

The Spire

January 2017

Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC

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Southborough, MA 01772

Dear Members of Pilgrim Church,

It is hard to believe but it has been 10 weeks since the Stewardship committee sent out an email to all of you announcing the 2017 campaign. As of this past Sunday, we are at 67% of goal and have received pledges from over 121 families.

Thank you. If you have given already this year or have given in the past, the ministry we have offered our community and world is because of you.

Our goal is to receive responses from at least 200 families. Our hope is to raise \$375,000 which will fully fund our ministries for 2017. As we close this year where we have done more ministry than ever before, we are grateful as you help us continue refreshing souls inside and outside our sanctuary.

If you haven't given this year or are new to the church, we need your help. We want to appeal to you to participate. We have so many generous supporters of Pilgrim Church, and we'd like you to be one of them - at any amount that you can afford. Of the 121 families that have contributed, 90% have come from families that have contributed generously in the past.

Our challenge this year is to replace the income lost as beloved Pilgrims have died or moved. Many of our families who moved continue to pledge. Amazing, and we are grateful. We cannot achieve our goal without participation from you and many other newly active members.

Soon, the Stewardship Committee will be reaching out and making phone calls to all families who have not yet pledged this year. We don't want to bother you. Why not make your pledge now? Send us an email to pilgrimpledge@gmail.com with an amount that you believe you can contribute in 2017.

If you cannot support this year's campaign, for any reason, please let us know with either an email message or a note on a pledge card and we will take you off our call list for this year.

Warmest regards during this holiday season and Merry Christmas!

The Stewardship Committee

Sr. High Youth Group

January Schedule

1st – New Year’s Day/Parlor

8th – Church/Parlor

15th – Church/Parlor

22nd – Church/Parlor

Dinner & Bowling (Time TBD)

29th – Church/Parlor



Happy Anniversary

Bob & Shari Sanford 29

Refugee Family Update

Colette and her family are settling into their new life in Worcester. The children are finally enrolled in school and trying to figure out the crazy bus schedule. Colette will start English Language lessons as soon as her daycare vouchers are issued. We have five church members signed up to be part of Colette's "Community Circle" to help transport her to doctor's appointments and to help her learn English.

On December 18th Colette and her family attended church to meet everyone. Outreach sponsored a reception for the family. We collected a number of gift cards for the family to purchase Christmas presents.

On behalf of Colette and Outreach, we thank you all for supporting us and we wish you all a Happy New Year.

Connie Anick, Outreach Chair

Deacons' Corner

My Faith Statement by Steve Coldwell

I'm still not completely sold on God.

At 45, I've been part of Pilgrim Church from birth. I've gone through the Sunday School program and I've been part of the Youth Group. I've wandered away from the church and come back hesitantly, only to find myself engaged in more ways than I ever expected, moving from Pre-K teacher to Christian Ed chair, to being an honest-to-God Deacon. And through it all, I've never been in it for the whole "God and Jesus thing."

My belief doesn't lie in an all-powerful, invisible space Father, but in his imperfect creations. I remain a part of this church not for the Christianity, but for the community. I'm here because I believe in the people. Or maybe it's more honest to say it's because I believe in people, period.

I believe that we are selfish and self-absorbed, but we're also hard-wired for love, honesty and an ability to put others needs ahead of our own. I believe that deep down, we all want to do the right thing. To be kind. To lift each other up in ways both subtle and life-changing. To be superheroes.

If there's one thing that actually makes me believe in a higher power, it's that we all have that spark inside us, driving us to do better, to be better. Whether we do it because we believe in God, or because we believe in each other, what matters is that we never stop trying.

I also believe that we are natural procrastinators. Never put off until tomorrow what you can put off until the day after tomorrow. Which is why Jon Wortmann has had to dog me for my faith statement for nearly a year. At every Deacons' meeting, I write a little note to myself: "Do faith statement." And then I get busy, and I don't do it.



Happy Birthday



Ali Mills	4	Tim Lescalleet	19
Janet Larson	6	Lucy Mohn	20
Parker Lescalleet	6	Kelli Wagner	21
Bob Murphy	6	Freddie Gillespie	21
Annie Lindgren	7	Elizabeth Wetherbee	21
Deb Harrison	8	Erin Leist	21
Matt Torilli	8	Erich Ledebuhr	23
Katie Cullen	8	Bonnie Lang	24
Kayden Getchell-Sassone	9	Tanya Tucker	24
Sue Baust	11	Pat Draper	25
Paul Weber	11	Alyce Henningson	26
Ashley Speckerman	11	Jack Cowern	26
Cally Altamura	12	Gracen Huang	26
Sue Ellen Renfrew	14	James Scharpf	27
John Flanders	15	Ann Kern	28
Sue Snyder	15	Alaina Ghetti	28
Katherine Hennessy	16	Scott Cowen	29
Bill Landes	16	Tom Haugen	29
Rachel Baumann	17	Nick Haugen	29
Chris Kent	18	Lisa Huang	29
Angela Grenham	18		

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Please note the date changes for the Prayer Shawl Ministry for the month of January. Meetings will be held on January 15 and 29 at 11:30 a.m. in the Jr. High Room

MEETING of
 PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL
 CHURCH
 Sunday, January 22, 2017

To the Members and Friends of Pilgrim Congregational Church:

The Annual Meeting of Pilgrim Congregational Church will be held on January 22, 2017 immediately following worship in Fellowship Hall. The Meeting will hear and take action on the following articles:

ARTICLE I: To hear the Annual Reports of the Officers and Committees of Pilgrim Congregational Church for 2016.

ARTICLE II: To hear the proposed budget for 2017 as presented by Financial Resources and take action thereon.

ARTICLE III: To hear the proposed slate of Officers and Committees for 2017 as presented and vote thereon.

ARTICLE IV: To hear the proposed changes to the Bylaws and take action thereon.

ARTICLE V: To hear any other business which may regularly come before the meeting.

Attest
 Paul Renfrew
 Church Clerk
 December 14, 2016



Super Bowl Sub Sale (Front)

Name: _____

Please Support the Youth Mission Trip to DC
by Buying Super Bowl Subs.

Place orders by Sunday, January 28th. Pick up subs after church
on February 5th. All subs are on a six-inch grinder roll and come
with a choice of the following (please indicate your choice)

	Sub #1	#2	#3	#4
Mayo	_____	_____	_____	_____
Mustard	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pick One Meat and One Cheese:				
Ham	_____	_____	_____	_____
Turkey	_____	_____	_____	_____
Salami	_____	_____	_____	_____
Bologna	_____	_____	_____	_____
Italian	_____	_____	_____	_____
American	_____	_____	_____	_____
Provolone	_____	_____	_____	_____
Swiss	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lettuce	_____	_____	_____	_____
Tomato	_____	_____	_____	_____
Onion	_____	_____	_____	_____
Pickle	_____	_____	_____	_____
Coke	_____	_____	_____	_____
Diet Coke	_____	_____	_____	_____
Sprite	_____	_____	_____	_____
Orange	_____	_____	_____	_____
Cookies	_____	_____	_____	_____
Cape Cod	_____	_____	_____	_____
Potato Chips	_____	_____	_____	_____



Super Bowl Sub Sale (Back)

Name: _____

Prices:
Subs - \$7
Soda - \$1
Cape Cod Chips - \$1
Cookies - \$1

Additional order forms are available upon request.

Please submit completed forms to Sarah Hile, or leave forms in
Sarah Hile's box in the church office. Please make checks
payable to Pilgrim Church with PCYG mission trip in the memo
section. Thank you so much for your support!

Number of: Subs _____ Soda _____ Chips _____

Cookies _____ (2 per order)

Total Paid _____

Contact Information

Staff

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) 579-9263 carlapm@townisp.com

Director of Sr. High Youth Programs –
Sarah Hile (781) 820-7093 sarahjhile19@gmail.com

Officers

Moderator – Cindy Torilli (508) 361-2297
cynthia.torilli@emc.com

Financial Secretary – Jim Black (765) 994-9065
jtblack25@gmail.com

Treasurer – Sally Vincentsen (508) 786-9566
svincentsen@gmail.com

Asst. Treasurer – Randy Dinjian (617) 620-5248
rdinjian@hanover.com

Clerk – Paul Renfrew (508) 481-3574
paul.renfrew@gmail.com

Faith Community Nurse

Sharon Balcom – sharon.balcom@gmail.com

Upcoming Spires

*Deadline For
Submission of Articles*

January 20 (February)

February 10 (March)

March 17 (April)

Standing Church Meetings

Church Council	7:30 p.m. – 2 nd Monday of month
Chancel Choir	7:30 p.m. every Thursday
Celestial Singers Choir	11:00 a.m. – Most Sundays
All Souls Choir	11:30 a.m. – Most Sundays
Handbell Choir	7:00 p.m. every Wednesday
Buildings & Grounds	As Needed
Christian Education	8:30 a.m. – Sunday TBA
Diaconate	11:30 a.m. – 2 nd Sunday of month
Fellowship	As Needed
IT/AV	8:30 p.m. – 1 st Wed. of month
Personnel	As Needed
Parish Relations	11:30 a.m. – 4 th Sunday of month
Financial Resources	7:30 p.m. – 2 nd Tuesday of month
Music	11:30 a.m. – 1 st Sunday of month
Outreach	11:30 a.m. – 2 nd Sunday of month
Stewardship	As Needed

Celebrations & Concerns

Celebrations

Another successful Messiah Concert! This was the 45th performance of selections from Handel's Messiah at Pilgrim Congregational Church.

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Concerns

Please keep the following people in your prayers for healing:

The Garcia Family as they mourn the loss of Suzanne's mother.

Friar Tuck Ministries

Friar Tuck Ministries is an adult group which socializes around the art of making and drinking craft beers. The group is open to both men and women. During 2017 Friar Tuck Ministries will be doing a variety to tours to local breweries. Become a Friar and find the spiritual connections with other Pilgrim Members. For additional information please see Sean Connelly s.connelly@gmail.com or David Qua davidqua17@gmail.com.

Friar Tour Schedule

January 14th @ 3:00pm - Springdale @ Jacks Abbey in Framingham
February 19th @ 6:00pm - Wormtown in Worcester
March 19th @ 3:00pm - Treehouse Brewing in Monson
April 9th @ 6:00pm - Nashoba Valley Winery in Bolton
May 21st @ 3:00pm - Disc Golf + Rapsallion Brewing in Fiskdale

Dates to Remember

Mondays, January 2 & 16

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

Tuesday, January 3

5:00 p.m. – Our Father's Table

Tuesdays, January 3, 10, 17, 23 & 30

9:30 a.m. – Yoga Class

Wednesdays, January 4, 11, 18 & 25

7:00 p.m. – Meditation Service

Monday, January 9

7:30 p.m. – Council Meeting

Mondays, January 23 & 30

9:30 a.m. – Healthy Living Group

Sundays, January 15 & 29

11:30 a.m. – Prayer Shawl Ministry

Sundays, January 15 & 29

11:30 a.m. – Confirmation Class

Wednesday, January 18

3:30 p.m. – St. Pat's Worship Group

Sunday, January 22

11:00 a.m. – Annual Meeting