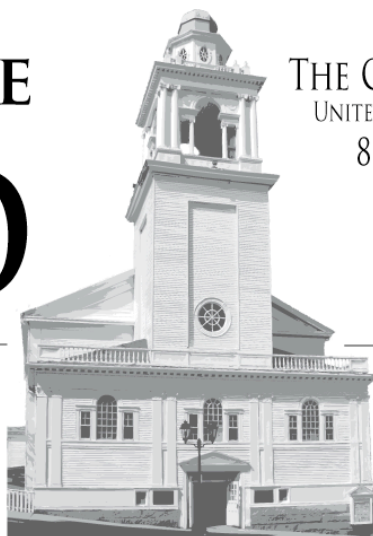

THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

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THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE
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Volume LXXIX, No.25

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00am-12:00pm

August, 2007

Dear Friends,

As many of you know, I traveled to Hartford toward the end of June to attend General Synod, the biennial national gathering of the United Church of Christ. This year's General Synod marked a special occasion—the 50th Anniversary of the forming of our denomination in its present shape. Many of the events and activities of General Synod were geared toward celebration and challenge—celebrating our history and challenging ourselves with the work and ministry that remains to be done. Those of us who attended General Synod—whether as visitors like myself, Susan Cotta, Jessica Hague, and Judy Mitchell, or as a delegate from one of the UCC's 38 conferences, like Christina Borel—were inspired by passionate and articulate speakers, powerfully moving worship experiences, and a deep sense of connection with a wider community of faith.

Again and again we were encouraged to think about ways that we could let our light shine in our churches, in our communities, and in our world. We listened to Bill Moyers challenge us to address the growing gap between rich and poor and follow Jesus into the temple of democracy to drive out the moneychangers there. We listened to Rev. John Thomas, our General Minister and President, who asked us to consider if we are still of any use when, "We have been silent witnesses of evil deeds;...we have learned the arts of equivocation and pretence; [and] intolerable conflicts have worn us down and made us cynical." We heard Chicago Theological Seminary's President Rev. Dr. Susan Brooks Thistlethwaite's impassioned plea to get to know our Bibles, for these texts belong to us, not to those who would misuse them as weapons against others. We heard Marian Wright Edelman describe the appalling and needless suffering of children living in *our* country, naming child after child and placing faces on situations in need of change. We listened to our denomination's Collegium of Officers read a Pastoral Letter on the Iraq War, and we witnessed the Massachusetts Conference Minister, Rev. Jim Antal, propose a resolution for the General Synod to endorse this letter. This resolution passed. I encourage you to take a look at the letter on the UCC website: www.ucc.org/news/significant-speeches/a-pastoral-letter-on-the-iraq.html

And to think that these are only some of the things that happened at General Synod! The Holy Spirit clearly was at work in the many workshops, plenary sessions, worship services, debate, and conversations that took place. I returned home looking for the ways that God continues to speak in our own faith community. I did not have long to wait! Jenny Healy provided two wonderful Children's Messages on prayer and being made in the image of God. Peter Causton preached a powerful sermon about encountering Christ in our everyday lives. Al Hoyt preached compellingly about providing others with the help that they need rather than the help we may want to give. Jennifer Bingham-Maas, Elizabeth Campbell, Bob Taylor, and Jessica Hague each graced us with beautiful singing. Jessica also wrote and led the congregation in an inspiring Call to Worship. God has blessed our congregation with many gifts. When we share our gifts, the light of God shines through us, providing a beacon of hope to our sometimes shadowed world.

May you discover the gifts the still-speaking God has given you, and may you find ways to let your light shine.

God's peace and blessings,

Heather

Clerk – Lois Post; Moderator – Steven Triffletti; Treasurer – Elizabeth Hughes; Collector – Debra Richters and Nate Davis;
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 CALENDAR

Sunday Morning worship begins at 10am. Coffee Hour follows the morning worship in Allerton Hall. There will be a Craft and Story hour for children each Sunday.

Aug 2: Funeral Service for Wolfgang Musow, 11am.
 Aug 4: Memorial Service for Robert Armstrong, 11am.
 Aug 7: Free Summer Concert, 8pm, Sanctuary.
 Aug 8: Guild Executive Board Meeting, 10am, JRC.
 Aug 12: Rev. Marks at South Pond Chapel, 7pm.
 Aug 14: Free Summer Concert, 8pm, Sanctuary.
 Aug 21: Board of Trustees Meeting, 7pm, JRC.
 Aug 21: Free Summer Concert, 8pm, Sanctuary.
 Aug 22: Wedding Rehearsal, 6:30pm, Sanctuary.
 Aug 23: Rev. Moody, planning retreat for Confirmation.
 Aug 24: Rev. Moody, planning retreat for Youth Ministry.
 Aug 24: Rev. Marks conducting a sanctuary wedding, 4pm.
 Aug 28: Advisory Board Meeting, 7pm, Sanctuary.
 Aug 28: Free Summer Concert, 8pm, Sanctuary.
 Aug 30: Christian Education Committee Meeting, 7pm, JRC.

Rev. Heather will be on vacation Wednesday, August 1st through Wednesday, August 22nd. For Thursday, August 23rd and Friday, August 24th, she will be on retreat. These two days will be spent planning the Confirmation program, Junior High Youth Group and Senior High activities for the 2006-2007 academic year.

CHURCH RECORD**Baptisms**

July 15th: Rev. Moody baptized Sadie Sunshine Levenson, daughter of Sarah Sunshine Wood Levenson and Michael Riley Levenson.
 July 22nd: Rev. Moody baptized Devin Vincent Banks, son of Jennifer Keedy Banks and Raymond James Banks.

Weddings

July 7th Rev. Moody conducted a wedding for Jennifer Grover and Nathan Tissot.
 July 7th Rev. Moody conducted a wedding for Lauren Magner and Joseph Martin.
 July 14th Rev. Marks conducted a wedding for Joanne Doblecki and Jonathan Marks.
 July 8th Rev. Moody conducted a wedding for Sarah Winslow St. Pierre and Petr Liska.
 July 28th Rev. Moody conducted a wedding for Dawn Morris and Evan "Scott" Roberts.
 July 28th: Rev. Marks conducted a wedding for Betsey Stearns and JD Marks.

Recently Hospitalized: Russell "Toke" Fry, Diana Budge, Ruth Lowry.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Russell "Toke" Fry and his family, including wife Mary "Billy", son Russell "Butch" and daughter-in-law Ruth.

Rosemarie Slesman, former member and Susan Quick's mother, who has been diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer.

Chuck and Joen Blanton's daughter who has been battling thyroid cancer.

Vicki Burgess, wife of our steeple jack Chris Burgess, who was just diagnosed with breast cancer.

Michelle Harrington and her family, mourning the loss of her brother Lemuel Dowell who died Wednesday, June 13th.

Carol Ragonetti and her family, mourning the loss of her brother Johnny Jurgens, who died Sunday, July 8th.

Norm Fortini and his family, mourning the loss of his mother, Alice M. Fortini, who died Tuesday, July 3rd.

Deb Cheney-Motyka and her family, mourning the loss of her mother, who died Wednesday, July 25th.

OTHER NEWS

From Diana Budge: Many thanks to all who have sent cards, made calls, brought meals and prayed for me during my convalescence from recent surgery. I am indeed blessed by so many caring people. What a wonderful church family we have. I am doing well and will see you all soon.

Marjorie Belcher now lives at Newfield House. Her phone number is the same as before. She will celebrate her 90th birthday on August 8th.

There will be a memorial service at the Church of the Pilgrimage to celebrate the life of Robert Armstrong, who was born July 1, 1913 and died December 6, 2007. The service will be held on Saturday, August 4th at 11:00a.m. The family would love all to join them in this memorial service.

AUGUST FLOWERS

We have openings for flowers on August 19th and August 26th. If you would like to honor, celebrate, or memorialize someone, please contact the church office (508) 746-3026.

August 5th: In loving memory of Sara Marks, Floyd and Pauline Marks and Boyd Mayhew. Given by the Marks family.

August 12th: In loving memory of my parents, Raymond and Marilyn Monto. Given by Mal Borsari.

September 2nd: In loving memory of our parents. Given by the Armstrongs.

USHERS FOR AUGUST

Aug 5: Mal Borsari, Paul Scheid, Joyce Ashley, Gordon Campbell.
 Aug 12: Verna & Allen Hoyt, Bobbie Preston, Judy Mitchell.
 Aug 19: Geoff Campbell & Elizabeth Hughes Campbell.
 Aug 26: John Peterson, Andrew Peterson, Linda & David Kegel.

GREETERS FOR AUGUST

Aug 5: Rosa Cook
 Aug 12: Nancy Medeiros and Betsey Randall
 Aug 19: Diane and Gay Flood
 Aug 26: Sarah Barnicle and Peter Causton

JULY USHERS

Thank you to the following people for ushering for the month of July: Marie Robinson, Amy Simpson, Bob & Carol Taylor, Verna & Al Hoyt, Ed & Cynthia Marks, Linda & Dave Kegel, Mike, Michell & Emily Harrington, Doug Post, Kim & Ashley Latosek, Joan & Chuck Blanton.

IT'S TIME TO THINK ABOUT CONFIRMATION!

Parents, do you have a son or daughter who will be entering the 9th grade this fall who would like to participate in Confirmation? Please call the church office as soon as possible to let us know your child's name and contact information so we can order materials. We will be having an informational meeting for Confirmands and their parents on Sunday, September 16th following worship. At that time we'll have a detailed schedule available as well as an explanation of expectations and activities we'll be doing. All Confirmands need to choose an adult member of the congregation whom s/he trusts to be her/his Confirmation Mentor. If your son or daughter is having trouble thinking of a Mentor, please contact Rev. Heather.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION WILL BE ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH

Parents are invited to register their children for Sunday School classes on this date. Registration is a simple, yet essential task that ensures we have adequate supplies for our classes and helps us to maintain accurate records regarding each child's emergency contact and allergy information. Sunday School Teachers, please plan on attending registration so that you can welcome the children you will be teaching this year. We will also be having a teachers' meeting during the Craft & Story Hour that day.

Sunday School classes will begin Sunday, September 16th.**MEMBERSHIP CLASSES**

Because of scheduling issues, Gary was unable to offer a New Member Class during the spring. A class will be offered in the fall. If you wish to become a member of The Church of the Pilgrimage, please phone the church office.

GOLF TOURNAMENT SIGN-UP

The Annual Church of the Pilgrimage September Golf Tournament will be held Saturday morning, September 22, 2007 at Southers Marsh Golf Course. We welcome corporate and individual hole sponsors (\$100) to make this fundraiser a success. We are taking reservations immediately for individual and foursomes at \$100/person, which includes greens fees, a cart, gift bag and lunch. Not a golfer? Join us at noon for a delicious baked stuffed chicken meal, and great raffle prizes:

\$20/adults, \$10/kids. And everyone can participate by purchasing golf balls for the exciting Helicopter Ball Drop: \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Call Mike Harrington 508-747-2060 or Judy Mitchell 508-746-3959 for more information.

A NEW START TO WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our first meeting in September will be a retreat at Iris Haven in South Plymouth. The retreat's purpose is to provide a time for women of the church to get away, reflect and plan a new and revitalized format for our meetings. Please join us if you would like to be a part of this group that wants to plan how Women's Fellowship can meet the ever-changing needs of our members and our church. Reservations may be made during July by calling the church office before noon. The retreat will be Saturday, September 15th for the minimal cost of \$25.

SOUTH POND CHAPEL SUMMER HYMN SING

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 and at that time the village at South Pond was a remote part of town.

Since 1959, the Chapel has been a mission of the First Baptist Church of Plymouth, offering 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. The Chapel is located on Long Pond Road, off exit 5 in Plymouth.

The schedule for the remainder of 2007 is:

- Aug 5 Rev. Nathan Wood, Brockton (retired)
- Aug 12 Rev. Gary Marks (Church of the Pilgrimage)
- Aug 19 Rev. Dr. Jeff Jones (First Baptist Church of Ply.)
- Aug 16 Rev. Peter Gomes (Harvard) Old Home Day

PLYMOUTH CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL CONCERTS

Plimoth Plantation, Linn Theater, 137 Warren Avenue, Plymouth.

Thursday, August 16th at 8pm
American Quartet by Dvorak, String Quartet in C major by Mozart

Friday, August 17th at 8pm
Duos by Beethoven and Mozart, String Quintet by Brahms

Saturday, August 18th at 8pm
Concerto Grosso by Vivaldi, String Sextet by Brahms

For more information visit plymouthchambermusicfestival.org

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

The Board of Trustees is in the final stages of reorganizing the security system (keys and alarm system fobs) for the Church building and The John Robinson Center.

If you have a key and/or fob, please contact the Church Office to re-confirm your need for the access these provide. Some locks have been changed, so keys that you have may no longer work.

Any keys or fobs that are not needed should be returned to the Church Office as soon as possible. Any outstanding keys and fobs will be disabled as of September 1.

If you have any questions, please call the Church Office.

MUSIC for a Summer Evening
The Church of the Pilgrimage 2007 Concert Series

Tuesday, August 7th: Unity Church Bell Choir

Tuesday, August 14th: Kelly DePasqua, Soprano and The Church of the Pilgrimage Choir

August 21st: Elizabeth Chapman Reilly, Organist

August 28th: Richard Hill, Organist

Free Concerts Tuesdays at 8:00pm, Town Square, Plymouth



THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE
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PLYMOUTH, MA 02360

SUNDAY WORSHIP – 10:00 AM
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE



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