

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

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Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC

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Deacons' Corner

Autumn is my favorite time of the year. I was always the kid who couldn't wait to go back to school. There is something about fall that is refreshing and exciting, and familiar and comforting at the same time. I love the cool crisp air, apple picking and apple crisp, the beautiful fall foliage, craft fairs, the return of curling season, the Red Sox in the playoffs and the Patriots on the field.

Fall in New England is like nowhere else. We get to see the most amazing transformation. The trees around us turn the most remarkable shades of gold, orange and red. I was reminded of this recently when I found this poem.

Tree Talk: Advice from a tree

Stand tall.
Act naturally.
Enjoy the view.
Settle down.
Make yourself useful.
Change your look for the season.
Smell good.
Sink deep roots.
Learn to bend.
Take what comes and make the best of it.
Drink plenty of water.
Recycle.
Be yourself.
Take the winter off.

~Author unknown

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Church Staff & Contact Information

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

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

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

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

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

Director of Sr. High Youth Programs –
 Sarah Hile (781) 820-7093
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Upcoming Spires

*Deadline For
Submission of Articles*

*Date of
Mailing*

October 21

October 28

November 11

November 18

Sr. High Youth Group October Schedule

2nd - Parlor

9th - Parlor

16th - 9-11 a.m. - Troop Drive @ Sr. Center
(TBD)

23rd - Parlor

5:30-7 p.m. - Dinner at a home (TBD)

30th - In Church

Standing Church Meetings

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

Celebrations & Concerns

Celebrations

Congratulations to Wendi Lelke-Wallway & Justin Wallway on the baptism of their children, Elsa & Dylan on Sunday, September 4. Helmut & Donna Lelke are the proud grandparents.

Congratulations to Debra Cooksey and Shawn Cooksey on the baptism of their daughter, Jordan on Sunday, September 18.

We celebrate with both Barbara Clark and Lorraine Dinjian as they recover wonderfully from recent surgeries.

Congratulations to Sloane Wilson & Kat O'Connor on their recent marriage.



Concerns

Please keep the following people in your prayers for healing:

Steve Hart's father

The Landes family as they mourn the loss of Michele's father.

The Anderson family as they mourn the loss of Chris's father.

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

Progressive Dinner October 22 @ 6:00pm

Mark your calendars! October 22nd the Annual Progressive Dinner will take place. Please sign up outside of the church office. The sign-up sheet will ask for name/s, number of people attending, an Email address and phone number. Please consider hosting an entrée portion of the evening. We would need to know how many people you could serve. If you cannot host the entrée you will be assigned to contribute an appetizer, a dessert, wine, salad, or bread. You will receive details about your contribution and your entrée host's address the week before the event. We also need a host for appetizers as well as for dessert.

Don't miss this great event!

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 - Our Father's Table was formed by several churches to serve food to the needy. Meals are served on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Our church is responsible for the first Tuesday of the month. We are looking for people to cook and serve throughout the year. A recipe is provided for the meal. Sign up after church or on the Outreach bulletin board located across from the side entrance of the church.

Contact Joan Anderson janderson56@verizon.net for further information on either of these opportunities.

Dates to Remember

Friday, September 30 thru Sunday, October 2

Men's Mission Trip #1

Sunday, October 2

Children & Communion

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Confirmation Class

Mondays, October 3 & 17

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

Mondays, October 3, 17 & 31

9:30 a.m. - Healthy Living Group

Tuesday, October 4

5:00 a.m. - Our Father's Table

Friday, October 7 thru Sunday, October 9

Men's Mission Trip #2

Wednesday, October 12

7:30 p.m. - Council Meeting

Saturday, October 15 & Sunday, October 16

Troop Care Package Drive

Sunday, October 16

Committee Information Sunday

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Confirmation Class

Monday, October 17

7:00 p.m. - Deacons' Meeting

Sunday, October 23

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - New Member Orientation

Friday, October 30

Fall Clean Up

A Message from the Stewardship Committee -

Isn't our church just beautiful? The building, the congregation, the feeling of the warmth and love in our hearts? It is our home - our spiritual home. We want to care for it as if it were 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 for generations to come.

This is the theme of our 2012 Stewardship campaign. Pilgrim Church is our spiritual home, which provides so much for so many. Our Sunday services, our music program, Christian Education, the Goddard School, Mission Trips, Retreats, Outreach, our weddings, baptisms, funerals and so much more are all products of our spiritual home.

In order to ensure that our spiritual home stands strong for our congregation, our community and our future generations, we need your continued support. As the 2012 pledge season is upon us, we continue to be faced with the task of balancing a church budget that is continuously challenged with the same realities that each of us face on a daily basis - necessary expenses that exceed our incomes. Our spiritual home needs the same love, attention and yes, financial investment that our personal residences require as well. In the weeks ahead you will be presented with some wonderful visual media highlighting some of the spiritual reasons our congregation has chosen to be here. You will also see some of the harsh realities of a physical structure that requires repair and attention.

What does this mean to each and every one of us who calls Pilgrim Church its spiritual home? The Stewardship Committee is asking each of you to help in the coming year. To those of you who have never pledged, perhaps now is the right time. For those of you on an income that is not constant, let us know what you can commit to and we can work on your schedule. To those who already pledge, thank you for your continued generosity.

We thank you all in advance for keeping our spiritual home beautiful.

Respectfully yours,
The Stewardship Committee

Food Pantry Corner

Summer is over and school has begun. As well as caring for over 60 families at the Pantry, we are now aiding 4 homeless families at the Red Roof Inn. We especially need to build up a reserve of the items that we have on our shelves AND take to the families at the motel. Please add some of the following items to your list when you go shopping.



- Beef Stew
- Canned Carrots
- Cereal
- Cookies
- Crackers
- Diapers: Sizes 4 and 5
- Dry Milk
- Instant Potatoes
- Jelly
- Juice Boxes
- Mac & Cheese
- Parmalat
- Pasta Roni
- Pasta Sauce
- Peanut Butter
- Ramen Noodles
- Soup (Beef and Children's Chicken Noodle)
- Spaghetios
- Tuna Fish
- Thank You!



Happy Anniversary

Tony & Kathy Schoener 1
 Justin & Amanda Hemm 2
 Richard & Bette Houston 2
 Steve & Martha Ulfelder 7
 Jason & Denise Honey 7
 Elliott & Marty Larson 8
 Russ & Bonnie Lang 9
 Peter & Shannon Stilla 20
 Bill & Margaret Cormack 26
 Michael Garcia & Nicole Ferrari 27



Happy Birthday

Debbie Herrick	1	Buddy Burton	18
Kirk Carter	1	Marge Carpenter	19
Elaine Davidson	2	Pamela Ellis	19
Peter Stilla	2	Jerry McGuire	19
Motoko Suzuki	2	Sean Cullen	19
Lorraine Dinjian	3	Nici Hornblower	21
Jason Anick	3	Bette Houston	22
Lauren Cullen	5	Eric Qua	23
Parrish Stilla	7	Sarah Edwardsen	24
Alex Cormack	8	Avery Sargent	24
Leah Needels	9	Kim Rizzitano	25
Sally Watters	9	Margaret Hart	26
Betty Randel	9	Lynne Guilford	27
Jason El-Massih	10	Patrick Gardner	27
Edith Garton	10	Matthew Hill	27
Don Jolie	11	Jim Decoulos	28
Calliope Arvantely	12	Anne Bartulis	29
Bill Cormack	13	Rob Denman	29
Sarah Torilli	14	John Krapf	30
Riley Dinjian	15	Connie Anick	30
Marge Coldwell	16	Taylor Landes	30
Kyla Wester	17		

Deacons' Corner (cont.)

As we reconvene as a church family this fall...Can we be more like a tree? Well, except the "Take the winter off" part!

Be comfortable to be ourselves among friends. Soak in the sights and sounds of our church home, and lend a helping hand. There are many opportunities for all of us to share our time and talents. Put on our Sunday best and accessorize at will. Feel the strength and comfort of being together, and allow your faith to grow. Bring fresh ideas and share your old stand-bys. Can you imagine the transformation? It'll be refreshing and exciting, and familiar and comforting at the same time.

Dawn Gutro

A Deacons' Reflection

During baptisms we have heard our minister Jon Wortmann state that we are all ministers. What does this mean? It means that we all share a responsibility to minister to other people's needs. At this time of year you hear the call for being a teacher in Sunday school. Soon you will be hearing the call for being on one of the committees that keep this church running. We recently heard a request for help in the food pantry. There is our once a month request for help at Our Father's Table. We all need to find our way of being ministers.

The flipside of this is that we have to allow people other than "our ministers" Jon Wortmann and Julie Cedrone to minister to us. Jon and Julie are the driving forces that inspire and enable us. We are the multiplier that use their energy, insight and vision and take it to many other people. This means that the help that you might need from our church may not come just from Jon or Julie directly, but from one of your fellow ministers. Are you ready to see your fellow parishioners as ministers?

Herb Kolk

Troop Care Package Drive

There will be a **Care Package Drive to Support Our Troops outside at the Senior Center on Saturday (9-4) and Sunday (9-1), October 15th and 16th**. Conditions in Afghanistan are really tough and they need lots of support to improve living conditions and boost morale.

Please read the flier, included elsewhere in this newsletter, carefully. Lots of changes! Based on feedback from our troops we continue to make changes to the list in order to ship safely and cost effectively, so we can give them what they need. Think of the soldiers as family members when you are choosing your items and packing for them.

FOR THEIR CONVENIENCE PLEASE-----NO OPENED OR USED ITEMS, BULK-SIZE ITEMS, SOAP BARS, CHOCOLATE, AEROSOLS, CANNED GOODS, VHS TAPES

Through your generosity and support we have shipped over 130,000 lbs. and 6,000 boxes over the past 13 Care Package Drives, since Lisa Braccio started this in 2005. This is an opportunity for us to thank our courageous warriors for their service and sacrifice.

No donation is too little, too large or too late! Here are some ways you can help...

1. Make a donation. Postage (about \$6,000) and purchased items are a huge expense for us. You may send me a check made out to **CARE PACKAGES FOR TROOPS**. 100% of your donation goes to the troops. We've received checks from as far away as Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New York, Florida, North Carolina, Texas, Colorado, and Arizona! You can also donate on-line at www.carepackagesforsoldiers.org.
2. Purchase items on the attached shopping list and bring them to the Senior Center on 10/15 and 10/16. **INDIVIDUAL not bulk size please.**
3. Bring a bunch of cards with a note of thanks and encouragement. They love cards! Some soldiers get nothing at all – no mail, no care packages.

(continued)

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.

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

Koinonia (every Tuesday @ 8:00 p.m.) Fran Rosenquist 508-485-7971 Email to: frannyro@yahoo.com This group is full. If you would like information on how you can start your own group, contact the above leader.

Family Outreach Projects Group Sally Fodor 508-485-5689 Email to: sfodor2@verizon.net

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

Handbell Choir Carla Mason (every Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.) Email to: 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

"Celestial Singers" Children's Choir (2nd-5th Graders) Grace Choi (most Sundays following worship) Email to: graceatpilgrim@gmail.com

Sr. High Youth Group Sarah Hile 508-329-1381 Email to: sarahjhile@gmail.com

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

Friar Tuck Ministries Dave Qua 774-232-0765 Email to: davidqua17@gmail.com (monthly) 12:30-3 p.m.

Tennis Ministry Jason Honey 508-881-0979 Email to: jdhoney123@aol.com (monthly @ St. Mark's)

Small Groups (cont.)

Girls Night Out Deb Wilson (every 5-6 weeks) 508-481-6326 Email to: debbiedepp@fenemoregroup.com This group is full. If you would like information on how you can start your own group contact the above leader.

Sex, Drugs & Kids Education Sarah & David Hile (quarterly) 508-329-1381 Email to: 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

Men's Club Bill Harrington (as scheduled) 508-485-8737 Email to: 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

Our Father's Table Joan Anderson 508-481-0644 (1st Tuesday of the month) Email to: 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

Pastoral Care Team Fran Rosenquist (monthly) 508-485-7971 Email to: 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.

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

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

Are you too attached to anything?

Is it healthy to be so attached to something it starts to consume your time and thoughts? Whether it's money, a new purchase, or an experience, when does it cross the line from being healthy to unhealthy? Does the universe we live in reward attachment?

All too often I'll watch my kids focus on one thing that they suddenly want. It could be a toy, game, or any random object around the house that suddenly becomes very appealing. As they all focus on and want this object a great uproar breaks out. "It's mine!", "I want it!", and "Give it to me!" fill the void of the air. All the typical outbursts spew forth and little progress is made in enjoying anything.

As the commotion rises in intensity I'll say, usually to the older one, "if you stop wanting it so much for a second, the attention will pass, and then you'll probably get it". Soon enough, without the allure of all this want in the room the object becomes more available and then someone gets to enjoy it.

I see this theme playing out in life all too often. Attachment and large doses of "want" clouds and blocks things from coming to us. Many times the analogy of life as a river is shared. It is easiest to enjoy the experience of life as if flowing with the river. Does it make much sense to get attached to the view you just passed? I often wonder that God must see our want and wonder "why?" When our attachment is gone and the want is faded, his gifts are given to us because...he's attached to us.

--Peter Martin

Troop Care Package Drive (cont.)

4. Give an hour or two of your time that weekend to help pack care packages.
5. Organize your friends, employees, church, clubs, Scouts, students, and collect donations and items and make cards.
6. **Send this information and flier to everyone you know to share the opportunity to help. If you can help us to get the word out that would be terrific!**

The troops tell us that we can never truly know how deeply touched they are by your generosity.

We would be so grateful for anything anyone wants to do and will make it as easy for you to help as we can. If you aren't around that weekend, in advance you can drop off items at the Senior Center or at my front door. Or we would be happy to pick up your items.

Proud Army Mom of CPT Courtney Wilson.
Deb

POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS

An inquiry session for potential new members of Pilgrim Church has been scheduled for **Sunday, October 23** from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Parlor following worship and Coffee Hour. Various lay leaders will be present to answer any questions people might have about the church and its various programs. The session will help to prepare those who might desire to unite in church membership. If you can't attend the new member meeting, please let Debbie (508-485-4847) know before **October 23** and she will give you the information that will be distributed at the meeting. Childcare will be available. Reception of new members will take place **Sunday, November 13.**