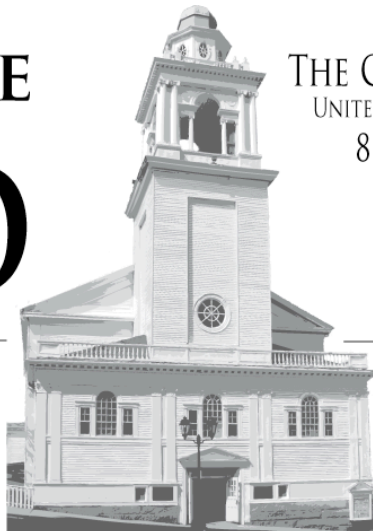

THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

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THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE
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CHURCH OFFICE

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Volume LXXIX, No.26

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:00pm

September 2, 2007

Dear Friends,

It has been an eventful summer. Most all who will read this letter know that two of our sons, Jonathan and J.D., were married in July at The Church of the Pilgrimage. They married two wonderful young women, Joanne Doblecki and Betsy Stearns. It was an extraordinary experience for me to be able to officiate at both weddings.

The summer has sped by. It is hard to believe that it will be Labor Day by the time you read this letter! It honestly seems to me that it's only been a few days since the Fourth of July. I always feel a bit melancholy at the end of summer and, for me, summers never seem long enough.

It has been a good season, though a very active one at church as well as in our personal lives. By reading the Church Record alone you have some idea of how busy I have been. The office, too, has been very active, far more so than I recall other Augusts being. There have been many demands on my time in a variety of ways.

Even though the pace has been brisk, it surely quickens once Labor Day passes. There is excitement as a new season begins each year. Groups resume their schedules, Church School starts up, youth activities get into swing, the office goes back to its fall/winter/spring hours, the Herald goes back to weekly publication, etc. Soon the Wednesday Evening Prayer sessions will begin for a seventh year and I plan to offer a new member class, probably in October. I also want to continue the truncated study group which is discussing the book, The Phoenix Affirmations. I am also looking into other adult educational opportunities. One possibility is a thematic Bible study, perhaps around the God Is Still Speaking theme.

It is wonderful to see the church building looking so beautiful! I can't remember when the tower looked as well as it does now. The company which did the work took great pride in the job they did, and I am grateful that our majestic tower once again broods gracefully and glistenly over the town as a witness to our faith. Al Hoyt and his crew did a masterful work on the lower area of the front of the church. Al's crew scraped the old paint off down to bare wood in most places. It is a beautiful job. I like the cranberry red door, too. Thank you Al and all!

I look forward to the "new year." We have a wonderful congregation and lovely facilities in which to do our work. It is my prayer that we will be filled by the Spirit's power to accomplish great things to the glory of God. We are blessed by many dedicated people who want to see our ministry and mission thrive. I pray that we will all recommit ourselves to our faith and work. And, may God grant that new people will join us as we try to press on toward God's realm.

Love,

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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

Sept 2: Morning Worship at 10am, Rev. Peter J. Gomes, preaching.
 Sept 3: Labor Day. Church office will be closed.
 Sept 4: Rev. Marks will be in the church office, 9:30am. The Missions Committee will meet in the Rev. John Robinson Center at 7:00pm.
 Sept 5: Rev. Marks will be in the church office at 9:30am. Rev. Moody will be in the church office at 9:30am. Choir Practice in the Sanctuary from 7:30-9pm.
 Sept 7: Rev. Marks will be in the church office at 9:30am. Rev. Moody will be in the church office at 9:30am.
Coming Events:
 Sept 13: Wedding rehearsal in the sanctuary.
 Sept 14: The Guild will meet at noon in Allerton Hall. Wedding in the sanctuary, 4pm. Wedding rehearsal in the sanctuary, 5:30pm.
 Sept 15: Wedding in the sanctuary, 2:30pm. Wedding rehearsal in the sanctuary, 6:30pm.
 Sept 16: Habitat Sunday-Church School.
 Sept 22: Golf Tournament at Souther's Marsh Golf Club.

CHURCH RECORD**Weddings**

On June 30, 2007 Rev. marks conducted a wedding service for John Burk and Elizabeth MacLeod in the church sanctuary.
 On July 14, 2007 Rev. Marks conducted a wedding service for Jonathan Marks and Joanne Doblecki in the church sanctuary.
 On July 28, 2007 Rev. Marks conducted a wedding service for James David Marks and Betsy Maxson Stearns in the church sanctuary.
 On August 18, 2007 Rev. Marks conducted a wedding service for Shawn Patrick Halloran and Kathleen Ann Ritskowitz at Souther's Marsh Golf Club.
 On August 24, 2007 Rev. marks conducted a wedding service for Lindsay Drew Sampson and Jason Timothy Nicholson in the church sanctuary.

In Memoriam

On July 3, 2007 Rev. Marks conducted a graveside service for Sarah Mattioli.
 On July 30, 2007 Rev. Marks conducted a funeral service for William Snyder in the church sanctuary. Burial was at the National Cemetery at Otis Air Force Base in Bourne.
 On August 2, 2007 Rev. Marks conducted a funeral service for Wolfgang Musow in the church sanctuary.
 On August 4, 2007 Rev. Marks conducted a memorial service for Robert Armstrong in the church sanctuary.
 On August 7, 2007 Rev. Marks conducted a memorial service for Nancy Latham in the church sanctuary.
 On August 19, 2007 Rev. Marks conducted a memorial service for Russell T. Fry, Jr in the church sanctuary.

Baptisms

On August 12, 2007 Rev. Marks baptized Eric Jason Molino, son of Catherine Lani (MacLeod) Molino and Jason Philip Molino.

Recently Hospitalized

Judy Mitchell, Sheryl Pratt, Grant Axford, Gloria Johnson.

FLOWERS: In loving memory of our parents. Given by the Armstrong's.

GREETERS: Bob and Carol Taylor.

THANK YOU AUGUST USHERS

Mal Borsari, Paul Scheid, Joyce Ashley, Gordon Campbell, Verna Hoyt, Al Hoyt, Bobbie Preston, Judy Mitchell, Alice Heckman, Peter Causton, Sarah Barnicle, John Peterson, Pat Mudgett, Linda Kegel, Dave Kegel.

NOTES

Marjorie Belcher is now residing at The Newfield House.

Billie Fry is currently at the Radius Healthcare Center.

Beatrice Roberge is residing at Sunrise.

We want to thank our Music Committee for providing delightful summer music for the church and the community. The musical offerings were of high quality and there was a variety of musical types. The church and its ministers offer a resounding "Thank You!"

We thank the Plymouth First Baptist Church for hosting summer Hymn Sings at South Pond Chapel. Rev. Marks led the service on August 12th.

I would like to thank John Bross, Peter Causton, Paul Scheid, Doug Post, Doug Hagen, Alice and Ken Heckman and Jenny Healy (for great lunches) for all of their help in scraping and painting the front of the church. Thank you to the Trustees for all their support. Al Hoyt

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.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thanks for the enthusiasm of our new Treasurer, Elizabeth Hughes Campbell, and the expertise of our Financial Consultant, the Rev. Karen McArthur, we are off to a great start for this new fiscal year. Over the summer, we have:

- o Set-up a dedicated finance area with a new computer (thanks to Sherm!)
- o Entered all current and missions pledges into Servant Keeper
- o Recorded each contribution so that quarterly statements can be prepared in early October
- o Set-up files for all current financial papers, along with the previous year
- o Upgraded from QuickBooks 2002 to QuickBooks 2007.
- o Set-up our financial reports to be consistent with accounting formats for non-profit organizations.
- o Met with the Trustees to review the new report formats.
- o Shifted from a cash basis to an accrual basis, so that expenses are recorded.
- o Begun a review of payroll reporting to be sure that we are in compliance with IRS and MA DOR requirements

- o Reviewed the FY08 budget and found ways to significantly reduce the deficit.

If you have a reimbursement request or a bill to be paid, you may leave it in the Treasurer's mailbox in the hallway-or the Treasurer's box in the office closet. Checks are generally prepared on Tuesdays and signed on Wednesday evenings. We now have an email address for financial correspondence: treas@8townsquare.org. That email address will be checked weekly, before checks are prepared.

Later in the fall, we are planning a gathering to talk about the financial resources of our church. It promises to be entertaining and well worthwhile for all members and friends of the church.

VISIONING COMMITTEE

The Visioning Committee will have a brief informal meeting after church on **September 9, 2007 at 11:30 in the conference room of the John Robinson Center**. The meeting will be brief, but feel free to bring your lunch, coffee, etc. Items for discussion include setting a regularly scheduled monthly meeting that works for the committee, an outline of our goals and objective for the committee, and engaging in some prayer and discussion to guide our work. All members of the Visioning Committee are requested to attend, and anyone interested in the work of the committee or in joining the committee is welcome. Please RSVP to Christina Borel at Christina.borel@gmail.com so that we have an appropriate number of copies, and so that the agenda can be posted prior to the meeting.

PILGRIM ASSOCIATION

At the request of The Old South Union Congregational Church, the Pilgrim Association will gather for an Ecclesiastical Council on Tuesday, September 11th at 7pm at Old South Union Congregational Church, 25 Columbian Street, South Weymouth, MA to meet, review the credentials of and hear the ordination paper of Theresa Stirling and to examine her as to her fitness to be ordained to Christian Ministry in the United Church of Christ. Following the Council there will be a reception for Ms. Stirling in the Parish Hall of the church. For directions to the Old South Union Congregational Church, please visit their website at <http://www.oldsouthunion.org/>.

KEYS AND FOB'S

Please be reminded that if you are still in possession of a key or FOB to any church building or door and need to report that to the church office.





PHOTOS WANTED!

Casual photos of church activities, Sunday School, dinner, golf tournaments, etc. needed for inclusion in 2007 church directory. Contact Doug Post (508-224-7294) as soon as possible and for more information.

HARVEST FAIR

There will be a Harvest Fair meeting on Sunday, September 9th after church in Allerton Hall. Childcare is available. Also, please see the enclosed flyer for further information on the Harvest Fair and how you can help. Thank you.

WOMEN'S GUILD

On September 14th at noon there will be a Guild Luncheon hosted by the Executive Board. Eileen Ganem will be our guest speaker.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP RETREAT

Saturday, September 15, 2007 from 8:30am-3:00pm at Iris Haven, South Plymouth. Please join us. Reservations are necessary and can be made Sunday, September 2nd or 9th or call the church office at 508-746-3026. Cost will be \$25. Retreat leader: Rosemary MacKay. Hostess: Janet Synnott. Opening "brunch" and full lunch will be provided. This will be our only meeting in September. Our next meeting for the year is Monday, October 1st at the home of Diana Budge.



THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE
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PLYMOUTH, MA 02360

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:00 AM
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