

CIRCUIT RIDER
NEWSLETTER

PlainfieldUMC 
a growing faith community

February 2019

WORDS OF WISDOM

January 23, 2019

Celebrations are important in life, especially these days when it seems we are surrounded by negativity, pessimism and downright hostility whenever we turn on the TV, check the news, or look at social media.

Fortunately, for us here at Plainfield UMC we have much to celebrate from this past year. A year full of ministry, serving others, teaching our children, impacting the community at large in many ways. As if that were not enough, you deftly transitioned to a new senior pastor.

As we embrace 2019 together, I'm happy to share with you that the church is in excellent health by any measure one has. On Sunday, February 4th, at our 8:30 service, we will celebrate our 8th baptism in the last 6 months with little Jacob Zak, who single handedly helped me deliver my Christmas Eve Service by playing Jesus in my arms as I shared the message.

In the recent past we've celebrated new members who've joined PUMC in worship and all the ministry which occurs here. Worship at the church is constantly being reviewed, analyzed, and adjusted as your pastors, musicians, and staff carefully evaluate the flow and depth of the services so that there is room for the Holy Spirit to lead us and people can truly experience worship rather than just attend. We now consistently have 220 to 235 people in worship on a Sunday morning. In fact, at Christmas Eve services we saw 562 people participate. That represents significant growth for us.

Financially, your faithfulness and generosity are nothing less than inspirational. We've experienced a surge of tithes and offerings which allowed us to be faithful in paying our apportionments in full to the Northern Illinois Conference, as well as to pay all our bills and ministry obligations from 2018, while entering 2019 in a healthy manner.

Total giving in 2018 saw an increase of 2% over 2017 and pledged giving was up 6.3%. Almost 65% of the dollars pledged to PUMC are set up as Electronic Fund Transfers (EFT) which makes it convenient and easy for donors and helps the church immensely for cash flow stability. One other figure you should know and celebrate is that 98.2% of all the dollars pledged for 2018 were received by the church. That is an amazing statistic and one everybody should be very proud of.

There is much to be excited about in 2019. The leaders of the mandated committees (by the United Methodist Book of Discipline: Staff Parish Relations, Finance, and Trustees) as well as the Ad Council chair, Lay Leader, and pastors have already met and are setting the agenda for the first Administrative Council Meeting of the year on Monday night February 4, at 6:30 pm.

In 2019, we want to put emphasis on our communication abilities – both social media and the hardware and software needed for it to be effective in reaching members and especially “those who are not here yet” beyond our walls. Most likely, the Ad Council will establish a technology team to address many of those elements. Equally critical to the life and future of this church is our ability to be effective in our audio-visual efforts and results. We must have excellence in the quality of A/V in our worship services, our website and our ability to live stream to reach those who can't physically be with us at church.

Finally, I am happy to announce that very shortly PUMC will unveil a mobile app containing all our current information like calendaring, worship services, upcoming events, online giving in less than 30 seconds, and a place to send in prayer requests. You will hear more about all of this shortly.

This is definitely an exciting time to participate in the life of Plainfield UMC, and I am blessed to be in ministry with each and every one of you!

Blessings,

Pastor Dick



The Men's Group Celebrating (Table Decoration needs a little work).



Youth Mission trip

June 23 - June 29

We are proud to announce this year's mission trip is going to be held at Red Bird Mission.

Sunday, June 23, we will load up the vans for the 10 hour drive to Red Bird Mission in Kentucky. We'll arrive mid-afternoon to get settled in our rooms, then enjoy dinner, followed by an orientation and worship service.

Monday morning, we'll get up bright and early to begin working

on the homes of the residents in the Appalachian Mountains there, helping to paint and remodel—including roofing and building wheelchair ramps. Wednesday will be a day off, giving us the chance to do some sightseeing and explore the area.

Saturday, June 29, we'll eat breakfast, load up the vans, and head home. We expect to arrive back at church around 6:00 p.m. The cost to families will be the same as always, \$150 per youth.

It's not too late to sign up! We still have a few slots left for youth. But you have to contact Youth Director Roger Beitzel (roger.beitzel@plainfieldumc.com, 630.338.2692) or Youth Coordinator MickeySue Traver (mickysu.t@hotmail.com, 815.585.0889) right away to sign up! You can find out more information about Red Bird Mission by visiting their website, rbmission.org.

How Families Get Info about Youth Ministry

PUMC Youth Ministries uses the **Remind app** to send reminders and updates to the youth and their families. Beginning January 28, there will be an important change at Remind that may impact how you get that information.

What's happening?

To offer the text messaging service free of charge, Remind has always paid for each text that users receive or send. Now, Verizon is charging Remind an additional fee that will increase their costs of providing text messaging by 11x—pushing their annual costs into the millions of dollars. This isn't financially feasible for Remind to support, and it's forcing them to end Remind text messaging for everyone who has a wireless plan with Verizon.

How will this affect you?

Beginning January 28, 2019, people who normally get Remind messages as texts will no longer receive these messages via text if they have Verizon Wireless as their phone carrier.

What can you do?

To make sure people continue receiving messages sent via Remind, they need to download the Remind mobile app and/or enable email notifications—both of which are free of charge. The Remind team is working hard on a solution that will allow people with Verizon to get the messages via text. In the meantime, please be sure to download the app or enable email notifications to continue receiving updates from PUMC Youth.

Spring Cantata

(April 7 at 8:30 and 11 services)

We will begin rehearsing *We Remember Calvary* by Joel Raney on Wednesday, February 13 at 7pm. If you enjoy singing with a great, fun group of people, come join us! Even if your schedule doesn't permit you to sing regularly on Sundays, we'd love to have you for this special event. Questions? E-mail Beth Best at 525beth@gmail.com.



Your Child has a mission

Help your child learn that they can make a difference in the world. All kids in kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to join us for WHAM! (We Have A Mission!) On February 6th and 20th from 6:30-7:30pm in room 202 to receive our mission objective and put what we learn into action! **Bring**

along an old adult T-shirt on the 6th (it will no longer be a T-shirt when we are done with it!). If you have any questions contact Pastor Sherry at sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com.



God and Me Class

(Boy/Girl Scout Recognition)

We will be offering the "God and Me" program for 1st-3rd graders each Thursday night in **February (7th, 14th, 21st and 28th)** from 5:45pm to 7:00pm. The class offers children the opportunity to explore their relationship with God through group interaction, workbook lessons, and take-home projects. It is open to all kids. Those who complete the program will be recognized during a worship service and can receive the God and Me award. These awards are recognized by Girl and Boy Scout associations, and we encourage those involved in scouting to participate in the program. Please register by February 4th by contacting Pastor Sherry at sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com.



Women's Book Group

Women's Book Group – You are invited to jump into a good book! For February we will be reading *Circling the Sun* by Paula McLain. If you would like to borrow a book from our book club kit, just pop into the office to pick yours up. We will discuss it on Thursday February 21 at 7pm in the conference room. Come join us! Contact Pastor Sherry with questions.

Kid's Book Club

(First Thursday of the month at 6:30pm)

Come have fun with us! Each student reads a book each month and then we meet to discuss it. These books are easily found in the library. We connect Bible passages and stories to the theme! We have games, art projects, and amazing snacks! Sometimes we watch movies to connect to the books we read.

Grades 2-5

Book: *The Chocolate Touch* by Patrick Skene Catling

Middle School

Book: *Amina's Voice* by Hena Khan

Faith in Place Winter Farmers Market



Coming in March!

Each winter, from November through April, Faith in Place partners with faith communities throughout Chicagoland to host a series of indoor farmers markets on Saturdays and Sundays.

The farmers markets provide an

additional source of income for local vendors during the off-season, promote sustainable farming methods and economic justice for regional farm families, encourage healthy, wholesome eating, and support the building of relationships between producers and consumers.

This year PUMC is excited to be selected as an onsite host for one of these markets.

Saturday March 16th from 10am-2pm.

Faith in Place's Farmers Markets include more than 20 vendors, each specializing in their own distinct trade. Faith in Place works to make each event well rounded with plenty of seasonal produce, eggs, meat, fish, honey, baked goods, prepared food, health and beauty products, salsas, preserves, and more. For more information on each of the vendors visit

https://www.faithinplace.org/sites/www.faithinplace.org/files/assets/WFM_Vendor_Bios.pdf

What can you do to help make this a successful outreach? Sign up to volunteer and assist the vendors, and be on hand as hospitality "shepherds" to support the market! You can contact the church office or call Carol May, 815-351-9004. For a full schedule of all the 2018-19 WFM season visit :

https://www.faithinplace.org/sites/www.faithinplace.org/files/assets/WFM_Schedule2018-19_FINAL.pdf

Greeters List



February 3, 2019

8:30: Lolly Adolfson

11:00: Judie Sharar

February 10, 2019

8:30: Linda and Lonny Bodie

11:00: Holly and Troy Strange

February 17, 2019

8:30: Amy and Rob Schick

11:00: Rebecca and Tim Battersby

February 24, 2019

8:30: Kay and Jim Schimpf

11:00: Nicole and Marc Miller

Prayer List

WE PRAYED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY.

- Battersby Family friend, Chris Ferenzi & family
- Bud & Jill Beechler's grandson, Theo
- Deanna Brown's friend, Mary Schmieder
- Louise Corey
- Jeff & Carolyn Dement's friend, Linda Roberson
- Elmer & Judy Eddy's grandson, Isaiah
- Barbara Flack & Emily Napoleon's sister in-law & aunt, Debbie Flack
- Valerie Gremillion's father, Vincent Guillera
- Patty Habersberger's friend, Jan York
- Ron Henbest
- Ron Henbest's friend, Larry Chance
- Ron Lee
- Carole Holloway's father's pastor, Dave Jaspers
- Makayla Jelley's grandma, Barbara Cain
- Chip Mackley's nephew, John Ryan
- Veray Mackley's friends, Paul & Denna Wallas
- Stella Madden's friend, Eva Lopez
- Donna Morrow's friends, Jerry Dean & Philip Myer
- Misty Martin
- Rick & Harriett Nelson's mother, Harriett Crismon & granddaughter, Shelby Nelson
- Rena Snyder's friend, Helen Wheeler
- MickeySue Traver's dad, Jack Moore
- Steve Wyland's brother, Alan Wyland
- **Those who have suffered from natural disasters.**
- **Those serving in the military, our Fire Fighters and police officers.**
- **Victims of war, violence, and oppression around the world.**
- **Missionaries & aid workers around the world**
- **All people affected by the Government shutdown.**
- **For our Government to find a quick and workable solution to the current situation.**
- **Those who are homeless, hungry, and cold.**

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Plainfield UMC Staff

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Kelly Markwell, Bellissimo Choir Director
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Megan Marconi, Worship Band Director
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Kathy Hermansen, Organist
kathleen_hermansen@comcast.net

Karyn Holstead, Children's Choir
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Katherine Martinez, Communications Coordinator
kathy.martinez@plainfieldumc.com

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Dick Wisdom, Senior Pastor
Rev. Sherry Steele, Minister of Faith Formation
Roger Beitzel, Youth Director

Sunday

Worship Services

8:30a Worship with Chancel Choir
9:45a Sunday School and Confirmation Class
11:00a Worship with Worship Band

Youth Calendar

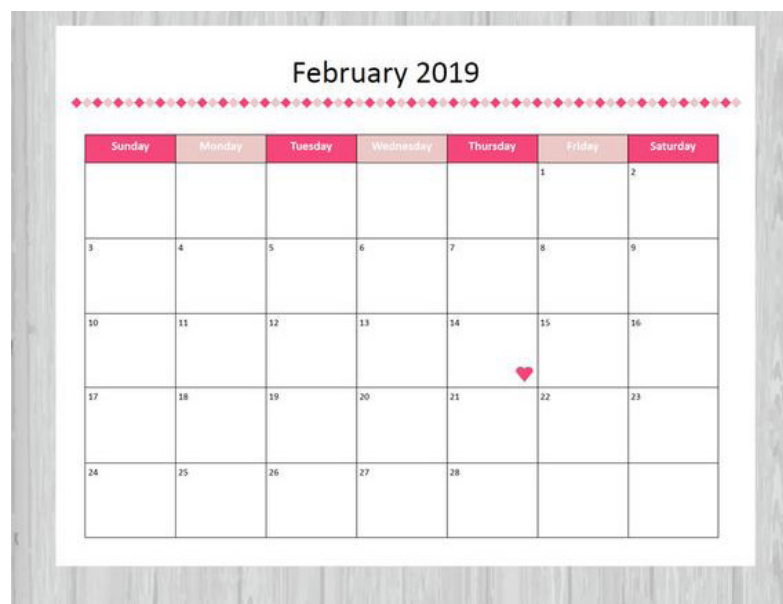
Including a Save the Date!

Feb. 10

"God Who R U? - How the Muslims understand God"

Feb. 24

"God Who R U? - A look at Buddhist beliefs about the Divine"



Monthly Calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT
02-02-2019	8:30am	Bellissimo Practice (Sanctuary Balcony)
02-03-2018	8:30am	Worship
	9:45am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	11am	Worship
02-04-2019	6:30pm	Admin Council, Finance, Staff Parish, Trustees (JBFH)
02-06-2019	6pm	Children's Choir (Choir Room)
	6pm	Worship Band (Sanctuary)
	6:30pm	WHAM! (202/204)
	7pm	Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
02-07-2019	05:45pm	God & Me (106)
	6:30pm	Elementary School Kid's Book Club (105)
	6:30pm	Middle School Kid's Book Club (104)
02-09-2019	8:30am	Bellissimo Practice (Sanctuary Balcony)
	10am	MEM's Learn to Crochet (PFH)
	7pm	Prayer Shawl Meeting (PFH)
02-10-2019	8:30am	Worship
	9:45am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	11am	Worship - Boy Scout Sunday
	6:30pm	Jr/Sr High Youth Gathering (206/207)
02-11-2019	6:30pm	Safety & Security Meeting (C/L)
	7pm	KINECT/Parents of Teens (206/207)

DATE	TIME	EVENT
02-12-2019	6:30pm	Y.M.A.P. (206/207)
	7pm	Membership and Outreach (C/L)
02-13-2019	6pm	Small Group Ministry Team (C/L)
	6pm	Worship Band (Sanctuary)
	7pm	Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
02-14-2019	5:45pm	God & Me (106)
	7pm	Trustees Meeting (C/L)
02-15-2019	11:30am	Widows Small Group (Off-Site)
02-16-2019	8:30am	Bellissimo Practice (Sanctuary Balcony)
02-17-2019	8:30am	Worship
	9:45am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	11am	Worship
	6:30pm	Cussers & Discussers/Animate Faith Adult Study (C/L)
02-18-2019	6:30pm	Education Meeting (C/L)
02-19-2019	7pm	Stewardship Meeting (C/L)
02-20-2019	8:15am	Men's Breakfast Group (Off-Site)
	6pm	Children's Choir (Choir Room)
	6pm	Worship Band (Sanctuary)
	6:30pm	WHAM! (202)
	7pm	Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
02-21-2019	5:45pm	God & Me (106)
	7pm	Planned Giving Meeting (106/107)
	7pm	Women's Book Group (C/L)
02-23-2019	8:30am	Bellissimo Practice (Sanctuary Balcony)
02-24-2019	8:30am	Worship
	9:45am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	11am	Worship
	6:30pm	Cussers & Discussers / Adult Study (C/L)
	6:30pm	Jr/Sr High Youth Gathering (206/207)
02-25-2019	6:30pm	Ad Council (JBFH)
02-27-2019	6pm	Worship Band (Sanctuary)
	7pm	Chancel Choir (Choir Room)
02-28-2019	5pm	Restaurants Samplers Group (Off-Site)
	5:45pm	God & Me (106)
	6:30pm	SPRC (C/L)