

PLYMOUTH CHURCH

Ten Reasons I Love Being the Senior Minister at Plymouth

Brett Younger



Worshipping with a congregation that cares about worship. Each Sunday morning members of the Plymouth community come to the sanctuary and expect something sacred to happen.

Celebrating the high holy days. Christmas Eve and Easter at Plymouth are wonderful; but so are Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, World Hunger Sunday, Children's Sabbath, Blue Christmas, and the Blessing of the Animals.

Being part of sacred moments. I share baptisms, communion, weddings, marriage renewals, funerals, footwashing, and pancake races.

Participating in important discussions about God and our work. The Communities of Calling grant has provided the impetus to engage in important conversations. Three of my favorite breakfasts at the parsonage were with retirees, lawyers, and writers. We have had six such gatherings, six sessions of Faith Ed, and six worship services on how our faith impacts our vocation.

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Learning about what it means to follow Christ—whether that is through a study of Mark, the marriage enrichment retreat, a book discussion, the *Not on My Watch* conference, watching *Railroad Ties* together, the Hope Program, Bloom Again Brooklyn, Vacation Bible Camp, or Habitat for Humanity.

Working on issues that matter. Plymouth pushes me to care more about trafficking and racism. I would not be spending a night each year in a homeless shelter were it not for Plymouth.

Serving with a great staff. Two months ago we were happy to add Molly Martinez as our Executive Administrator. I look forward to Tuesday church staff meetings.

Sharing Plymouth's history. I have led more than a dozen tours this year. I was ten minutes into a tour with a Japanese television show when I realized they had not given me a mic. It is safe to assume they were not that interested in what I was saying.

Hanging out with children and youth. When I lead the children's time I get to hear "Where's Julia?" I would not have laughed at St. Patrick's given name—Maewyn Succat—if I had not gotten to lead the youth group on March 17.

Being church with generous, fascinating people. Some of our amazing people have been here for two weeks and some for twenty years. The Discover Plymouth Class for prospective members is always delightful and surprising. At coffee hours, ice cream socials, parties, and cookouts I thank God that I get to be the Senior Minister at Plymouth.