

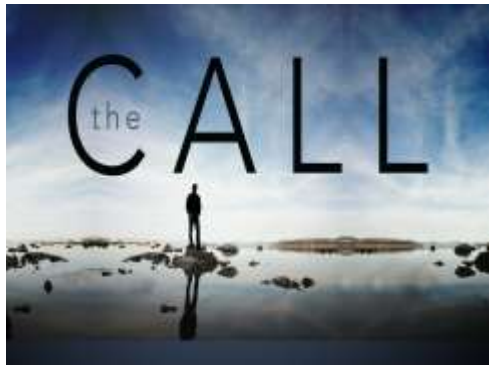


PILGRIM CHURCH



February 2019

From the Pastor...



"I believe there's a calling for all of us...that every human being has value and purpose. The real work of our lives is to become aware. And awakened. To answer the call."--Oprah Winfrey

"...I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'"--Isaiah 6:8

God makes each of us for a special purpose in this life. Do you believe that? That God made you special, for some special work in this life?

To bring you joy and challenge and also to be carried out for the glory of God. Most of the folks I know who are not working in a job that explicitly involves faith often do not believe that God has a call for them in this life. Perhaps they do not see their work as all that vital. Some crunch numbers all day or sell widgets or write software code or trade money. Others are full time parents or caregivers, folks who have put aside "professional" work to raise a family or take care of an aging parent. Some folks spend time at work doing something they need to do to support loved ones but don't necessarily want to do.

"Where is God's call to be found?" they ask.

Here's an experiment. Think of the thing that brings you the most satisfaction and happiness in this life. The activity or hobby or art or sport or past time or work that comes to you naturally, that feels like breathing. What is that? For me it is writing. Putting pen to paper and communicating an idea or thought: to hold up an ideal, to bring love, to entertain readers. That is my call. When I am doing this, it both brings me real contentedness and in this, glorifies God, thanks God, by carrying out this call.

What is your call? I see it in so many of you at Pilgrim Church. Your call is shaping young souls and minds as a coach, teacher, mentor; is bringing beauty into the world as a photographer, painter or singer; is raising amazing sons and daughters, leaving a legacy of hope and care for this world; is seen in beautiful scarves, sweaters, blankets, hats that you patiently knit; is being a dedicated volunteer or handy person helping to fix things; is as a nurse or doctor where you save lives; is in the office where folks know they can count on you for fairness and wisdom; is making a casserole for the homebound, calling a friend who is struggling, sponsoring a fellow alcoholic in AA.

God's call is always democratic. No one is ever left out. You don't need a "Rev." in front of your name or graduate education. All you need is a curious heart to discover your God given gifts and a committed desire to use that gift. To make the world a better place. To glorify God.

What's your call? Let me know if you like. I'd love to hear about it!

Peace, Pastor John

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

By ANDY MEYER, MODERATOR

My son is enjoying a year living on his own in a tiny house at the Natick Community Organic Farm. As I dropped him off the other night, I said to him, as I have many times before, "Good night. I love you. God loves you too."

It's something I have said for years. And I never really knew if he, nor any of my kids, ever really heard me say it. Until, that is, one day a long time ago, as he was walking out of our house, he *jokingly* said it to me. "Goodbye Dad. Remember God loves you too. Ha ha."

I've GOT him, I thought. He really has been listening. Somehow, the message that God loves him had sunk in, even if just a little bit. I started thinking about the other things I have said over the years, and whether they too have started to impact my kids.

When we hold hands and say grace before we eat, I always thank God for the blessings we have received. It's very easy to come up with a nice, long list. We are grateful for our community, our friends, and our loved ones. But even more so, we are truly grateful for the things we do not have, and would not want. That list includes things like poor health, family disruptions, job and food insecurity.

Mostly I am thankful for faith in God. I turn to God every day to thank Him for all that I have; I always ask for forgiveness for my sins and mistakes, and I ask for His grace to help see me through another day. I know God hears and answers in His own way. All one has to do is look back in the past and see how many troubled, painful times have been resolved positively. One little miracle at a time, God shows us the way and leads us through.

"Good night. I love you. God loves you too."

May God bless you all -

Andy Meyer
Moderator



CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

Pilgrim Church members are called to our Annual Meeting, Sunday, February 3rd, 2019, immediately following the worship service. Items to be discussed include adoption of the 2019 operating budget, nomination and election of officers and committee members, and any other business proper to come before the body.

Marilyn Marlette, Clerk

Oberammergau Passion Play In 2020—Oberammergau, Bavaria, Germany

Pilgrim Church will be sponsoring a trip to the Oberammergau Passion Play in May of 2020, coordinated by Music Director, David Tiedman. This world-famous play is presented every 10 years in the town of Oberammergau, Bavaria, Germany. The tour group will see the play on Sunday, May 17. The group will leave Boston on or about May 13 and fly direct to Munich. Five to six days will be spent in the Munich area, seeing not only the play, but the city of Munich itself, as well as surrounding sights like King Ludwig’s castle, the Wieskirche – one of the last and most opulent of the Baroque churches – and Berchtesgaden, in addition to others. Then the tour will continue with a train ride over the Alps to the city of Padua in northeast Italy, right next to Venice. Several days will be spent there, with a day in Venice, a day-trip through the wine country of the area, as



well as a visit to Verona and Lake Garda. The group will return to Boston, flying out of Milan on or about May 25th. In all the trip will be 13 to 14 days in length. Final details are being arranged and a full itinerary, price, etc., will be forthcoming later this Spring. Land-only prices will be available for those who want to use frequent flyer miles, and trip extensions beyond the return date can be arranged. For now, put the dates on your calendar – you won’t want to miss this trip.

Historically, in the 17th century when the Thirty Years’ War (1618-1648) took place in central Europe, it was one of history’s most devastating conflicts. Poverty and disease were wide-spread and thousands died because of the Bubonic Plague. In the small village of Oberammergau alone there were 80 deaths. During this time of suffering the citizens of Oberammergau made a sacred pledge that every 10 years they would perform a “Play of the Suffering, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ” if God would protect them from the plague. Legend has it that after the vow was made, there was not even one further case of Bubonic Plague in the village, and those town members that already were afflicted, recovered.

The promise was kept for the first time during Pentecost in 1634, and has been continued ever since. The only exception was in 1940 when World War II forced a cancellation. Only residents of Oberammergau can be in the cast; they spend a year preparing for the event, which is fully staged with music. Performances, numbering about 100, occur from May to October.



Dear Pilgrim Church Friends,

I just wanted to thank you all so much for all of the love and support you have shown me and my family these past 3 months. As many of you know, it has not been an easy go between surgery and chemo. I am so grateful for the meals and cards. Pilgrim Church is truly a blessing and I love you all. Jose

Notes and cards may be sent to Jose Muri 11 Sunset Rd. Ashland 01721

You can follow Jose’s progress on Caring Bridge. Simply go to the Caring Bridge website and enter Jose’s name in the search field.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
Wednesday, March 6, 7:30pm



A time for reflection, prayer, healing and hope
A time to mark the beginning of Lent
A time to worship with our sisters and brothers from Bethel AME

All-Church Event

*Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Dinner*



**Tuesday,
March 5th**
6:00-7:30pm
Fellowship Hall

What's better than breakfast for dinner?
All are welcome to come share in the tradition of Fat Tuesday/ Mardi Gras
Join us for the last hurrah before we enter into Lent and enjoy pancakes, sausage & bacon followed by a few simple games.
Fun for all ages - We look forward to seeing you join us!

Save the Date!

Church Membership

Rooted in faith. Connected by community. Called to serve.

Have you wondered what it means to be a member of Pilgrim Church? Are you interested in learning more, leaning into your questions or faith journey? Would you like to meet new folks, share in fellowship with others who share similar values? Do you attend service on Sundays, participate in a committee, or volunteer for ministries? There are so many ways we go deeper at Pilgrim Church. Please reach out if you would like to explore what membership means. We'd love to welcome you, and are happy to answer any questions you have about membership!

Janet Walsh

Director of Congregational Ministries

dcm@pilgrimsherborn.org

P.508-655-1667



STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2019

BY STEVE SOLOMON AND PETER LIFFITON

Stewardship Campaign for 2019

Thank you, thank you, to all who have so generously pledged to the campaign. Your pledges have allowed Parish Board to recommend to the annual meeting on Sunday, February 3rd, a balanced operating budget for 2019!

But we are not quite finished!

The campaign is still going!

And this is why.

The main campaign ended on January 15th when the Parish Board voted to recommend a balanced operating budget based on pledges received as of that date. Pledging directed to the Missions Budget (not part of the operating budget) was only at 50% of the target. *This is the part of your pledges that is used for those outside our church, not for us.* The pledged Missions budget supports the Central Association of the United Church of Christ and its world-wide mission as well as contributing to over 15 local non-profit charities working directly to help others in our local communities. So we still need pledges from folks who have not yet pledged. Just \$12,000 will get us to a Missions budget matching last year's monetary support of our wider world. Please, if you have not yet pledged, consider e-mailing admin@pilgrimsheborn.org or liffiton@comcast.net or call one of the Stewardship Committee members to make a confidential pledge. Thank you.

Kevin Flynn 508-881-7224

Peter Liffiton 508-653-2833

Carole Marple 508-740-4685

Steve Solomon 508-517-2025

Kitty Sturgis 508-653-8416

WE ARE
PILGRIM
CHURCH

Our Values

Are ROOTED
IN
FAITH

CONNECT US
BY
COMMUNITY

CALL US
TO
SERVE

Christian Education

BY ANGIE JOHNSON, DIIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES



Church School

There is no church school on Sunday, February 17, 2019.

Enjoy your February vacation if you are traveling and we will see you back in church school on February 24.



The annual Souper Bowl of Caring will take place on Sunday, February 3. We are accepting donations of canned goods on that day to be donated to A Place to Turn as well as cash donations. The confirmation class will also be serving a simple soup lunch for a freewill donation. Last year, Pilgrim Church participated along with countless other churches and organizations across America in this drive to raise awareness of hunger in our country. Before you enjoy the Super Bowl, Sunday night February 3, help others in our area to enjoy a warm meal.

Meet our 2019 Confirmation class:

Sienna Adduci

MJ Flynn

Lexi Maher

Ella Dodge

Andrew O'Connell

Garrett Theberge

Sarah Parrish

Emily Burt

Wade Johnson

Ava Schwartz

YOUTH MINISTRY

BY REV. DIANE ANDERSON

Senior Youth Group

The Senior Youth Group had a recent service trip to **Rosie's Place in Boston** where we prepared a delicious meal and served to women who are experiencing homelessness. One eye opening thing we learned while **spending time with the women at Rosie's Place is how desperately people living on the streets need clean, warm socks.** In the winter months folks who are homeless often find that their shoes are inadequate as far as keeping their feet dry so their socks get wet and cold. There just never seem to be enough socks to go around. This has sparked some ideas for a SYG sock drive in the future!

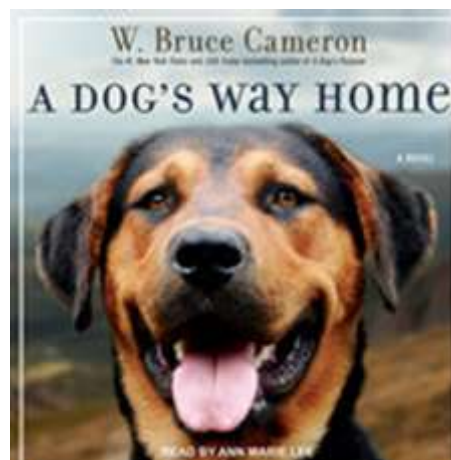
SYG also just held it's annual California Pizza Kitchen Fundraiser. All of the money raised will go to support the SYG Work Camp trip to Puerto Rico this April. SYG wants to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the fundraiser. It was wonderful to see so many Pilgrim Church families dining at CPK in support of our trip!



Junior Youth Group

The Junior Youth Group recently went for a night out **to the movies.** We saw **A Dog's Way Home** at the Framingham AMC Theatre. It was a touching movie that triggered discussions about beloved pets that have blessed our lives over the years. JYG will be joining forces with SYG for their next meeting to make Valentine cards for members of our church community who could use a little tender loving care this season.

Calling all JYGers!! The big JYG retreat is coming up fast and now is the time to sign up! We are going to the Craigville Retreat Center from March 22nd to 24th for a youth retreat called How to Have a Spiritually Healthy Relationship With Technology. It should be an amazing retreat and a great opportunity to connect with other youth from the Greater Boston area!



missionsministries



From clothing being donated, Christmas gifts for children purchased, gingerbread houses bought for gift cards to go to those in need, meals packaged, prepared, served and delivered, baby hats knitted, volunteerism at a furniture bank and homeless shelter, housing homeless families, donating over \$14,000 to local charities and non-profits. To date, these are just some of the things you, the congregation, have provided as an enormous amount of outreach, support and love for those in need in our church this year. What a bountiful missions ministry we have had so far! We hope you will continue your generosity of time, talents and treasure as we head in to our second half of the church year. Please keep an eye out for more fun and exciting hands on opportunities in the coming months and thank you for all you do!



Rosie's Place was founded in 1974 as the first women's shelter in the United States. Their mission is to provide a safe and nurturing environment that helps poor and homeless women maintain their dignity, seek opportunity and find security in their lives. The founder, Kip Tiernan, saw poor women disguising themselves as men to get a meal at men-only shelters in Boston and said, "We can do better than that." We continue to reach out to poor and homeless women who hide in plain sight, trying every day to understand the right way to encourage and engage them

Today, Rosie's Place not only provides meals and shelter but also creates answers for 12,000 women a year through wide-ranging support, housing and education services.

Rosie's Place relies solely on the generous support of individuals, foundations and corporations and does not accept any city, state or federal funding. Thanks to these donations, 85 cents of every dollar raised goes directly to services for poor and homeless women.



Sunday, February 3rd

Bring your canned goods to church and stay after Worship/the Annual Meeting to enjoy a hot bowl of homemade hearty soup. All the canned goods and monies raised will directly support A Place to Turn food shelter in Natick. A free will offering will be collected by the confirmation class. Please come and support this wonderful all-church outreach event.

HANDS TO WORK, HEARTS TO GOD

It's time to open those fresh new calendar pages and look to see when you might be able to help fill in the Sunday Service sign-up openings. We need lay leaders, coffee hour hosts and flower donors from February thru the 2nd week of June.

You can sign up anytime online by clicking [HERE](#) to get to our HTWHTG schedule. Or you can simply call the office (508) 655-1667 or email Janet DCM@PilgrimSherborn.org and we will be happy to help you!



SHERBORN BOY SCOUTS TROOP 1

BY RON JANZTEN

In January, Troop 1 Sherborn Boy Scouts prepared a lasagna meal for the January 17 COA sponsored luncheon for seniors at Pilgrim Church. Kerry Lynch and Michelle Covelle helped the Scouts in this effort. Later in the month, scouts worked on rank advancement and they elected a new senior patrol leader, Jack Worcester.

In February, Greg Kennan will lead scouts working on Citizenship in the Community merit badge. The troop will have an overnight at Snow Hill in Dover among other activities. They will not meet during the school vacation week.

Steve Scrimshaw

Calendar

Tue. 1/5 Metacomet District Roundtable, 7 p.m., Medfield Senior Center, 1 Ice House Rd.
(S. Main to Hospital Road to Harding Street to West Mill Street to Ice House Rd.)
Information and ideas exchange.

Mon. 2/11 Troop Committee Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Pilgrim Church

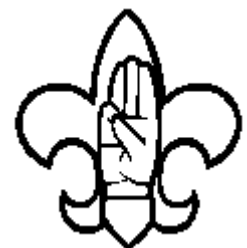
M-F 2/18 - 22: No School - Winter Recess

Troop Meetings: Tuesdays, 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Scoutmaster: Steve Scrimshaw, 508-655-2311

Com. Chair: Jeff Waldron, 508-653-4399

Chartered Organization/Parish Board Rep.: Charlie Williams 508-395-9049



February 2019

February 2019						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

March 2019						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 27	28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2
3 Annual Meeting Souper Bowl of Caring 10:00am Sunday Worship 6:45pm SYG	4 4:00pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm Scout Troop Committee Mtg	5 10:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Boy Scouts	6 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am COA Lifetime Learning 8:00pm AA Meeting	7 12:00pm Senior Cafe 6:15pm Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	8 12:00pm Senior Cafe 6:15pm Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	9 Scrapbooking-private event 1:00pm Daisy Girl Scouts
10 10:00am Sunday Worship 5:00pm JYG 6:00pm Confirmation 6:45pm SYG	11 4:00pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm Scout Troop Committee Mtg	12 8:45am Caring 9:00am Book Club 10:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Deacons	13 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am COA Lifetime Learning 8:00pm AA Meeting	14 12:00pm Senior Cafe 6:15pm Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	15	16
17 NO CONFIRMATION 10:00am Sunday Worship 6:45pm SYG	18 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED February School Vacation Week President's Day	19 10:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Parish Board Mtg	20 9:30am Bible Study 8:00pm AA Meeting	21 12:00pm Senior Cafe 6:15pm Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	22	23
24 10:00am Sunday Worship 5:00pm JYG 6:00pm Confirmation 6:45pm SYG	25	26 10:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Boy Scouts	27 9:30am Bible Study 8:00pm AA Meeting	28 12:00pm Senior Cafe 6:15pm Handbell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	Mar 1	2

PILGRIM CHURCH

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Massachusetts Conference Website
www.macucc.org

United Church of Christ Website
www.ucc.org

For Pastor John's column in the DS Press:
www.townonline.com/dover/news/lifestyle

POSTMASTER: ADDRESS
CORRECTION REQUESTED

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This is a monthly publication. Please submit comments, articles to the church administrator by email or written copy. Submissions will be edited for length and clarity.

Articles for the NEXT issue are due by the 15th of the month.