregation will decide what direction First Plymouth takes. I hope you will all be thinking, reading, discussing, dreaming, and visioning as we move into another era of our church's 147-year-old history of worship and service. And please, if you have thoughts you want to share with me, Randy or the Council, send them along. We welcome your thoughts and ideas.

And finally, the next installment of our ENDS, which will guide our transformation:

*To continually become a new kind of spiritual community, our beloved community: grounded in the power and love of God, deeply inspired by those who came before us, eager to serve and eager to care for each other and for all of God's creation.*

**END 2.3 A GENEROUS community that commits to giving from our personal abundance, talents and resources, we**

**2.3.1 Share our financial resources with our church community and people in need.**

Peg Thompson, Moderator  
[moderator@firstplymouthchurch.org](mailto:moderator@firstplymouthchurch.org)



## Minister's Meditation

*What does the Holy One require of you but do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)*

A church is not just another group of people. It is not a club. It is not a society. It is not a social service agency. It is a beloved community gathered in Jesus's name to incarnate God's love in justice and mercy, in worship and in prayer. We are invited to be love incarnate in creation.

Inspired by the Spirit and guided by the ministry and teachings of Jesus we are blessed to have so many opportunities to be Jesus's hands and heart in the world. Two things happening this month are of particular note.

First we again are continuing our support of children in the Rwandan village of Kenombe (just outside of Kinshasa). The difference it has made in these children's lives is staggering: with the breakfast and school supplies we provide, these children are being equipped to lead their nation in the future—a future without further violence and genocide. The work being done there matters. On November 13 there will be special presentations after church so we can see the difference our sponsorship of children makes. Please continue your support of this ministry.

The second opportunity we have is to prepare and serve a Thanksgiving meal for the College View site of the Denver Inner City Parish on Monday, November 21. First Plymouth has been deeply involved in monthly meals and activities since this satellite site opened this past spring. This will be their first opportunity to serve a Thanksgiving dinner to the community and we are so blessed to continue our 50-year partnership to empower neighbors in our own backyards.

These are but two of the many ministries and opportunities available to us. We are blessed, truly blessed.

George

# Children's Programs

## Advent Party!

There is no better way to kick off your holiday season than by attending the First Plymouth Advent Party thrown by Children's Ministries. We will have crafts to make, a tree to decorate, refreshments to eat and carols to be sung thanks to our own Heidi Thomas. Be sure to join in the fun from 9:00 to 10:00 am in Plymouth Hall on Sunday, November 27.

Noanie O'Brien Geistert, Director  
[fpchildren@firstplymouthchurch.org](mailto:fpchildren@firstplymouthchurch.org)

In this month of Thanksgiving, I give thanks to our wonderful church community, especially our First Plymouth families with whom I have the honor of working and the stupendous volunteers that we are blessed to have teaching and nurturing our children.

Our children in our Early Childhood class have been busy practicing as our newly reorganized Cherub choir under the talented direction of Erika Henkart. They will make their debut at our Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m. family service, which you won't want to miss!

This month they will be learning about:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>Worship Emphasis</i>	<i>Bible verse</i>
11/6	Joseph & the Dreamer	God is with us all the time.	Genesis 37:1-11
11/13	Joseph & His Brothers	God is with us all the time.	Genesis 37:12-36
11/20	Together Again	God wants families to forgive and love each other.	Genesis 40-46
11/27	A Promise of Hope	Jesus is the special child that God promised.	Isaiah 9:1-6

Our children in the elementary grades will be taught by Rolf and Jane Asphaug this month. We thank Laurie Klisaris and Noelle Cochran for teaching in October.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Theme</i>	<i>Worship Emphasis</i>	<i>Bible Verse</i>
11/6	Ready to Shine	To tend God's light in the worshipping community so we might live out God's love, mercy and compassion	Matthew 25:1-13
11/13	Abundant Possibilities	To respond to the abundance of God's goodness by investing ourselves in prayers and acts of loving justice	Matthew 25:14-30
11/20	Reign of Christ	To recognize the spirit of Christ in all as we continue to live the compassion of God.	Matthew 25:31-46
11/27	Intergenerational Sunday	Advent Party 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Plymouth Hall

On October 9, Eileen Robinson taught our elementary children about our Heifer Project mission plan for the year to raise funds to purchase living creatures for needy families around the world. The children will be making special banks in class and will bring in the funds they have collected on January 8, March 11, and May 20. We hope parents will help with our fundraising efforts by talking about ways their children can earn money for this worthwhile cause. The Early Childhood class has also been learning about the Heifer Project, so we hope they will contribute as well.

Great fun was had by all at our first Family Fellowship event - a Halloween party hosted by the Greenwoods and the Geisterts on October 23. This month is the Advent Party, so look for our next Family Fellowship event in the new year.

First Plymouth is again hosting the Alternative Gift Market on December 3 and 4. The children will hold a bake sale to benefit Heifer Project, and we need your help to staff the table in two-hour shifts over the two days of the sale. We also need donations of baked goods. Please watch the bulletins for sign up instructions through Sign Up Genius.

We have been extraordinarily blessed this year with folks stepping up to teach our kids; we even have a rotation of substitute teachers who are willing to help if the need arises. In the nursery we have Karen and Anne Milliken, who already have worked some shifts for us. In the Early Childhood class Hope Dangremond, the Painters, and Ginnie Heddens are willing to teach as subs and in the elementary class Vicki Krieger, Eileen Robinson, and Leigh Green have volunteered. Thanks to all!

We could not exist on Sunday mornings without our youth helpers. In the nursery most weeks you will find Paige Riggins, and in the elementary grades you will find Kim Robertson and Amanda Cattell helping out most Sundays. In our Early Childhood class Madeleine and Jacqueline Adams help on not one but TWO Sundays! We also have Penny Riggins, Cassie Calhoun-Liebnow, Sarah Clough, Inga Erickson, and Anna, Michael and Kate Serio. Those individuals who have stepped forward to be subs for our youth helpers are Olivia Baud, Trinity Thomas, Anna Shirk, Madi Spillman, and Schuyler Wilson. You are the ones that give Youth a GOOD name! Thanks for all you do.

Boundary Training will not be offered in November and December due to the holidays. It will resume again in January. See Noanie if you need it sooner.

## Adult Education & Spiritual Formation

### Sunday Morning Offerings for Adults

All of our Sunday classes welcome drop-ins and regular participants.  
Check them out and see which ones fit you!

#### Bible Basics and Beyond - "Invitation to John"

8:45 a.m. in Room 212

The invitation from Christ is "Come and see, Follow me." Experience the magnificent passages in John including the "I am" statements (I am the truth, the life and the way; I am the living water; and more). Revisit stories only told in John's gospel including Nicodemus, Mary Magdalene, and the raising of Lazarus. During the weekly video segments, travel into the scripture as you hear the Word, experience the grand artwork connected with each story, and interview the scholar. Participants for this Invitation to John do not have to have an in-depth knowledge of the Bible to enjoy and benefit from participation. Reading just two chapters of John a week, they will discover the life altering stories that will invite them to follow Christ as true disciples.

Bible Basics & Beyond includes a full range of people from novices to scholars. Come with a willingness to learn and to join our lively discussions. You can start any time, as each section stands on its own. For more information call Fletcher Brown at 303-619-8486.

#### Bible Workbench

8:30 a.m. in the Columbine Room

Led by lay facilitators, this lectionary-based class asks questions about how the inner meaning of a text might be active in today's world and how it might have personal meaning. The mission of Bible Workbench is to equip people to become interpreters of life and to enable to decipher the meaning of their own experience. For more information, contact Chip Cole at 303-693-0485.

#### Something for Everyone

Sundays at 11:15 a.m.

##### **November 6 - Faith and Justice: Thinking About the Death Penalty.**

This will be the first in a series of presentations on various contemporary issues, challenging us to wrestle with questions of how our faith should shape our understandings of justice in our society and in our world. Today, we'll be viewing and discussing the film "Juan Melendez 6446," the true story of a man who spent 17 years on death row for a crime he did not commit. Sponsored by Coloradans Against the Death Penalty.

**November 13 – The First Plymouth Rwanda Project.** Please see the full description on page 7.

**November 20 – Art and Religion.** Art historian Jean Sharer will give a fascinating presentation on the intersection of art and religion.

**November 27 – First Sunday of Advent.** See the sidebar for information about our series "Reflecting on Advent Together."



### Advent at First Plymouth: "Reflecting on Advent Together"

This Advent, we are presenting an exciting new way for our community to join together in observance of the Advent season! Mindful that, for many of us, the weeks before Christmas are the most over-scheduled of the year, we are offering a way to make space for Advent and for community in our busy lives. The centerpiece of our offering will be a booklet of Advent Reflections. Written by First Plymouth members, this booklet will offer a brief reflection for each day of Advent – a story, memory, personal experience or reflection on Advent themes or scripture passages that is particularly meaningful for each of our writers and that they wish to share with all of us. The book will be available online and in hard copy.

We hope that this booklet will become the core of a shared Advent experience within First Plymouth, and that everyone in our community will take a few minutes each day to read and reflect on each day's writing. We also hope that this booklet will be the springboard for conversations and further sharing about Advent within our community. And we're offering many places and ways for those conversations to happen. If you'd like to get together with other folks in person and talk together over that week's Advent reflections, themes and passages – and offer your own reflections as well – Eric Smith will be leading a Wednesday evening gathering every week, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m., to share dessert and conversation. We'll also be sponsoring Facebook conversations about the Advent reflections and Advent themes; and we'll have a bulletin board in the Narthex where we encourage all of you to post and share your own Advent stories, reflections and experiences. We may even get a podcast going!

We hope that each of you will take some time this Advent to be a part of this community sharing of reflections on this beautiful and moving season.



### Alternative Gift Market

Before you finish your Christmas shopping, stop by the Alternative Gift Market here at First Plymouth on Saturday, December 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 4, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., where you will find unique gifts while helping others less fortunate – it doesn't get any better than that! With beautiful holiday music by our own Heidi Thomas accompanying you on your shopping experience, enjoy the many vendors and their original fair-trade or eco-friendly products.

To highlight some of our participating vendors, let's begin with Yobel Market, a global marketplace "inspiring awareness while promoting justice." Their offerings include lovely bamboo jewelry made from Uganda widows who lost their spouses in the civil war, beautiful scarves from Ethiopia, and the XS Project from Jakarta. A new vendor last year, who is back with us again, is Pachyderm Power, an elephant conservation program and a voice for abused elephants. They are able to do their work by selling products made from elephant poo and leading tours to elephant habitats in Kenya. Other returning favorites include the Women's Bean Project, Unicef, Earthlinks, and a Mark on the World. Our First Plymouth children will be holding a bake sale to benefit their year-long service goal, The Heifer Project, and our Youth will run the AGM cafe!

We need many volunteers to make the AGM a success, so if you are available to man a table, be a cashier or part of the welcoming team, contribute baked goods for our kids, or help our youth group with the food, we need you! If you haven't signed up to help volunteer yet, be sure to make the call now, because the feeling of satisfaction and fulfillment you'll get from helping so many worthy charities cannot be underestimated in this season of giving.

For more information, contact Amy Turner at [fpc.agm@gmail.com](mailto:fpc.agm@gmail.com) or 720-935-5705.

## Outreach / Mission

# LOFT

### Calling All Hands to Help with Second Annual Thanksgiving Meal

We hope you can start your Thanksgiving week by joining LOFT in hosting our Second Annual Thanksgiving meal. Everyone is invited who wants to help!

This year we are partnering with Denver Inner City Parish (DICP) to offer a free Thanksgiving meal at their College View location on Monday evening, November 21, at 6:00 p.m. DICP has been serving a Thanksgiving meal at their 910 Galapago location since 1960, and it is one of their longest standing traditions. As the DICP College View satellite location just opened in January 2010, this will be the first Thanksgiving meal served at this location, so we hope to make it a huge success and would love your help in making this happen and feeding 150-200 people!

The kitchen facilities at DICP College View are very limited, so our plan is to cook the food in our First Plymouth kitchen and transport it to College View for serving, a short 10 minutes away. We have all kinds of ways you can help, from table decorations to cooking turkeys to slicing and dicing to transporting food to helping serve. Last year's Thanksgiving meal was an amazing experience of community, so we hope you'll consider joining us this year.

The two main food items that we need help with this year are turkeys and pies. We will purchase turkey breasts wholesale and could use help defraying this cost. A donation of \$10 toward the purchase of a turkey would be really appreciated. We will also need about 25 pies, so let us know if you would be willing to purchase and donate one – any kind is fine (pumpkin, apple, pecan, etc.)

An online sign-up will help us keep track of who is volunteering: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/help54>. If you have any other questions, please contact either Heather Greenwood

([hgreenwood@comcast.net](mailto:hgreenwood@comcast.net)) or Crystal Riggins ([crystalriggins@comcast.net](mailto:crystalriggins@comcast.net)).

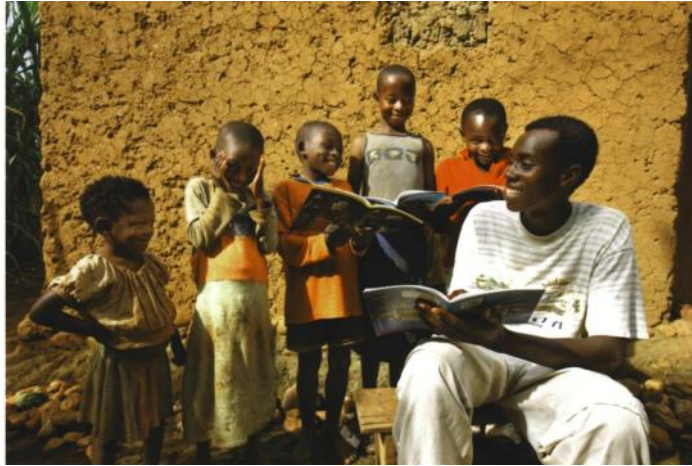
What better way to live out the Thanksgiving message than to serve and be in community with those around us. We look forward to many of you sharing in this event!



# Outreach/Mission

## Become a HERO Today!

This is the sixth consecutive year First Plymouth is partnering with the WeACT Organization and Association Solidarité in Kenombe Village, Rwanda, to help children attend school. The extreme need of the children in this village was first communicated to us by Dr. Kathy Anastos,



who provides medical care to many of the women and children there. Through the years, we have received numerous photographs and written communications attesting to the incredible benefits of the support we send. For a current update you are invited to view the You-Tube video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcqEyAtmas8>

The acronym HERO represents the FPC Rwanda mission: **H**elp **E**ducate **R**wanda **O**rphans. The primary way we can help is with financial support. The basic cost for supporting a child in school for a year remains at \$150 for an elementary student and \$220 for a secondary student. Contributions of any amount are welcome.

The country of Rwanda is slowly increasing its funding for schools, but school supplies, uniforms, shoes, and (as the children get older) basic hygiene items are beyond the reach of these children's family budgets. In addition, prior to our involvement, many of the children were getting only one meal per day and were found to be too lethargic to focus while in school. The breakfast program makes a substantial difference in the children's health and learning ability.

Imagine A Bright Future, a short informative letter and sponsorship request form, is available at Mission Central and is being mailed to church members and previous supporters. On November 13, Dr. Kathy Anastos, her husband Jon Wallen (the photographer responsible for the beautiful Rwanda photographs), and their daughter



Rebecca plan to be with us during church and for a question and answer period and refreshments afterwards. Please join us! In addition, the Outreach Ministry has designated November Share the Plate offerings for the Rwanda Project. Thank you!

Finally, about being a hero – we won't give you a trophy, we won't promise you a cape and mask, and we can't even connect you with a specific child. But we can assure you that the money we send is spent for the benefit of the children so that they can go to school and receive adequate nutrition. Providing children with an education is simply the most practical and meaningful investment we can make.

For further information, or to become a member of the Rwanda Committee, please speak with any of the current members: Teena Brenkendorff, Steve Calhoun, Linda Glenn, Jane Hall, Doug Lindsey, Ruth Neil, or Margo Sargent.



## September Can Do Thanks You!

Many thanks to all for generously contributing cash and over 1,000 pounds of non-perishable food to the Can Do cart during September. In that month alone, Metro CareRing distributed 50 tons of food to those in need. We at First Plymouth feel gratified to be part of this effort to feed the hungry. Keep up the good work and keep our cart stocked on Can Do Sunday, November 20. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

## Can Do Sunday is November 20!

Bring in food donations for the Can Do Cart that will be distributed to hungry folks in our community by Metro CareRing.



## Fellowship

### Thursday Afternoon Circle November 10 1:00 p.m.

Carole Westphal will tell us more about the stained glass windows which decorate our Sanctuary. All women of First Plymouth are invited. Refreshments at 1:00 p.m. and program at 1:30 p.m. Please call Phyllis Rigsby at 303-693-0189 if you would like to attend – or just show up!

### The Group

The Group will meet for their Christmas party on Saturday, December 10, at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Bob and Marty Bushey (see the directory or the wiki for their address). Please bring hors d'oeuvres, dessert, or a bottle of wine to share. If you need directions, please contact Marty at 303-770-9742.

### Travel Club Sunday, November 13 in the Commons Room 6:00 dinner, 7:00 program

So what were George and Andrea doing all summer? Each week we all followed their travels on a map in First Plymouth's welcome area. But what were they seeing in all those far away places? We know they were sabbath-ing since it was a sabbatical, but what form did that take? What did they visit? What inspired them and challenged them as they traveled through Prague and the British Isles? They are inviting us to "Stand on Holy Ground" with them in their presentation – not only exploring cathedrals, but discovering the sacred and the miraculous in unusual places that moved their hearts and touched their spirits.

Travel Club will meet Sunday, November 13, in the Commons Room. Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. and the program at 7:00 p.m. For those who wish to come to the potluck dinner, please bring your own table settings and if your last name starts with A-J, bring a main dish; K-R, a salad; and S-Z, dessert. RSVP to Nancy Joe or Joe Shaw at 303-979-5927 or [nancyjoeshaw@comcast.net](mailto:nancyjoeshaw@comcast.net).

## Christmas Flowering Plant Order Form

Our Sanctuary looks so beautiful during the holidays when decorated with poinsettias. We are continuing our special offer of one plant for \$15 or two or more plants for \$12.50 each. You can order multiple poinsettias for Christmas.

Please consider sponsoring plants in honor or memory of loved ones so we have plants to give to the homebound members of our community.

  1   Poinsettia for \$15.00 total or      Poinsettias @ \$12.50 each for a total of \$         
(2 or more)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor/memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

(just as you would like it printed in the bulletin)

In honor/memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

(just as you would like it printed in the bulletin)

Please continue on the back side if you wish to order more.



## In Other News...

### Tales from the Archives

Connecting the dots... Thanks to several folks who were intrigued by the question in last month's newsletter, we've been able to make the connection between The Rev. Franklin J. Estabrook and First Plymouth Church. Craig Eley and Jan McCoy "googled" new information about the Reverend, and Ann Lane and Arlene Hutchinson pointed out that Evelyn White was the daughter of Rev. Estabrook. Evelyn and her daughter-in-law, Ann White, were the Church Visitors in the 1950's and 1960's. Evelyn White was also one of the key players in getting the Senior Homes (Kentucky Circle) off the ground. Rev. Estabrook was pastor of the Greeley First Congregational Church starting in 1911 and was also the District Religious Education Secretary. While we don't know exactly who provided the pulpit Bible that raised the original question, we at least have the connection.

**This month's question:** As part of the 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in late 2004, tape recorded interviews were made by Nancy Campbell of some of the long-time members who made the move from 14<sup>th</sup> & Lafayette. We would like to get a copy of these tapes for the archives. Does anyone know who has them? Contact Don Zeller, the church archivist, at 303-783-9609 or [ddzell@comcast.net](mailto:ddzell@comcast.net) if you know the whereabouts of these tapes. Thanks.

### Support the Youth!

KingSoopers gift cards are being sold at Mission Central on Sunday mornings. If you don't have yours, please stop by and purchase one for \$5. Take your card to your local KingSoopers, add money to the card and use the card to purchase your groceries. When your card runs out of money, just "reload" it with additional funds. The FP Youth program receives 5% of the amount you have added to your card!

The youth use this money for programs, mission trips, field trips, etc. Let's keep our Youth funded!!

Purchase gift cards for your personal use, or buy them for Christmas presents – just add an amount to the \$5 already on the card and give the card away! Buy cards at Mission Central or the church office. If you have questions or need a large number of cards for your holiday giving, contact Nancy Lindsey: [njlindsey1940@yahoo.com](mailto:njlindsey1940@yahoo.com) or 303-721-1940.



### Flower Arrangers Needed

Did you know that the lovely flower arrangements on the altar are all done by volunteers? The Flower Committee is looking for church members (men and women) who might be interested in participating in this tradition. Supplies and funds for purchasing flowers are provided. Please call Jan Spomer at 303-757-1442 for more information or to volunteer.

### Healing Touch

The Healing Touch Group will not meet in November but will gather Thursday, December 1, at 6:30 p.m. in the Columbine Room. The program will be a *potpourri* evening – we will work on whatever needs to be done. Is there a treatment you would like to review? Do you have an ailment that needs to be worked on? Questions? Please call Dianne Hornbrook at 303-757-6996.

### Women's Cancer Support Group

The Women's Cancer Support Group meets Monday, November 21, at 10 a.m. in the Commons Room. If you have recently been diagnosed or are a survivor, we welcome you. Contact Marilyn Mattson at 303-753-0027 for more information.



### Order a Wreath and Support Our Youth

Summer is winding down, fall is around the corner, and can you believe that it's already time to order Christmas wreaths? This is becoming an annual tradition here at First Plymouth in support of our youth programs. Wreaths and other fresh greens are a great way to get into the spirit of preparing for the celebration of Christ's birth. During the month of October we will be taking orders, which we will submit to the supplier by the first week in November. Delivery will be in Plymouth Hall on December 4. If you would like to send a wreath or greens to a family member or friend, we have delivery forms for just that purpose. We would appreciate payment at the time of ordering. This is a great way to support our youth, and each purchase is greatly appreciated.



# We Are The Church Together

**Terry Crews & Nanette Harland, Pastoral Care Coordinators**  
*pastoralcare@firstplymouthchurch.org • 303-762-0616 x225*

## Joys & Concerns

Eric Smith's father, Vance McBane "Mac" Smith, died suddenly last month. Memorial services for Mac were held September 20 in North Carolina. Please keep Eric and Jessa, Eli, Amos, and Hazel Decker-Smith in your prayers.

On October 2 First Plymouth celebrated the baptisms of Estelle (Stella) Nash Carpenter, daughter of **Jay** and **Melissa Carpenter**, and Connor Pickett Williams, son of **Ben Williams** and **Amy Pickett-Williams**.

**Judy Passon's** father, Roland E. Tibbetts, passed away on September 21 at age 93 in Petoskey, Michigan.

Congratulations to **James Thompson**, who has a role in the Heritage Square Music Hall production of Victor Hugo's *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*.

Winifred Hinnant, mother of Olive (Elaine) Hinnant, former associate pastor to First Plymouth, died September 2 in Houston, Texas.

The Zimmerman Family participated in the Juvenile Diabetes Research Fundraiser 5K Walk on September 10 in Colorado Springs. Those present were **Dale and Kristi Zimmerman**; Dean Zimmerman; Tom, **Leah**, Collin & Emily **Huxtable**; **Andrew, Erika**, Julia, and Nathan **Henkart**; and Joe & **Dedra Merrill**. Collin Huxtable was the top individual fundraiser for the event. Thanks to all in the First Plymouth Community who continue to support Collin and his family with your love and concern.

**Jim Stahler** is recovering from knee replacement surgery.

**Laura Bauman** is recovering at home after surgery on September 16 which removed most of the tumor that is growing on her brain. At this time Laura needs quiet rest so until further notice please send cards that create belly laughs to the house. If you can help with rides, meals, household assistance, or any of the tasks that come up during her recovery, please join the LSMS community at <https://www.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/645669/>. If you want to help and cannot

sign up through the internet, call the Pastoral Care Office (303-762-0616). Please continue to follow Laura's journey through her Caring Bridge site: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/laurabauman>

The memorial service for **Helen Bess** will be held on Friday, November 4, at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Helen was a member of First Plymouth for 57 years, and her late husband was **Dr. Howard Bess**.

**Ken, Diane** and **Emily Hoagland**, and **Emily's** husband, Shakib Hassan, celebrated the arrival of the newest member of their family, Carl Andrew Kristensson. Carl Andrew arrived October 5, to his parents, Mark and Candace Kristensson, and sister Elna in Bellevue, Washington.

Lynn Rooney, daughter of **Mary Osgood**, is recovering at home following extensive internal surgery on October 5. She appreciates your prayers for her recovery. Her address may be found on the Newsworthies bulletin board at the church, or contact the Pastoral Care office for more information:

*pastoralcare@firstplymouthchurch.org.*

**Ginnie Heddens'** grandson, Brian Ballard, a civilian technologist is serving in Iraq. **Betsy Lewis'** nephew, LCpl Alex Kirsch, USMC, who was deployed to Afghanistan, has returned safely.

Celebrate the **unsung heroes** among our community who prepare meals, bake bread, write cards, make phone calls, say prayers, drive people to and fro, and just are available when someone is in need. We appreciate each of you for your gift of love expressed in any number of ways.

There are members of our First Plymouth Congregational Church Family who confidentially pray daily and with intent for anyone requesting the support of prayers. If you would like the members of a prayer group to pray for you or a loved one, please contact the Office of Pastoral Care or one of the pastors. Prayer requests can also be made anonymously.

## Around the Parish Ministries of Care Opportunities

**Flower Delivery:** As a visible and tangible expression of care for our beloved community, First Plymouth has delivered flowers to homebound and hospitalized members for years. The Pastoral Care Office is looking for a volunteer to coordinate the weekly delivery of flowers. We also need two people to organize the delivery of the holiday poinsettias after the Christmas Eve services. Please contact Nanette or Terry: *pastoralcare@firstplymouthchurch.org* or 303-762-0616.

**Prayer Teams:** Are you seeking a way to serve others? First Plymouth members have a long standing commitment to pray for one another, and our prayer teams are one vehicle to facilitate that prayer. If you feel moved to pray for others, please contact Nanette and Terry in Pastoral Care; 303-761-0616 or *pastoralcare@firstplymouthchurch.org*.

# Contact Information



## COUNCIL & COMMITTEES

**Moderator**  
Peg Thompson  
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**Vice Moderator**  
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**Memorials** TBA

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**Arts at Plymouth**  
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**First Plymouth Foundation**  
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## MINISTRIES

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**Outreach**  
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**Fellowship & Parish Life**  
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*revclaus@comcast.net* 720-328-8501

**Stewardship**  
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**Worship & Arts**  
Chair: Vicki Krieger  
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## FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

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**MARS**  
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**Men's Fellowship**  
Fletcher Brown  
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**Prayer Shawl Group**  
Sandy Erickson  
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**The Group**  
Roger Diggie  
*rogerdiggie@comcast.net* 335-8137

**Thursday Afternoon Circle**  
Phyllis Rigsby  
*phyllis-r@msn.com* 693-0187

**Travel Club**  
Nancy Joe and Joe Shaw  
*nancyjoeshaw@comcast.net* 979-5927

**Yacht & Donut**  
Norm Kautsky  
*nlkautsky@comcast.net* 794-3348

**Phone numbers are 303 area code unless otherwise noted.**



**Browse the First Plymouth Library Catalog online at**  
[www.librarything.com/catalog/Firstplymouth](http://www.librarything.com/catalog/Firstplymouth)

## First Plymouth Staff 303-762-0616

Rev. George C. Anastos  
**Senior Minister**

Frank Perko III  
**Director of Music**

Rev. Eric Smith  
**Youth and Young Adults Director**

Noanie Geistert  
**Director of Children's Ministries**  
[fpchildren@firstplymouthchurch.org](mailto:fpchildren@firstplymouthchurch.org)

Caitlin Boykin  
**Nursery Manager**

Terry Crews & Nanette Harland  
**Pastoral Care Coordinators**  
[pastoralcare@firstplymouthchurch.org](mailto:pastoralcare@firstplymouthchurch.org)

Cathy Benn  
**Parish Visitor**

Carole Westphal  
**Director of Administration**

Barbara Hosanna  
**Office Coordinator**

Jessa Decker-Smith  
**Communications Coordinator**

Don McLean  
**Facilities Manager**  
Ralph Basquez, **Custodian**  
Robert Basquez, **Custodian**

**First Plymouth Learning Center**  
Karrie Gleason, **Director**  
303-762-9355, [director@fpplc.org](mailto:director@fpplc.org)

Unless otherwise noted, e-mail us using first initial and last name  
[@firstplymouthchurch.org](mailto:@firstplymouthchurch.org).



## The Back Page

The Newsletter Deadline for the December Issue  
is **Thursday, November 10!**

Send your articles and information to:

[news@firstplymouthchurch.org](mailto:news@firstplymouthchurch.org)

(Or put them in the newsletter box in the church office.)

Late submissions may not be included,  
and all submissions are subject to editing.

### Special Thanks to:

**Newsletter Assemblers:** Ellyn Domnik, Corrine Lude, Glen Pray, Frank and Marion Taylor, Jerre Wilson and Claire Yetter.

**Church Office Volunteers:** Kari Collins, Myra Kolditz, Betsy Lewis, Carolyn Weaver and Marilyn Mattson.

**Sunday Office Volunteers:** Ginny Galloway, Elaine Hoss, Ellyn Domnik, Jackie Geist, and Karleen Gagnon.

**Sanctuary Straighteners:** Fred Fowler and Marion and Jim Woodward.

**Flower Arrangers:** Ann Lane, Peggy O'Brien, Lu Schroeder and Lucille Erlewine.

**DVD Maker:** Alan Long

**Archivist and Historian:** Don Zeller

**Database Clerks:** Marilyn Mattson and Suzanne Moser

**Music Librarians:** Alan Long and Heidi Thomas

**Assistant Treasurers:** Don Zeller, Debbie Harrington, and Wayne Langley

Special thanks to Elizabeth and Chris Mascitelli and Leigh Green for planting the beautiful mums at our entrance and to Sally Lund, who has agreed to keep them watered all winter long.

And thanks also to all of the other volunteers who labor so faithfully and often anonymously to do the myriad tasks required to keep First Plymouth going. We don't always know who you are, and sometimes we don't even know that you have taken on a task until it is completed. But we want you to know that you are very much appreciated and that we simply couldn't do it without you!

### Visual Arts Team

Three years ago, members of several groups in the church joined to create a Visual Arts Team to work under the auspices of the Worship Ministry and with the Worship Leadership Team to bring a more intentional visual aspect to worship over the course of the liturgical year. We hope that you have found what we have done inspiring, challenging, and enriching.

At this time, we are eager to invite the congregation to be more directly involved in this process. Our hope over the next 18 - 24 months is to begin to expand our "library" of paraments (those fabric pieces that hang from the pulpit and the lectern) to develop a wider set of options for each season. We would like to ask artistic members of the congregation to submit design ideas for sets of paraments so that we can incorporate your faithful reflections and images into our common worship experience. Some ideas might become paraments, others might be expanded to provide larger visuals on the front wall of the worship space.

If you are interested in trying your hand at design, there is a small packet of materials available in the church office labeled "Parament Design." Please pick up a copy and spend some time exploring your faith in images rather than words. Submit any designs to the church office, labeled "Attention: Visual Arts Team."



### Arts at Plymouth in November

**Oboes and Organs: Saturday, November 12, at 7:00 p.m.**

Celebrated oboist Miriam Kapner and organist Frank Perko III present an evening of oboe and organ music spanning 250 years of composition. The program features works by Telemann, Bach, Bernstein, Hovhanness, and Finkelstein, as well as two premieres by emerging composers Nissim Schaul and Daniel Felsenfeld.

**Rocky Mountain Flute Choir: Saturday, November 19, at 7:00 p.m.**

A "Fall into Winter" program, showcasing the music of Georges Bizet, Camille Saint-Saëns, and Gustav Holst in addition to some of the best-loved holiday selections and maybe a surprise or two!