

Pilgrim's Progress

Pilgrim United Church of Christ
School and Purchase Streets

2009

July



(508) 997-9086
New Bedford, MA 02740

www.puccnb.org

LABEL

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

*Pilgrim United Church of Christ
P. O. BOX 5320
NEW BEDFORD, MA 02742-5320
OFFICE: (508) 997-9086
Fax: (508) 997-2765
www.puccnb.org*

*Whoever you are,
Wherever you are on
your journey of faith,
You are welcome here.*

Pilgrim United Church of Christ

The avowed purpose of this church shall be to worship God, to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to celebrate the sacraments: to realize Christian fellowship and unity within this church and the church universal: to render loving service toward all humanity and to strive for righteousness, justice and peace.

*Pastor:
Administrator:
Choir Director:
Organist:
Sexton:
Sunday School Coordinator:*

**Rev. David Hammett
Julie Marks
Rick Munroe
Paul W. Fernald
Wayne Brown
Julie Marks**



A new record will be set next weekend. Well, for me anyway. I'll be marrying the oldest couple I've ever married. The groom is 84 and the bride, while not divulging her age, is not far behind. And to make matters more interesting, the groom is my father and the bride is my aunt.

For well over half a century, Dad and Aunt Ruthie were married to siblings, but when my uncle passed away a few years ago and my mother shortly thereafter, they found comfort and companionship with each other. Before long, they let "the kids" know they were officially dating and

eventually they became engaged.

So do I call my cousins stepbrothers now? This could get confusing!

I'm sure we'll be laughing about the remix of the family a lot next weekend and having a good time celebrating with the two eldest members of both families as they embark on this new adventure together.

Good for them. There is something genuinely encouraging about all this, something that says no matter what, life goes on and we are meant to keep living it to the fullest.

Dad and Ruthie are at a later point in life than the rest of the couples I've joined in holy matrimony, but their love is just as new and vibrant as any 20-something couple I've met. They're really like a couple of kids.

Jesus said, "I have said these things to you that my joy may be in you and that your joy might be complete ... love one another" (John 15:11-12). It is in love, fresh and new, old and experienced, danced at a wedding, embraced in the quiet, held through the years, that we experience the joy Christ intends for our lives. So thanks be to God for every new opportunity it finds.

May we always be open to its possibilities at every stage of life.

Peace and Blessings,
Rev. Dave

HELP NEEDED! HELP NEEDED! HELP NEEDED! HELP NEEDED! HELP NEEDED!

Pilgrim UCC serves breakfast in the soup kitchen Saturday, July 5, 12, 19, and 26;
please arrive by 7 a.m. to help.

Pilgrim UCC serves lunch in the soup kitchen Monday, September 7; please arrive by 9:30 a.m. to help.
We need at least 12 dozen brownies. If you can bake some, please let
Carol Sherman or the church office know.

The planters outside of our entrances need to be replanted. To volunteer please contact the church office.

ADMINISTRATION

Prayer Needs: If you want someone listed, please let Julie know by calling or emailing the church office.



If you or someone in your family is sick, hospitalized, or in need and desire a visit from the pastor, please let Rev. Dave know.

You can get a BJ's membership for \$20! Call the office for details.

If someone on our mailing list gets a new address, please let us know so that we don't get mail returned.

Please be sure the church office has all of your families birthdays and anniversaries so we can recognize them in the Progress.

Deadline for the August issue is July 15.

Social Networking: Follow updates on the church on Twitter. com you can view them under RevDavePucc. Twitter is a service for friends, family, and co-workers to communicate and stay connected through the exchange of quick, frequent messages.

Rev Dave will post frequently so stay tuned!

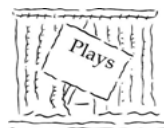
CARE

We want to take every opportunity to stay in touch with our members and friends; so please let the Care Team know when an event has happened so we can reach out.



Please send some get well cards to soldiers who are really missing their loved ones. Please consider sending one to:
A Recovering Service Man or Woman
6900 Georgia Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20307

If anyone is involved in sports or events, please let us know so they can be listed in the narthex for us all to enjoy.



JULY WORSHIP

<u>July 5, 2009</u>	<u>July 12, 2009</u>	<u>July 19, 2009</u>	<u>July 26, 2009</u>
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Sent with Power 2 Samuel 5:1-5 Psalm 48 Ezekiel 2:1-5 Mark 6:1-13	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost God-inspired Joy 2 Samuel 6:1-5 Psalm 24 Ephesians 1:3-14 Mark 6:14-29	Seventh Sunday after Pentecost Wherever You Are 2 Samuel 7:1-14 Psalm 89:20-37 Ephesians 2:11-22 Mark 6:30-34,53-56	Eighth Sunday after Pentecost God's Abundant Presence 2 Samuel 11:1-15 Psalm 14 Ephesians 3:14-21 John 6:1-21


MINISTRY TEAM MINUTES

Ministry Team Minutes for May 19, 2009 Meeting opened at 7:07 p.m.	
	Prayer was given by Rev Dave.
Attendance	C. Sherman, E. Craveiro, J. Marks, C. Sameiro, D. Craveiro, Jonathan Nunes, P. Silva, R. Chamberlain, H. Matelski, D. Sherman, D. Witmer, G. Cardona Erazo, Rev Dave
Deacons	Connie said the deacons spoke about the Contemporary Worship Workshop that took place in Middleboro. Rev Dave thanked everyone for their cooperation/help during holy Week.
Care	Russ said he would like to mail a card to anyone who signs the visitor book on Sundays. He has 2 versions of the card one for local visitors and others for traveling visitors. He plans on beginning the mailing of bulletins to people on the prayer list soon he would like addresses. Julie said she has some but not all of them. Rev Dave said there has been a new team assembled of greeters who will be dedicated to greeting and ushering anyone who is visiting us. We need to be sure the greeters are focusing on the people arriving to be sure we don't miss any opportunities to meet a new person and make them feel welcome.
Fellowship	Donna reminded us of the potluck lunch with PUC and Clear Vision Church coming on Sunday 5/31. The yard sales will be Saturday 6/13 and Saturday 8/8, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. vendors are responsible for bringing their own tables. Donna announced that there will be 2 mini golf events; one on Saturday 7/18 at 7 p.m. at Capt Barnacles in Fairhaven and the other will be Saturday 8/22 at 7 p.m. at Caddyshack in Dartmouth. The church picnic is being planned for Sunday 7/26 after church. Rev Dave said that the clergy group would like to make it an all church event so we are all looking into venues. Discussion took place about the summer time coffee hours. The decision was reached that the July and August coffee hours will be held in the narthex with juice and light refreshments available.
Outreach	Harry asked if the Memorial Day lunch needed funding. Julie advised no we received a generous donation. The donor asked to fund a lunch in honor of Carol and a breakfast in memory of Robert. Soup Kitchen offering will be taken on Children's Sunday 6/7. Rev Russ is waiting for a response to the grant requested from the United Way to help buy non-food supplies for the breakfast program. The united way gave a decision date of 6/11.
Property	Don said the HP access project is expected to start this month. Rev Dave asked if the team would approve and appraisal being completed on the church home. Commercial appraisals usually cost approximately \$1,000. Discussion took place about alternatives. Gil suggested we contact Pontiff Realty. Team approved 2 one time use requests for the church home. Rev Dave said another NA group would like to use the space on Friday nights the team approved the addition. Rev Dave drafted a use agreement clarifying the relationship between us and the other groups as partners not landlord-tenant. Discussion took place about use of the space. Rev Dave explained that he was very clear and relaying our stand on open & affirming to our partners.
Pastor's Report	Rev. Dave gave a handout of his report. Rev Dave shared throughout the discussions.
Meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.	
Next Meeting Tuesday, June 9, 2009 7 p.m.	

Motion made to no longer include the complete minutes in the Progress but to give them to the Ministry Team. Discussion took place and amendment was modified: Provide the Ministry Team and anyone who requests them the complete minutes and put an abbreviated version in the Pilgrim's Progress. Motion was seconded. Motion carried. (voted into effect July 10, 2007)

For a complete copy of the minutes contact the church office on or after July 4.

KIDS FUN



TRAVEL BY DAY OR NIGHT
The way people travel has changed over time, but one thing has not changed — God was with people in biblical times just as He is with you and your family as you travel during your summer vacations.

Count the number of letters for each name, and then write the name in the spaces next to the verse that matches. (Hint: Besides counting the number of letters in the name, also pay attention to whether the person is from the Old Testament or New Testament.)

NAMES	Paul Moses Joseph Samaritan Jesus Naaman Abram crowds Angel of God
VERSES	<p>"The _____ had been traveling in front of Israel's army" Exodus 14:19</p> <p>"And _____ went out from Pharaoh's presence and traveled throughout Egypt." Genesis 41:46</p> <p>"Go in peace," said Elisha. After _____ had traveled some distance" 2 Kings 5:19</p> <p>"_____ traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem." Genesis 12:6</p> <p>"_____ traveled through that area, speaking many words of encouragement to the people, and finally arrived in Greece." Acts 20:2</p> <p>"_____ traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God." Luke 8:1</p> <p>"Large _____ were traveling with Jesus." Luke 14:25</p> <p>"_____ traveled to the plains of Moab and camped along the Jordan across from Jericho." Numbers 22:1</p> <p>"_____ led Israel from the Red Sea ... For three days _____ they traveled in the desert" Exodus 15:22</p> <p>"But a _____ as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him." Luke 10:33</p>

Answers: Angel of God; Joseph; Naaman; Abram; Paul; Jesus; crowds; The Israelites; Moses; Samaritan

OLYMPIA TOWER



The day's theme was that which we, as Christians, have in common in the knowledge that those gathered have different backgrounds on their journey of faith. The information was shared through open discussion.

The Bible lesson was from Corinthians 1 as the Apostle Paul addressed the believers in Rome who also were from various backgrounds. Recognizing our differences and focusing on Christ's call to share in his Last Supper, Rev. Dave led us in a service of communion.

The minister had to leave early. Wayne Brown was going to do the minister's volunteer task of going to the docks and fetching the food stuffs for the soup kitchen. This is faith in action.

We used the remaining time for a hymn sing. Favorites were chosen by participants:

They'll Know We Are Christians
We Gather Together
Here I Am, Lord
His Eye Is On The Sparrow
I Come To The Garden Alone

PROPERTY - HANDICAP ACCESS PROJECT

Please keep your eyes and ears open for fundraising opportunities for our handicap access capital campaign, and let Donna Sherman and/or Nancy Greene know about them. We have a volunteer that made and hung up a sign to record our progress. The anticipated time frame for the Handicap Access Project is Summer 2009! Project Manager, Doug Coito, and some of his crew did a walk-through of the project area and finalized plans with Don Craveiro and Rev. Dave in April. We look forward to the work getting underway and a fuller welcome being extended to those with disabilities. And we'll need everyone's support to make it happen, so please give as you are inspired and able.

Donations received to date -----\$1,714.50!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

AN INVITATION

I call upon and challenge every member of Pilgrim UCC to make 2009 the year of "Awesome Welcome" for our church!
- Rev. Dave

We offer a welcome here that would be difficult, if not impossible, to find anywhere else. We have a very special, very unique church with arms open wide to the whole people of God. Now let us share what we so often take for granted.

It is good that we experience such grace here that we have come to expect it, to see it as the way things are simply meant to be, but there are many, many of our friends and neighbors who have yet to experience anything like this. There are hurting, lost and lonely people all around us – imagine what a blessing it would be for them to worship and fellowship with us here at Pilgrim UCC.

Reaching out to others doesn't have to be daunting and you don't have to be a great biblical scholar to have something to offer – you just need to say, "I love the welcome my church offers and would love to have you come with me." That's it. That's all it takes. It's the personal invitation that makes all the difference.

Will you do that much? Will you invite someone to church? It can change their lives for the better. It can change yours, too.

OUTREACH

New Giving Opportunity : Community Meals Program

With the "mission field" right at our doorstep, we have chosen to convert two of our traditional UCC offerings into direct support for our soup kitchen ministry. The "Strengthen the Church" (Spring) and "Veterans of the Cross" (December) offerings will now be Community Meal offerings where donations will go directly to purchasing food and supplies for the days we serve in the soup kitchen. The first offering will be received **Sunday, July 19**. If you are unable to volunteer at the soup kitchen, this is a way you can still be directly involved, blessing our neighbors in need. Look for special envelopes for the offering in your bulletin on July 19.

We received notification from Shaw's that they are changing their rewards program. We no longer need register receipts.



From this point on, donations will be automatically recorded when you use your Preferred Savings Card at the register. All you need to do is register your card and designate Pilgrim United Church of Christ as your preferred charity.

Go to <http://www.albertsons.com/cp/shaws> and follow the instructions to register your card. The church's ID number is 49001018691. If you need help, or don't have internet access, registration forms can be filled out and returned to the office. Once your card is registered, the qualifying percentage of purchases made on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays will be automatically credited to the account. This has been a great fundraiser for our church and with your help it can continue. To date we have raised over \$400.00!

Soup Kitchen Sponsors Needed!

Our Community Breakfast and Lunch program has become well established and is offering hungry friends and neighbors a good start to their day the last three Saturdays of each month, and holidays; but help is needed with covering the expenses. It costs about \$60 per Saturday to feed about 50 guests and about \$140 per holiday (excluding Christmas) to feed about 100 people. If you can help in any way, sponsoring a meal or a portion of it, it will be greatly appreciated! If you wish to sponsor a meal and dedicate it in memory or in honor of a loved one, we will announce it before the meal.

Please send your donations to the church office.

OUTREACH

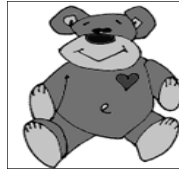
Musical Instruments: We have a unique opportunity to reach out to our community through our Praise Band. We have invited people in and have received positive responses, but the need remains for instruments because not all the potential musicians have their own. If you have an instrument you can donate to the church, it would bless our music ministry. To make a donation please see Rev Dave.

Dates in 2009 to serve in Soup Kitchen:

September 7, Monday: Labor Day
 October 12, Monday: Columbus Day
 November 11, Wednesday: Veteran's Day
 December 25, Friday: Christmas Day

Gifts to Give: In this time of great hope we have a unique opportunity to come together. You can volunteer in several ways; some of them are: donate money, host a collection drive, or volunteer to work a "shift" at our location. For more info see Russ Chamberlain or visit www.GiftsToGive.org.

The next bundle of bears will be given to the Sisters of Charity. Please donate bears. They go to good causes and are appreciated. Please, only give bears you would deem acceptable for your own family.



GoodSearch Another amazing opportunity at no cost to us. Just use Goodsearch as your search engine and \$.01 is donated every time. You can also shop through Goodsearch at hundreds of stores, and we will receive anywhere from .5% to 5.5% for the church. You can use the search engine from the web or install the toolbar. This can be very beneficial to us. We've raised \$25.07 so far for 2009. It is very simple to set up the page on your computer.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Good job, Kirsten! Kirsten Hilton, Angela Dias' daughter, who attends Rogers Elementary School in Fairhaven, recently attended and participated in a world leadership forum in Washington D.C. Kirsten was nominated by her teacher, Ms. Lamarre, for this forum which was sponsored by People-to-People, an organization that gives young people a chance to participate in sports, ambassadorial, and leadership programs all over the world.



Kirsten, shown with her grandmother, Christine.

The students were put into groups with a teacher/leader and visited seven historical sites in six days, such as the International Spy Museum, Gettysburg, and Arlington National Cemetery where Kirsten said the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier almost brought her to tears. Each day, upon returning to the hotel, the students broke into their groups and discussed the day's visits and what it meant to them. They also had the opportunity to hear many interesting speakers. Kirsten felt particularly inspired by one woman speaker's experiences as a member of the House of Representatives, and she also enjoyed the story told by a male astronaut who originally had wanted to be in the army, but was unable to join because

he was color blind. Kirsten made a lot of new friends through her experience. Her two roommates were from Africa and New York, and they are still in contact by e-mail and phone.

Christopher Vigeant recently auditioned for and has been accepted into membership of The Society of Filarmonica Senhor Da Pedra of New Bedford, MA. He's playing the Alto Sax.



On Saturday June 13 Jordan Nunes participated in the Cub Scout Olympics hosted by pack 13 at the Rod and Gun of New Bedford.

Jordan participated in many events throughout the day. He did a great job. He won 3 gold medals in the Ball toss Ball relay and the 50 Yard dash.



STEWARDSHIP

Deacon's Fund Offering: The church has maintained a Deacon's Fund for the purpose of helping church members in emergencies. The balance in this fund is very low. The Board of Deacons has voted to reinstate the custom of "Deacon's Fund envelopes." These will be available on the first Sunday of each month for anyone who wishes to donate. All donations will be greatly appreciated. Ideas for other fundraisers welcome also.

Stewardship Team 2009: Joan Williams, Michele DeMary, Doreen Nunes, and Jonathan Nunes.

EVENTS



Miniature Golf Night

Saturday July 18, 7:00 pm.

We will meet at Captain Barnacles in Fairhaven, located behind Shaw's Plaza.

\$7 per game, seniors (65+) \$5

Everyone is Welcome!



We are happy to say that Pilgrim UCC will again be hosting VBS in July. Donations would be appreciated for supplies and snacks. To donate supplies, snacks, or funds for either please see Emily Ortiz or let the church office know. VBS will be held the week of July 20th this year and the theme will be Son Rock Kids Camp. All the fun sets the stage for the top attraction of VBS the life-changing impact of knowing the enormity of god's love for us. ¹How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. (1 John 3:1)

There is a need for teachers, teachers helpers, and snack ladies.

To volunteer please see Emily Ortiz.

UIA

Tuesday, July 21 7 p.m.

Pilgrim UCC



Come and learn how to have an impact on the systemic issues and needs of our community. Be an agent of change and make a difference in the city. Bring your thoughts, ideas, and concerns, any and all input welcomed.

Annual Multi



Church Picnic

Annual Multi Church Picnic

We will be rejoining the friends from the churches we shared the Lenten Worship Services with.

Picnic will include area churches from Assonet, North & South New Bedford, Freetown & E Freetown, and Middleboro

Sunday July 26, 1:00 p.m.

Freetown - Fall River State Forest
 Slab Bridge Road, Assonet



Big Yard Sale

with friends and neighbors.

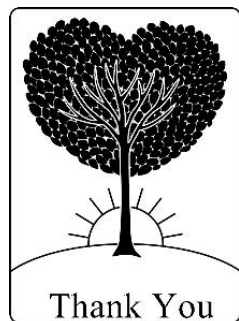
Saturday, August 8 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

You must provide your own tables.

On the church lot on the corner of Pleasant and School Streets.

In the case of rain the event will be held indoors at the Pilgrim UCC Church Home.

INSPIRATIONS



Inspiration-Based Ministry - Recent inspirations seen around our church!

Alice: for keeping the church open for repair men when the office staff was not available.

Jonathan: for volunteering to help around the church over his summer vacation.

Gil: for manning a table on the church's behalf at the South Coast Equality Festival June 27th in Custom House Square.

Russ: for writing a subsequently receiving a grant from the United Way for \$1,000 for the community meals program.

Rick: for serving as our choir director for another wonderful season.

Thank you to each of these inspiring individuals and all those who put visions and dreams into action. Please let the office know when someone should be recognized in this section.

FELLOWSHIP

Scrabble & Game Night Friday, July 31, 2009, 7-9 p.m. PUCC Home
Scrabble, Chess, Cribbage, or bring your favorite game.
Feel free to bring any tips or tricks you have for games with you to share.



Event is free. Everyone Welcome.

AHA! Night Thursday, July 9, 2009,

6-8 p.m. Root Beer Floats & Children's crafts with
Margaret Scott Taylor and Russ Chamberlain

6:30 - 8 p.m. Sanctuary Tours led By Gil Cardona Erazo

CONGRATULATIONS!

Jonathan Nunes - graduated from Dartmouth Middle School with recognition for maintaining an A average all 3 years and the Gold Presidential Award for Academic Achievement. He will be attending Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School in the fall. to study Information Technology.

Christopher Vigeant - graduated from Hastings Middle School, Fairhaven. the Gold Presidential Award for Academic Achievement and awards for his achievements in band and Jazz band. He will be attending Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School in the fall to study Architectural Drafting.



Lucas Matelski - graduated from New Bedford High School and will be attending Arizona State University in the fall .

Lauren Greene - graduated Magna Cum Laude from Northeastern University with a Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitative Science.

Julie Marks - graduated Magna Cum Laude from Bristol Community College with an Associates of science in Business Management.

EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL -9-9:45 a.m. -

A huge thank you to everyone who helped with Sunday School for the 2008-2009 year; especially Joe Nunes and Joan Williams. Without their help the program could not have continued. - Julie

So here's where YOU come in! We need workshop leaders/teachers who would like to be involved for one or more Sundays from September through May. Joan will be providing the computer workshop on a regular basis and Rev. Russ provides a music workshop. So could you show a movie or lead a "Faith in Action" project or crafts or acting (skits) or art or cooking or dance or(fill in the blank)? What is your passion? What do you enjoy doing as a hobby? A weekly curriculum (Whole People of God) will be provided so that you will have a Scripture lesson, discussion questions, prayers, etc. - all the basics to provide a foundation for your workshop. Here are some examples (45 minute class time): **Movie Workshop, Craft Workshop**

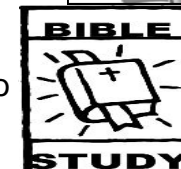
Sound like fun? If so, then you'd make an awesome workshop leader! Not so sure you want to lead a workshop but still want to help? Great! The classes need assistants to help the children and the workshop leaders. We need to be sure there are two adults each class, so please sign up!

If you'd like to be involved, speak with Julie Marks!
Let's have a fruitful 2009-2010 Sunday School program!

The 2009-2010 Rally Event will be Saturday September 12.

Study on World Religions

Our bible study will have a focus on bible basics. If you have an interest in a particular topic, let Rev. Dave know. The number of sessions to be dedicated to subject is to be determined.



Computer Class

Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Computer Lab in the Church Home, Joan leads an informal computer class. The topics depend on the needs of the students.
Everyone welcome!

Adult Christian Education

There are two learning opportunities offered regularly so members and friends of Pilgrim UCC can grow in their understanding of the faith and journey deeper in spirit. Each Sunday, I offer a class from 8:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. which focuses on the primary scripture text for the worship service that follows. Here, we can delve deeper into a subject than is possible in a sermon. Current event issues are always woven into the discussion.

The second religious education opportunity is on "leftover Tuesday" evenings at 7 p.m. (now held in the church office area). "Leftover Tuesdays" are the Tuesdays remaining in the month after Deacons (first Tuesday) and Ministry Team (second Tuesday). So some months there are two of these and some months there are three. Currently, we are studying world religions. The next subject will be a "Bible Basics" class where all can learn what the Bible is and what it's about and how to understand its core message. -Rev. Dave

BOOK OF LIFE

3 Don & Eleanor Craveiro 6 Zachary McKnight 10 Johnathan Vigeant 13 Laurie Bettencourt 15 Mia Thomas 16 Teagan Dauphin-Potter	19 Ida & Dale Souza 21 Misty Guilbeault 22 Scott Boswell 28 Shirley Shepley 30 Alice Sherman
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Celebrations of Life

Birthdays & Anniversaries
(**Bold** = anniversary)