
THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
8 TOWN SQUARE, PLYMOUTH,
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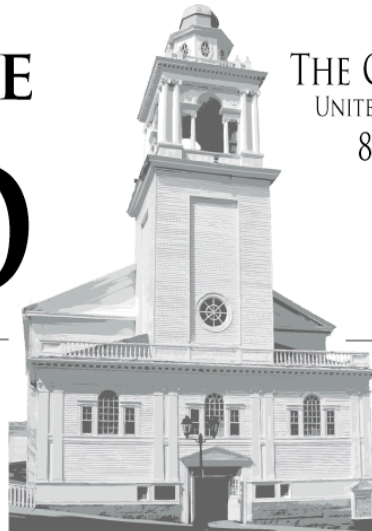


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Volume LXXX, No. 31

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

October 12, 2008

Dear Friends,

There is uneasiness to our times. I can't recall a time when just about everyone's conversation is centered on economic concerns. We are all disquieted by what is happening to our bank accounts, I.R.A.'s, pensions, the cost of energy, the rising price of groceries, etc. Now we realize that our's truly has become a global village. The economies of the world are precarious and the nations of the world are linked together in economic ways, if not in cultural and political ways.

The worries we have are genuine, to be sure, but perhaps our inadvertent realization that we are an interconnected world may have positive possibilities. The doors may be opening to the truth proclaimed by the world's great religions that we really are one human race and that we should get over the notion that we are globally defined by our differences. It is a shame, of course, that it may take money issues to make us aware that we are all a part of a world community. But, that may be an opening for us to begin to think anew about our common origins as a human race. Maybe, just maybe, we can realize out of economic hardship what we should have learned on the basis of our spiritual visionaries.

There is a hymn in our hymnbook entitled "Restless Weaver." (p. 520). We've included this hymn in worship on a couple of occasions. It contains much of the sentiment I'd like to see emerge from the current economic crisis, but now in terms of a spiritual vision of unity. The first verse of the hymn reads:
"Restless Weaver, ever spinning threads of justice and shalom; dreaming patterns of creation where all creatures find a home; gathering up life's varied fibers-every texture, every hue; grant us your creative vision. With us weave your world anew."

We need a religious vision which is based upon justice and peace. We need to dream again of a world based upon the values of our common origins in a loving God in whose creation we are stewards of the earth not creation's owners. This vision will include a care for the earth, a zeal for ending poverty and injustice. It will include a brave attempt to give up prideful ideas of racial and cultural superiorities.

I know that all this sounds like the unrealistic dreams of one who may not fully grasp the realities of the world as it really is and always has been. I counter that we shall drown in a sea of greed should we fail to dream of a world in which God's gifts of life and love are shunned.

Love,

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Clerk – Lois Post; Moderator – Steven Triffletti; Treasurer –Elizabeth Hughes; Collector – Debra Richters and Nate Davis;
Music Director-Kelley DePasqua; Organist-Michael Eaton; Office Administrator-Shellie Souza; Sexton-Tony Nightingale;
World Mission Emphasis-Heifer Project International; Church Building Telephone-508-747-1341

O N O U R C A L E N D A R

Oct. 12: Morning worship 10:00am, Rev. Gary L. Marks preaching. Junior Choir rehearsal.

Oct. 13: Monday Meals of Hospitality in Allerton Hall, 11am-1pm. Church Office Closed-Columbus Day.

Oct. 14: Rev. Marks will be in the church office, 9:30am. The Missions Committee will meet at 7pm in the JRC Conference Room.

Oct. 15: Rev. Marks will be in the church office at 9:30am. New Wednesday Morning Bible Study will meet at 10:00-11:00am in The John Robinson Center Conference Room. Wednesday Evening Prayer Service in the sanctuary 7:00pm-7:30pm. Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm in the sanctuary.

Oct. 17: Rev. Marks will be in the church office at 9:30am. Wedding rehearsal in the sanctuary at 6:30pm.

Oct. 18: Wedding in the sanctuary at 4:00pm.

Coming Events:

Oct. 19: The Ministry Team will meet in the JRC following morning worship.

Oct. 21: The Board of Trustees will meet in the JRC Conference Room, 7pm.

Oct. 23: The Stewardship

Oct. 24: Harvest Fair

Oct. 25: Harvest Fair and Luncheon

Oct. 26: CROP Walk

C H U R C H R E C O R D

Hospitalized: Violet Johnson and Sherrill Pratt-Jordan Hospital. Linn Peterson, hospitalized following surgery. Recently hospitalized, Dorothy Corwin, sister of Gordon Campbell. Recuperating following hospitalization, Michelle Harrington. Edith Whiting is at Braintree Rehab recovering from a hip operation.

Weddings: On October 4, 2008 Rev. Marks conducted a wedding service with the Rev. Douglas Showalter at The First Congregational Church (U.C.C.) in Falmouth for Lindsay A. Schuster and Timothy J. Goslee.

GREETERS-Brian and Connie Lawn.

NOTES

Due to rising utility costs we will be keeping the temperatures at specific levels to maximize efficiency. Only Tony is to make changes to any thermostat, and anyone with a question can contact any member of the Board of Trustees. Additionally, any efforts made to hold meetings in church member's homes will be appreciated...and more fun☺.

If you are interested in becoming a member of The Church of the Pilgrimage, please contact the church office or speak to Rev. Marks. Rev. Marks offers a **New Member Class** when several people have indicated an interest in membership.

Gary is planning to teach a **Bible Study Class** on Wednesday mornings at 10:00. The first meeting will be on October 15th in The John Robinson Center Conference Room. If you are able to attend these studies, please do so.

Deacon Mahlon Walker is now residing at Stafford Hill. We're sure he'd enjoy hearing from you.

On October 13th and October 20th Dr. Don Moore will be administering **flu shots** to those interested that attend our Monday Meals of Hospitality Program. Dr. Moore will be assisted by his son, Nate Moore. We are grateful to both of them for offering this service to those in need.

If you were not in worship last week and could not make an offering to **Neighbors in Need**, you may send such offering to the church office designated for that purpose.

The **roof on the Robinson Center** had been in need of repairs for an extended period time. It has now been repaired. It was a major repair job, one that noone really notices and, of course, it was expensive. The Board of Trustees does a terrific job trying to meet the upkeep needs of our three church buildings. That isn't easy on a tight budget! (Gary).

Our congratulations are extended to **Chuck Harper** who has just published a book of poetry entitled Sorting Things Out. We hope to provide a time for Chuck to offer a reading at The Church of the Pilgrimage.

We recently learned of the death of **Priscilla Chase**, former member of The Church of the Pilgrimage. Priscilla died on August 28th in Willison, Florida. Our sympathies are extended to her family.

The Bylaw Review Committee will be working over the next few months to consider changes to our current Bylaws. An important part of this review process will be to gather suggestions and recommendations from various Boards and Committees, as well as Members of the Church of the Pilgrimage. The Committee will also be reviewing bylaws of other churches. Members are encouraged to contact members of the Committee and to provide input (preferably in writing) for this important process. The Committee members are: Marna Blomberg, Christina Borel, Al Hoyt, Don Jennings, and Doug Post.

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmands and Mentors—Rev. Heather has emailed you discussion questions for the movie Contact. Each Confirmand should get together with her Mentor to watch and discuss this movie by the end of October. Confirmands, remember that our next meeting is Sunday, October 26th from 11:30-1:00p.m. We'll be traveling to an outdoor location, so be sure to wear warm comfortable clothes and good walking shoes.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP OVERVIEW

We invite all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders to join us for a morning of FUN and SERVICE on Saturday, October 18th. We'll meet at church at 9am and drive to South Plymouth for an OUTDOOR SERVICE PROJECT for a Plymouth senior resident. Be sure to wear comfortable, warm clothes that can get dirty. Bring work gloves if you have them as well as a rake and/or pruning shears. We hope you'll join us and bring a friend!

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP OVERVIEW

Building on the fantastic success of this past summer's senior high mission trip, we are working hard at planning some AWESOME activities that include mini-mission projects, movies, and maybe even visiting another church like the one we attended in North Carolina. This year we will meet once a month and we'll be joining with the senior high youth group from Second Church in Manomet. Mark your calendars now for our kick-off meeting: **Sunday, October 19th from 5-7p.m.** in the Youth Room in the John Robinson Center. We warmly invite all 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders to join us, and bring a friend!

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING

This year's theme for our Sunday School Offering is "**Feed My Sheep**", taken from Jesus' commandment to the apostle Peter (John 21:15-17). Jesus tells Peter that if he loves Jesus, he will feed Jesus' sheep. Many working families in Plymouth are truly struggling to have enough money to pay for food. We want to teach our children that 1.) Jesus wants us to do something about this, 2.) We can help, and 3.) We help because we love Jesus and this is a way for us to show that love. If your children come with you when you go grocery shopping, invite each of them to pick out a healthy non-perishable item that they can bring for their Sunday morning offering. This is a wonderful way to teach the spiritual practice of sharing. This offering will go to the Plymouth Food Warehouse which in turn supports numerous food banks throughout Plymouth as well as neighboring communities.

MISSIONS & OUTREACH NEWS-----

Overnights of Hospitality: We need YOU! No experience necessary. We will soon be starting our 5th season for the Overnights of Hospitality program.

During coffee hour this Sunday, October 12th, we will be signing up cooks, servers, and overnight hosts for the first week of hosting our guests in need (Nov 2 through Nov 9). If you won't be able to cook, serve, or stay overnight with us, donations of paper goods and toiletries are always appreciated (paper napkins, strong plastic silverware, paper cups, paper plates, sample size toothpaste and new toothbrushes, men's deodorant, sample soap and shampoo).

We are looking forward to working with new volunteers and with those of you who have volunteered in the past to be hosts (chaperones) and/or meal providers. We encourage anyone who is interested in cooking, serving or hosting to contact coordinators Meg Bross at 508-830-9745 (email: megbross@verizon.net) or Sarah Barnicle at 508-747-5531 (email: SeasideEditing@gmail.com). Remember: our first week of hosting will be Sunday, November 2 through the morning of November 9. Many dates are open for meal makers and hosts.

Food Collection: We are doing very well regarding food collections for the Plymouth Food Warehouse this year. Keep up the great work! We're always very proud to announce that our sizeable donations come from The Church of the Pilgrimage. To all children attending church school: Please remember to bring a can or a box of food for the hungry! Paper goods are also always accepted. Please leave your donations in the red bins in the foyer.

You've Been Waiting, It's Here...Cropwalk 2008!

At 39 years of age, the CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Walk is one of the oldest Community charity walks in the world. Created and sponsored by the Church World Service, a ministry of 35 interfaith Denominations providing self-help, disaster relief, and refugee assistance in 80 countries, CROP walk funds provide tools, from seeds to technical training and micro-enterprise loans, to empower the hungry to help themselves. And, up to 25% of the funds raised go to help fight poverty in our own Community.

The 2008 Plymouth CROP Walk occurs Sunday, October 26 at 12:30pm beginning at Zion Lutheran Church, across from the Cordage in North Plymouth. The Walk occurs along 2 possible routes through Plymouth, a 3½ or a 6-mile loop, chosen by the walkers depending on their stamina.

Last year The Church of the Pilgrimage was #5 out of 8 participating Plymouth Churches in raising contributions for CROP Walk. We all like to compete; Win for Good. Let's have a Friendly Competition. Let's increase our efforts this year to show the other Churches how seriously we view World Hunger by increasing our contributions. We could place #4 or even #3 with a little effort.

Please contribute generously by being a Walker for CROP Walk 2008 or giving to a Walker to combat Hunger. See Gordon Campbell at grampas@comcast.net or Doug Hagen at dhag777@comcast.net or 508-746-6392, or visit our table after Sunday Services to sign-up to help. Thank you all so very much for your kind generosity.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

October 25, 2008 The Church of the Pilgrimages Annual Harvest Fair will be here!

Here are some reminders for your consideration: Harvest Fair drawing tickets are on sale. If you have not taken tickets to sell, this is one way to help our church. Ticket sales are down this year and we have MANY great prizes to be won. Stop by and check out the list of offerings this Sunday during coffee hour. At 6 tickets for \$5.00 this is a bargain.

Just a reminder that we WILL NOT BE HAVING THE BOOK NOOK THIS YEAR.

Roses are Red, violets are--, forget the blue. **We need RED**, red anything for the color table at the Harvest Fair. If you are making red jam, or a red sweater, or a red hot mitt, the color table will be glad for your donation. Clean out your cupboards and drawers. If it is red, we will take it. Also, if you would like to help on fair day, either morning or afternoon, I need some help. Thanks for contributions as well as some help. *Kathy Marks*

Thank you for your jars for jamming. We have a wonderful collection for this year's fair and then some. If anyone is in need of jars for last minute relish, pickling or jamming please call Jenny Healy at 508-747-7168 and she would be happy to share her wealth of jars. Thank you all again for your contributions!

DROP OFF TIMES...will be Tuesday morning Oct. 21st from 9:00 to 11:00 and Thursday afternoon Oct. 23rd from 12:30-2:30 at the John Robinson Center. And Friday Oct. 24th drop off from 9-2pm. We will be there setting up and would love help with set-up and helpers to unload cars to keep traffic moving.

The luncheon has a few more items on their wish list: 2 boxes of individual packages of Lays chips, 2 cases (24 packs) of spring water and we are in need of a few more soup makers. We will supply a recipe to follow. Please see Suzanne Anderson or call her at 508-747-6460 if you can help. Thank you!

Thank you all for your help, things are coming together nicely for our big day and we hope to see you there. This is a once a year opportunity to enjoy all our fair has to offer, such as homemade fruit pies, homemade chicken potpies. Stock up on jams, jellies, relishes, salsas, yummy baked goods and fresh breads. These all make great little hostess gifts for the holiday season ahead. Bring a basket our use one that will offer and make a gift basket for someone special.

Our holiday table also has many wonderful crafts that make great teachers gifts, work grabs or holiday presents. And, everyone loves something knit or sewn as a beautiful gift that will last and last. Check out our selection of hand knit sweaters and scarves for the person who has everything. Thank you all again!! *Love, Laura* (Laura Curtin 508-746-7761 or lmcurtin@comast.net)

Harvest Fair Wish List: The hard working folks of the fair committee are looking for a few items and some helpful hands as we head into the home stretch. Everyone's help and participation are needed to make this Fair a success. No contribution is too small. Be sure and let Laura Curtin (508-746-7761) know what you can bring so everyone doesn't bring squash. Many hands make light work.

- Coolers (for frozen pies)
- Gallons of cider
- 1 large bottle of catsup
- 1 large bottle of mustard
- 1 large relish
- 1 squeeze bottles of mayonnaise
- 2 dozen cans (15oz) of vegetable broth
- 8 butternut squash
- little pumpkins and gourds
- mums
- bags (grocery size)
- 400 napkins
- 2 cases (48 total) of bottled water
- 2 pounds of butter
- single serving size pkgs of potato chips
- chocolate chip cookies - no nuts please!
- People to make chicken or butternut squash soups (recipe provided-see Suzanne Anderson)
- People to set-up on Friday, cook and serve on Saturday and clean-up (see Suzanne)
- Gift cards to any grocery store