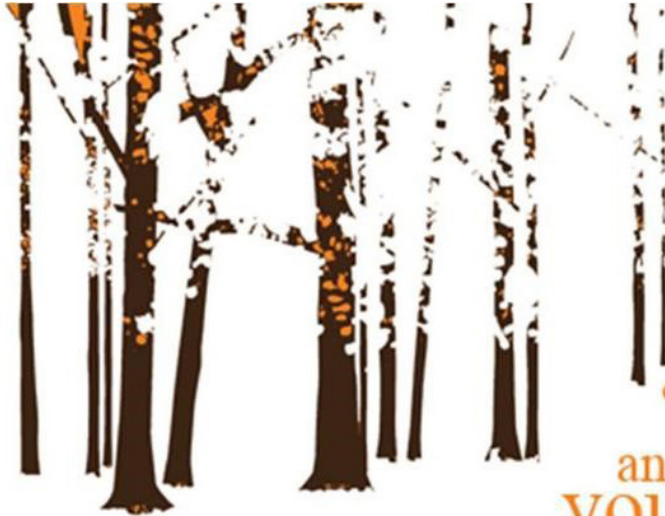


A photograph of several yellow tulips with green leaves scattered on a grey, textured fabric surface. The tulips are in various stages of bloom, some fully open and others partially closed. The lighting is soft, highlighting the vibrant yellow of the petals and the deep green of the leaves.

CIRCUIT RIDER
NEWSLETTER

PlainfieldUMC 
a growing faith community

May 2019



WORDS OF WISDOM

“I was sick
and you visited me...”
Matt. 25:36

One of the most important aspects of ordained ministry for myself and Pastor Sherry is caring for people. The reason we went into ministry is that we believed God was calling us to be instruments of God's love. Two of the ways we do that are through pastoral care and through leadership development. We also immerse ourselves in worship planning and Christian Education. This is not just our passion; it is our life.

Plainfield UMC is a terrific place to serve and live out this calling. Our Sunday worship attendance has consistently grown to between 230-240. Our active congregation is between 450-500. That means that Pastor Sherry and I provide pastoral care for 450-500 people. This is one of the unique ways United Methodist Pastors care for their congregations. There are many non-denominational churches where Pastors preach and teach and do not do pastoral care themselves. But pastoral care is a core value of United Methodist pastors. While the numbers may seem large, we are blessed with a very healthy congregation. We have many folks whose ages are well into their 80's and 90's. And we have many folks who are young families with young kids. That helps us to be able to provide effective care.

Sometimes, we hear that people who are going to have surgery or a procedure, or those who find themselves in an emergency room for themselves or a relative, didn't call us or the office because they did not want to bother us, or they know we are busy. We are never too busy to represent God's love when someone is most in need of it. In fact, one of us is always on call.

So, Friends, if you find yourself in an ER, or in the hospital, or one of your kids is in the hospital call us. The easiest way to reach us is to call the office, even if it is not open, our phone system is programmed to give you instructions to reach whoever is on call. We communicate all the time, so the other pastor will know what's happening in short order. If you have a scheduled surgery, just let us know, and one of us will come be with you beforehand and say a prayer.

We love you and we love God!

Pastor Dick



The Big Serve, Changing the World

May 4 and 5

PUMC, along with the Village of Plainfield, Community Christian Church, Al Aqsa Mosque, Hope UMC, St. Mary Immaculate Church, and many community organizations come together to serve! Projects will occur on Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Many of our beloved projects such as Planning, Ready, Set, Ride, and the Food Pantry are back! We will also have new projects that will work for all ages and abilities. Contact the church's office if you have not registered for a project and would still like to jump in and help! pumc@plainfieldumc.com.

NEW SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Begins Memorial Day weekend, May 26th, and runs through Labor Day Weekend, September 1st. There will be **one worship service at 9:00am**. Sunday School (starting June 2) will meet during the worship service, following the children's sermon. Coffee Hour will immediately follow worship.

THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND, MAY 26TH.



JULY 7 –11, 6:30-8:30pm at PUMC

One small step for your kids...one giant leap for God's Kingdom! Blast off to land on Mars! To Mars and Beyond will help kids discover the wonders of God's universe. They'll become Voyagers on a journey through space, exploring where God's power can take them. They'll "lift off" to distant planets on special missions to collect power sources. Along the way, they'll learn how God walked with heroes of the Bible, and that God is always with them, too. They will experience "out-of-this-world" fun, learning, and timeless Bible stories that inspire kids to give glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine! **Registration begins May 10 at plainfieldumc.com.**

We have a Mission

WHAM! wraps up a year of serving! — We will meet on Wednesday, May 1st at 6:30pm for our last mission of the school year! Then, on May 16th, we will hold our annual end-of-the-year party at the park from 6:30-7:30. Come celebrate with us! Contact Pastor Sherry with questions at sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com.

Sunday School Party!

Join us on Sunday, **May 19th** during Sunday School as we celebrate the end of the 2018-19 school year and all we have learned together! Classes will rotate through games and a snack station. Kids should dress in comfy play clothes and shoes.

Moms Encouraging Moms

MEM is doing a Mother's Day Baby Supply Drive in support of Ridgewood United Community Pantry. **We are accepting donations through May 19.** Please place them in the bassinet at the bottom of the main staircase. Items requested are:

- Diapers (*any size*)
- Wipes
- Baby Cereal
- Soap
- Creams & Lotions
- Other Misc. Baby items
- Sanitary Pads

Women's Book Group

Come join us as we discuss our May book, **Educated** by Tara Westover. It is an unforgettable memoir of a remarkable journey. This book won ALL the awards and is a great discussion starter! We meet on Thursday, May 16th at 7pm. We'll also announce our selections for our summer "Book and a Movie" series that night. Hope to see you there!

Questions? Contact Pastor Sherry at sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com.

Summer Musicians Needed!

Starting on **May 26** with our summer worship schedule, the Chancel Choir, Bellissimo Handbells, Worship Band, and Children's Choir will be vacationing until September 8. We are looking for people to share their musical gifts in worship for each of the Sundays from May 26 until September 1. There is a sign up sheet on the choir room door. Once you have signed up for a Sunday, please contact the church office no later than the Tuesday the week before you sing/play with your name, instrument, and title and composer of your song. If you need accompaniment, please give Kathy Hermansen a copy of your music at least one week in advance. If you have questions, please contact Beth Best at 525beth@gmail.com. Thank you for helping us worship through music this summer!

Faith Milestone for Graduating Seniors

Graduation from high school is a special time in the life of a young person. Perhaps more than any other, this milestone is a significant one. It represents the culmination of parental and church preparation as we seek to launch our young ones into the future and toward a livelihood – whether it be the military, trade school, college, or some other career path. It is the realization of the promises made at their baptism. We have surrounded them with unconditional love, done our best to teach them the ways of Jesus, and worked to help them develop a life-long faith. Parents have invested countless hours and dollars seeking to groom them into caring, thoughtful, wise young adults.

We want to celebrate their achievements and bless our young people with a special recognition during worship on May 12. Please join us at 8:30 or 11:00 to show them how proud we are and pray over them as they head off to the next chapter in their young lives!

End of Year Blowout for Youth Group!

We've had some intense discussions over the last few meetings as we explored different religions. Now it's time to have some fun!

Youth Group on Sunday, May 5, will be Snacks and Games! Youth should bring their favorite chip, cookie, or candy to share, as well as their favorite church-appropriate game. Drinks and adult supervision will be provided.

Youth Group on Sunday May 19 will be a Fun Outing, – location, times, and other details will be announced soon.

Youth Group Meetings for Summer

Yes, you read that right, Youth Group will meet through the Summer – but on a slightly different schedule. We will meet the Second Sunday of June, July, and August, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Each Summer Youth Group will have a fun theme and a short devotion. June 9 we will have a cook out over an open fire at church. We'll roast hot dogs (regular and vegetarian) and make s'mores. July 14 we'll make a giant ice cream sundae. Each youth brings their favorite ice cream. Youth Ministries will provide the toppings. Aug. 11 will be a Pool Party with Pizza. Save the dates and bring a friend for fun in the Summer Sun!

FUN LEARNING THIS SUMMER!

PUMC holds Summer Sunday School for preschoolers through fifth graders (2018-2019 school year) during the summer.



Summer Sunday School will meet during the 9:00 worship service. **We need YOU to help out with our classes.** Have you been wanting to be a part of our dynamic kids' ministry? Want to support our regular team by giving them a breather? Love to be a part of nurturing a child's faith? We are recruiting teachers and helpers (youth too!). The schedule is flexible. **Classes begin on June 2. You can sign up for one week or for several.** Curriculum is provided — couldn't be easier. See Pastor Sherry for details & to also volunteer! She can be contacted at sherry.steele@plainfieldumc.com.

The Really Really Free Market

In just three months there will be lots of opportunities to volunteer and serve for this year's Really Really Free Market. It all begins with the upcoming **Bluestem Earth Festival on May 18th**. We are asking for folks to volunteer to

help with the event (including setup, helping at the table, etc). We also need any accessory items that you do not need or want any longer, this will be showcased as a "Taste" of the Really Really Free Market.

A container in the cloak room will be marked "Accessory Items for Free Market"

We thank you for your support & generosity in helping to make the 7th Annual Really Really Free Market a Success! If you have any questions please contact Carol May at carolsuemay@gmail.com.



Prayer List

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

- Mary Boedeker
- Patricia Brown
- Cherie Chan's son, Alex; & her parents
- Louise Corey
- Carole Holloway's family
- Carole Holloway's friend, Sam Madia
- Ron Lee
- Maria Lyons
- Carolyn Martens' neighbor's daughter, Debbie Gregorash
- Misty Martin
- Cheryl Reichert's friend, Laura Zeilenski and her grandson, Wade Reichert
- Ellen Sterrett's son, Michael Sterrett
- Annette Szobar's sister, Sue Hoffman and niece, Mikayla Beechman
- Franklin Brown Family
- **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**

Greeters List

- **May 5th**
8:30 - Jim & Kay Schimpf
11 - Marc & Nicole Miller
- **May 12th**
8:30 -
11 - Anthony & Trish DiChiara
- **May 19th**
8:30 - Larry & Kelly Newton
11 - Al & Marnie Vidad
- **May 26th**
8:30 - Emmanuel & Geetha Rajarathnam
11 - Sandy Krzywanos & Judie Sharar

Plainfield United Methodist Church
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Katherine Martinez,
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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