

Pilgrim's Progress June 2, 2015 – Vol. 57 No. 6

FROM THE



PASTOR

We're finishing up the program year strong here at Pilgrim Church! Just wanted to highlight some of what we're up to over these next few weeks in worship:

Sunday June 7 (Communion and Family Systems Presentation after worship)

-For those taking part in the Gospel Choir on June 14, we'll have choir rehearsal at 10 AM.

-Worship with Communion in the pews will begin at 10:30, of course!

-After church, I'll give a presentation on Family Systems Theory (what I've learned thus far in the UCC's Next Generation Leadership Initiative.)

Sunday June 14 (Gospel Music Sunday)

-The music featured in our worship service, from the Prelude to our Hymns and Choir Anthem will be Gospel music. Kevin Morrison will play the Trumpet, and Dan even found a saxophonist! It will be such a fun service and it would be great to have a big crowd to worship together!

-For those looking to be part of the Choir that day, we'll rehearse before worship at 9:30 AM.

-June 14 is also the final day of Church School classes for the program year. Special thanks to all our Church School teachers who've worked hard from September-June to teach our children and youth so faithfully in 2014-2015!

Sunday June 21 (Ice Cream Social after worship)

-I will be away on June 21 as it's the day my one and only sister is getting married in Spokane, Washington. I'll be officiating her wedding and being a good bridesmaid as we celebrate Maureen and Scott (and our parents' 40th Wedding Anniversary to boot!)

-Dan and Lisa will help run the worship service though, have no fear.

-After worship, the Vitality Committee will put on our annual Pilgrim Church Ice Cream Social so you can enjoy some delicious dessert during coffee hour.

Sunday June 28 (Hymn Sing)

-As our last Sunday before Summer Worship begins, we will have our annual Hymn Sing. Come to worship and select your favorite hymns for the congregation to enjoy together in place of a sermon.

-(Just a note that Lisa and I will both be away at our United Church of Christ General Synod 30 in Cleveland on the 28th. We will present on General Synod in the fall; stay tuned to hear about what our United Church of Christ is up to on the national level!)

So that's just a bit of what we're up to in June at Pilgrim Church: Communion and Family Systems presentation, Gospel Music Sunday, Ice Cream Social, and a Hymn Sing. There's something for everyone to enjoy!

Thanks to all of you for another great program year at Pilgrim Church and have a safe and happy summer wherever you may be.

Grace and Peace,

Lauren

FAMILY SYSTEMS THEORY PRESENTATION ON JUNE 7

On Sunday June 7 immediately following worship, grab your coffee and snacks and head downstairs to Fellowship Hall to learn about Family Systems Theory.

What's Family Systems Theory? It's a theory of human behavior that views the family as an emotional unit and uses systems thinking to describe the complicated interactions of the unit.

In a nutshell, Family Systems Theory helps us to understand ourselves as part of our families, arguing that we can't understand who we are in isolation from one another anyway! Our families, churches, workplaces, organizations, and even society as a whole can be understood by looking at situations through the Family Systems lens. And it's very interesting to do so. Looking forward to sharing more with you on June 7!

Lauren



SUMMER WORSHIP AND SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Summer Worship begins on July 5 and will end on September 6. The worship service begins at 9:30 and is held in air-conditioned Pilgrim Hall. Summer Worship is a fun way to stay connected with fellow Pilgrims and hear about our faith journeys by listening to our lay preachers in a more casual service. Hope to see many of you there this summer!

Also, just a reminder that the Church Office will be open on Tuesdays from 9:30 – 1:30 in July and August. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday September 8.

DON'T FORGET TO COLLECT WATER FOR OUR SERVICE OF BLESSING ON SEPTEMBER 20!



Pilgrims are invited to continue the practice of bringing water back from your summer travels, especially if you have been some place that is particularly meaningful to you or has provided you with spiritual refreshment. Be sure to take a small bottle with you on vacation!

Bring the water with you to church on September 20 when we have the customary blessing of the water. You can add your contribution to the supply of baptismal water that is on hand.

FROM LISA HULBERT

The 2014-2015 program year has been a great learning experience for Educational and Youth ministries. We have been working hard to build on the foundation of programs that Pilgrim Congregational Church had prior to my arrival. We are excited to look towards next year.

In Church School we are going to transition from a traditional Church School model to a three-week rotation model. Children will be learning Bible stories through multiple, hands on techniques. Through cooking, art, drama, games and much more, our students will be able to learn in an environment suited for them. Our upper elementary and middle school students will also be working on a new program this coming year. This group will be working to put our faith in action by focusing much of their time on local mission and service projects. Our Mission Kids will explore Bible lessons and how they can be applied to serving and strengthening our community.

With these new initiatives we are looking to involve more members of the congregation in the Church School. Volunteers with many different talents and skills are needed to strengthen our programs. If you are interested in teaching a three week unit in any capacity please let me know. We are also in need of floating teachers for the upcoming year. This position is a three-week commitment designed to give an extra set of hands to the Church School teachers.

If you have any questions about next year, please feel free to reach out to me throughout the summer.

Lisa Hulbert

education@pilgrimcongregational.org

781-635-0709

WEEKLY PRAYERS

- Martha Kimball
- Alan and Julia Kirby and their children David, Jane, and Ted

JOYS AND CONCERNS

- We ask for prayers for Maureen Lorincz's friend's 10-year old nephew Beau, who is in critical condition following a home accident and suffered burns over 85% of his body.
- Prayers for Vice President Joe Biden and his family on the loss of Beau Biden who passed away from brain cancer at the age of 46
- Beth Kurth asked for prayers for the students and their parents in Bedford who are grappling with racism. Prayers for respectful conversations.
- Emily Collins shared the good news that Ostin and Karla arrived safely in Honduras
- Sylvia Ferrell-Jones asked for calm transition while their house is on the market.
- Deborah Burger shared the thanksgiving on the birth of her grandson Gordon Ellis Barnes IV, to her daughter Emily, and son-in-law Gordon on May 25!



FROM DAN SCHMIDT...

June is shaping up to be an exciting month from a music standpoint! On June 7, Jim Munkres will share his talent as a pianist with playing a very meaningful solo. June 14 is Gospel Music Sunday. This has turned into Gospel/Spiritual/Jazz music Sunday. We will have a great group of singers sharing their voices with us on an anthem (please join in!!). Lisa Boehm and Lesley Morrison will sing a duet for us. Kevin Morrison will be back with us on Trumpet and Noah Preminger will assist in the prelude and postlude on Saxophone. June 21 will be when I share my talents during the anthem time, and June 28 is a hymn sing! You can join in and select your favorites for us to sing.

I hope that during the summer months you are able to take in all the musical opportunities around you - whether at Pilgrim or afar. No matter where you may be in the world, there is music to be listened to, shared in and enjoyed! Enrich your life by taking in something new and bringing that experience with you to Pilgrim. We always have opportunities for more music genres.

Once we get through summer, our ensembles will be gearing up for another busy program year. All are welcome to participate. No music degree or understanding needed. I hope you will take the time over the next few months to think about how you can contribute to our music program. Even if you have an idea about what you'd like to hear - share it! All it takes is one tiny seed to grow into a large sequoia tree - that is the same with music - one idea can lead to many worthwhile opportunities.

"Music is a world within itself, with a language we all understand." - Stevie Wonder

SUMMER PREACHERS NEEDED!



It's that time of year again! We are looking for people interesting in preaching this summer. Possible themes are "the sermon you always wanted to hear" and "where do you encounter God in your life?" Or if you have a topic already you would love the chance to share, we can't wait to hear your words of wisdom! If you are interested or would like more information, please be in touch with Susan Bennett at susanjamiebennett@gmail.com. Thank you!

HELP US PICK A MOVIE!!

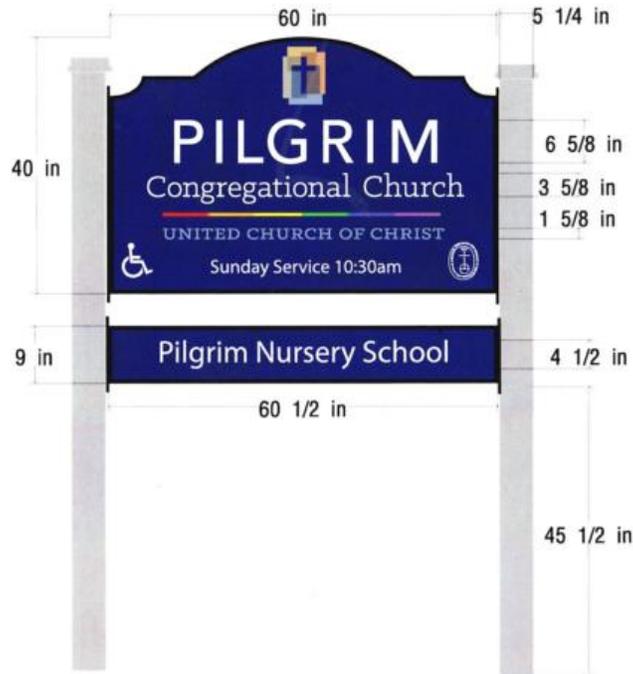
On **September 18 at 7 pm**, we will once again be hosting movie night on our front lawn. We need your help. What movies are your favorites and what would you like us to show? If you have an idea for a movie (G of PG only please!), let us know. Contact Jeanne DeSanto at jeannedesanto@verizon.net or Kat MacDonald at katmacdonald@verizon.net.



A SIGN OF CHANGE...

Jim Munkres, Suzanne Abair and Rev. Lauren have been working with Lexington Signs & Graphics to design a new exterior sign for our church. The existing sign has served us well for many years but is showing its age. The new sign reflects the vibrancy of our community and showcases our new logo. It also shows in pictures the welcome we offer to physically challenged individuals as well as the LGBT community.

Look for the new sign this summer. When the new sign is installed, the landscaping surrounding the sign will be updated as well.



IN NEED OF SUITCASES

We have two more patients arriving from Honduras on June 22nd, and are looking for large size and carry-on canvas suitcases. In addition, we collect clothing (especially children's) throughout the year. Please leave donations in the coat room.

Thank you,
Emily Collins

To access the calendar for Pilgrim Church, please click [here](#). Thank you.





REMINDER: If you need a new name tag, please email Diane at admin@pilgrimcongregational.org and she will make one for you! You can keep it on the boards in the Narthex. Then all we need to do is wear them!

Vitality Committee



June 7	Communion	LoBuglio/Royer	The Christensens
June 14	Last Church School	Ruth Litchfield	
June 21	Ice Cream Social		
June 28		Filled	Filled

DEADLINE FOR PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

Please note that the deadline for the September issue of Pilgrim's Progress will be **August 31**. Thank you!





**Pilgrim Nursery School is currently enrolling for
the 2015-2016 school year!**

**Pilgrim Nursery School encourages children to be inventive,
curious & self-confident.**

**We offer warm, professional teachers, small classroom sizes,
creative & innovative curriculum including Yoga, large indoor
gross motor room & a safe, well-equipped playground in a
quiet residential neighborhood.**

**Come in for a visit to see our classrooms and meet our
amazing teachers!**

**Call Leslie Beatrice, our Director, for more information:
781-861-8853**

www.pilgrimmurseyschool.org