



THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

The Church of the Pilgrimage,
8 Town Square, Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360
www.8townsquare.org

Periodical
Publication
U. S. P. S.
432820

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Volume LXXVIII

July 2006

No. 25

A Pastoral Letter from Paul Sinn

Dear Friends,

Last week was filled with many joys and with sorrow. Our thoughts are with Gary as he continues to face the death of his mother, Pauline Marks, last Wednesday. He was able to be in Ohio for his mother's service on Friday and back in Plymouth to participate in worship Sunday. Sunday evening Gary and Kathy departed for Scotland for their long planned trip.

In the Gospel of Luke we read the story about two of Jesus' disciples on the road to Emmaus on the first day of the week following Jesus' crucifixion and death. The Emmaus road story has long been one of my favorite stories for it has helped me understand the universal meaning of grief, as well as my grief at the loss of loved ones. In the telling of stories about what is important to us there is a reliving and a re-discovery that can lead to renewed health of body, mind and spirit. I have discovered through reflecting upon the experience of the disciples and my personal experience that the depth of meaning in a relationship is often not fully comprehended until the death of a loved one or other significant loss.

Loss changes the perspective of how we view events in our lives as well as life itself. Grieving is rarely over a single event but rather an accumulation. A new or more recent loss can and often does attach itself to other losses we have known – and have not yet resolved.

In their sadness over the death of Jesus, the disciples were unable to recognize the stranger that joined them on the road to Emmaus. Grief can close our eyes, our hearts and even our spirits to more than we are aware of until there is something that reminds us of the one that is no longer physically present with us. I wonder if the story is attempting to tell us that there are really no strangers on the road of life or that perhaps the one we consider a stranger is seen in that light because we are so caught up in our own lives we do not see and know the other person. For the two disciples it was in the breaking of bread that the one first seen as a stranger was no longer viewed as a stranger – but rather experienced as their beloved friend. It was the universal experience of sharing food that made the difference. So many times they had shared meals together – special meals like the feeding of the multitudes with a few fish and loaves, opening the eyes and hearts of others to share the food in their baskets.

The early response of the disciples to the death of Jesus was one of avoidance and fear of the authorities. They first gathered in closed rooms. Then at some point Peter is quoted as saying, "I'm going fishing" in an attempt to find solace in the familiar. It was a slow process for the grieving disciples to the understanding that Jesus had invited them on a life-transforming journey. Like the disciples we too often seek to avoid or deny our personal loss, and like the disciples, we too in time, can come to accept our losses and be transformed with renewed energy and purpose in our lives.

The wonderful thing about the Emmaus Road encounter is that it continues to be experienced time and time again when least expected. I wonder if that has been your experience. It has been true for me. Sometimes I have a question emerge in my mind that I want to ask and suddenly I realize that the person is no longer physically present - yet present in Spirit -- as close as my breath!

I celebrate that Gary and Kathy are together in Scotland for a time of remembering and spiritual renewal. I celebrate that we can bear one another's burdens and walk life's road together in times of sadness and joy.

Peace and Joy,

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Attention all Committee Chairs If you find that you are holding a FOB and are no longer a committee chair, we would appreciate it if you could return your FOB to the church office. If you paid a deposit we will give you a refund. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

July and August Editions of The Pilgrimage Herald:

As in past years, there will be one edition of The Pilgrimage Herald in July and one in August. Please submit your articles for inclusion in the July Herald no later than Tuesday, June 27th. Articles for the August Herald must be received by Tuesday, July 25th. Thank you in advance.

We need your help regarding FOB's: Recent update/upgrades have been made to the computer software that allows access to both the Church Building and Church House, which should eliminate any problems we have been having with the FOB's. Please try your FOB and then call the church office to verify your FOB# so we can make sure our records are accurate. **If you are still holding a key, please turn it in to the church office 508-746-3026.** Thank You.

Clerk – Lois Post; Moderator – Steven Triffletti; Treasurer – Dave Kegel; Collector – Debra Richters;
Music Director-William B. Richter; Secretary- Shellie McCormack; Sexton-Tony Nightingale;
World Mission Emphasis-Heifer Project International; Church Building Telephone – (508) 747-1341

CHURCH RECORD

Funeral

- On June 22, 2006 Rev. Marks conducted a funeral service for David E. Barboza.
- Rev. Marks took part in the funeral service of his mother, Pauline Marks, in Zanesville, Ohio on June 23, 2006. Our deepest sympathies go out to Rev. Gary, Kathy and the family during this difficult time.

Baptisms

- On June 18, 2006 Rev. Marks baptized David Larson Tripp, son of Joyce and Keith Tripp.
- On June 25, 2006 Rev. Marks baptized Avery Jayne Curtis, daughter of Amy and Stephen Curtis.

Flowers for the month of July-

July 2: In memory of Marion and Gibb VanNest. Given by Tony and Susan Cotta.

July 9: In memory of my husband, Robert, my son, Jerry and my daughter, Joanne. Given by Audrey Birnstein.

July 16: In honor of my wife, Alice, on the occasion of our 51st Wedding Anniversary. Given by Kenneth Heckman.

July 23: In loving memory of our parents, Willard and Frances Hatch, and Francis Meserve Hoyt. Given by Mr. and Mrs. Allen Hoyt.

July 30: In loving memory of my husband, Francis Meserve Hoyt. Given by Shirley Hoyt.

Summer Sunday Worship-

All Sunday Worship Services will be held at 10:00am. On Sunday, July 30th we will hold our worship service in the Great Hall on the second floor of the John Robinson Center. The Order of Worship will be listed in the Bulletin, which will be distributed by the ushers.

There will be no regular Church School classes until Fall. Younger children, 3rd grade and under, are invited to attend Bible Story/Craft Hour downstairs in Allerton Hall following the Children's Message. Older children are to remain in worship.

All are invited to join us for Coffee Hour downstairs in Allerton hall following the worship service.

Planning a vacation for the month of July? We wish you traveling mercies and the blessing of re-creation time. As you journey to visit family, friends, and enjoy some time away, remember your church community here in Plymouth. We count on the support of all our church members to keep the ministries of this congregation healthy and strong. Please be sure to mail your pledge to the church office if you will be unable to present your offering during our Sunday morning worship service. Thank you.

MISSIONS & OUTREACH NEWS-

The Plymouth Area Food Warehouse volunteers thank the members of The Church of the Pilgrimage for their ongoing support of non-perishables donated each week. We will continue to collect canned goods, cereal, tea, coffee, juice and pasta all summer.

The Mission and Outreach Committee wishes to thank everyone who contributed items, purchased them or made a donation to the first of three summer fundraisers. Last Sunday during the coffee hour, we raised \$325 which will be given to the church treasurer for the church budget. The second silent auction will be held on Sunday, July 30th. We welcome small donations on that date between 9 and 10 am. Suggestions: potted plants, pottery, china, jewelry, small antiques, or note cards in excellent condition.

Save Darfur: On Sunday, July 9th members of Missions and Outreach will hand out booklets from the Save Darfur Coalition to call attention to the humanitarian crisis of mammoth proportions in Western Sudan.

Thank you from Pat Mudgett: Dear Guild Members, I thank all of you for the gift certificate that you gave me as I ended my presidential term. I was at the right place at the right time and got in on a terrific sale and bought 2 pairs of summer shoes with 20 cents leftover. Don't you just love a

bargain! Thank you so much for the gift and all your many kindnesses. Love to you all. Pat Mudgett

A Golf Thank You: Our June 2006 Golf Tournament raised \$3165.00. Thanks to the committee: Mike Harrington, Sue Healy and John Mitchell for their hard work. The golfers had a great day for golf and we all enjoyed the dinner at Squirrel Run. Please take a look at all our sponsors and contributors listed on the enclosed sheet, and thank them for helping us with this fundraiser.
-Judy Mitchell

NOTICES FOR JULY-

Office Hours for the summer: M-F, 8:00am-Noon.

Please call the church office if you are aware of **persons hospitalized or in need of pastoral care**. It is especially important to let us know about out-of-town hospitals.

Thank you for your help.

Please inform the church office of **recent graduations, weddings**, etc. We like to honor and keep track of our young people as they attain significant events in their lives.

We thank the Sanctuary choir for another wonderful year of inspiring Christian music! The choir sang on June 18 and will resume regular Sunday performances in September. Thank you!

There will be a Harvest Fair Meeting on Monday, July 10th at 7:00pm at Laura Curtin's home, 10 Kristin Road, 746-7761. Many hands lighten the load and we need your help! Laura is in desperate need of someone to help with the auction. It is as easy as making calls and/or visiting businesses that have donated in the past. There is already a list to work from and this task can be shared by several people. Hope to see you on July 10th!

Please prayerfully consider signing up for Craft and Story Hour this summer. Sign-up sheets are located in Allerton Hall on one of the bulletin boards. Also, we need **you** to be a Sunday School teacher for one Sunday a month during the 2006-2007 school year. This is a wonderful and vitally important opportunity for you to be a part of the faith formation of our children.

Attention Pie Bakers: The crust recipe makes enough for each pie to have a top and bottom crust (with enough scraps to make yourself a few little treats). If you'd like to make a pie with a crumb topping instead that is fine: just please be sure to label it as such. Copies of the recipe, general instructions and aluminum pie plates are available in Allerton hall along the windowsill nearest the exit to the crib room. Remember, a pie a month is a guideline; you may contribute more or fewer according to schedule and budget. If you are planning on participating please let me know so I can keep an approximate count of how many baker e have. If we seem to have an excess we will bake some of them to sell at the bake table or save some for the pie and cookie sale in December. You can call 508-747-7168 or email me (poetic@verizon.net). Thanks for your help-this is going to be the biggest fair year ever! Jenny

Second Grade Bibles: We still have six Bibles in the church office for our second graders who were unable to be in worship on Sunday, June 11th. Please stop by the office during the week or talk with Rev. Heather on Sunday after worship to pick up your fabulous new Bible.

There are only 18 tickets remaining for the July 16th bus trip to the **Pawtucket Red Sox**. Tickets are \$24 and include the bus trip and the game. See Verna or Al Hoyt very soon if you plan on attending.

Save the Date: The Church of the Pilgrimage September 2006 Golf Tournament. Saturday, September 23, 2006, 8am at Souther's Marsh Golf Course. Plan to join the fun of golf and luncheon fellowship. More information to follow.

400th Anniversary Celebration: Rev. Marks has been working with The First Parish Unitarian Universalist church and Peggy Baker, Director of Pilgrim Hall, on plans we will jointly share in the celebration of the 400th Anniversary of the Scrooby Covenant. So far the groups have these events planned.

August 1st-Rev. Marks will give a lecture at The Church of the Pilgrimage entitled, "The Scrooby Covenant, 1606-2006."

August 8th-Stephen O'Neil will give a lecture on the significance of Burial Hill, First Parish Church.

August 22nd-Peggy Baker will give a lecture on the Rev. John Robinson, The Church of the Pilgrimage.

August 29th-James Baker will give a talk on First Parish Church in the 19th Century.

In addition to the above lecture series members of The Church of the Pilgrimage and First Parish, UU will be offered a rare opportunity at Pilgrim Hall Museum on September 9th at 11am. Director Peggy Baker has agreed to provide a special display at Pilgrim Hall of original documents regarding the Church in Plymouth which continued the 1606 Scrooby covenant in the Church in New Plimoth. Adaptations of that Covenant continues to be the foundation of The Church of the Pilgrimage. It also served as a model for other New England Congregational Churches who were "gathered" subsequently to the Pilgrim Church. Peggy Baker will also conduct a guided tour featuring Pilgrim artifacts at Pilgrim hall.

The number of people on this special tour will be limited, so you are asked to indicate your interest before August 15, 2006. Call Ann Young at 508-746-1620, Ext. 4. If interest is sufficient, another display and tour will be arranged.

Gary has also consulted with our Music Director, Bill Richter, to offer a performance of The Pilgrim Canticle during Thanksgiving week at The Church of the Pilgrimage. Gary organized the Canticle.

Other plans are being made to mark what to many is an obscure 400th Anniversary, but which actually provided an essential organizing first principle in the formation of New England and, indeed, America. Get excited about the 400th Anniversary of the Scrooby, Leyden, Plymouth Covenant! Please plan to attend as many of these events as your can. Other events are yet to come.

Summer Hymn Sings at South Pond Chapel

The Chapel is located on Long Pond Road, off exit 5 in Plymouth. Each Sunday a different local minister leads the service. South Pond Chapel was built in the 1870's as a Union Evangelical church for residents of the village at South Pond in Plymouth; it offered them a place to worship close to their homes that, at the time, was remote part of town. Since 1959, the Chapel has offered a place for people of all denominations to gather to sing their favorite old-time hymns and gospel songs together, and to hear special music.

July 9: Rev. Robert Merrit (retired)

July 16: Rev. Nathan Wood (retired)

July 23: Rev. Bob Stott (Zion Lutheran)

August 6: Rev. Irving Beveridge (Interim, Kingston Baptist Church)

August 13: Rev. Gary Marks (The Church of the Pilgrimage)

August 20: Rev. Jeff Jones (First Baptist Church of Plymouth)

August 27: Rev. Peter Gomes-Old Home Day (Harvard Memorial Church)

The Church of the Pilgrimage Summer Music Series

Every Tuesday Evening except as noted.

All concerts begin at 8:00pm

July 11 Trade Winds Woodwind Quintet

July 18 Pilgrimage Men's/Women's Choirs

July 25 Carolyn Steele, Organ

August 1 Highland Pipe Band

August 8 John Peshut, Piano; songs from the American Songbook

August 15 North Channel, Folk Music

August 22 Linda Fredericks, Soprano

August 29 Richard Hill, Organ

Dear Friends,

I want to give you a special invitation to hear my sister, Carolyn Steele, in a recital on our lovely organ on Tuesday, July 25 as part of the Summer Music Series.

It will be a joyful, casual program, especially featuring the resources of this organ and appealing to children of all ages.

Carolyn is organist for First Presbyterian Church in Olathe, Kansas, and for more than 20 years she has served as a staff recitalist at the Community of Christ (formerly Reorganized Church of the Latter Day Saints) Temple and Auditorium in Independence, Missouri-two of the largest organs in the region.

Active in the Kansas City music community, Carolyn is a member and past Dean of the Kansas City Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

I hope to see you at this and at all the wonderful programs of the Summer Music Series at The Church of the Pilgrimage.

Pat Harper