

The Spire

June 2017

Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC

Published Monthly

on the Common

Issue No. 6 www.pilgrimchurch.us

Southborough, MA 01772

FROM THE MINISTER

Caring for Each Other: Your Five

Lynne McKay, Jim Black, and Debbie have worked very hard over the past few months to bring us into the 21st Century. We have a new database that is going to allow us to keep track of our diverse community from dozens of towns, faith backgrounds, and reasons for attending and supporting Pilgrim Church.

There is a new use of this technology too. It is going to let us take better care of each other. Our community is over 850 members, friends, and supporters of the church totaling more than 300 families. That includes families that live out of state but still give money and attend when they are in town, friends who use the church but aren't folks who want to join a church, and hundreds of families that attend regularly and give generously of time, money, and energy. Even if we wanted to, the staff and leaders of the church in any given year can't adequately celebrate, pray, and care for all of us as intimately as we'd like to. Church life is changing, and that gave us an idea.

Who are your five favorite people at Pilgrim? This is not a popularity contest and the number can be more than five. Robert Putnam did a study that found if you have three to five friends at church, it will make you an extremely happy person. The problem these days, however, at least at Pilgrim, is that we attend less often even though we love the church, may not have time to linger at coffee hour, and as a result, we don't see our friends. We can't care for each other very well, both in good times and suffering, when we don't see each other.

We're going to fix that. We're in the process of identifying who you know at Pilgrim. The staff and groups like Pastoral Care and Deacons

(continued)



Happy Anniversary

June

Bob & Deb Flot 2
 Randy & Tory Dinjian 4
 Joe & Suzanne Garcia 5
 Andrew Gebauer &
 Lisa Burrell 7
 Dan & Lynne Guilford 9
 Joe & Mimi Hodgkins 12
 Kevin & Wendy Crothers 15
 David & Sarah Hile 19
 David & Heidi Qua 20
 Peter & Connie Anick 21
 Alethia & Marty Dechellis 21
 Dan & Tricia Phaneuf 24
 Paul & Catherine Weber 25
 Jeff & Carol Cullen 27
 Joe & Anne Bartulis 29
 John & Heidi Krapf 30

July

Louis & Karen Kuchnir 4
 Will & Courtney Sargent 4
 Elisabeth & Richard Thorpe
 Sanjeev & Joan Choudhary 5
 Kirk & Price Carter 9
 Neil & Bridget Scullion 9
 Michael & Dru Lindgren 10
 Paul & Sarah Carter 11
 Grant & Beth Whitney 13
 Brian & Verrill Edwardsen 14
 Jim & Mickey Black 17
 Chris & Kate Kent 18
 Tim & Marie Lescalleet 21

July (cont.)

Navid & Lauren Sharifi 28
 Patrick & Amy Gardner 29

August

James & Kim Rizzitano 5
 Maynard & Betsy Southard 8
 Sean & Julie Connelly 9
 Attila Herczeg &
 Susanne Healey 9
 Peter & Cindy Torilli 9
 Jon & Jen Wortmann 9
 Justin & Alaina Ghatti
 Rich & Freddie Gillespie 13
 Bill & Shirley Owen 14
 Jack & Ann Cowern 15
 Pam Norley &
 Donn Randall 15
 Valerie & Rod Moreland 18
 John & Marion Gillis 23
 Rich & Angela Grenham 23
 Kevin & Marnie Hoolahan 24
 Marshall & Joyce Hudson 24



From the Minister (cont.)

will be helping to introduce folks with similar interests (all to be discovered as you fill out fields at your leisure in our new data base roll out coming soon). The goal is simple. When you need something or have something amazing happen in your life, we can let your friends know. Obviously the confidential stuff stays confidential, but if you make a celebration or need public in church or give us permission to reach out on your behalf, your friends will come calling.

Now sometimes you don't want people to come calling after a medical situation or difficult time. They can send cards. You may wonder, 'Do I have five friends?' If not, easy to make happen. Deacon Tim Ruggles is in the hugs business and is just one example of the kind of people in this church that want all of us to have more love in our lives. You're shy? We'll do it subtly. You are a true New Englander and you don't like this kind of thing. Well, we won't bother you.

Your five won't be public, but you can send us the list of your favorite people if you'd like and we'll add them to your list. With so many of us, the way to stay connected is to notice each other, our joys and concerns, and Our Fives will help us experience a little more soul refreshment in the years to come.

Jon

Sr. High Youth Group

June Schedule

June 4 – Church/Parlor
 (Last Parlor of the Year!)



Happy Birthday

June

Gracie Andron	1
Bob Flot	5
Mark Whiteman	5
Amy Mohn	7
Bryan Mohn	11
Vale Southard	11
Emily van Nort	12
Reed Southard	12
Justin Hoolahan	13
Julian Hreczuck	13
Toby Snow	13
Deb Flot	14
Bev Worters	15
Dawson Markey	16
Joan Baumann	17
Cindy Getchell	17
Alan Snow	17
Denise Honey	17
Logan Snow	17
Andrew Wallace	17
Avery Connelly	18
Logan Cummings	18
Lucy Ulfelder	18
Chris Leist	19
Pierce Cote	19
Courtney Wilson	20
Skyla Dechellis	21
Steven Ulfelder	21
Jillian Rizzitano	21
Abigail Hennessy	21
Jonathan Esteves	21
Laura Dunderdale	22
Matthew Dunderdale	22
Skyler Herczeg	22
Mitchell Klokman	22
Sarah Douglas	23
Anna Whiteman	23
Jason Honey	24

June (cont.)

Meaghan Douglas	26
Amanda Honey	27
Bill Harrington	28
Cindy Moore	28
Jay Rizzitano	28
Sally Coldwell	29
Maiya Hackett	29
Katie McGuire	29
Michael Mills	30
Abigail Roberts	30
Elsa Townsley	30

July

Jim Haugen	1
Dan Maurice	1
Joe Wagner	2
Lois Abel	2
Cate Mercadante	2
Ellen Child	3
William Child	3
Janet Short	3
Jerry McGuire	4
Cameron Field	4
Alison Hart	5
Rich Gillespie	6
Ruth Russo	7
Ben Schoener	7
George McClelland	8
Peggy Randel	8
Sophia Stilla	9
Jamison Hackett	10
Jake Klein	10
Louis Kuchnir	11
Brady Martin	12
Caelyn Viteritti	12
Mindy Hreczuck	13
Alex Kern	14
Eric Sweeter	14

Happy Birthday



July (cont.)

Jordan Cooksey	14
Justin Ghetti	15
Kathleen Hendrick	15
Trudi Bessom	16
Caden Ruggles	16
Lisa Burrell	18
Beth Ferruccio	19
Barbara Porter	19
Debbie Wilson	20
Amelia Partridge	20
Mike Harrington	21
Jon Willis	22
Janet Beck	23
Samantha Ruggles	24
Kim Hixson	25
Ed Blood	26
Luke Mason	27
Jenna Kuchnir	27
Natalie Zaterka	27
Paul Carter	28
Judy Rist	29
Shelby Aker	29
Bob Sanford	30
Virginia Sweeter	30
Taylor Moore	31

August

Ann Cowern	1
Ben Balcom	1
Nicole Mills	4
Rebecca Snow	7
Robby Stewart	7
Joyce Hudson	8
Laura Dully	9
Melanie Getchell	9
Isaiah Hile	10
Dylan Zaterka	10
Bridget Scullion	11

August (cont.)

Kevin Crothers	12
Maynard Southard	13
Dotty Clark	13
Olivia Esteves	14
Sloan Wilson	14
Luke Edwardsen	14
Amber Dechellis	15
Mason Dean	16
Teddy Garcia	16
Cassie Short	18
Jack Roberts	19
Tim Dunderdale	20
Marion Gillis	20
Isabel Herczeg	20
Jamie Clark	22
Cindy Torilli	22
Johnny Cowen	24
Shaelyn Sibley	24
Bill Davis	25
Cameron Molina	26
Kaleb Molina	27
Reid Roberts	28
Julie Cedrone	28
Sierra Cooksey	29
Sandy Altamura	31
Bruce Merritt	31
Julia Markey	31
Carol Sherwood	31
Bruce Merritt	31
Joan Haugen	31



Deacons' Corner

Creating Heaven on Earth

[Luke 11:2](#) “Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

[Galatians 6:10](#) - As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all [men], especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

As a new Deacon, I am blessed to be working with the wonderful team that serves the church in so many ways. Preparing for the weekly service is an important part of being a Deacon. When I read about the responsibilities that were written down in Helen’s “Book of Days” (which serves as a Pilgrim Church guideline for Deacon service) I got a good picture of what was expected. This “how to” guide lovingly directs the Diaconate in opening and closing the church, preparing the Sanctuary, and recording the service. Along with the reading of the “Book”, Steve Coldwell and Jon helped me acclimate to the job (I even saw the basement, a bit scary!)

After that, I read the Pilgrim Church Diaconate Committee Profile, as outlined in the Church Bylaws. In part it states: *...It shall be the duty of the Deacons to work with the Pastor in ministering to the spiritual interests of this church and community. They shall assist the Pastor in the preparation and administration of the sacraments, in visiting the sick and needy, and in introducing new families into the life of this church. They shall provide for the supply of the pulpit in the absence of the Pastor. They shall be responsible for and determine the use of the sanctuary...*

Upon digestion of that information, I began to seriously ponder my role in the Diaconate, as well as the knowledge I was being filled with. First, I thought “How am I going to be able to do a good “job” in my role? And, “What else can I bring to the table?”

(continued)

Deacons' Corner (cont.)

Then, I thought “Is this the right “job” for me (rather than Outreach, or Fellowship, or Parish Relations)? I don’t live in Southborough, or have a huge group of close friends here in the church, and I’m not “super” religious..... maybe someone else would be better for the Diaconate?”.

Then I realized something so valuable... “Hey!” Why NOT me?” So, my journey led me to finding some ways that I CAN serve, to try and make our Church community a better place, and do my part in “creating Heaven on Earth”. We are all so busy, with hectic schedules, too many commitments (most that we enjoy), and with the intrusion of so much technology in our lives, it is hard to be in touch with what really matters most.

For me, creating Heaven on Earth is caring for my family and friends, sharing love and laughter, doing a job that I love which helps people, and offering my talents and kindness to those around me. As a Deacon, I will strive for ways to bring these gifts to others, whether it is through preparing the church for worship on Sunday mornings, taking a call from a church member in need, arranging to work with small groups to help more church members be served or just reaching out to someone I don’t know at Coffee Hour. I truly mean for you to seek me out if there is a way that I, or the Diaconate, can be helpful. We want to hear your positive suggestions about how we can help create a loving community here at Pilgrim. As our church finds new ways to serve, stay tuned for opportunities to be involved. Maybe a small dinner or conversation group at a neighbor’s home (“mini-parish”), a wider lay visiting mission (such as Stephen Ministry), or new endeavors here in the church where we can explore our faith journey in addition to, (or other than) traditional Sunday worship... the possibilities are endless.

I have a challenge for you. Think of a time when you experienced ‘Heaven on Earth.’ How did it feel? How can you pass that feeling along to others? Then, try it, even just a little bit. See how it fits.

Blessings,
Cindy Getchell

PCC Financial Snapshot as of March 31, 2017				
	<u>3/31/17 YTD</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>YTD variance</u>	<u>Full Year 2017</u>
Income and Expenses:				
Income	146,293.39	123,787.74	22,505.65	458,176.00
Committee Expenses	20,179.97	19,896.00	283.97	68,061.00
Other Expenses	<u>97,039.56</u>	<u>101,016.53</u>	<u>(3,976.97)</u>	<u>361,103.00</u>
Net Income	29,073.86	2,875.21	26,198.65	29,012.00
Comments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Positive variance in income through Q1 driven by higher current year pledges to budget (timing) coupled with higher prior year pledges received in 2017 * Total Committee Expenses on budget through Q1 * Lower "Other Expenses" in Q1 driven by lower employee expenses (timing of budget) * Further detail is available - please contact Financial Resources with any questions 			

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Summer Services Schedule

*Sunday, June 25 through
Sunday, September 3*

*9:30 a.m. - Worship Service &
Sunday School @ Pilgrim Church*

*11:00 a.m. – Worship Service
@ First Community Church*

*6:30 p.m. - Vesper Service
@ First Church Congregational
in Marlborough (July 2-August 27)*

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Vacations will soon be starting and many of us will be coming to church less often. However, the church bills will still be coming in. Please consider keeping up with or prepaying your pledge during the summer.

Thank you,
"The Pilgrim"

Congratulations to the Confirmation Class of 2017! They were confirmed on Sunday, May 21.

Andrew Dully, Jonathan Esteves, Joseph Garcia, Emma Hennessy, Brady Martin, Ally Mohn, Taylor Moore, Jacob Qua, Toby Snow, Connor Whitney and Ben Zschokke

Troop Drive Thank You

With your help for our 20th Care Package Drive we shipped almost 200 boxes weighing 4,000 lb., bringing our total to about 9,300 boxes and 208,800 lb. Your overwhelming generosity, dedication, and unconditional support of those serving have been a true gift. The smiles YOU have brought, when it was so very needed for our Troops, are something that we have not found replicated on any level elsewhere. What an amazing testament to all of you. From the bottom of our hearts we thank you on behalf of all those to whom you've given hope, comfort and the sense of knowing they are not forgotten.

It's not what you gather, but what your scatter that tells what kind of life you are living!

Proud Army Mom of CPT Courtney Wilson.
Deb
Founder, Lisa Braccio



Summer Sunday School
Theme 2017

“Faith Across the World”

Look for details in the very
near future!

Children's Sunday-June 4

You are enthusiastically invited to the most energetic and touching worship of the year - a worship by, for, about, and featuring the children of Pilgrim Church. The children lead every part of worship, with the special ritual of giving Bibles to all of our Kindergarteners and 4th graders (Children's Bible for Kindergarteners and adult Bible for 4th graders).

Of course, this celebration will be followed by a party to honor our Sunday School teachers and blossoming program. If your child would like a speaking role or you would like to help with this special event, contact Julie at jcedorne@pilgrimchurch.us

Grade	Role	When and Where
Kindergarteners	Greeters	9:40- Front Stairwell
1st Graders	Greeters	9:40- Front Stairwell
2nd Graders	Pass out bulletins	9:30- Sanctuary
3rd and 4th Graders	Pass the plate	9:30- Sanctuary
5th and 6th Graders	Set up and host Coffee Hour	9:30-Kitchen
7 th and 8 th Graders	Serve Communion	9:15-Sanctuary

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@gmail.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 – Karen Kuchnir (508) 330-1163
karenkuchnir@yahoo.com

Faith Community Nurse

Sharon Balcom – pilgrimfcn@gmail.com

Upcoming Spires

*Deadline For
Submission of Articles*

August 18 (September)

September 15 (October)

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	11:15 a.m. – Most Sundays
Handbell Choir	7:00 p.m. every Wednesday
Buildings & Grounds	As Needed
Christian Education	11:30 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 Thurs. 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. – 3 rd Sunday of month
Outreach	11:30 a.m. – 2 nd Sunday of month
Stewardship	As Needed

Celebrations & Concerns

Celebrations

The baptism of Caelyn Rose Viteritti, daughter of Matthew Stickies & Shannon Viteritti and granddaughter of Karen Moriarty.

Concerns

Please keep the following people in your prayers for healing:

Alethia Dechellis

Verrill Edwardsen

Bryan Mohn's father, Dick Mohn

Jan Monroe

Jeanne Roetter



Congratulations to the following students who will be graduating from high school this year:

Ben Balcom, Jessica Flanders, Jamison Hackett, Rosie Harrington, Lauren Kuchnir, Jay Rizzitano and Logan Snow

Dates to Remember

Sunday, June 4

Children's Sunday

Children & Communion

11:30 a.m. – Prayer Shawl Ministry

Mondays, June 5

6:30 p.m. – Women's Spirituality Group
Potluck Supper

Tuesday, June 6

5:00 p.m. – Our Father's Table

Tuesdays, June 6 & 13

9:30 a.m. – Yoga Class

Saturday, June 10

7:30 p.m. – Steeple Coffeehouse

Sunday, June 11

Sunday School Field Day

Monday, June 12

7:30 p.m. – Council Meeting

Sunday, June 18

Last 10:00 a.m. Service

Sunday, June 25 thru Sunday, September 3

Worship Services Begin at 9:30 a.m.