



CIRCUIT RIDER
NEWSLETTER

PlainfieldUMC 
a growing faith community

August 2019



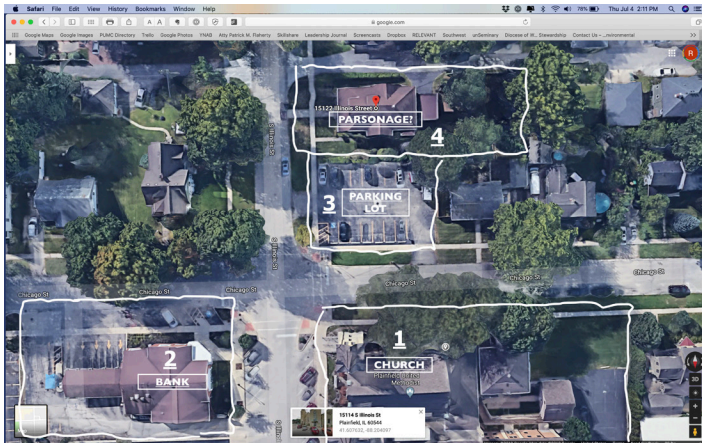
Summer at PUMC

Summertime is a time of refreshment and relaxation, a break in the routines of the rest of the year ... except at Plainfield UMC! We seem to be propelled along by, dare I say, Divine Momentum?! Something is certainly happening around here.

Workcamp was a major beginning to the summer as 37 youth plus 12 adults trekked to Kentucky to spend a week working on homes and numerous other tasks at Redbird Mission, impacting the lives around them in large and small ways, being the heart of Christ in their midst.

During the celebration when the work campers returned they shared moving stories of how their faith was impacted and where they saw God in their midst as they were in Kentucky. Supporting others in ministry is nothing new in this congregation, in fact it is one of the attributes that define it! (By the way, I am only "window dressing" in the above picture, although I was very supportive, and it was taken at 5 in the morning!

A number of months ago we were informed that the Chase Bank Building and additional parking lot were finally being listed for sale. With the blessing and full support of the Ad Council we entered the bidding process which played out slowly over the next three months culminating in our final offer to purchase being accepted by Chase. At this very moment we are in the process of doing our final due diligence. If everything continues the way it has, we will own that property before the end of August.



As if that was not enough going on, the church was approached with an offer to purchase the property contiguous to the corner parking lot.

The property known as 15122 S. Illinois includes a house extensively remodeled in the last few months. The owners offered it to us at a significant discount compared to what they were going to put it on the market for. Once again, the Ad Council was supportive and wanted to move forward to acquire the property. What followed was a Church Conference where every member could vote on the purchase of all the properties mentioned above. The vote to purchase the Chase properties was 100% in favor and the vote to purchase the contiguous property with the house was 96.7% in favor which makes the house the new parsonage and commits to selling the Indian Boundary parsonage to the sellers of the Illinois St. house.

Every year at Plainfield UMC one of the most inspiring, work intensive, and impactful ministries the church engages in is Vacation Bible School, 5 nights of adrenaline-fueled activities and lessons geared towards kids learning about Jesus' love for them and how they should share it. This year was no different! Wall to wall kids, youth, adult volunteers and guests turned out for 5 nights of high energy teaching and worship. True to form, planning for the 2020 VBS started the following week. (I am not "window dressing" in the above picture. ROBOT worked his tail off.)

So much for rest and relaxation. We are still in July while those events are behind us we are streaking towards our huge August event, which I call the REALLY REALLY, FREE FREE, MARKET MARKET. Even as I write this the church is filling up with all manner of furniture and other treasures donated in order to offer them to folks who may want them for free to enhance their lives or homes.

PUMC is a vital and vibrant congregation making a difference in this community and beyond. That is something you can all be righteously proud of, for I know God is!

Godspeed,





Blessing of the Backpacks

August 11, 9 am

Calling all students! Bring your backpacks to church with you on Sunday, August 11th to be blessed! It's time to head back to the classroom — and no matter where we go, God goes with us. All students and teachers are encouraged to come and receive our prayers and blessings for a successful school year full of learning and growing.

V.B.S was a success!

You are the best! It was a fantastic week of growing in faith and we hope that all who participated feel blessed to have been a part of this ministry to our church and the community. Thank you to the congregation for the many donations of supplies, snacks and money that made this all possible! VBS could NOT be accomplished without all the help you provided. Pictures are online at our PUMC facebook page.

We want YOU

We are now recruiting for teachers and helpers in our Sunday School program!

Would you like to serve God by teaching and loving our children and youth? Volunteers are given curriculum and are equipped for the job! Some people sign up to volunteer each week; most work in teams so that it is a two week/month commitment. Fall Sunday School begins Sept. 8th. Contact Pastor Sherry at sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com or 815-436-9651 for more information.

Youth Group Returns to Regular Schedule

On Sept. 9 at 6:30 p.m. PUMC Youth Group will gather with a special welcome for our new 6th graders. It will be a great chance to re-connect with old friends and make some new ones! Join us for snacks, games, and lots of fun! Regular Youth Group meetings are from 6:30-8:00 p.m. on alternating Sunday evenings. Watch for a complete Youth Calendar to be published soon.

Confirmation Classes

Plainfield UMC will once again offer Confirmation Classes for students who will be in the 8th grade this coming school year. Confirmation is a process through which we examine and re-examine our faith and our life together as Christians and future leaders of the church.

Confirmation at PUMC has four goals:

Goal #1: Salvation

Assure students of God's unconditional love offered through Jesus Christ and help them believe in their hearts that they are a beloved child of God.

Goal #2 Commitment

Guide youth toward making their commitment to become a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Goal #3: Proclaim the Christian faith as their own

Bring youth to the point in their faith journey that they feel ready to make a public proclamation of their Christian faith and become full members of the church.

Goal #4: Prepare youth to live a life of discipleship

Groom youth for a lifetime of praying, worshipping, giving, serving, leading, and witnessing.

Confirmation Classes will meet Sunday mornings at 9:45 and begin with an Orientation on Sept. 9 at 9:45 in Room 106. You can sign up by contacting Youth Director Roger Beitzel at roger.beitzel@plainfieldumc.com or emailing the church office at PUMC@plainfieldumc.com. You may also call the church at 815.436.9651 to register or with any questions.

It's A Pool Party!

Summer Youth Group wraps up with a Pool Party & Pizza at the Springbank Community Pool! Join us on Sunday, Aug. 11, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for lots of wet fun and plenty of pizza! The address is 16105 S Drauden Road. Parents can drop off and pick up at the pool. If you need a ride, please contact Youth Director Roger Beitzel at 630.338.2692 or Youth Coordinator MickeySue Traver at 815.585.0889. You can get more info about the Springbank Pool here, <http://springbankofplainfield.com/the-springbank-aquatic-center/>.

Help Clean Up from Free Market

PUMC's Really Really Free Market is a great service to the community, and the environment. Of course, it takes lots of volunteers to help make it a success, and that's where the PUMC Youth come in! We'll gather at church on Saturday afternoon, Aug. 3 at 2:30 p.m. We'll help pack and organize the unclaimed items to be sent on to Morningstar Mission in Joliet. After we're done cleaning up, we'll have pizza and hang out. We should be done at 5:30 p.m.



Women's Book Group

This month we wrap up our summer Book and a Movie Series with *Where'd You Go, Bernadette* by Maria Semple! Just pick up a copy of the book, read it, then join us to watch the movie adaptation. This one is new in theaters, so we'll gather at a special day and time to watch together. Check the bulletin or email Pastor Sherry to receive the meet up information. We'd love for you to come!

5 Reasons to join choir

1. You get reserved, prime seating at Christmas Eve and Easter Services
2. Go to the head of the line for communion
3. There are still parking places close by when we gather on Sunday morning
4. Show tunes!
5. You can make lifelong friends in choir while you share in praising God

The Chancel Choir will start rehearsing for the upcoming fall on Wednesday, August 28, 7:00-8:15 pm in the choir room. I look forward to welcoming back all our previous singers, and invite any new singers to come and join us! Our first Sunday to sing is September 8 at 8:30 am. Come be a part of the coolest group in the church!

Really Really Free Market and job fair

We are just days away from our yearly event- The Really Really Free Market- for its Seventh Year! And for the first time we are including four companies to participate in a "mini" job fair, which will be held concurrently upstairs. We are hoping that our guests will not only find their "special treasure", but also possibly their "dream job" as well.

All this planning, sorting and organizing would not be possible without your hearts and hands volunteering to make this outreach event successful. Special thanks to those who have helped with pickups (Bob Kutsy & Elmer Eddy), and the men's group who is the backbone in the setting up of fellowship hall with the clothing racks - we salute you!

However we still have the big event in a few days, and as of this writing, there are gaps in volunteer shifts, especially in the 2nd and 3rd shifts- if you have not signed up, and are able to help on August 3rd with hospitality we REALLY REALLY need your help- please call Carol May 815-351-9004 carolsuemay@gmail.com

Grandpals PenPal PProgram

Beginning early-August, Moms Encouraging Moms will be hosting a "Grandpals" Pen Pals program! Each child that signs up will (hopefully!) be assigned his/her own grandpal. Letters/art projects will be exchanged weekly or biweekly at church. We'll have a mailbox set up - just drop off your letters/art and collect the letter left for you by your pal! If you are a grandparent/grandparent-figure OR one of our youth (whether toddler-aged, middle/high school-aged, or anywhere in between) and would like to become part of this program, please fill out one of our Grandpals Pen Pal or Grandpals Youth Pen Pal applications (they can be found on the MEM board in Fellowship Hall or upstairs in Friendship Hall). If you have any questions or would like further information, do not hesitate to contact Megan and Sharla at momsencouragingmomspumc@gmail.com. Letter writing is such a beautiful form of communication and can give us the opportunity to know each other better!



Greets List

AUGUST 04 - Lonny Bodie

AUGUST 11 - Sue Hasenyager

AUGUST 18 - Nelson Jimenez

AUGUST 25 - Carolyn Martens

Prayer List

- Fern Angelos' nephew & niece and Cheryl Reichert's brother and sister-in-law, Ken & Kristine Vallrugo
- Mary Boedeker
- Marie Brown's friend, D'Anna and the Feledy Family & Baby Jackson
- Cherie Chan's son, Alex; & her parents
- Louise Corey
- Jeff & Carolyn Dement's sister/sister-in-law, Kay Schmidt
- Judy Eddy
- Judy & Elmer Eddy's friend, Manny Moseley
- Barbara Flack & Emily Napoleon's nephew/cousin, Ed
- Ali Glodoski's friend, Mary Ann Rupp
- Valerie Gremillion's father, Vincent Guillera
- Patty Habersberger's friend, Erica Roberts
- Ron & Margie Lee
- Maria Lyons
- Misty Martin
- Laurie Paulson for the Women's Health Clinic of Aurora
- Mikki Sechen
- Craig Smith's friend, Janck Gierguschends
- Annette Szobar's friend, Ryan McGrail
- MickeySue Traver's parents, Jack & Harriett Moore
- Marcus Jimenez friend's MickeySue Traver's parents and Cherie Chan's son, Alex & her parents
- Bob & Rena Snyder's friend, Patti O'Brien
- **Those who are homeless, hungry, and cold.**
- **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**

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Pastoral Staff

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Rev. Sherry Steele,

Minister of Faith Formation

Roger Beitzel, Youth Director

Worship Services

9am Worship

9am Sunday School Pre-Schoolers through
5th Graders