



[www.plymouthfw.org](http://www.plymouthfw.org)



# **BELL**

## **Thanksgiving Opportunities**

Temple Achduth Vesholom will be hosting an interfaith Thanksgiving service of worship on Tuesday evening, November 24, at 7:00 pm. Participating congregations will include Trinity Episcopal Church, Trinity English Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne Unitarian-Universalist Church, First Presbyterian Church, and the Al-Fathah Dawah Center. Rev. John P. Gardner will bring the evening message. Music for the service will be under the direction of Mr. Robert Nance. A special offering will be received for Wellspring Food Bank.

## **2009 Thanksgiving Offering**

The current economic situation is seriously affecting the status of our local food banks. The lines are long and the supplies are short. Plymouth is once again supporting our West Central neighbor, Wellspring Interfaith Social Services, and its food bank. As we give thanks for all that

## **Star Child Gift Tree**

The Christian Education Committee kicked off its annual Gift Tree project on Sunday, November 15. We encourage you to select a "star" from the tree and provide the requested gift on it for a pre-school child at East Wayne Head Start, or mittens or a cap for a needy school child or par-

Plymouth Church is offering a Thanksgiving Day worship service on Thursday, November 26, at 10:45 am. For those of you who want to share Thanksgiving Dinner with other Plymouth folks, Jim Conner is once again cooking the turkeys and serving up the stuffing. Sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office and indicate how many people you are bringing and what side dish you will bring to share (vegetable, salad, or dessert). There will also be a need for clean up and dishwashing assistance after the meal.

we have, let us remember those who are lacking in the very basic necessity of food. Please give generously to this special offering being taken during Thanksgiving Day worship, November 26. You may also send your offering to the church office, marked "Thanksgiving."

ent at East Allen County Schools. After your purchase, you can return your gift with the tag and wrapping paper to the church office, or place it at the foot of the Gift Tree in the Narthex by Sunday, December 13. As always, thank you for your generosity.

## **Intergenerational Advent Event**

Make plans for you and your family to join us on Sunday, November 29, following worship for an Intergenerational Advent Event sponsored by the Christian Education Committee. The event will include a luncheon, music, family activities, and the annual Hanging of the Greens around the church. The luncheon and materials for activities will be provided by the Christian Education Committee. There is no charge for the luncheon, but each family is asked to bring a holiday dessert to share.

Bring out the holiday songs and decorations. Bring your friends and family. Bring the spirit of the holidays to our Advent journey at our Plymouth Church home.

## **Alternative Christmas Holiday Bazaar**

Sunday, November 29, in the Folsom Room, Plymouth will be offering some unique and meaningful alternative shopping opportunities. Third World Shoppe, Bright Stars of Bethlehem, and the Heifer Project will be represented. Stop and shop for creative holiday gift giving, and make a difference in someone's life.

## In Our Prayers ...

During the month of November, we remember the work of **Matthew 25 Health and Dental Clinic**, a recipient of Plymouth benevolence, which provides free medical, dental, and vision care to uninsured and low income residents of Allen County.

### **Conditions of Special Need:**

Karen Anderson, Gregg Bingham, Adine Eagar, Eloise Gephart, Toby Hatch, Keelyn Ingmire, Ruth Niewyk, and Richard Payne.

### **In the UCC, every day is a day of prayer for peace.**

SSgt. Nathan Glassley, Rick Foster, SPC Matthew Johnson, and David Worcester; and chaplains from the UCC, Bruce Farrell, and Anthony Taylor.

**Sympathy** is extended to Carol Shedd and family on the death of her mother, Lillian Smith, on October 20.

**We remember the families and friends of the victims of the Fort Hood, Texas, killings.** The Rev. Stephen Gray, UCC Indiana-Kentucky Conference Minister, notified UCC staff that one of the victims, **Staff Sergeant Amy S. Krueger**, was an active member of St. Peter's UCC in Kiel, Wisconsin. Krueger was preparing for her second deployment to Afghanistan when Major Nidal Malik Hasan, an Army psychiatrist, opened fire at the military installation. Twelve military personnel and one civilian were killed, and at least 29 injured, before Hasan was subdued by police gunfire. Amy was a great niece of Rev. John and Ms. Pat Krueger. John is a retired UCC clergy living in Greenfield, Ind., who served as the new church start pastor of Peace UCC in Fort Wayne, Ind. UCC Chaplain, Anthony Taylor, was also at Fort Hood at the time of the shootings.

## Giving Thanks ...

Dear Plymouth,

Thanksgiving. It's one of our nation's most cherished and widely celebrated holidays. It is a fitting time to feast, to savor with gratitude the company of family and friends, to ponder the inestimable blessings of God. It is a day that runs deep in our pilgrim history, conjuring images of Mayflower immigrants and Plymouth colonists celebrating harvest plenitude with curious native Americans. Yet we have no exclusive claim to its observance. Thanksgiving has broad appeal and can't be confined to any one people, period, or place. It is a national day suited for all Americans who treasure the unfolding story of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. As author Barbara Cohen reminded: **"it takes all kinds of Pilgrims to make a Thanksgiving."**

This year I find myself giving thanks for the teachings of freedom and the affirmation of diversity that resides within our faith heritage. It isn't always evident, for there lurks an ever-present temptation in our lives to narrow our sympathies and restrict our concerns to self-serving spheres. We are prone to make God small and petty, a well adjusted, respectable fit for our world. The Pilgrim pastor, John Robinson, a keen observer of human nature, resisted such impulses, teaching that it was "a human right and natural liberty" for every person to freely worship. Robinson enunciated a clear understanding of faith that affirmed both unity and variety within the religious life. He help our Pilgrim ancestors resist the conforming pressures of society, while pleading for good life as a faith statement, and doctrinal tolerance within the faith community. At our best, we carry and convey this generous spirit in our church to this day.

I'm also giving thanks for pilgrim perseverance. It was, as I recall, Henry

Ward Beecher who once said, **"The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is a strong will and a strong won't."** Plymouth Church, like many others, is being tested by the tough and uncertain economy in which we find ourselves. We are facing changes in our staff structure and adjusting to new office hours. These challenges are being met, in large part, with a strong will and a prayerful perseverance. For that I applaud the church. This was especially evident in our fall stewardship campaign, as we pondered the theme of "Plymouth in Action: Immerse Yourself!"

Finally, I find myself grateful this year for those who spice my life with grace and humor. This includes my family and more than a few Plymouth Church members. For many people, this has been a year of sobering life changes. I find myself amazed at the lost jobs, the dashed hopes. In the midst of so much uncertainty, those who share their love and laughter and encouragement are a blessing, and I thank God for them.

As Thanksgiving comes upon us once again, I hope you have time to ponder the many blessings of God. In prayerful acknowledgment of so much good, in wonder over so many mercies, may God forever be praised!

Rev. John P. Gardner

---

### **Reminder**

***New hours for the  
Plymouth Church office are  
Tuesday through Friday,  
9:00 am to 5:00 pm.***

---

## Let Us Go Over to Bethlehem

How do we find the true meaning of Christmas? In this four-week Chapel Class Forum study, popular author James W. Moore invites us to get away from “business as usual;” plot a course toward Bethlehem and join in a journey to find the “good news” of God’s ultimate victory in the faith,

## Reclaiming Christmas

Is the American way of celebrating Christmas appropriate for Christians? Might there be better ways than bustling around buying gifts and piling up credit card debt to commemorate the incarnation of God, to remember the Word made flesh? For those who promote an alternative Christmas or who try year-round to embrace principles of voluntary simplicity, the answer to the second question is, most definitely, yes. Since the Gospels and the early

promise, peace, and Christ of Christmas.

Join us beginning Sunday, November 29, 9:00 am, for this seasonal examination of the spiritual meaning of this familiar holiday time.

church have no guidelines for us in celebrating the birth of Jesus, these Christians suggest we consider the life of Jesus. And in doing so, might such a celebration be not only a greater gift to the world than mindless consumerism but also a greater gift to those who practice it?

Beginning November 29, 9:00 am, join our Young Adults as they consider the alternatives this holiday season.

## Luminous Night—Service of Lament and Promise

**Wednesday, December 2, 7:00 pm**  
*Featuring the University of Saint Francis Singers*

*A quiet service of Psalms, music, and candle lighting in memory of loved ones, in acknowledgement of the difficulties and sadness of life circumstances, and an expression of Hope and Promise in the Birth of the One who brings God’s love and light to the earth.*

The Christmas season invites us to be especially gentle with one another and ourselves. Many people suffer anxiety, depression, sadness, and loneliness during this season.

The One born in Bethlehem’s stable can stabilize us as we seek to maintain our equilibrium during the darkening days of December and the cul-

tural Christmas rush. Many of us need a safe place to lament, to complain, to grieve—without being told to “get over it.”

Our Luminous Night Service of Lament and Promise allows us to express our grief and anger first, and then move on to affirmations of God’s love and compassion. We can listen and be reminded that God keeps the divine promise “never to leave or forsake” us.

The service is interwoven with song, prayer, scripture, and readings. An offering of our sorrows and candle lighting will be included in the liturgy.

Come, gather with others who share an understanding of the need to replace pressure with peace.

## John Whitebread Reception

A reception honoring John Whitebread will be held on Sunday, December 6, immediately following worship. We will gather to express gratitude and appreciation to him for his nine years of service to Plymouth Church as Minister of Christian Education, and to formally bid him farewell as his position comes to an end on December 31.

Please set this date aside and plan to join us for this gathering.

## Rejoice—Advent Hymns

Join us in our Amistad Sessions Class at 9:00 am, beginning Sunday, November 29, for an Advent study reflecting on Advent themes as seen through four well-known hymns: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,” “O Little Town of Bethlehem,” “Silent Night,” and “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing.” Come and immerse yourself in this lively discussion of some of the more hidden histories and meanings of these familiar Advent hymns.

## Robert Nance CD Available for Purchase

Maestro Robert Nance has released his first CD of piano recordings under the title “The Attitude Series: One – Solitude.” The music was recorded in the sanctuary of Plymouth Church, and features such selections as “Wayfaring Stranger,” “Be Thou My Vision,” and “Spring Comes Early.” In addition there are two Bach preludes, as well as an original composition, “My Soul Rises.” The price: \$20.00. The first 10 copies to be sold benefit the Plymouth pastors discretionary spending accounts. This CD will make a great Christmas gift!

---

## Upcoming Area Events

### Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) Open House

*IHN, Sheltering Families in Crisis*

Sunday, December 6, 1:00-4:00 pm  
at their new facility, 2925 East State  
Boulevard.

Bring family and friends and see how our investment in IHN is serving our community. Tour their newly expanded Vann Family Center and playground, meet IHN staff and guests, and enjoy refreshment.

### Interfaith Service in Celebration of Human Rights

Indiana Center for Middle East Peace is sponsoring this event that commemorates the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948). It is scheduled for Thursday evening, December 10 (Human Right Day), at First Presbyterian Church.

---

## Peanut Butter Sunday

The next opportunity to collect our *100 jars* of Peanut Butter for the Wellspring Food Bank is Sunday, December 20. You can contribute jars of Peanut Butter on any Sunday by putting them in the box near the front office. Your support in providing the staple food item is greatly appreciated!

## Women's Book Group

The Plymouth Women's Book Group will meet December 1 and 15 in the Amistad Room, 11:45 am to 1:30 pm. They will be continuing their discussion of John Shelby Spong's book, *Eternal Life: A New Vision—Beyond Religion, Beyond Theism, Beyond Heaven and Hell*.

## World AIDS Day, December 1

"Stop AIDS. Keep the Promise" is the World AIDS Day theme, designed to encourage community leaders to keep their commitment to achieve universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care, and support, and to reduce the stigma and discrimination that surround this disease.

We observe World AIDS Day not just to remember those who have died. As the theme inspires us, we must recommit ourselves to the promise that AIDS can be stopped. Medication, nutrition, and education are key components to turning back the pandemic tide of HIV and AIDS infection.

This year's World AIDS Day is the midpoint of the 25th anniversary commemoration of the AIDS Task Force of Northeast Indiana. The Task Force is asking for a coordinated effort with area faith communities to acknowledge World AIDS Day and to support efforts in raising awareness about how HIV is destroying families and entire communities around the world.

We will distribute the AIDS commemorative red ribbon at Plymouth

Church on Sunday, November 29, so that we may wear the ribbon. Our Luminous Night Service on December 2 will include Lament and Promise for World AIDS victims, families, and communities.

Some personal stories of the thousands of children, adolescents, and adults living with HIV and AIDS from around the world are stories of hope and acceptance. But for each story of hope and belief, there is another story of despair and tragedy. According to UNAIDS estimates, there are 33.2 million people living with HIV, including 2.5 million children. In 2007, over 2 million people became newly infected with HIV, and about half of these people became infected before they were 25 and were killed by AIDS before they were 35. Every minutes of every day a child under the age of 15 dies of HIV and AIDS. There are 15 million children who have lost one or both parents to AIDS. Around 95% of people with HIV/AIDS lives in developing nations, and today HIV is a threat to men, women, and children on every continent.

*"Stop AIDS. Keep the Promise."*

## Crossroad Christmas Offering

What better way to celebrate the spirit of Christmas than to include Crossroad in our personal Christmas gifting! Crossroad is a community that cares about needy children and families. They passionately believe that they can make a difference in the life of a child. Every year, many children spend their holidays on the Crossroad campus. They are children ages six and older who have very serious emotional problems and other issues. Far too many of them have been abused or neglected. They

are hurt and hurting kids, and they come to Crossroad to receive the care they must have to achieve the promising futures they deserve.

Please use the Crossroad envelopes that will be inserted in the bulletins on December 20 and Christmas Eve, or an envelope marked for Crossroad, to place your offering. As we celebrate the birth of the Child, Jesus, let's help make that difference in a child's life a reality through our gifts this Christmas season.

## 2009 Foods Resource Bank (FRB) Project Update

Once again the members and friends of Plymouth stepped up and expressed sincere support for our FRB partnership with Salem UCC, Magley, and your participation in this mission has been genuinely appreciated! There were over 50 contributions, including those from individuals, families, the Emma Feigley Fund, and several others, along with the corn bag contributions, bringing Plymouth's portion of this year's project to approximately \$10,000!

We shared a great celebration day with our friends at Salem UCC on October 18. The worship service, meal, hay wagon ride, and the variety of activities Salem organized made for a really enjoyable day. The actual harvest of the 20 acres of corn could not be done on the 18th, and had to be delayed due to the high moisture content in the corn. The time the combines will enter the 20 acres of FRB corn for the harvest is still not determined. Weather and moisture will be the determining factors impacting the decision the farmers have to make. A staff member at the FRB office reported that there were many FRB projects in Indiana and around the Midwest that had to change their harvesting plans due to weather issues.

### Thanks for Time and Talent

We would like to take this opportunity to say thanks for a couple recent volunteer projects completed here at Plymouth.

Diane and Jim Lasley "immersed" themselves in a time and talent project when they defrosted at least 3 inches of ice in the freezer in the church basement. They then disposed of dated and freezer burnt contents and wiped down the interior before resetting the thermostat.

We have selected two overseas projects to support. Cambodia South is one we supported in 2008 and will continue this year. The emphasis there is on increasing food security, food production, improved water access, and training farmers on better growing techniques. The second project is in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where the emphasis is on distributing more disease resistant, higher yielding plants such as cassava, dwarf palm trees, peanut seed, and cowpeas; and on training in better production practices. Both projects also have the support of our United Church of Christ – One Great Hour of Sharing, along with other denominations. You may read more details about these projects and others that FRB supports on their website, [www.foodsresourcebank.org](http://www.foodsresourcebank.org).

When the corn has been harvested, the expenses paid, and the profits determined, we will provide a more detailed final financial report. Again, thank you all very much for your assistance in helping make our FRB project an important aid for people in great need in our world!

FRB Task Force Chairs:  
Gale Cunningham, Dan and Judy Kaufman, Laura Rudolph

Laura and Rhys Rudolph and Diana Swayze spent a recent Saturday morning clearing all the items stored for Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) out of a second floor storage closet here at the church. They made arrangements for them to be transported to the new IHN facility at the corner of East State and Santa Rosa.

Thanks also to those individuals involved in the recent clean-up of the grounds in preparation for winter.

	1	Jim Schmidt
D	3	Barb Conkrite Brian Vanderbosch
	4	Alaina Gilliom Ray Lehman Brad Stinson
e	7	Veronica Beifus Peggy Grant Keyes McGregor Nelson Spade
	8	Mary Gilliom Bruce Keuneke Donna Rowe Shirley Slater
m	9	Bonnie Bortnichak Dylan Lewark
	10	Christopher Davis Laura McCoy
b	11	Bill Beard Mackenzie Schmidt
	12	Sadie Kuelling
e	13	Doris Grandos Pat Merrill Margaret Ann Sponhauer
	14	George Blossom
	16	Rhonda Eitsert Samuel Laird Paul Lewark
	17	Kenton Neuhouser
B	18	Jared Chasey Lois Steere
	19	Marena Lewark Jayne Staight
i	20	Brennen Callaghan Jan Gibson Samantha Tyndall Riet Zwiop
	21	Eleanor Barclay
r	22	Lanna Howe Connie McAfee Cheryl Rinehart Gen Sinish
	23	Mia Patton
	24	Elena Dupen
d	25	Michelle Bradley Carol Lehman Carol Tyndall
	26	Steve Lauterberg
	28	Isabel Cravens Kathy Hartsch Steven Vorderman
y	29	Colton Ames
		Sharon Conrad
s	30	Suzanne Jontz
	31	Paige Yarman

## The Gift of Jesus

Christmas is really about God's great gift to us in Jesus. We can share this wonderful story with others by our words and actions. The Gift of Jesus unit uses the Bible story included in Luke 2:1-20. Luke's Gospel tells the Christmas story through the historical event of a census that links Joseph's lineage to King David. The message of this wonderful birth is given to the lowly shepherds in the

fields and, through them, to the world. Our elementary children will

- experience the Christmas story from Luke's Gospel;
- create and re-create the story through a variety of age-appropriate activities that will incorporate all their "intelligences";
- discover ways they can share this good news as a gift to others.

## Youth Group in December

The month of December will soon be upon us! How quickly this year has breezed by! The youth will gather on Sundays, December 6 and 13, from 12:00 to 2:00 pm, with lunch and fellowship activities included. On Sundays, December 20 and 27, there will be no scheduled youth group activities, due to the 35th Annual Boars Head and Yule Log Festival rehearsal weekend and services.

Youth Group will resume in January, so watch for exciting calendar events to come in 2010 ... for example the MLK worship service, Casa d'Plymouth and the Cabaret (Talent Show). We can't forget Plymouth Rocks, "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat" at the CIVIC, and Café Plymouth! Whew! Stay tuned and keep in touch!

## Scholarship Opportunities

The Grants and Scholarships Subcommittee has the pleasant responsibility of awarding scholarship grants from the earnings generated by several endowed funds. Applications are due in the church office by February 15.

The **Richard C. Hess Peace Studies Scholarship** will award a \$1,000 tuition and fees scholarship for a college student majoring in peace studies or a related program.

The **Richard Nelson Kent Memorial Fund** provides educational grants for tuition and fees for members of the United Church of Christ in the Northeast Indiana Association and other qualified applicants who are at least 16 years of age and entering into or continuing ecological studies, conservation biology, or other environmental studies.

The **R. Donald Sinish Fund** provides awards for tuition and fees for 16-to-24-year-old members of Plymouth Church.

The **Van Gorder Scholarship** is awarded annually for tuition and fees for post-secondary education leading to a degree, certificate, or license for a graduating senior who is a member of Plymouth Church.

Completed applications with all supporting materials must be received in the church office by February 15. Incomplete applications are ineligible for consideration. To request application packets or to receive additional information, call the church office (423-9424) and leave your name, phone number, and email address so one of the members of the Grants and Scholarships Subcommittee may respond to your request.

## YOUTH EVENTS

### November

- 21 Bread Sale Prep/Bake Night  
*5:00-9:00 pm*
- 22 Fresh Baked Bread Sale—  
Youth Fundraiser  
*9:00 am-12:00 pm*
- 25 No Wednesday Night Live
- 26 Happy Thanksgiving!
- 29 Advent Workshop

### December

- 2 Midweek Youth at WNL  
*6:00 to 8:00 pm*
- 6 All Youth Group  
*12:00 to 2:00 pm*
- 9 Midweek Youth at WNL  
*6:00 to 8:00 pm*
- 13 All Youth Group  
*12:00 to 2:00 pm*
- 20 No Youth Group—Boar's Head  
Rehearsal
- 22 Youth Christmas Party @  
Kara's  
*5:00 to 9:00 pm*
- 23 No WNL
- 24 Christmas Eve Services at  
*7:00 and 10:00 pm*
- 25 Merry Christmas!
- 27 No Youth Group—Boar's Head  
Services at *5:30 and 8:00 pm*
- 30 No WNL

## Youth Christmas Party

'Tis the Season to be Jolly ...

Fa la la la la la la la!

Come to Kara's house to Party ...

Fa la la la la la la la!

**Youth Group Christmas Party—**

Tuesday, December 22, 5:00 to 9:00 pm at Kara's House. We'll do some caroling, have dinner, play games, and share some holiday cheer! Please bring a wrapped ornament for a gift exchange! Mark your calendars now and plan to join us for some Christmas Fun!

## Timely Reminders

### Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

### Lectors Needed!

Lectors are needed for 10:00 am worship for 2010. A new rotation schedule will begin in January. If you are interested in serving, or have questions, please speak with Rev. John P. Gardner or Rev. Ruth E. Phillips. You will be contacted with schedule information as soon as it is available.

### Annual Report Time Again!

It's almost that time again, so start now to prepare! The 2009 annual reports will soon be due to be turned in! All reports should be completed and submitted to Lettie in the church office by Monday, January 4. Reports should be typed in 11 pt. Times New Roman font and either emailed as an attachment to [me@plymouthfw.org](mailto:me@plymouthfw.org) or saved to disk and brought to the church office. Your help in getting these reports in is appreciated. Please call Lettie at 423-9424 with any questions.

### Stock Donations

A note to remind everyone during our Stewardship season that donating stock is always a great way to contribute to the church. If you are interested in contributing in this way, please contact our Financial Administrator, Amanda Horner, or Lettie Eagar in the church office for specific information. A form will be made available

## Cabaret/Variety Show, January 31, 2010

Put on your tapping shoes! Tickle those ivories! Warm up those vocal cords! The Congregational Life Committee wants you to start planning and practicing now to share your talent with your Plymouth

for your use that includes who to contact as well as a request for information needed by the office to process the donation.

### Year-end Financial Gifts to the Church

Did you know that the IRS says that charitable deductions must be claimed in the year in which they are delivered? The only exception to this is a check that is dated, mailed, and postmarked by the end of the year. In that case, the postmark constitutes the delivery date. For 2009, that date is Thursday, December 31. If the Lord is blessing you with extra this time of year, please support our ministries as a way to give back to God a portion of what you have received. Thank you.

**For Givers 70 ½ years or older:** IRA owners at least 70 ½ years of age can take a qualified charitable distribution of up to \$100,000 in 2009 and donate it directly to a charity. This gift will satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution, however the *check must be paid directly to the charitable organization.*

---

## Next Bell Deadline

The next deadline for submission of material for *the Bell* is **Wednesday, December 9**. We appreciate your prompt submission of articles! Want to be an E-Beller? Send request to [bellonline@plymouthfw.org](mailto:bellonline@plymouthfw.org).

---

friends at our annual Cabaret/Variety Show on January 31, 2010. For more information and to get your name added to the cast of performers for this event, contact Mark Glassley, 260-414-8765.

## Hear Ye, Hear Ye! Boar's Head Info for You!

By now, every member and friend of Plymouth should have received their Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival patron letter. Please act *immediately* and contribute to this wonderful Plymouth tradition. The Festival relies *totally* on the contributions of its patrons and the free will offering for all of its finances. ***We cannot offer this special Plymouth gift without you!*** With tough economic times, last year's contributions were well below expectations, which caused a \$4,000 loss. We were lucky to have enough in our Boar's Head account to cover this loss. But we can't sustain this kind of loss again, so PLEASE won't you contribute? I would especially invite our new members to become involved as patrons and as audience members. Established members, please come and enjoy the Festival again ... bring new friends. Although one needs tickets to attend any of the six services, December 27, 28, 29 at 5:30 and 8:00 pm, these tickets are free. Patrons receive tickets first.

Cast and crew members are reminded of the meeting, November 22 at 1:00 pm, where schedules, ticket orders, and special 35th anniversary details will be presented. ***Court Dancers and pat-a-pans will be practicing following that meeting, and court dancers will have additional rehearsals on December 6 at 8:45 am and December 13 at 8:45 am in the Youth Center.*** The big rehearsal weekend is December 19 and 20 for the cast! See Donnie for your costume fitting ASAP in Room 207, but for sure before November 22, unless you are away at school or live way out of the area! It is essential that all have tried on their costume and have the necessary accessories pulled! PLEASE help out the costumers!

Won't you please join us for this special 35th festival, with new eyes and hearts, and come and enjoy the sights and sounds of the season of joy, peace, and love. "Oh, Come All Ye Faithful ..."

Jim Schmidt, Director

# December 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 World Aids Day 10:00a Staff Meeting 11:45a Women's Study Group-AR 4:30p FWCC-ChR 6:00p EC-FR	2 WNL 8:30a Retired Men's Breakfast@ Atz 5:00p Children's Choir 5:00p Cherubs Choir 5:00p Adult Studies 5:15p Bible Study 6:00p Dinner-FR 6:30p Bell Ensemble 6:30p Midweek Youth 7:00p Luminous Night 7:00p Adult Studies 7:00p Sanctuary Singers	3 12:00p Pepper Jelly Making-K	4	5
6 Share Your Shopping 8:00a Morning Prayer-C 9:00a Christian Education 10:00a Worship & Comm. 11:15a Hospitality 11:30a John Whitebread reception 12:00p Youth Group-YC 5:30p Divorcing Support Grp	7 Office Closed 5:45p Yoga	8 10:00a Staff Meeting 4:30p FWCC-ChR 4:45p Benevolence-AR 5:00p E&M-CR	9 Bell Deadline WNL 5:00p Children's Choir 5:00p Cherubs Choir 5:00p Adult Studies 5:15p Bible Study 6:00p Dinner-FR 6:30p Bell Ensemble 6:30p Midweek Youth 7:00p We the Living-MR 7:00p Adult Studies 7:00p Sanctuary Singers	10 6:30p MOYC@Claire Roney's	11	12
13 8:00a Morning Prayer-C 9:00a Christian Education 10:00a Worship 11:15a Hospitality 11:15a The Amazing Grays Meeting 11:30a P&J-AR 12:00p Youth Group-YC 4:00p Heartland concert 5:30p Divorcing Support Grp	14 Office Closed 5:30p Property 5:45p Yoga 7:00p PFLAG-MR	15 Bill of Rights Day 10:00a Staff Meeting 11:45a Women's Study Group-AR 4:30p FWCC-ChR 5:30p Personnel Committee-AR 5:45p S&F-CR 6:00p CE-201	16 WNL 5:00p Children's Choir 5:00p Cherubs Choir 5:00p Adult Studies 5:15p Bible Study 6:00p Dinner-FR 6:30p Bell Ensemble 6:30p Midweek Youth 7:00p Adult Studies 7:00p Sanctuary Singers	17 4:30p Boar's Head Public Box Office	18 4:30p Boar's Head Set Up-All Nighter	19 7:30a Boar's Head Rehearsal(8a-6p)
20 Peanut Butter Sunday 8:00a Morning Prayer-C 9:00a Christian Education 10:00a Worship & Comm. 11:15a Hospitality 12:30p Boar's Head Rehearsal 5:30p Divorcing Support Grp	21 Winter Begins Office Closed 5:45p Yoga	22 10:00a Staff Meeting 5:00p Youth Christmas Party	23	24 Christmas Eve 7:00p Worship and Comm. 10:00p Candle Light Service	25 Christmas Day Office Closed	26 10:00a Boar's Head Set Up 4:00p Boar's Head Dress Rehearsal
27 8:00a Morning Prayer-C 9:00a Christian Education 10:00a Worship 11:15a Hospitality 5:30p Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival 8:00p Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival	28 Office Closed 5:30p Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival 5:45p Yoga 8:00p Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival	29 10:00a Staff Meeting 11:45a Women's Study Group-AR 5:30p Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival 8:00p Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival	30	31 New Year's Eve	<b>Abbreviations:</b> EC—Executive Council E & M—Evangelism & Marketing MSYG—Middle School Youth Group P&J—Peace/Justice Subcommittee S&F—Stewardship & Finance Comm. WNL—Wednesday Night Live	

# Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

## The Amazing Grays

invite all members and friends of Plymouth Church to celebrate the 35th anniversary of our Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival at a

## Boars Head and Yule Log Festival Dinner

### Sunday, December 13

Immediately following the morning worship service.

We will gather around a Wassail Bowl before partaking of a dinner with an English theme.



During this "happy hour," costumed Boar's Head actors and actresses will be available for photo opportunities—a great time to have children and/or adults in a Christmas picture with the King, a Beefeater, a Lord and Lady, or the Jester!

Bring your own camera, if you like. We will have some picture takers available as well.

**Robert Nance will lead us in a sing-along featuring Boar's Head carols.**



**The menu features Shepherd's Pie and Plum Pudding!**

**Cost: \$6.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children under age 12**

Call the church office, 423-9424, to make your reservations by December 10!

Reservations will be limited to 80. So sign up SOON!

*Many, many thanks to Jim Schmidt, Kara Jaurigue, Donnie Cooper, Shirley Slater, Bob Nance, and the actors and actresses in costume who will help make this event very special.*

## Order Your Poinsettia Today



It's time to order your Christmas Poinsettia. Ordering poinsettias is an easy way to remember, honor, and celebrate loved ones and friends, while helping to decorate our church home for Christmas.



To order, please fill out this form and return it to the church office by **Friday, December 11**. Poinsettias are \$10.00 this year. They will be placed in the sanctuary for the Sunday before Christmas. If you order poinsettias, we would appreciate your taking the plant home with you following the 10:00 pm worship on Christmas Eve.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

In honor, celebration, memory (please circle which applies)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number Ordered \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10.00      Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**Plymouth Congregational  
Church of Fort Wayne**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

501 W. Berry St. · Fort Wayne · Indiana · 46802  
Telephone: 260-423-9424

NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
FORT WAYNE IN  
PERMIT NO 1133

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**Think Green!**

*Trade your plastic water bottle  
for a stainless-steel version.  
They are free of bisphenol A  
(BPA), an allegedly toxic  
substance used to make clear  
and shatterproof plastic.*

### Looking for our email addresses?

**Church General Office and Newsletter**

office@plymouthfw.org

**Senior Pastor and Teacher**

jpg@plymouthfw.org

**Associate Pastor**

rep@plymouthfw.org

**Minister of Christian Education**

jrw@plymouthfw.org

**Music Director**

robert@maestronance.com

**Associate in Pastoral Care**

cgreen@plymouthfw.org

**Youth Director**

kkjaurigue@verizon.net

**Office Manager**

lme@plymouthfw.org

**Church Secretary**

dln@plymouthfw.org

**Financial Administrator**

financial@plymouthfw.org

**Custodian**

maintenance@plymouthfw.org



### Plymouth Outreach Statement

We welcome all who are seeking God's presence in their lives to join in our common mission through participation and leadership in this communion of faith. We recognize each individual as a child of God, believing that we are called to be one reconciled body of Christ with many members.

As Christians and members of Plymouth Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, we are a diverse group of people. We are persons of various ages, races, accomplishments and goals, abilities, sexual orientations, theological and political beliefs, socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds. In our diversity, we find strength and a way to understand the inclusiveness of God.

**No Matter Who You Are, or Where You Are on Life's Journey, You Are Welcome Here.**