



Pilgrim's Progress

July 2018

Time To Say Goodbye

On August 29th, 2016, I officially began the position of Interim Senior Minister at the Pilgrim Church of Duxbury. I say officially because I had already attended two Stewardship meetings, a Trustee Meeting and a Council Meeting.

Now, almost two years later, we are fast approaching my last day as your Interim Senior Minister. My first reaction to this is to ask: Where did the time fly? My next is to say thank you. Thank you for the almost two years that you have allowed me to spend with you. I have truly appreciated the opportunity to be your Interim Senior Minister.

Over our time together much has changed and much has stayed the same. This is as it should be. New staff have added much to our music program, our Christian Ed programs, and to our ongoing visitation work. Kids participating musically in worship and the adult choir sounding so joyful and good, has been wonderful. A fantastic confirmation class, a meaningful mission trip, and outstanding Sunday school classes have engaged the youth of the church at every age and made a mark that will last their whole lives. A focused and collaborative visitation ministry that meets new needs as well as staying in touch for the long term has strengthened the church's safety net. And the new office staff, which began just a week or so before I did, has taken our newsletter and weekly email blast to new levels as well as just about everything else they do.

But beyond all the above, the best "change", in my mind, is the I feel every Sunday. It is a feeling of togetherness and cooperation I did not feel when I first started as your interim minister. This will be a true blessing for anyone who walks into the church and especially for your new minister and his family. I pray that you continue to work at finding ways to connect and reconnect.

As you all know, July 15 is my last "official" day at Pilgrim Church. However, I may or may not be here that day. So, my formal farewell is on Sunday July 8. A bit confusing but I thank you for your patience and indulgence, which is due to the immanent arrival of a grandchild.

I wish I had time to visit with each and every one of you before I leave. It would be so very nice to be able to sit with you to say goodbye and to thank you personally for your support and your interest and input. As that is not possible please know that as I write this I am thinking of you individually and giving thanks.

May God continue to walk with Pilgrim Church, its members and friends as you continue your journey of faith.

Peace and Blessings,

Rev. Peggy



MISSION TRIP

PILGRIM CHURCH ~ NYC 2018

June 24 – June 30

The Mission Trip group to NYC would like to thank Pilgrim Church for all the love and support you gave us for our amazing trip! From your financial donations, to the letters of support and encouragement you sent along with us, to the blessing and commissioning that happened in church right before we got on our buses, WE THANK YOU!

We had an incredible week helping those in need in many different boroughs of Brooklyn. We helped restore a home destroyed by Hurricane Sandy in Far Rockaway. Only a block away, we helped maintain the grounds at a Buddhist Retreat Center, while also learning about Buddhism and Buddhist meditation.

We distributed food at a Christian food pantry one day (St. John's Bread and Life in Bushwick) and at a Hasidic Jewish food pantry (Masbia in Borough Park) the next day! Both gave to those in need based on their faith beliefs, but they served ALL, regardless of their clients' faith.

We also helped do maintenance projects at Metropolitan Baptist Church in Bensonhurst. Their church does not have a sexton, like our Tony, so all the maintenance done in their church is done by the Pastor, which he said prevents him from doing the work he REALLY needs to do. He was extremely grateful for our help. He also taught us about what it means to be an Evangelical Christian, which was fascinating to all of us, as we continue to explore our own faith.

Our final day in New York began by touring the 9-11 Memorial. It was exceptionally powerful and moving. Dawn Backlund, one of our amazing chaperones, had the idea for each of us to pick a name from the list of those killed that are etched in the granite surrounding the Pools outside of the Memorial and to say a prayer

for them and their families. When we went inside, we were able to use the technology there to learn more about the people we chose. The connections were incredible.

After our tour there, we meandered down Broadway to the Staten Island Ferry, where we all got on and had a free ride(!) through New York Harbor and got some great pictures of the Statue of Liberty. We concluded our afternoon by attending a prayer service at Trinity Church, the church that housed the First Responders and survivors of 9-11. The Rector there was absolutely thrilled to see so many youth at the service. He thanked us for our work in the city and blessed us.

The July 4 service on Sunday, the day after we returned, was a beautiful culmination of our time together. Our youth did all of the readings that illustrated the growth of our country. Mel Cheal, Abby Edwards and Elise Brayer shared their experiences from the trip. And then all of us sang "This Land is Your Land, This Land is My Land" – which really summed up what we learned on our trip!

Our youth were phenomenal... positive attitudes, friendliness towards all and a deepening faith filled the week. Our chaperones were wonderful. The whole experience could not have gone so beautifully without the leadership and help of Susan Walker, Sue Bradford, Dawn Backlund, Kelly Leonard, Jake Nelson, David Slayter and Robb Harrison.

This trip was yet another reminder of how blessed we are and how blessed I am to be here at Pilgrim Church with all of you amazing people.

With love and gratefulness in my heart,

Angelique



Koinonia will meet on **Monday, July 9th 2:00pm ~**
Pilgrim Church in the Youth Room

July

- 1 Emily Kellar
- 4 Dawn Kerivan
- 9 Jacqui Draper
- 13 Billy Jewell
- 16 Tanya Trevisan
- 21 Bruce Tenney
- 24 Sara Silverberg
- 26 Debby Jewell & Ann Marie DeWolf
- 27 Cam Tokarski
- 31 William Morton





Fair Trade News

A big **Thank You** to all who purchased and made donations to the Fair Trade Ministry from October 2017 to June 2018. Your generous support of this ministry has proven to be one of faithful response to helping justice in the workplace become a reality. You have helped small organic farmers around the world maintain sustainable incomes.

Your response and support of our second year of adding SERRV non-food items was overwhelming. Sales for SERRV's **Famine Relief in Africa** campaign blew us away! And Holiday Sales doubled over sales from the year before. Purchasing these items helps SERRV provide artisans around the world with employment and educational needs. We love shopping the SERRV catalog!

We are happy to say once again that sales this year not only paid off the inventory balance but also added additional funds to be used in Pilgrim's many Outreach Ministry projects. Well done, Pilgrim Church!

We always welcome additional volunteers to our team. If you feel called to be a part of this ministry contact us at judycjones@comcast.net or 508-224-1578.

Fair Trade Ministry takes a hiatus over the summer months and will return in October. It's been a great year and we look forward to seeing you around the fair trade table in the fall.

The Fair Trade Ministry Team.



Senior Choir:

I would like to send a "Huge Thank You" to the Senior Choir for all the hours they put into their music ministry this year. They sang 2 extra Sundays in June, and a Wednesday (rehearsal) and Thursday and Friday services for Holy Week on top of all of their normally scheduled Sunday and Christmas Services.

They truly did work, support and care for each other as a family throughout the year. They celebrated with a final rehearsal hosted at Gwynne & Charles Zisko's home. After the 30 - minute rehearsal, the choir had a wonderful time (along with their spouses) sampling all the homemade appetizers and desserts everyone had brought. Gwynne supplied the *libations*!

I wish all of them a healthy, happy and relaxing summer.

Summer Special Music:

We have had a good response for summer specials. There will be some changes with the organ unavailable until the painting in the sanctuary is done. The Specials for July are:

July 1 - Mission Trip Members: "This Land Is Your Land"

July 8 - Soloist at the Baptism: "Forever Young"

July 15 – rescheduling piano & organ duet

July 22 – Duet Gwynne Zisko and Fred Boericke (guitar): "In the Garden"

Guest Musician on July 8th:

I will be out of town for July 8th and Claire DeCusati will play the service on that Sunday.

Thank You, Claire!

Marcia

Marcia Ritschard-Sell, Interim Choir Director/Organist

(music@uccduxbury.org)

Praise and Prayer List

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

Rev. John Brink	Priscilla Wonkka	Joan	Aubrey Cole
Ann DeKlerk	Helen	Nancy	Sue
Emma	Bob	Bob W	Carolyn Houghton
John	Jeannine Ferro	Jason	Walter Baker
Laurie W.	Jill	Barbara Schultz	David Tenney
Jim Grim	Stet Howland	Janice Galka	Teagan
Neil Fields	Bill	Nicholas	Lynn Tenney
Jen Henriques-Forker	Bebe Watson	Ross	Susan
Margaret	Brandon	Donald Porteus	Katy Kendall
Lynn Saltzman	Norma George	Aine	Jake Nelson
Charles Samson	Jamie Hughes	Chuck Heiser	Joshua

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 comfort and solace to the family and friends of Paul H. Arkema, M.D, brother of Dan Arkema.

Prayers of Support and Safety for those serving our country

David Whitney, Jackson Sinnott, Christian Clapp,

Jeff Warrington, Brian Kelley, Andrew Shea

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.