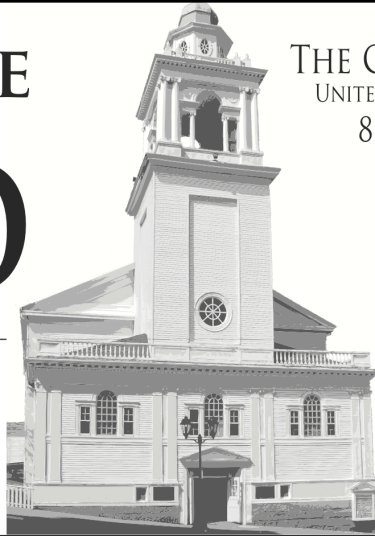


# THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL  
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April 3, 2011

Dear Members and Friends:

*“Who’s in the hospital?”*

That has long been a question parishioners have asked their clergy out of a sense of caring. But, given modern privacy rules at hospitals that’s a question which clergy are obliged not to answer, unless they have permission from those hospitalized to divulge such information. In fact, access to the census list in the hospital is granted to clergy on the condition that they will maintain such confidentiality. And access to that census list is very important, for it is often the only way clergy know if their parishioners are in the hospital.

Years ago it was common for newspapers to publish the names of those in the hospital. But the days of such openness are long gone. Today, understandably, the emphasis is on privacy and personal security. Here are some important points to remember.

--If you are admitted to the local hospital and wish for me to visit you, please be sure that our Church Office is contacted with that information.

--When you are admitted to the local hospital, please be sure that your religious preference is listed specifically as “Church of the Pilgrimage.” That’s important even for clergy who have long served their churches. It is especially important for clergy, like me, who are new to their churches and still learning their parishioners’ names.

If neither of the above steps is taken, that greatly increases the likelihood that I will not know that you are in the hospital.

Here’s a related point. In a church family people often share information about members who are ill because they sincerely care. Such sharing can be very valuable in a church as it enables and inspires people to do meaningful things for those who are ill. Still, one needs to exercise some discretion.

In our church services at the time of the Pastoral Prayer, I’ve invited people to raise up the names of persons to be prayed for. That’s a very meaningful thing to do. But here is a caution. Such prayer is very public. Before raising a person’s name up, one should be clear that the person wishes for that to be done.

I once had this experience. The name of a woman was given to me to mention at the time of prayer in worship. The woman was then in a Boston hospital. Not long afterwards, I received an angry phone call from that woman. As she said to me, *“Here I am flat on my back in a Boston hospital, and you’ve just told everyone that no one is at my house in town. Suppose some unscrupulous person gets wind of that and robs my house?”*

Frankly, I was startled. That thought never occurred to me. But, as I thought about it, I realized that woman was absolutely right. Of course, I and everyone else meant well. *(continued on page 2)*

*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

(Continued from p. 1) But sometimes good intentions are not enough. All I could do in that situation was promise that person that I would drive by her house every day to check on it while she was in the hospital, which I certainly did. But, that experience taught me a valuable lesson about guarding the privacy of others.

Of course, many people will wish to be remembered by name at the time of their congregation's public prayers. That is often a deeply meaningful thing. But, before we lift up the names of others, we need to take a moment to consider who does and who doesn't [for whatever reason] wish for such public disclosure to take place. In fact, I think the use of such discretion is another form of caring.

Yours In Christ's Service,



#### On Our Calendar

**Apr 3-Fourth Sunday in Lent:** Morning Worship at 10am, Rev. Dr. Doug Showalter preaching. A special mission offering-*One Great Hour of Sharing* will be taken during the worship service. The Cherub Choir will rehearse this morning. The Junior Choir will not rehearse this morning. The Confirmands will meet this morning. Annual Reports are due in the church office today. The Pilgrim Association Spring Meeting will be in Norwell today at 2:00pm.

**Apr 4:** Monday Meals of Hospitality in Allerton Hall, 11am.

**Apr 6:** The Missions Committee will meet at 7:00pm in the Marks Conference Room. Choir Rehearsal in the sanctuary at 7:30pm.

**Apr 7:** The Christian Education Committee will meet at the home of Jenny Healy at 7:00pm.

**Apr 8:** The Guild will meet at 1:00pm in Allerton Hall.

**Apr 10:** Morning Worship at 10:00am. This is the Fifth Sunday in Lent. The Cherub Choir will rehearse after worship in the JRC Great Room this morning.

#### Flowers

The flowers are in loving memory of Jeanette Holmes and Curtis & Aurissa Holmes. Given by the family.

#### Church Record

On March 25, 2011 Rev. Dr. Doug Showalter conducted a funeral service in the sanctuary for Alan Haas.

#### Church World Service Hygiene Kits

For the month of April, the Missions committee, on behalf of Church World Service, will be collecting Hygiene Kits. These Kits are shipped to people around the world. They are especially needed at this time in Haiti and Japan. The contents of each Kit have been selected with care based on years of experience to make them as useful as possible, wherever and whenever they are sent. In the face of natural disasters, violence, or grinding poverty, Hygiene Kits can mean the difference between sickness and health for struggling families. We are asking each church family, be it one person or many, to consider contributing one kit.

#### To assemble a Hygiene Kit you will need:

- One hand towel measuring approximately 16" x 28" (no fingertip or bath towels)
- One washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb
- One nail clipper
- One bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)
- One toothbrush (in original packaging)
- Six standard size Band-Aids®

Place all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure; remove excess air from bag, and seal. Please do not add toothpaste to the Hygiene Kit. Cartons of toothpaste that have an extended expiration date will be added to Hygiene Kit shipments just prior to shipment.

Bins for placing completed Kits will be found on the stairways leading up to the sanctuary. On April 26, all completed kits will be picked up at our church and sent off. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support for what has become an annual mission's project at our church.

#### Palm Sunday Breakfast

The Annual Palm Sunday Breakfast will be held on Sunday, April 17, 2011 at 8am and the cost is FREE. Linn Peterson and Linda Kegel will be taking reservations at coffee hour or you can call the office.

### One Great Hour of Sharing

This Sunday, April 3rd, the United Church of Christ asks you to participate in its One Great Hour of Sharing. Our gifts, combined with those of other UCC churches, will be used to help people in more than 80 countries throughout the world. An envelope for your gift was provided in last week's Herald. Envelopes will also be available at Sunday's service. Please share what you can. Make checks payable to "The Church of the Pilgrimage." Write "One Great Hour of Sharing" on the memo line. Thank you.

### New Easter Pageant!

Rev. Dr. Showalter is sharing with us a pageant that he put together for his church in Falmouth. It tells the story of the events leading to and ending with Easter told by two narrators, himself and a young person. The parts of Mary Magdelene, Jesus, his disciples and others, are played by young people who walk through the story as it is being told. This service will take place at 9:30am on Easter morning and will be followed by the traditional service at 11am. There is a sign-up sheet posted in Allerton Hall. All participants are required to come to a single rehearsal on Palm Sunday following the service and to arrive 30 minutes before the Easter Pageant begins. Please direct any questions, concerns or suggestions to Jenny: [fremont10@verizon.net](mailto:fremont10@verizon.net) or 508-747-7168.

### Memorial Lilies



The joyous Easter season is fast approaching. As is our tradition, the beauty of our church will be enhanced on Easter morning with a multitude of lilies. Through your loving donation of \$15, your name and those honored or memorialized will be listed in the Easter

Sunday bulletin as well as in Easter week's Herald. Sign up in the lower vestibule following this Sunday's service and the next two Sundays, or call the church office. Volunteers will be welcomed to take flowers to shut-ins. Purchased flowers may be picked up after the second service.

### Coming Attractions From the Guild

→On May 20 (please note corrected date) at 2:30pm the Guild will provide a tea with entertainment at the Newfield House (nursing home) to honor those residents past and presently residing there that have connections to our church. We invite members of the congregation to join us as we entertain the residents of the Newfield House. It would be nice to have a good representation from the church. It should be a fun afternoon.

→The Guild has agreed to sponsor a project to outfit the kitchen at the John Robinson Center. By doing so, we hope to increase the number and types of events that can be held there. A savings account begun by the Women's Fellowship was dedicated to this purpose and has given us a start. As a first fundraiser, the Guild will offer a Bake Sale on Mother's Day Sunday, May 8. We hope that the congregation will plan on making a purchase of delicious baked items on that day and helps us to begin this campaign. There will be several events a year dedicated to this purpose. If members of the congregation would like to make a financial contribution or hold a fund raising event to add to the fund, we would welcome any additional funds to be added to this special bank account. We estimate that it will take approximately \$20,000 to complete this project. Let's make a beginning.

→Friday, April 8 (please note corrected date) at 1pm the Guild will hold it's monthly meeting in Allerton Hall. This month we will hold our annual auction. Come and join us for tea and bidding. You are invited to bring an item to be auctioned off and also bring your enthusiasm for this annual fund raiser which benefits our charitable contributions over the year as well as our operating costs. Come and join the fun!

### Welcome Scrapbook

Please add your family's page to our "Welcome Scrapbook" for Doug and Chris Showalter! Look for the scrapbook table in Allerton Hall during coffee hour. There is scrapbook paper available to take home and design your page. Shellie will have scrapbook paper in the office if you would like to pick it up there. Judy Foster can answer questions about this project.

## Memorial Garden/Columbarium

When our current church building was constructed, Burial Hill ran unbroken down to its side. Years later, when the road was cut through, the little piece of land on the hillside of the church became derelict, overgrown with weeds and trash trees. Kathy Marks and Linn Peterson had a vision of restoring the space, reconnecting it to the Hill and creating a sacred place to serve as an eternal resting place for Church of the Pilgrimage members and their families.

We are halfway there. The garden has been installed, and is about to show off its spring finery. There are benches inviting quiet contemplation and prayer. River stones carry our private memorials and prayers. What we are awaiting are the three columbaria which will hold our ashes for eternity.

I recognize that I am broaching two difficult subjects in one, namely money and mortality. A niche in the columbarium can contain two urns. The cost for the niche in the first columbarium is \$1,200. We need to sell ten niches before we can construct the first columbarium. The price for future niches will undoubtedly increase, as the cost of granite and labor rises. Three freestanding columbaria are planned for the space, each with their back to the stone wall, and rising gradually in height with the wall. We are selling niches in the middle columbarium.

Now we get into mortality. No one wants to think of their own, but this is a chance to ensure that our final resting place exists in an historic, sacred and beautiful spot. It is comforting for our loved ones to have a special place to come to remember us, and where better than next to our beloved church.

We need commitments (i.e. checks) immediately for at least six more niches in order to begin construction on the first columbarium. Contact committee member or Shellie in the church office for the enrollment form to accompany your check. Don't delay.

Judy Mitchell 508-746-3959 (je\_mitchell@comcast.net) / Linn Peterson 508-586-7415 (dusteryip@hotmail.com) / Pat Mudgett 508-224-7296 / Shellie Souza 508-746-3026 (office@8townsquare.org)



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SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:00 AM  
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE



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WE ARE UNITED IN STRIVING TO KNOW THE WILL OF GOD, AND TO WALK IN GOD'S WAYS, MADE KNOWN OR TO BE MADE KNOWN TO US.