

Weekly Announcements

March 29, 2020

Sunday Music Needed

Attention MPUC congregation! Would you like to be a part of 10 am Sunday services? Can't leave your house? No problem! We are looking for congregation members to video record themselves performing pieces to share during our introit, anthem, offertory, and/or communion music spots.

If you are able to video record your--or your family's creation--and are willing to have it part of our Sunday service broadcast, just let us know. Questions? Contact Brad at bradb@macalester-plymouth.org.



COVID-19 Response Update

The leadership of the church remains committed to following MN Dept of Health and CDC recommendations, while discerning ways we can still be the church in this challenging time. After announcing the building closure on March 13, the CDC recommended that all groups of 50 or more should cancel or postpone their gatherings for 8 weeks. After reviewing this and some prayerful consideration, the Session decided:

- To extend the current building closure decisions until at least April 19. This means we are moving Holy Week and Easter services online.
- To authorize the Macalester Plymouth Preschool and its board to continue making their own decisions about whether or not to close. Currently, they are following the St. Paul Public School's in their decision to close.
- To postpone Adam's sabbatical as requested by Adam.

Please go click [here](#) to read more about these decisions and more about how the church is responding to this crisis. Our call as a church is all the more clear in this time--offering God's hope and spiritual connection to anyone that needs it.

The Church Needs You

Your continued financial support will help sustain the church's vital ministries in these challenging times. You can make a contribution by texting GIVE2MPUC to 73256 and following the prompts, sending a check to the church address below, or clicking [here](#) to give online. (link to give page on website). We do not yet know how this will impact the church's financial situation, but with your generosity and God's grace, we will continue to be the church!

Contacting the Church Staff and Pastors

All staff are mostly working remotely and are reachable by email. If you would like to speak with Corinne or Adam, please call them on their cell phones. They are not able to retrieve messages left on their office voicemails.

The MN FoodShare March Campaign

The Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign is the largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, accomplished by participating groups and individuals engaged in the fight against hunger. We will be collecting funds for our partner, the Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf, through April 12. **Donations of funds can be made online now by clicking here.** If you prefer to donate via check, we encourage you to mail it directly to:

Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf
210 N. Kent Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102



Men's Breakfast Saturday

Last Saturday, the Men's breakfast met online and decided to continue gathering weekly on Saturdays at 8:30 am for the foreseeable future. This is an open group and drop-ins are welcome. We will be connecting using Zoom by video or phone. For those who want to try connecting by video, you will need a computer, tablet, or smartphone with a camera. Then, make sure you download Zoom. It is in the App Store for Android and Apple devices. On your computer, you can click on the link below and follow the prompts to make sure you have what you need for the meeting. We will be using the same call in information each week. For privacy reasons, we are not including the Zoom info here as it is posted online. If you do not receive the weekly Here & Now email and would like to attend a Men's Breakfast, please email the office for the Zoom information.

We hope to "see" you this Saturday! Note: this gathering will take the place of our men's retreat previously scheduled on Saturday.

One Great Hour of Sharing

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2 RSV

The annual *One Great Hour of Sharing* offering, which is organized and shared equally by both of our denominations, will be collected beginning April 1 either online through the church's website by clicking here, or by sending a check to the church office. More information can be found in this week's *Here & Now*.

Action Teams

We are all figuring out day by day how to "be the church" for one another in these times. Please fill out the Google Form **here** if you'd like to sign up for an Action Team. We've divided this up into 3 categories: Tech Support, At-Your-Door Support, and Prayer Chain. Thank you for your generous spirits!

Macalester Plymouth United Church (United Church of Christ/Presbyterian Church USA)

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