

Pilgrim Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
On the Common P.O. Box 281  
Southborough, Massachusetts 01772  
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# The Spire

September 2011

Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC

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Southborough, MA 01772

## FROM THE ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Walking along the trails of Beals Preserve this morning, I was startled by one brilliant red leaf in my path. Fall is coming. I can hear the winds whispering of cooler days soon to come, interrupting the August heat. After a decade in San Francisco where the seasons are marked by subtle degrees of fog, I am savoring those first autumn leaves that celebrate the beginning of a new season.

I was told that summers at Pilgrim Church are quiet, and while it is true that worships are more intimate, I wouldn't describe this summer as quiet at all. Quiet does not mean stagnant or dull; on the contrary, I have found that the "quieter" worships generously allow for the spirit to speak....and we are truly able to listen.

Over these warm, humid months, we have indulged in The Book of Ruth, digging into the themes of loyalty and faith, emptiness and fulfillment. We have explored the spiritual metaphors of gleaning, the threshing floor, and the complex status of the immigrant worker. The story of Ruth, Naomi, and Boaz is deceptively complex, opening with grieving lament and concluding with the hopeful birth of a baby boy.

This all happens at the beginning of the harvest, the cusp of abundance. Isn't that where we are now, as those very first crimson and gold leaves appear? As we mourn the long, lavish summer days, remember that the fullness of fall is approaching, and our vital congregation is the ultimate harvest.

Julie

## Church Staff & Contact Information

Minister – Rev. Jonathan Wortmann (508) 485-4847  
[jwortmann@pilgrimchurch.us](mailto:jwortmann@pilgrimchurch.us)

Associate Minister –  
 Rev. Julie Cedrone (508) 485-4847  
[jcedrone@pilgrimchurch.us](mailto:jcedrone@pilgrimchurch.us)

Minister of Communication – Debbie Herrick  
 (508) 485-4847 [dherrick@pilgrimchurch.us](mailto:dherrick@pilgrimchurch.us)

Minister of Music – Grace Choi  
 (978) 467-5588 [graceatpilgrim@gmail.com](mailto:graceatpilgrim@gmail.com)

Handbell Choir Director – Carla Mason (508) 770-1222  
[carlapm@townisp.com](mailto:carlapm@townisp.com)

Director of Sr. High Youth Programs –  
 Sarah Hile (781) 820-7093  
[sarahjhile@gmail.com](mailto:sarahjhile@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Spires

*Deadline For  
Submission of Articles*

*Date of  
Mailing*

*September 16*

*September 23*

*October 21*

*October 28*

## **Sr. High Youth Group**

### September Schedule

9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> – Camp Takodah

18<sup>th</sup> – Rally Sunday-Help with Sunday School activities  
 during and after church.

25<sup>th</sup> – Mission Trip Sunday

### *Thank You*

The McClellands and Sanfords want to thank all of you who kindly sent cards, emails, and made calls to us as our Mom was failing and ultimately passed away. It is wonderful to be a part of such a caring congregation.

## Standing Church Meetings

Church Council	<b>7:30 p.m.</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday
Chancel Choir	<b>7:30 p.m.</b> every Thursday
Youth Choir	Following the Worship Service
Handbell Choir	<b>7:30 p.m.</b> every Wednesday
Buildings & Grounds	<b>6:30 p.m.</b> – As scheduled
Christian Education	<b>7:00 p.m.</b> – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday
Diaconate	<b>7:00 p.m.</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday of month
Fellowship	<b>11:30 a.m.</b> – 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday
Personnel	<b>As Needed</b>
Parish Relations	<b>11:30 a.m.</b> – 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of month
Financial Resources	<b>As Needed</b>
Music	<b>11:30 a.m.</b> – 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of month
Outreach	<b>As Needed</b>
Stewardship	<b>As Needed</b>

## Celebrations & Concerns

### Celebrations

Congratulations to Amy & Robert Sibley on the baptism of their daughter, Morgan Josephine on Sunday, June 5.

### Concerns

Please keep the following people in your prayers for healing:

Bill Tsen's father

Cesar Piedra's father

Barbara Clark

Jean Roetter

The Warfield family as they mourn the loss of Marji's mother who passed away in June.

The Tsen family as they mourn the loss of Christine's mother, "Mimi".

Christine Tsen's father, John

Also continued prayers for Elliott & Marty Larson, who continue to teach in Afghanistan.

## New Website

It's official! The church's new website is up and running. Go to [www.pilgrimchurch.us](http://www.pilgrimchurch.us) and check out our newly designed website. It contains lots more news and information, as well as an extensive calendar, a members section, Christian Education program information, weekly scripture links, committee information. You can also follow us on Twitter and Facebook. Be sure to check back often. More information is being added every day.

Information that is found in the Sunday bulletin, newsletter and emails, can also be accessed through the new website. Sunday sermon podcasts will continue to be available.

A great big thank you goes to Catherine Weber who has helped facilitate the design and implementation of this wonderful new communication tool.

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## Outreach Opportunities

**Steeple Coffeehouse** - We are looking for people who would be willing to manage the kitchen for the Steeple Coffeehouse. All proceeds from the sale of refreshments go to Outreach to help support their programs. Please see the sign-up sheet on the Outreach board across from the side door if you are interested. Joan Anderson would be happy to work with volunteers.

**Our Father's Table** - The President and Vice President of the organization have found it necessary to submit their resignations. If you are looking for a rewarding experience and would be interested in filling one of these positions, please let us know.

Contact Joan Anderson [janderson56@verizon.net](mailto:janderson56@verizon.net) for further information on either of these opportunities.

## Dates to Remember

### ***Sunday, September 4***

Last 9:30 a.m. Service  
12:30 p.m. – Friar Tuck Ministries

### ***Tuesday, September 6***

5:00 a.m. – Our Father's Table

### ***Friday, September 9 thru Sunday, September 11***

Camp Takodah Family Weekend

### ***Sunday, September 11***

10:00 a.m. Worship Services Begin

### ***Monday, September 12***

7:00 p.m. – Deacons' Meeting

### ***Wednesday, September 14***

7:30 p.m. – Council Meeting

### ***Friday, September 16***

October Spire Article Deadline

### ***Sunday, September 18***

Rally Sunday  
8:45 a.m. – Spiritual Conversations

### ***Mondays, September 19 & 26***

9:30 a.m. – Healthy Living Group

### ***Monday, September 19***

7:30-9 p.m. – Women's Spirituality Group

### ***Sunday, September 23***

3:00 p.m. – Julie Cedrone's Installation Service & Reception

## *A Message from the Stewardship Committee –*

We wish to thank the entire congregation, once again, for the exceptional generosity and kindness shown during the 2011 campaign. We had a very lofty goal of hiring a part time assistant minister at a time where jobs and predictable income were far from certain. The fact that we all met that goal was fantastic. What a wonderful addition Julie Cedrone has been to our church ministry.

In discussing our theme for the 2012 Stewardship campaign with Jon, he had these words to say: "Pilgrim Church is our spiritual home. We want to care for it as if it was our own – the place where we live and get nourished. A place where we want to be and we want others to be too. A home that has the ability to feed and nurture us in a safe environment."

The idea of Pilgrim Church being our spiritual home brings forth many thoughts about our Sunday service, our music program, Christian Education, the Goddard School and a great many other things. It takes our time to make these things happen and it takes our financial resources as well. As we approach the Stewardship fund-raising campaign this fall, think about what makes Pilgrim Church *your* home, a place worth supporting with your stewardship pledge. We will have a lot more to say about this in the weeks ahead.

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Pilgrim Church received a Traveler's stock donation in July. If you made this contribution, please contact Maynard Southard, Financial Secretary, at home (508-393-1462), by email at [pilgrim.church.southborough@gmail.com](mailto:pilgrim.church.southborough@gmail.com) or see him at church so that he can record this generous gift.

# Food Pantry Corner

The Southborough Food Pantry is now help 4 homeless families housed at the Red Roof Inn as well our own clients. We need the following items:

- Parmalat
- Bake Beans
- Beef Soup
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Vegetables  
(other than green beans, peas, corn)
- Cereal
- Cookies
- Crackers
- Cranberry Sauce
- Individual Snacks
- Juice Boxes
- Pancake Mix & Syrup
- Potato Mixes
- Rice: White & Brown
- Beef Stew
- Chili
- Corned Beef Hash
- Spaghetios
- Stewed Tomatoes
- Condiments
- Dish Detergent



Pasta and other tomato products are well stocked.



# Happy Anniversary

- John & Sally Fodor 1
- David Klein & Elizabeth Wetherbee 2
- Tom & Lois Abel 3
- Sanjeev & Joan Choudhary 4
- Bill & Helene Harrington 6
- Mark & Susan Conti 10
- Richard & Freddie Gillespie 13
- Jerry & Storm McGuire 15
- John & Janet Beck 20
- Brent & Ann Kern 21
- Dan & Sue Maurice 23
- Joe Mercadante & Emily van Nort 25
- Michael & Susan Mills 27
- Dick & Diane Wallace 28



# Happy Birthday

Chris Sweeter	3	Jen Calef	17
Tom Abel	4	Pete Turner	17
Joan Choudhary	4	Sarah Coldwell	17
Matthew Cvitcovich	4	Joan Anderson	20
Benjamin Westphal	4	Brian Anderson	20
Chase Whitney	4	Marshall Hudson	21
Sue Maurice	5	Helene Harrington	21
Paul Renfrew	5	Cindy Hill	23
Herb Kolk	8	Roger Rosenquist	24
Mimi Hodgkins	9	Andrew Warfield	24
Rusty Short	10	Kelsey Dinjian	25
Matt Younis	11	Keane Southard	26
Kenny Kuchnir	13	Sabrina Choudhary	26
Dave Monroe	13	John Younis	27
Ryan Lang	14	Elisabeth Carter	28
Dick Snyder	16	Carole Jolie	29
Calvin Cotanche	16	Wayne Long	29
Ty Mohn	16	Jessica Flanders	29

# Deacons' Corner

## A Pledge for Us All

Why are we here at Pilgrim Church? We are here because we are committed to a strong religious community that works for the whole family. We are here because we want to prepare our family for the complex world we are entering, not for a world that increasingly deflects us from our mission to teach them well. We are here as a community, as families, and as individuals for spiritual “education” and to provide an opportunity for others.

We are here to say it is not acceptable for just a few members of our community to do all the work and that we are willing to do our fair share. We can do this as clergy, administrators, teachers, counselors, music directors, small ministry leaders and participants.

We are here to challenge the neglect of others who are not as fortunate. We can continue to be a center in the community in support of our local food pantry, our regional programs in Marlboro and Worcester and our national mission trips; Florida-to-Maine, Chicago-to-Southborough.

It is from numberless diverse acts of involvement and belief in our historic community that we are shaped. Each time a person stands up and gets involved or acts to improve the lot of others, they send forth a tiny ripple of hope; we can do this in so many ways as we invest in the future. Let our church be a model to others as well. It's like our own secret weapon; members of the community who are committed, first and foremost to our family's wellbeing.

*(continued)*

## Deacons' Corner (cont.)

Have you taken the pledge? Thank you to each of you as we contribute to our church community, knowing that even the smallest ripple can contribute to a wave of hope for the future. Thank you for all that you have done, and will be doing, - your courage and commitment - as we continue to make our historic community grow for the future. Help us make this truly Southborough's church; “...creating Heaven on Earth.”

*I was inspired to write this Deacons' Corner by a speech I read by Stanford University Education Professor, Linda Darling-Hammond.*

Paul Renfrew  
Pilgrim Church Deacon

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## What are you doing 9/9 – 9/11?

Camp Takodah is upon us ~ the special weekend is almost here, September 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>. Have you ever attended this weekend? I need to fill you in on a little secret, it's one of the best things you can do as a member of Pilgrim Church, in my humble opinion.

This weekend is filled with traditions, opportunities, experiences, friends, family, food, sharing, chores, singing, swimming, activities and much, much more. It's a camping experience that is the easiest form of camping ever.

If you would like to join us, we would LOVE to have you.

Please be in touch, ask questions and fill out a registration form. You can come two nights, one night or just for Saturday.....lots of options to consider.

Contact: Katherine & Michael Hennessy 508-303-0266 or  
[katecompany@gmail.com](mailto:katecompany@gmail.com)

## Small Group Opportunities

**Sunday 8:45 a.m. Spiritual Conversations** (every Sunday mid-September thru mid-June) Rev. Jon Wortmann 508-786-0677  
Email to: [jwortmann@pilgrimchurch.us](mailto:jwortmann@pilgrimchurch.us).

**Women's Spirituality Group** (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays 7:30-9 p.m.)  
Debbie Herrick 508-485-4847 Email to:  
[dherrick@pilgrimchurch.us](mailto:dherrick@pilgrimchurch.us).

**Koinonia** (every Tuesday @ 8:00 p.m.) Fran Rosenquist 508-485-7971 Email to: [frannyro@yahoo.com](mailto:frannyro@yahoo.com)

**Family Outreach Projects Group** Sally Fodor 508-485-5689  
Email to: [sfodor2@verizon.net](mailto:sfodor2@verizon.net)

**Chancel Choir** (every Thursday @ 7:30 p.m.) Grace Choi 978-467-5588 Email to: [graceatpilgrim@gmail.com](mailto:graceatpilgrim@gmail.com)

**Handbell Choir** Carla Mason (every Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.)  
Email to: [carlapm@townisp.com](mailto:carlapm@townisp.com)

**"Littlest Angels" Children's Choir** (3-6 year olds) Barbara Porter & Joan Pflug (most Sundays following worship) Email to: [brbrprtr1@aol.com](mailto:brbrprtr1@aol.com)

**"Celestial Singers" Children's Choir** (2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Graders) Grace Choi (most Sundays following worship) Email to: [graceatpilgrim@gmail.com](mailto:graceatpilgrim@gmail.com)

**Sr. High Youth Group** Sarah Hile 508-329-1381 Email to: [sarahjhile@gmail.com](mailto:sarahjhile@gmail.com)

**Jr. High Youth Group** Steve Gutro (every Sunday 10:15-11:00 a.m.) Email to: [s.gutro@comcast.net](mailto:s.gutro@comcast.net)

## Small Groups (cont.)

**Girls Night Out** Deb Wilson (every 5-6 weeks) 508-481-6326  
Email to: [debbiedepp@fenemoregroup.com](mailto:debbiedepp@fenemoregroup.com)

**Sex, Drugs & Kids Education** Sarah & David Hile (quarterly)  
508-329-1381 Email to: [sarahjhile@gmail.com](mailto:sarahjhile@gmail.com)

**St. Patrick's Manor Worship Group** (every third Wednesday October thru May) - Jon and The Chapel Choir provide a 3:30 p.m. ecumenical worship service for residents of this Framingham nursing home. Barbara Porter 508-435-9205 Email to: [brbrprtr1@aol.com](mailto:brbrprtr1@aol.com)

**Men's Club** Bill Harrington (as scheduled) 508-485-8737 Email to: [banjobillo@verizon.net](mailto:banjobillo@verizon.net)

**Bible 101** Jon Wortmann (second Sunday of each month during the school year @ 11:30 a.m.) 508-786-0677 Email to: [jwortmann@pilgrimchurch.us](mailto:jwortmann@pilgrimchurch.us)

**Our Father's Table** Joan Anderson 508-481-0644 (1st Tuesday of the month) Email to: [janderson56@verizon.net](mailto:janderson56@verizon.net)

**Food Pantry** Steve Pflug (Tuesdays 7-8 p.m., Fridays 10-11 a.m.) 508-832-2263 Email to: [joansteve@juno.com](mailto:joansteve@juno.com)

**Pastoral Care Team** Fran Rosenquist (monthly) 508-485-7971  
Email to: [frannyro@yahoo.com](mailto:frannyro@yahoo.com)

**Healthy Living** Jon Wortmann (9:30 a.m. on Mondays with the exception of holidays) 508-786-0677 Email to: [jwortmann@pilgrimchurch.us](mailto:jwortmann@pilgrimchurch.us).

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** (As scheduled) Sheryn Carew 508-624-0706 Email to: [kelonac@aol.com](mailto:kelonac@aol.com)

**Spiritual Healing** (As scheduled) Dick Wallace 508-481-2565  
Email to: [dickwallace01@gmail.com](mailto:dickwallace01@gmail.com)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL is COMING!!!

Hope you all are doing well and enjoying the last days of Summer. The Christian Education committee has been busy preparing for this upcoming year and YOUR involvement is very important!

**FIRST:** Please fill out the registration form provided in this newsletter. Having your child's information will help us to plan for the classes.

**SECOND:** Please consider where and how you can volunteer. We need teachers at all levels and if you have family members participating in the school, we ask that you participate by helping in the classroom. Should you have questions about the program or where you can get involved, please feel free to reach out to any of us on Christian Education to explain these opportunities.

**THIRD:** We have some fantastic help – already lined up for our younger children. Jen Calef and Sue Maurice will be back leading our Nursery and Toddler rooms and they will need volunteer assistants every week. Stephen Coldwell and Sabrina Ruggles will be leading our Pre-K room, but will need some additional co-teachers to sign up. So please consider where you can help in these rooms. We are also in need of tissues, paper towels, sanitizing wipes and name tags for these rooms, so when you are at the grocery store – please pick up something for us. Thanks!

**FOURTH:** Rotation Plans for this year are almost fully pulled together and ready for a great Rally Sunday on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Here are some of the stories that we will learn about this year:

*Jesus Birth and the Wisemen*  
*Baptism of Jesus*  
*The Beatitudes*

*Matthew 1-2*  
*Matthew 3:13-17*  
*Matthew 5*

(continued)

## Sunday School (cont.)

<i>Parable of the Sower</i>	<i>Luke 8:22-25</i>
<i>Jesus Turns Water into Wine</i>	<i>John 2: 1-11</i>
<i>Good Samaritan</i>	<i>Luke 10: 25-37</i>
<i>Cleansing the Temple</i>	<i>Mark 21: 12</i>
<i>The Last Supper</i>	<i>Luke 22: 7-38</i>
<i>Resurrection/Doubting Thomas</i>	<i>John 20: 24-29</i>

**FIFTH:** The Fifth/Sixth graders will be with Sherry Wester again and her many assistants. Stephen Gutro will again take a lead with the Junior High Group, with hopefully some help from Russ Lang and Nancy Kolk. Sarah Hile is again – gearing up for another BIG year with our Senior High Youth Group, whose success is due in part to your support.

**SIXTH:** Our children and your volunteerism help make this ALL work. Your involvement is much appreciated! Thanks!

**Christian Education:** Katherine Hennessy, Stephen Coldwell, David Hile, Amy Mohn, Sally Coldwell, Diana Nicklaus, Amy Sibley, Jen Calef and Julie Cedrone.

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## *Installation Service for Julie Cedrone* *Sunday, September 25 @ 3 p.m.*

*Please join us on Sunday, September 25 for Julie's installation service to be held in the sanctuary. Although Julie has been with us since last fall, we want to welcome her formally to Pilgrim Church with this very special service. Everyone is welcome. Following the service there will be a reception in Fellowship Hall.*