Plymouth Church

MKE | UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 2026
Dear Members and Friends,

Each spring, hundreds of farmers and gardeners turn the soil that has become enriched over the winter. They loosen the soil and pull sprouting weeds as they create furrows to cradle the precious seeds. The seeds are watered and nurtured by the sun until they are ready for harvest. We celebrate the fruits of the vine, the plants that have grown deep in the earth, as we eat together as a community of faith giving thanks for God's love and care.

At Plymouth Church, the seeds of faith have been planted and are growing. We practice the metaphor of planting seeds and harvesting fruits for our faith community and beyond. Each week, we do the work of the church feeding those who have not celebrated the physical harvest, and offering clothes that provide warmth and protection. We pray for the health and welfare of those touched by illness of mind, body or spirit, those experiencing grief and loss, and those celebrating the gifts of God's grace. We share the goodness of God's blessings with each other, our neighbors, and the Christ we have yet to meet.

The work of Plymouth Church happens because of the gifts that each of you share in this season. Your financial gifts as well as your time and talents make the Gospel come alive in real ways. Whether you come to Plymouth as a believer, seeker or doubter, we welcome you in supporting all that we do to live out the love of God. Our gifts alone may feel like the mustard seed, small among those that are planted, but nurtured in community, they grow into a harvest large enough to feed the masses.

As we enter this harvest season, please consider what gifts you may offer to the world through Plymouth Church. We ask you to plant new seeds of generosity, seeking pledges totaling $285,000 so we may develop a sustainable budget for 2027. Please prayerfully consider whether you might increase your pledge from last year, understanding that our costs continue to rise. If you have not already done so, please return our new "Time and Talents" survey, so we learn more about how you would like to deepen your relationship with this community, and help cultivate the seeds of our faith.

Multiple easy and convenient ways to pledge are described on the reverse side of this letter. Thank you for all of the ways you already demonstrate the love of God, and for your thoughtful consideration of how your individual gifts can contribute to sharing this love with others.

With gratitude,
Gretchen Miller & Sheila Feay-Shaw, Stewardship Committee Co-Chairs and
Pastor Teresa Howell-Smith

Plymouth Fall Stewardship Campaign: Seeds of Generosity

Ways to Pledge:

1. **Online or QR Code:** https://onrealm.org/PlymouthChurchUCC/AddPledge/stewardship2027
2. **In Person:** Place a completed form in any locked drop box (Narthex, Douglas Commons, or Church Office).
3. **Mail:** Print online or request a form from the church office.
4. **Phone / Email:** Contact the church office directly.

Note: EFT (electronic funds transfer) re-authorization is required annually. Enroll online at https://onrealm.org/PlymouthChurchUCC/AddPledge/stewardship2027 or contact Katie McDonnell at kem2e2@yahoo.com.

When should I submit my pledge and survey responses?
We ask that all pledges and surveys be submitted by ***Wednesday, October 21 at noon,*** so we can wrap up our stewardship campaign at worship Sunday, October 25 and celebrate and dedicate our collective gifts at worship on Sunday, November 8.

IF YOU EXPECT YOUR PLEDGE WILL BE PAID THROUGH A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION (such as your investment broker or a donor advised fund), please contact the Church office with this information, so Plymouth may be sure to credit you for your giving.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, or would like to discuss your gift or pledge, please contact Pastor Teresa Howell-Smith or Veronica Zahn at the Church Office at 414-964-1513, or Stewards Board member Gretchen Miller at 414-377-1902.

The below pledge form can be detached and turned in at a drop box (see above) or mailed to the church.



Planting and Harvesting Seeds of Generosity

2027 Pledge Card

Name: _____

Email: _____

I/We commit this amount in 2027 to general gifts & contributions to support the annual budget of Plymouth Church: $_____

Comments/questions: