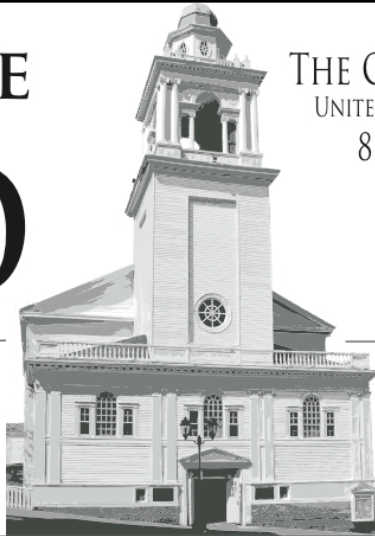

THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

THE REVEREND GARY L. MARKS,
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THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE
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Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:00pm

May 23, 2010

Dear Friends:

The Day of Pentecost is one of great festivity and celebration in some cultures with a Christian heritage. Unfortunately Pentecost does not have the same aura in the United States, probably because of our unique origins which spurned festival days, including Christmas and Easter, as being filled with too many “human inventions.” Yet, Pentecost is an extremely important Christian “feast day” because it celebrates the founding of the Christian Church.

Actually, Pentecost (Shavnot) was a Jewish festival before it was a Christian one. Pentecost among our Jewish friends was an agricultural festival during which the first fruits of the harvest were brought to the Holy Temple. The name Pentecost comes from the fact that there are seven full weeks, 49 days, from the second day of Passover to the day before Shavnot. The 50th is Pentecost which means fiftieth. In Judaism the festival came to be associated with the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai. Thus, Pentecost has an ancient heritage and links us as Christians with our Jewish sisters and brothers.

This brief sketch of Pentecost would have been the primary meaning for its celebration during the days of Jesus. In Acts 2:1-21 Pentecost is used as the occasion of the giving of the Holy Spirit. Whereas for Jews Pentecost meant the birth of Judaism, for Christians it would mean the birth of the Church.

I hope you will read Acts 2:1-21 before you come to worship on Sunday. It is a powerful story presented there about the outpouring of the Holy Spirit which is the engine of the Church, as it were, following Jesus’ departure from the world. In our Trinitarian tradition and faith God has three modes of expression. God is Creator, Jesus is Redeemer, the Spirit is the Sustainer. The focus of Pentecost is upon the Spirit who is the continuing presence of the Creator and Redeemer.

On this Pentecost Sunday we will receive our Confirmation Class into membership of the church of Christ, the United Church of Christ and The Church of the Pilgrimage. I want to thank Al Hoyt and those who have worked with him to offer training and counsel to our young people. We owe a great debt to those who have given Christian direction to the fine young people who comprise this year’s class. The lessons learned by our young people will, we hope, help them to become leaders in the future church, whether here or elsewhere.

Pentecost is one of several days and seasons of the church year which give a sense of integrity to the living of the Christian life. The faith and practices of the church can help all of us attain a direction of meaning in our increasingly secular world.

Come and celebrate Pentecost and welcome our Confirmation Class!

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 23-Pentecost-Confirmation Sunday: Morning Worship 10am, Rev. Gary L. Marks preaching. A Service of Confirmation is the centerpiece of our Pentecost worship. The first of a series of three New Member Classes will be held in the John Robinson Center Conference Room, 11:30am-12:30pm.

May 24: Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am. **May 18:** Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am.

May 25: Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am. The Advisory Board will meet in the JRC Conference Room at 7pm.

May 26: Gary will be in the office at 9:30am.

May 27: Gary will be in the office at 9:30am.

May 28: Gary will be in the office at 9:30am.

Coming Events:

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

June 6: Music Appreciation Sunday. New Member Class.

June 11: Guild Luncheon at East Bay Grille.

June 13: Church School Sunday.

N O T E S

Tom Mudgett was recently hospitalized and is now recuperating at home. **Laura Sampson** is recovering at home following a brief stay at Jordan Hospital.

On June 15, 2010 Rev. Marks conducted a wedding ceremony for **Jennifer Quinn and Stephen Kuhn** at The Union Club in Boston.

The flowers on the communion table are in loving memory of Philip B. Chandler. Given by Mr. and Mrs. Brian Chandler, Mr. and Mrs. Philip B. Chandler, and Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Morrissy. The flowers on the right are in loving memory of Mrs. Elsie Raymond. Given by Charlotte Cavicchi and Robert Raymond.

If you would like to honor or memorialize someone by placing flowers in the sanctuary this June, please call Cynthia Fischer at 508-746-1367 or email cf1010@aol.com.

Gary thanks all who have been willing to be worship leaders in recent months. He also thanks **Hannah Woodbury** for offering Children's Messages on a regular basis.

We thank **Paul McDonald** for being our greeter on May 16.

Congratulations to **Laura Curtin** for completing her fifth Avon Breast Cancer Walk last weekend.

A Reminder: If you or someone you know is going to be hospitalized, please let Gary or the church office know. Gary doesn't want to miss anyone.

Please let the church office know if you have a **high school or college graduate** this spring. We want to recognize them and know of their future plans.

On May 12 Gary gave a lecture on John Robinson and the Covenant at The Ladies Library in Brewster. It was attended by

about 50 people.

The Annual Meeting of The Church of the Pilgrimage was held on May 16, 2010. It was a good meeting, a short meeting because the fiscal budgetary process had been dealt with in January. You may recall that that was done when the congregation opted to base its budget on the calendar year. We thank Al Hoyt for moderating the meeting.

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

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.

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

The Church of the Pilgrimage has a great cause to celebrate the achievement of two of our members who received graduate degrees on May 22, 2010. **Al Hoyt received on him a Masters Degree in Christian Education and Rev. Rosemary McKay received a Doctor of Ministry Degree.** These are major achievements requiring a great deal of study, discipline and sacrifice. I also think it rare that two members of the same congregation to graduate in the same class. Both Rosemary and Al are now graduates of Andover Newton Theological School. I am so proud of both of them and we should all rejoice in what they have accomplished. Gary

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.

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.

Calling Student Instrumentalist!

We will continue our tradition of having young musicians provide the Prelude music on Youth Sunday, June 13. Student should be currently playing their instruments in school or in private lessons. Older students are also encouraged to play. Students who would like to play should prepare a 1 to 2 minutes piece appropriate for church and should plan to play that piece for Kelley DePasaqua, Director of Music, after Junior Choir on Sunday, June 6. She will then choose the 4 or 5 most prepared

students to play the following Sunday. If you will not be in church on June 6, please contact Kelley (kdepasqua@msn.com) to arrange another time (likely May 30).

Playhouse Project for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth

Put joy in your heart and a smile on a child's face. Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plymouth is building a Dream Playhouse that will be raffled off to one lucky family later this summer. With a donation of \$5 for one ticket and \$20 for four PLUS a free one, you can make not only a child happy but also help Habitat's mission to end housing poverty as they do God's work by helping to build a home with a less fortunate family. Tickets can be purchased at the build site next to Old Navy at Old Colony Place during build hours the on Saturday, May 22 from 10-3 or by going online to www.hfhplymouth.org.

Farewell Celebration—May 30, 2010

This is an invitation to the congregation to join together on Sunday, May 30 for a farewell celebration as we recognize Jessica during worship and both Jessica and Christina at a special coffee hour downstairs following worship in Allerton Hall. For those who do not know, Jessica is “in-care of our congregation”, and will be attending seminary at The Pacific School of Theology in Berkeley, California. We will also be giving Jessica an apron which many of you have already signed. Please see Elizabeth Hughes Campbell downstairs during coffee hour get your signature on her apron. Elizabeth will also be collecting cash for a gift for Jessica Hague and Christina Borel for the celebration. We are trying to be discreet about this so Elizabeth will be at a table off to the side. Thank you.

In a letter to The Church of the Pilgrimage from Ms. Edith Guffey, Associate General Minister of the UCC:

I am writing to offer my thanks for The Church of the Pilgrimage's generous sharing of Our Church's Wider Mission Basic Support last year, and for your part in making that happen. When we asked your Conference Minister for the names of the churches that have made exemplary gifts in 2009 for Basic Support, your church was on that short list!

The gifts you have given from your church enable significant mission—mission that belongs to God and that all of us do together. I believe that our partnership through OCWM is truly Changing Lives! We work hand in hand with your Conference to support and encourage congregations like yours that are on the front line of mission every day. And together, we carry out mission across the nation and around the globe.

I know very well the financial challenges faced in every setting of the church today, among the many other challenges and joys of our faith. These challenges make your leadership especially critical these days. I am personally grateful for your leadership at The Church of the Pilgrimage and your support of Our Church's Wider Mission giving. Thank you for your partnership.

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
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