

The Perspective

Volume 44

Number 11

November 2021

November 7 | All Saints Sunday

Communion

For All the Saints

Rev. Dr. Matt Wooster Preaching

Luke 11:32-44

November 14 | Annual Meeting

I Will Put My Laws on Their Hearts

Rev. Matt Bauhof Preaching

Hebrews 10:11-25

November 21

Thanksgiving in Retospect

Rev. Dr. Matt Wooster Preaching

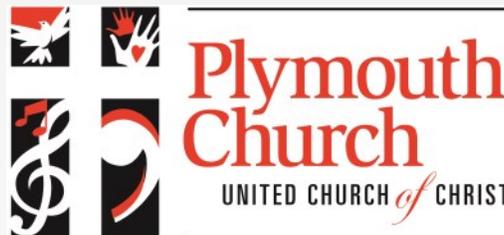
Luke 17:11-19

November 28 | First Sunday of Advent

Defiant Hope

Rev. Dr. Matt Wooster Preaching

Luke 21:25-36



Worship will be in the sanctuary at 10:30AM
Service will also be available on our YouTube page,
<https://www.youtube.com/c/PlymouthChurchUCC>



***An Open & Affirming and Just Peace Congregation
of the United Church of Christ***

Our Mission is to be a Christ-centered community led by the Holy Spirit that supports the spiritual journey of all who strive to boldly live out their faith in the world. We are committed to diversity, spiritual growth, and putting our faith into action locally and throughout the world.

Plymouth Church Leadership 2021

Council President	Brian Grube
Council Vice-President	Mary Bright
Secretary	Vicki Werneke
Treasurer	Juanita Faulx
Assistant Treasurer	Pam Ford
Adult Faith & Life - Chair	Mendle Adams
Building & Grounds (B&G) - Chair	Ron Werneke
Caring - Chair	Dave Faulx
Children & Youth (C&Y) - Chair	Jeannie Clarkson
Evangelism & Growth (E&G) - Chair	Margaret Reuthinger
Giving - Chair	David Turner
Partnership & Service (P&S) - Chair	Robin Johnson
Worship - Chair	Amy Holbrook
Personnel Chair	Kenyon Mau
Foundation Chair	Christine Bretz
Council Member @Large	Ros Gauchat
Council Member @Large	Jan Wilkens
Council Member @Large	Nicole Lepley
Council Member @ Large	Shelli Smith
Council Member @ Large	Becky Neal

Plymouth Staff

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Church Office

216-921-3510

Pastor's Corner

Dear Plymouth Church,

I mark the route by Sundays. Like the periodic road signs that keep you heading in the right direction, or the markings on trees that help to navigate a path in the woods, we mark our spiritual path by Sundays. This Sundays of this November anchor us as a beloved community of faith.



November 7 – All Saints Sunday

All Saints Day falls on November 1 in the Christian calendar, and we will prayerfully remember the communion of saints who have so graciously blessed this earth on this first Sunday of the month. It is a tradition in worship to speak the names of those who have died since All Saints Sunday a year before. This year, because worship was completely remote last November, we will speak the names of our community's loved ones who have passed in the last two years. All Saints Sunday is a solemn remembrance and a practice of faithful communion with the saints of all ages.

November 14 – Congregational Annual Meeting

Plymouth Church is governed by its members. The annual meeting will take place immediately following worship, to reflect on reports of the past year, look to the future, and vote to affirm members of the congregation into new leadership positions for 2022. Our annual meeting is an affirmation that every voice counts in the ministry and mission of the church.

November 21 – Thanksgiving Sunday

As a U.S. holiday, this is not a special Sunday of the Christian liturgical year (this is actually the last Sunday of liturgical year, celebrating the reign of Christ over all powers, and we'll cover that as well in worship). Of course, giving thanks is always central to worship, and this time of year is an opportunity to remember both the graces and flaws of our church's namesake community of pilgrims at Plymouth. We can celebrate the many gifts of the holiday tradition while also recognizing the sins of this nation's treatment of America's indigenous people, too often abetted by a disloyal mythologizing of this same holiday. We move toward a Thanksgiving of fuller integrity.

November 28 – First Sunday of Advent

The annual liturgical calendar begins with Advent, a season of reflective preparation for the celebration of Christmas. Advent – the word means 'arrival' – focuses our attention on the advent of Christ in a dual sense. Looking back, we remember the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. Looking forward, we look for the arrival of the risen Christ, breaking into this world and into our lives.

Whatever this month holds for your life, I invite you to mark this time by Sundays. And whether you arrive to worship in person, or join from home, I'll see you in church.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew Wooster". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Dr. Matthew Wooster, Senior Minister

Giving

DONATING TO PLYMOUTH CHURCH



TEXT TO GIVE

Text \$XX.00 to 855-914-1060 Text "edit" to update information or set up recurring transactions. Text "assist" for help or call Vanco Payments @ 800-675-7430



ONLINE GIVING

You can donate online using a credit card number or your checking account number through Realm – Visit PlymouthChurchUCC.org and click "Giving" then "Give Online". If you need a Realm login, email kkundrat@plymouthchurchucc.org



MAIL IN CHECKS

You can mail a check to the Church: Plymouth Church of Shaker Heights, Attn: Kathryn Kundrat, 2860 Coventry Road, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120

SUPPORTING THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF PLYMOUTH CHURCH

SUPPORTING THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF PLYMOUTH CHURCH

Plymouth Church Contributions - Realm Online Gifts

To contribute from your profile page:

1. Sign into your site.
2. Click **Giving** on the main menu.
3. Click **+ Enter Online Gift**.
4. Enter the amount you want to give, then select the fund. To the far right of the "Fund" header, locate and click on the upside-down triangle to get the drop-down list of funds. Make your selection. If the fund has the memo field enabled, complete this field to add a note. To give to more than one fund at once, click **Give to an additional fund**.
5. Select a gift frequency (drop-down box) and enter the appropriate date information. The drop-down box is also where you can make recurring transactions, weekly/monthly, on a specific day, etc.
6. Enter your payment information. If you have a saved payment method, you can use it or click **Add New Payment Method** to add another payment method.
7. Click **Give**.

What about months that have less than 31 days?

During months that have less than 31 days, recurring gifts scheduled for the 31st of each month will process on the last day of the month.

Will I be notified about recurring gifts?

Yes, if you set up a recurring online gift, you will receive an email when the end date has been reached.

[Please let me know if you have any questions.](#)

[Kathryn Kundrat, Finance Administrator](#)
[216-921-3510 x106](tel:216-921-3510)
kkundrat@PlymouthChurchUCC.org

Music Ministry and ArtsPlymouth

Concert Hosts Needed

ArtsPlymouth will host four in-person concerts this fall on November 20, December 7, and December 17. Mask wearing and social distancing will be observed. We need two Concert Hosts for each event. Concert Hosts welcome guests at the entrances and offer assistance with directions within the building. If you choose to stay for the concert, you get free admission. Please sign-up in the Welcome area.

Still have questions/concerns? Please contact either Janet Wilkens (janetwilkens@yahoo.com) or Kathy Smyth (kathleensmyth6@gmail.com).

Calling Artists, Visionaries, and the Curious

Rescheduled: ArtsPlymouth will host a series of gatherings in November. Discussion to include, what have we learned during Covid regarding using our outdoor space? How might we use our outdoor space during the Summer of 2022? We are looking for artists, visionaries, and those who may be curious to join these discussions as we look to the future.

Plan to join one of these three opportunities: November 16 via Zoom 7:30 pm, November 17 at the Van Aken District 11 am, or November 21st in the parlor 11:45 am.



Cleveland Classical Guitar Society International Series Presents Andrea González Caballero November 20, 7:30 pm

BBC Music Magazine described her as one of today's young rising stars of the classical guitar. This performance marks the Cleveland debut of Andrea González Caballero. Sponsored by the Cleveland Classical Guitar Society the concert will happen in Plymouth's sanctuary on November 20 at 7:30 pm. Social distancing and mask wearing will be observed. Tickets can be purchased online at <https://cleguitar.org/event/gonzalez-caballero/> or at the door.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Quarterly Report

Juanita Faulx, Treasurer

Below are the financial results for the nine months ending September 30, 2021.

General Fund		YTD			
		Annual Budget	9/30/2021	Variance	%
Income	Offerings - Pledges/Member Gifts	\$592,207	\$508,892	\$83,315	85.93%
	Foundation Fund Support	227,083	32,603	194,480	14.36%
	Building Use	53,905	54,836	(931)	101.73%
	Other Income	23,096	22,639	457	98.02%
	Total Income	\$896,291	\$618,970	\$277,320	69.06%
Expenses	Professional Services	\$9,200	\$7,527	\$1,673	81.81%
	Partnership & Service	59,771	0	59,771	0.00%
	Children & Youth	7,690	2,069	5,621	26.91%
	Caring	1,550	620	930	40.02%
	Adult Faith & Life	857	350	507	40.84%
	Evangelism & Growth	6,750	1,783	4,967	26.42%
	Building & Grounds	183,464	157,948	25,516	86.09%
	Worship	8,403	4,226	4,177	50.29%
	Giving	1,700	232	1,468	13.65%
	Council	36,105	36,640	(535)	101.48%
	Compensation	520,065	351,763	168,302	67.64%
	Total Expenses	\$835,555	\$563,158	272,396	67.40%
Net Total	YTD Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$60,736	\$55,812		

Special Funds

Special Funds are those used for unique purposes such as one-time offerings and other expenditures falling outside of the General Fund. Special Funds have account balances and activities that roll over from one fiscal year to the next as compared to the General Fund which starts with new account balances on January 1st of each year.

Special Fund balances for the nine months ending September 30, 2021 are summarized below.

Special Fund	12/31/2020 Ending Cash	Net Increase (Decrease)	09/30/2021 Ending Cash
Buildings & Grounds	\$135,277	(\$26,511)	\$108,766
Caring	5,921	\$1,401	7,322
Children & Youth	51,758	\$9,932	61,689
Partnership & Service	3,497	\$7,859	11,356
Worship	19,308	\$975	20,282
ArtsPlymouth	25,238	\$4,211	29,449
Council – Fellowship	938	\$0	938
Totals	241,936	(\$2,133)	\$239,803

Treasurer's Report

Foundation Fund

The Foundation Fund is Plymouth's endowment fund and allows members and friends of Plymouth to give gifts that sustain the work of Plymouth for generations to come. Foundation Fund investments are managed by six Trustees (Plymouth's Treasurer and five others appointed by Church Council for five year terms).

The Foundation Fund's activity through 09/30/2021 is as follows:

Ending Balance at 12/31/2020	6,424,171
Net Capital Additions/(Withdrawals)	\$ (75,000.00)
Reinvested Income/Dividends	\$ 21,970.50
Reinvested Capital Gains (Losses)	\$ 570,585.84
Fees and Charges	\$ (5,054.15)
Ending Balance at 09/30/2021	6,936,673
Net Change in Value of Investments	\$ 512,502.19

The 09/30/2021 balance of the Foundation Fund accounts compared to the prior quarter end.

	6/30/2021	9/30/2021
Unrestricted Fund	\$ 3,845,965	\$ 3,795,539
Perpetual Pledges	\$ 2,002,671	\$ 1,941,844
Property Preservation	\$ 104,850	\$ 101,317
Outreach (Benevolence)	\$ 175,403	\$ 166,514
ArtsPlymouth	\$ 193,223	\$ 183,660
Herr Music	\$ 89,220	\$ 84,700
Youth Programs/Dively	\$ 385,274	\$ 365,750
Youth Mission	\$ 84	\$ 83
Reserved	\$ 300,940	\$ 297,266
Total	\$ 7,097,631	\$ 6,936,673

The Foundation Fund's investments as of September 30, 2021 were as follows:

	Investment	% of Total Portfolio
Cash	PNC Prime Money Market Fund	5.41%
Equity	Dodge & Cox International Fund	4.76%
	Dodge & Cox Stock Fund	10.14%
	American EuroPacific Growth Fund	6.27%
	Fundamental Investors American Fund	9.71%
	American Growth Fund of America	10.49%
	American New World Fund	7.26%
	Vanguard Emerging Markets Stock Index Fund	3.98%
	Vanguard Mid Cap Index Fund	11.71%
	Vanguard Small Cap Index Fund	11.05%
	Fixed Income	American High Income Trust
PIMCO Global Advantage Bond Fund		0.01%
Vanguard Total Bond Market Index Fund		7.71%
Vanguard Short Term Inflation-Protected		2.93%
Vanguard Fixed Income		2.77%
TOTAL INVESTMENTS		100%

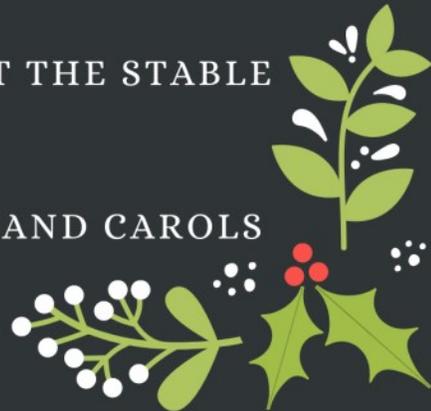
All Saints Sunday November 7

Email Rev. Matt B at mbauhof@plymouthchurchucc.org
if you would like to lift someone up during the service.



Join us for Christmas Eve services at Plymouth Church

- 3:00PM OUTDOOR SERVICE AT THE STABLE
- 4:30PM CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
- 9:00PM SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS



Christmas Eve Services

One hundred surveys collected from Christmas Eve 2019 indicate a preference for the Service of Lessons and Carols to move from 10PM to 9PM. The Worship Department discussed these surveys and made a recommendation to Church Council which voted at its October meeting to approve this schedule. A 3PM outdoor service has been added since we are still in the midst of the pandemic.



EYEJ drives social justice reform by empowering young people to advocate for change. YDJ: Youth Discussing Justice allows students the chance to meet regularly with trained front-end volunteers to engage on a wide variety of topics youth face that relate to diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice in a judgment-free setting. YDJ is the first step in empowering young people to advocate for change and leads to becoming a Changemaker for the better. At this time, EYEJ has served over 1,700 students through the relationships with 29 schools and 7 recreation centers in Cleveland.

Through the power of civil discourse, diverse volunteers including local community members, peers, and any one of the 750 other volunteers meet with students in a safe, trauma-informed environment that encourages honesty on difficult subjects. YDJ's front-end volunteers are trained to utilize a trauma-informed approach to meet our students where they are and encourage back and forth dialogue. YDJ front-end volunteers have then moved on to creating more social impact for their communities in the areas of voting, community development, and workforce development!

Volunteers Wanted: Training and speaker guide provided for all roles.

All volunteers must complete 1-hour training.

Topics include: Exploring Violence, Toxic Stress, Exploring Money, Conflict Resolution, Exploring Technology, Police Youth Relations, Achieving a Positive Mindset, Invest in Your Future, Civil Rights, Education, Equality, Healthy Eating, Power and Privilege, Race and Justice, Stress and Its Triggers, The Roots and Branches of Community Issues, Community Asset Mapping, Photography and the Power to Story tell

FACILITATOR

- Facilitate the discussion
- Familiar with the EYEJ mission and design YDJ
- Requires ongoing and consistent commitment to a classroom and their success
- Background check required

SPEAKER

- Spend 1hr with 6–12th grade students discussing social justice topics and 45min with the EYEJ team for pre- and post-discussion reflection (1hr 45min total)
- Be yourself and share relevant experiences, thoughts, stories, and expertise while engaging the students in an active discussion

COORDINATOR

- Observe the discussion and pass out necessary materials. Time keeper, take notes/quotes, and a photograph of the group.

Other Volunteer Opportunities:

PARTNERSHIPS

Your organization can join us for multiple volunteer opportunities, discuss curriculum input, and make financial contributions to the EYEJ program.

GROUPS

We offer full training to prepare your team at a time and place that works for you. Once trained, you can join us for a full community partnership day that includes an in-classroom YDJ Event followed by a team lunch to reflect on the discussion. This provides team-building and volunteering opportunities for your organization.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Our University Internship Program is an exciting way for students to partner with EYEJ (with possibilities for school credit and stipends). This 4-month long program invites you to be a YDJ Speaker or Coordinator for two events per month and participate as a Social Media Ambassador throughout the semester.



To be a volunteer please visit, eyej.org/signup
or for more information contact Katie Ross at Katie@eyej.org

#BeAChangemaker #InspiredByYouth #InternetisOxygen

Rev. Matt Wooster to preach at Choral Evensong, Trinity Cathedral

Rev. Wooster will be the guest preacher to give the homily at Trinity Cathedral on Wednesday, November 3, 6:00 pm. Trinity Cathedral is the cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio, located at 2230 Euclid Ave. in Cleveland. The service will also be streamed on the Trinity Cathedral Facebook page. The liturgy for evensong is found in the Book of Common Prayer, and follows longstanding Christian traditions of prayer. In this choral evensong, most of the liturgy is sung by the choir.



Thanks to everyone to participated in the EDWINS 5k in October!

Joyce Cherry Memorial Garden

Friends and family of Joyce Cherry have created a Memorial Garden in her honor near the peace pole on the Plymouth Church lawn. After several delays due to COVID, the Memorial Garden dedication will be held on November 7th after worship services.

Thank You!

Together we raised \$1455 for our Neighbors in Need special mission offering.

CHILDREN'S GARDEN GIVE AWAY RAISED \$228

Proceeds are being donated to the Cleveland Food Bank

LUNCH CLUB AT PLYMOUTH CHURCH

DATE: THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

TIME: 11AM-12:15PM

LOCATION: OCCURS AT PLYMOUTH IN ROOM 102 AND ON ZOOM

RSVP: REQUIRED - EMAIL MBAUHOF@PLYMOUTHCHURCHUCC.ORG

SUGGESTED DONATION:
\$7 FOR BOXED LUNCH

SEPTEMBER 15TH

Rev. Matthew Wooster joins lunch club for fellowship, and to share about his own faith journey and what brought him to Plymouth Church.

OCTOBER 20TH

Rev. Roger Osgood, Senior Minister at HCC and a HCC member will join lunch club to speak about the history of their church, their theology and beliefs, and what is next for their community.

NOVEMBER 17TH

Employees of the Lerner School for Autism will join us to discuss autism, the mission, goals, and history of their school and the work they do.

DECEMBER 15TH

Diane Menges and company will join us for a holiday music concert. Always one of the favorites each year, please join us for this festive yearly tradition.

JANUARY 19TH

Vicki Werneke, a member at Plymouth Church, is joining us to discuss her experiences working as a lawyer with clients who are on death row.

FEBRUARY 16TH

The Cleveland Food Bank is joining lunch club to discuss their mission, the work they do, and to lead us through a poverty decision making exercise as a group.

MARCH 16TH

Regennia Williams from Western Reserve Historical Society will present *Praying Grounds: African American Faith Communities*. She will discuss the evolving and influential role of religion in Black America based on her ongoing research for the Praying Grounds Oral History Project.

APRIL 20TH

April is National Fair Housing Month. We will be joined by Lisa Gold Stat from Shaker Height's fair housing division to explain their work and educate us on how we can advocate for ourselves and others.

MAY 15TH

We are going on a field trip! We will take a packed lunch to Shaker Nature Center to listen to their program: *Flyways not Highways*. Join us for this talk and to spend some time walking the grounds.

Lunch Club takes place on the third Wednesday of the month. We will gather for a presentation, fellowship time with those gathered, and then there will be an option to take home a boxed lunch or have one delivered if you are participating virtually.

This year we will have the option to join virtually from home or in-person at the church.

Speaker - 11:15-12:15

There will be time for Fellowship before and after the presentation

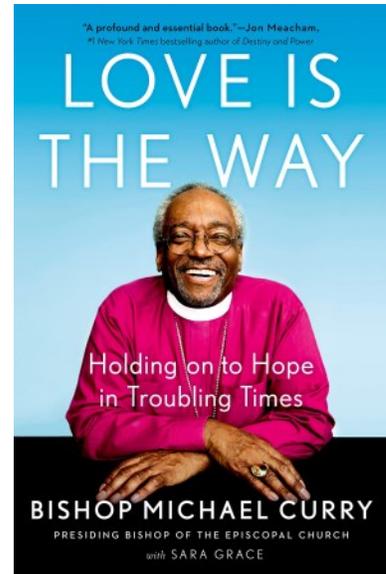
2860 COVENTRY,
SHAKER HEIGHTS

RSVP: PLEASE EMAIL MATT
AT MBAUHOF@
PLYMOUTHCHURCHUCC.ORG

Monday Night Bible Study

Mondays on Zoom, 5:30-6:30PM

Monday Bible Study continues in November with our Senior Minister, Matt Wooster. Join anytime by contacting Rev. Wooster, mwooster@plymouthchurchucc.org. He will send the zoom link and schedule of readings each week. This fall, discussion focuses on selected scriptures passages and readings from *Love Is The Way*, by Michael Curry, the presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church.



ALL CHURCH SCAVENGER HUNT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH 3-4:45PM

JOIN US FOR A FUN FELLOWSHIP EVENT



SAVE THE DATE

THIS IS GOING TO BE A DRIVING SCAVENGER HUNT THAT WILL TAKE YOUR FAMILY/TEAM/FRIENDS LOOKING FOR CLUES AROUND SHAKER HEIGHTS. TEAMS WILL GATHER IN THE PARKING LOT (DOWNLOAD THE GOOSECHASE APP) THEN HAVE TO ACCOMPLISH AS MANY CLUES AS POSSIBLE. THERE WILL BE PRIZES FOR TEAMS WITH MOST POINTS AND ICE CREAM AT THE END OF THE EVENT.

RSVP TO REV. MATT IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE

News & Events

Plymouth Church's Annual Meeting

Plymouth Church Annual Meeting will be held **November 14** immediately following worship. We will also be celebrating our 50+ year members!

The Agenda for the Annual Meeting:

- I. Determination of presence of a quorum
- II. Call to Order & Invocation
- III. Call for motion to dispense with reading the 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes which appear in the 2021 Annual Report.
- IV. Call for motion to approve the 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes
- V. Senior Minister's Report
- VI. Treasurer's Report
- VII. Foundation Fund Report
- VIII. President's Report
- IX. Report of the Nominating Committee and Election of Officers
- X. New Business
- XI. Adjournment
- XII. Benediction

Sugar Plum Workshop

Pick-up materials for children to make their own holiday gifts for friends and family!

Pre-order and pay online through Realm (select "Sugar Plum" in drop down menu).

Pick-up times:

Saturday, December 4th 9:30 -11AM

Sunday, December 5th after worship

PRE-ORDER BY NOVEMBER 24TH

ADVENT WREATH BUILDING KITS.

Build an Advent Wreath with your family at home to enjoy through out the holiday season!

\$20 per wreath, we accept cash, check or pay online through
• Realm (Select "Advent Wreaths" in drop down menu).

Pick-up times:

Sunday, November 28, after church

or

Wednesday, December 1, 5:30-6:30 PM

Children & Youth

Jr. High

November 7 - Lunch and delivering flowers to homebound members, 12-2PM

November 14 - Whole family scavenger hunt & dinner, 4-6PM

November 14 - Cocoa & Christ, during Sunday School in the Parlor

November 19 – Join the Senior High packing Thanksgiving baskets, 6-8:30pm

Senior High

November 4 – Dinner and fellowship in Krumbine 7-8:30PM

November 14 – Whole family scavenger hunt & dinner, 4-6PM

November 19 – Join the Junior High packing Thanksgiving baskets, 6-8:30pm

November 21 - Coffee & Christ, during Sunday School in the Parlor

Plymouth Kids

Sunday School

Kids in PreK—5th grades are invited to join us for Sunday School each Sunday (except the first Sunday of the month). As the weather turns colder, we need to start moving our classes indoors. As an added precaution, we will be keeping the class time we are together shorter, leaving service after the passing of the peace, and returning to service about 20 minutes later. Students in grades 6th-8th are invited to sign-up to participate in worship, help with Sunday School and attend monthly Cocoa & Christ meetings. Kids (and adults) will be required to wear masks for all indoor programming.

Playtime At Plymouth

Families with young children are invited to gather for fellowship and playtime! We are meeting monthly (outside as weather permits) to give the kids time to play and the parents time to connect. Our next gathering will be **November 21** after church on the Plymouth playground weather permitting, or inside in the Fellowship Hall.

Christmas Pageant

Yes!!! We are planning to hold an in-person Christmas Pageant! However, to keep it simple and safe, all the children will be acting out the parts (with masks on) while a narrator tells the nativity story. We would like to hold one rehearsal to prepare. Look for a sign-up form soon!

Plymouth Nursery

The Plymouth Church nursery is open! Kids 4 and under are welcomed to come play in our professionally staffed nursery. The nursery will be open 9-12 Sunday mornings.

POSTMASTER: Send address change to
Plymouth Church, *The Perspective*

PLYMOUTH CHURCH, UCC
2860 Coventry Road
Shaker Heights, OH 44120-2200
216-921-3510



Perspective Deadline
Monday, November 15

SEND TO:

Happy Birthday!

To our Four Score Plus

Dick Ogle

Helen Reed

Tim Tuthill

