From the Interim’s Corner

Eight months ago, I began as your Interim Senior Minister. And, as in all such new beginnings, neither you nor I knew what would happen. You had your hopes and dreams and I had mine. Would they coalesce? Would the work we did together get us where we hoped to go?

No doubt there have been a few bumps and hiccups as we have navigated this time but I have to say I am very impressed with your willingness to entertain new ideas and to do the hard work that the interim times requires.

I am doubly impressed with the newly formed Senior Minister Search Committee. The phrase, “hit the ground running” was invented for them. In all my years of working with search committees I have only known one other group to coalesce and organize themselves with such speed. They have a vision of how this will proceed and are developing a plan for getting the church’s profile compiled, with your input, that I believe will prove to be stellar. You should all rest assured that the search is in very capable hands.

In addition to the good news about the Senior Minister Search Committee getting off to a great start, the month of May is full of great news. The church’s Annual Meeting will be held on the 21st and a new event…the All Board and Committee Meeting will be held the following night at 7PM. Hosted by the Church Council, this will be the first of three such meetings held between now and next spring. The purpose of these meetings is to increase communication throughout the boards and committees. Everyone who will be serving on a board or committee is invited to this meeting, which includes coffee, tea and dessert! The theme of the meeting is New Start! We will make sure everyone has things like the church bylaws and directory and we will talk about talk about communication. Following the council program, each group will hold a brief first meeting to elect their chair(s), determine when and where they will meet and set their next meeting date. We will record all of this and turn it into the church office so Melissa can update the church calendar and her files.

May also includes another Outreach Lunch on the 7th and a four session Adult Ed class on World Religions, starting on the 9th at 7pm. Plus the youth will be hosting a car wash on Saturday 27th to help fund the youth mission trip in June and we will be preparing for the first ever Pilgrim hosted Baccalaureate, which will be held on June 1 in the sanctuary. What a busy month! What a joy to have so much life in the church.

In celebration of these signs of life and all the work our committees and boards will do in their coming term and in support of the Senior Minister Search Committee, I urge you to do your part by praying for Pilgrim Church. Pray for the boards and committees, especially the Search Committee, as they embark on their work. It is one of the best ways we can support all the people who keep this church moving ahead and into the future that God is preparing for the church. So, add them to your prayers every day. It will make a profound difference. See you in church! Rev. Peggy
Update from the Senior Minister Search Committee

The Pilgrim Church Senior Minister Search Committee is excited to report that we are off to a great start! We have met four times since our start on March 19. Your Search Committee is Mark Barrington, Lisa Williams, Jane Arkema, Guy Holbrook IV, Tom Sinnott, Rod Clark (chair), Sue Bradford (co-chair), Heather Edwards (secretary), and Judy Gibbs (chaplain). We are honored to be your representatives and are eager to hear from you. We will be relaying our progress to the congregation and in turn, ask that you provide input, knowing that we are better together.

We have met with Rev. Don Remick, UCC Associate Conference Minister and Rev. Peggy O'Connor, Pilgrim Church Senior Interim Minister, who will guide us through this process. The first steps include working with the congregation to better understand our church’s vision and who God is calling us to become. We have also met with the Pilgrim Church Council to begin this visioning process. And in the coming weeks we will be reaching out to all church members for input on this vision.

The work we do in understanding our vision for Pilgrim Church will enable us to formulate our church profile. The church profile is a UCC document that contains questions regarding our church’s positioning, demographics, finances, and the community that we serve. We will also be looking to members of the congregation with various areas of expertise/church knowledge to help complete this comprehensive document. Once the church profile is completed and reviewed by the congregation, it will be posted on the UCC website for prospective ministers. From this point, we will start to receive ministerial profiles of potential candidates. It will be at this time in the process that the search committee will need to keep our workings confidential to protect the privacy of potential candidates.

As we will work heavily with the congregation over the next couple of months to ascertain your feedback, please ensure that your contact information is current in the church office. Please contact Melissa MacDonald at office@pilgrimchurchofduxbury.org with any updates to your email, mailing address, or phone. In the meantime, please feel free to reach out to any of the search committee members with questions or comments. Your input is most valuable and we look forward to hearing from you.

Please join us in our enthusiasm for the future of Pilgrim Church!

Koinonia

Koinonia will meet on Monday, May 8th at 2:00pm at Lindy Keay's house. Lindy has generously offered to host our group for the second month in a row. Thank you, Lindy. If you have any questions or need directions, please contact Lindy.
Outreach Board Update

For the past couple of months, the Outreach Board has been focused on our responsibility to recommend to the congregation the next recipient(s) of the Mission Trust Fund grant. Guided by the congregational passions (Seniors, Youth, Addiction, Refugees, Homelessness, and Hunger), we have identified several organizations for consideration. Based on the Request for Proposals we have prepared, we are asking each organization to submit a grant proposal describing how they would use the money and the corresponding incremental benefit. The deadline for submission is September 1st. Optionally, we may invite the organization to speak at an after-worship lunch (AWL) hosted by the Outreach Board.

After worship on April 2nd, the attendees at the AWL listened to engaging presentations from Joanne Moore and Deb Samuels representing the Duxbury Senior Center and Crossroads for Kids respectively. Our next AWL is May 7th with presentations by Janet Ritch and Sue Bradford representing FINCA (mission: to provide low-income people around the world the tools they need to succeed) and Duxbury FACTS (mission: to provide a multi-pronged approach to address issues impacting youth health and wellness ranging from drug and alcohol prevention and treatment to suicide prevention and mental health promotion).

We expect to conclude this effort with one or several grant recommendation(s) for the congregational vote in November.

In other areas, we are starting to look at opportunities for an Adult Mission in the Fall. More information on this to come.

If you have any questions about our committee or our programs, please see one of us. Again, thank you for your on-going support!

Steve Schaeffer, Jim Grim, Dan Arkema, Lois Boericke, and Carol Sauer

OUTREACH LUNCHEON ~ MAY 7TH

The Outreach Board is hosting a luncheon after church on May 7th to expose the congregation to organizations being consider for the Mission Trust Fund. The meal will be light sandwiches and dessert. After everyone has been served, we will listen to brief presentations about FINCA by Janet Ritch and FACTS by Sue Bradford. Please join us for this event.
**Blanket Sunday ~ May 14th**

On Sunday, May 14th we will hold a special collection for the Blankets+ program of Church World Service. For over 60 years, CWS has worked in partnership with local communities to identify their needs and access the resources they need to build the foundation for a more viable future. Resources include blankets, tents, food and other emergency supplies in the wake of a disaster.

During 2016, there were many natural disasters throughout the world, and here in the United States, we suffered from devastating storms and hurricanes. CWS received many requests from nonprofit agencies that needed material resources, including CWS Blankets, to help with their ministries.

Please join us in supporting these efforts on May 14th. Checks may be made payable to Pilgrim Church and write “Blankets+” on the memo line. Every amount is valued and appreciated. For more information on the Blankets+ program, visit the CWS website at [www.cwsglobal.org](http://www.cwsglobal.org)

**Annual Meeting ~ May 21, 2017**

In accordance with Article III, Section E.1 of the By-laws of Pilgrim Church, the Annual Meeting of the congregation will be held on Sunday, May 21, 2017 at 11:15am following the worship service. The agenda includes a review of annual reports and approval of new committee members/officers, as well as any other business that may appropriately come before the meeting.

**All Pilgrim Church Board and Committee Meeting**

**Monday, May 22nd 7:00pm**

Pilgrim Church Council is sponsoring a welcome meeting to EVERYONE serving on any church board or committee next year (May 21, 2017 – May 2018). All new members and continuing members are encouraged to attend. We will hear from the Pastoral Search Committee, will have the opportunity to set the schedule for the committee meetings, vote on committee chairs, discuss the covenant of Christian communication, and much more. Coffee, tea, and desserts will be served.
TITLE: WORLD RELIGIONS IN AMERICA: An Introduction

PRESENTER: Louis “Skip” Schippers, MDiv., PhD

Dr. Schippers is a retired professor of Psychology at Bridgewater State University; licensed psychologist; and Managing partner of Visiting Angels, an in-home care company for seniors.

He will lead a discussion group/workshop in May utilizing the book “Understanding World Religions: in 15 minutes a day” by Garry Morgan, professor of intercultural studies at Northwestern College. There are copies reserved at Westwinds for Pilgrim Church.

The group will meet upstairs in the parlor on four Tuesday evenings in May beginning on May 9th at 7PM.

REVIEW OF THE BOOK: “In today’s world, religions that might once have been considered regional, are crossing geographical, ethnic, and political borders. In the workplace, schools, and community at large, we encounter many different religions each day. Garry Morgan has written a book giving an overview of some of these prominent religions found in America today.”

If you would like to join the group contact Laura Dunn at laurawalkerdunn@gmail.com.

Pastor-Parish Relations Committee

At Pilgrim Church we strive to cultivate an open, affirmative and creative relationship between the pastor and the congregation. To this end, we have formed a Pastor-Parish Relations Committee, appointed by Council, to provide consistent support for the pastor and offer a regular channel for feedback and communication. The committee meets monthly with the pastor to share concerns of both the pastor and members of the congregation. The Committee is not a grievance committee nor a crisis management team. The members serve both the pastor and members of the congregation with the goal of getting people together to have open, face-to-face conversations.

If you have any concerns, thoughts or observations that you would like to pass along, please contact the following committee members:

Kate Sturgis (chair) katesturgis@comcast.net (617) 688-3765
Don DeHart dmdehart@gmail.com (781) 336-7092
Laura Dunn laurawalkerdunn@gmail.com (781) 974-7213
Anne White akw428@gmail.com (508) 641-9070
John Morton morton.john@gmail.com (339) 832-3799

“Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every joint with which it is supplied, when each part is working properly, makes bodily growth and up-builds itself in love.” –Ephesians 4:15-16
It all begins with farmers! Equal Exchange, who partners with the United Church of Christ to help small-scale farmers, was started by 3 friends in 1986 who saw a need and wanted to help. Today they are a worker-owned co-operative with over 110 worker-owners. Equal Exchange develops partnerships with farmer co-operatives around the world to help make “healthier, stronger, and more sustainable communities”. When you purchase Fair Trade products it helps EE provide farmers with pre-harvest credit and financing during off seasons along with funding projects like new schools, roads, clean water, health care, and agricultural equipment. In Equal Exchanges words, “support of farmer-led co-operatives promotes democratic organization, empowers women in leadership positions and as business owners and encourages economic development around the world. These practices promote prosperity and development, and we know that strong farmers mean strong farms — and a better world for all of us to live in.”

Visit the Fair Trade table in the Vestry after church on May 21. We will be there with coffee, tea, chocolates, olive oil, almonds, and cashews. In purchasing you receive a quality organic product while helping to build sustainable incomes, successful businesses, and thriving communities. It’s a Win-Win!

Judy, Jeff, and the Fair Trade Ministry Team

Baccalaureate Service at Pilgrim Church

The Duxbury Interfaith Council is hosting this year’s Baccalaureate Service Thursday, June 1st 7:00pm at Pilgrim Church. Duxbury clergy, parents, students, and the community will gather for this annual service honoring the gifts of graduating seniors in a spiritual, faith based setting. Light refreshments will be served in the Vestry immediately following the service. All are welcome!
Mandatory Youth Mission Trip Meeting

There will be a mandatory youth mission trip meeting for parents AND youth on Sunday, May 7th at 5:30pm in the Vestry before the Youth Dinner!

At this meeting the youth will sign the trip covenant and receive the list of what to bring.

I will also answer any trip questions you may have at that time.

Many thanks!
Peace, Rev. Emily J. Kellar

YOUTH MISSION TRIP DINNER
(for the trip participants)
If your child is going on the youth mission trip…. or if you are a trip chaperone, let’s gather together for a family meal!

Sunday, May 7th 6:00-7:00pm
(after parent meeting)
In the church vestry hosted by: Anne Roberge, Tara Kislauskis, Kelly Leonard, Betsy Juliano, & Karyn Packard

Next dinner: Sunday, June 11th 6:00-7:00 p.m.--- Nikki Harrison, Elaine Haight, & Heather Crowley

YOUTH MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISERS

Mother’s Day Bake Sale
and Pilgrim Church puzzles
Sunday, May 14th after church

Car Wash
Saturday, May 27th
9:00am – 1:00pm
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL at PILGRIM CHURCH

July 24th – 28th  9:00am-12:00pm

Before you know it, SUMMER will be here!
And what’s the best part of summer?  Vacation Bible School!
What makes it the best?  CHILDREN LEARNING ABOUT GOD'S LOVE!!!!
How can adults help?  VOLUNTEER TO SHARE THE LOVE!!
Have a teenager with nothing to do this summer?  THEY CAN SHARE THE LOVE TOO!
We need them to hope to shepherd our children between classes!
Pilgrim Church will be hosting VBS this summer July 24-28 from 9:00 - noon and we need teachers for the following SUPER FUN classes....  ARTS AND CRAFTS! GAMES! COOKING!
We have a FABULOUS curriculum with lessons that are short and clear and FUN!
You could volunteer for all 5 days or "job share" with someone else.
It is a wonderful way to SHARE THE LOVE this summer.
If you are interested in sending your children, registration forms will come out at the end of April!  (FYI - VBS is for children entering Kindergarten and older)
If you are interested in volunteering to teach, let me know! Not sure?  I can show you sample lesson plans to give you an idea of what's expected.

To register:  Complete the registration form and make checks payable to Pilgrim Church; $60 per child with a cap of $120 per family.

The first 40 people to turn in registration forms AND their checks receive a spot.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Peace,
Angelique
Child's name: ___________________________ Child's gender: __________

Child's age: _____ Date of birth: ___________ Last school grade completed: __________

Name of parent(s): __________________________________________

Street address: _____________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: _______ ZIP: ____________

Home telephone: (_____) _____________________________

Parent/caregiver's cellphone: (_____) _____________________________

Home email address: ___________________________________________

Home church: _________________________________________________

Crew number or name (for church use only): _________________________

Allergies or other medical conditions: _____________________________

In case of emergency, contact: _________________________________

Phone: ______________________________________________________

Relationship to child: ________________________________________
A Note from the Pilgrim Church Staff

We would like to thank the Pilgrim Church congregation for the Easter gift you gave the staff. It is always nice to know that our work is appreciated. We all enjoy working at Pilgrim Church and look forward to working with you in the future.

Rev. Peggy O’Connor, Rev. Emily J. Keller, Ron Sherwin, Sarah McQuarrie, Katie Houts, Sue Homan, Angelique Kania, Melissa MacDonald, Kathy Goldner, Tony Nightingale, & Dawn Kerivan

May

1  Lynn DeHart & Elizabeth Barry
3  Kay Drake
4  Helen Barrow
8  Rob Kania
11 Carol Warrington
13 Geoff DeWolf
14 Rod Clark & Ann Carpenter
20 Will Trevisan
30 Eli Estey

Happy Birthday to all our friends with May birthdays! We would love to include all birthdays in our monthly newsletter. Please email Melissa office@pilgrimchurchofduxbury.org with your families’ birthdates. You do not have to include the year! 😊

Community News:

My Life, My Health
Free, Six Week Workshop
Sponsored by the Duxbury Council on Aging

Thursdays beginning May 18 from 1-3:30 PM (No class June 1)

My Life, My Health is a Stanford University Chronic Disease Self-Management Program for anyone living with an on-going medical condition like: Arthritis, Asthma, Cancer, COPD, Chronic Back Pain, Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Diabetes, Fibromyalgia, High Blood Pressure, Heart Disease, Parkinson’s Disease, Stroke and many others.

Chronic disease, pain and discomfort may limit activities you enjoy. Join the My Life, My Health workshop and start to live again! For more information and to register call 781-934-5774, ex 5716.

Learn to

- Eat Well
- Control Your Pain
- Start an Exercise Program
- Handle Stress and Relax
- Increase Your Energy Level
Prayer Requests

People listed below need our continual prayers for God’s blessing and are not restricted to church members. Names are usually listed for two weeks unless we are notified otherwise.

Prayers of Healing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annie</th>
<th>Priscilla Wonkka</th>
<th>Dan</th>
<th>Joan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polly</td>
<td>TJ</td>
<td>Nancy</td>
<td>Will</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy</td>
<td>Bob Merry</td>
<td>Bob W</td>
<td>Don Warkentien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>David</td>
<td>David Ryder</td>
<td>Jason</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neil Fields</td>
<td>Laurie W.</td>
<td>Jill</td>
<td>Camille</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Purcell</td>
<td>Jeannine Ferro</td>
<td>Carolyn Houghton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, the Great Physician, look with your gracious favor upon all who are ill. Bless all means used for their recovery. Stretch forth your hand, according to your will, and restore them to health and strength, we pray, that they may live to praise you for your goodness and grace, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Prayers of Joy

For the baptism today of Christopher Robert Setterbo, son of Alison and Robert Setterbo.

Prayers of Support and Safety for those serving our country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>David Whitney</th>
<th>Jackson Sinnott</th>
<th>Christian Clapp</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

We pray for Christ's peace to rest upon communities in our country and throughout the world, for all those who serve the cause of peace, for members of our armed services, aid workers, volunteers and missionaries. We pray for Christ's mercy to rest upon refugee communities around the world and for our homeless brothers and sisters in America. We pray for all those persecuted for their faith, for our fellow Christians throughout the world, and for members of other faith traditions as well. May the grace of God rest upon them all.

The Healing Prayer Ministry welcomes your prayer requests. Prayer request cards are available in the pews and in the narthex and may be placed in the wooden prayer box or the Sunday offering when complete.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>• Church School Sunday</td>
<td>1 • Search Committee</td>
<td>3 • Pilgrim Bridge</td>
<td>4 • PCCP Tea Party</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Worship 10:00am</td>
<td>7:00 Youth Room</td>
<td>12:30pm Vestry</td>
<td>12:00pm Vestry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Music Board 7:00pm</td>
<td>Pilgrim Ringers 6:30pm</td>
<td>Adult Choir 7:00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Parlor</td>
<td>Women's AA 7:00pm Vestry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Deacons Mtg 7:00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Library</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>• Kids Mission Trip</td>
<td>8 • Search Committee</td>
<td>10 • Pilgrim Ringers</td>
<td>11 • PCCP Board</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dinner 6:00pm Vestry</td>
<td>7:00pm Youth Room</td>
<td>6:30pm Women's AA</td>
<td>7:00pm Library</td>
<td></td>
<td>Memorial Service 11:00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Worship Communion</td>
<td>Outreach 6:30 Library</td>
<td>7:00pm Vestry</td>
<td>Adult Choir 7:00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Outreach Luncheon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vestry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>• Worship 10:00am</td>
<td>15 • Search Committee</td>
<td>17 • Pilgrim Ringers</td>
<td>18 • Adult Choir</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Youth Group Bake Sale</td>
<td>7:00pm Library</td>
<td>6:30pm Women's AA</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wedding 3:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00am</td>
<td></td>
<td>7:00pm Vestry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• GS 4:00pm Rainbow Room</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>• Worship 10:00am</td>
<td>22 • Church Council</td>
<td>24 • Pilgrim Ringers</td>
<td>25 • Baccalaureate</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Annual Meeting</td>
<td>7:00pm Library</td>
<td>6:30pm Women's AA</td>
<td>Rehearsal 7:00pm Sanctuary</td>
<td></td>
<td>Baccalaureate Rehearsal 9:00am Sanctuary Youth Car Wash 9am-2pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>following worship</td>
<td>Search Committee</td>
<td>7:00pm Vestry</td>
<td>Adult Choir 7:00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:00pm Youth Room</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>World Religions Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:00pm Parlor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>• Worship 10:00am</td>
<td>29 • Bookworms</td>
<td>30 • Baccalaureate</td>
<td>31 • Pilgrim Ringers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1:30pm Library</td>
<td>Rehearsal 7:00pm Sanctuary</td>
<td>6:30pm Women's AA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Baccalaureate 7:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>World Religions Group</td>
<td>7:00pm Vestry</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:00pm Parlor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>• Memorial Day</td>
<td>31 • Memorial Day</td>
<td>1 • Baccalaureate</td>
<td>2 • Baccalaureate</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- office closed</td>
<td>Rehearsal 7:00pm Sanctuary</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>World Religions Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:00pm Parlor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>