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# 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 9, 2010

Dear Friends:

In all these years I don't think I've, written here about Mother's Day. I've never preached a sermon on a Mother's Day theme because in recent years I've generally followed the Common Lectionary which features the major themes of the Bible in a three-year cycle. Thanks to my astounding ability to Google these days I've found a few facts about the origin of Mother's Day some of which I'll relate here.

A day set aside to honor mothers is as old as the Greek and Roman cultures. Yet, we derive our observance of such a day from the Church of England. The fourth Sunday in Lent was called Mothering Sunday. That's the Sunday upon which young people were allowed to return home and break the Lenten fast. Young people were away from their homes either working as servants or to learn a vocation. They often brought flowers to show appreciation for their mothers.

In early America the observance of Mothering Sunday was abandoned. The Puritans objected to all things not biblical. It was not until Julia Ward Howe, the author of the words of The Battle Hymn of the Republic, that a specific Sunday was suggested as an international holiday honoring mothers. In 1872 Howe advocated for an International Mother's Day.

It was, however, Anna Jarvis who pushed for a Sunday to honor mothers as a national celebration. Jarvis held an annual gathering called "Mother's Friendship Day" with the intent to heal the wounds of those who had lost children in the Civil War. The death of her own mother in 1905 led Jarvis to champion the cause of recognizing and honoring all mothers. In 1908 Jarvis petitioned the Superintendent of Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia to hold a service in honor of her mother. Her mother had taught church school in that church for more than twenty years. On May 10, 1908 a service was held at Andrew's Methodist Church to honor Jarvis' mother. She sent 500 white carnations for the celebration to honor her own mother. Eventually carnations of color were worn by those whose mothers are living and white ones were worn by those whose mothers had passed this life. Another celebration was held on that same Sunday in Philadelphia where Anna Jarvis lived.

In 1914 President Woodrow Wilson declared that the second Sunday in May should be celebrated as a national holiday called Mother's Day.

This is a brief sketch of how Mother's Day came into existence. I confess that I had forgotten about the roles played in its origin by Julia Ward Howe and Anna Jarvis. I do remember, however, wearing a red or pink carnation on my lapel when I attended worship on Mother's Day. It was a lovely tradition and I miss it. I also miss my mother. Should the carnation tradition be revived I'd now have to wear a white one on my lapel. In any case, it is a good thing to remember what good mothers have given to us.

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 9-Mother's Day:** Morning Worship 10am, Rev. Gary L. Marks preaching. The Cherub Choir will sing.

**May 10:** Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am.

**May 11:** Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am. Shellie Souza will be attending an office administrator's seminar at the Mass Conference Center in Framingham. She will be away from the office for the day.

**May 12:** Gary will be giving a lecture on the Rev. John Robinson and the Covenant to the Lothrop Society in Brewster. We will be in the office late, if at all, on that day. Choir Rehearsal at 7:30pm.

**May 13:** Gary will be in the office at 9:30am. The Membership and Evangelism Committee will meet at 7pm in the JRC Conference Room.

**May 14:** Gary will be in the office at 9:30am. The Guild will meet at 1pm in Allerton Hall.

### Coming Events:

May 16: The Annual Meeting of The Church of the Pilgrimage will be held following morning worship (see notes).

May 23-Pentecost: Our Confirmation Class will be received into church membership during the morning worship service. The first of a series of three new member classes will be held in the JRC Conference Room from 11:30am-12:30pm.

## N O T E S

On May 2, 2010 **Brady Michael Runnels Morway** was baptized in a private ceremony in the sanctuary. Brady is the son of Katheryn Runnels and Michael Morway.

**Janice Lee** is recuperating at home following hip surgery.

**Nancy Scheid** is at home, but has been having medical tests in Boston.

**The flowers on May 2** were in loving memory of her son, Gary Courtney. Given by Billie Courtney. **On May 9 the flowers** on the communion table are in memory of Miss Jane Burns. Given by Putnam and Kathy Burns and family. The flowers on the right side are in honor of our Mothers.

We are grateful to **Deacon Trace Sears** for his inspiring sermon on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We thank all those who provided a delightful collation for the family and friends of **Elaine Sampson** on May 1, 2010. It was greatly appreciated by Elaine's family.

**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.

We hope you noticed the beautiful renewed growth in the **Memorial Garden** on the Burial Hill side of the church building. It is such a serene place. We thank our sexton, Brian Gildea, for the attention he is giving to the Garden. It is a lovely place to visit on a nice day to pray or meditate for a while. The Garden is a delightful enhancement of our church property.

Last Sunday we celebrated the **Holy Communion**. It occurred to me that most people don't realize that there are a dedicated few people who prepare the Communion elements for our services and then wash every little chalice, clean and polish the Communion ware when services are over and then place the ware into a Communion closet. Those devoted women deserve our gratitude for the loving service they provide for us. In recent months Jenny Healy had provided fresh baked bread, a common food of life, which becomes for us an emblem of the body of Christ. Thank you one and all!

### **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](mailto: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

**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). It is important for you now to let me know who is hospitalized because I am now missing some people whom I would otherwise find by checking the list. Please call me or the church office if you or someone you know is hospitalized. Thank you.

**The Guild will meet on Friday, May 14** at 1pm for their Annual Auction.

## Annual Reports

Copies of the annual report are available in the upper vestibule of the church building. Please take only one per family since they are expensive to produce. A special "thanks" goes to our office manager, Shellie Souza, for getting the report compiled and produced two weeks before the annual meeting.

# 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

## Congratulations to Beatrice Biira



Beatrice Biira and Will Soare

from Uganda who received her Masters in Public Service from the Clinton School in Little Rock, Arkansas on May 8. If you would like to send a congratulations card to her you send it to "Beatrice Biira, c/o the Sinn's, PO Box 1740, Manomet, MA 02345. We hope

Beatrice will be joining us for worship later in May.



## Heifer International Month

On Sunday, May 2, we began the Heifer campaign for the 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. These make beautiful Mother's day gifts. 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.

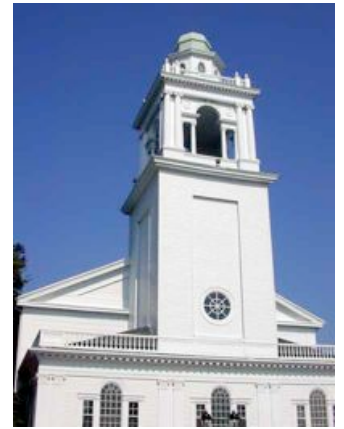
## Help Wanted---

### 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](mailto:aphoyt@comcast.net) or 508-224-9507



### New Member Class

May 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup>. New members will be received into the church on June 20<sup>th</sup>. 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.

### 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 and apron which many of you have already signed. Please see Marna downstairs during coffee hour for these next few Sundays in May to get your signature on her apron. We are trying to be discreet about this, so Marna will be at a table off to the side. Please see Elizabeth Hughes Campbell during coffee hour over the next few Sundays. She will be collecting cash for a gift for Jessica Hague and Christina Borel for the celebration.

**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](mailto: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 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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