

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am **Worship Sunday, March 21, 2021**

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Lectionary Text for March 21: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown Preaching

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.

If you have personal concerns, you may contact a minister or member of the Pastoral Care Team by calling the pastoral care line, **206.639.7739**, 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Called as Siblings: Immigration Series Concludes

The Plymouth Immigration Ministry Team invites you to join us for the final session on Zoom, 7-8 pm March 24: *Reflections on Life at the Border*. Register at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Plymouth Reads Join the small group book discussion for *How To Be An Antiracist* April 17, followed the next week by our speaker event on April 24. Click on the link below to read about the challenge or register to receive updates through email. We are anticipating life-changing discussions in April. Register at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Thursday Prayer Group Ending The Plymouth Care Team has discussed the low participation on Thursdays, and has agreed that it is time to sunset this activity. Our time together has been valuable, and one of our prayers has been answered: Jose has been reunited with his family! I will continue to pray for you all, and the many situations and concerns we have raised. —Rev. Donene Blair

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!   



1217 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101-3199

Return Service Requested

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...

Jessie Attri, Riley Balcita, Matt Banks, Ken Carter, Pam Dorrance, Maria Eclipse (Grandmother of Rogie Eclipse), Carmen Ramsey Ellington, (friend of Karen Clark), Phil Fredrickson, Keili Geller (Granddaughter of Nancy Geller), Peter Gibbons (Brother of Eileen Gibbons), Floyd Gossett, Katherine Guthrie, Robert Hardy (Friend of Karen Clark), Joyce Irving (mother of Rev. Louis Mitchell), **Sue Jones**, Michael Kaid, Renee Lang (friend of Glenda Carper), Libonati Family, Sharon Masse (Wife of Gary Magnuson), Dick, Jean and Alex Paul (Parents and Nephew of Beth Paul Russell), Tommy Rivers Puzey (Friend of Karen Clark), Jose Robles, **Joseph Scott**, Naomi Stein, Jim Stultz (Brother of Doug Stultz), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Lisa Waldschmidt (Sister of Angela Deppe), Samantha Williams, Stu Williamson (Father of Ruth Williamson) **Bold = Newly added**

Our hearts are with Sue Jones and family on the death of Larry Jones on February 26.

Our hearts are with family and friends of Margaret Kitchell on the one-year anniversary of her passing.

We are with family and friends of Doris Schaeffer on the one-year anniversary of the passing of her husband Bob Schaeffer.

A service for Merrily Applewhite will be held 2 pm, March 20, via Zoom. Link and information to receive passcode at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org (Click on "This Sunday at Plymouth" and scroll down through announcements).

PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

Volume 59
Number 26

March 17, 2021

NEWS FROM EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE



Lori Kaid

This is the first of many future articles about the Exploratory Development Committee (EDC) and their work. We began meeting in October of 2020 with a purpose to provide recommendations (not limited to one) to the Council for the congregation to consider with regard to the future of the current Plymouth Church Seattle property. We are a diverse group who is focused on hearing and evaluating a lot of inputs to formulate our recommendations. Meetings/discussions which have or will happen include Plymouth's priorities & values, historical information surrounding Plymouth, building maintenance research & needs, Meriwether report (2019), local case studies (church property redevelopment), Horizon House, Plymouth Youth, Plymouth Housing Group, the Duwamish, prior surveys to the congregation, current market conditions and others.

Members of this committee are Don Bell, Larry Fung, Melony Joyce, Lorelie Kaid (Co-Chair), Grace Lounsbury (Co-Chair), Pam Mitchell, and Robert Neer. Our council Liaison is Joan Griswold, and also in regular attendance are advisory members Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown and Al Bentley. At the moment we are meeting every other week as there is a lot of information we are wrapping our hands around. To date, guest speakers have included Darel Grothaus (Advisor to Churches on Redevelopment), Mike Ostrem (Horizon House), Kyna Shilling (Financials), and Meriwether (Current Market) and we have others lined up. Some great discussion and thought always follows.

When the call came out last year, looking for people interested in being a part of this committee, I contemplated for a while. I was moderator when, along with Council, we approved having Meriwether do the initial assessment. Can I help take it to the next step of a recommendation? I decided the answer was yes, and submitted my request to join. As one member noted, "we are a unique bunch". Every member brings incredible perspective, background and thoughtful spirit to the conversations. I am inspired. As the co-chair (humbly acknowledging a role I was reluctant to accept), my goal is to facilitate our meetings so that everyone feels involved, engaged and heard. And, honestly, while it has been bumpy at times, we continue to contemplate, go back to the mission of Plymouth and recognize that God is with us.

Our timeline at the moment is targeting having a recommendation to Council by the September Council meeting. We will keep you posted should this date change. Every member of the committee will be writing an update each month to be published in the *Herald*. The thought being it is important to hear from different people and their perspective. We have also set up a Google form to allow for all of you to provide feedback and your thoughts. If you want to share, please go to <https://tinyurl.com/PlymouthEDCFeedback>. Walk with us.

—Lorelie Kaid, Member & Co-Chair, Plymouth EDC ✦

JOSE ROBLES RELEASED!

On March 10, Jose Robles was released from detention. Carol Mooney of Plymouth Immigration Ministry joined many others in Tacoma to be there as he was reunited with his family.



Jose Robles upon release, with Plymouth's Carol Mooney of Plymouth's Immigration Ministry Team and Pastor Joanne of Gethsemane Lutheran Church

Jose still awaits the adjudication of his U Visa, so he is not yet fully secure. His stay of removal remains in place. Immigration Ministry will remain among those who continue to follow his case, and to advocate for humane immigration reform.

Let us celebrate as we continue to support this family through this next transition. If you'd like to make a tax-deductible gift to help him get a new work authorization and meet other needs, please donate using links at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org (*In the news feed, click on article "Jose Robles Released"*). ✦

WHITE CO-CONSPIRATOR SUMMIT

Get equipped to be an agent of change! This virtual summit, **March 19-20**, is unapologetically intended to speak to white people about their role in dismantling white supremacy. Each speaker session and workshop calls out a particular area of white supremacy in order to shift the dominant narrative, and provides ways to re-imagine collectively conspiring against white supremacist culture in order to foster a true Beloved Community. Speakers include Jim Wallis and Nadia Bolz-Weber. Cost is \$150 for the two day session. Visit ScarrittBennett.org/Summit2021 to register. ✦



The Publication of Plymouth Church Seattle
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MUSIC NOTES



Dr. Wanda Griffiths

During March, Women's History Month, we are lifting up the music and stories of women composers.

Undine Smith Moore (1904-1989), composer of this week's prelude, is known to many as the "Dean of Black Women Composers." She started music lessons at seven and went on to study both

piano and organ, as well as music theory at Fisk University. She turned down a prestigious scholarship to the Juilliard School in order to accept the job of supervisor of music in the public schools in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

She considered teaching to be a particularly high calling and also an art form. She also taught at Virginia State College and, along with Altona Trent Johns, co-founded the Black Music Center at Virginia State College in 1969. The stated purpose was to educate the members about the "contributions of black people to the music of the United States and the world."

Unfortunately, the Center closed following her retirement in from Virginia State in 1972, but she still considered founding the Center to be her most significant accomplishment aside from her teaching.

Fanny Mendelssohn (1805-1847), composer of this week's postlude, was born in Hamburg, Germany. Both Fanny and her brother Felix Mendelssohn were child prodigies, but a career

as a professional musician was not considered appropriate for a woman of her social status.

Fanny received formal training in composition privately, but both her brother and her father discouraged her from publishing her music. She was also denied the opportunity to travel like her brother, which allowed him to expand his musical language by hearing compositions by other contemporary composers around Europe.

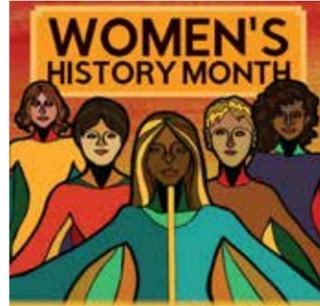
Beginning in 1830, she hosted an important salon in her home in Berlin where she performed many of her own compositions. Only a small number of her nearly 500 compositions were published. As a result, many of her works have been lost or the manuscripts remain in private hands, unavailable to scholars or musicians. She wrote her *Prelude für Orgel* for use as the wedding march for her wedding to the painter Wilhelm Hensel in 1829. ✨

"It must be a sign of talent that I do not give up, though I can get nobody to take an interest in my efforts"

—Fanny Mendelssohn

THIS WEEK IN WOMEN'S HISTORY

- **March 15** Harriet E. Wilson, one of the first female African-American novelists, born 1859.
- **March 16** Rebecca Cole, the second African-American woman to become a doctor in the US, born 1846.
- **March 17** Camp Fire Girls was established as the first interracial, non-sectarian American organization for girls, 1910
- **March 18** Dana Elaine Owens, known professionally by her stage name Queen Latifah, born 1970
- **March 19** Margaret Foley, labor organizer, suffragist, and social worker, born 1875
- **March 20** Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel Uncle Tom's Cabin published 1852
- **March 21** Debi Thomas became first African-American woman to win World Figure Skating Championship, 1975 ✨



FINDING HOPE IN TIMES OF STRUGGLE

Here's an additional submission for the Lenten Devotional from Lauren Davis. Due to delays with the mail, we did not receive it until after the devotional was published. However, we knew you would be blessed by Lauren's words and are including her submission here.

Taking a walk helps me feel encouraged. I saw a camellia bush in bloom in the middle of January — a lovely statement on a cold gloomy day when a coffee shop is no longer a safe goal for my walk. Another day I saw a decorative cherry tree in bloom — also in winter — which reminded me of the same sight at a long ago Christmastime when my little daughter said happily, "It's blooming for Jesus." Watching the busy birds at my feeders moves my thoughts from fears and discouragement to awe at such frail creatures thriving around me. Again, years ago, I picked up The Upper Room daily devotional from Plymouth's lobby, which opened my eyes to peoples' struggles and triumphs far and wide. Many days the entry was exactly what I needed to hear at the moment. Isaiah 43:2 has helped me many times: "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you." Jesus' promise in John 14:18 (RSV), "I will not leave you desolate..." I also find powerful. Actually, writing this has helped me feel hope. —Lauren Davis ✨



Thank you, Lauren.

HELP WITH EASTER FLOWERS

At Easter, the Community and Care Board supports a long tradition of delivering beautiful flowers to Plymouth folks who are isolated or have suffered a loss. The Board feels it is important to maintain this ministry, and to do so safely.

We need your help! If you can safely deliver flowers by dropping it off at a safe distance and wearing a mask, please email June Hayakawa-Fung at JHayakawafung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Plymouth is accepting donations for this ministry. Names of donors and those who are remembered will be listed in the *Herald*. Please email Robert Turner, RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org or send in a note with your check. You can also donate online at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Thank you for helping continue this tradition in a difficult time. ✨



Help spread Easter joy.

LENTEN SPECIAL OFFERING



Gifts to Lenten Special Offering during the month of March will be divided evenly between **One Great Hour of Sharing** and **Plymouth UCC Scholarship Fund**. **One Great Hour of Sharing** (OGHS) special

mission offering of the UCC involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery. Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place.

The Plymouth UCC Scholarship Fund continues to receive half of all annual special offerings in order to replenish the balance, ready to support members and friends in financial hardship take part in future opportunities offered by and through Plymouth UCC.

If donating online at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org, choose *Special Offering – Lent*, in the fund dropdown menu. ✨

WHAT'S UP WITH N-SID-SEN?

I am sorry to announce that we won't be going to N-Sid-Sen as a community this year. After discussions with camp director Mark Boyd and Plymouth leadership, we decided that the restricted time frame (Thursday-Monday), the limited total number of campers allowed, and the Covid restrictions on gathering in groups at camp would hamper our ability to create community and strengthen our connections to one another. I know this is disappointing news to many. However, Mark Boyd and the N-Sid-Sen staff are offering different kinds of opportunities for you to visit N-Sid-Sen this summer. Please visit PlymouthChurchSeattle.org for a list of activities at camp this summer and information on registering (*In the news feed, click on article "What's Up with N-Sid-Sen?"*).

—Jennifer Castle, Director of Faith Formation ✨



ROOTS OF COMMUNITY

You are joyfully invited to The Church Council of Greater Seattle's Annual Assembly on March 23. We will meet online via Zoom this year, and encourage you to join us from wherever you may be. Kids, partners, pets, roommates, and houseplants all welcome! This year's theme is *Roots of Community*. Through triumph and joy, upheaval and tragedy, we are so grateful to be connected with you in the sacred network from which this movement grows toward justice. Please RSVP with Ann Erickson at A.Erickson@TheChurchCouncil.org or 206.204.3855. Church Council of Greater Seattle receives continuing support through Plymouth's Mission and Social Action budget. ✨

PLAN NOW FOR EASTER

Invite friends and family to celebrate Easter with Plymouth Sunday, April 4. Live online sunrise service at 6:30 am, festive live online worship at 10:30 am. Those who are able are invited to our first-ever drive-in service, 3 pm at South Seattle College parking lot (6000 16th Ave SW, Seattle, 98106). If you would like to help with the afternoon service, please contact Toni Arthur, TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. ✨



Celebrate with Plymouth.