



THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

The Church of the Pilgrimage,
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www.8townsquare.org

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Volume LXXVIII

October 8, 2006

No. 29

Dear Friends,

As most of you are aware our large sanctuary windows are in need of radical repair or to be replaced altogether. The board of trustees has thoughtfully given consideration to all its options regarding the two worst windows with the view toward the eventual replacement of all sanctuary windows. I will not offer my personal opinion about what I think should be done, but I mention the windows in this Pastor's Letter in order to share another way of looking at them.

Some time ago Chuck Harper, minister, poet, chorister, church member, sent to me a wonderful poem about Puritan New England church windows. He shared this poem with me well before the current discussion about repair/replacement of the windows in our classic and historically significant sanctuary. Chuck has given me permission to bring his poem to your attention as we consider our window options.

WINDOWS by Charles H. Harper

The clear flawed windows
of this old meeting house
with its irregular glass,
holding long trapped bubbles,
refract the light evenly
across the pews
and bend my outward view
impressionistically.

Sometimes I wish
for stained glass
with its Bibles stories and hues
beaming the dense and varied
tapestries of our lives,

or modern plain glass,
perfectly rolled,
suffusing its light evenly
in egalitarian regularity,
rendering the landscape
realistically.

But these old Puritan windows
that admit light obscurely
and let us see the world warped
seem more honest.

I love this poem! Windows are not merely structural, not merely about maintenance and how much cold air is kept out, how much warm air kept in. They illuminate our sacred space in ways which reflect the light of God in our Christian tradition which is ever looking for "yet more truth and light to break out of God's holy Word."

Love,

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Women's Guild

All are invited to join the Women's Guild on Friday, October 13th at 1pm in Allerton Hall. Guest speaker, Sue Chamberlain will present a program on the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences. Hope to see you there.

Calling all 3rd thru 8th Graders! Mr. Richter is starting up the Junior Choir this Sunday and we need children who love to sing and have fun! Rehearsals are held each Sunday in the Sanctuary at the grand piano shortly after the service and last for about a half hour. Several people have already signed up but just come if you or someone you know is interested!

Clerk – Lois Post; Moderator – Steven Triffletti; Treasurer – Jonathan Porter; 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

On Our Church Calendar

Sun, Oct. 8: *Morning Worship*, 10:00am. Rev. Heather A. Moody preaching.

Mon. Oct. 9: Columbus Day-The church office will be closed; *Monday Meals of Hospitality* begin in Allerton Hall.

Tue, Oct. 10: Rev. Marks will be in the church office at 9:30am.

Wed, Oct. 11: Rev. Marks will be in the office at about 10:00am; Rev. Moody will be in the office 10am-11am; Rev. Moody will attend a New Clergy Group from 12-3pm; *Evening Prayer* in the sanctuary, 7:00pm.

Thurs, Oct. 12: Rev. Moody will be in the office 10am-12pm; *Wedding Rehearsal*, 6:30pm, Sanctuary; *Stewardship Committee Meeting*, 7pm, Conference Room.

Fri, Oct. 13: Rev. Marks will be in the church office at 9:30am; Rev. Moody will be in the office 10am-12pm; *Guild*, 1pm, Allerton Hall; *Wedding Rehearsals*, 5:30 and 6:30pm, Sanctuary.

Sat, Oct. 14: *Confirmation Retreat*, 8:30-3:15pm, Iris Haven; *Habitat for Humanity Groundbreaking*, Braley Road, 10:00am; *Weddings*, 2:00pm and 5:00pm, Sanctuary.

Outside Groups Meeting at Our Church

Monday: Aerobics, 9:15-10:15am, Allerton Hall; Pilgrim Festival Chorus, 7-10pm, Sanctuary; Brownie Girl Scouts, 4-5:30, Allerton Hall; Junior Girl Scouts, 6-7pm, Great Hall; Brownie Girl Scouts, 5:30-7:15, Stewart Room (every other week).

Tuesday: Brownie Girl Scouts, 3:30-5:30, Stewart Room; Aerobics, 6:30-7:30pm, Allerton Hall.

Wednesday: Aerobics, 9:15-10:15am, Allerton Hall; Cub Scouts-Boy Scouts, 6:30pm-10:00pm, Great Hall; Daisy Girl Scout Troop, 4-5:30pm, Stewart Room (every other week).

Thursday: Aerobics, 6:30-7:30pm, Allerton Hall; Brownie Girls Scouts, 5:30-6:30, Stewart Room; AA, 7-8pm, Great Room.

Friday: Aerobics, 9:15-10:15am, Allerton Hall.

Coming Events:

Oct. 15-Mission Luncheon in Allerton hall following morning worship.

Oct. 15-Junior High Youth Group, 4-5:30pm.

Oct. 18-Evening Prayer in the sanctuary, 7:00-7:30pm.

Oct. 20-Wedding rehearsal in the sanctuary, 7:30pm.

Oct. 21-Wedding in the sanctuary, 11:00am.

Oct. 22-CropWalk

Oct. 28-Harvest Fair, Luncheon, both buildings.

CHURCH RECORD

Weddings

- On September 29, 2006 Rev. Marks conducted a wedding service for Michael Francis and Wendy Holt in the sanctuary.
- On September 30, 2006 Rev. marks conducted a wedding service for Jason Whipple and Heidi Robinson in the sanctuary.

In Memoriam

- On September 26, 2006 Rev. Marks conducted a memorial service for Elizabeth Porter in the sanctuary.
- On September 27, 2006 Rev. Marks conducted a funeral service for John Cunningham.

Shirley Axon is recuperating at home after recent surgery.

FLOWERS

October 1: In memory of our families. Given by Jack and Helen Lane.

Evening Prayer

These services are brief periods of spiritual respite amid a week of our hectic schedules. The services are usually led by Rev. Marks. They follow an order from either the Lindisfarne or Iona Communities, but usually from a book

of worship entitled, Celtic Daily Prayer. The services feature the devotional use of Scripture, a reflection upon them, and periods of silent and open prayer. The services are within the ancient Celtic Christian tradition which viewed prayer to be at the center of Christian life and mission. The reflection on texts are both ancient and modern.

This last summer Gary and Kathy visited both Iona and Lindisfarne (Holy Island). They stayed on Iona two days and were in worship services there and also on Holy Island. They are deeply inspiring places where holiness is nearly tangible. God seems "up close" in those places.

For a number of people God is "up close" in our evening prayer service in our sacred space in the sanctuary. Please feel free to join others on our common and private spiritual pilgrimages.

Junior High Youth Fellowship

If you are a young person in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade, we want YOU to join us for Youth Fellowship. We meet the first and third Sundays of the month from 4:00-5:30p.m. in the John Robinson Center. Our next meeting will be Sunday, October 15th. A snack will be provided. We will be having a pre-Halloween bash. Come in costume. Don't have one? Don't worry, we'll have supplies on hand so you can make one. Special prizes will be awarded for those who dress up as Biblical characters.

Senior High Youth Fellowship

Calling all 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders: On Sunday, October 29th from 3-5p.m. we will have our first Youth Fellowship meeting. Our theme for the afternoon? Kodak Kapers. It's a scavenger hunt with a few twists. Join Rev. Heather and Senior High Fellowship Leaders Stephanie Gray, Maureen Hague, Chuck Harper, Lois Post, and Trace Sears for an afternoon of fun and adventure. A snack will be provided.

Rev. Heather on vacation...

Rev. Heather will be on vacation October 17th-24th. Please be aware that she will not be checking voicemail or email messages during this time.

Coming Soon: Confirmation Retreat

On Saturday, October 14th from 8:30a.m. to 3:15p.m., Confirmands, Mentors, Rev. Heather, and Jeff Donn will gather at Iris Haven in south Plymouth for a retreat. This retreat will include indoor and outdoor games, activities, and challenges, as well as interactive discussions, reflection time, and worship opportunities. A retreat fee of \$15.00 will cover the cost of lunch and supplies. Snacks will also be provided. All participants need to have their retreat fee submitted to the church office by Wednesday, October 11th.

Thank You

I want to thank the following people for giving their time to usher during the month of September: Al and Linda Saunders, Diane and Jeff Lindquist, Mike Harrington, Pat and Tom Mudgett, Dottie and Neil Bottomley, Deb and Darryl Richters, Deb Cheney and Ann Motyka, Nate Davis and Ray Quinn. Special thanks to my awesome acolytes for the month, Naomi and Matthew Moore. Thanks for all your help! Barbara Quinn

Communion

We don't give enough recognition to those who faithfully prepare the elements for Communion. The Communion Committee takes care of our beautiful Communion ware, fills and cleans every little chalice, and cleans and stores it after every Communion Service.

We also thank our deacons/deaconesses for the solemnity with which they serve the elements of the Lord's Supper. We also thank deaconess Jenny Healy for providing the loaves representing the "bread of the world in mercy broken."

The Pilgrimage Herald

In the last issue of The Pilgrimage Herald it was announced that it would be published bi-weekly. There has been enough concern shown about that decision to cause Rev. Marks and the rest of the church staff to reconsider. For now it has been decided to return to a weekly Herald. It may not appear to most, but the Herald is a very time-consuming effort. The secretary has many other duties she must perform in addition to producing the Herald. She is, however, quite willing to put in the time it takes to work with the staff to produce a weekly newsletter.

The Herald is the church's chief means of communication and we are actually pleased that so many look forward to receiving it weekly. Please remember to have any information concerning events, programs, et.al. into the church office by Tuesday before noon if you want that information to appear in that week's Herald.

Crib Room

As most of you know, the Crib Room had a complete makeover a few years ago. It is operated with "safe-church" standards as a guide. We hope to encourage people with young children to utilize the Crib Room facility. The church thanks all those who work so hard to make the Crib room a vital part of our Sunday Worship.

Visitation Committee

The Advisory Board is looking to refuel the Visitation Committee, an important part of keeping connected with those unable to regularly attend Sunday services. We know there are a few individuals who are visiting friends of the church at home now; we would like to add to their numbers. If you are interested in making this part of your personal ministry, please call me as well. Thank you, Jenny

Space for Rent

We are actively seeking tenants for unoccupied space in the Robinson Center which is available during the weekdays. Long term prospects are preferable but short term arrangements could also be made. If you know of anyone or any organization that may be interested, or need more information please contact Verna Ross-Hoyt 508-224-9507 or Doug Post 508-224-7294.

Fall 2006 Golf Tournament

Thank you to everyone who helped make our **Fall 2006 Golf Tournament** a success. After expenses, we added over \$3100.00 to the operating budget of the church. The exciting-to-watch helicopter ball drop earned \$410 for the church, with an equal amount going to none other than Bob Hanophy of NYC (the Mitchells' son-in-law). The golfing was great at Southers Marsh, with the winning golf team of Tom Healy, Jeff Mallon, Deb Cheny and Ann Motyka showing us how it's done. Diners enjoyed a delicious Bar-B-Q, and then were delighted by a wonderful assortment of raffle prizes. A list of our generous sponsors is enclosed. Please let the businesses know that you appreciate their support of our church. See you all next year!

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH NEWS

The Plymouth Interfaith Community CropWalk takes place on October 22, 2006 from 12:30-3:00pm beginning at Zion Lutheran Church, 384 Court Street, Plymouth, across from Cordage Park. Proceeds from the walk support hunger-fighting programs in 80 countries under the direction of Church World Service and to two local programs, The Taskforce for the Homeless and The Plymouth Area Food Warehouse.

The Monday Meals of Hospitality will begin again on Monday, October 16th serving a hot dinner to those in need in our community. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please contact the coordinator, Diane Flood at 508-209-0266.

A Light Luncheon for the congregation will be provided on Sunday, October 15th after the worship service. At that

time, Rosalee Sinn will share some of her experiences from her visits to Heifer Communities in Uganda and Riwanda this past summer.

Neighbors In Need-We thank Rosalee Sinn for her Missions Message on October 1st. We also thank all who made a contribution to the Neighbors In Need yearly offering. Your Christian concern finds expression in aiding those in need though Neighbors In Need offerings. You may still make a donation by sending it to the church office designated "Neighbors In Need" or "NIN." Thank you!

Habitat for Humanity

As you may be aware The Church of the Pilgrimage is in covenant with Habitat for Humanity. Several of our members are active in the local Habitat program and Nancy Morse is a marvelous advocate for Habitat's great building mission. On October 14, 2006 Habitat will break ground at a Braley Road lot for another new home. A service of dedication will take place at 10:00am on that date. Please join in the celebration. If you'd like to volunteer for Habitat work, call Nancy Morse.

HARVEST FAIR

The Annual Harvest Fair is fast approaching. The date for the fair is Saturday, October 28th, 2006 from 10-2pm. There will be one more meeting for final preparations for the fair on Monday, October 16th at my house at 7p (10 Kristin Road). Everyone is welcome to attend. Please call me if you need a list of table offerings or have things that you would like to donate. We will be having a couple of drop off times the week before the fair to alleviate some of the traffic the Friday before the Fair. More details on days and times will follow in the next Herald. If you need someone to pick up your items, please call me and we can arrange a time that works. Thank you all for your help and support. I look forward to seeing you at the Harvest Fair!
Sincerely, Laura Curtin 508-746-7761

The Harvest Fair raffle is in need of people wanting to buy tickets! We have a wonderful list of prizes this year. Our special drawing has a weekend for two at The Williams Inn with breakfast and dinner included. We also have a beautiful picnic basket with quilt and goodies by Diana Budge, 2 tickets to the Plymouth Phil Holiday Pops. A one week time-share donated by Alice and Ken Heckman and two tickets to a 2007 season Red Sox game donated by Chuck and Joen Blanton. There are only 100 tickets sold for this drawing so take a chance on a really great deal. We also have our regular drawing. For a \$1.00 chance or 6/\$5.00 did you know you have a chance to win a \$35 gift certificate to Issac's Restaurant? How about a \$25 gift card to the new Roo Bar in Plymouth? We also have bread monthly for a year from Panera Bread. Golfing your thing? How about taking a chance to win golf for 4 with carts at Squirrel Run? Is your car in need of some TLC? We have a complete interior and exterior car detailing from Cape Auto Body valued at \$150. There are many more great prizes. Please stop by during coffee hour to pick up some tickets, or call Laura Curtin. And remember, the Harvest Fair is one of the church's biggest fundraisers, all proceeds go to the church. So even if you don't win the raffle prize, we all win in the end! Thank you! Laura Curtin

The American Girl Table for the Harvest Fair is looking for sewers. If you could help giving a couple hours of your time sewing doll clothes, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Marylyn Colburn at 508-746-8690.