

# The Spire

February 2017

Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC

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## The New Church Model

Do you remember?? There was a time when it was you wouldn't think to leave the house without your phone. That time wasn't even a decade ago. In June 2007 the Apple iPhone was launched. Chances are you remember a time when you would ask a coworker to cover for you, and they would. That's not today. As evidence of change, there are now more millennials in the workforce than baby boomers. Times are continuously changing and we are all doing more with less and continuously multitasking.

This affects church today. The church of today is not the church of yesterday and will not be the church of tomorrow. In the old model, a church minister would be dedicated to a single church (almost for life), was always on call 24x7 and even had a house next to the church. Change is a constant and Pilgrim is poised to continue to do great things in the coming decades. We have strong children's programs, music program, mission projects, worship, and more.

But perhaps most of all, we are experts at throwing enormous resources at a crisis. Maybe, Pilgrim is THE BEST at addressing and resolving a crisis. For example, we can all be thankful for being the ONLY organization to provide everything that was asked for when supporting a refugee family. We were told no other organization has ever provided everything that was requested. This is a great accomplishment, yet goes to our nature of being there in a crisis.

We are on the edge of another crisis. Even though we pulled off our budget this year our next crisis is determining who are we serving and who will we be in the next 10 years.

"Who do we serve" raises three key questions:

- Is the church a community center for anyone seeking Christian salvation or is it something else?
- Who is the church congregation?
- Who and what is our Church model built to support?

The three questions above can be summed up into one, "Pilgrim Church is...?" You can even think a bit deeper about how does the church Serve you? We are in a great place to institute change and be current with the new models of church for today and tomorrow. We need an environment and appropriate expectations to enable us to meet the needs of the congregation, the needs of people who call this their church, and the needs of the community we Serve. How would you fill out this statement?

*Pilgrim Church is...*

Blessed regards,  
McKinley Hackett

# Sr. High Youth Group

## February Schedule

5<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 a.m. – Super Bowl Sub Preparation

12<sup>th</sup> – Church/Parlor

19<sup>th</sup> – Church/Parlor

26<sup>th</sup> – Church/Parlor



## Happy Anniversary

Reid & Sue Roberts 3  
John & Kathryn Younis 6  
Dick & Pat Draper 12  
Steve & Margaret Hart 12  
Dave & Deb Wilson 15  
Don & Carole Jolie 18  
David & Heidi Qua 25  
Ben & Rebecca Lally 26

## 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 of tours to local breweries. Become a Friar and find the spiritual connections with other Pilgrim Members. For additional information please see Sean Connelly [sean.connelly@gmail.com](mailto:sean.connelly@gmail.com) or David Qua [davidqua17@gmail.com](mailto:davidqua17@gmail.com).

### Friar Tour Schedule

February 19th @ 6:00pm - Wormtown in Worcester

March 19th @ 3:00pm – Cold Harbor in Westborough

April 9th @ 6:00pm - Nashoba Valley Winery in Bolton

May 21st @ 3:00pm - Disc Golf + Rapsallion Brewing in Fiskdale

# Deacons' Corner

As a member of the Diaconate, I am one of eight Deacons who are responsible for the spiritual welfare of this church and community. When I began my term as a Deacon three years ago, we began to discuss the need for a new model in anticipation of our growth, stress on financial and staffing resources, as well as possible expansion of our ministries. After having read Jon's annual Pastor's Report, it seems the need for this new model is imminent. Jon articulated many of the questions we have thought about over the years: *What will our model of ministry look like over the next five years? How will we do ministry in this new generation? Do we change how we offer ministry to our community? Do we staff differently? Do we organize our committees differently?*

These questions, among many others I am sure, are the fodder for many congregant conversations and small group discussions we will have in the coming months. For those of you who may be a little unsettled, God will show us the way. Seriously. Rest assured, any change in the way we “operate” will not interfere with our purpose of this church and the philosophy that we are bound together as a congregation as faithful followers of the living spirit of Jesus Christ. We will continue to explore how best to balance the spiritual needs of our members and initiatives within our current resources. We welcome all members to share their ideas and to engage in conversation and will embrace whatever changes make sense to help sustain our vibrant community and ministries.

Jon has asked all of us to take the time to reflect, and to ask ourselves how we want to be refreshed as well as how we want to refresh others. My definition of refresh means to give new energy or to invigorate which (for me) leads to positive or welcome change. It's a paradox, but I need change to be stable. Maybe this is also true of our church?

Pilgrim Church continues to evolve and grow and with that comes growing pains. We have faith and our faith is steadfast. However, the path we take to strengthen and renew our faith may take a few twists and turns. We just have to work together, listen to one another, explore our ministries and follow our trust in God.

How will we refresh ourselves? How will we usher in change? I look forward to working with all of you on that pursuit.

Faith makes things possible, not easy. *“Do not be afraid or discouraged for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”* Joshua 19

Virginia Sweeter



# Happy Birthday



Julie Connelly	4	Chela Ellsworth	15
Janet Jones	4	Jake Krapf	15
Ben Willis	4	Annabel Zaterka	15
Kate Kent	5	Stephen Coldwell	16
Sabrina Ruggles	5	Jacquie McClelland	16
Sally Fodor	5	Sarah Hile	17
Emma McGuire	5	Hilary Ledebuhr	17
Michael Hennessy	6	John Beck	18
Karen Kuchnir	6	Kasey Wagner	19
Preston Cote	7	Riley Coombs	20
Jessica Garcia	7	Joe Dechellis	22
Carl Lindgren	7	Ben Douglas	22
Hannah Lindgren	7	Annie Harrington	22
Shirley Owen	7	Shari Sanford	22
Matt Pietro	7	Darlene Flanders	23
Rowan Moreland	7	Bridgette Dean	23
Beth El-Massih	8	Jacob Qua	23
Zachary Arvantely	8	Jim Denman	24
Courtney Sargent	9	Dan Guilford	25
Justice Huang	11	Jen Champoux	25
Lucy Gardner	12	Adeline Tomaino	25
Sophie Haugen	12	Emily Leist Vatis	27
Sherry Wester	13	Beckie Flot	27
Sophie Cowen	14		

## From Your Faith Community Nurse

*"Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick and say unto them" The Kingdom of God has come near to you". Luke 10:1 3, 8-9*

Heart Disease is the leading cause of death for men and women. To prevent heart disease and increase awareness of its effects, Pilgrim Congregational Church is participating in American Heart Month.

On Sunday, February 26, 2017, the Pilgrim Congregational Church health team will be available for blood pressure checks and information about heart disease immediately after services.

You can make healthy changes to lower your risk of heart disease:

- Watch your weight
- Quit smoking and stay away from second hand smoke
- Control your cholesterol and blood pressure
- If you drink alcohol, do so only in moderation.
- Get active and eat healthy.

### From the Treasurer, Sally Vincentsen

Please note that during most weeks, I will pick up bills and check requisition forms on Wednesday, late afternoon or early evening, and will process the checks on Thursday morning. For those that are to be left at church, I will deliver them in the afternoon on Thursday and will mail the remaining bills.

Please call if you have any questions 508-786-9566.

Thanks, Sally

Happy February  
Sharon Balcom RN, FCN



# 2017 Officers & Committee Members

(Approved at the Annual Meeting Sunday, January 22)

## **Moderator**

Cindy Torilli

## **Clerk**

Karen Kuchnir

## **Treasurer**

Sally Vincentsen

## **Assistant Treasurer**

Randy Dinjian

## **Financial Secretary**

Jim Black

## **Historian**

Marge Coldwell

## **Diaconate**

Peter Martin '18

Virginia Sweeter '18

Steve Coldwell '19

Deb Harrison '19

Sara Tomaino '20

David Hile '20

Cindy Getchell '21

Denise Honey '21

## **Christian Education**

Alethia Dechellis '18

Jane Harrington '18

Melissa Esteves '19

John Garton '19

Sandy Coombs '20

Mark Whiteman '20

(one-year term)

## **Financial Resources**

Randy Dinjian '18

Alan Snow '19

Jason Honey '20

## **Buildings &**

### **Grounds**

Bob Murphy '18

Jim Haugen '19

Steve Ulfelder '20

## **Personnel**

Diane Wallace '18

Carol Sherwood '19

Amy Townsley '20

## **Stewardship**

Sean Connelly '18

Daniel Xu '18

Christina Stevens '19

Tim Lescalleet '19

*Open '20*

*Open '20*

## **Outreach**

Valerie Moreland '18

Marie Lescalleet '18

Carol Cullen '19

Erin Wheatley '19

Bobbi Roberts '20

Joan Haugen '20

## **Music**

Chris Sweeter '18

Rusty Short '18

Pam Chilton '19

Ruth Russo '19

Amy Sibley '20

Michele Landes '20

## **Fellowship**

Susan Wieland '18

Eric Wieland '18

Donna Field '19

Laura Dully '19

Lee Andron '20

Beth Ferruccio '20

## **At-Large**

Dick Snyder '18

Nancy Kolk '19

Brian Zanghi '20

## **Parish Relations**

Joyce Hudson '18

Reid Roberts '19

Barbara Porter '20

## **IT Committee**

Herb Kolk '18

Lynne McKay '19

Ben Douglas '20

## **SOUTHBOROUGH FOOD PANTRY SHOPPING LIST\***



Coffee

Tea

Oatmeal

Maple Syrup

Potato Mixes

Pineapple

Applesauce

Bottled Juice

Caprisun

Juice Boxes

Crackers

Cookies

Flour

Sugar

Corned Beef Hash

Chili

Beets

Ramen Noodles

Boyardee Beefaroni

Boyardee Spaghetti

& Meatballs

Spaghetios

Knorr Pasta Mixes

Rice-A-Roni

Mayo

Clam Chowder

Shampoo

Conditioner

Pet Food

Tin Foil

Plastic Wrap

Waxed Paper

**\*Please check expiration dates.**

## Contact Information

### Staff

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) 579-9263 [carlapm@townisp.com](mailto:carlapm@townisp.com)

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

### Officers

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

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

Treasurer – Sally Vincentsen (508) 786-9566  
[svincentsen@gmail.com](mailto:svincentsen@gmail.com)

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

Clerk – Karen Kuchnir (508) 330-1163  
[karenkuchnir@yahoo.com](mailto:karenkuchnir@yahoo.com)

### Faith Community Nurse

Sharon Balcom – [pilgrimfcn@gmail.com](mailto:pilgrimfcn@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Spires

*Deadline For  
Submission of Articles*

*February 10 (March)*

*March 17 (April)*

*April 14 (May)*

## Standing Church Meetings

Church Council	7:30 p.m. – 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month
Fellowship	As Needed
IT/AV	8:30 p.m. – 1 <sup>st</sup> Wed. of month
Personnel	As Needed
Parish Relations	11:30 a.m. – 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of month
Financial Resources	7:30 p.m. – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of month
Music	11:30 a.m. – 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of month
Outreach	11:30 a.m. – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month
Stewardship	As Needed

## Celebrations & Concerns

### Celebrations

A successful 2017 Annual Meeting was held on Sunday, January 22.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Concerns

Please keep the following people in your prayers for healing:

Dr. Marilyn Meserve and Beth El Massih and their entire family as they mourn the loss of Dr. Edwin Meserve, husband and father.

Sandy Campbell

Alethia Dechellis

Alex Kern

Jeanne Roetter

\* \* \* \* \*

## Dates to Remember

**Wednesdays, February 1, 8, 15 & 22**

7:00 p.m. – Meditation Service

**Sundays, February 5 & 19**

11:30 a.m. – Prayer Shawl Ministry

11:30 a.m. – Confirmation Class

**Mondays, February 6 & 20**

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

**Mondays, February 6, 13 & 27**

9:30 a.m. – Healthy Living Group

**Tuesday, February 7**

5:00 p.m. – Our Father's Table

**Tuesdays, February 7, 14, 21 & 28**

9:30 a.m. – Yoga Class

**Monday, February 13**

7:30 p.m. – Council Meeting

**Wednesday, February 15**

3:30 p.m. – St. Pat's Worship Group

**Sunday, February 19**

6:00 p.m. – Friar Tuck Ministries

Wormtown in Worcester

**Sunday, February 26**

Blood Pressure Clinic

(During Coffee Hour)