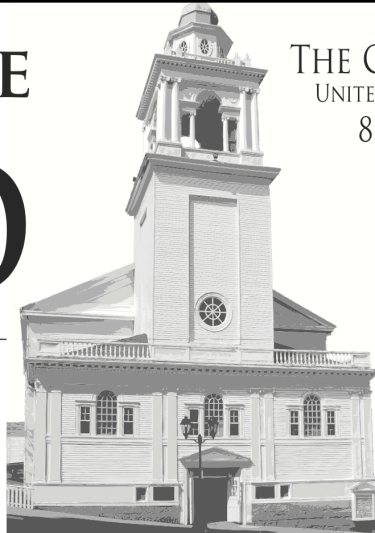


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# THE PILGRIMAGE HERALD

THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL  
8 TOWN SQUARE, PLYMOUTH,  
MASSACHUSETTS 02360  
[www.8townsquare.org](http://www.8townsquare.org)



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THE REV. DR. DOUGLAS K. SHOWALTER  
INTERIM PASTOR  
[dougshowalter@8townsquare.org](mailto:dougshowalter@8townsquare.org)

REV. GARY L. MARKS, PASTOR EMERITUS

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## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

MON-FRI: 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

PHONE: 508-746-3026

FAX: 508-746-4362

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

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Volume LXXXI, No. 27

Summer Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00am-12:00pm

August 2011

Dear Members and Friends,

At its June meeting, the Advisory board created a three person committee, called the Safe Church Committee (SCC), to bring up to date and implement the Safe Church Policy of The Church of the Pilgrimage. Such policies are a very important part of church life in our modern day. For the well-being and effectiveness of any church requires that it be, first of all, a safe place for both children and the adults who work with them.

I first became involved in developing a Safe Church policy for my Falmouth church back in 1994, when our Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ began urging its churches to adopt such a policy. At that time, many people in our MACUCC churches questioned the need for Safe Church policies. They found it hard to imagine that anyone connected with a church of Jesus Christ would ever harm a child. Yet, since that time media reports in Massachusetts and elsewhere have made it clear that Christian churches have not always been safe places for children. The reality is that such abuse has long taken place in church life, and all too often in the past churches have responded to such incidents by essentially ignoring those victimized and allowing perpetrators to continue their abuse.

Child abuse can and has taken place in religious communities across the theological spectrum. No faith or denomination, including our own United Church of Christ, has been completely free of such evil. Fortunately, it is widely recognized today that every religious community needs to be vigilant in guarding against it. And, fortunately, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has created a tool, called the Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI), which helps churches, schools, and others protect their children.

As part of its Safe Church Policy, our church requires that all persons who work with children in our church's programming must be CORI'd by our church. A person's CORI obtained by one institution is not transferable, thus each institution needs to secure its own CORIs. As a non-profit organization, our church likely will be able to secure a certificate from the Commonwealth which will enable it to secure, without charge, all the CORIs we need for our volunteers and employees.

**Is there a possibility that you will be involved with our church's children sometime during the next school year, for example, in a crib room, in a classroom, or at some youth activity on church property or off it? If so, please be sure that by Rally Day, September 11, you fill out our church's authorization form, which gives our SCC permission to secure your CORI. Thank you. Those authorization forms will be available at our Church Office and also at the church on Rally Day.**

(continued on p. 2)

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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

(continued from p. 1)

The members of our new Safe Church Committee are: Debby Porter, Tom Healy, and a third person to be appointed. The Advisory Board Chairperson, Peter Causton, and I are working with the SCC to revise the church's Safe Church Policy as needed.

While clergy have sometimes served on Safe Church committees, our MACUCC has now advised against it. For one thing, it is very difficult for a minister, who is responsible for the pastoral care of a congregation, to also be put in the position of evaluating the CORIs of lay parishioners. It is also difficult for church employees to be put in that position.

In the words of the 84th Psalm:

*How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!  
My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the  
Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living  
God. Even the sparrow finds a home, and the  
swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her  
young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and  
my God.*

May our Church of the Pilgrimage always be  
such a cherished house of God and safe place for all!

Yours In Christ's Service,



#### Summer Office Hours & Staff Vacation for August

The office hours for the summer are 8:00am-12:00pm. Brian Gildea will be taking vacation from August 5-August 13. Shellie Souza will be taking August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 as vacation days.

#### Summer Flowers

July 3: In loving memory of Gib and Marion VanNest. Given by Tony and Susan Cotta.

July 10: In loving memory of her husband Robert, her son Jerry, her daughter Joanne, and her sister-in-law, Thelma Strassel. Given by Audrey Birnstein.

July 17: In celebration of their anniversary, in honor of their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchild. Given by Alice and Ken Heckman.

July 31: In loving memory of Shirley and Francis Hoyt, and Margaret Sherman Perkins. Given by Allen and Verna Ross-Hoyt.

August 6: In loving memory of Sara Marks and our parents, Floyd and Pauline Marks and Boyd and Eleanor Mayhew. Given by Gary and Kathy Marks.

August 13: open

August 20: In loving memory of my parents, Raymond and Marilyn Monto. Given by Mal Borsari.

August 27: open

If you are interested in providing flowers for our Communion table on either August 13 or August 27 please contact Betsy Marks at 508-746-4580.

#### On Our Calendar

**August 1:** The Church Office will be closed. Shellie will be taking a vacation day.

**August 2:** Summer Concert, 8:00pm in the sanctuary. *Alan Saggerson* (organ recital).

**August 3:** Missions and Outreach Committee Meeting at 7:00pm in the Marks Conference Room. The Search Committee will meet at 7:00pm. The Christian Education Committee will meet at 7:00pm at the home of Jenny Healy.

**August 5:** Brian Gildea will be taking a vacation day. Wedding rehearsal in the sanctuary, 6:00pm.

**August 6:** Wedding in the sanctuary at 4:00pm.

**August 7:** Worship at 10:00am, Rev. Dr. Doug Showalter preaching.

**August 7-13:** Brian Gildea will be on vacation.

**August 8:** The Church Office will be closed. Shellie will be taking a vacation day.

**August 9:** Summer Concert, 8:00pm in the sanctuary. *Four Guys in Tuxes* (all request evening).

**August 10:** The Board of Trustees will meet at 7:00pm in the Marks Conference Room. The Search Committee will meet at 7:00pm.

**August 14:** Worship at 10:00am, Rev. Dr. Doug Showalter preaching.

**August 15:** The Church Office will be closed. Shellie will be taking a vacation day.

**August 16:** Summer Concert, 8:00pm in the sanctuary. *Highland Light Scottish Pipe Band*.

**August 17:** Search Committee Meeting at 7:00pm in the Marks Conference Room.

**August 20:** Deadline for the September newsletter.

**August 21:** Worship at 10:00am, Al Hoyt will be our guest preacher.

**August 22:** The Church Office will be closed. Shellie will be taking a vacation day.

**August 23:** The Advisory Board will meet at 7:00pm in the Marks Conference Room. Summer Concert at 8:00pm in the sanctuary. *Bay State Winds Military Clarinet Quartet.*

**August 24:** The Search Committee will meet at 7:00pm in the Marks Conference Room.

**August 28:** Worship at 10:00am, Rev. Dr. Doug Showalter preaching.

**August 29:** The Church Office will be closed. Shellie will be taking a vacation day.

**August 30:** September Newsletter fold and mail date.

**August 31:** The Search Committee will meet at 7:00pm in the Marks Conference Room.

#### Church Record

On Sunday, June 26, 2011 **Rev. Dr. Doug Showalter baptized** the following children:

**Layla Anne Grace Clements**, daughter of Therese Clements and Sean Phillips of Plymouth. Layla's sponsors are Patricia and David Cilley of Wells, Maine.

**Ethan Joseph Dunn**, son of Kelley (Lavelle) and Kevin Dunn of Middleboro. Ethan's sponsors are Erin and Matthew Maher of Plymouth.

**Mathew Ryan Putnam Jr.**, son of Sharon Tarr and Mathew Putnam Sr. of Plymouth. Mathew's sponsors are Johnathan Forsythe, Valerie Tarr, Alexander Tarr and Alisha Jones.

On Sunday, July 3, 2011 Rev. Dr. Doug Showalter baptized **Elijah Ryan Daily**, son of Cecilia (Vautrain) and Ryan Daily.

On Sunday, July 3, 2011 Rev. Dr. Doug Showalter conducted a wedding ceremony for **Carey Marston and Ryan Kegel** in our sanctuary.

#### Notes

**Lynnette Lancaster's father**, Louis Beigbeder, will be living with them for the summer. His wife June passed away at their home in Florida on June 26 after a long illness. Please keep June's family and Louis and his family in your prayers. Thank you.

**Rally Day will be on Sunday, September 11** at Stephens Field after the morning worship service.

Hotdogs, watermelon, games, and family fun. Church school registration also takes place before worship that morning.

**Pledge statements for the first half of 2011 are available.** These statements reflect payments deposited on or before June 30, 2011. By keeping your pledge current through the summer months you will help us fulfill our financial obligations. Please see Verna Ross-Hoyt after morning worship for your statement or call the church office.

**Thank you to the following who were our July greeters:** Deb & Jon Porter, Barbara, Andrew, and Stephanie Northrop, Gina Basler, Michael Cappola, Marna, Sophia and Julia Blomberg, and Doris & Dennis Soliwoda.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Southeast Area Fall Fellowship Meeting will be held on November 6, 2011 at the First Church of Sandwich. This program will include a farewell for Rev. Dale Hempfen.

#### A Message from Missions

The Missions and Outreach committee is still collecting money for the Massachusetts Conference's **Tornado Relief Fund**. As of this writing we have collected \$645. We will continue to accept donations throughout the summer. Thanks to all for giving aid to our neighbors in the western part of the state.

Looking ahead to the fall we will be asking not so much for your money as for your time and effort. The **Monday meals program** will be starting up again, and we will need cooks and servers. Those who are unable to do either may wish to donate money so that some of those who cook might be reimbursed for ingredients. All your help will be greatly appreciated.

In addition, as soon as we get our assigned weeks, we will be asking people to "sign up" to help with our **homeless program**, either as overnight hosts or meal providers. We will be hosting for two weeks again this year (some churches do more). We will therefore need 14 pairs of overnight chaperones and 14 complete dinners for 20. Chaperones may choose a partner or be paired with another individual volunteer. Meal providers may wish to "team up" with someone else to help lessen the burden of cost and time. Once again, anyone who is unable to help in either manner may wish to donate funds to the Mahlon Walker Fund to offset some of the costs incurred. Thank you and enjoy the rest of your summer.

Save the date....Stewardship Sunday....Sept 18, 2011

An invitation from your Stewardship Committee

Can you hear God "calling" you.....Here I am, Lord

The members of the Stewardship Committee would like to invite all of our Church members, friends and supporters to join us downstairs in Allerton Hall after the service on Stewardship Sunday, September 18, 2011. A light lunch will be served and there will be a short presentation by a member of the Stewardship Committee as well as a member of the Board of Trustees. We will also have some printed material available.

Golf Tournament Hole Sponsors

The Annual Church of the Pilgrimage Fall Golf Tournament will be held Saturday morning, September 17, 2011 at Southers Marsh Golf Club in West Plymouth. We welcome corporate and individual hole sponsors (\$100) to make this fundraiser, which is a "line item" in the church budget, a success. Let us know if you wish to continue as a hole sponsor or would like information about doing it for the first time. You'll get great publicity for your business while helping your church. Contact Mike Harrington 508-747-2060, Judy Mitchell 508-746-3959 (je\_mitchell@comcast.net) or Debby & Jon Porter at 508-746-4109.

From the Chairman of the Advisory Board

Dear Church Family,

As most of you know, Jessica Hague, a lifelong member of our church, is in California pursuing her Master's in Divinity. Jess says that she's learning a lot and is excited about sharing what she's learned with us. When Jess left, we promised to be her "church in care," meaning that we would offer her spiritual and tangible support. Recently, she appealed to us for financial aid. If you would like to make a special donation to help Jess, please make out a check to The Church of the Pilgrimage with Jessica Hague on the memo line. You may put your donation in the collection plate on Sunday, July 24 or 31, or send it to the church office in care of Shellie Souza. Thanks for your prayers and support of Jessica.

*Peter Causton*

The Church of The Pilgrimage  
Annual Harvest Fair is coming!

Mark your calendars!

The Harvest Fair is scheduled for Saturday, October 29, from 9:30am-2:00pm. We have a few new tables this year, including a *Tiny Tots* table and *Everything Chocolate*. Please keep the Church fair in mind over the summer as you are cleaning out. We have lots of great tables that can use your donations. If you have any questions or would like to donate your time to help, please call or email Laura Curtin 508-746-7761 or [lmcurtin@comast.net](mailto:lmcurtin@comast.net). Thank you!

**New table for the fair. "Tiny Tots Table"**

Do you have a baby shower gift that went unused? Do you have baby clothes that were never worn? Please donate them for resale at the fair. We are looking for infants to 3 years old, items that are new or slightly used and small toys. Please NO furniture because of space restraints. Contact Lynne Budge 508-747-1546 or 508-560-5688.

South Pond Chapel Hymn Sing schedule

Summer hymn sings at the South Pond Chapel are sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Plymouth. The Chapel is located on Long Pond Road, off exit 5 in Plymouth. Each Sunday in July and August a different local minister leads the 7:00pm service.

South Pond Chapel was built in 1870 as a Union Evangelical church for residents of the village at South Pond in Plymouth; it offered them a place to worship close to their homes in what, at the time, was a remote part of town.

This year's season is dedicated to the memory of Rev. Dr. Peter Gomes who passed away earlier this year.

August 7 Rev. Jeff Jones, First Baptist Church of Plymouth

August 14 To Be Announced

August 21 Rev. Gary Marks, retired

August 28, "Old Home Day"; Rev. William Fillebrown, Chiltonville Congregational Church

Ms. Jane Costa is the accompanist for the season.

**September 11, 2011 at The Church of the Pilgrimage**

A special *9/11: Our Journey of Hope* interfaith community worship service will be held on Sunday, September 11 at 7:00pm at our church. All are welcome. The service is sponsored by the Plymouth Area Interfaith Clergy Association and our church. This 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary service is slated to include images from 9/11, an interfaith choir, remembrance of those who died on 9/11, and speakers representing the Massachusetts 9/11 Fund which helps MA victims' families and some religious traditions (including Islam) who will reflect briefly on the hope which has been and may yet be found in the wake of the terrorist acts perpetrated on 9/11. A reception will follow the service.

All singers—either as individuals or as entire choirs from area faith communities—are invited to participate in this service's Interfaith Choir, which will include our church's choir. This Interfaith Choir will be directed by Kelley DePasqua and accompanied by Michael Eaton of our church. Rehearsals will be from 7:00pm - 8:15pm at our church on Thursday, September 1 and Wednesday, September 7. Participants should attend both rehearsals, or at least one of them. The Repertoire will include: *In Remembrance* by Eleanor Daley (SATB) and *We Rise Again* by Leon Dubinsky/Arr. Lydia Adams (SATB), and a benediction response, TBD. Both anthems may be heard on YouTube.



THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE  
8 TOWN SQUARE,  
PLYMOUTH, MA 02360

SUNDAY WORSHIP – 10:00 AM  
CHILDCARE AVAILABLE



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