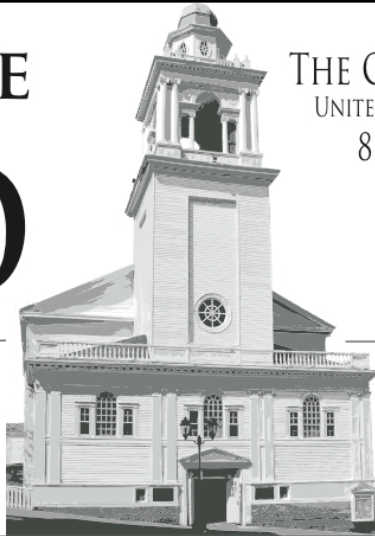


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# THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

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THE REVEREND GARY L. MARKS,  
SENIOR PASTOR  
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Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:00pm

June 27, 2010

Dear Friends:

I have read and heard stories about how the internet, computer games, etc. have been leading to an increasing isolation among people. I know that some young people spend hours on end playing computer games; in fact my own boys can do that, or at least did at one time. Technological gadgets can do marvelous things, but they can also keep people from the same kinds of social interaction which were present in previous generations. Email has virtually replaced handwritten communications. It is easy, efficient and handy, but not very personal. Many people prefer email even to personal phone conversations. I can understand that, but conversation on a phone is still more personal than email by far. It, at least, encourages personal responses and much can be inferred from a voice communication which is not typical of emails. Driving along listening to NPR not long ago a reporter noted that if you are twenty-five or younger, there is a likelihood that you have never written or received a handwritten letter. That is kind of sad since every person's handwriting is unique and changes sometimes when certain emotions are being expressed. The media of handwritten letters is a part of the letter's message.

I was led to these reflections when I read a short article by Janet Kornblum who wrote it for [usatoday.com](http://usatoday.com) on June 6, 2006. She said, "Americans have a third fewer close friends and confidants than [they did] just two decades ago—a sign that people may be living lonelier, more isolated lives than in the past." A recent study by the general Social Survey by the University of Chicago's National Opinion Research Center also found that one in four Americans reports having no close friends. This is a big change since 1985 when Americans on average reported having three close confidants.

These findings, if correct, may have, or are having, radical ramifications for society, but particularly for congregational life. Congregations like to proclaim themselves as friendly and welcoming. Increasingly, however, people don't seem as trusting in personal interactions as in the past. It may be that people crave personal attention, need it desperately, but are less able to receive it or give it than in times gone by.

I personally think that the time will soon reemerge when people will again have great human need for human warmth and friendship. Our faith has always proclaimed that we were created for community. We were never intended by either nature or grace to be isolated, lonely or friendless. We were created to be trusting in God and in those whom God has created.

The church should take cues from the world in which it lives. We must find ways to allow people an opportunity to feel wanted and to lure them away from isolation and friendlessness. One of the great challenges for the church will be to let people know that they are more important than the machines we have created.

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

**June 27:** Morning worship 10:00am, Rev. Gary L. Marks preaching. Funeral in the sanctuary, 1pm.

**June 28:** Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am.

**June 29:** Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am.

Information for the July newsletter is due in the church office by noon.

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

**July 1:** Gary will be in the office at 9:30am.

**July 2:** Gary will be in the office at 9:30am.

## Church Record

On June 19, 2010 Rev. Marks conducted a service of Christian marriage in the sanctuary for Kathryn Leigh Fischer and Mark Edward Meehan.

### The Roll Call of New Members

#### *Reaffirmation of Faith*

Cynthia Cannon

David Cannon

Paul MacDonald

Michele Sampson

Dennis Soliwoda

Doris Soliwoda

#### *Letter of Transfer*

Anne Lynch

## NOTES

**The flowers** are in loving memory of George Randall. Given by the family.

**Our greeters** this Sunday are Connie and Brian Lawn.

### **Summer Herald Deadlines---Mark Your Calendar!**

The deadline for articles to appear in the July Herald is noon on June 29. The August Herald deadline is noon on July 27.

This will be the last weekly issue of The Pilgrimage Herald until September. During July and August a monthly issue will be published. We are one of very few churches that still have a weekly newsletter. For now, though, we are on a ten-month cycle of weekly Herald, two monthly. Please remember to have any information you'd like to appear in the July issue into the office by noon on June 29.

**The Sanctuary Choir** sang during the June 20 service for the season. The choir will return in September. Our choirs receive great acclaim for the extraordinary quality of its music. Other music will be provided during July and August.

### **From our Membership and Evangelism Committee**

If you have children or grandchildren in the military we would like to have their name, address and birthday. Thank you.

**CORRECTION:** Last week Gary mistakenly gave an incorrect email address. **The new home email address is [scrooby1606@verizon.net](mailto:scrooby1606@verizon.net).** The magical date of 1620 unconsciously got into his mind. By the way, our own founding Church Covenant was first owned in Scrooby, England in 1606.

Also, Gary and Kathy have moved from the Maybury Parsonage to their home on Bloody Pond. The phone number there is 508-224-6231. Please make a note of this.

We congratulate Bill Harting for having a showing of his marvelous photographs at Mark Connelly's Restaurant on June 20. Bill is a wonderful photographer and his work is greatly appreciated. Gary had very wanted to attend the event, but other circumstances prevented it.

Last Sunday's bulletin was produced in color on our brand new color copier. It was a lovely bulletin and the color is a nice feature. We thank the Board of Trustees for finding a way to lease this new copier.

On Sunday, June 20 we received seven new members into our congregation. A lovely reception was provided for them during the Coffee hour. We thank the Membership and Evangelism Committee for providing the reception and Dottie Bottomley for the yellow roses presented to each new member. We are blessed to welcome these people into our church community. Diane Keller, out-going chair of the Membership and Evangelism Committee, attended the New Member Classes and made all the necessary contacts to welcome our new members on behalf of the church. Diane had done a very good job as a member and chair of the committee. Thank you Diane! The names of the new members appear in the Church Record elsewhere in this issue of the Herald.

We continue to encourage all of you to inform the church office if you are aware of people who are hospitalized, or if you are going to be hospitalized. Also, let Gary know if there are potential needs of which he may not be aware.

The church could use an 8-10 cubic foot chest-style freezer. If you or someone you know has one (self-defrosting) that they would be willing to donate, please call the church office. Thank you.

The moderator has made the following appointments in accordance with the Church By-Laws:

Linda Kegel to fill a vacancy on the Nominating Committee, term ending 2014.

Trina Camarao to fill a vacancy on the Christian Education Committee, term ending in 2013.

## Jo Luck, President of Heifer International Co-Recipient of World Food Prize

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (June 16, 2010) – Heifer International President Jo Luck today was named co-recipient of The World Food Prize—only the third woman to be so honored—for her work through Heifer to ensure availability and sustainability of food for people in need around the world. She shares the prestigious 2010 prize with David Beckmann, president of Bread for the World and one of the foremost U.S. advocates for hungry people. You can read more at [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org) or [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World\\_Food\\_Prize#Laureates](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Food_Prize#Laureates).

**From Marna Blomberg:** I am the Director of Development and Outreach for a new project called “[Like a Drop of Water](http://www.likeadropofwater.org).” This is a writing contest for young people worldwide, ages eight through seventeen, about how they, and the country they live in, can reduce climate change and worldwide pollution. Would you kindly go to [www.likeadropofwater.org](http://www.likeadropofwater.org) to read about the details of our project? We hope you will want to share our website with your family, friends, teachers, youth leaders, colleagues and clergy across the United States as well as emailing friends in other countries that may be interested. As young people learn of ways we can mitigate climate changes and create solutions for our growing pollution, they will increase the chances of future generations living on a healthy, resource abundant and not overcrowded earth. Yes, a drop of water is tiny, yet millions create a glass of water and trillions an ocean. We hope our drop will contribute to the sea change in thinking that is needed to preserve a sustainable quality of life on our planet. If you have any suggestions or would like to work with us in any way, we would appreciate hearing from you. Thank you for your time.

## The 2010 South Pond Chapel Summer Hymn Sing

July 11:	The Reverend Dr. Jeff Jones First Baptist Church of Plymouth
July 18:	To Be Announced
July 25:	The Reverend Gary Marks, The Church of the Pilgrimage
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 Fillebrown Chiltonville Congregational Church

## Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra July 4<sup>th</sup> Concert features 1812 Overture, Howitzer Cannons and Rescue & Recovery Flag from New York

PLYMOUTH, MA – Kicking off the 95<sup>th</sup> season of the **Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra** in grand style, conductor **Steven Karidoyanes** and *the Phil* perform **The Esther and Alcide Ruffini Fourth of July Concert**, a free-to-the-public Independence Day performance. *The Phil's* July 4<sup>th</sup> concert highlights include **Senate President Therese Murray** reading excerpts from the *Declaration of Independence* accompanied by **Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture**, a finale augmented by the **Plymouth High School Marching Band** (Bonnie J. Holmes, director), **howitzer cannons** operated by the **Army National Guard**, and an intermission performance by **East Coast Acappella**. As a dramatic backdrop to the proceedings, the concert stage features the inaugural display of **The Rescue and Recovery Flag of Ground Zero** with an honor guard comprising **Plymouth Police, Firefighters, and Sheriff's Deputies**. The concert will be held in historic **Pilgrim Memorial State Park** on the Plymouth Waterfront near the Plymouth Rock Portico, across from the natural amphitheater of Cole's Hill. The music starts at **7:30 PM on Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup>** (rain date: Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup>). The event is named to honor Mr. and Mrs. Ruffini and their special legacy to the people of Plymouth.

Conductor Karidoyanes has selected festive, family-friendly music for the occasion. On the program is a stirring collection of **George M. Cohan** favorites containing *Yankee Doodle Boy*, *Harrigan, Mary's a Grand Old Name*, and *You're a Grand Old Flag* and a *Salute to the Big Bands*, a medley of vintage M-G-M film music titled *That's Entertainment*, the theme to *Mission: Impossible*, *76 Trombones* from *The Music Man* and more.

**The Rescue and Recovery Flag of Ground Zero** hung during the rescue and recovery efforts immediately following 9/11 and remained on-site at Ground Zero until May 2002. The giant American flag measures 18 feet tall by 35 feet wide and weighs 27 pounds. It has been exhibited at a few private events but has never been displayed outside of Manhattan. A non-profit organization is being created to, in part, display the flag at future events around the country to honor local volunteers who journeyed to New York after 9/11.

**East Coast Acappella** brings to their audiences a unique blend of 5-part, all-male a cappella harmonies, presenting music from the 50s to today and specializing in Doo-Wop Rock & Roll. Founded in 2009 by their leader, baritone **Mike Kelble**, the group includes bass **Tom White**, tenor **Tom Lombardo**, tenor **Jack Pearson** and baritone **Rick Walsh**. In their brief time together they have already performed at **Mohegan Sun, Cape Cod Melody Tent, Boston's Bayside Expo Center** and **Faneuil Hall**.

The concert will be broadcast live on **WATD, 95.9 FM** and **PACTV, Plymouth Area Community Access Television** (Comcast channel 15 and Verizon Channel 47). For more information about the Plymouth Philharmonic Orchestra's 95<sup>th</sup> Season, call 508-746 8008 or visit *the Phil's* at [www.plymouthphil.org](http://www.plymouthphil.org)

## 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



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SUNDAY WORSHIP – 10:00 AM  
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE



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