

The Crier



Pilgrim Congregational Church of Taunton
45 Broadway, Taunton, MA 02780, Phone: 508-822-1472

Sharing Christ's Love through Worship, Fellowship, and Missions in the Congregational Way.

Worship Service Sunday 10:00 A.M.
Contemporary Worship Service Saturday 6:30 P.M.

*"Could life so end, half told; its school so fail?
Soul, soul, there is a sequel to thy tale!" -Robert Mowry Bell*

Easter Sunday is near, providing us with a wonderful time to reflect on the fundamentals of our faith (the death, burial and resurrection of Christ) and to celebrate. We are able to truly live and enjoy life in abundance because of Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

Easter brings times of quiet meditation and profound reflection which stand in stark contrast to the familiar hectic and at times chaotic phases of everyday life. Without time for quiet reflection, it is easy to continue carrying on with the ritual of everyday life. All the while time marches on with its own tune until one day the tune stops and we are left to ponder "What does it all mean?" Unfortunately, many people in our society find that when the tune stops they are left with little real sense of fulfillment or meaning. However, our generation is not the first to experience emptiness as a result of misplaced goals or expectations. In fact, as the Book of Luke tells us, the women who came to the Tomb of Christ also met with frustration and disappointment.

"1But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices which they had prepared. 2And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3but when they went in they did not find the body. 4While they were perplexed about this behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel 5...the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead?" 6Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, 7that the Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and on the third day rise." Luke 24:1-7

The women in the above text, and later the disciples, were perplexed about the emptiness found when seeking to prepare the dead body of Christ. They arrived at a point of emptiness and questioned what it all meant. Thankfully, those standing at Christ's tomb were not left to wonder for long. For two angels appeared to them, reminding them of the Master's words that on the third day he would rise again. Before this happened, the angels also posed a profound question to those gathered at the tomb, "Why do you seek the living among the dead?"

Like the women and disciples described in Chapter 24 of Luke, many of us still continue to seek life in the wrong places, and therefore in the end are left with tombs of emotional emptiness. The danger of life is that we will seek the accessories of abundance: money, relationships, freedom... forgetting that Christ is the real source of true riches and, apart from Him, that all of the accessories we obtain in life will just end in further emptiness.

The good news is that Jesus is Risen. When we make sure that we take moments of quiet reflection and peace, not only on Easter but throughout the year, we are able to place Christ at his rightful position in the center of our lives. That gives our lives balance and meaning; our lives become significant and full, and we are left with completion.

The joy of Easter Sunday is that Christ has rolled away the stone forever, and has made a promise to those who believe in Him that disappointments and setbacks will not result in their mourning at an empty tomb. Knowing this, we understand that Christ is the sequel to all unfinished lives - with Him we can truly rest in security and safety, for He has promised never to leave us alone.

Blessings,

-Rae

Rev. Raefield(Rae) Perteet, Interim Pastor

April 2010 Crier

Board of Education

Susan Orsini (Co-Chair) Beth Czepiel, Nancy Witherell, Lynne McIntyre, Sue Keogh

The Board of Ed is looking for volunteers to help with Saturday's Children's Church and Sunday School. No experience necessary, just a love for children.

Easter Sunday children will remain upstairs with their families. Please join us for this special service. (We aren't going to have an Easter egg hunt this year, but will give out Easter Baskets at the service)



Youth Group News

The Children and Youth had a great brunch of scramble eggs and unscrambling words this past month. They will have a lot to tell when they come back from their Camp Retreat up in NH. March 19,20,21!



Upcoming: Mark you calendars March 27th Saturday at 4:00pm Movie and Pizza, for children & youth and adults always welcome!

Don't forget to check www.pilgrimcc.net/youth for upcoming events and pictures.



Peace and Love, Mrs.

Mission News

Board of Missions: Lisa Wezowicz and Greta Ferreira, co-chairs, Judy Sylvester, Jenny McNee, Kris Maher, Maria Coutts, Jim Ritchie –Treasurer

Ongoing Collections:

We have a new collection box to put your Box Tops for Education in. The box is on the shelf under our bulletin board. Box tops can be found on General Mills and Betty Crocker products. Remember to bring in Campbell's Labels for Education, aluminum can tabs, Shaw's receipts and used ink cartridges. We will donate all these items to organizations that use the money raised from them to fund their programs.

We are no longer collecting used eyeglasses. Two places that you may take your used glasses to are Eyecare-Eyewear at 45 Cohannet St., Taunton (508) 824-4100) and Vision Works Express on Rt. 44 at the Shaw's Plaza in Raynham (508-822-8692).

Don't throw away paper and cardboard used at church!!! WE have a recycling bin in the office.

The bottle and can drive to benefit local charities has begun. Please bring in returnable bottles and cans (no glass please) to place in our trash can in Fellowship Hall. This month's collection will benefit the Winslow's Animal Sanctuary in Norton – a home for abused and neglected animals.

Food Donations

Please bring in food items for the food pantry box and for the emergency food supply cabinet. Any non-perishable food item is welcome. Items specifically needed for the emergency food supply are items for children, such as cereal, kid's pasta, graham crackers, boxed macaroni and cheese, peanut butter and jelly, apple sauce and canned soups.

Relay for Life –June 4th and 5th @ Hopewell Park

This year The Missions Committee is again forming another team for the Relay for Life in Greater Taunton. Whether it is a friend, family member, the neighbor down the street, or our own personal experience, we have all been touched by cancer in some way. We all have the power to make a difference in the fight against cancer. That's why we have chosen to fight back right here in our community by participating in the American Cancer Society Relay For Life®. There is also something so magical about being amongst so many loving people who give so much of themselves. As most of you know, Relay is a team event to fight cancer. At the event, we'll camp out overnight and take turns walking around the track to raise money and awareness to support the American Cancer Society's lifesaving mission. I can truly say Relay is unlike anything else you'll ever experience. It's a night full of fun, hope, and remembrance, and the money we raise will help the American Cancer Society ease the burden of cancer patients and fund innovative cancer research.

Each year the Relay takes on a theme and this year it is "The Olympics". Our team name is "Pilgrim Church - Going for the Gold! This applies to the olympic theme as well as reaching the next level of fundraising. Last year we raise \$7800 which placed us in the silver category, anything over \$10,000 is the gold level... and that is what we are shooting for!

For further information please contact Team Captain: Greta Ferreira (garbo1127@gmail.com) or call the church office. Thank you so much for your consideration!

Greta Ferreira

Missions Committee

Board of Deacons

Peter Witherell (Chairperson), Shirley Ragusa (Vice Chairperson), Sylvia Cross (Secretary), Charlene Sisson (Treasurer), Bob Hunt, Lynne McIntyre, Deborah Cozzens., and Steven Kosta.

Reminder: *The loose money offering on Communion Sunday is given to the Deacons Fund to help the local poor.*

Elizabeth Pole News

Elizabeth Pole Society

Arlene Pimenta gave the Quilt Ladies the 12 squares which make up the top of this year's quilt. In honor of her generosity we have named the Quilt – Arlene's Gift. We have enjoyed putting together and are now ready to start quilting. Come join us on Wednesdays as we quilt away!

We will be having the special quilt drawing for "Arlene's Gift" on Palm Sunday, Sunday, March 28th. If interested, please contact the church. Tickets are now available - Book of 6/\$5.00 or \$1.00 each.

Book Group

The Women's Book Group met on March 3rd and held a lively discussion of *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* by French author, Muriel Barbery. We were still going strong after an hour. Pastor Perteet sat in on the discussion and left with a copy of the book. We lunched at the Olive Garden. Next month's selection is *Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder. Discussion date is April 21, 2020.

Ladies Tea

The Elizabeth Pole Society is holding a Ladies Tea in honor of Mothers.

Date: Saturday, May 8, 2010

Time: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm.

Place: Fellowship Hall, Pilgrim Congregational Church

The tea will feature a variety of teas and punch with dainty sandwiches, scones with jam and clotted cream, and a wide selection of pastries.

As an added attraction, a pianist will provide musical selections on our beautiful Chickering piano.

You will not want to miss this wonderful event.

Tickets are \$10.00 each.

SAVE THE DATE

INSIDE YARD & RUMMAGE SALE

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 24

8 am-1 pm

Volunteers Needed to Set-up, Sell, & Clean-up

Set-up during the week of

April 18th

Drop off your Contributions during church office hours

Monday thru Friday 9 AM – 1 PM

Please bring your clean clothing, small appliances, knick knacks
and bric-a-brac as well as any other saleable items,
except computers, to our yard sale.



PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Bill Giles, Rich Hovestadt, Paul Ferreira, Tom Sylvester, John MacRae, Kevin Fisk, Frank Ragusa

Due to generous donations to Pilgrim we recently purchased a dishwasher from Ray's Appliance in Taunton. Wilkins Plumbing along with John MacRae installed the dishwasher.



Show of Support

Long time member Frances Lincoln who recently moved to Georgia to live with her son has broken her hip. If you are interested in sending a note or card her address is:

Mrs. Frances Lincoln
1654 Carlson Lane SW
Marietta, GA 30064

THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone at Pilgrim Church for the cards, phone calls, visits and gifts. They were very much appreciated during my stay at Morton Hospital. A special thank you to Jean Johnson for her daily visits to check on me. See you at church soon.

Roger Sisson

April Coffee Hour

<i>April 4</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>
<i>April 11</i>	<i>Board of Missions</i>
<i>April 18</i>	<i>Board of Deacons</i>
<i>April 25</i>	<i>Board of Managers</i>

CRIER DEADLINE FOR APRIL INFORMATION

Kindly note that the DEADLINE for submitting information for the MAY Crier is April 19th.

Fellowship Groups

Fellowship is one of the backbones of the Christian life as well as our Congregational tradition. This fall you are invited to check out one of the many wonderful, warm, and inviting groups here at Pilgrim. We all have different worship and fellowship needs, so we encourage you to find a group that is right for you!



Fellowship Group	Place	Time	Contact Person / Additional Information
Christian Meditation	Chapel	Wed. 6 – 7 pm	Sylvia Thornton (508-947-3160)
Elizabeth Pole Society	Parlor	Wed. 10 – 11:30 am	Carol Ritchie (508-824-5011)
Bible Study	Parlor	Thurs. 10-11:00 am	Barbara Hunt (508) 822-0683
Contemporary Worship Team	Parlor	Wed. 7 – 8:30 pm	Dan LeBrun (508-837-9482)
Pilgrim Choir	Fellowship Hall	Tues. 7 – 8:30 pm	Jim Moore (508-285-6699) <i>Now Meeting</i>
Men's Breakfast	Fellowship Hall	Wed. 8 – 9 am	Bob McIntyre (508-824-9871)

BIBLE STUDY

UNIVERSAL BOOK

The Bible is not only many books. It is a literature. History, poetry, prophecy, philosophy, theology, oratory, humor, sarcasm, irony, music, drama, tragedy, strategy, love tales, war tales, travelogues, laws, jurisprudence, songs, sermons, warnings, prayers, all are here. Was there ever such a literature? The Bible begins with a garden and ends with a city. It starts with a morning followed by a night and ends with a day that shall know no night. It breaks the silence with "In the beginning" and it hushes the universe to sleep with "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all."

John Snider

Bible Study meets on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome!

REMINDER

Reminder about Event Planning:

We have many different groups and activities taking place at the church each week. If you have an event (big or small) that you are planning, please remember to check first with Dawn Matthews in the church office to avoid any scheduling conflicts. Most events are also now conveniently listed on our website at www.PilgrimCC.net.

Church Office Hours

The Church Office is open **Monday through Friday from 9am to 1pm.**

Phone: (508) 822-1472 Email: pilgrimcc@verizon.net

Change of address, telephone number or email; please let us know so we can update our contact inform

In Memoriam

Sympathy is deeply extended to the family of Frederick Wilbur, who recently departed life on March 2, 2010. Mr. Wilbur was an long time member of Pilgrim, having become a member on May 19, 1940.

Our heartfelt condolences are extended to Joanne Hoeth, former Office Administrator for Pilgrim, in the death of her father, Richard Bentley on February 27, 2010.

We extend our deepest sympathies to Cheryl and David Karns, as well as to their children, Brittney & Cassandra in the recent death of their mother/grandmother Elizabeth Karns.

Prayer Concerns

Thanksgiving for:

Children and Youth of Our Church

The life, death, and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ

Men and women serving in the Military today and their families

Prayers for Healing:

Steve Kosta

Sheila Cook

David Dean

Judy Sylvester

Emerson Strange

Dick Estes

Frankie Czepiel, Jr.

Edward Orsini

Everett Fisk

Frances Lincoln

Roger Sisson

Winnifred Padelford

Prayers for Comfort:

The Family of Sevo Dimitri

The Family of Dorothy Pegram Rhodes

The Family of Richard Bentley

David, Cheryl, Brittney & Cassandra in the loss of their mother/grandmother - Elizabeth Karns

The Family of Frederick Wilbur

Prayers for Loving Guidance:

Our church family, Boards, Committees, Pastor

Prayer for our country and world peace

Our President that God will guide him with his decisions

Missions – local, national, and international

To list a prayer concern or joy, call the church office at (508) 822-1472 or email us at pilgrimcc@verizon.net. All prayer requests will be printed in the Sunday bulletin for one month and once in the Crier. If you need to renew a prayer request, please contact the church office.