

## SUNDAY WORSHIP FOR NOVEMBER

November 1 Rev. Jenny Shultz-Thomas [Micah 3:5-12, Matthew 25:1-12](#)  
 November 8 Rev. Jenny Shultz-Thomas [Matthew 25:1-13](#), Amos 5:21-24  
 November 15 Rev. Dr. Anthony Scott [Matthew 25:14-30](#)  
 November 22 Rev. Dr. Eric C. Smith [Matthew 25:31-46](#)  
 November 29 Rev. Jenny Shultz-Thomas [Mark 13:24-37, Isaiah 64:1-9](#)



Worship with us remotely on Sundays at 10:00 AM at <https://bit.ly/FPCC-LIVE-Worship> or view previous services on the [FPUCC YouTube Station](#).

## From the Pastor's Desk



There is nothing more beautiful than a freshly fallen snow upon a Colorado meadow as the Rocky Mountains stand tall and decorated in the background. We are in one of the most desired locations in the United States, with four accessible seasons, sunshine most days, world premiere ski resorts, unparalleled hiking, natural hot springs, and a cultural arts scene to dazzle the likes of any vacationer. As we enter this season of gratitude, of giving and sharing, it is amidst the beauty of this landscape and the adventurous and kind spirit of her people that I say, "Thank you, First Plymouth." Thank you for inviting my family and me to join you in this beautiful community as part of God's majestic tapestry. We have served and celebrated and grieved alongside you for each one of these seasons and are committed to many, many more.

These last eight months have been trying for all of us. Still, our worshiping and caring community has persevered through each challenge we have faced. A robust community continues to gather for worship each Sunday morning, and we are reaching beyond our "walls," as friends and members join us from across the oceans and many miles. As our neighbors and co-workers show-up in our Treehouses and our living rooms through a screen, albeit, we are learning what it means to belong to one another with each new day.

Ours is a community that keeps asking ourselves, "who are we?" "We" continues to take on new meaning and new forms as we challenge the idea that we are those who worship in brick and mortar, we are those who believe this, or who practice that. We are hopeful and faithful people, and we are living into the newness of this season in all the best of ways.

In a few weeks, we will enter a new season in the Church's liturgical year. Advent begins on November 29 and ends with the candles lit and the pipes and the pedals of the organ singing to the sounds of the long-awaited Silent Night. Before we fall silent under the stars, in expectation of Christ's birth, we will join in fellowship with Temple Sinai to celebrate the gifts of shared community, of blessings and peace. We hope you will participate in a joint Thanksgiving Service on November 22 at 7:00 PM via YouTube.

As November 3 comes and goes, we will prepare to enter yet another new beginning in the days to come. To give some framing to this time and curate space for deep listening to both our voices and to the voices beyond our walls, we will invite blogger, speaker and author John Pavlovitz to join us for a series: "What Now? What Next?" Eric Smith and I will kick-off this series on Sunday, November 8, and then John will be with us on Sundays, November 15, and November 22. What now, what next? Until then...!

Spirit is leading the way,  
Rev. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

Join virtual meetings and classes from the church calendar at <https://tinyurl.com/y2jvogyb>.



First Plymouth Church  
[www.firstplymouthchurch.org](http://www.firstplymouthchurch.org)

**WHAT NOW?  
WHAT NEXT?**

**John Pavlovitz!**

**WORSHIP**

NOV. 15 & 22  
@ 10:00 AM

John Pavlovitz is a writer, pastor, and activist from Wake Forest, North Carolina. In the past four years his blog *Stuff That Needs To Be Said* has reached a diverse worldwide audience. A 20-year veteran in the trenches of local church ministry, John is committed to equality, diversity, and justice—both inside and outside faith communities. He has published two books: "A Bigger Table," and "Hope and Other Superpowers." Look for his new book coming this Spring!



- NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**
- Deborah Arca
  - Kaeden Asenjo-Ludwig
  - James Baack
  - Emerson Bails
  - Ella Beebe
  - Jim Black
  - Amanda Cattell
  - Jack Cattell
  - Joan Chase
  - Sharon Clinton
  - Erin Coleman
  - Paula Edwards
  - Colleen Egan
  - Caroline Erickson
  - Pam Erickson
  - Steve Erickson
  - Natalie Falconetti
  - Hope Forgey
  - Noanie Geistert
  - Isaac George
  - Patricia Griffith
  - Norma Harrington
  - George Haskins
  - Steve Haskins
  - Irene Heider
  - Jackie Howland
  - Buck Hutchison, III
  - Ingrid Johnson
  - Thomas Keefe
  - Vern Kornelsen
  - Lindsey Kuster
  - Scott Lee
  - Brad Montgomery
  - Ruth Neil
  - Kevin Replinger
  - Berkeley Rich
  - Chris Sabin
  - Eric Sargent
  - Heather Sargent
  - Michael Serio
  - David Sharer
  - Debra Starin
  - Amy Stevens
  - Betty Stevenson
  - Elizabeth Denham
  - Thompson
  - Fritz Trask, III
  - Lynn Vahle
  - Alice Weeda
  - Rowan Williams
  - Kim Wooldridge



Thursdays, beginning November 5

**COFFEE W/THE PASTORS**

Thursdays @ 11:00am

[firstplymouthchurch.org](http://firstplymouthchurch.org)

## First Plymouth Members and Friends Lost This Past Year



- |                 |               |                 |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Ann Christensen | Mary Osgood   | Marilou Taggart |
| Richard Hays    | Jerry Post    | Terry Tice      |
| Mary Hornberger | Margo Sargent | Robert Tucker   |
| Rose Moyer      | Brian Snow    | John Weese      |

**First Plymouth Congregational Church**  
 3501 S. Colorado Blvd., Englewood, CO 80113 303-762-0616  
 Find more information on our website at [www.firstplymouthchurch.org](http://www.firstplymouthchurch.org)

### 2020-2021 FIRST PLYMOUTH CHURCH COUNCIL

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Moderator</b><br>Phil Thompson       | <b>Members at Large:</b><br>June 2021: Allison Pasternak and Sandy Clough |
| <b>Vice Moderator</b><br>Liz Mascitelli | June 2022: Laura Eley and David Stevenson                                 |
| <b>Treasurer</b><br>Carole Westphal     | June 2023: Deborah Arca and Robert Henderson                              |
| <b>Church Clerk</b><br>Pat Olson        |   |

### FIRST PLYMOUTH OFFICE CONTACTS

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Senior Minister</b><br>Rev. Jenny Shultz-Thomas<br><a href="mailto:pastor@firstplymouthchurch.org">pastor@firstplymouthchurch.org</a>                   | <b>Teaching Minister</b><br>Rev. Dr. Eric C. Smith<br><a href="mailto:esmith@firstplymouthchurch.org">esmith@firstplymouthchurch.org</a>     |
| <b>Director of Music</b><br>Joel Rinsema<br><a href="mailto:jrinsema@firstplymouthchurch.org">jrinsema@firstplymouthchurch.org</a>                         | <b>Director of Administration</b><br>Carol Hainsey<br><a href="mailto:chainsey@firstplymouthchurch.org">chainsey@firstplymouthchurch.org</a> |
| <b>Director of Children's Ministry</b><br>Alix Wright<br><a href="mailto:fpchildren@firstplymouthchurch.org">fpchildren@firstplymouthchurch.org</a>        | <b>Office Coordinator</b><br>Lisa Medina<br><a href="mailto:office@firstplymouthchurch.org">office@firstplymouthchurch.org</a>               |
| <b>Pastoral Care</b><br>Rev. Dr. Anthony Scott<br><a href="mailto:pastoralcare@firstplymouthchurch.org">pastoralcare@firstplymouthchurch.org</a>           | <b>Communications Coordinator</b><br>Amy Turner<br><a href="mailto:editor@firstplymouthchurch.org">editor@firstplymouthchurch.org</a>        |
| <b>Parish Visitor</b><br>Lois McCloskey (720-520-5186)<br><a href="mailto:parishvisitor@firstplymouthchurch.org">parishvisitor@firstplymouthchurch.org</a> | <b>Facility Manager</b><br>Don McLean<br><a href="mailto:dmclean@firstplymouthchurch.org">dmclean@firstplymouthchurch.org</a>                |

## ADULT FORUM SUNDAYS AT 11:15 AM

**November 1:** A representative from **The Empowerment Program**, the November's Share-the-Plate recipient, will conduct a presentation about their programs and their upcoming Capital Campaign to fund a new building.

**November 8:** "NOW the Election is Over - Discerning What's NEXT."

**November 15:** "The Science and Technology of Fighting SARS-CoV-2: Yes, Science is Real." Presented by Larry Strawser.

**November 22:** "Health and Wellness through Music" with Heidi Thomas, musician, teacher and music practitioner. Join Heidi for some fun stories, beautiful music, cool neuroscience facts and tips on how to incorporate music into your everyday wellness practices.

[Join us for these virtual programs with the links from the church calendar.](#)



## Meet Janet Rich

Member since 1974, Janet has been involved in many aspects of First Plymouth as well as the wider community. Read more about Janet at <https://tinyurl.com/yxsq2lp2>.

## MINISTRY NEWS

Children's Ministries offers YouTube stories and videos on November 1 and November 15, Zoom Sunday School will be November 8, and Zoom Music Time with Abby will be held November 22. Volunteers are also needed to record the reading of Christmas Stories for our children. To get the most current updates or to volunteer, please email Alix Wright at [fpchildren@firstplymouthchurch.org](mailto:fpchildren@firstplymouthchurch.org).

The **Thanksgiving Worship Service** with Temple Sinai will be held via Special Premier on Sunday, November 22 at 7:00 PM.

The **Outreach Ministry** invites you to recommend a Share-the-Plate recipient for the months of May and June 2021 by submitting the "[Nominate the Plate](#)" form [here](#). Maybe you volunteer at an organization or agency with apparent needs for their clientele, or you have read or heard of a community need or issue through radio or television. First Plymouth has given generously to these various projects through our weekly offerings. Forms can be mailed to the church, attention Outreach Ministry. Your questions can be answered by **Bonnie Mucklow**, Outreach Ministry co-chair.

The **Creation Justice Ministry** had an unprecedented e-Waste event on October 17. As event manager **Bruce Glenn** exclaimed, "In 18 years I have never experienced the response that we had today. A steady stream of cars and trucks, most from the public. By 11:00 AM, two hours into the event, the bins were approaching full. I left a panic message at METECH that we needed help, not thinking that the Denver manager would be around for the weekend. THE METECH TRUCK ARRIVED ABOUT 1:00 PM. They filled their truck and came back for a full second load and everything was picked up. Our volunteer crews were great. Everyone had a grand time, pitching in and loading. **Beth Irtz** and **Nancy Joe Shaw** kept the COVID protocol on track. A really rough estimate is that we collected \$13,500 or so which will offset the METECH bill." Wow, what an event! Thank you Creation Justice Ministry!

Your continued support of the **Green Energy Fund** is essential in helping First Plymouth Church reduce its carbon footprint and in the process, become a UCC "Cool Congregation." Future projects under consideration include solar panel installations on portions of the roof, porticos or in the parking lot. Choose "Other/Green Energy Fund" when making your contribution. <https://firstplymouthchurch.org/how-to-give/>

### NOVEMBER IS SOCKSGIVING

Socks are the #1 clothing need of those experiencing homelessness. Clean, dry socks are essential for the health and wellbeing of folks on the streets. Temperatures are dropping and at any given moment, on any given day, there are thousands of people experiencing homelessness. Approximately 11% are veterans, 10% are teens, 30% are children, and many are single moms. You can make a great social impact, one pair of socks at a time!



First Plymouth will host drive-thru sock donations from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM on Wednesday, November 18 and Sunday, November 22.

### NOVEMBER SHARE-THE-PLATE

[The Empowerment Program](#) opened its doors in 1986 in response to a growing number of homeless women, women living in poverty, sex workers, women involved in the criminal justice system, women living with HIV/AIDS and women living with serious mental illness and substance abuse. Throughout the past thirty four years, Empowerment has continued to provide trauma-informed services to women in a safe and welcoming environment. Women are considered participants in the program, receiving education, employment training, individual and group level counseling, care management and a variety of supportive services. This organization has been providing essential services to low income & homeless women who are the least among us for many years with a mission of "Holistically helping individuals build healthier lives from the inside out."

Contribute to Share-the-Plate via [Text-to-Give](#), [ACH](#) or [Credit Card](#) or by check **made out to First Plymouth Church with "STP" noted on the memo line and mailed to the church.**

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**First Plymouth's LOFT** (Living Our Faith Together) has had to reinvent the DICP Thanksgiving Dinner, which has been held for the last nine years, due to COVID-19. Instead, LOFT is hosting a drive-thru fundraiser November 4-6 from 3:00 PM until 3:30 PM, and on Saturday, November 7 from 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM. King Soopers and Safeway gift cards can also be deposited in the church's new mailbox at the main entrance of the church. Funds will be used to purchase the grocery store gift cards to be given to Denver Inner City Parish for distribution to DICP members to help defer some of the cost of their holiday dinners. Thank you for your help and generosity in this Thanksgiving season!

**Men's Fellowship** meets via [ZOOM](#) on Saturday, November 14 at 10:00 AM. "History of the Highline Canal and ties to First Plymouth" will answer questions such as how the Men's Fellowship Yacht & Donut Club got its name. A speaker from the Highline Canal Conservancy will present the rich history of the 71-mile long canal, built in the 1880s, which winds its way past First Plymouth from Waterton Canyon to Barr Lake. Women are invited to participate.

**First Plymouth's Learning Center** is currently seeking a church member to serve on its Board of Directors for a 3-year term. Monthly meetings are currently held via Zoom for approximately 90 minutes, typically around the 3rd or 4th Monday evening of the month. This past year the Board has met 9 times. The Board values organized, professional people who are passionate about the well-being of children. For more information or to submit your name, please contact [Noanie Geistert](#), Director.

### FP WISE Thought for the Day

The fall of 2020 has rushed-in like a whirlwind, swirling-up a "dust" that blinds clear vision, creates feelings of unease, and can leave one grasping for air. COVID, racial injustice, Black Lives Matter movement, wildfires in our own state and throughout the west, hurricanes along the gulf coast, political turmoil, replacing RBG on the Supreme Court, and the impending election all give energy to this whirlwind.

The human response to all this has manifested itself in positive and negative actions. Those frontline health care, grocery store, and sanitation workers have responded in service to all of us. For some, the stress is too much as manifested with increased suicide and divorce. On a personal level we hear complaints of friends and family gaining weight, becoming more irritable, having difficulty focusing and staying on schedule, sleeping too much or not enough, experiencing a loss of hair, etc.

Intuitively, we all know how to cope positively and creatively with this whirlwind. As a reminder, coping includes internal work and external action on our part.

Internal work involves making the time each day to get in touch and become grounded in our true selves through meditation, prayer, and other mindfulness activities.

The second element is to take action in the cause to which you are feeling "called" amidst this whirlwind. Recognizing such turmoil, two nights ago Rachael Maddow made a plea for all of us to get up and do something! Action provides service where it is needed, takes one's mind off stress, anxiety and gloom, and gives one a sense of control. For example, if your cause is the election, volunteer to serve the candidate of your choice, to work as an election judge or poll monitor, to make sure everyone's vote counts, or to help resist voter suppression. For me, it was volunteering to write letters for Vote Forward, encouraging people in Florida, North Carolina and Texas to get out and vote. Plan your vote and vote!

The upshot of all this is an opportunity for personal growth and service to our community. So, as Rachel said, "get up and do something, now!"

Bob Henderson

### October's Joys and Concerns



For our members' privacy, a list of the prior month's Joys and Concerns is available on the church website under the [FP Members section](#). Email your Joys and Concerns to Rev. Dr. Anthony Scott at [pastoralcare@firstplymouthchurch.org](mailto:pastoralcare@firstplymouthchurch.org) for inclusion on our webpage.



First Plymouth Congregational Church UCC  
3501 South Colorado Boulevard  
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THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER