

Announcements

for the week of March 19, 2017

See www.plymouth.org for church calendar

TODAY

Meditation: Join this ancient spiritual practice, which includes three parts: opening meditation, walking meditation, closing meditation. Everyone is welcome! 9:30 a.m., Fireside Room.

First Service—9:45 a.m. This early service is designed especially for young families. Children also are encouraged to participate in the Sanctuary Service, starting at 10:30 a.m.; during the second hymn, they will be released for Church School. *Questions about Church School?* Please contact Director of Children and Youth Ministry Seth Patterson, sethp@plymouth.org, 612/977-1277.

Katy's Cafe serves a light lunch following the service, in the Lenmark room; \$6 adults, \$4 children, free for under 5.

Church tour follows the service today. Meet a docent by the pulpit after the postlude.

Advance Healthcare Planning: Everyone has different health status, aging conditions, family interactions and social support—and needs careful planning for end-of-life care and comfort. Even if you have already written an Advance Directive, come talk with us today in Guild Hall after the service about making sure your wishes will be followed.

Film Club today: *Peter Warlock: Some Little Joy* (2005, drama, 90 min.), hosted by Philip Brunelle. Composer Warlock's life was short and tormented. However, his music is beautiful, memorable and poignant, as this drama describes. Dan Dressen will sing Warlock songs as an introduction to the film. 12:15 in Jackman.

MUSIC AND THE ARTS

Gallery Show: A new exhibit, *All About Trees*, with works by Carolyn Brunelle, Marcia Cushmore and Hazel Belvo.

The best kept secret at Plymouth? FREE Cuban Rueda Salsa classes every Thursday 7–9 p.m. in Guild Hall that are sizzling hot fun! Join the great people who are laughing and smiling as they learn this fantastic group dance. All ages; no dance experience or partner needed; walk-ins welcome! Co-sponsored by Minneami Salsa and Cuba Connect.

On Saturday, April 29, the Gallery Committee will install the 2017 Members Art Show. You are invited to show your work—painting, drawing, sculpture, textiles, ceramics, photography, printmaking, other—in the Howard Conn Fine Arts Gallery. If you are interested in exhibiting April 29 through June 7, please contact Gregg Daubert at 612-968-2509 or gsdaubert@gmail.com. When sending or leaving a message, please include your name, address and the best way to contact you. Additional information and exhibition documents are available on Plymouth's website, under the "Arts" section <http://plymouth.org/explore/arts/>. There you can view and print instructions for the show and the artist's agreement. You will also find drop off times for artwork. For additional questions, please contact Gregg Daubert.

Mark your calendars for two Literary Witnesses events. On Plymouth Poetry Day, Sunday, April 2, share your favorite poem at noon in the Chapel. On April 3, at 7 p.m., come hear a reading by renowned translator of Chinese poetry and literary memorist Bill Porter.

Stephen Hough, an internationally esteemed pianist, makes his first appearance with VocalEssence on Saturday, April 22, 8 p.m., at the Basilica of St. Mary. Known as one of the world's greatest keyboard artists, Stephen is also an amazing composer—the evening will feature him in both roles: pianist and composer. As pianist, he will perform music of Debussy; as composer, Philip Brunelle will lead the Ensemble Singers

and Chorus with organist Aaron David Miller in his "Missa Mirabilis" and his "Mass of Innocence and Experience." Tickets are available by calling the Orchestra Hall box office, 612/371-5642.

LEARNING AND INVOLVEMENT

Sunday Forum March 26: Isuroon: Empowering Somali women in Minnesota and beyond. Taking its name from a Somali word that means "woman who cares for herself," Isuroon, a local grassroots organization, believes that empowering women is the key to building a thriving community. Led by the women it serves, Isuroon has earned a trusted place in the community because of its cultural and collaborative approach. 9 a.m., in Jackman.

A luncheon honoring Flame Society members will be held on Apr. 23 at noon in the Jackman Room. Those who have remembered Plymouth in their estate planning are invited for a meal and special presentation by stained glass artist Joan Cox. Register on the Plymouth website (plymouth.org/act/give-2/legacy-giving/) or by calling Jean Kennedy at 612/376-7719.

Interested in membership in Plymouth Church? The next new member class will be held from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., April 2. In addition to learning more of what Plymouth has to offer, this class provides an opportunity to become better acquainted with other prospective members. Individuals who decide to join the church are welcomed at a special reception. To register for the April 9 class, please contact Emily Venell 612/977-1281 or emilyv@plymouth.org. If you have questions regarding membership at Plymouth, you may contact Jeffrey Sartain, Minister for Community Engagement. Jeff can be reached in the Church Office at 612/871-7400.

One More Chair is a fellowship group welcoming adult singles and couples to share fun, conversation and memorable times in a casual format. OMC organizes quarterly social events as well as special interest groups. For details, contact Kristine Mortensen, kristinemortensen@gmail.com.

Plymouth's One More Chair Bridge Group invites bridge players to join us for informal, friendly duplicate play. We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 6:45 p.m. in members' homes or at Plymouth. All levels welcome. Not necessary to come with a partner. For more information, email Mariana or Craig Shulstad at shulstad@hotmail.com.

OUTREACH

March is Minnesota FoodShare month, led by the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches in partnership with a number of other faith-based organizations around the state. During March, Minnesota FoodShare partially matches donations of food and money to Groveland Emergency Food Shelf, as well as other food shelves (in the past, close to a 25 percent match). If you'd like to support Groveland and have your contributions partially matched, please bring nonperishable foods in bags to Jones Commons or donate to Groveland Food Shelf using envelopes in the pews. We'll be collecting bags in Jones Commons before the main service during March. At other times, you can leave your food contribution in the bin in the Jones Commons vestibule.

The Plymouth American Indian Initiative (PAII) invites Plymouth members and friends to join us in the Fireside Room on Thursday, March 30 at 7 p.m. to learn about how Nonviolent Peaceforce (NP) has been contributing to easing tensions among the parties in the Standing Rock/Bismarck/Mandan area. NP has been using unarmed civilian protection strategies in war-torn areas such as South Sudan and Myanmar, and this is their first protection project in the

U.S. As local NP founder Mel Duncan says, “While I believe all of our work has a significant spiritual dynamic, this one, especially feels deeply grounded. This struggle is deeply rooted in the land, the water and how we live together and share those resources.”

Avenues for Young Families has immediate need for furnishings. Their families need, in good condition, double or queen beds, twin beds and/or cribs, bedding, dressers, kitchen tables and chairs, living room furniture and kitchen supplies, such as cookware and dishes. If you have extras of any of these in your home, please contact Craig A. B. Freeman, Community Engagement Manager, Avenues for Homeless Youth, cfreeman@avenuesforyouth.org, 612/844-2005, to make arrangements.

CARING AND SUPPORT

Easter flower offering: Plymouth’s Easter floral setting is made possible through gifts made in memory of loved ones, the names of whom are listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. If you wish to memorialize a loved one with Easter flowers, please contact Doug Freeman in the church office (doug@plymouth.org; 612-977-1279), by Thursday, April 6.

Conversations from the Heart Practice Group meets on Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Dr. Yvette Erasmus leads; open to anyone wanting to practice compassionate communication in community with others. \$10–\$25 requested per session. To R.S.V.P., email yvette@yvetteerasmus.com or call 612/208-7216. Contact anneseltz@aol.com for more information.

Grief Education and Support—On Saturdays at 9:30 a.m., support for those who have lost loved ones. March 25: Ted Bowman, *Shattered Dreams and Other Metaphors for Losses*. Held at Basilica of Saint Mary, Cowley Center, 88 N. 17th St., Minneapolis, 612/333-1381. For more, go to www.mplsgriefsupport.com/schedule.htm or contact Tom Anderson (612/867-0932) or Nancy Albrecht (612/377-8030).

Faith Partners in Recovery: Do you have an addiction? Has your tolerance increased? Do you feel symptoms of withdrawal? (Emotional withdrawal is just as significant as physical withdrawal.) Do you sometimes drink or use drugs more than you would like? Do you ever regret how much you used the day before? Have you suffered negative consequences with friends and family? Have you neglected or postponed activities? Have you sometimes thought about cutting down or controlling your use? Have you ever made unsuccessful attempts to cut down or control your use? Contact Carla Bailey, carlab@plymouth.org, 612/871-7400, for more information or support.

Say “Plymouth Cares” with Flowers—On most Sundays, the Sanctuary flowers are arranged into bouquets after worship. If you know someone who would appreciate a bouquet, go to the Flower Room after the postlude (turn left just after passing through the door on the left at the front of the Sanctuary). First come, first served.

DRIVE NEW FRIENDS TO CHURCH: We are seeking people to shuttle Plymouth members to church once a month. You would be trained to drive our bus and continue building our sense of community at Plymouth. Contact Emily Venell for requirements & details; emilyv@plymouth.org, 612/977-1281.

Submit announcements (400 characters or fewer) to the Church Office for the following Sunday by noon on Tuesday. Tell us which Sundays you’d like the announcement to run and your name, phone number and e-mail address. Send it to Allison Campbell Jensen, Communication Director (publications@plymouth.org), or drop it off at the Church Office (cleanly typed, if possible). Announcements are subject to approval, may be edited and must be Plymouth-related.

SPIRITUAL EXPLORATION

Spiritual Yoga—Bring \$10, a mat or beach towel and come for a relaxing yoga experience on Wednesdays at 6:45 p.m., sponsored by the Spiritual Exploration Committee and led by YWCA yoga instructor Ben Lee.

Drawing On Ancient Contemplative Wisdom—Gather with us as Ward Bauman, former director of the House of Prayer, explores the development of Christian contemplative thought and prayer from the time of Jesus’ teaching, and how we might continue to learn from this ancient wisdom and deepen our own practice of Centering Prayer. April 29, 9:00 a.m.–3 p.m., \$25. Register at <http://www.minnesotacontemplativeoutreach.org/events.html#bauman>.

Finding Our Balance in a Turbulent World will be a 9 a.m.–3 p.m. retreat Saturday, April 8; \$50. This daylong retreat will be led by Julie Neraas, longtime Plymouth member, spiritual director, religion professor, author and inspirational leader of numerous retreats and classes at Plymouth. We are living in a complicated time in history when we need all the wisdom, stamina, and spiritual resources we can muster to meet its many varied challenges. Register at <http://plymouth.org/event/finding-our-balance-in-a-turbulent-world/>

Paths to Faithful Caregiving: Caregivers learn to manage stress, create balance and find strength through spiritual practices; Tuesdays, April 18 to May 16, 1–3 p.m. \$20; register at plymouth.org/event/paths-to-faithful-caregiving/

Lenten Meditations: Sign up to receive meditations via email by sending an email with Lent in the subject line to doug@plymouth.org. Meditations are sent Monday through Saturday through Easter, April 16.

AND MORE...

Are you getting our Friday email? Some 700 Plymouth households do. Every Friday, the church office sends out a brief email message with upcoming events, worship highlights and more. To opt in, send an email to churchinfo@plymouth.org with “Friday” in the subject line.

April 9, 23 & 30 are available for flower sponsorships: Honor an occasion, a special person or the memory of a loved one by sponsoring Sanctuary flowers or flowers in Guild Hall. Sponsoring flowers costs \$75. Sponsorship will be noted in the bulletin. Contact Allison Campbell Jensen in the office, 612/977-1269.

We are grateful for gifts of stock; we also need your help to track and to acknowledge these gifts. To assure that your stock gifts have been received and you have been given credit for the gift, please be sure to email Joy Hansen at joyh@plymouth.org with the name of the stock gifted, the number of shares, and how you would like them applied. So, if you have gifted stock in the last month and have yet to receive an acknowledgement letter please contact Joy Hansen in the accounting office at 612/977-1265.

Paying Your Pledge is Easy! Giving is easy! Just Text to make pledge payments or to give to Plymouth’s operating fund. Text 612/999-2874. The first time only, you will see a form requesting contact and credit-card information. You may set up a recurring pledge payment. This gift will continue as long as your credit card is valid and your phone is active, NO MORE HAVING TO SET UP A RECURRING GIFT EACH YEAR TO PAY YOUR PLEDGE! Or, whenever you have an urge to give to Plymouth, just text the amount to 612/999-2874. Questions? Contact Joy Hansen, joyh@plymouth.org or 612/977-1265.



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