
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

May 16, 2010

Dear Friends:

There is a way to put a spin on recalling an event or situation which makes even loss sound as though it is winning. Politicians do that sort of thing all the time. There are people who get paid a great deal of money to make even errors into something which appears to have gone well. In politics and corporations there are what are called “spin doctors” whose role in life is to make things look or seem better than they really are. To some extent, though not as well paid, even ministers in annual reports, for instance, try to put the best face on everything. I confess that I’ve done that in reports. For lay people who have not confessed to doing the same, I will confess for them that they do the same thing! It is human nature not to want to appear to have failed and we go to great extremes sometimes to cover ourselves.

What I’m trying to say is exemplified in a story I read about an interoffice softball game held once a year between the marketing department and the support staff of one company.

The day of the game, as hard as the marketers tried, the support staff whipped the marketing department badly.

In its best tradition, the marketing department managed to put the best “spin” they could on the dismal results. That, after all, is their job. They showed how they earn their living by posting the following memo on the bulletin board following the game.

“The marketing department is pleased to announce that for the recently completed softball season, we came in second, having lost but one game all year. The support staff, however, had a rather dismal season having won only one game all year.”

Never mind that the season consisted of only one game, the losers made the winners to appear to be the losers. Sometimes we don’t quite know what to believe. Misconceptions can be presented in such a way as to convince others of something which is untrue, yet avoiding lying outrightly at the same time. That is clever, if not satisfying.

I’d rather hear and tell the truth than have truth skewered and spun so cleverly that we have to decipher it from the words actually spoken to us. In John 8:31-32 Jesus said: “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” Faith in the way taught and lived by Jesus is the way I prefer to follow. He is not a “spin doctor.” As Howard Cosel used to say, “He tells it like it is.” He tells us of God’s gracious love for us, and that is liberating.

Sometimes we spin the truth on our own, like the little girl who said, “I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones.” That is a sweet, if naïve, sentiment. But, God wants all of us to be free in the kind of love Jesus shows us. For whatever reason God love us and wants us to be free. That is the truth.

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

May 16: Morning Worship 10am, Rev. Gary L. Marks preaching. The Annual Meeting of The Church of the Pilgrimage will be held immediately following the worship service in the sanctuary.

May 17: Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am. Gary will attend a meeting of the 2020 Committee.

May 18: Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am. The Board of Trustees will meet at 7:00pm.

May 19: Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am. Music Committee Meeting, 6:30pm. Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm.

May 20: Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am.

May 21: Gary will be in the office at 9:30am. Wedding rehearsal in the sanctuary, 6:30pm.

May 22: Wedding in the sanctuary, 1pm.

Coming Events:

May 23-Pentecost-Confirmation Sunday: New Member class in the JRC Conference Room, 11:30am-12:30pm.

May 25: The Advisory Board will meet in the JRC Conference Room at 7pm.

May 31-Memorial Day: The Church Office will be closed.

June 6: Music Appreciation Sunday. New Member Class.

N O T E S

Walter Morrison was recently hospitalized and is now recuperating at Life Care in Plymouth. **Gail Mason** is now at home following surgery and a period of rehabilitation.

The flowers are in loving memory of Mr. William Stearns, Jr. Given by William and Nancy Stearns and family.

We thank **Hannah Woodbury** for being worship leader on May 9th.

On May 6, 2010 Gary attended an **installation service for the Rev. David Fredrickson**. He is the new rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Plymouth. We wish Fr. Fredrickson well and we pledge our support to ministries we share with our friends at Christ Church.

On May 12, 2010 Gary gave a lecture on the Rev. John Robinson and the Covenant to the Lothrop Society at the Ladies Library in Brewster.

Coffee Hour following our Sunday worship services is a great time to catch up with each other and to greet newcomers to our church. We do need people to prepare for those gatherings. Please volunteer to provide this service to our church. There is a sign-up sheet in the kitchen area in Allerton Hall. If you have never helped with Coffee Hour, there are those who will inform you about what it involved. It isn't a huge undertaking, but the Coffee Hours are a very important part of our congregational social life.

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

A Note from Gary: Please let Gary know of anyone who is in any hospital, including the Jordan Hospital. Ministers now have access to information only about people of their own denomination, and a few other limited categories. When denomination is not specified there is really no way for me to know that someone from our congregation is a patient. The new policy is being implemented in the interest of patient confidentiality. It has been a part of my weekly routine over these many years to make two visits to the Jordan Hospital to check what is called the "Clergy List." (There are some weeks when I only visit the hospital once a week, depending on my schedule). Please call me or the church office if you or someone you know is hospitalized. Thank you.

NOTICE

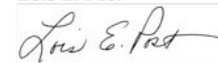
In accordance with the Bylaws of The Church of the Pilgrimage, the 2010 Annual Business Meeting will be held on May 16, 2010, following the Service of Worship.

The Purpose of the Meeting shall be:

1. To receive Reports of all Boards, Committees and Officers.
2. The election of Officers, Board and Committee Members.

All Church Members are urged to attend this important Meeting.

Lois E. Post



Clerk

Heifer International Month

This month we will work towards our goal of purchase of an Ark -\$5000. Over the past 30 years our congregation had given more than \$50,000 to provide farm animals for people in need around the world. Jill Howard's beautiful quilts will again be on sale, with all proceeds going to purchase goats for Heifer. Come to the coffee hour on Sunday to make your pledge. The Church School children will be given Ark banks and Animal Cards and each class will be working on a special animal.

Help Wanted--- Summer Tours

Al Hoyt is planning on organizing the summer open house at the Church Starting in June and going through Labor Day.

The plan is to have the Church open to visitors Wednesday through Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. We are

looking for 7 or 8 volunteers who would like to take a day each week or fill in for regular guides. If 8 folks volunteer, we can rotate the schedule to keep folks from having to do too much. Being an open house guide is a lot of fun. You meet people from all over the world and have a chance to talk about our beautiful and historic Church. Please consider volunteering. Training will be provided for all who are interested. If you are willing to help please contact Al Hoyt at aphoyt@comcast.net or 508-224-9507



Calling All Pie Bakers: The rhubarb is starting to come in, and everyone knows what that means-time to start making a freezing fruit pies for the fair. That's right-making NOT baking-no cooking required. For those new to the process, here is how it works: Pick up your disposable pie plates along the windows in Allerton Hall. Then, using fruit in season (or on sale) make your pies and freeze. To assure a uniform product, all pies should be made using the following piecrust recipe. Be sure to wrap the pies in a large plastic bag and label what kind of pie it is (permanent marker written right on the bag is the best way-tags can get lost and tape often doesn't stick). If you do not have room in your freezer for all your pies, contact me and I will see to it that they get into a big freezer. They will be sold frozen. Thank you for your help; these pies are always a big hit!
Jenny

Pie Crust Recipe for Frozen Pies

2 sticks unsalted butter, chilled and cut into cubes

2 cups all purpose flour

½ teaspoon salt

1 tablespoon sugar

¼ cup ice water

Mix dry ingredients well. Work in butter using two knives or a pastry blender (not your hands as they will warm the butter too much). Once butter has been well incorporated (reduced to pea sized pieces) add ice water and toss with fork to moisten dough. Turn dough out onto counter and rub dough into the counter several times with the heel of your hand. Form the dough into two discs, wrap in waxed paper or plastic and refrigerate for at least 2 hours.

Thank You!!!

Many, many thanks to all of the 60 wonderful volunteers who, always with open hearts and good humor, pitched in to help with our Monday Meals over the past 32 weeks, beginning in September and ending just last week.

It is your generosity of time and gifts of home cooked food that makes the program work. And your efforts were so much appreciated by the more than 90 men and women (plus five children), who came for lunch at various times.

We also thank Nate Moore and Dr. Moore for, once again, providing free flu shots and various health items, which were very much appreciated by many of our participants.

No "thank you" would be complete without acknowledging Janet Holmes and Hildegard Schimpf, who were on hand each week---Shellie Souza and Geoff Campbell, who expedited repair of the stove and were always there at the crucial times to give advice and help, and Brian Gildea for setting up tables and chairs and cheerfully helping in so many ways.

And, a special thank you to Mike Morway, Chef and Catering Manager at T-Bones, who provided a complete dinner with all the trimmings on Christmas Day for all our guests—and to the Campbell, May and Wilson families and the Sinn's and Johnsons for bringing goodies and helping to serve.

And, finally, many thanks to Rev. Gary and Kathy Marks for their enthusiasm and loyal support. Gary's many visits to the kitchen and chats with our guests were always appreciated and enjoyed.

It was a joyful year! Thank you for making it happen.

Meg Bross; Lynnette Lancaster/Rosa Cook; Diane Flood/Gay Flood---Team Leaders

Diane Flood

New Member Class

May 23rd will be the date of the first of three New Member Classes. The classes will be held on three successive Sundays, thus the last class will be on June 6th. New members will be received into the church on June 20th. A number of people have indicated a desire to unite with our congregation. If you are interested in attending the classes, please let the church office know. If you know of someone who should be contacted by the church regarding membership, please let us know that, as well. The classes will be one hour in length, 11:30am-12:30pm, and will be held in the JRC Conference Room. If there are children of parents who wish to attend, childcare will be provided.

Ministry of Meals: A few years ago we developed a program to provide a hot meal for an individual or family within our church family who is in need of assistance often for medical reasons. We have a hard working list of meal makers, and I would love to lighten their load by adding a few more names to the list. As a meal maker you may go months without ever having to make a meal, and then you may be called upon to do two in one month. But no matter how you look at it, the more meal makers the less work for everyone. And you don't have to be Julia Child to do it; any simple meal made by loving hands will do. Please consider being a part of this invaluable ministry not out of a sense of obligation or guilt but out of love, the kind of love Trace talked about on Sunday, the kind of love Jesus gave to us and gives to us even now. Having been the recipient of these lovingly prepared meals I can attest to the healing power of that kind of love. Please join us by calling (508-747-7168) or emailing (fremont10@verizon.net). Thank you. Jenny

Another Opportunity: In Allerton Hall, volunteers in The Church of the Pilgrimage provide lovely receptions called collations after families and friends come together for a memorial or funeral service. The planning and implementing of these gatherings often falls on the shoulders of one person and we'd like to be able to share the responsibility among several people. If you could serve as a coordinator and take a turn, one or two months at a time, please call Shellie in the church office (508-746-3026). Then our group will meet in the kitchen with Jenny for an orientation. Meg Bross has agreed to be coordinator for the summer months.



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SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:00 AM
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE



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