

# *The Spire*

*May 2017*

*Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC*

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*Southborough, MA 01772*

## A Word from the Financial Secretary

Having just completed my second year as your Financial Secretary, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to each of you for your understanding of the complexities of the office. I work with the Church Treasurer to see that your information is correct and complete.

We receive funds in several different forms. Some is in cash received in the Sunday passing of the plate and in envelopes that determine who gave the gift. Others provide funds by check and other sources. More persons are increasingly providing funds by having their bank send us a check from their account monthly. We also receive stocks donated through Fidelity that are handled by our Treasurer. Additional funds come from persons through their grants from their Trusts. We accept more and more types of transactions to help you decide which works best for you. More electronic sources will be evaluated in the future to provide you with additional options.

A new offering envelope has been provided this year to reduce the cost of the previous envelopes that we have been using. By eliminating the dates and numbers on the envelopes, this provides flexibility in using all the envelopes that we were purchasing. We recognize that is a change for everyone, but we can recycle the envelope if you place a check inside and do not seal the flap. We are encouraging more recycling in many different forms. Modern computer software allows for the use of a person's name as easily as using of the old method of numbers. This still provides privacy in your giving. No envelopes are thrown away because they had dates or numbers on them. We were throwing up to 45% of the envelopes away because they were not used.

*(continued)*

# **Sr. High Youth Group**

## May Schedule

6<sup>th</sup> – 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. - Carwash Fundraiser

7<sup>th</sup> – Church/Parlor

14<sup>th</sup> – Church/Parlor

21<sup>st</sup> – Confirmation Sunday

28<sup>th</sup> – Church/Parlor

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### **From your Faith Community Nurse: May is Melanoma/Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month**

Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States. Ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun is the main cause of skin cancer. UV damage can also cause wrinkles and blotches or spots on your skin. The good news is that skin cancer can be prevented, and it can almost always be cured when it's found and treated early. Pilgrim Congregational Church is proud to participate in Melanoma/Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month. During the month of May, join us in taking action to prevent skin cancer and reduce the risk of UV damage. Take simple steps today to protect your skin:

- Stay out of the sun as much as possible between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Use sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher. Put on sunscreen every 2 hours and after you swim or sweat
- Cover up with long sleeves and a hat.
- Check your skin once a month for changes.

#### **Financial Secretary (cont.)**

We have initiated a new program this year with the assistance of the IT Committee and its chairperson, Lynn McKay. We now have a system in place that integrates all except or Treasurer into one database. This allows for all departments to use the same data with one source for names, addresses, phones, and e-mail addresses. This has eliminated having to copy information from several sources and reduced the number of errors in transposing that information. We have for many years had this data separated and stored in many different forms. Please understand that we are still working to make the system as accurate as possible. You should notice the changes in the reports that you receive throughout the year. I wish to thank Herb Kolk, whom I worked with the past 2 years, to provide the pledge information. He has given a lot of his time to create programing that provides this data.

We will be giving updates on a regular basis. Please make me aware of any errors that you might detect. Again, I thank you for your understanding and I look forward to our continued work together. P.S.—Offering envelopes are available in the Church office or see me on Sundays.

*Jim Black*



## **Happy Anniversary**

Bruce & Dee Merritt 2  
Todd & Nancy Wentland 10  
Bill & Sharon Balcom 11  
Mike & Jane Harrington  
Steve & Kathleen Hendrick 18  
Chris Willis & Peggy Randel 19  
Alan & Kris Snow 20  
Wayne & Carol Long 20

Jayson & Mindy Hreczuck 20  
Stu & Leah Needels 22  
Erich & Hilary Ledebuhr 24  
Roger & Fran Rosenquist 24  
Joe & Kelli Wagner 26  
John & Catherine Campbell 28  
Carl & Sandy Altamura 30  
Rusty & Janet Short 30



# Happy Birthday



Meghan Clark	1	Lindsay Merritt	16
Dave Wilson	1	Dick Dinjian	17
Viola Laptewicz	1	Laura Scott	18
Steve Hendrick	1	Lane Southard	18
Tom Beck	3	Morgan Sibley	18
Celia Whiteman	3	Sarah Whiteman	18
Bridget Clark	5	Carol Long	20
Jane Davis	5	Brittany Kern	20
Meghan Hornblower	5	Attila Herczeg	21
Heather Hodgkins	5	Nancy Kolk	21
Grant Whitney	6	Diane Wallace	21
Susan Conti	7	Alexandra Mohn	21
Storm McGuire	7	Jim Moore	22
Louise Turner	8	Amy Dietz	22
Brian Sweeter	8	Chris Lang	23
Rich Grenham	9	Lucas Hemm	23
Jan Short	10	Kelly Schoener	25
Joe Hodgkins	10	Connor Wieland	25
Channing Moreland	10	Kathy Moffie	26
Dorothy Heney	11	Ben Campbell	26
Conner Hoge	11	Katie Davis	28
John Ellsworth	12	Rick Scott	28
Chris Davis	12	Matt Barrieau	28
Amy Townsley	12	Kaylee Harrison	28
Aaron Townsley	13	Aaron Landes	31
Pam Dietz	15	Irene Garton	31
Briana Wentland	16	Lucia Tomaino	31

## Healing Service

Tuesday, May 2

@ 7:00 p.m.



GO TO  
[www.steeplecoffeehouse.org](http://www.steeplecoffeehouse.org)  
TO PURCHASE  
TICKETS ONLINE,  
for  
CONCERT  
INFORMATION,  
and for details on  
TOMASSO  
TRATTORIA'S  
DINNER-&-SHOW  
SPECIAL  
Call Coffeehouse:  
508-281-9995

### DECEMBER ADMISSION

Advance &  
Reservations  
**\$17.00**  
Door  
**\$20.00**

### SENIORS AND STUDENTS

Advance &  
Reservations  
**\$14.00**  
Door  
**\$17.00**  
UNDER 5 FREE

Mark your calendars!  
You are invited to join us on May 13  
as we again welcome world class  
saxophonist and Steeple Coffeehouse  
favorite, **DAVE PIETRO AND HIS TRIO.**  
We hope to see you there!



**SATURDAY MAY 13 / 7:30 P.M.**

Award-Winning Saxophonist and Composer

## DAVE PIETRO AND HIS TRIO

Mark Shilansky, Piano Dave Clark, Bass Mark Walker, Drums



### SPECIAL MOTHER'S DAY SHOW!

Dave and his trio will be playing  
jazzed up arrangements of his  
mother's favorite standards by  
George Gershwin, Rogers & Hart,  
Lerner & Loewe, Jerome Kern,  
and Irving Berlin.  
Come join us for a great night  
of music!

Dave Pietro has toured, and/or recorded with the Woody Herman,  
Lionel Hampton, and Maynard Ferguson Bands; played with Blood  
Sweat & Tears, Rosemary Clooney, Harry Connick Jr., Liza Minnelli,  
John Pizzarelli, Ray Charles...the list goes on.

"A fine fiery saxophonist and a talented arranger...an adventurous  
yet lyrically reflective musician."

*John Murph / Jazz Times Magazine*

"...a radiant soloist. His improvisations take on color and emotional  
heat as he swings with fury."

*Dr. Herb Wong / Jazz Educators Journal*

[www.davepietro.com](http://www.davepietro.com)

The non-profit, all-volunteer Steeple Coffeehouse  
donates its after cost proceeds to the Pilgrim Church Outreach Program.

Support our church and many worthy causes  
by attending THE STEEPLE COFFEEHOUSE!

Admission is FREE to volunteers who help set up the hall the  
afternoon of the show, bake, or serve in the kitchen during the show.

# Deacons' Corner

Faith is More Than a Statement

We've been talking a lot at Pilgrim Church over the past year about each of us drafting our faith statements. We are meant to give considerable thought to our fundamental beliefs, and write them in a 250-word essay. Jon plans to assemble them together, and produce something we can all share. Similarly, each May, our high school confirmands share with us their faith statements after a year-long study of God, Jesus, the Bible, Pilgrim Church, and the intersection of science and religion. They stand at the lectern and read them bravely to the congregation. (Confirmation Sunday is May 21). I think it is so interesting to learn about each other's faith.

Whether you ever write down your faith statement, I would encourage you to still give deep thought to your beliefs, and turn to your faith right now. This country was founded on a belief and trust in God. It says so right on the almighty dollar bill, *In God We Trust*. And, in my opinion, we need to ask for God's help and guidance right now. Every time I turn on the news, I am saddened by what is happening around the world, and I am concerned about the state of our country. Things seem to be a mess. It looks to me like our leaders lack clear direction. They need God. As it says in the Bible "nothing is impossible with God" (Luke 1:37); faith tells us that God can take the mess and turn it into His message. I believe that He wants nothing more than for His children to turn to Him.

So, what to do when the state of many countries around the world, including our own, feels so desperate and overwhelming? It's enough for any of us to lose faith. But, again, the Bible provides inspiration to not lose faith, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

(cont.)

## Deacons' Corner (cont.)

(Matthew 19:26) This is where we can do something, we can lift up our concerns to Him. We can believe in the power of prayer. Prayer is turning your faith into action. When we learn of troubling news about our leaders, our country, or the people around the world, we can, with love, boldly lift them up to God. When we band together and offer up the same prayers, there is an even greater power to the prayers. Troubling news can cause tremendous worry, faith in God provides peace. "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19).

*Deb Harrison*



***Join us on  
Sunday, May 7  
following worship  
for our annual  
Cheeseburger  
Sunday!***



The Jr. High Sunday School is collecting free will donations to fund the supplies needed for Cheeseburger Sunday! Please consider placing a donation in the Cheeseburger Collection Chest located in Fellowship Hall. THANK YOU!!!

# Come Out & Support Our Troops!

## Thank a Service Member Care Package Drive

**May 20**



**Saturday  
9:00 am – 4:00 pm**

Senior Center – 9 Cordaville Rd. (Rt. 85) Southborough. Easy access from Rts. 9 & 30.

We need your help! Just drop off items and we sort, box and ship. Let's send our troops as many Care Packages as we can!

"It is not so much what is in the box, but the box itself shows people care and we are not forgotten." -- SSG Charles Rupprecht

**\*\* IMPORTANT: Please bring letters/cards. Some deployed receive no mail at all. All cards and letters received will be inserted in the packages we send.**

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

### **Personal Care items**

Deodorant - male/female  
Toothbrush/Toothpaste  
Body Wash GEL  
Q-tips  
Baby wipes  
Razors  
Tampons (no pads)  
Body lotions  
Dental Floss  
Travel size shampoo  
Chapstick or Blistex  
Foot powder  
White crew socks  
Freezer Pops

### **Food items – Individual packs please**

Gum  
Hard candy – Lifesavers, Jolly Ranchers, etc.  
M&Ms, Skittles, Twizzlers, etc.  
Lollipops - soldiers and children  
Beef Jerky/Slim Jims  
Nuts, sunflower seeds, Trail Mix  
Dried fruits, raisins, apricots, Fruit Roll-ups  
Pop Tarts  
Fruit Cups  
Canned soups  
Microwave foods -Popcorn, Easy Mac, Ramen  
Protein/granola/breakfast bars  
Instant Oatmeal – (individual packs)  
Cookies and Crackers (individual packs)  
Tuna in PACKETS

### **Drink items**

Presweetened mixes  
Crystal Light, Kool-Aid  
Coffee, tea  
Cocoa, iced tea mix

### **Other items**

Puzzle Books  
Playing cards  
Travel Board Games  
Magazines  
Batteries – all sizes  
DVDs - new or used  
Paperback Books  
  
Squirt Guns, golf balls  
Frisbees, Baseball,

For more information, please call Lisa Braccio at Braccio Electric (508-481-9939) or Debbie Depp Wilson (508-769-9701)

## 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  
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Minister of Communication – Debbie Herrick  
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Minister of Music – Grace Choi  
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Handbell Choir Director – Carla Mason  
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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@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia.torilli@gmail.com)

Financial Secretary – Jim Black (765) 994-9065  
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Treasurer – Sally Vincentsen (508) 786-9566  
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### Faith Community Nurse

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

# Upcoming Spires

*Deadline For  
Submission of Articles*

*May 19 (June)*

*August 18 (September)*

## 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	11:15 a.m. – Most Sundays
Handbell Choir	7:00 p.m. every Wednesday
Buildings & Grounds	<b>As Needed</b>
Christian Education	11:30 a.m. – Sunday TBA
Diaconate	11:30 a.m. – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month
Fellowship	<b>As Needed</b>
IT/AV	8:30 p.m. – 1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs. of month
Personnel	<b>As Needed</b>
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. – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month
Outreach	11:30 a.m. – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month
Stewardship	<b>As Needed</b>

## Celebrations & Concerns

### Celebrations

The baptism of John Andrew Kiley and Layla Jane Kiley son and daughter of Tim & Jen Kiley on April 8<sup>th</sup>

### Concerns

Please keep the following people in your prayers for healing:

The Flot/Bogardus/Hrdasky families as they mourn the loss of Jon Flot.

Alethia Dechellis                      Jan Monroe

Verrill Edwardsen                      Jeanne Roetter

Bryan Mohn's father,                      Jan Short  
Dick Mohn

## Dates to Remember

*Mondays, May 1 & 15*

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

*Mondays, May 1, 8, 15 & 22*

9:30 a.m. – Healthy Living Group

*Tuesday, May 2*

5:00 p.m. – Our Father's Table

7:00 – Healing Service

*Tuesdays, May 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30*

9:30 a.m. – Yoga Class

*Wednesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31*

7:00 p.m. – Meditation Service

*Saturday, May 6*

8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. – PCYG Car Wash Fundraiser

*Sunday, May 7*

Cheeseburger Sunday

11:30 a.m. – Confirmation Class

*Sundays, May 7 & 21*

11:30 a.m. – Prayer Shawl Ministry

*Saturday, May 13*

7:30 p.m. – Steeple Coffeehouse

*Wednesday, May 17*

3:30 p.m. – St. Pat's Worship Group

*Sunday, May 21*

Confirmation Sunday

3:00 p.m. – Friar Tuck Ministries Field Trip to  
Rapscallion Brewery, Fiskdale, MA



## Car Wash

Saturday, May 6  
8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Southboro Transfer Station



Please help support this  
Sr. High Youth Group fundraiser.  
The funds raised will go towards their trip to  
Washington, D.C. this summer.