

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

March 2016

Living Resurrection



It seems hard to believe, but as March begins, Easter is less than a month away.

In the ancient church, Easter was one of the “moveable feasts,” the church festival days that were not fixed to a given date every year. Easter Sunday is determined each year by a process set in place by the Council of Nicaea in the early 4th century, when the leaders of the church determined that it should fall on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the March Equinox. As Easter is historically and biblically associated with the Jewish feast of the Passover, it was thought that it should fall in the same general season as that holiday.

Recently, the officials of the Roman Catholic Church and the Anglican Communion have met to explore the possibility of finding a fixed date to celebrate Easter each year. The idea being that an agreement among Christian communities on Easter will lead to a greater unity, thereby drawing us all closer to the hope expressed by Jesus in John’s gospel that we might all ... finally ... be one!

Unity is a noble aspiration for Christians. We’ve been divided far too long over issues of doctrine and practice; and while much of our disagreement has focused on theological distinctions that amount to little more than figuring out how many angels can dance on the head of a pin, many others have developed into open disputes over questions of identity and inclusion, with predictably violent results. But unity should not be confused with uniformity. I like the idea of a moveable feast; of Easter as something we can’t pin down or confine to our sense of convenience. There is something appropriate, to my mind, about having to search the calendar for Easter every year. It invites us to think a bit more about the day and what it might mean to us.

A fixed date makes event planning easier; but for the Resurrection to have substantive meaning in our lives, I suspect it needs to remain a little elusive, a little beyond us. For the Resurrection to really transform us and our understanding of our place before God, it

should require us to reach a little, to stretch our imaginations, to allow our vision free rein to wander.

Ultimately, resurrection happens in God’s time; it doesn’t – and shouldn’t – conform easily to our calendars. The promise of new life rising out of death cannot be confined if it is to mean anything; it must be given its lead and we look faithfully for new ways to respond, to follow, to live as though death no longer has the last word.

Peace to you.
Todd



A Word from the Deacons

The topic this month is sharing information with one another! Let’s use technology and church announcements to keep up with the goings-on at Pilgrim Church.

Send us your pictures for the web site! If you go to an event where Pilgrim members are involved in doing God’s work or learning and growing together, please consider taking a picture or two and sending it to Todd, Emily, or one of the deacons. The types of activities that might be great to see pictures of include: Monday night Outreach Dinners (Meals for Mission), Habitat for Humanity building days, Koinonia meetings, Pine Street work group, youth group outings, Bible study, Confirmand retreat, and the Christmas pageant. These pictures can be used on the web site and the Facebook page to chronicle all the exciting things Pilgrim members are involved in.

If you have an announcement you want delivered to the congregation in church, send an email to Todd or Emily and they will make sure that everyone hears your important message. Please try to get them in a few days in advance of Sunday’s service, to make sure your message gets on the agenda. Todd’s email is: tcvetter@gmail.com, and Emily’s email is: 5kellars@verizon.net. Joan Edgar’s email is: jjoredgar@gmail.com.

If we share what we are doing at Pilgrim Church, through pictures and announcements to the congregation, we will all be enriched with knowledge. *For wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul*, Proverbs 2:10.



Habitat for Humanity ReStore coming soon to Hanover

Habitat for Humanity plans to open a ReStore in Hanover in late spring. In the meantime, donations of new and gently used furniture and appliances are welcome at 20 Mathewson Dr., Weymouth on 2/27, 3/12 & 3/26 from 10 AM – 2 PM. For a list of acceptable donations or to schedule a drop off on a different day, call Eileen Kessel at 781-337-7744 ext. 11 or email ekessel@sshahabitat.org. Pick up donation days have been scheduled for 3/9 & 3/15. If interested in having your donation picked up, email a picture of the item to Eileen. There is a ReStore flyer posted on the bulletin board outside the church offices.

Also, applications to purchase the Duxbury Habitat home on Franklin St. are now available at the Duxbury library or www.sshahabitat.org. Information sessions will be held March 5th at 1:00 PM at 20 Mathewson Dr. and March 7th @ 6:30 PM at the library. For a list of qualifications, income restrictions and other information visit the Habitat website or call 781-337-7744 x 10. There is also a flyer posted on the bulletin board outside the church offices.



2016 Schedule

Middle School Youth Group/ Confirmation/High School Youth Group

- March 6** Middle School youth group 4-5 PM
Confirmation 5-6 PM
High School youth group 6-7 PM
- March 20** Confirmation 5-6 PM
High School youth group 6-7 PM
- April 3** Middle School youth group 4-5 PM
Confirmation 5-6 PM
High School youth group 6-7 PM
- May 1** **Confirmation service 10 AM**
Middle School youth group 4-5 PM
High School Youth Group 6-7 PM
- May 28th** NOLA '17 car wash fundraiser 9 AM – 2 PM



FAIRTRADE
INTERNATIONAL
Fair Trade News

It's March, and promises that spring may be on its way are (hopefully!) beginning to show. Farmers begin to think about their spring planting. It's a good time to begin to think about salad greens and veggies. To celebrate this time of year we want to feature **Equal Exchange's olive oil** which comes from olive groves in Palestine. Equal Exchange partners with PARC (Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committee) which is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that works with 40+ co-operatives on the West Bank. You can find out more about PARC by visiting <http://bit.ly/1U3U9X3> (hit control + click).

Did you know that an olive tree, if cared for, can produce fruit for over 200 years? Did you know that the olive trees in Palestine are old and crooked and grown on hillsides so they must be harvested by hand? Did you know that after the olive oil is pressed for the clear oil the solids that are left are made into balls, dried, and can then become home heating fuel? Did you know that **Equal Exchange Organic Olive Oil** is cold pressed without any refining? Did you know that it is great for use with salads and sautéing vegetables? Find out more about Equal Exchange olive oil at <http://bit.ly/1U3UGZc>.

Stop by the Fair Trade table in the vestry after church on March 20 and check out the olive oil. We will also have our usual assortment of coffee, tea, and chocolates. All products are organic. Many are gluten free.

See you around the Fair Trade table!

Judy and Jeff



Spirituality and Aging

Our Visitation Team will be hosting Rev. Peggy O'Neil Files on Monday, March 15th at 10:00 AM. All are welcome to join us in the church library to hear Peggy discuss spirituality and the aging process. Many of you know Peggy from her time at Pilgrim Church. She is currently the Chaplain at South Shore Hospital. If you would like to join us, please email Lindy Keay (rlkeay@comcast.net) so we can accommodate everyone.



Koinonia – Fellowship, Study & Prayer

Koinonia will meet this month on Monday, March 14th at the home of Elaine Guilfoyle. Please note that Koinonia now begins at 2:00 PM. If you have any questions or need directions, please contact Elaine.

Name Tags



Just a reminder of the importance of wearing our name tags. As a welcoming church, we need to assist new people in identifying who we are and remind others in case they know the face but not the name. The name tags are not restricted to being a "member" of the church. We encourage all who choose to attend Pilgrim Church – including our guests – to have one so we can get to know each other better. If you need a name tag, please sign the clipboard on the narthex desk or ask at the office. If you already have one, we encourage everyone to wear it. Lanyard name tags are available if the magnetic backing poses any problems. Thank you!

Check out our new website!



A new website for Pilgrim Church is set to launch in early March. The old site will be retired to make way for one that we hope people will find more flexible, visual, informative, user-friendly, and reflects who we are. At the time of the launch, there will still be some areas that need filling in, but please visit us at www.pilgrimchurchofduxbury.org, look it over, and give us your comments and thoughts.



Thank you to everyone in our church family for donating to the mitten tree during the holidays. With your support, we were able to donate 13 hats, 6 scarves, and 39 pairs of mittens and gloves to help local families through the Plymouth Coalition for the Homeless this winter.

The Edwards family

One Great Hour of Sharing



Our annual special collection for One Great Hour of Sharing will be on Sunday, March 6th. This effort is shared with a number of Christian Church denominations and Church World Service to empower communities, provide water, supply food, and give relief from disasters worldwide. There will be special collection envelopes in the church bulletin that Sunday, or you may simply write on the memo line of your check "OGHS." All checks should be payable to Pilgrim Church. Contact a member of the Board of Outreach or the church office if you have any questions. Thank you for your part in our collective response to those who are confronted with disaster and its often-devastating results.



2016 Lenten & Holy Week Services

Lenten Candlelight Taize	Thursdays, Feb. 18 – March 17	7:00 PM
Palm Sunday	Sunday, March 20	10:00 AM
Maundy Thursday	Thursday, March 24	7:00 PM
Good Friday	Friday, March 25	
<i>The church sanctuary will be open on Good Friday for individual prayer and contemplation.</i>		
Easter Sunrise @ Duxbury Beach	Sunday, March 27	6:15 AM
<i>The sunrise service will be cancelled in the event of rain</i>		
Easter	Sunday, March 27	9:00 AM
Easter	Sunday, March 27	11:00 AM
<i>Services are subject to change. Please check www.pilgrimchurchofduxbury.org for any updates to the schedule.</i>		

Lenten Discussion

Everyone is welcome to join Rev. Vetter on Wednesday, March 2, 9 & 16 for "A Discussion & Study for Lent: Understanding Evil & Exploring Redemption." Anyone interested is welcome to meet in the church library from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM. Contact Rev. Vetter for any questions.



Share your Easter Joy and help decorate the sanctuary with Easter lilies for our Easter services on March 27th..

(Please check one) In MEMORY of _____ In HONOR of _____

NAME of HONOREE: _____

(Please check one) I Will: Donate _____ Pick Up* _____

Given By: _____

(The above names will be listed in the Easter Sunday Bulletin)

*Lilies should be picked up directly after the 11AM service at church on March 27th. Please send your donation (there is no specific amount – it is up to individual discretion) with this form to: Pilgrim Church, P.O. Box 186, Duxbury, MA 02331, drop off at the church office, or place in the Sunday offering.

If you can help with flower deliveries . . .

As always, many hands *do* make light work. We are looking for volunteers who might be able to deliver some of the lilies at the end of the 11 AM worship service on March 27th. If you would be willing to lend a hand by dropping off one (or more if you choose) of the donated flowers to various people within our congregation, please call the church office (781/934-6591). *Your help is most appreciated.*



Duxbury Interfaith Council Spring Holiday Basket Drive



The Duxbury Interfaith Council is again preparing for their Spring Holiday Basket Drive that benefits over 100 recipient families in need of assistance. Your donations of food, money, and time to prepare the baskets ***are gratefully appreciated.*** You may donate:

Food:

Canned goods – yellow and green vegetables, cranberry sauce, canned gravy

Juice – non-frozen concentrated juice mix

Packaged dessert mixes – quick bread, muffins, brownie, cake & frosting

Baked goods – cookies, brownies, squares, cupcakes, quick breads, & pies. Please note: there is an enormous need for home-style baked goods for the Spring baskets. Please consider baking from scratch or purchasing from a local supermarket bakery. These goods add a personal touch to the baskets.

Please, no food donations in glass containers or beyond expiration dates

Place all non-perishable food donations in the marked baskets in the side entrance vestibule for delivery to Holy Family by **Saturday, March 20th**. Baked goods should be delivered directly to the Holy Family Church kitchen no later than **3:00 PM on Monday, March 21st**.

Money:

Please make your check payable to the Duxbury Interfaith Council and mail to: PO Box 1161, Duxbury, MA 02331. Every amount helps and is greatly appreciated.

Volunteers

are needed to sort and pack food at Holy Family. Any amount of time is helpful, and parents are welcome to bring children. No need to call or sign up, just show up as you can. The schedule is as follows: sort and pack baskets **Monday, March 21st** & **Tuesday, March 22nd** from 9AM – 3PM. On **Wednesday, March 23rd** from noon – 4:00 PM *strong* adults are needed to load the baskets into cars. Deliveries will begin at 3:00 PM on the 23rd.

Weather Alerts

With winter weather possibly still ahead of us, we'd like to remind everyone that any change to the worship schedule is immediately posted to our church voicemail (781-934-6591) and on our website's home page (www.pilgrimchurchofduxbury.org). Pilgrim Church's intention is to always be open for worship. In the event of extreme weather conditions, however, delays may occur. At such times, we hope that each person will use their discretion about coming as we do not want anyone to risk their safety.





Dear Pilgrim Church Friends,

I was overwhelmed with gratitude and astonished by the gifts given to me at today's [February 21] church service. My response can only be, "Thank you," because I cannot actually explain why it all happened. I know part of it was because of my 17 years of running the ecumenical church services at The Village at Duxbury, with the help of 68 ministers from 22 churches! I must say that I loved being part of this ministry.

It meant a great deal to me that Luke Kramer, CEO of The Village at Duxbury, presented me with a bouquet of spring flowers and also said a lot of nice things. The cake was delicious, the communion table flowers beautiful, and the engraved tray lovely beyond measure. I plan to display it where it can be easily seen, and use it whenever I need a tray. I promise you it will give me joy whenever I catch sight of it!

As for your most astonishing gift of all, the gift of \$3500 from Christian Outreach; it will be sent to COPI, our Vietnam mission group, Children of Peace, International. It will be put to use feeding the hungry and educating the poor, indigenous children. One project we have is providing school children with one meal a day. This is how our auction last year described it:

San Sa Ho Valley in the Northern Mountains of Vietnam serves the indigenous children of seven indigenous tribes in the valley. These children by far are the poorest of the poor in Vietnam. Each student has to bring his/her own rice to school and a bit of uncooked vegetables from home. At school, the teachers use their own money to buy ramen noodles and dried fish to cook with the veggies the students bring to class. Their humble meal would make you cry. With your help, we would like to be able to provide a much more nutritious meal with protein for their ever-growing bodies. There are 331 children in 4 elementary schools and 208 children at the middle school in San Sa Ho.

It costs \$75 to pay for one meal a day for one child for a whole year ... that's about 20 cents a meal. Your gift can buy 17,500 meals, meaning that each of the 539 children will receive 32 1/2 meals; all because of your gift of \$3500! I say "Thank you!" for them. It is much easier to learn with a full stomach!

Thank you all for your kind words and your smiles. I love our church and the people in it. And I appreciate the honor you paid me on this most amazing day!

Hugs,
Lynn DeHart

PARISH POST



Prayers of Healing

Mike Tenney – Lee Bishop – Norma George – Chris Blake

Prayers of Comfort & Solace

For the family and friends of Peter Sinnott, Tom Sinnott's brother.

For the family and friends of Doris G. Hick, Don Hick's mother.

For the family and friends of Taurin Bear McGrath, Gretta (Heidenreich) McGrath's husband and Ted and Holly Heidenreich's son-in-law.

For the family and friends of Dolly Thornton, Steve Schaeffer's great aunt.

Prayers of Joy

For the birth of Hannah Pierce Thurston, Jill Bostder's great-granddaughter.



Don't forget!

Turn your clocks **AHEAD** one hour Saturday night, March 12.
*Daylight Saving Time begins **Sunday, March 13.***



Happy Birthday wishes this month to:

Elise Gardner – March 4

Matthew Curran – March 6

Elaine Plakias – March 7

Nicholas Kania – March 27

Joanne Morton – March 29

Madeleine Sampson – March 4

Richard Lindaberry – March 6

Ronnie Sherwin – March 13

Annie White – March 29

Bonnie Wonkka – March 31

Our *warmest* wishes for a very happy birthday! Do you have a name to add? Email Terri Clark at tlclark@pilgrimchurchofduxbury.org or call 781-934-6591 ext. 100. We'd love to include you!