

CHURCH OF THE PILGRIMS  
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## Pilgrims Renews Commitment to Peacemaking

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Presbyterian Peacemaking program, in celebration of which an Assembly-wide effort is being made to introduce the program to as many new churches as possible and to renew involvement by those that signed on many years ago. Church of the Pilgrims, through the Session, was asked to study and sign a Commitment to Peacemaking (an agreement Pilgrims originally signed back in the 1980's), and the Session has approved this re-commitment.

The Peacemaking Offering, one of four special offerings of the PC (USA), funds peacemaking efforts of congregations, presbyteries, synods, and the General Assembly. **Church of the Pilgrims will receive the Peacemaking Offering on World Communion Sunday, October 5th.** 25 percent of the offering remains in the congregation to support its peacemaking efforts, 25 percent goes to presbytery and synod efforts, while 50 percent supports the work of the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program. The Presbyterian Peacemaking Program uses its share of the Offering to assist congregations, governing bodies, and other entities of the denomination to do peacemaking.

Pilgrims is participating in Tents of Hope and will use the local portion of the Peacemaking Offering in this endeavor. Tents of Hope [www.tentsofhope.org](http://www.tentsofhope.org) was started by the United Church of Christ and the Disciples of Christ. The mission of Tents of Hope project is to support a one-year process in which people re-



*Peacemaking  
Offering*

*World  
Communion  
Sunday*

spond as communities to the crisis in Darfur, Sudan by creating tents that are both unique works of art and ongoing focal points within communities for learning about, assisting and establishing relationships with the people of Sudan. The tents are not answers in themselves. Rather, they are points of entry for more concrete forms of Darfur advocacy.

Basically, our participation makes the financial commitment to buy a tent from Tents of Hope and paint symbols of hope, justice and peace to create the focal point of advocacy. In early November, there will be a national gathering of tents on the Mall as a consciousness raising endeavor towards the continued violence and genocide in Darfur.

Look for future announcements to participate in the intergenerational painting of the tent during the Education hour. †

### **WORLDWIDE COMMUNION SUNDAY OCTOBER 5TH, 2008!**

9:30 A.M.

- Christian Education programs for children and adults.

11:00 A.M.

- Worship
- Celebration of the Lord's Supper
- Receiving of the Peace Offering

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12:15 P.M.

- Buffet in Fellowship Hall

Mark your calendars for this special day! †

# Spiritual Formation in October

## November Elections and the Christian Faith

October 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>  
in the Bird Room.

**W**hat shapes our priorities for voting in November? What issues are at stake? How do we interpret current policy issues through the lens of our Christian faith?

Each week we will have a guest speaker address “hot” policy issues that are relevant to the November elections and our Christian faith.

- October 5th: **Sandy Champion**, our **Presbytery’s Hunger Advocate**, will be with us.
- October 12th: **Jonah Blank**, **Senate Foreign Relations Committee**, will discuss foreign policy.
- October 19th: **Cheryl Krehbiel** and **John Davis**, both from, **D.C. Public Schools (DCPS)**, will discuss education policy.
- October 26th: **Fritz Gutwein**, from **National Council of Churches**, will talk about eco-justice issues. ††

## Tents of Hope

October 26<sup>th</sup> and November 2<sup>nd</sup>

**A**n advocacy endeavor created by the United Church of Christ and Disciples of Christ, Tents of Hope is a journey of hope and compassion, inviting communities to design and paint simulated refugee tents to create awareness and support for the people of Darfur, Sudan. It’s the hope that these tents will serve as doorways to concrete action. Pilgrims has purchased a tent and on October 26<sup>th</sup> and November 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will have an inter-generational formation class to learn the current issues in Darfur and paint our advocacy tent.

Pilgrims Peacemaking Offering on October 5th will benefit Tents of Hope (see front page article.) ††



## Weekday Bible Study

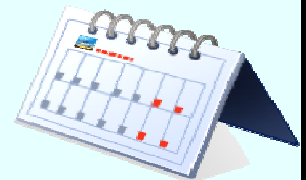
### Theology on Tap

Mondays, October 27 to November 17

**A** new round of **Theology on Tap** begins Monday nights across the street at the Brickskeller: **October 27 to November 17**. As always, it’s Bible study even for those who have never done Bible study before. Planned with young adults in mind, all ages are welcome. We will gather for dinner in the downstairs back room at 6:30, with Bible study at 7:30. You do not have to attend all five weeks, but can come the weeks you are available. *Send me a note if you would like more details.* Contact Jeff Krehbiel ([jeff.krehbiel@verizon.net](mailto:jeff.krehbiel@verizon.net)) for details. ††

*Mark Your Calendars!*

Coming up in November:



### **Forgive us our Debts— America on the Precipice**

Join Jerry McPike for an insightful and informational discussion on the array of unprecedented economic and environmental challenges that the United States faces. This four-part class will begin November 2nd. ††

## Hannah Nutt at McCormick Seminary

[Pilgrim Hannah Nutt, who with Karen Kinney is a seminarian under the care of the Church of the Pilgrims, writes from Chicago.]

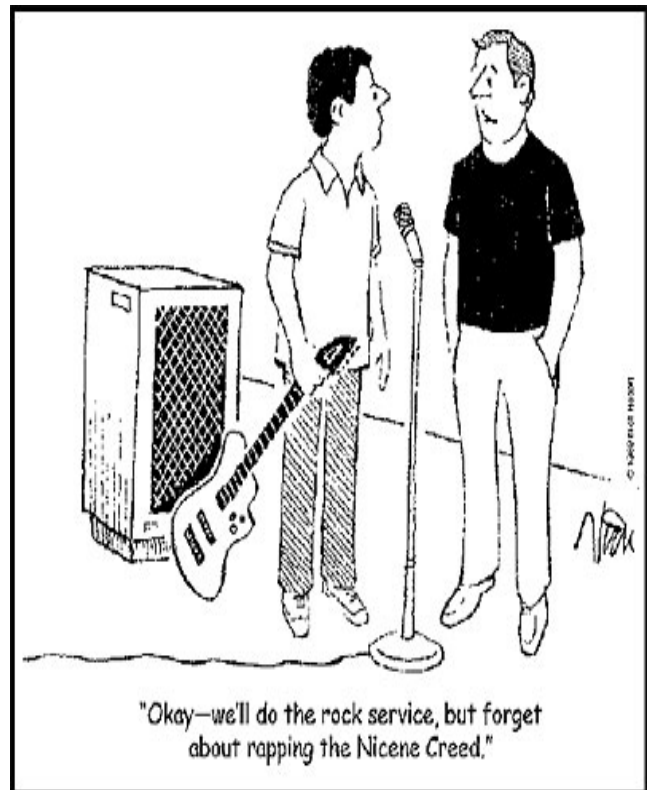
*"I'm really loving McCormick. Taking the first block of Hebrew in the summer was great, because I was able to meet so many folks and settle in before things became really crazy. McCormick has an entering class called "Pilgrimage in Faithfulness" that is an intro to the type of studying we'll be doing, but also in community building. The incoming students eat dinner together and worship together as a part of class.*



*"I'm searching for a church here that I'll connect to. Yesterday I went to a community that gathers on Sunday nights in an art gallery. It's very connected to the emerging church movement and was great. It didn't feel much like worship, but it was a great gathering time. Pilgrims is guaranteed awesome (or at least pretty darn good) week in, week out. I read about home-coming Sunday in the email. I wish I could be there." †*

## Habitat Build

On Saturday, October 25th, Pilgrims are invited once again to join other Presbyterians from National Capital Presbytery to work on DC Habitat's Northeast Parcel site (55th and Clay Sts.). This is an all-day (9:00 - 4:00 pm) job, requiring NO technical savvy- just a willing spirit, and prompt arrival for the orientation and instructions by on-site team leaders. Contact either Mary Lib Pate (202-966-0194) or Zach Wilks to sign up. [zach-wilks3@hotmail.com](mailto:zach-wilks3@hotmail.com) Since the number of slots is limited, it is wise to let them know as far ahead as possible of your interest. †



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*“Where all are Pilgrims, but none is a stranger.”*

***www.churchofthepilgrims.org***

*If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter please  
e-mail, fax or call in your request to the church office.*

Join us Sundays:  
Sunday School 9:30 A.M.  
Worship 11:00 A.M.

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**THE PEACEMAKING  
OFFERING WILL BE  
RECEIVED ON SUNDAY,  
OCTOBER 5TH, 2008**

**Inside this issue:**

Peacemaking Commitment	1
Worldwide Communion	1
Spiritual Formation:	2
Elections & Faith	
Tents of Hope	
Weekday Bible Study	
Upcoming Education Class	
Seminary Student Update	3