

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

February 2011



FROM THE
PASTOR

From the Senior Pastor

In past generations [God] allowed all the nations to follow their own ways; yet he has not left himself without a witness in doing good—giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, and filling you with food and your hearts with joy.

Acts 14.16-17

The calendar of the Christian year runs in two broad cycles around Christmas and Easter. Our year begins with Advent, a season of anticipation leading to Christmas. Christmas is also a “season,” 12 days leading up to the holiday of Epiphany, which celebrates the arrival of the Magi from the east and the manifestation of Christ to the gentiles and the sign that God’s word breaks out beyond its historic boundaries. This is the first cycle.

The second begins with Lent, the time of preparation prior to Holy Week and Easter Sunday. There is a season after Easter, which leads to Pentecost Sunday, the manifestation of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church; and then the calendar moves into an extended period of “ordinary” time. This longest season of the Church runs from late Spring through early Fall. This is the second cycle.

These two cycles around the great events of the church year invite us to participate in the work of God in a particular way. We begin with a period of preparation, of faithful waiting for God’s revelation at Christmas and the fulfillment of God’s promise of life at the Resurrection. The great celebrations of Christmas and Easter, the anchors of the Christian year, are followed by extended periods of time dedicated to faithful living. We grow into the fulfillment and wonder of God’s revealed love and grace by actively and creatively exercising our faith through service, study, worship, in truth through any means that joins us to the work that God is doing in the world.

We are always discerning ways in which we can enrich our lives of faith at Pilgrim Church. Some are listed below. Others come up as the year goes on. Some spring up unexpectedly and offer surprising glimpses of God’s grace at work. In this season, the season after Epiphany, we are called to grow our faith, to spread the Good News and join the mission of the church in the world.

*Peace to you all,
Todd*

Evening Bible Study in February: Introduction to the Bible



We are a faith and denomination rooted in Scripture; and yet we often find ourselves scratching our heads over what to make of God’s word. If you are new to the Bible or new to Pilgrim Church or simply wish for a place to discuss the place of Scripture in the life of the church and your faith, please make plans to join us for a three-part series on the basics of the Bible on Wednesday nights in February. Todd Vetter will lead a discussion on the origins of scripture, the various ways in which the church interprets it and the wonderful and surprising ways in which God’s resolve for all of us is revealed through it. We will meet on February 2, 9, and 16, in the Library, beginning at 7:00 PM. All are welcome to join us, regardless of previous experience; and if you need help with childcare, please let Todd Vetter know and it can be arranged. We look forward to seeing you there.



Back to the Bay! Mission Trip to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi

Last year was so much fun, we’re going back ... at a time when we can guarantee no snow! Our second trip to Back Bay will take place May 15 – 21, 2011. Anyone is welcome to join us. The focus of the trip is home building and home repair, but there is other work to do at Back Bay Mission as well. Like Habitat for Humanity, Back Bay makes it possible for people of all skill levels (and people of no experience) to work in a way and at a pace that is comfortable for them. We have approximately 20 slots available, so if you are interested or have any questions, please see Todd Vetter as soon as possible. For an overview of the Mission’s work, please see their website: www.thebackbaymission.org.

Sunday Greeters



Pilgrim Church always needs welcoming faces to greet our congregation as they come to worship each Sunday. All it takes is about a half hour of your time, before the beginning of Sunday's service, and being able to give a warm "hello" to your fellow parishioners as they arrive for Sunday worship. This is an extremely easy, yet very rewarding way to help contribute to the life of the church. If you would like to volunteer to be a greeter on an occasional Sunday, please add your name to the sign up sheet in the vestry hallway, or call the church office if you have any questions.



Church School News

It has been a privilege to get to know the children at Pilgrim Church. They are wonderful! We have been studying the Baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist for the last few weeks. The rotation started with a visit from John the Baptist and an outstanding newspaper seller shouting out the news of a man wandering in the wilderness eating locusts and honey. We read the story in Matthew 3. There was even a blue Jell-O treat to remind us of the water in the river Jordan where Jesus was baptized by John. The four weeks of rotation followed. The children were able to learn more each week about this event in Christ's life as they rotated through the Bible Adventure Room, Cooking, Theater and Arts & Crafts.

I would like to thank all of the teachers who made this rotation possible: Laurel Lies, Dawn Backlund, Jim Anello, and Elizabeth Barrett. Joan Edgar and Greg Hunter who teach the 7th and 8th grade class are a real blessing. I would also like to thank Nancy Cobb who teaches the pre-K class. I am also grateful to Marianne Almeida, Michelle Kelley, and Rose Brewer who faithfully run the nursery each week.

Some important upcoming dates are as follows. On Sunday, February 13th we will talk about God's love for us. We will make Valentine's crafts and have a Valentine's treat. February 20th will be an "All in Church" Sunday as it is the beginning of the February school break. On February 27th we will have the opening of our next rotation. We will be studying the story of Zaccheus. It would be fabulous if you could read the story in advance at home. It is found in Luke 19: 1-10. If you are interested in helping with the next rotation, I am looking for four volunteers. Please call me at the church (ext. 142) or email me at 5kellars@verizon.net. It is a four-week commitment. I need a volunteer for each rotation: cooking, arts & crafts, theater, and the Bible Adventure Room.

I am thrilled to be your new Church School Superintendant. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Peace,
Emily J. Kellar

Calling all youth . . .

On the 4th Sunday of each month during worship, our youth in grades 9-12 are invited to gather in the youth room (across the hall from the "rainbow" or arts & crafts room) for a special youth class. It will be led by our pastors on an alternating schedule. Questions? Contact Rev. Eloise Parks (781-934-6591 ext. 103 or eloiseparks@hotmail.com).



Hello Pilgrim Ladies

Before I say anything about our exciting upcoming event, I would like to thank Sandy Dapprich for organizing and leading us on a fantastic tour of the new American Wing of the MFA. About fifteen of us experienced a wonderful overview of all four floors of the new wing. Thank you Sandy for all of your preparation, knowledge and grace in leading us through this beautiful museum; your passion is inspiring!

Mark your calendar for the evening of March 14 for "Re-Designing Hearts and Homes." Julia Lizza and the PWF team are busy planning this spring event for the whole community. You will hear Julia give us her expert advice on some problem areas in our homes with a parallel lesson from Sarah Vetter regarding the same problem areas of our hearts, and what God has to say about them through His Word. Additionally, there may be a surprise contest! There will be a nominal ticket price for this event as it is our only fundraiser for the PWF this year. Please save the date and be sure to bring a friend or two!

With Joy,
Sarah Beattie, PWF President

Ladies Parlor Re-Model

Pilgrim Women's Fellowship has started the ball rolling on remodeling the ladies parlor. The parlor has had some healthy use over the past 20 years and now needs some attention. In December, we asked Nancy Pratt to create a design to bring this once beautiful space back to life for our church. Nancy has come up with a lovely design and the Memorial Committee and the Trustees have agreed to fund many of our needs. However, some necessities are not yet funded and so we are turning to our congregation family for help.

Valentine's Day is coming up soon and we thought it might be nice to honor your "Lady" with a donation to help with the parlor re-model. Some suggestions for amounts would be:

- Parlor Partner \$50.00**
- Parlor Patron \$100.00**
- Parlor Promoter \$200.00**
- Parlor Paladin \$500.00**
- or**
- Private Partner \$undisclosed**



If you would like to join with us either with a donation or an honorary donation please call Sarah Beattie or Sandy Dapprich. We will highlight any honorees in the next Pilgrim's Progress newsletter.

Thank you!
Pilgrim Women's Fellowship

The February Tummy to Toes Drive

On Sunday, February 6 we will kick off our participation in this year's Tummy to Toes drive sponsored by Boston Cares and partner agencies – the Boston Globe and Building Impact. Once again the focus will be on young families, so we are collecting *infant food and formula (no glass jars, please), 100% juice, peanut butter and cans/pouches of tuna.* The collection bin is outside the church offices; and we will collect throughout the month of February. At the end of the month the food will be delivered to the Greater Boston Food Bank which distributes annually more than 30 million pounds of food and grocery products to nearly 600 member hunger-relief agencies in Eastern Massachusetts. Last year we collected 215 pounds of food and formula! We are registered as a drop-off location, so your friends and neighbors are welcome to participate. Thank you for your generous support!

Wednesday morning Bible study

The scripture passages for the month of February are:

- 2/2 – Daniel 7-8, I Corinthians 2: 1-16 & Matthew 5: 13-20
- 2/9 – Daniel 9-10, I Corinthians 3: 1-9 & Matthew 5: 21-37
- 2/16 – Daniel 11-12, Leviticus 19: 1-2 & 9-18 & Matthew 5: 38-48
- 2/23 – Hosea 1-3, I Corinthians 4: 1-5 & Matthew 6: 24-34



The class meets from 10:00 – 11:30 on Wednesday mornings in the library. Everyone is welcome – no experience necessary. See Rev. Vetter if you have any questions.



Volunteer with Cranberry Hospice

Cranberry Hospice will begin a 9-session volunteer training program from 6PM – 8:30 PM on Mondays starting March 21st at their offices in Cordage Park. Hospice volunteers fill many roles including providing companionship and support to patients, vigil visits at the time of death and day-to-day activities such as running errands and providing transportation for patients and their families. Some volunteers assist the hospice office; and this year they are particularly interested in veterans who will support a veteran patient. If interested, please contact Karen Foster, Volunteer Coordinator at 508-830-2762 to register and make an appointment for an interview prior to the training.

PARISH POST

Prayers of Healing Esther Walker – Mary Kennedy Salvas – Kiki Houghton – Tom Gardner



Prayers of Comfort and Solace

For the family and friends of George Teravainen, Priscilla MacCallum's brother-in-law.
For the family and friends of Jimmy Walsh, Denis Walsh's brother.
For the family and friends of Jane Jeter, Fran Churchill's daughter.

Prayers of Joy

For the birth of Fletcher Clark Sampson, son of Madeline and Bradford Sampson.



PCCP Summer/Fall Registration

Registration for the Summer/Fall 2011 sessions of Pilgrim Child Care and Preschool is now open. Please apply online at www.pccpduxbury.org or stop in anytime. Contact Michelle Manganaro, M.Ed., Director, at 781-934-8145 ext. 201 to enroll or to answer any questions you may have.



Koinonia will meet February 14 at 7:00 PM at the home of Helen Barrow. Please call Helen for directions if needed.



Happy Birthday wishes this month to:

Doug Wiley – February 2 Eloise Parks – February 11 Don DeHart – February 17

Our heartiest wishes for a very happy birthday to our February friends. Surely there are more, and we don't want to leave anyone out. So please take a moment and call or email Terri Clark (781/934-6591 ext. 100 or tlclark@pilgrimchurchofduxbury.org) and let us know your special day. Balloons \$3.99, birthday cake \$14.99, a greeting from your friends at church? Priceless.

