



# THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

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

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No. 12

Dear Friends,

We are now about to enter the most intensely concentrated flurry of activities during the church's year. We are also in the midst of our annual Stewardship Campaign. Before I go on to the events of the upcoming holy season I want to thank the Stewardship Committee for running a first-rate campaign with deep commitment to the church among its members. The committee is organized, hard working and enthusiastic. Thank the members of the committee for working so hard on our behalf!

I've been impressed with all the Stewardship board/committee presentations and the marvelous testimonies offered during Sunday services. I am sometimes moved to tears as I listen to all the church does and to the dedication people have to The Church of the Pilgrimage and to The United Church of Christ.

Palm Sunday is less than two weeks away, April 1<sup>st</sup>. Palm Sunday, of course, begins Holy Week, the most sacred time of the church's year. I hope that you'll attend the delightful and popular Palm Sunday Communion Breakfast. It is a wonderful opportunity to share in the Lord's Supper, meet with kindred spirits in faith, and enjoy a pleasing Healy-made breakfast. Bring the kids!

The Maundy Thursday Service is one of the most moving of the year. It is a service which re-enacts the Last Supper using a modification of the ancient Office of Tenebrae Service. It is a somber service, but sets the proper spiritual mood of increasing darkness as we enter into the drama of redemption through identity with Jesus. This service is usually well enough attended, but I always think it is a service which many more would want to attend. Those who do come are always deeply moved and common remarks are that it is one which evokes a deeply visible and personal identity with the issues surrounding Christ's betrayal. Please plan to be present for our Maundy Thursday Service on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the sanctuary.

There is another worship opportunity on the bleakest of all Christian days, Good Friday. Once again, at least for this year, we'll offer a participatory service which includes a Celtic Christian version of stations on the way to the Cross. The service has grown since we first offered it about four years ago. It, along with the prior Holy Week services, sets the tone under which alone Easter can be fully appreciated. I hope you'll join us as together we join the one who went the dark way before us.

As is our custom we shall meet for a Sunrise Service on Cole's Hill at 6am, I think. (We have to account for daylight savings time). There is nothing like the sunrise to meet the risen Christ, as the women did so long ago. The services discussed above are a prelude to the astonishing glory of Resurrection! The services continue at The Church of the Pilgrimage at 9:00am and 11:00am.

I'm certain that Easter will mean even more than usual to you if you attend as many Holy Week services as you can.

Love,

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**Flowers:** American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days

**Greeters:** The Browns.

**Penny Drive-Volunteer Needed:** The Board of Trustees is looking for a volunteer to coordinate the return of the Penny Drive. If you are willing to help one Sunday a month by engaging our youth to collect spare change from our congregation, please let a member of the Board of Trustees know. Thank you so much for your consideration of this important job!

**PACTV** will begin airing current worship services from The Church of the Pilgrimage on Sunday's at 12pm and 6pm. Please pass the word to anyone you know who may be unable to attend worship on Sundays.



**Palm Sunday Breakfast :** On April 1<sup>st</sup> at 8am in Allerton Hall, the Advisory Board will serve scrambled eggs, ham, fresh fruit and homemade Hot Cross buns following a special Palm Sunday communion service. **SUNDAY IS THE LAST DAY TO SIGN UP!** The cost is \$6 per person or \$15 per family.

### CHEST OF JOASH

Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.  
**Please remember to bring your  
pledge cards to worship.**

## On Our Church Calendar

**Sat. Mar. 24-Mar.31:** Overnights for the Homeless in the John Robinson Center.

**Sun, Mar. 25:** Morning Worship 10am, Rev. Gary L Marks, preaching; The Service of the Chest of Joash will be a part of the service; Cherub Choir will sing; Coffee Hour following worship in Allerton Hall; Junior Choir Rehearsal, following worship; Lenten Discussion, John Robinson Center, 11:30am-12:30pm; Daffodil Sunday. Those who ordered daffodils from The American Cancer Society may pick them up following morning worship.

**Mon, Mar. 26:** Monday Meals of Hospitality, 10:30am, Allerton Hall.

**Tue, Mar. 27:** Rev. Marks will be in the church office at 9:30am; Rev. Heather will be in the church office from 10am-12pm; The Plymouth Area Interfaith Clergy will meet at noon; Advisory Board of Meeting, 7pm, JRC-Conf. Room.

**Wed, Mar. 28:** Rev. Marks will be in the church office, 9:30am; Rev. Moody will be in the church office from 10am-12pm; Lenten Soup Supper, 6pm in Allerton Hall; Lenten Worship at 7pm; Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm.

**Thurs, Mar. 29:** Pack 47 Meeting in Allerton Hall.

**Fri, Mar. 30:** Rev. Marks will be in the church office, 9:30am; Rev. Moody will be in the church office from 10am-12pm.

### Other 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; Women's AA, 7-8pm, Stewart Room.

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

### Coming Events:

**Apr. 1, PALM SUNDAY-HOLY WEEK BEGINS- Palm Sunday Communion Breakfast, 8am; The Chest of Joash will be a part of the 10am service in the sanctuary.**

**Apr. 3-The First Day of Passover for our Jewish friends. The Advisory Board will meet for a Maundy Thursday rehearsal in the sanctuary at 7pm.**

**Apr. 5, Maundy Thursday- Maundy Thursday Service in the sanctuary, 7:00pm.**

**Apr. 6, Good Friday- Good Friday Service in the sanctuary, 7:00pm.**

**Apr. 8, Easter Sunday**

- Sunrise Service on Cole's Hill, 6:00am
- Easter Sunday Services at The Church of the Pilgrimage, 9am and 11:00am.

### CHURCH RECORD

#### Hospitalized

- Cheryl Pratt, Helen Belcher, Jordan Hospital
- Recuperating after recent surgery, Al Hoyt

#### In Memoriam

- On March 16, 2007 Rev. Marks conducted a Service of Christian Burial for Ruth Proctor. Our sympathies are extended to Ruth's family and friends.

**Memorial Lilies:** The joyous Easter season is fast approaching. By your loving donation of Easter lilies, we can enhance the beauty of our church on Easter morning. Sign up in the lower vestibule following the service on the next two Sundays, or call the church office. There will be an insert listing the donors and those memorialized in the Herald. The suggested price for a multi-flowered, replantable lily is \$15. The flowers may be donated to shut-ins or picked up after the Easter Sunday service on Sunday, April 8. Volunteers will be welcomed to take flowers to shut-ins following the service.

### Photo Directory Update



*New Photo Opportunity-*

*Sunday, March 24, 2007*

*Palm Sunday, April 1, 2007*

The Membership and Evangelism committee is pleased with the number of persons who have responded to the invitation to have pictures taken for our new Photo Directory. We now have 115 photos which can be viewed in Allerton Hall.

In the best of all worlds it would be wonderful to have pictures of all participants in the life of the Church of the Pilgrimage in the new Directory. To that end, we are providing the two additional Sunday mornings during coffee hour.

#### Opportunity for purchasing photos:

Sundays: March 18, March 25, April 1, April 15 and April 22. Pictures are displayed in Allerton Hall the Sunday following each photo session. ***There is no obligation to purchase pictures.*** However, if a picture is desired an order can be placed during coffee hour. One order will be placed following April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The order for all photos will be ordered on line, shipping and tax included (Kodak processing). The cost is \$8 per Sheet with the following set options:

Set	Number and Size of prints
1	2 - 5x7
2	1 - 5x7 and 2 - 3.5x5
3	1 - 8x10

All profits will go to the General Fund of the Church.

#### NOTES—

\* We thank David Peck for speaking on behalf of the Music Committee and to Marna Blomberg for her Stewardship Testimonial during worship on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

\* We thank everyone who contributed to our annual One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on March 18<sup>th</sup>. If you were unable to be in worship to make your offering, you may send your donation to the office. Checks may be made out to The Church of the Pilgrimage designating One Great Hour of Sharing (O.G.H.S). This will facilitate the process of getting your offering to its proper destination. Thank you!

\* Please notify the church office if you are aware of people you know who are hospitalized, especially should they be in an out of town hospital. Please let the office know of other pastoral needs of which they may be unaware. Remember, too, that home Communion is available upon request.

\* A number of people have spoken to Gary about church membership since our last class. If you are interested in church membership, please speak to Gary or call the church office. He will plan a series of classes after Easter.

\* We were pleased to be able to host a MACUCC "Cluster Meeting" in the Rev. John Robinson Center on Thursday evening, March 15<sup>th</sup>.



### PILGRIM ASSOCIATION Massachusetts Conference- UCC ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

To the members, churches and friends of the Pilgrim Association-You are hereby invited and requested to attend the Annual Spring Meeting of the Pilgrim Association of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ at **First Trinitarian Congregational Church, UCC, Scituate, Massachusetts on Thursday, April 26, 2007**. Schedule will be as follows:

6:00-6:30	Registrar
6:30-7:00	Business Meeting-elect officers
7:00-7:45	Dinner-with birthday cakes for the UCC!
7:45-8:00	Worship
8:00-8:45	Speaker: Rev. Ms. Elizabeth Ann King, Assistant Moderator, 26 <sup>th</sup> General Synod

All church and clergy are reminded of their responsibility to present at meetings of the Association, represented by both lay and or clergy delegates. The cost of the dinner will be \$7.50 per person, payable at the door. Please call 781-545-5300.

## MISSIONS & OUTREACH NEWS...

**Monday Meals of Hospitality:** Please call coordinator Diane Flood at 508-209-0266 if you could help with one of the Monday Meals for those in need in our community. There are about SIX more Monday's remaining. Thank You.

**The Plymouth Food Warehouse:** We continue to collect non-perishables each week. The following items are needed: canned fruit, baby food (with current dates), ketchup, relish, mustard, soups, coffee, tea, crackers, cereal, juice, peanut butter, jelly, pasta and sauce, and canned tuna and chicken and ham. Thank you for your participation.

**UCC Equal Exchange Coffee:** You can purchase organic coffee and hot cocoa for home use and gift giving following the service today. Prices are exceptional. This is a project of the Missions Committee and the United Church of Christ.

**Gifts of the Heart Kits:** THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed items for the Gifts of the Heart kits again this year. To complete the kits, we still need the following: toothpaste, hand towels for the health kits and "onesies" or small shirts, sleepers and sweaters for the layettes.

**Crisis in New Bedford:** Thank you for the swift and generous response for supplies to support the people in crisis in New Bedford. On Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, our donations were delivered to the relief center at 73 Division Street in New Bedford: 50 cans of beans, (45 came from the Plymouth Area Food Warehouse) 10 jars of applesauce, 4 boxes of rice, 3 boxes of powdered milk, 12 pounds of dried beans, 4 pounds of oat cereal, 5 boxes of pampers and 5 new outfits for children. Although we will not continue to collect items beyond this week, we did act with compassion when the calling came to us.

### SAVE THE DATE!

**Save the Date!** 2007 Church of the Pilgrimage Golf Tournament, Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00am at Southers Marsh Golf Course.

**Save the Date!** Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup> is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pawtucket Red Sox Trip

**Save the Date!** Massachusetts Conference, UCC Annual Meeting, June 22, 2007 in Hartford, Connecticut and UCC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

**Save the Date!** Organ Concert, Wednesday, April 11, 2007 at 7:30pm. Peter Lea-Cox, English organist, choral director and composer.

**Save the Date!** Schola Cantorum of Falmouth, Saturday, April 14, 7:30pm. Concert of early Italian sacred choral music with some organ works. Guest conductor, Peter Lea-Cox.

**Harvest Fair 2007:** Spring is here and before we know it, Summer then Fall will be upon us! I will be holding the first meeting for the Harvest Fair 2007 on Monday, April 9, 2007 at 7pm at my house, 10 Kristin Road, Plymouth. All are welcome!! We are always looking for new hands to help make our annual Harvest Fair a big success. New people often bring new ideas and we welcome those! Please call if

you need directions or a ride to the meeting. Thank you, looking forward to seeing you. Laura Curtin 508-746-7761.



**Spring is here!** The vernal equinox has come and gone. And the seed catalogs are arriving in the mail. As you plan your garden this year, we at the **Country Store Table** (think Harvest Fair) are busy planning ways to fill our tables with the blessings of the seasons. Here are some easy ways you can help. If you have the space, plant an extra seed or two of winter squash, pumpkins or pickling cucumbers (poor Diana's source ran dry last year leaving almost pickle-less). We'd love to have a basket of squash and pumpkins to sell and the extra cukes could be passed on to Diana Budge (or Gary if we can get him to make his famous crock of pickles). Consider planting some additional basil and making pesto to freeze and sell (we can provide a recipe if you need one or you can give it to me and I can get it to the pesto makers in the congregation); this can be done in August and September leaving more time and energy to help out at a table the day of the fair. As you go out in the next week or so to trim back your grapevines, consider making a few simple wreaths with the cuttings or donating them to someone who knows how (I don't know who that is but call me and I'll find someone). There are lots of simple ways that everyone can help by doing little tasks like this throughout the year. Think of what gifts you have been graced with. And share them. Please call or email me with any ideas or plans you might have along these lines. Thanks, Jenny: 508-747-7168 or email [poetick@verizon.net](mailto:poetick@verizon.net).

### Confirmands and Mentors

Be sure to read the chapter on Food in *Way to Live: Christian Practices for Teens*.

Confirmands will be involved in serving food and communion at the Palm Sunday Breakfast on April 1<sup>st</sup> at 8a.m.



### Junior High Fellowship News and Notes

Our Junior High Fellowship for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders meets the first and third Sundays from 4-5:30p.m. We had a fantastic time last Sunday bowling at Alley Kat Lanes. Our next meeting will be Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, but at a special time—after our morning worship service! Join us for badminton and pizza in the John Robinson Center.

### Senior High Fellowship News

Our next meeting will be Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:00p.m. We'll gather to prepare a delicious dinner for our guests participating in our Overnights of Hospitality ministry. Then we'll serve the meal. During our January gathering, we discovered many culinary skills and gifts among our Senior Highs, so we do hope all 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> graders will join us!



## LENTEN SERIES ON PRACTICING OUR FAITH

We invite you to join us as together we explore a way of living that leads to wholeness and a closer relationship with God, our community, and creation. Using the book, *Practicing Our Faith: A Way of Life for a Searching People*, we are exploring five Christian spiritual practices through discussion and worship.

*Jesus called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick.* Mark 6:7, 13

The Christian practice of healing is a central part of the reconciling activity of God in the world. As Una Kroll writes, "Christianity roots its healing ministry in the good soil of the Church as a community of ordinary people who come together to do things with God's help that they could not do in their own strength." Join us this Sunday for a Discussion Group about the practice of healing. We'll meet from 11:30-12:30p.m. in the Great Hall (the second floor) of the John Robinson Center (JRC). Childcare and transportation from the Sanctuary to the JRC will be provided for those who need it. The JRC has an elevator and is handicapped accessible. Then, on Wednesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, join us for a Soup Supper prepared by the Membership and Evangelism Committee at 6p.m. followed by a service of healing at 7p.m. using Taizé music. Childcare will be provided during worship.

### Lenten Series Schedule:

Sunday Discussion Group(s): 11:30-12:30p.m.

Wednesdays: Soup Supper at 6:00p.m., with  
Worship at 7:00-7:30p.m.

*Childcare provided during Sunday Discussion Group  
and Wednesday Evening Worship*

Sun., March 25<sup>th</sup> & Wed. March 28<sup>th</sup>: Healing