

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

MAY 2021

May 2: "New Azotus" (Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell)

May 9: "Love Each Other as I have Loved you" (Rev. Ed Farrell-Starbuck)

May 16: "How Will God Know Us?" (Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell)

May 23: Romans 8:22-27, Pentecost (Rev. Ed Farrell-Starbuck)

May 30: "Mary Poppins, Tinkerbell & the Holy Spirit" (Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell)





Renewing our Fund Raising Programs

This month, instead of a column from Rev. Susan we have a message from our Trustees Chairperson, Bud Dey

While fundraising events have always been an integral and important part of PCC's annual budget income, these activities also highlight the church's social contribution in Harwich and help to "showcase" the church, peak interest, and potentially grow membership. Not to mention . . . these events are fun and bring us together!

As the Trustees begin to populate the proposed 2021 budget for the past six months, they are taking a hard look at Pre-Covid fundraising efforts vs. what might happen for the rest of this year. Pandemic or not, we still need to raise funds in the usual ways as much as possible.

Pre-Covid-19, fund raising included selling food in the summer Harwich stroll, selling pumpkins in 2019 at Halloween, cookie sales, pancake breakfasts, book and yard sales, and many other endeavors.

For the rest of the year and beyond, as we build our budget, we need to consider the following:

- Harwich has determined there will be **NO** strolls this summer.
- Do we, as PCC, still engage in producing food options for a given weekly night in the summer and the Men's Breakfasts?
- Do we commit to pumpkin purchase with anticipation of selling the month of October?
- Do we create other fundraising opportunities for the remainder of 2021?

While we can take a look at our efforts and listen to new ideas for events, the overarching concern lies within the Congregation and the Trustees are looking to **YOU** for the answer -- **HOW CAN WE STAFF EVENTS?**

Just as local businesses are suffering from lack of summer workers, Pilgrim is potentially facing a crisis in recruiting volunteers. We have been incredibly lucky and grateful that so many of you have stepped forward time and again, but we are worried that there might be a "burnout" factor amongst the hardworking volunteers who "show up" without fail.

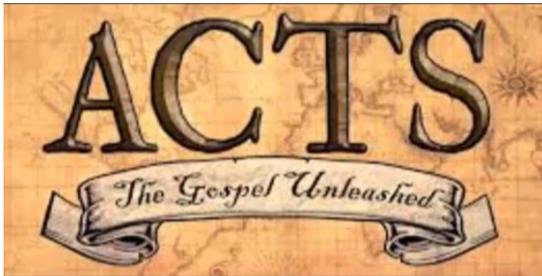
Our Immediate Challenge – THE PUMPKIN PATCH



We are approaching a decision point to alert the pumpkin producer whether we are in or out for Fall 2021 pumpkin delivery. Without a commitment to staff the events, we simply cannot commit to holding it. A profitable and community-building event, it was sorely missed last year.

Before we can make a decision, we will need to firm up volunteer coverage. Slots will need to be filled during the weeks of October 3, 10, 17, and 24. Weekday hours will be 11-5:30 (divided into three shifts from 11-1, 1-3, and 3-5:30). Saturday hours will be 9:30 to 2 and Sundays will be 11:30-4. Each shift will have a team leader and at least two volunteers. This could be organized by PODS, but at this point you can either contact your POD captain to express interest or just let Valerie know when you would be available to help out. SO please consider helping out and contact your POD captain, or Valerie Petersen at office@pcchp.org or 508-432-1668.

MAY Sermons "Finding our Way"



Sunday, May 2 - "New Azotus," Acts 8: 26-40.

Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell

God opens doors of opportunity in unlikely times and places.

Sunday, May 9 - Rev. Ed Farrell-Starbuck

On this 6th Sunday of Easter, we will consider Jesus' repeated commandment: "Love each other as I have loved you." Gospel love isn't abstract. It is contextual, expressed in concrete ways which are in accord with God's commanded intentions for humans to live together in peace and community. Love is incarnational---love with skin on.



Sunday, May 16 - "How Will God Know Us?"

Ephesians 1: 15-23. Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell

Service on the Lawn

Praying with Paul for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Sunday, May 23 - Romans 8:22-27, Rev. Farrell-Starbuck

May 23 is Pentecost Sunday when the Christian Church celebrated the tangible coming of the Holy Spirit. As Paul asserts in Romans 8:22-27, the Holy Spirit bridges the groaning of the whole creation and our own inarticulate groans—a mutual aching for liberation and wholeness. When we aren't able to pray, the Spirit prays in and through us, expressing our griefs and hopes...and helping us find a way forward.



Sunday, May 30 - "Mary Poppins, Tinkerbell & the Holy Spirit,"

Acts 2: 1-21. Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell

Service on the Lawn

And the Holy Spirit is what exactly? Considering the 3rd person of the trinity.

We also invite you to join our evening prayer services Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

(pcchp.org, Facebook, YouTube)

Announcing . . .

CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE: MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
FRIDAY 5/28 & SATURDAY 5/29, 9am to 4pm

SALE

Accepting donations Wednesday May 5th from 1 to 3.

What we want: Puzzles Books Cookware
Linens Blankets Towels Outdoor/Beach stuff

SALE

Unable to bring your donations on May 5?
(Contact Peggy at peggy.oconnor1@comcast.net to set up an alternative.)

We need volunteers to run the sale each day as well as:
To help set up on Thursday the 27th
To help close on the 29th
To help break down on the 30th

Contact Peggy O'Connor to volunteer for any/all tasks!

Pilgrim Kindness Camp



Add a little kindness to your little ones' lives!

June 21 - 25

Open to Cape-wide community

Grades K - 3

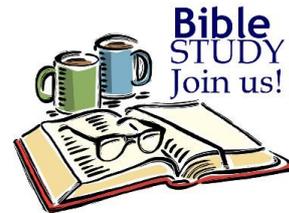
Contact Deb Larsson at
learningfunfriendships@gmail.com

Staying involved. . .



ZOOM with Rev. Susan along with fellow Pilgrims after Sunday worship service. Zoom in at 10:45 am, but don't let technical difficulties stop you. (Call Rev. Susan to join in or to get instructions, 781-635-6104.) This is a great chance to catch up, share concerns, and re-connect.

STUDY! Doug Wheeler's ever popular Bible study group will continue throughout the Spring on Tuesdays at 9 AM. Open to everyone. ZOOM group discussion format. Call Doug at 774-237-0930 for more information.



KNIT AND CHAT

Every Friday at 11:00 AM, Dorcas Room
Contact Deb @ 508-395-9207.

SHOP at the next **Book & Yard Sale**
Memorial Day weekend
(see page 4 for details)



PRAY

with the Joyful Prayer group
May 6, 3:30 to 5 :00 PM
Dorcas Room
Contact Judy Brown to join in:
jrpraying@gmail.com or 508-432-0012

Fellowship during a pandemic . . . the story behind PODs

The story of the evolution of PODs is an interesting one. At the very beginning of the pandemic, as we all hunkered down in our homes, isolated and anxious, Rev. Susan quickly recognized the need for alternative ways for members to stay connected to the church and to each other remotely. This was the birth of the Pilgrim Outreach Districts, or PODs.

Step one was to separate alphabetically all of PCC's members and active friends into "family units" (couples and singles also constitute family units). Groups of ten family units were then organized into the actual PODs, with captains recruited to schedule and facilitate meetings. As time went on, several PODs were added to serve the needs of specific populations.



The "Singing " POD honoring Priscilla Hughes

Meetings have been typically conducted on computers via ZOOM, although some of the PODs included in-person gatherings during the warmer weather, using appropriate social distancing and safety precautions.

Consulting with POD captains regularly, Rev. Susan, has been able to get a better sense of how members are doing and who is in need of special care. In her annual report to the congregation (to be published in early May), she reports that many new friendships were formed during this experience and everyone found ways to be supportive.

- Some PODs shared recipes; another one met in a garden.
- One POD sings to shut-ins twice a month.
- One POD captain created a video greeting to young families; another discusses parenting young adults.

If you would like to join a POD, please contact Rev. Peggy at
781-635-2318 or peggy.oconnor1@comcast.net

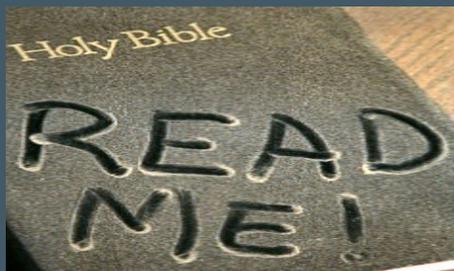


Loving and Using Your Bible...

in loving memory of Nicki Palmer

Test yourself:

Who was Lot?



*Lectio Divina:

Deuteronomy 6:5



More to the Story:

Why did Abraham (aka Abram) and Lot separate after leaving Egypt together, and how did Lot come to be living near Sodom at the time of its destruction?

BONUS: What happened to Lot's wife?

Check your answers:

Genesis 13: 1; Genesis 13: 5-12; Genesis 19: 15-26

- May 04 Linda Kidd
- May 04 Harold Gabriel
- May 07 Betsy Babb
- May 12 Sally Smith
- May 16 Bruce Nightingale
- May 26 Judith Sadoski
- May 26 Fred Drifmeyer
- May 31 Sally Hunt

*WHAT IS LECTIO DIVINA?

When I introduced myself as the new author of Nicki Palmer's column, *Loving and Using Your Bible*, I gave a vague (and not entirely accurate) description of the practice of Lectio Divina. I feel as though most of us could benefit from an updated definition to help us in our Biblical devotions.

Traditionally, the practice of Lectio Divina has four parts, but I have noticed that newer sources add a fifth, a step I whole-heartedly approve of, so I am including it.

READ (Lectio): Still your spirit, sit in quietude, and read a chosen passage of the Bible.

MEDITATE (Meditatio) Reflect on the words and consider how they may be speaking to your heart right now.

PRAY (Oratio) Respond in prayer, having a conversation with God about what peaked your attention.

CONTEMPLATE (Contemplatio) Sit silently in God's presence, open to any special insight God may impart.

ACT (Imitare) Decide what God would like you to do now that you have had this conversation and commit to a change in your thinking or behavior



Steeple Lighting

Please continue to remember your loved ones by lighting the steeple in their honor.

Contact Carolee @ 508-430-2594 or Val at office@pcchp.org



Music Notes



We were grateful to be able to hear live music again at our Easter service on the lawn. Thank you Fred Drifmeyer for the wonderful music, and Becky Sullivan for sound assistance.



Matt Scinto's Chamber Orchestra is alive and well. Check out recent concerts on their website: capecodchamberorchestra.com

Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle

Ever find yourself wondering what to do with those pesky plastic bags?

Since it could take up to 500 years for them to break down, our challenge is to find ways to reuse them or avoid using them at all. One solution is to use fabric produce bags and avoid those flimsy ones at the grocery store.

And how about those bags used as mailers? If you must return an item, reuse that bag, but if no other option presents itself, cut the paper label off and take it with other plastic bags to the recycle bin AT YOUR GROCERY STORE, not the dump.

if you have discovered ways to do that that might help others, please share ☺ Molly Chapman

Pilgrim Church IN THE MEDIA!

Cape Cod Times:

January 19 - **MATTERS OF FAITH: Do we want to live in a world of quid pro quo?**

<https://www.capecodtimes.com/opinion/20200119/matters-of-faith-do-we-want-to-live-in-world-of-quid-pro-quo>

February 2 - **MATTERS OF FAITH: My way or the highway: Living in a partisan world**

<https://www.capecodtimes.com/news/20200202/matters-of-faith-my-way-or-highway-living-in-partisan-world>

February 17 - **MATTERS OF FAITH: Honesty, integrity bedrock virtues of our Nation**

<https://www.capecodtimes.com/opinion/20190217/matters-of-faith-honesty-integrity-bedrock-virtues-of-our-nation>

February 27 - **"On the Mark" Ashes to Go**

April 5, 2020 - **Churches, Synagogues, Mosques Nonessential?**

Hardly. <https://www.capecodtimes.com/opinion/20200405/churches-synagogues-mosques-nonessential-hardly>

May 3 - **MATTERS OF FAITH: Year of Wonder**

February 18, 2021 - **"Ash Wednesday services changed on Cape Cod as Lent begins."**

<https://www.capecodtimes.com/story/news/2021/02/18/covid-19-ash-wednesday-services-changed-cape-cod-lent-begins/6772669002/>

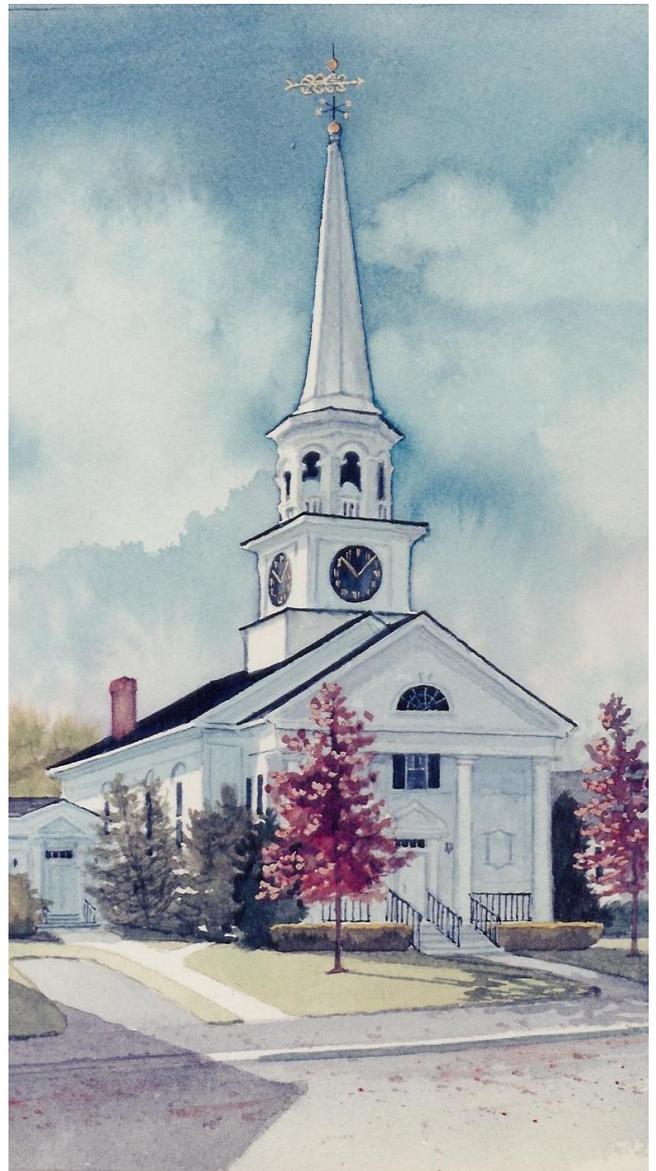
BEST BETS & CapeCodOnline: David Roth worship service. Watch for other events!

Cape Cod Chronicle: April 23 p. 43 "Pilgrim Kids Program"; Nov 5 - "Election Eve Vigil"

Arts Council Online Listings: David Roth Worship Service. Watch for other events!

SPOTLIGHT - So. NE Conference, United Church of Christ: June 9, 2020 "Afterschool Program Goes Online."

"<https://www.sneucc.org/news?topic=15182>



Read the articles through our website pcchp.org

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