



ARCHIVES ALIVE

Remembering WWI sacrifices

BY MARY WELFLING, ARCHIVIST

Plymouth members exhibited the patriotism that swept the nation during World War I. The war relief committee coordinated support for our allies. The Sewing Society supplied dressings and clothes. After the U.S. entered the war, a Service Flag Committee was formed. It supplied an American flag for the sanctuary and an exterior flag pole adjacent to the bell tower. The women of the church created two flags that hung to each side of the chancel. The flag on the left had a star for each member who went overseas, including a gold star for the four members who died in action. The flag on the right recognized the service of members in non-military organizations such as the Red Cross and YMCA.

Serving in the military overseas were 167 members. From 1918 to 1920 Plymouth published newsletters to connect members at home and abroad. The newsletters include reports on Plymouth members serving overseas and transitioning home, activities of Plymouth members supporting the war effort at home and general Plymouth news. These newsletters bring to life the sacrifices of those who served. A letter from Jerome Jackman published in August 1918 includes:

“The battle rages near here now—the more I see of war, the more I hate it, but staying and fighting it will shorten it and make it less possible for you at home ever to see such a condition. . . . Someday I will tell you . . . how it feels to hike along a road when they are planting shells all around you, and at night when the moon is bright and the planes bomb you, and try to get the dark corners with machine guns.”

Returning veterans worked to ensure their sacrifice would not be forgotten. A committee of veterans collected information on the records of all who served and developed two memorials.

The interior memorial is a carved wooden tablet in the hallway by the sanctuary which recognizes all who served in the armed forces. The exterior memorial (destroyed in 1960 by a car accident) was dedicated to the four members who lost their lives in the war. These memorials were dedicated on June 12, 1921. The newsletters, the Record of World War I, and some photos have been scanned in partnership with the Minnesota Digital Library and are posted on their Reflections web site: <http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/search/collection/p16022coll33>.



UNVEILED IN 1921, THIS WWI MEMORIAL WAS LATER DESTROYED IN AN ACCIDENT.

August 2017

01 TUESDAY

10:00 Archives Committee
12:30 Traumatic Brain Injury Support Grp.
6:45 OMC Bridge Games
7:00 Contemplative Life Program

02 WEDNESDAY

9:30 Groveland Food Shelf
9:45 Knit A Bit
10:00 Conversations from the Heart Practice Session
1:00 Strobel Drop-In Center
2:00 Farmer's market
6:30 Deacons
7:00 Racial Justice Task Force book discussion: *Tears We Cannot Stop*
6:45 Yoga—Spiritual Exploration

03 THURSDAY

10:00 Archives Committee
10:30 Meals on Wheels
2:30 Home Retreat Meeting
6:00 Strobel Drop-In Center
7:00 Cuba Rueda Salsa Dance

04 FRIDAY

05 SATURDAY

06 SUNDAY

9:30 Meditation
10:15–12:00 Child care
10:30 Sanctuary Service

07 MONDAY

08 TUESDAY

7:30 Great River Landing Task Force
10:00 Archives Committee
4:00 Building and Grounds Meeting
5:00 Strobel Drop-In Center (offsite)
6:30 BeFriends

09 WEDNESDAY

9:30 Groveland Food Shelf
9:45 Knit A Bit
10:00 Conversations from the Heart Practice Session
2:00 Farmer's market
6:45 Yoga—Spiritual Exploration

10 THURSDAY

10:00 Archives Committee
10:00 HABI
10:30 Meals on Wheels
1:00 Meditation Group
6:00 Strobel Drop-In Center
6:30 Board of Worship
7:00 Cuban Rueda Salsa Dance

11 FRIDAY

9:00 Plymouth Family Camp (offsite)

12 SATURDAY

All day Plymouth Family Camp (offsite)

13 SUNDAY

9:00 Caring for Creation
9:30 Meditation
10:15–12:00 Childcare
10:30 Sanctuary Service
11:50 SnapShot Sunday
1:00 Leave for Plymouth Youth Camp
Return from Plymouth Family Camp

14 MONDAY

All day Plymouth Youth Camp (offsite)

15 TUESDAY

All day Plymouth Youth Camp (offsite)
10:00 Archives Committee
12:30 Traumatic Brain Injury Support Grp.

16 WEDNESDAY

9:30 Groveland Food Shelf
9:45 Knit A Bit
10:00 Conversations from the Heart Practice Session
1:00 Strobel Drop-In Center
2:00 Farmer's market
4:00 BeFriends
4:00 Return from Plymouth Youth Camp
5:00 Board of Finance and Administration
6:00 Board of Community Life
6:30 Deacons
6:45 Yoga—Spiritual Exploration

17 THURSDAY

10:00 Archives Committee
10:30 Meals on Wheels
6:00 Strobel Drop-In Center
7:00 Cuba Rueda Salsa Dance

18 FRIDAY

19 SATURDAY

20 SUNDAY

9:30 Meditation
10:15–12:00 Childcare
10:30 Sanctuary Service
4:00 Families Moving Forward
5:00 Third Sunday meal

21 MONDAY

Families Moving Forward

22 TUESDAY

Families Moving Forward
10:00 Archives Committee
10:00 Strobel Drop-In Center (offsite)
6:30 Gun Violence Prevention Group

23 WEDNESDAY

Families Moving Forward
9:30 Groveland Food Shelf
9:45 Knit A Bit
10:00 Conversations from the Heart Practice Session
1:00 Strobel Drop-In Center
2:00 Farmer's market
6:45 Yoga—Spiritual Exploration

24 THURSDAY

Families Moving Forward
10:00 Archives Committee
10:30 Meals on Wheels
1:00 Meditation Group
6:00 Strobel Drop-In Center
7:00 Cuban Rueda Salsa Dance

25 FRIDAY

Families Moving Forward

26 SATURDAY

Families Moving Forward

27 SUNDAY

Families Moving Forward
9:30 Meditation
10:15–12:00 Childcare
10:30 Sanctuary Service

28 MONDAY

29 TUESDAY

10:00 Archives Committee
6:30 Board of Spiritual Formation

30 WEDNESDAY

9:30 Groveland Food Shelf

9:45 Knit A Bit
10:00 Conversations from the Heart Practice Session
1:00 Strobel Drop-In Center
2:00 Farmer's market
6:45 Yoga—Spiritual Exploration

31 THURSDAY

10:00 Archives Committee
10:30 Meals on Wheels
6:00 Strobel Drop-In Center
7:00 Cuban Rueda Salsa Dance

Plymouth conversation on mortality begins in fall

Do you think about death, or are you a person who pushes the thought away? Do you feel alone in your thoughts? Do you know what choices you have? How would you want the end of life to be for you? When fears and concerns are shared in conversation we move from the unspeakable to sacred space.

In the last year a dedicated group of Plymouth members has considered issues around dying, death, grief and loss and how support for these concerns might be offered to the congregation. Our committee is made up of doctors, health care professionals, hospice volunteers,

social workers and others who wish to facilitate a deep and honest conversation at Plymouth around the end of life.

The committee conducted a survey of the congregation which indicated that the areas of greatest interest are:

- defining quality of life as it relates to our mortality
- medical ethics in death and dying
- palliative care and hospice at the end of life
- Compassion and choices—medical assistance in dying.

On Sunday, Nov. 5, 2017, at noon, in Jackman Hall we will introduce a vision of programming, discussion groups and resources to promote conversation at Plymouth on these topics and others in the years to come. We hope you'll mark your calendars to take advantage of this informative program and to begin your own conversations with family and friends.

The Mortality Project committee is focused on supporting, educating and caring for our community as all of us face our mortality.

GRACE NOTES

Guests at the piano in August

BY PHILIP BRUNELLE

For a number of years the month of August has been an opportunity for Plymouth worshippers to hear our magnificent Steinway piano in the prelude and postlude. (We hear it at other times, of course, but this is an entire month of piano solos.) Here is this year's roster:

August 6—Zhen Tu. This amazing young pianist just graduated from Eagan High School, studies at the U of M, and in 2015 won the Minnesota Orchestra Young People's Symphony competition. Last year, she won the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation's Profiles in Courage essay contest.

August 13—Ann Buran and Lynn Shackelford, piano 4-hands.

August 20—Sonja Thompson and friends.

August 27—Philip Brunelle. This Sunday will be an "end of the summer hymn sing"—a chance to sing some of the old chestnuts, some hymns from the 19th century that have passed from view, as well as some rousing ones that have remained and are treasured. As always, the rule is: We are inside but we use our outdoor voices!

Thank you for all of your support for Plymouth's music program!

The Plymouth Adult Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, Sept. 6. There are several openings—if you are interested please contact Philip Brunelle (612-547-1450) or stop up at the organ following the Sunday morning service. You will certainly enjoy the singing and the fellowship!

PARISH REGISTER

DEATH

Carol Dolores Spencer, wife of Dr. Bernard Spencer

BIRTHS

Hazel Jane Newman, daughter of

Alayna Pine and Robby Newman; granddaughter of Sharon and Donald Pine

Francesca Grace Pine, daughter of Rebecca de Souza and Adam Pine; granddaughter of Sharon and

Donald Pine

BAPTISMS

Asher Patton Dell and Zander Patton Dell, sons of Jody and Nate Dell

Hazel Sylvia Johnson, daughter of Lindsey and Justin Johnson

Isabel Lange Heier, daughter of Maggie and Mike Heier

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Editor: Allison Campbell Jensen
Director of Communication
612/871-7400
E-mail: publications@plymouth.org

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Plymouth Congregational Church

1900 Nicollet Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55403-3789

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Peace Camp 2017

WORSHIP SERVICES

9:45 First Service in the Chapel

On hiatus in August, First Service will resume on Sept. 10. It is designed especially for young families.

10:30 Service in the Sanctuary

To find out who is preaching each Sunday, please go to our website: plymouth.org/worship.



More than 40 young people gathered at the June Peace Camp to learn to be very unusual Jedi knights, trained to wage not war but peace. In their quest, they cultivated gifts of spirit, mind, body, friendship and community. Pictured are a few with, at left, the droid they created as a team.