

The Herald

First-Plymouth Church
A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Issue #4 • February 24, 2010 - March 9, 2010



Worship in February & March

Feb. 27 & 28

Jim Keck preaching. Choristers, Plymouth Singers and Plymouth Brass at 9:00AM service. First-Plymouth Choir, Plymouth singers and Plymouth Brass at 10:30AM service.

Feb. 28

11:59@First-Plymouth. Pete Allman teaching. Music by Tom Trenney & Annette Murrell.

March 6 & 7

Jim Keck preaching. Matin Singers at 9:00AM service. First-Plymouth Choir at 10:30AM service.

March 7

11:59@First-Plymouth. Jim Keck and guest, Rev. Kim Hinrichs, teaching.

March 7

Taizé Service 7:00PM. Choristers.

Chapel services every Wednesday 6:00-6:10PM

Join us for worship Saturday at 5:30PM, Sunday at 9:00, 10:30 and 11:59AM. Child care is available at the 9:00 and 10:30AM services.

The Spirituality of Parenting Workshop

with Rev. Kim Hinrichs

*A Special Worship Service & Workshop For parents
and grandparents of children under 12*

Raising children can be awe-inspiring as well as formidable. It brings us face-to-face with ourselves and with the challenging claim to truly love another. This workshop will take as its starting point the belief that raising a human being is a spiritual undertaking, and that the call to love is the central tenet of God's word to us. Acknowledging the complexities facing modern families and knowing there is no such thing as "perfect," we will explore how being present in the parenting relationship can itself be a spiritual practice.

Schedule:

9:45-10:00	Check-in & refreshments
10:00-10:15	Welcome
10:15-11:25	Workshop & children's church school
11:25-11:50	Ritual for parents & children
11:59-12:30	Attend church service

Sunday, March 7, 10AM - 12:30PM, Chapel

Registration for children and adults required.

Call Kathie at 476-7565 or online at www.firstplymouth.org



Presenter: Rev. Kim Hinrichs is a minister, mother, writer and educator. She believes that the often-overlooked arenas of family and relationship have much to teach us about spirituality and Christianity. She and her husband live in the San Francisco Bay Area with their two daughters.

Special Taizé Service for Children & Adults

Sunday March 7, 7:00PM

The children's choir joins other worship leaders in celebrating and supporting all children through prayer and song. This service of meditative singing, scripture, silent and spoken prayer, and peaceful quieting candlelight is for all God's children of any age.



February 28, 11:59@ F-P

Pete Allman, co-founder of Lighthouse, adjunct professor of psychology, mental health counselor, and author, will be the guest teacher at the 11:59@F-P service Sunday, Feb. 28. Pete will talk about embracing paradoxes which helps unlock the mystery of living a bigger life. Being able to think in a “both-and” manner, and embracing paradoxes is the art of balancing opposites and gaining the ability to hold creative tension. This creates a dynamic state that transcends conventional thinking and moves us toward spiritual growth.

CONGREGATION NEWS

Change to read: Welcome these new members to First-Plymouth: Beverly Gottsch, Susan Schur, Lance Schupbach, Michelle Paxton, and Nicole French.

Meet Some New Members of First-Plymouth:

Brady Bridges looks forward to getting to know the members of the congregation and the ministers.

Kelsey Bridges is a sophomore in actuarial science at UNL and attends First-Plymouth with her older brother, Brady, and Kelsey Niederhaus who have also joined F-P.

Jennifer Fitchett’s background is in social work and education. She works for CEDARS Youth Services in Performance & Quality Improvement. Her interests include anything outdoors, spending time with friends and family, her dogs, reading and gardening.

Jane Williams is a retired special education teacher and she has lived in Lincoln for 31 years. She enjoys live theatre and music performances and playing Bridge. She is involved in the Oscher Lifelong Learning Institute at UNL

In Memory
 Harvey Hergenrader died Jan. 20. Services were held Jan. 25.
 Harold Shurtleff – a member since 1970, Harold died Jan. 9th.
 Services were held Jan. 12.

Easter & Lenten Schedule

- Mar. 25** Community Seder, 6:15PM
- Mar. 28** Palm Sunday
- Apr. 1** Maundy Thursday
with Communion, 7:00PM
- Apr. 2** Good Friday Service, 7:00PM
- Apr. 3** Holy Saturday, Communion
Service, 5:30PM
- Apr. 4** 7:00AM Easter Sunrise Service
8:00AM, 9:30AM, 11:00AM
(Identical Easter Services)
Noon: Community Egg Hunt
12:29@ First-Plymouth
(11:59 service will be
held at 12:29)

Easter Lily Orders

If you would like to donate lilies for the Easter Sunday Service on April 4, complete the form below and mail or bring it to First-Plymouth Church, ATTN: Rebecca Shane, 2000 D Street, Lincoln, NE 68502. Make your check (\$15.00) payable to First-Plymouth Church and designate it “Easter Lily.” No phone orders, please. **Orders must be received by Thursday, March 18**

Please print clearly

NAME OF HONOREE: _____

GIVEN BY: _____

PHONE: _____

_____ Lilies at \$15.00 each: Total Enclosed \$ _____

Check if you would like your lily donated to a nursing home or hospital instead of taking it home with you.

THE YOUTH CORNER

Youth Leaders: Mitch Connelly 476-7565 ext 221, mitch@firstplymouth.org and
Confirmation: Julie Hendricks 476-7565 ext. 243, Julie@firstplymouth.org

Souper Bowl of Caring Update: First-Plymouth raised over \$1400 for the Matt Talbot Kitchen which will provide food for the next 7 months. Once a month the FP Youth Group and their parents volunteer to provide and serve food at the Matt Talbot Kitchen. Thank you for your donations.

Jr. High Wednesday Nights: All 6-7th graders are welcome to Youth Group for fun, fellowship and faith. We meet every Wednesday night from 6:15-7:15PM in the Youth Room.

Sunday Matinee: Sun. Mar., 21st 1-4PM: 8-12th graders are invited to enjoy food, fellowship and fun. Watch "The Da Vinci Code" and have a short discussion following the movie. Snacks will be provided and friends are welcome. Contact Mitch.

Mark your Calendars

Fri., Apr., 23 – Sat., April, 24: Jr. High Youth Group Adventure Challenge Retreat at the Carol Joy Holling Retreat Center. Build greater trust in yourself through active communication and the conquering of physical challenges. Cost \$45.00 per person. For information or to register, contact Mitch.

Sat., May 1, 6:00PM, Pilgrim Hall: Attend the Red Candle Dinner and help support the 2010 Youth Mission trips. An elegant evening of fine dining, fellowship and music provided by the F-P Youth Group.

Connecting Children with Nature

Right here at Dimensions Early Education Programs



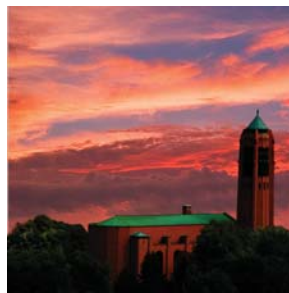
Our Nature Explore Classroom provides regular interaction



with nature that children need in order to see themselves in nurturing, caretaking roles and to develop a deep affinity for the earth. When caring adults support young children by making nature a sustaining and enriching part of children's daily learning that engages their curiosity and sense of wonder, they are helping to build a foundation of stewardship for the future. (Read more of this article in the Spring Edition of Lincoln Kids.)

New Artwork in West Entrance of Church

A beautiful new painting commissioned by Tammy Alvis in memory of her husband, Steve, is located at the west entrance of the church. The painting was created by Dan Gutzman and Mike Nelson of Mural Mural Graphics of Lincoln. Other paintings by the duo are located at other entrances of F-P, the outdoor classroom, and in the Mayflower Hall kitchen. Steve Alvis Memorial Funds were used to commission the art work.



Abendmusik Needs Host Families

Abendmusik is looking for families to host students from Luther College who will be performing a concert on Sat., Mar. 20th. Host duties include taking students home from the concert, providing overnight accommodations on the night of the 20th, providing a light breakfast and returning them to First-Plymouth on the morning of the 21st. If you are willing to host, contact Abendmusik Board Member, Karin Van Deun, at 484-8042 or call the music office 476-7565.

What's Sacred?

*occasional brief musings
by Kathryn Campbell,
Minister of Spiritual Direction*

"How do I serve God best?" Many wonder, when constantly asked to do things at church, at school, in professional organizations, in the community. There isn't time enough for all of them. How do you sort out which are really yours to do? These words from Rumi, Sufi mystic and poet, may help:

*Respond to every call
that excites your spirit.*

*Ignore those that make you
fearful and sad,*

*that degrade you back toward
disease and death.*

(from [The Essential Rumi](#), translations by Coleman Barks with John Moyne)

For more information about an Annual Spiritual Checkup, spiritual counseling or on-going spiritual direction, contact Kathryn at kjc7410@yahoo.com or kathryn@firstplymouth.org or 488 -3647.

PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

For a complete list of class and workshop descriptions, check out First-Plymouth's 2009/2010 Activities Booklet or www.firstplymouth.org and click **Programs**. R Registration Required W Walk-Ins Welcome

Bible & Religion Studies

W **They Never Taught Me that in Sunday School**
Led by Dr. David Peabody, Author and Prof. of Religion, NE Wesleyan Univ. Sundays, 9:00-10:00AM, Resource Room.

W **"Something Else" Discussion**
Led by Jim Hewitt, retired lawyer and college professor. Sundays, 9:00-10:00AM, Calvert Parlor

W **Sunday Discussion with Dan Clanton, Assist. Prof. of Religious Studies at Doane**
Sundays, 10:30-11:30AM, in the Tower Room. Each month a new and exciting topic. March: Revelation: Is the book of Revelation a blueprint for the end of the world? Does it contain images that foretell our future? We'll

try to find out together. Afterward, attend the 11:59 service.

W **Explore the Gospel of Mark During Lent**
Led by Carolyn Zeisset. Tuesdays, 9:30-11:00AM, Calvert Parlor. Feb. 23 - Apr. 6 topic, The Days of Holy Week. The Gospel of Mark gives a day-by-day account of Jesus during Holy Week. Explore the story during Lent as we prepare to remember Jesus' death and celebrate the new life of Easter.

W **Women's Circle 1**
Led by Rev. Ralph Sturdy
Wed. Mar. 3rd, 9:30AM, at Lois Thomas' home, 483-6605.

W **Women's Circle 3**
Led by Rev. Barb Smisek
2nd Wed. of the month, 9:30-11:00AM, Pilgrim Hall

W **Not Your Ordinary Bible Study**
Led by Rev. Jim Keck. Every Thursday, at Noon, Calvert Parlor. Bring a sack lunch if you would like.

Adult Classes & Workshops

R **Don't Re-tire your Life, Re-fire your Life**
Attend a free discussion group centering around a panel of 'expert' retirees. Tues., Mar. 2, 6:00-7:30PM, Calvert Parlor. Contact Gary Summers 476-7565 ext. 245.

R **HopeKeepers**
Life with chronic illness often leads to feelings of denial and guilt. This meeting will look at why these feelings arise and ways of coping. Mar. 4, 6:30-7:30PM, Room G.

R **Pilates**
New session starting Mon. March 1 - April 5, 5:30-6:15pm, \$30. A great way to increase your flexibility and strengthen your back and abdominal muscles.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

For a complete list of class and workshop descriptions, check out First-Plymouth's 2009/2010 Activities Booklet or www.firstplymouth.org and click **Programs**. R Registration Required W Walk-Ins Welcome

Food * Fun * Fellowship * Music * Education * FOR ALL AGES!
For a complete schedule of events and description of classes, visit www.firstplymouth.org
Contact Addie (476-7550, addie@firstplymouth.org) to register for a class or childcare.
Dinner served from 5-6:15PM in Pilgrim Hall. \$6 Adults, \$3 children, children under 6 eat free. Worship Service 6:00-6:10pm, Chapel.

W **Feel Good Yoga**
Wednesdays, 6:15PM, in the Chapel
Led by Nan Graf
\$5 a class. Pay at the door.

R **Meditation Series**
Wednesdays, Apr. 7-28, 6:15PM.
Led by Margaret Rickers, LMT, CHTP. Free class. Room C.

R **Inner Signs of Growth: Using Five Shapes as Signposts to Awareness**
Wednesdays, Apr. 7-28, 6:15PM.
Led by Susan Brasch, Visual Artist, Mediator, Workshop Facilitator.
\$15.00, Room D.

Wednesday Night Hospitality volunteers needed to help serve weekly dinner. Interested call Addie at 476-7550.

notes

Congratulations

to Rev. Renae Koehler as she begins her new ministry at Vine Congregational Church, Lincoln.



If you are in the Hospital

Please call or have someone call the church (476-7565) to let us know that you are in the hospital and would like a pastoral visit. If you know in advance you will be having surgery, let us know.

Tech Help Needed

Volunteers needed at 11:25AM and after the service at 12:30PM for set-up and tear down for the 11:59 service. Some heavy lifting required. Contact tammy@firstplymouth.org or 476.7565 ext. 204.

Get Connected

Join us on Facebook. When you log onto your account, type in 'First-Plymouth Church' in the "search" button. Join Constant Contact to stay informed. Log onto our web site: www.firstplymouth.org and click on the Constant Contact button (lower left) to register your email and to pick which group you'd like to receive updates from.

Mission Opportunity

Do you know that less than 300 miles from Lincoln there are people who need our help? Just under two years ago, Cedar Rapids, Iowa was flooded. They need help with clean up and rebuilding. The week of June 6-12, we have an opportunity to partner with First Presbyterian to help those in Cedar Rapids. This trip is flexible . . . come for a day or two or for the whole week. For information, call Jim or Pam Moore at 423-7912. *Sponsored by First-Plymouth Christian Board of Outreach*

Renewal and Fellowship

WOMEN: Save Sat., Apr. 10 for a day of renewal and fellowship. Karen Creswell and Rev. Nancy will lead a retreat to help us welcome the Spring season. Watch for more information.

ADULT FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Get connected...join a group. All Adult fellowship groups have e-newsletters. To be added to a specialized list, email addie@firstplymouth.org.

Singles News

For more info. check out the Singles newsletter, "The Individualist."

Sunday Discussion Group

Sundays, 9:00AM, Tower Room.
Open to all!

Sunday Brunches

Sun. Feb. 28, 11:45AM, Braeda (33rd & Hwy 2); Sun. Mar. 7, 11:45AM, Ruby Tuesday's (Edgewood).

Lincoln Food

& Wine Experience

Fri. Feb. 26, 5:00PM, Embassy Suites.
RSVP to Deb C. at 402-852-6795 or dconevera@yahoo.com.



Pathetic Pool Night

Sat. Feb. 27, 7:00PM, at Madsen's Bowling Alley (4700 Dudley).

Social & Program Discussion

Thurs. Mar. 4, 5:30PM, Meadowlark Coffee (16th & South).

First Friday Art Walk

Fri. Mar. 5, 6:00PM, Lux Art Ctr. RSVP to Chip at chip.black@gmail.com.

Singles Plus+ News

Single Adults (60 and older)

Bridge

Wed. March 10 & 24, 1-4:30PM in Pilgrim Hall. Open to all!

Tower Club 2

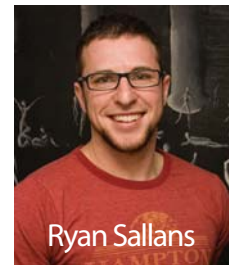
For young couples with or without children

February Event

Sat. Feb. 27, 6:00PM at Jill & Drew Morrow's home. Bring a bottle of wine and an appetizer to share. RSVP and for directions contact Jill at 430-3848 or email jill@neb.rr.com.

Plymouth Pride Fellowship

Ryan Sallans will be the speaker at the Mar. 14 potluck, 5:30PM, in Mayflower Hall (downstairs). Ryan will share his journey to reconcile his gender identity with the body into which he was born. A repeat guest on *Larry King Live*, at college campuses and in communities, this Nebraska native is skilled in speaking about his life, his struggles, and observations, with honesty and humor. All members, guests, allies and interested persons are invited to attend.



Sunday Night Dinner Club

6:00PM, Sun., Mar. 14, in Pilgrim Hall. All adults are welcome, couples, singles, young, old for an evening of food, fellowship and a fascinating talk by Ken Dewey, professor of Climatology at UNL. Bring a hot dish or salad and your own tableware. Dessert and beverages will be provided. For reservations, call Marilyn and Ed Schmidt 421-2299.

Coffee & Conversation for parents and caregivers of young children

Meets the 1st & 3rd Friday of the month, from 9:30-10:30AM in Courtyard Lounge. Children are welcome. Email Erin Glenn-Hash with questions, eglennhash@yahoo.com.

If The Church Were Christian . . .

A weekend with Philip Gulley, March 12-14

Registration required for lecture and workshop:
addie@firstplymouth.org or 402-476-7550



Lecture:

If The Church Were Christian . . .

Friday, March 12, 7:00 PM.

Suggested \$5 donation.

What would the church be like, look like and feel like if it were truly Christian and consistent with the teachings of Jesus? Author of *If Grace Is True* and Quaker Minister, Philip Gulley will tackle these provocative questions and the values he believes the church should embrace.

Workshop:

A Progressive Faith: *The Many Languages of God*

Saturday, March 13, Noon-1:30 PM. Fee: \$10.00 (with light lunch)

In a world of narrow religion, where faith is defined by whom and what God hates, Philip offers a gracious, thoughtful view of God. This workshop equips you to think theologically, letting go of those divine images which hamper your spiritual growth, training you in a new language of grace, acceptance, and transformation.

Preaching

Philip Gulley will be preaching at First-Plymouth on Saturday, March 13 at 5:30 PM and Sunday, March 14 at 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM services. All are welcome.

Future Herald Articles

The deadline for the March 10th issue is noon, Mar. 2nd.

The deadline for the March 24th issue is noon, Mar. 16th.

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CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Contact Kathie Johnson, Director of Children and Family Ministries, 476-7565 ext. 215, kathie@firstplymouth.org

Join us in Church School each Sunday morning from 9:00-9:45AM and 10:30-11:30AM. **Infant and toddler** care is provided during both services. Location: west entrance, lower level, Toddler A.

Valentine's Gift Bags – The Church School children made 60 gift bags for home bound individuals. Thanks to the deacons for delivering them.

Mark Your Calendar

- Feb. 28** First-Plymouth Singers (K-2nd graders) will sing at the worship service they attend.
- Mar. 7** The Spirituality of Parenting Workshop – Rev. Kim Hinrichs. 10:00AM – 12:30PM. Registration forms in literature racks or on-line.
- Mar. 28** Walk Thru Holy Week 8:30AM – 11:45AM
- Mar. 28** Lenten Workshop 2:00-4:00PM. Everyone invited.

McDuff, A Dog With A Mission!

“Gifts of Love to Haiti” – Church School children had a surprise visit from McDuff to talk about the idea he had for their Lenten Outreach Project to help children in Haiti.

Being the mathematical genius that he is, McDuff calculated how much the children could collect by putting a coin in their bank each time they ate breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Children were given coin banks to put their money in and asked to return them on Mar. 28th, Palm Sunday.



McDuff with friend, Dick Spearman

McDuff has already been collecting coins for the meals that he has been eating. Anyone who would like to help may write a check to First-Plymouth and write in the memo, “Church School Mission Project.” Your contribution will go with the money our children will be sending to Haiti.

McDuff has been very excited about this outreach project and is looking forward to returning to talk with the children again.