

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am **Worship Sunday, August 30, 2020**

Lectionary text for Sunday, August 30: Psalm 5

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown, preaching

“With Our Own Eyes”

11:30 am Online Coffee Hour

Virtual Worship Only!

Find links to video stream and worship bulletin and participate online at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

The church building will be closed for all activities until further notice.

Check PlymouthChurchSeattle.org for updates.

All pastoral care will be via telephone or e-mail.

If you have personal concerns, you may contact a minister or member of the Pastoral Care Team by calling the pastoral voice mail, 206.622.4865 *833, checked daily.

Staff e-mail addresses are listed under the “About” tab at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Click on “Ministers and Staff.”

Whether you are a seeker, skeptic, believer or somewhere in between on life's journey, you are welcome here. We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in worship and service of Plymouth Church UCC.

THEMES THIS FALL

September 13–October 18 “Building Home.” (Matthew 7: 24-25). “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise person who built their house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock.”

October 25–November 22 “Building a World: Grit and Gratitude.” (2 Corinthians 4:8-9). “We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed...”

November 29–January 6 Advent: “Enter the Mystery.”
Christmas: “Engage the Miracle.” Epiphany: “Embody the Message.”

Sharing Faces of Peace We are collecting videos of Plymouth members “Passing the peace” to be used in our online worship services! If you would like to make a short video snippet to be included, email Sari at saribreznau@gmail.com and she will walk you through how to contribute. It's simple, quick, and we'd love to see more Plymouth faces!

 **PLYMOUTH CHURCH**
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
1217 Sixth Avenue, Seattle,
Washington 98101-3199

Return Service Requested

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...



Riley Balcita, Matt Banks, Ernie Boyer, Bob Brennan, Pam Dorrance, Rick Eberharter, Phil Fredrickson, Jackie Fouts (Mother-in-law of Al Wallace), Keili Geller (Granddaughter of Nancy Geller), Peter Gibbons (Brother of Eileen Gibbons), Don Gwilym, Joyce Irving (mother of Rev. Louis Mitchell), Michael Kaid, Libonati Family, Sharon Masse (Wife of Gary Magnuson), Jackie Maxon (Mother of Sterve Davis), Jo Mitchell, Georgia Nelson, Dick, Jean and Alex Paul (Parents and Nephew of Beth Paul Russell), Tommy Rivers Puzey (friend of Karen Clark), Jose Robles, Rod Shutt, Rev. Dr. Warren Stewart (cousin of Karen Clark) and his wife Karen, Jim Stultz (brother of Doug Stultz), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Jordyn Woodke and David Flores (friends of Karen Clark)

The Plymouth *Herald* is published every week. **Deadline is Monday, 10 am, for Wednesday publication.** Stay current with Plymouth happenings on our website. Join us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram! 

PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

Volume 58
Number 49

August 26, 2020

PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR LGBTQ ASYLUM SEEKER



I was a stranger, and you welcomed me.

Plymouth Church is part of the Downtown Sanctuary Network through our Immigration Ministry Team. We share resources with the University Immigrant Justice hub and have received this request from them. Please help if you can.

The LGBTQ Immigrant & Refugee Coalition is a local group headed by Entre Hermanos, founded in February 2019 by WAISN and the Pride Foundation, and made up of many individuals and organizations in Washington. From the start, some local congregations got involved by offering hospitality, while others engaged in planning or offered financial support. Currently, eight asylum seekers are sponsored through the collective efforts of WAISN's LGBTQ Immigrant & Refugee Coalition.

One asylum seeker and her sponsor now need financial help. A trans woman, facing grave danger in her home country, is seeking asylum in the United States. Upon arriving in the U.S., her trauma was compounded by additional threats to her safety.

The ask: \$765 a month for 3 to 5 months to help cover rent, since she lost income due to reduced hours during the pandemic and doesn't foresee being able to resume her normal work schedule for several months. In addition, she has fallen behind on legal expenses — nearly \$7,000 she needs to pay in total. You can offer to pay all or part of a month's rent, or help her chip away at legal expenses. You might even rally a few friends to cover one month's rent!

Tax-deductible donations can be made to “Traction,” a Coalition-member organization, via PayPal, indicating “For Shaun's Guest” in the note line. Or checks can be made payable to “Traction” with “For Shaun's Guest” in the memo line, and mailed to 3906 High Street, Everett WA 98201.

If you are interested in volunteering with the LGBTQ Immigrant & Refugee Coalition as a translator, providing transportation, or have another idea for offering your time, contact Carolyn at CarolynEDraper@gmail.com. 

OUR FAITH, OUR VOTE

“Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!” —Isaiah 58:1

Plymouth United Church of Christ is joining the UCC's Our Faith Our Vote campaign to register

voters, educate ourselves on important issues at stake in the election and encourage voter participation. Since we are not able to do in person registration at church the Our Faith Our Vote committee will call each church member to make sure their voter registration is up to date. Our vote is important! If you would like to volunteer to be a member of the Our Faith Our Vote committee, contact Christine Hanson at 509.679.7430 or email her at HansonChristineAnn@gmail.com.

Learn more at UCC.org/OurFaithOurVote. —Christine Hanson 

STAND UP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown is out in front representing us on social justice issues in the community. We as a majority white Christian church created and have benefited from systemic institutional racism, and we must be part of changing it. This is one simple action we can take to show up.

Come when you can, stay for any length of time you want. Social distancing and mask-wearing protocols will be observed.

Ruth Williamson has been coordinating and scheduling this effort. Contact her (206.313.5931) for parking and other logistics. Remember to bring your sign and mask.

Help keep a Plymouth presence on the streets! See photos of folks bearing witness at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Under the “Connect” tab, click on “Albums.” 



Show up and be counted!



Join Plymouth friends in making our voices heard.

PLYMOUTH HOUSING THANKS YOU STAY CONNECTED



This new building in Ballard, which will be home to 81 people, will break ground in early 2021 and open in mid-2022. Learn more at PlymouthHousing.org.

This week, we're announcing the end of our PROOF Capital Campaign. We're inspired and humbled by the amazing support of nearly 700 individuals, foundations, and corporations. Together, we've raised an incredible

\$59.1 million, which will allow us to:

- Build 6 buildings with 600 apartments for our neighbors experiencing chronic homelessness.
- Establish an endowment that will support over 1,800 residents each year.
- Restore Plymouth's historic buildings, ensuring 500 homes remain safe and sound for years to come.

When we first began planning this campaign, we had no idea how far it would go. There was, and still is, a huge need for permanent supportive housing in King County, as well as funding for ongoing critical support services. We hoped to build 3 new buildings and start a small endowment. After the healthcare community stepped up with major support, we knew we could—and needed to—make an even bigger impact. We set a \$75 million goal to construct 8 new buildings.

With the arrival of COVID-19, we have realized that we need to pivot. Plymouth's residents and staff need additional support to stay as safe as possible during this pandemic. Our capital campaign committee, board, and leadership team agreed to end the PROOF campaign so that we can focus on supporting operations during COVID-19.

With thousands of people experiencing chronic homelessness, there is still a huge need. We're grateful for the City of Seattle's recent investments in permanent supportive housing, some of which will go toward the fifth site of our campaign: a new building in Ballard, constructed in partnership with the Inland Group. We're also in the early development process for the sixth site of the PROOF Campaign, an exciting partnership with Congregations for the Homeless to develop a site in Bellevue.

Plymouth's residents are the heart of our mission, but it wouldn't be a success without our entire community. To our dedicated staff members, resilient residents, committed volunteers, engaged donors, and supportive public institutions: thank you. Thank you for believing that, together, we are PROOF that there is an end to chronic homelessness. —Plymouth Housing

In this time of physical distancing, Plymouth Church invites you to connect with others for various activities with us each day. Direct links to all these online gatherings are on the homepage, PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Click on "Stay Connected."



Stay in touch throughout the week.

Sundays, 10:30 am Worship ONLINE

Sundays, 11:30 am Coffee Hour ONLINE — Bring Your Own Coffee! (BYOC!)

Wednesdays, 9 am Bible Study — Sharing God's Word with God's People

Thursdays, 12 pm Prayer at Noon — Light a candle and pray together with our community in faith! ✦

BEWARE OF SCAMS!



Please be aware and protect your personal information.

Scammers are sending out emails and telephone calls saying "You may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19," sharing the need to be tested and insisting on mailing a testing kit

to you and charging for it. **This is a scam!**

Any contact tracing representative from the County Health Department officials will share with you where you can go for FREE testing. Please be aware and do not fall prey to these attempts to get your personal financial information.

Additionally, we continue to get periodic alerts about various persons claiming to be Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown and sending what looks like a personal request from her for financial assistance on a project or private matter. We have shared before in previous Herald mailings that **NO ONE** from the Plymouth Church UCC staff will ever send such a request. Please be aware, pay attention to the email address from which the request is being sent, and **DO NOT** respond. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the church office: Info@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Learn more about legitimate COVID-19 resources and news at Seattle.Gov/Mayor/Covid-19. ✦

WAYS TO HELP WITH PLYMOUTH HEALING COMMUNITIES

Do you like to cook?

Fantastic! Simply contact Jms ("Jams") Stuiivenga, PHC Program Manager, (jstuiivenga@plyhc.org) and they can provide details such as the best date and time, number of meals and special dietary



Community Table at House of Healing.

needs, if any. Another option is to support a local Beacon Hill restaurant by purchasing meals delivered from them. Again, contact Jms, or me (janedunkel@gmail.com) and either of us can provide a list of local restaurants. You can simply purchase a gift certificate or donate to PHC and PHC will handle the rest. And . . . don't think you have to do this alone: consider inviting a small group of friends to join you and contribute to the meal.

Your continued support, especially during these times, is always felt and appreciated.

Resident Position Open Are you concerned about the impacts of poverty and oppression on individuals experiencing mental health issues? Do you want to participate in social transformation at the level of intimate relationships? House of Healing exists in opposition to stigma, to harmful cycles of poverty, institutionalization, and oppression. It exists for those who feel and perceive the world differently, who find we are better equipped to pursue holistic well-being in the context of loving community. If you are interested in learning more and how to get involved as a Residential Staff Member, contact PlymouthHouse@Plyhc.org or visit Plyhc.org/House-of-Healing. We are currently hiring for open positions! —Jane Dunkel, PHC Board Member ✦

CHECK OUT THE LIBRARY BLOG



Take a book, leave a book.

In this this week's blog, learn about Little Free Libraries.

"Right now, Little Free Libraries are serving a valuable purpose in providing books to their neighborhoods, a destination for walkers, joggers, and bikers, and a way of creating a sense of community. Support your local LFLs!"

New articles posted every Monday at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Click on the Library box on the homepage and then the link to the blog. Check out archived articles, too. ✦

PARENTS IN PROCESS

Last year, Parents in Process—our program for Christian parents of LGBTQ children who are wrestling with the news of their child's sexual orientation or gender identity—was one of the highlights of our Reconcile and Reform conference. This year, we're excited to offer Parents in Process virtually **October 17-18**.



For parents of LGBTQ children

The program will be led by Greg and Lynn McDonald, a Christian couple in Atlanta whose ministry *Embracing the Journey* does wonderful work coming alongside conservative Christian parents as they navigate what it means to follow Jesus and continue to love their LGBTQ child. As Greg and Lynn often say, they encourage parents to love their LGBTQ child well not *in spite* of the Bible, but *because* of the Bible.

If you know parents struggling with what their children's identity means for their faith, this is an ideal program to invite them to attend—and Greg and Lynn are ideal facilitators. The weekend will help parents move from a place of fear and mourning to embracing their new normal, culminating with helping them thrive and find purpose in their journey.

More details about the program content and schedule are available on our website. Please note that, while all parents are welcome to attend, the program is specifically designed for parents who are wrestling with what it means to love God and their LGBTQ child—those who are in process in their journey. Early registration is available through September 25 and costs only \$25 per household. (After that, the price will rise to \$30 per household.)

We are so looking forward to spending time with our Parents in Process attendees this October. You can learn more here, and be sure to let your parents know about the program if you think they would benefit from it!

Blessings, Matthew Vines, Executive Director, The Reformation Project ✦

SEEKING THOSE WHO SERVE

Plymouth involves congregants in the leadership of the church through various groups. Currently there are openings on the Congregational Council, Community & Care Board, and the Community Service and Social Action Board, as well as the Finance, Investment and HR Committees. Each of these will have openings next February as well. Stay tuned to hear more from your Nominating Committee during coffee hours after worship in the month of August. We hope to talk to many of you! —Ruth Williamson ✦