
THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
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Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00am-Noon

August 2010

Dear Friends:

This is the first time since I was the associate pastor many years ago that I have had August as a vacation month. I still think I prefer July to August. I, to be honest, get a little tired by the end of June. Coming back in August which still has a slowed schedule has been a kind of buffer for the busy seasons of fall and winter and spring. As a matter of fact, next year I think I'll take June, July and August off---all other months, too, for that matter!

As almost all of you know I will retire at the end of 2010. It is already a time of transition for the church and for me. I realize that such transitions are anxious times for all concerned, but they can be periods of renewal and be characterized by prospects for a bright future. I'm trying to get to the latter point as we make plans for the future and the freedoms it will afford me to do things I don't have time to do while being the now sole pastor of a large congregation. My life has largely been defined by being your pastor for what is approaching forty years. Other than vacation times I am almost always "doing something" for the church seven days a week. I have been available twenty-four hours a day. It is not a job for the faint of heart, but it is the job which I have come to love.

The congregation, too, should look upon the already begun transitional period with hope, optimism and good cheer. Opportunities for growth loom before you. Goals can be set for where the church wants to be five or ten years in the future. New forms of ministry can take place, some of them are already beginning in nascent forms. It can be a time to dream dreams, to consider staff needs, to explore ways to improve the financial situation of the church, and how to make sure the church enters the future as a fiscally sound congregation. It can be a period in which you think about programming and educational development, to contemplate increased lay involvement, to pursue ways in which the congregation can develop and engage in practices of spiritual formation. These ideas only scratch the surface of open and welcome challenges for a church which on its way to a sound a prosperous future.

I appreciate your concern for me and my family. We've been together and on a pilgrimage for a very long time. I confess to being ambivalent about retirement. I've never considered ministry as a "job." It is the way I have learned to be and, of course, I will miss it. I will continue my vocation in a different form.

It is not merely a sentimental way of speaking when I say I love you. I've taken all of you seriously. That won't end. Keep the faith sisters and brothers, keep the faith!

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

A note from the Interim Pastoral Search Committee:

As you are all aware, our Pastor, Gary Marks, will be retiring at the end of this year. We are now undertaking a program which will lead us through saying “farewell” to Gary and Kathy, grieving over our loss, and ultimately finding a new Settled Pastor to serve and lead us into the second decade of this millennium.

Times of transition such as this will be stressful for Kathy, Gary, and our Church as a whole. We are fortunate that we have the assistance of Dale Hempen, our Mass. Conference Southeast Area Minister, and the full resources of The United Church of Christ, to assist us through this process.

You will be learning more as we go into the fall, but simply put, the process involves obtaining the services of a trained, experienced Interim Pastor to fulfill our pastoral needs, assist us in evaluating our future needs, and serve us until a new Settled Pastor is called. It is estimated that the Interim Pastor will be needed for one to two years.

According to the Bylaws of The Church of the Pilgrimage, the Advisory Board has the responsibility to act as a Pulpit Supply Committee. As such, they have appointed an **Interim Pastoral Search Committee**. This committee will have somewhat limited duties: to summarize our Church’s current status, elucidate goals for the interim period, and select the most suitable candidate.

This is not the same as the work that will be needed when the Church goes through the process of Searching and Calling a new Settled Pastor. That Search will require a much wider process and involve the entire Church membership. As such, the Interim Pastoral Search Committee can be considered analogous to what is done in the business world when a temporary worker or consultant is hired for a specific, limited range of tasks. The Mass. Conference, U.C.C. is like an employment agency, and Dale Hempen will guide and assist us, representing (with our Committee) the interests of The Church of the Pilgrimage.

The Interim Pastor will, of necessity, be an experienced pastor with special training in handling transitional periods such as ours. He or she will be a senior level person, and as such will be compensated in a similar fashion as our current Pastor.

We intend to keep you all informed as we proceed. In the meantime, if you have any questions, concerns, or would like further information, please contact one of the Committee members.

Yours in Christ.

The Interim Pastoral Search Committee
Diana Budge, Peter Causton, Dawn Durmis, Alice Heckman, Doug Post (Chair)

On Our Calendar

Summer Office Hours: 9:00am-Noon.

Rev. Gary will be on vacation in August.

August 1: Morning Worship with Holy Communion at 10:00am, Rev. Rollin Johnson preaching.

August 2: Summer Concert in the sanctuary, 8:00pm.

August 5: Christian Education Committee meeting, 7:00pm JRC Conference Room.

August 2-6, 9: Shellie will be on vacation.

August 8: Morning Worship at 10:00am, Peter Causton preaching.

August 8-14: Sexton Brian Gildea will be on vacation.

August 10: Summer Concert in the sanctuary, 8:00pm.

August 12: Membership and Evangelism Committee meeting, 7:00pm JRC Conference Room.

August 15: Morning Worship at 10:00am, Al Hoyt preaching.

August 16: Shellie is taking a vacation day.

August 17: Summer Concert in the sanctuary, 8:00pm. Board of Trustees Meeting at 7:00pm JRC Conference Room.

August 22: Morning Worship at 10:00am, Rev. Dr. Peter Gomes preaching.

August 23-24: Shellie will be on vacation.

August 25: Advisory Board meeting at 7:00pm in the JRC Conference Room.

August 28: Wedding Rehearsal in the sanctuary at 10:00am.

August 29: Morning Worship at 10:00am, Rev. Gary L. Marks preaching. Wedding in the sanctuary at 1:30pm.

August 30: Shellie is taking a vacation day.

Church Record

On July 25, 2010 Rev. Marks baptized Chase Leonard Molino, son of Catherine (MacLeod) and Jason Molino.

On July 17, 2010 Rev. Marks conducted a wedding ceremony in Kentucky for his niece.

On July 31, 2010 Rev. Marks conducted a wedding ceremony for Nicole Eckert and Ryan Bump in the sanctuary.

On July 21, 2010 Rev. Marks conducted a funeral service for Aline Mecure.

Barbara Axford, Terry Runnels and Ruth Brenner were hospitalized during July.

The deadline for information to be included in the September 12 issue of *The Pilgrimage Herald* is noon on September 7.

NOTES

The Marks family enjoyed a "gathering of the clan" in Kentucky for the wedding of Kathy's and Gary's niece in Lexington and Versailles. It was a wonderful occasion. Gary thanks the church for allowing him the time. He performed the wedding with a

Methodist minister who was a college roommate of the bride. It was hot, but it has been hot here, as well!

Gary thanks Rollin Johnson for preaching on July 18. Rollin has been terrific about filling in when called upon. Rev. Rollin Johnson will be on call and other clergy who are members of the church may also be enlisted for any pastoral emergencies. You may call the church office if a need arises. Rollin's home phone is 508-746-9701.

Gary led the service at South Pond Chapel on July 25. He has been a part of the South Pond Summer Services in every year he's been at The Church of the Pilgrimage except two. Those were times when he had major surgeries.

We thank everyone who ushered or in anyway attended to the details of our July Sunday services. It all means a great deal to those who are leading worship on any given Sunday. Thank you one and all!

The church thanks the Newfield House for making repairs to and painting the fence in front of the parsonage. It looks great!

August Flowers—

Aug 1: In loving memory of Boyd and Eleanor Mayhew. Given by their families: Marks, Fiscus, Hrbek, Kephart, Blackey.

Aug 8: In loving memory of Sarah Marks and Floyd and Pauline Marks. Given by their family.

Aug 15: In loving memory of my parents, Raymond and Marilyn Monto. Given by Mal Borsari.

Aug 22: In loving memory of Ashley Cappola. Given by Michael Cappola and Gina Basler.

Aug 29: In honor of all the Armstrongs. Given by the Armstrong family.

August Ushers—

Aug 1: The Wilson Family-Deborah Peter, Ian and Shay.

Aug 8: Genie and Frank Roberts; Bertie and Don Jennings.

Aug 15: Mal Borsari, Gordon Campbell, Nancy Medeiros, Betsey Randall.

Aug 22: John Peterson, David Kegel, Arlene Axford, Bill Converse.

Aug 29: Alice and Ken Heckman, Anne Lynch.

Overnight of Hospitality has been an important aspect of The Church of the Pilgrimage's ministry over the past few years. Beginning in November we will have a different format. Three teams will take responsibility for one week each. Meg and John Bross and Paul and Rosalee Sinn will make up one team. We are looking for two additional teams to support this important ministry of our church. If there are one or two volunteers who would be willing to take over the supervision of the Overnights program please contact a member of the Missions Committee.

Craft and Story Hour Volunteers Needed

We invite you to prayerfully consider signing up for Craft and Story Hour this summer. Sign-up sheets are located in Allerton Hall on the bulletin board next to the piano. Although we do not have Church School during the summer months, we continue to provide educational opportunities for our children through story telling and activities that engage our children's creativity and imaginations. This is a wonderful and vitally important opportunity for you to be a part of the faith formation of our children, and to have fun at the same time. The Christian Education Committee is happy to provide ideas and/or supplies for activities. Feel free to contact Susan Coombs at 508-224-9319 with any questions. Thank You. CE Members

Golf Tournament Sign Up

The Annual Church of the Pilgrimage September Golf Tournament will be held Saturday morning, September 18, 2010 at Southers Marsh Golf Club in West Plymouth. We welcome corporate and individual hole sponsors (\$100) to make this important church fundraiser a success. We are taking reservations immediately for individuals 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 meal, and great raffle prizes: \$20/adults, \$10/kids. Call Mike Harrington 508-747-2060 or Judy Mitchell 508-746-3959 for more information.

From Kathy Marks—

Dear Christian Education Committee and Families of Our Church School:

Your gift and the presentation by Lynnette Lancaster was so overwhelming that I did not even respond to your kindness by the next publication of the Herald. Please know that I appreciate so much your gift of a tree to be planted at our home at Bloody Pond. Lynnette's kind remarks and your gift called to my attention that I have been a part of the Christian Education of young people at this church for 39 years and that some of those young people are now grandparents. The realization was overpowering. When you do this one Sunday at a time because you love the children and the children graduate, become young adults, marry, have children, bring them to be baptized and their children and others enter our church school, it flows so naturally that you lose track of time. Each child is a child of God and loved, and cared for by our Church. For centuries there have been people here doing the work of Church in Christian Education and there will be many in the future. I look forward to watching your gift of a tree grow. It will certainly remind me of the growth and development of children at The Church of the Pilgrimage and the part I have been fortunate enough to play in this process.

Grow on CE committee and Church Family!



Christian Education Information

The Christian Education Committee will meet on Thursday, August 26th at 7:00p.m. in the JRC.

Are you looking for a meaningful volunteer opportunity? We are in need of 2 more teachers for September. Please prayerfully consider serving as a Church School Teacher. The curriculum we use is very teacher-friendly with detailed lesson plans and multiple options for each lesson. This is a wonderful way to be a part of the faith formation of our children and have fun doing it. Interested? Great! Please feel free to contact Susan Coombs 508-224-9319 or scmacoombs@netscape.net.

Church School Registration will be on Sunday, September 12th. Parents are invited to register their children for Church 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.

Church School Teachers, please plan on attending registration so that you can welcome the children you will be teaching this year. Church School classes will begin Sunday, September 19th.

Thank you
Susan Coombs and Jenny Healy
Co-Chairs CE

Rally Day!

To celebrate a new year of worship and fellowship all are invited to join Ann Motyka and the CE committee for tons of fun at Stephens Field in Plymouth. **September 12th** 11:30 to 1:30ish. Ann has all sorts of activities planned for families of all shapes and sizes. Come join the fun! **Hot dogs, chips, watermelon and drinks** will be served by members of the CE. And it's free! In the case of rain, we will gather upstairs in the JRC! Questions or suggestions or offers to help? Call Jenny 508-747-7168 or poetick@verizon.net.

Moving Yard and In House Sale

Rain or Shine
Maybury Parsonage
20 Newfield Street
August 21st
9-2

Set Your Own Price on Most Items
Toys and Children Books (too many)

Most has been moved to our Bloody Pond House – but
there were many closets at the parsonage and some
furniture is left

The 2010 South Pond Chapel Summer Hymn Sing

August 1: The Reverend David Frederickson
Christ Church Episcopal

August 8: The Reverend Irving Beveridge, Retired

August 15: The Reverend Robert Merritt, Retired

August 22: The Reverend Robert Stott
Zion Lutheran Church

August 29: The Reverend Dr. William Fillebrowne
Chiltonville Congregational Church



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SUNDAY WORSHIP – 10:00 AM
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE



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