
THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
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Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:00pm

April 25, 2010

Dear Friends:

Leadership is an elusive quality to define. We often say of someone that he/she is a “natural born leader.” We also know that leadership styles vary. Some leaders are extroverted and exhibit decisiveness which seems to be lacking in many of us. Some leaders are forceful and don’t deviate from the path they’ve set themselves upon. Other leaders are quieter in their style. They utilize the skills of others in achieving goals and objectives. I am partial to this latter style of leadership.

Whatever leadership is it is an attribute that we admire and often wish we had. Our society, indeed the world, seems to revere leadership even though not many can give a precise definition of what it is.

I read a story on this subject last week which both amused me and led me to think about what leadership is.

A young woman very much wanted to attend a certain college. Her heart sank, however, when she read a question on the application that asked, “Are you a leader?” Being both honest and conscientious, she wrote, “No.” She returned the application expecting the worst. She was aware of just how important it is to institutions that they attract people and produce people who are or become leaders. To the young woman’s surprise, she received this letter from the university: “A study of the application forms reveals that this year the college will have 1,452 new leaders. We are accepting you because we feel it imperative that they have at least one follower.” (Source unknown.)

We often forget that the world needs followers and that not everyone can be a leader. As the old saying goes, too many chefs spoil the stew. We as Christians should remember, too, that Jesus wanted leaders, but they were to emerge from the followers of his Way. The invitation of Jesus never was, “I need leaders.” It was always, as in last Sunday’s lesson (John 21:1-19), “Follow me.” Leaders like Peter, John, Thomas, Andrew, et. al. were first followers of Jesus and believers in the truth that his Way could lead to redemption. Indeed, only leaders who are followers of Jesus are legitimate in a leadership capacity. True leaders in the church always remain followers of Jesus and if they don’t follow him, they can’t be trusted.

Our Nominating Committee, I’ve been informed, is having somewhat of a difficult time getting people to serve on our various boards and committees. In the “free church” tradition followers of Jesus are called upon to serve in leadership positions. Please consider accepting a position when asked. It is our way of following Jesus.

Jesus needs followers to lead the church into the future.

Love,

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The Church of the Pilgrimage, UCC is an Open and Affirming Church

Moderator – Allen Hoyt; Treasurer – Verna-Ross Hoyt; 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

Apr 25: Morning Worship 10am, Rev. Gary Marks preaching. The Cherub Choir will sing. The Church Council will meet in the JRC Conference Room at 11am.

Apr 26: Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am. This is the last Monday Meal of Hospitality until the fall.

Apr 27: Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am. The Advisory Board will meet at 7pm in the JRC Conference Room.

Apr 28: Gary will be in the office at 9:30am. Choir Rehearsal at 7:30pm.

Apr 29: Gary will be in the office at 9:30am.

Apr 30: Gary will be in the office at 9:30am.

May 1: There will be a Memorial Service for Elaine Sampson in the church sanctuary at 10am.

Coming Events:

May 2: The Board of Trustees is sponsoring a Spring Clean-Up (see notes).

May 16: The Annual Meeting of The Church of the Pilgrimage following morning worship.

N O T E S

In Memoriam: On April 24, 2010 a memorial service was led by Rev. Marks for Jean Richter who was Bill Richter's mother. Our sympathies are with Bill and his family. The service was held in our sanctuary.

Hospitalized: Gail Mason, Brigham and Women's in Boston. Recuperating at home after hospitalization, Bill Stearns and Dick Watson.

We thank **Alice Hyslop** for being worship leader on April 18 and **Hannah Woodbury** for her Children's Message on that date.

The flowers are **in loving memory of Philip G. Chandler.** Given by Brian Chandler & family and Philip Chandler & family.

On April 13 Gary conducted a worship service at the Newfield House.

Gary attended a delightful "Thank You" breakfast at Zion Lutheran Church on April 17. The breakfast recognized people, churches, synagogue for their involvement in the Overnights of Hospitality program.

If you or someone you know is hospitalized locally or out-of-town, it is very helpful to let the church office know. Also, if you know of a pastoral need, please let Gary know.

For those wishing to have a **2010 first-quarter contribution statement**, please call the church office 508-746-3026 or email office@8townsquare.org.

From Membership and Evangelism

The Pew Pads will now begin at the center aisle. You are asked to pass them to the end of the pew row and then back to the center. Please greet someone as the pads are passed along. Everyone is asked to sign the pads even if even if you are present every Sunday for worship.



Earth Day Celebration (Spring Clean Up Day)

Come one, come all and celebrate Earth Day at church. We will be cleaning up and maintaining our little corner of the earth on May 2nd after church. There are many jobs to do for all ages and abilities. This was a big success last fall and hundreds if not thousands of dollars were saved by using all the skills of the congregation instead of contracting out the work. So lets keep a good thing going and spruce up the church for spring. Pizza and soda will be provided.

2nd Grade Bibles

We're working on gathering a comprehensive list of this year's 2nd graders who will be receiving a Bible on Church School Sunday (June 13th). However, we want to be sure no one is left out—so parents, please either e-mail me at scmacoombs@netscape.net or there will be a sign up in your child's classroom. Please indicate the spelling of your child's name as you would have it appear on her or his Bible.



Also, if for some reason your child already completed 2nd grade but never received a 2nd Grade Bible from our church and would like one, please let me know.

Thank You. Susan Coombs, Co-chair CE

Wanted-Party Planners: We are looking for a few people who would like the fun job of planning a proper celebration of Rev Marks' ministry with us. Please contact Jenny if you are interested in being a party to this. Fremont10@verizon.net or 508-747-7168.

SAVE THE DATE: The Annual Fall Church of the Pilgrimage Golf Tournament will be held Saturday morning, September 18, 2010 at Southers Marsh Golf Course. Mark your calendars now!

From the MACUCC: Pictures Wanted!

The Annual Meeting Planning Committee is seeking pictures of our MACUCC churches' windows. The pictures will be used to create a slide show that will be shown during the Annual Meeting to soften the ballroom meeting space and share the beauty of our myriad houses of worship. The request is not limited to stained glass, so send us what you have in JPEG format. We look forward to providing images of window that glorify God and provide a spaciousness to our windowless meeting space. And...while you are at it, don't forget to register and come to Annual Meeting on June 19, 2010. You can find registration information here <http://macucc.org/211AM/index.htm>. Send your pictures by June 5 to: macucc.waltham@verizon.net.

Exploring Faith through Creative Arts

A Liturgical Arts Ministry of UCC Norwell led by Rev. Amy A. Bruch on Thursday, May 21 from 10am-12pm in the Fellowship Hall. Come create a Bible bookmark using beautiful papers from around the world as you experience and learn about the classes available to be taught on-site to members and friends of your church. Contacts: amybruch.com or spiritandfirepottery.com.

Moving in the Spirit-May 22- 9:30am-3:30pm

"Moving in the Spirit" an interfaith retreat for people with Parkinson's Disease, Tremor, Dystonia, MS and other movement disorders will be held Sat, May 22 at Glastonbury Abbey, 16 Hull St, Hingham. The daylong program, facilitated by Lindsay McGrath, M.Div., member of Second Congregational Church in Cohasset, will feature guided meditation, discussion, prayer, gentle chair supported yoga, and specialized massage. Cost: \$45, lunch included. For more information, call 1781-385-9401 or visit www.spiritedmovement.org

Paper or plastic? THE SURPRISING ANSWER!

By Lori Bongiorno

It's easy to think of plastic as the villain. After all, there's a growing number of cities and countries around the globe either banning them outright or proposing taxes and fees to discourage their use. Here's a partial list: San Francisco, Los Angeles, Westport (Connecticut), Seattle, Portland, China, Ireland, Australia, and Italy.

And yet, the answer to that age-old question is not nearly as clear-cut as it may seem. Did you know, for example, that more energy is used to produce paper bags than their plastic counterparts? Making paper bags also requires a lot of water (not to mention trees).

The production of plastic bags is equally problematic. They're made from oil (an estimated 12 million barrels a year just to produce those used in the U.S.). Another huge downside is that

they can make their way into large bodies of water and harm marine life.

The best option, of course, is quite familiar by now. Forgo single use bags and carry your own reusable bags. Choose the best-quality bags you can afford so that they last a long time, such as those made by ChicoBag or Envirosax. Or check out the extensive selection at Reusablebags.com. Remember, though, that simply buying them doesn't do anything for the planet. You need to use them in place of throwaway bags.

That said, there are probably going to be times when you are forced to pick one over the other. While the choice between plastic and paper is a toss-up when simply looking at how they are produced, there are other things to consider. What you do with single-use bags when you are done with them and where you live are important factors, says Jenny Powers of the Natural Resources Defense Council. Follow these simple guidelines:

When to pick plastic:

The paper-bag option is made from timber instead of post-consumer recycled fiber (and it's not in danger of ending up in an ocean). Look for a label on the bag or ask your store. You are more likely to reuse a plastic bag than one made of paper. Consider using them for your trash instead of spending money on new plastic garbage liners at the store. In that scenario, you're getting two uses out of the plastic bag, so it's like having a bag made from 50 percent recycled content, says Martin Wolf, Director of Product & Environmental Technology at Seventh Generation.

You can recycle plastic bags more easily than paper.

When to choose paper:

The bag is made from post-consumer recycled fiber. You live in a place where there is a risk that a plastic bag might end up in a large body of water. You can reuse or recycle a paper bag more easily than one made of plastic.

Environmental journalist Lori Bongiorno shares green-living tips and product reviews with Yahoo! Green's users.

Sunday
Worship,
10:00am



THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE
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SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:00 AM
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE



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