
THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
8 TOWN SQUARE, PLYMOUTH,
MASSACHUSETTS 02360

www.8townsquare.org



THE REVEREND GARY L. MARKS,
SENIOR PASTOR
gmarks@8townsquare.org

CHURCH OFFICE
PHONE: 508-746-3026
FAX: 508-746-4362
office@8townsquare.org



Volume LXXIX, No. 32

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

November 1, 2009

Dear Friends:

Although it is All Saints Day, my thoughts are already turning to Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. Planning for services and events during these festivals and seasons takes a great deal of preparation, and they involve a great member of people in those preparations. We have in the planning stages now a special service for the first Sunday in Advent. It is a Hanging of the Greens Service during which we will focus on Scripture, seasonal music and proclaiming the Word as we prepare for the birth of Christ. The first Sunday in Advent is November 29th, the first Sunday after Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving is, of course, a very special holiday for us in Plymouth and especially for those of us who are members of The Church of the Pilgrimage. We will celebrate that holiday on November 22nd and we will have an Open House at The Church of the Pilgrimage on Thanksgiving Day itself, November 26th.

Also on November 22nd The Pilgrim Canticle will once again be offered. The last performance of The Canticle was in 2006. I had the idea for such a presentation after learning about a similar program in a California church. That was thirteen years ago. Enamored with the idea, I asked the choir and organist whether they would be interested in it, if I would prepare a text for it. They did agree and Bill Richter and Elizabeth Chapman Reilly were instrumental in selecting musical offerings, which complimented the readings I chose, primarily from Pilgrim writings.

The Pilgrim Canticle, frankly and without boast, is a wonderful production and a fitting tribute to those whose faith and sacrifice have had such a formative impact upon the ethos of America. Those who have attended the previous two performances of The Pilgrim Canticle have given it rave reviews and have been deeply moved by it. I am hoping that we have a large audience for this year's performance. The choir, organist and I put a great deal of effort and love into this nearly one of a kind performance and we hope that you will spread the word of its appearance in the community. If you have ideas about publicity regarding this event, please let me know. I really think we can fill the sanctuary for this event, but we need to see that it is well advertised. Please plan to be there and bring others with you.

There is no other event offered in Plymouth around Thanksgiving which is even remotely like The Pilgrim Canticle. It will be performed on November 22, 2009 at 2:00pm in the sanctuary of The Church of the Pilgrimage. You can help greatly in making its performance the success we want it to be and also be inspired anew by our pilgrim story.

Love,

©The Church of the Pilgrimage in Plymouth, MA Inc., all rights reserved.

Moderator – Allen Hoyt; Treasurer –Elizabeth Hughes Campbell; Clerk – Lois Post; Collector – Tom Mudgett;
Music Director-Kelley DePasqua; Organist – Michael Eaton; Office Manager-Shellie Souza;
World Mission Emphasis-Heifer Project International; Church Building Telephone-508-747-1341

On Our Calendar

Nov 1-Daylight Saving Time Ends: Morning worship 10:00am, Rev. Gary Marks preaching. Communion will be a part of the service. Cherub Choir and Junior Choir will rehearse. New Member Class in the JRC Conference Room, 11:30am-12:30pm. The Church of the Pilgrimage will be host for the Overnights of Hospitality program in Allerton Hall.

Nov 2: Rev. Marks will be in the office at 9:30am. Monday Meals of Hospitality in Allerton Hall, 11am. Overnights of Hospitality in Allerton Hall.

Nov 3: Rev Marks will be in the church office at 9:30am. The Missions and Outreach committee will meet at 7pm in the JRC Conference Room. Overnights of Hospitality in Allerton Hall.

Nov 4: Rev. Marks will be in the office at 9:30am. Overnights of Hospitality in Allerton Hall. Choir Rehearsal at 7:30pm.

Nov 5: Rev. Marks will be in the office at 9:30am. The Christian Education Committee will meet at 7pm in the JRC Conference Room. Overnights of Hospitality in Allerton Hall.

Nov 6: Rev. Marks will be in the office at 9:30am. Overnights of Hospitality in Allerton Hall.

Nov. 7: Overnights of Hospitality in Allerton Hall.

Coming Events:

Nov. 8: Stewardship Sunday. New Member Class in the JRC Conference Room. No Cherub Choir Rehearsal. Junior Choir rehearsal. The Confirmation Class will meet.

Nov. 9: Monday Meals of Hospitality.

Nov. 10: The Stewardship Committee will meet at 7:00pm.

Nov. 11: Veteran's Day-The church office will be closed.

Nov. 15: New Members will be received into the church. The Cherub Choir will rehearse. The Junior Choir will sing.

CHURCH RECORD

In Memoriam-On October 31, 2009 a funeral service for Deacon Emeritus Gilbert Besse will be held in the sanctuary. We thank God for Gil's many years of cheerful and loving service to The Church of the Pilgrimage.

N O T E S

We thank **Peter Causton** for being our worship leader and Geoff Campbell for the Children's Message on October 25th.

Please notify the church office, if you know of someone in the **hospital or in need of pastoral care**.

It is helpful to know if anyone is requesting to make an **announcement during the Sunday service** to inform the office or Gary of that intention on the Friday prior to that Sunday. Also remember that all items to be included in **The Pilgrimage Herald** are to be submitted to the church office on Tuesday by noon for the next Sunday's issue.

For now the **Wednesday Evening Prayer Services** are being suspended. Attendance at the services has been slight during the fall. Gary started the services after 9/11/2000 and they have been continued, except for summer months, since then. Gary hopes to offer similar prayer services, perhaps on a monthly basis at a time which is more convenient than a 7:00pm service on a Wednesday. Those who have participated have found the services meaningful and Gary deems it very important for spiritual formation and for the church to keep prayer at the center of everything that we do as a congregation. If you have ideas about the timing of such services, please let Gary know about them.

Memorial Garden Columbarium News: On Sunday, November 8th, more information and contracts for the purchase of Columbarium niches will be available during coffee hour. The cost of a niche that will hold two standard sized urns will be \$1,500. The price includes the initial engraving of the niche door with individual names(s) and birth date(s). The cost of a niche without the engraving added at this time will be \$1,200. The first Columbarium will hold 18 niches and we must sell 10 of these before construction can begin. The current cost will be in effect until January 2010 when the granite company is expected to raise its prices. Information is available from Linn Peterson, Kathy Marks, Judy Mitchell and Pat Mudgett.

2010 Budget: For those of you who are curious, the Board of Trustees has been busy finalizing the 2010 budget. We will get a draft version to the congregation (via the Upper Vestibule with mailed copies available on request from the office) no later than Sunday, November 8th. After the Chest of Joash on November 22nd, the Board will then meet immediately after Church so we can perform a final review before providing the official proposed budget for 2010 on Sunday, November 29th. If you have any questions or concerns, see Jess, Ed, or anyone else on the Board of Trustees.

Thanks to the following people who served the Church as ushers during the month of October: Judy and Larry Foster, Barbara and Ray Quinn, Lynnette and Rich Lancaster, Cynthia and Ed Marks, Diane and Bill Harting, Judy Mitchell, Doug Hagen, Karla Wood, Sarah Barnicle, Laura and Austin Curtin.

Our Greeters for the month of November are:

November 1: Genie and Frank Roberts

November 8: Mr. and Mrs. Bottomley

November 15: Deb and Shay Wilson

November 22: Gina Basler and Michael Basler

November 29: Mr. and Mrs. Lanman

The Board of Trustees would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's Harvest Fair. We know how dedicated all of you are, and we are incredibly grateful for the hard work you all undertook on behalf of our entire congregation. For those of us who were there, seeing the amazing amount of food and items for sale paled in comparison to witnessing the laughter, joy, and fellowship amongst our members—even those who had to have been working for the last week without sleep. We are humbled especially by the coordination efforts of Laura Curtin, Jenny Healy, Suzanne Anderson, Kara Mallon and Linda Brown; you are not only pillars of our Church community and Saints of the Church universal, you are our friends and we are inspired by you. Thank you all!

A note from Gary: For several years our church school children have celebrated Communion in the John Robinson Center on the same Sundays that we have Communion as a part of our usual services in the sanctuary. The young people's services were under the supervision of our associate ministers and the children were a part of the planning and were instructed as to the meaning of the sacrament and the various aspects of liturgy through which it is celebrated. The services had their own bulletins which were largely the production of the minister.

I very much liked the services for church school children held in the Robinson Center. They provided an educational dimension to the young people which was appropriate to their ages and were steps in the faith and spiritual formation of those who will one day be the leaders in ours or other churches.

Since we no longer have an associate minister the Advisory Board discussed ways to include children in our regular services on Communion Sundays. It was the discernment of the board that the children would be invited to attend the services with parents, or other related adults, and that the services take into account the presences of the children and, in so far as possible, retain the interests of the young without diminishing the solemnness of the sacramental celebration for adults. I find that to be very challenging, but I agreed to give it my best effort and to do so cheerfully.

It is my opinion that including our church school children in our Communion Sunday services can work and be very rewarding for all of us. We announce ourselves to be a church family, and worship experiences inclusive of all ages can greatly enhance a sense of belonging to the body of Christ.

For the foreseeable future our church school children will be a part of our Communion Sunday services. The Advisory Board and I hope this will be both a meaningful and enjoyable experience for the entire church family.

Here we come a Wassailing!

Celebrate the Winter Solstice with the Christmas Revels! Join a group of your friends on December 12 at 7:30pm at Sanders Theater in Cambridge for an American celebration featuring Appalachian folksong, rousing spirituals, Shaker dances and Native American music and stories. Tickets are \$38-47 for adults, \$25-34 for children 11

and under. They can be ordered during coffee hour on October 18 & 25 and November 1. Please contact Hannah Woodbury for more information at 508-728-2120 or hannah0272@hotmail.com.

I Can Have a Mary Heart----anonymous

I must have the hands of Martha,
Hands that scrub and cook and sew-
I can have the heart of Mary
While I do these things, you know.
Though my hands are in the dishpan
This soul of mine can soar
And in thoughts sublime and lofty
Go right up to heaven's door.
I must cook, oh endless dinners,
For dear ones have to eat
But my soul need not be cooking,
It can sit at Jesus' feet.
Help me, God, while doing duties
Against which my soul rebels,
Meekly still to peel potatoes,
But not to grovel in the shells.
Grant me God, 'mid things prosaic,
Ere to choose the better part;
Grant that while I must be a Martha,
I can have a Mary heart.

Harvest Fair 2009

Dr. Fred's Restorative Donuts:\$2 2 chicken pot pies:\$30 1 quart of Pasta's Pasta: \$8 2 loaves of Jenny's Bread:\$12 Spending the day with friends: Priceless.
--

We did it!! Thank you to everyone that made this years Harvest Fair so successful! As I said last Sunday, I could not begin to thank all those who helped in the 3-minute window Rev. Gary gave me to speak. But I can thank you all for sharing your gifts and time with us last Saturday and Sunday. It always amazes me how it all comes together. Little by little, car load by car load, it all works out and transforms into this amazing sight of friendship and love for our church. I would like to thank all my right hand girls and boys that helped me with decisions, running around town, writing, copying, stapling, designing and ordering, setting up, cleaning up, free cycling, dump runs, and not being afraid to take on a party of 150+ for lunch! You guys are the best and I can't thank you enough for all your hard work!!! Whatever you did and however you did it, your hands helped to make our Harvest Fair a huge success again this year! And we couldn't of done it with out each and everyone of you! It is a remarkable thing at what we can accomplish when we work together. The Harvest Fair committee is very pleased to announce that with all our combined gifts to date, we have raised over \$10,628.51 for our church. Thank you all again! See you next year.
Love Laura



SAVE THE DATE! On November 8th and 11th The Board of Trustees needs **YOU** (and your kids, neighbors, friends, strangers, and guests) to help clean up our properties. After our yearly walk-through, we realized there is LOTS to do to get ready for winter. We'll need two days (and some equipment rentals) to do some light chores, projects, maintenance and groundskeeping in and around the Church, JRC, and Parsonage. If you're not a "chore type" person, we would love to have you come and enjoy the fellowship, and help out with non-chore activities like food, logistics, coordination, and oversight! More details to come soon--if you have questions, see Jess Hague or any member of the BoT (Ed Marks, Verna Ross Hoyt, Allen Bottomley, Jenny Henrique, Norm Bingham-Maas, and Dawn Durmis).



THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE
8 TOWN SQUARE,
PLYMOUTH, MA 02360

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:00 AM
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE



Periodical
Publication
U. S. P. S.
432820