



1Thessalonians 5:13-15

Rise and Shine

13 and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another. 14 We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone. 15 See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people.

Plymouth Lutheran Church
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February 2023
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From the Pastor's Office

The Fields Are White for Harvest!

Jesus was talking with the Samaritan Woman at the well in John Chapter four when...

27 Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" 28 So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, 29 "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" 30 They went out of the town and were coming to him.

31 Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." 32 But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." 33 So the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought him something to eat?" 34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. 35 Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. 36 Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. 37 For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' 38 I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

The Woman came to the revelation of who Jesus was and she couldn't hold back from going telling people about Him. The people who also knew the woman's past came out to see who she was talking about. The disciples were focused on food and the cares of this life. Jesus was focused on the harvest. The people of the town came out in droves to learn more about Jesus.

Unfortunately, we often think that people won't receive the gospel. We shrink back from speaking the word of God to those around us. But Jesus said that the fields are white for harvest. It was a reality in His day and it is still a reality now. Whenever we are tempted to think that people may not be open to hearing the gospel we should remember this, the fields are white for harvest now. There are people out there who are hungering and thirsting for righteousness. Some of them have had a rough past like the woman at the well. Most of them have seemingly ordinary lives like the people of the town:

(Continued on Pg 3)

Church website: www.plymouthapostolic.org

Church email: secretary@plymouthapostolic.org

Prayer Chain: plcprayerchain2021@gmail.com

If you would like to receive this by email, please send a message to secretary@plymouthapostolic.org

February at PLC



Sundays:

- 5, 12, 19, 26** **9:15am** Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
10:30am Worship service also via YouTube & FB live
11:30am Coffee Fellowship
19 **10:30am** Worship service with Communion
26 **11:30am** Abbreviated Communion

Tuesdays:

- 14** **6:00pm** Mission Committee meeting
6:30pm Board of Trustees meeting

Wednesdays:

- 1** **9:00am** Men's & Ladies Breakfast @ Perkins Hwy 55 & 494
9:30am Ladies Bible Study @ church
6:30pm Bible Study for all ages
8, 15 **9:30am** Men's & Ladies Bible Studies @ the Church
6:30pm Bible Study for all ages
22 **9:30am** Men's & Ladies Bible Studies @ the Church
7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service

Fridays:

- 24** **9:00pm** Esko Ski Trip



Celebrate Our Congregation

February Birthdays:

Sharon	Wahala	2/2
Henry	Wempen	2/4
Pietro	Serazzi	2/9
Sue	Jukuri	2/19
Kevin	Myrmel	2/20
Pam	Bielinski	2/20
Larry	Walters	2/23
Ryan	Rintala	2/24
Nicole	Bartell	2/26

Save The Dates

Organist/Pianist position Available

"Plymouth Lutheran Church is now accepting applications for a paid pianist and/or organist to lead us in song as part of our worship service on Sunday mornings at 10:30am and special times throughout year such as a mid-week services during lent.

We are also looking for substitutes to help fill in during our search.

You can find out more about us at <https://www.plymouthapostolic.org> and by coming to visit on a Sunday"

Contact us at secretary@plymouthapostolic.org

37th ANNUAL SPIRIT MOUNTAIN SKI WEEKEND

WHEN: February 24-26, 2023 (Mark your calendars)

WHERE: Esko Apostolic Lutheran Church: 25 Church Road, Esko, MN 55733

Esko Church: (218) 879-3882

WHO: 6th grade and up (College & Career and adults are welcome!)

See Kris for more details about the weekend

The Fields Are White for Harvest! (Continued from pg 1)

39 Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." 40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. 42 They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

At the annual meeting I used my pastor's report to make an announcement that I thought we should focus on serving families with young children. I believe there is a great opportunity to do evangelism among that demographic because parents in this situation are wondering how to teach their children about God. Also people in this demographic have had recent dramatic changes of interest based on their new situation in life and they are looking to establish new relationships with people who have similarities.

Doing the work of evangelism to families with young children has been an idea that has been on my heart for a long time. Now that I am in that demographic, what was once only a theory is being proven as I hear stories of people who started to take their faith more seriously sometime between when their children were conceived and when they started talking.

We did a little brainstorming at the annual meeting. It was suggested that we should start with prayer to let the Holy Spirit lead where He will for how we can serve these families. I wholeheartedly agree prayer is the best thing we can do. As we pray I want us to take courage that we are praying in accordance with His will because the bible tells us in Matthew 9:36 to 38 When he [Jesus] saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

I know we are a little limited in our resources as far as facilities and musical abilities, but this doesn't have to hinder us. There are people out there who are hungry for God's word, some of them know it and some of them don't. These people don't need a gymnasium or a rock concert. They need God's word and community with believers. I think the wealth of grandparents we have in our congregation is an asset in reaching this demographic. We have people with time and resources that can do the work of the harvest.

I'm not sure what the Lord will have us do or what kinds or how many people may come in the future but even adding a family or two to our congregation that will help us serve other families in this demographic and encourage them in their faith would be a win for the Kingdom of God.

-Pastor Ryan Kandoll

Dear family and friends,

This email is to give you an update and thank you for your prayers. On December 7th, my mom was admitted to the hospital due to complications with her fight with cancer. Kristy and I quickly decided that it was best for me to head home and spend the semester break with my parents. With the tangible help of so many, I was able to wrap up my semester grades, purchase last minute tickets, and fly back to Minnesota, arriving at the tail end of a huge snowstorm.

My arrival to Minnesota on December 16 was a huge gift to my parents, as that day was also their 50th wedding anniversary. Despite mom being in the hospital, it brought much joy to just be together.

Once mom was stabilized, she was discharged from the hospital and moved into an assisted care facility. At this same time, it was decided that she would enter hospice care. Four days later, on Christmas day, my mom ended her battle with cancer and was welcomed into the arms of her Savior, Jesus Christ. During her final eight days, I was blessed to have some sweet time with her, holding her hand and hearing more of her life story.

Although mom's passing was difficult, there were blessings all around. First and foremost was that mom's suffering ended. She battled for 10 years but the last 6 months were the worst because that's when the significant pain began. Also, the Holy Spirit provided unity in all of the decisions and arrangements that followed her passing. Mom had laid out the details to her funeral service in her journal, so we were able to have [the funeral](#) before my departure ticket back to Papua New Guinea (PNG). There are so many more details that would be too difficult to explain here so let me summarize this by saying THANK YOU! All of the prayers, gifts, hugs, and messages played a significant role in making this trip and the subsequent grief easier to bear.

Another blessing was from Kristy and the boys, who stayed back in PNG. They were cared for in so many ways by the Ukarumpa community: food, phone calls, hugs, etc all helped them bear the weight of being separated. Grant, Nate, and Trent all really stepped up and showed their servant heart by caring for their mom, as Kristy had some very difficult situations she had to deal with at the clinic.

Also, can you please be in prayer for the Ukarumpa community. In the last month, four men (I being one of them) have had to quickly leave their families and return to the USA to attend to suffering parents. It's been both surprising and heartbreaking to watch, and, although the departures are necessary, it leaves holes in the ministry of Bible translation and the families of those left behind.

Again, we thank God for all of you, that He has given us such an amazing support team. May God's peace fill you today.

Derek, Kristy, Grant, Nate, and Trent
