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# THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL  
8 TOWN SQUARE, PLYMOUTH,  
MASSACHUSETTS 02360

[www.8townsquare.org](http://www.8townsquare.org)



THE REVEREND GARY L. MARKS,  
SENIOR PASTOR  
[gmarks@8townsquare.org](mailto:gmarks@8townsquare.org)



CHURCH OFFICE

PHONE: 508-746-3026  
FAX: 508-746-4362

[office@8townsquare.org](mailto:office@8townsquare.org)

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Volume LXXX, No. 29

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:00pm

October 3, 2010

Dear Friends:

Since the Twin Tower attacks on September 11, 2001 there has been a distrust of anyone who is a Muslim. Indeed, there is a hatred for those of the Islamic faith in general within a certain segment of the American population. The heated controversy over the proposed building of an Islamic center two blocks from “ground zero” has caused an uproar of monumental proportions, as we are all aware. In that portion of the American population a high percentage of people think that President Obama is a Muslim despite the fact of his repeated denials and protestations of his Christian faith. There have been attacks on Muslim places of worship around the country which has caught the attention of the media, as well. And, of course, the U.S. is at war, or has been, in two countries with predominantly Muslim populations.

Wise people don't blame all Muslims because of a fringe element of a faith which for many reasons has become terroristic. God knows there have been and are small segments of Christian background, so called, who have done horrible things in the name of Christian faith. I cite the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) as one example. We should not vilify a whole religion because of the lunatic marginal extremes of a religion, Islamic, Christian or any other.

I was encouraged to read about a young man who has organized an interfaith group to do good things in the world. ([USA Today](#), April 5, 2010). Eboo Patel is a Muslim who grew up in the Chicago area. “At age 22 he founded Interfaith Youth Core, a movement that focuses on service and cooperation. The decade-old group contains orthodox believers from a variety of traditions, with wildly divergent theologies. But they are united in their commitment to service—for example, mobilizing tens of thousands of young people to help combat malaria in Africa.”

Stories like Patel's Interfaith Youth Core don't often make the newscasts, but I'm always encouraged when I read an account of how the goodness in various religious persuasions can be channeled to work in cooperative ways for the good of the human race. I am so pleased that I read this story because I believe that the world's great religions can contribute to the healing of conflicts which have plagued us for centuries. Diversity in faith can become a great motivating strength in America and around the world. The perils of the world are so enormous that we can ill afford to be held hostage to extremists in any religion who prey upon the baser instincts of our humanity in order to create fear, hatred and violence. We need to keep our wits about us and to keep our faith positions praying for the good of all, not preying upon irrational and violent fears.

Love,

*Gary*

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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

Oct 3: Morning Worship at 10am, Rev. Gary L. Marks preaching. Communion will be a part of worship. The annual Neighbors in Need Offering will be collected. Fall Clean-Up following worship. The Confirmation Class will meet following worship.

Oct 4: Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am. Monday Meals of Hospitality, 11am.

Oct 5: Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am.

Oct 6: Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am. The Missions and Outreach Committee will meet in the JRC Conference Room at 7pm. The Interim Search Committee will meet at 7pm in the Stewart Room. Choir Rehearsal at 7:30pm.

Oct 7: Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am. The Christian Education Committee will meet at 7pm in the JRC Conference Room.

Oct 8: Gary will be in the church office at 9:30am. The Guild will meet at 1pm in Allerton Hall.

### COMING EVENTS-

Oct 10: Budgets need to be submitted to the church office.

Oct 11: The Church Office will be closed for Columbus Day.

Oct 14: The Membership and Evangelism Committee will meet at 7pm in the JRC Conference Room.

Oct 15: Wedding rehearsal in the sanctuary at 5:30pm.

Oct 16: Wedding in the sanctuary at 2pm.

Oct 17: The Chest of Joash Service will be a part of the worship service. . Confirmation Meeting.

Oct 23: Harvest Fair.

## Flowers

The flowers on the Communion table are in memory of our Families. Given by Helen and Jack Lane.

## NOTES

Audrey Birnstein is at Jordan Hospital.

We are sorry to report that our oldest church member, Sydney Rowland, has passed this life at the age of 104. She was a wonderful spirit and altogether lovely woman. A private memorial service for Sydney will be held in October.

Ryan and Cecilia Daily are the parents of a baby boy, Elijah. Congratulations!

We were glad to see Terry Runnels back in the choir on Sunday after open heart surgery during the summer.

According to the by laws, the Moderator has appointed the following members to fill vacancies: Doris Soliwoda to fill a vacancy on the Membership and Evangelism Committee, term ending 2013. Dottie Bottomley to fill a vacancy on the Advisory Board, term ending 2014.

We thank Tom Mudgett for speaking about Habitat for Humanity last Sunday.

We are seemingly ever in need of people to provide our Sunday Coffee Hours following worship. These gatherings are important events allowing people to greet one another and exchange information and ideas. They provide us with opportunities to get to know each other and to introduce ourselves to those who may be looking for a church home. There is not a lot of work to providing a Coffee Hour and there are people who will help you become acquainted with the routine. Please sign-up for sponsoring a Coffee Hour.

**Fall Clean-Up:** After worship on October 3, we are having a fall clean-up and spruce up day. All volunteers are welcome! We will be painting the railings on the seaside of Allerton Hall, removing small bushes, planting shrubs, trimming shrubs, and some leaf raking. Jobs will be posted at the church entrance as we did at spring clean-up.

**Braille Hymnal Now Available:** A Braille edition of our hymnal, *Hymns of Truth and Light* is now available. Helping Hands Braille Ministries was able to take our hymnal and create a 6-volume hymnal in Braille.

**Monday Meals of Hospitality:** Our church's Monday Meals program resumed on September 20, and we would love to have some extra help. This program is a vital outreach effort in our community. Every Monday morning from September through May a group of volunteers welcomes an average of 60-70 guests into Allerton Hall for a hot meal, a warm place to relax, and a take-away lunch if desired. Last season we served over **2300 meals**--amazing, isn't it! It is estimated that about 1/3 of our attendees are homeless; the remainder are seniors, young unemployed, disabled people from group homes etc. They always come with a smile and a big appetite! On Sunday September 26 you will have an opportunity to sign up to assist in some way. We welcome volunteers to provide part of a meal, serve, clean up, etc. In the past, folks who have scheduling conflicts on Monday mornings have left food in the refrigerator on Sunday for us to use the next day. You needn't be an accomplished cook/baker; our recipes are simple, and some people choose to buy baked goods for desserts or snacks with coffee before dinner. Our wonderful Board of Missions has offered to donate funds to assist in this important program, but contributions are always welcome. (Checks can be made out to the church with "Monday Meals" on the memo line.) We hope you will consider joining us in this worthwhile endeavor as we strive to do God's work here in Plymouth. If you are unable to sign up on Sunday, please call the church office with your name and number, and one of us will contact you. Thank you.

Blessings to you,

Your Monday Meals Crew

**Holy Land Pilgrimage & Education Tour**

***IHS In His Steps: Pathways of Peace***

Walk where Jesus walked and consider how he would have us respond to what we encounter.

October 16-October 28, 2010 with Rev. Branwen Cook,

Coordinator. Contact: [pastor.cook@yahoo.com](mailto:pastor.cook@yahoo.com) or

617-322-9900.

Endorsed by the Commission for Mission and Justice

The Massachusetts Conference, United Church of Christ

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## Harvest Fair 2011



**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** The Harvest Fair would not happen each year without the help of many hands. **We need yours!** Please contact Laura Curtin at 508-746-7761 if you can help, or if you have items you would like to donate and they need to be picked up. Thank you!

**Silent Auction/Raffle:** Do you have anything to donate to the drawings? Do you have a few minutes to make a few phone calls or visit a local business? **Contact Kara Mallon, 508-746-0514.**

**Second Hand Books:** It's back! We had many requests to bring the books back, who doesn't love to read? We need donations! Check your bookshelves! **Call Deb Richters, 508-746-0558.**

**The Color Theme Table:** This table consists of a one color scheme (this year it's **RED**) and everything on the table whether it be a plate, vase, or lamp will be that color! **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

**Holiday Table:** This table offers all sorts of holiday themed crafts. Think wreathes, centerpieces, ornaments, etc. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

**CHECK THIS SPOT NEXT WEEK FOR MORE WAYS YOU CAN HELP MAKE OUR HARVEST FAIR A SUCCESS!**



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& TOWN SQUARE,  
PLYMOUTH, MA 02360

SUNDAY WORSHIP -- 10:00 AM  
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE



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