



# The Pilgrimage Herald

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The Church of the Pilgrimage  
Congregational – United Church of Christ  
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The Reverend Dr. Helen Nablo  
Pastor

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Rev. Gary L. Marks, Pastor Emeritus

Volume LXXXIII, No. 11

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:00pm

November 2013

## The Rev Says:



One of the funny things about church is that for all that we long to be close, to know one another, to know something of each other's story, we often don't know each other's names.

That's right – here, as in many other churches I've been part of, people generally know the people who sit near them in worship, in "their section" of the sanctuary.....but sometimes, at meetings, names get mentioned, and people look puzzled. They may have heard the name before, but they don't yet have a face attached to that name.

Our new directory is all about addressing this problem. Which is why it is so important that YOU take part. Yes, the directory helps with the social embarrassment aspect -- after coffee hour you can go home and look up that woman with the curly hair and lively eyes whose name you feel you should have down by now. The directory will help put names to the children and youth of our church and to people of all ages. It will help us reach across the generations – something a faith community is always trying to do.

None of us gets names right all the time. The other day I called a younger member of our church Ashley, and she was most definitely not Ashley. I felt badly about it. I don't expect the directory will erase every social faux pas, but it will surely help us all do a little better.

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## Board of Trustees News

You probably didn't notice but, the Church building has recently been brought up to 21<sup>st</sup> century standards, at least its electrical system has, and its heating system has also been upgraded. Old fuse boxes with screw in fuses, and possibly pennies, have all been replaced with up to code circuit breakers. Old two prong receptacles have been replaced with current code three prong and ground fault receptacles. Also, old switches and some wiring have been replaced. In addition, repairs have been made to the Church's heating system that will eliminate some leaks, and old valves that could have failed at some critical time during the winter have been replaced.

During the past year several leaks have been noted in the Church building. As any homeowner knows, you have to keep water out of a building in order to keep it from rotting around you. In order to provide long-term protection to the building, contractors with expertise in church construction and repair have been solicited to provide comprehensive proposals to repair/restore the envelope of the Church, including the roof and its four walls. A detailed plan for this restoration/repair work will be presented to the Congregation in the future.

The work associated with getting the electrical and heating repairs done, as well as spearheading the plans for future restoration/repair work, has been conducted through the significant efforts of Roy Mathis and Tom Mudgett.

As you should be aware, the stewardship campaign has been in progress. Each year, following the campaign, it is time to adopt the Church's budget for the coming year. The boards and committees of the Church have

*Continued on page 2*

*The Church of the Pilgrimage, UCC is an Open and Affirming Church  
World Mission Emphasis-Heifer Project International*

Moderator – Bob Taylor  
Clerk – Lois Post  
Treasurer - Verna Ross-Hoyt

Music Director-Kelley DePasqua  
Organist – Michael Eaton

Director of Christian Ed-Jenny Healy  
Office Manager-Shellie Souza  
Sexton-Brian Gildea

# Open House Nativity Display

As a project of the Membership and Evangelism Committee, we are doing a new thing. On Friday December 6<sup>th</sup>, as part of the downtown Plymouth tree lighting evening, we will have an Open House with free food – hotdogs and hot chocolate – in Allerton Hall. We have done this in the past, but this year part of that Open House will be inviting people to view a display of Nativity sets upstairs in our sanctuary.

Do you have a nativity or crèche scene that is special to you, perhaps one that has a story behind it? Speak to Diane or Bill Harting if you do. Call 508 746-4097 or email [wharting@verizon.net](mailto:wharting@verizon.net).

We'd like to ask people to submit a few comments for a card to accompany each set – it could be simply where it was from, or the story of how the crèche scene came to you.



*continued from page 1 (Board of Trustees News)*

considered the financial needs for which they are responsible and have submitted requested budgets to the Board of Trustees. The Trustees have taken those requests and are in the process of developing a budget to be proposed to the Church. This year, the Board will initially be presenting the proposed budget for 2014 at an informational meeting following the service on November 24<sup>th</sup>. The proposed budget will then be adopted, as amended, and approved by the Congregation, at a church business meeting following the service on December 8<sup>th</sup>. We hope that the entire Congregation will participate in the discussions and adoption of the 2014 budget.

*Continued from Page 1 (The Rev Says)*

Now if you are one of the longer term members, you may feel that, as I've heard it said, "everyone already knows me". But wait – we have new people joining the church, new people just beginning to find their way in. They *don't* "already know you"—and *you* don't already know *them*.

Being in the directory says something about each one who is included. It says this is YOUR faith community. This is something of which you are a part. It also says you support the effort we're making to be a place of the face-to-face, a place where we strive to know each other and support each other.

Related to "Getting to Know You", we have an important day in the life of our church coming up on the first Sunday in November. *Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> we will celebrate All Saints Day with a special worship service and luncheon.* Worship that day will include remembrances of four church members who made a particular contribution to the life of this congregation. (We will, of course, have time for other personal and private remembrances in our prayers that day as we come to the communion table) Then, after the service, during a simple luncheon provided by the deacons, stories will be shared about certain aspects of church life – the history of the organ, the beginning of outreach to the homeless, etc.

We hope this will be meaningful and fun for everyone – whether you've been around this place for a long, long time, or just in the last few months. As your still relatively new pastor, I know I am going to learn a few things – and I'm looking forward to it!

*Helen*



Working on projects for the church fair during Sunday School.

## Missions & Outreach News

The Missions Committee is looking forward to our first ever (to this writer's knowledge) retreat on November 16th with Helen. We'll be thinking about who we are and where we'd like to be going.

This year the Church will be hosting 4 weeks of Overnights of Hospitality for the Homeless. It's never too early to start recruiting. The dates for this year are: *December 22 - 28, January 12 - 18, January 26 - February 1, and February 16 - 22.* We need lots of volunteers willing to cook or to stay overnight. If you think you can help, please do take that extra step and let us know. Our fearless leader's contact information is (Sarah Barnicle) 774-454-2185 or [seasideediting@gmail.com](mailto:seasideediting@gmail.com). Please consider helping. We need LOTS of volunteers to make this work!

As the stores turn our thoughts to Christmas, even before Halloween this year, remember the church has delicious and creative shopping options for you! Coffee, candy, and chocolate, SERRV catalog shopping through church, and Heifer Fund gift donations will all be available Sundays beginning at the end of November. The Missions Committee Alternative Christmas Sunday will be *November 24th*, so save the date.

## Nominating Committee News

The Nominating Committee met on October 2nd. We thank Pastor Helen for coming to our early meeting and giving some insight into our present vacancies. Some discussion centered around choosing a new Moderator. We reviewed the names of those who were contacted in regards to continuing on for another term. Neil Bottomley will address the New Members Gathering on Sunday, October 27th, regarding the Stewardship Committee's duties. Presently there are openings on all committees.

The Nominating Committee will meet on *Wednesday, November 6th, at 8:30am* at Steve Triffletti's office.

## Youth Group Planning Session

Mark your calendars, then bring them with you to Jenny's house (10 Fremont St, Plymouth) on *November 10 from 12-12:30pm*, as we work to map out dates and events for the coming year. All high school age young people are invited. Jenny will provide the main course, and would love it if you wanted to bring a salad or soup or dessert. Please RSVP to Jenny at [fremont10@verizon.net](mailto:fremont10@verizon.net) so she knows how much food to make. And while you're at it, mark *November 24* as well, again, right after church. We will fill in the blanks for that day when we meet on the 10th.

## Christian Education News

Pastor Helen lent me a book to read which we hope to have some potluck and discussion times with throughout the coming year. It's called [Making a Place for Faith: Nurturing the Spiritual Life of your Children](#), by Elizabeth Caldwell. For November consider the suggestions below:

A Thanksgiving meal is an ideal time for simple expressions of thanksgiving by each person at the table: "Today, I thank God for . . ." Opening our Thanksgiving table to someone who might not have family or friends with whom to share a meal is a way of saying thanks to God for food and family.

Just a little food for thought. Stay tuned for more!

Though we got off to a bit of a rocky start with the scheduling, things are settling down and getting into a routine in the Sunday School classes. Because of staffing and numbers of children, we decided to combine the youngest two classrooms, a decision we will revisit in January. As a parent, if you have any input or feedback of your own or from your children about how this is working out, please feel free to pass it along.

We are noticing that the number of children in Sunday School on recent Sundays has been low. There are any number of contributing reasons for this, including sports, visitation schedules with parents and the overall busyness of our everyday lives. Please know that your children are greatly missed, and that we will always welcome them whenever they can make it. If you haven't had the chance to register your child for Sunday School, you can do it any time; all of the teachers have the forms in their classrooms.

On November 3rd look for the bags to come home with your children to fill (as you are able) with donations for the food pantry. As challenging as it can be to have little ones in the grocery store, having them participate in choosing items to donate can be a powerful experience. Bags/food donations will be collected and presented before the congregation on Nov. 24th.

December will be here before you know it, so if you haven't done it already, set aside the afternoon of Dec. 15 for Christmas caroling at the Newfield House nursing home. This is a wonderful way to teach the true meaning of Christmas, an important diversion from the crazy commercialism that pervades our culture during this season.

Order of business: I neglected to have parents fill out medical forms for their children when they registered for Sunday School. Please look for those from the teachers and get them back as soon as possible.

Thanks for your cooperation and continued support.

Jenny

## Habitat for Humanity

Most people have heard of Habitat for Humanity and know that we build affordable homes for local families in need. Habitat of Greater Plymouth has completed 9 homes since 1998, housing 12 adults and 31 children. What many people do not know is the number of ‘special projects’ that we have done in the form of numerous handicapped ramps, home additions for handicapped access, a kitchen for the Plymouth Taskforce for the Homeless, and, recently, a major rehab of a home in order to make it a safe place to live for a single mom with disabilities and her 3 children. These projects are completed through our ‘Brush With Kindness’ program and are made available through volunteer labor by our dedicated workers. On *Sunday, November 10*, we will celebrate the work of HFH and bring you updates from church member Allen Hanford, who heads up the BWK program. You will also hear from Cynthia Candlen, our newest member of the Habitat family. Cynthia’s rehab was completed in September, and she is anxious to share her experience and gratitude to God for the repairs to her home which allow her to have a safe place for her children.

We are also grateful to the Church of the Pilgrimage for the many years of support of HFHGP through the mission program and the many volunteers who are part of the church family. It is only through local support that we are able to continue to help those in need of a decent, safe place to live. Please join us on November 10.

## From the Moderator-Bob Taylor

I’m sure you’ve noticed the new energy in our church: the wonderful work in the church school, a renewed youth program, an increase in the number of weeks we will be housing the homeless, the new directory, people pitching in to help with the Harvest Fair, and the upcoming display of nativity creches to name a few. The Stewardship Committee has reminded us over the past few weeks of what a joy it is to be able to make a pledge to our beloved church. It’s my hope that as the pledges come in, we will be able to expand these great programs and become inspired to seek new ways to serve.

## Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

The Plymouth Area Interfaith Council is embarking on an experiment. We will be moving the traditional Thanksgiving Day worship service to the Monday before Thanksgiving – to *Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm* at First Parish Plymouth. Our hope is to get greater participation from our congregations, to have an intergenerational spirit, and to hear from different voices. In fact, the theme of our service is “Thanksgiving in Many Voices”. The three speakers will be Rabbi Lawrence Silverman, Reverend Dr. Helen Nablo, and a youth speaker yet to be determined from First Parish Plymouth.

On Thanksgiving Day, Pilgrim Progress will leave the Mayflower Society House at 10am and proceed to Burial Hill where they will hold their traditional service.

At Noon on Cole’s Hill (Water St) native ancestors will be honored during the National Day of Mourning Ceremonies.

## Notes

Sandie and Dave Moreland would like to acknowledge and thank those who have sent notes and cards of sympathy on the passing of Dave’s brother, Jack. They have been of great comfort.

A note from a member of Congregation Beth Jacob: “Thank you so much for opening your beautiful house of worship to all the members of our congregation so we could worship together during our Jewish New Year and Day of Atonement. What a gracious and generous gesture of brotherhood and love it was! I feel blessed to have such thoughtful, kind and accepting neighbors. May God bless you in all you do. Sincerely, Barbara Aharoni”

A Note from Linn Peterson: I would like to send a very sincere thank you to everyone who called and sent cards, meals and prayers my way after my recent surgery. The healing process has taken longer than expected, but I hope to be back worshipping with all of you very soon. You are the best church family to be found anywhere!

## Thanksgiving Day Open House

It is that time again, and we are asking for donations of time and goodies for the Thanksgiving Open House. It is always an opportunity to showcase our beloved church and provide a welcome to visitors to our town. We always have a full house and would appreciate anything that people can offer at that busy time. If you need me to pick up baked goods etc., please call me at 508-746-4514. Otherwise, we will be at the church by 8:00am Thanksgiving morning for drop offs.

Thank you, Diana Budge and Liisa Budge Johnson

## Deacons' Notes

Although it is only October, the Deacons have been busy planning for upcoming events and services.

Our *November 3<sup>rd</sup>* church service will take time to honor some of our own "saints" who have passed this life, but whose impact on the church will not be forgotten. We will also sponsor a luncheon directly after the service at which time a few of the longstanding activities and programs of the church will be highlighted. We hope this will be a wonderful gathering of our church family where all generations can come together and celebrate our past and look forward to our future.

On *Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>*, the Deacons will meet to draft our mission statement and discuss the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Ministry of Meals, the Ministry of Writing, and the Prayer Chain ([cotpprayers@gmail.com](mailto:cotpprayers@gmail.com)) continue to grow. Please contact the church office if you know of folks who might benefit from any of these outreach services.

## Pilgrim Association News

At the request of North Community Church (72 Old Main Street, Marshfield), the Pilgrim Association will gather for an Ecclesiastical Council at 7pm on *Tuesday, November 12, 2013*. The evening will begin with an Ecclesiastical Council to meet, review the credentials of, and hear the reflections of Steven Aucella and to examine him as to his fitness to be ordained to Christian Ministry in the UCC. If the examination is successful, Mr. Aucella will be approved for ordination pending a call to ministry in the UCC. Following the Council, there will be a reception for Mr. Aucella in Fellowship Hall.

## Church Record

On September 29, 2013, Rev. Dr. Helen Nablo baptized Oliver Alan Parent, son of Paula and Eric Parent.

## Guild Notes

The Guild met on October 11th for a great program on Burial Hill presented by Donna Curtin. As is usually the case when Donna speaks, attendance was great. It was a fun meeting with many of our great bakers making cookies for our fundraiser cookie sale. We re-arranged our usual order of business in order to facilitate a field trip to Burial Hill after Donna's presentation. This trip was popular as well. It was an all around good meeting with several new members attending.

Robinson Kitchen News: We have been blessed with another anonymous donation of \$100 for our kitchen fund as well as a collection of over \$300 in our piggy for the first month after summer vacation. This brings our current total over \$17,400. Amazing!

November's meeting will be held in Allerton Hall on *November 8, 2013 at 1:00pm*. The program will be a presentation about the Plymouth Fragment Society, one of the country's oldest charitable organizations. After the program, we will be signing up for our Fall bake sale which will take place on November 17th after the service. Start thinking about what you might bake for this fund raiser as it is our major one that benefits our treasury. We will also have signups for the Island Terrace Christmas Tree tour and tea. It has been a great extra event for the past two years. It is scheduled for *December 10th*, so mark your calendar.

I hope to see good participation in all of these upcoming events. We are a busy group! All women of the church are invited to attend. See you there!

Diana Budge, Guild President

## The Sacrament of Coffee Hour

...and you could preside! Seriously, we need volunteers to help make this important fellowship time happen. Next time you are enjoying coffee hour yourself, please consider signing up to be a host for a future date. First timer? Someone will show you how.



# The Pilgrimage Calendar

◀ October	~ November 2013 ~						December ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					<b>1</b> All Saints Day	<b>2</b>	
<b>3</b> Worship 10am All Saints Day service followed by potluck and storytelling in AH <b>Cherub &amp; Junior Choir rehearse</b> Confirmands meet 11-2 Stewart Rm	<b>4</b> Monday Meals of Hospitality 11am AH	<b>5</b> Board of Deacons w/ Soup & Reflection 6:30-8:30pm Marks Rm	<b>6</b> Nominating Com Mtg 8:30am Triffletti's office <b>Choir Reh 7:30-9pm</b>	<b>7</b> Board of CE Mtg 7:15pm Marks Rm <b>Mission Mtg 7:15pm Stewart Rm</b>	<b>8</b> Guild Mtg 1pm AH <b>Directory Pics 2:30-9pm JRC Great Rm</b>	<b>9</b> Directory Plcs 10am-5pm JRC Great Rm	
<b>10</b> Worship 10am Habitat Sunday <b>Cherub &amp; Junior Choir rehearse</b> Youth Group Mtg noon at Jenny's	<b>11</b> Veterans' Day Church Office Closed <b>Monday Meals of Hospitality 11am AH</b>	<b>12</b> Church Council Mtg 7pm Marks Rm	<b>13</b> Music Com Mtg 6:30pm Stewart Rm <b>Board of Trustees Mtg 7pm Marks Rm</b> Choir Reh 7:30-9pm	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Wedding rehearsal 5pm sanctuary	<b>16</b> Missions Retreat Noon-2pm AH <b>Wedding 4:30pm sanctuary</b>	
<b>17</b> Worship 10am w/Junior Choir <b>Cherub Choir Reh</b> Guild Bake Sale during coffee hour	<b>18</b> Membership & Evangelsim Com Mtg 9:30am Marks Rm <b>Monday Meals of Hospitality 11am AH</b>	<b>19</b> Stewardship Com Mtg 7pm Marks Rm	<b>20</b> HERALD DEADLINE Choir Reh 7:30-9pm	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	
<b>24</b> Worship 10am New Member Sunday w/ Cherubs singing <b>CE Food Drive Bags collected</b> Informational Budget Meeting after worship <b>Youth preparing meals for Monday meal program</b> Missions "Alternative Christmas Sale"	<b>25</b> Monday Meals of Hospitality 11am AH <b>Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at First Parish 6:30pm</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Thanksgiving Day - Church Office Closed <b>Open House from 8am-noon</b> UAINE hosting National Day of Mourning in AH this afternoon	<b>29</b> Church Office Closed Directory Pics 1:30-8pm JRC Great Room	<b>30</b>	

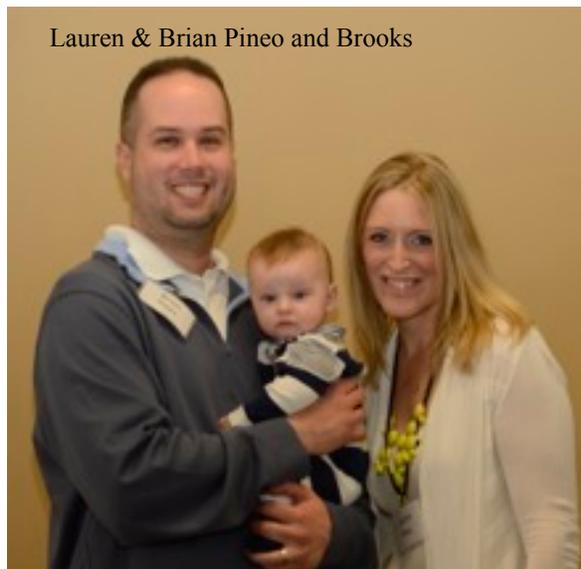
**Southeast Area Fall Fellowship:** *Sunday, November 17*, Mattapoisett Congregational Church, UCC; 2:00pm Registration; 2:15pm Worship & Program; 4:00pm Meeting.

Perceptions of Youth about Church-Most of your local churches wonder what the secret to sustaining a successful youth ministry. Is there a difference between a Youth Group and Youth Ministry? What does a successful youth ministry look like anyway? Well, here's the chance to get answers to at least some of your questions by a panel of experts.

## New Members

On May 5, 2013, we welcomed 18 new members into our church family. On June 23 we welcomed 5 more. Each month in the *Herald* we will include a photo and a brief bio of some of these new members to help you get to know them. Please introduce yourself, if you haven't already!

Lauren & Brian Pineo and Brooks



New members, **Lauren and Brian Pineo**, moved to Plymouth four years ago, Lauren from Braintree and Brian from Holbrook. They bought a house on White Street in Plymouth and were married in April 2010. Lauren fondly remembers as a child attending holiday services at the Church of the Pilgrimage with her grandparents, Eleanor and Thomas Hallam, who were members here.

Lauren and Brian have a 10 month old son, Brooks William, who was baptized in our church this past year. They are expecting a new baby boy in February. In addition to parenting, Lauren works in pharmaceutical sales, and Brian is an inventory coordinator for a beer distributor. Lauren enjoys horseback riding, golf and loves animals while Brian enjoys ice hockey and golf. Together they enjoy travel and cooking. And Brooks loves to smile and talk (a lot)!

Lauren was raised in both Catholic and Protestant churches. Her mother was Protestant and her father Catholic. Brian grew up as a Protestant. Together they decided to make the Church of the Pilgrimage their church home because of the wonderful welcome shown to them by Pastor Helen and the rest of the congregation. When asked what they like about the church they said, "Everyone has been so supportive and friendly."

We are very happy to welcome Lauren, Brian and Brooks into our church family and look forward to welcoming Brooks' new baby brother in February.... and perhaps another Pineo baptism in 2014!

## Flowers

On November 3 the flowers are in loving memory of Cliff Sampson. Given by Laura and family.

On November 17 the flowers are in loving memory of Danielle McNeely on her 22nd birthday. Given by Mom, Darryl, Holly and Kevin.

On November 24 we will enjoy our Thanksgiving Harvest Table.



THE CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMAGE  
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SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:00 AM



WE ARE UNITED IN STRIVING TO KNOW THE WILL OF GOD, AND TO WALK IN GOD'S WAYS, MADE KNOWN OR TO BE MADE KNOWN TO US.

## Stewardship Thanks and Thanksgiving

The stewardship committee would like to thank everyone for participating in the Chest of Joash service. Seeing the entire congregation come forward with their gifts is always an emotional experience for everyone. The day was made even more special when Helen announced that it was also the first anniversary of her installation as Pastor of our beloved Church. The accomplishments of the past year are a testament to the work and dedication of both Helen and our entire congregation. Our answers to “what gift can we bring” seem to be more apparent as our pilgrimage continues.

Now, as the weather cools, it’s time to move on to November. Thanksgiving Day is one of the few major holidays celebrated by almost everyone in the United States. With a rich history tracing back to Scrooby and Leydon, we at the Church of the Pilgrimage proudly celebrate Thanksgiving Sunday on the weekend before the holiday.

For those of us on the stewardship committee the entire month is a celebration of “thanks” as we collect the last of the 2014 pledges and present the board of trustees with the total amount pledged by our generous congregation. In order to provide them with an accurate figure, we do ask that everyone get their pledge cards in as soon as possible. You can drop your card in the offering plate, give it to a committee member, or send it to the church office. If, for some reason you were not on our stewardship mailing list and would like copies of our recent mailings, or if you need a pledge card, both are available on the table in the upper vestibule.

*The Church of the Pilgrimage*, what a wonderful name. As we said before, we have not only been given a rich history, we have been given all the gifts we need to bring this Church to its full physical and spiritual potential. And like all great things it begins with faith; faith in who we are, faith in what we can be, and faith in what we can accomplish together.

Thank you for your faith. Thank you for your generosity.

Nancy E Reed, Stewardship Chair