

### Weekly Announcements

April 5, 2020

#### **Holy Week Worship - 2020**

We will livestream services on the dates and times below. Please join us! To view the livestream, visit [www.macalester-plymouth.org/livestream](http://www.macalester-plymouth.org/livestream).

#### **Maundy Thursday**

**April 9 at 6 pm**

Bring something to eat during worship as we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples and celebrate communion online.

#### **Good Friday**

**April 10 at 7 pm**

We gather this night to remember the last words of Jesus in this candlelight vigil. We do not glorify Jesus' suffering on the cross but through it seek solidarity with all who suffer, praying for healing and hope.

#### **Easter Sunday**

**April 12 at 10 am**

Celebrate God's promise of new life with uplifting music, a shared sermon by Corinne and Adam, and singing along with the Hallelujah Chorus from last year's Easter service.



### **COVID-19 Response Update**

The leadership of the church remains committed to following Minnesota Department of Health and CDC recommendations, while discerning ways we can still be the church in this challenging time. After we announced the building closure on March 13, the CDC recommended that all groups of 50 or more should cancel or postpone their gatherings for eight 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 Schools in their decision to close.
- To postpone Adam's sabbatical as requested by Adam.

Please 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 who needs it.

## 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 9. Donations of funds can be made online 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



## 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](#). We do not yet know how these challenging times 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.

## 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](mailto:bradb@macalester-plymouth.org).

## One Great Hour of Sharing

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." Mark 12:31 (NRSV).

The annual One Great Hour of Sharing offering, which is organized and shared equally by both of our denominations, will be collected either online through the [church's website](#), or by sending a check to the church office by April 15. 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 three 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)**

1658 Lincoln Avenue • St. Paul, MN 55105 • Ph 651-698-8871 • [macalester-plymouth.org](http://macalester-plymouth.org)