

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

APRIL 5 - 12



PALM/PASSION
 SUNDAY WORSHIP
 11:00 A.M.
 IN THE SANCTUARY

Procession of the Palms and reflection on The Passion.



MAUNDY THURSDAY
 7:00 P.M.
 IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

Celebration of the Lord's Supper with an Agape Meal of bread, fruit and cheese, followed by a telling of the Passion Narrative by Pilgrim storytellers.



GOOD FRIDAY
 7:00 P.M.
 IN THE SANCTUARY

A Taizé style service of song and meditation focused upon Jesus' passion.



ALLELUIA!
He Is Risen!

EASTER
 9:00 A.M. BREAKFAST
 9:30 A.M. EASTER CELEBRATION IN THE BIRD ROOM
 11:00 A.M. EASTER FESTIVAL WITH CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

We will gather at 9:00 a.m. in the Bird Room for a continental breakfast, followed by an intergenerational Easter Celebration at 9:30 a.m. An Easter Egg Hunt for children will follow.

The 11:00 a.m. service in the sanctuary will feature special music, procession to the cross, Easter sermon, and celebration of the Lord's Supper.

Ten Year Connections

Ashley Goff's Ten Year "Connections" Blog

2009 marks the 10th year of Ashley's ministry with Church of the Pilgrims. To mark the occasion, over the course of the year she will visit 10 key clergy women in her life who have been important to her spiritual formation and growth, learning from them about their own growth, evolution, and risk taking. She will record the interviews, and write reflections on each one on a new blog she has created just for this purpose. Her first blog entry is about a visit with Pilgrim friend Louise Green. Her first interview is with Barbara Gerlach, recently retired co-pastor of First Congregational UCC in DC. To read more about the purpose and intent of her "Ten Year Years of Connections" project visit the web site: www.tenyearsofconnections.blogspot.com. †

Relationship Workshop

On April 4, Jeff Krehbiel and Ashley Goff will lead a "Relationship Workshop" from 9:00 a.m. to noon at Church of the Pilgrims in the Bird Room. Planned especially for those who are getting married or thinking about getting married, the workshop is open to all couples in the congregation, gay or straight, married or not, in a long-term relationship who wish to go deeper. Contact jeff.krehbiel@verizon.net for more information. †

One Great Hour of Sharing

We will be collecting the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) Offering on Palm Sunday, April 5. The offering will be distributed between the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Self Development of People, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. During Service each week we will hear a little more about some of the people and groups that have been aided through the OGHS offering. To learn more about the Presbyterian Hunger Program, you can follow this link: <http://www.pcusa.org/hunger/what.htm> †

Habitat Build

Habitat Build on April 18th: In February, The Pilgrimage hosted a college group that was working with D.C. Habitat for Humanity for a discounted rate. In exchange for that discounted rate, we (Church of the Pilgrims and our friends who want to come with us) were given a build-day on Saturday, April 18th. Mark your calendars for a day of construction and creation. †

Forum on Homeless Veterans

On April 23rd from 6:30-8:30 at Metropolitan Methodist Church (Nebraska and New Mexico Aves NW) the Community Council for the Homeless at Friendship Place is sponsoring a forum on Homeless Veterans. See the CCHFO Website: www.cchfp.org for details †

Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation *Financial Report Not Good, but Better than Expected*

Following worship on Sunday, March 1, 2009, the 2008 annual meeting of the Congregation and the Corporation was held in Fellowship Hall. Printed reports from all programs and key staff were available beforehand and at the meeting, and are now posted on the web site: www.churchofthepilgrims.org, look under "Newsletter).

In his report, Pastor Jeff Krehbiel noted that Pilgrims continues its long tradition of being a place of welcome to young adults who move to our neighborhood from other places, and of being passionately involved in working for social justice. He added that Pilgrims has a new and vigorous tradition of spiritual formation, evidenced through "lively and multi-sensory worship, covenant groups, experiential adult education, Theology on Tap, the Lenten series, and worship planning groups." [The story on the crowning of Nancy Lee Head elsewhere in this issue is another example of this new tradition of spiritual formation.]

In the absence of Corporation Treasurer Calva Leonard, President Mitch Fulton summarized the Trustee's financial report. Pilgrims, like most organizations, took a hit on its investment portfolio, which lost almost \$150,000 in value. Fortunately, the loss was more than off set by income from sale of an old, unused building at the back of the church property, which netted nearly \$200,000. In consequence, although there was a deficit in the operating budget, it was smaller than expected—about \$25,000 rather than the expected \$45,000. Unfortunately, another deficit is forecast for 2009—about \$27,000—unless, of course, the markets rebound.

The Capital Campaign has received about \$300,000 of the \$400,000 pledged in 2006-2007, and most of the high priority projects have been completed at a cost of about \$300,000. Fortunately, due to some good management by Building Superintendent Rolando Quintanilla, who is acting as general contractor, the actual costs of the projects completed have been well below the original estimates (by about 40%), making it possible to undertake some of the lower priority projects as well. †

The Croning of Nancy Lee Head Friday Club Is Where It's Happening!



In ancient times the wisdom of older women was acknowledged by a ceremonial "croning" (crowning). On Friday, March 13, at the Friday Club, and in celebration of her 70th birthday, Pilgrim Nancy Lee Head was croned in the Bird Room at the Church of the Pilgrims in a ceremony attended by 25 friends. The ceremony was planned by Nancy Lee with help from Jeff Krehbiel, and included scripture, hymns, prayer, and Nancy's stories—funny and profound—about her faith journey. Attendees read a Litany for a Wise Woman; which said, in part:



May you remain strong to confront injustice and powerful to rebuke the arrogant;

We bless you, Nancy Lee, Wise Woman.

May you give voice to the voiceless with renewed strength and courage to those in despair;

We bless you, Nancy Lee, Wise Woman.



Nancy Lee vowed to be a "Wise Guide" to others, sharing her God-given gift of wisdom with young people, family, friends, community, country, and the planet. She was then crowned a crone with a crown woven from field grasses by Rev. Margee Iddings.

Other attendees with March birthdays also were recognized, including Jean Gilpin and Stan Lou (pictured on the left), Martin Benton (pictured on the right), Nikki Felix and Marilyn Lutter. †

Presbytery's Youngest Clerk of Session?

*Karen Trout Garret,
Pilgrims' Elder and Clerk of Session*

When Dick McFail, Stated Clerk of National Capital Presbytery, was asked if 29-year old Karen Garret, Pilgrims' Clerk of Session, might be the youngest Clerk in the Presbytery, he laughed. "We don't keep records on that," he said, "but I'd say there's a *very* high probability that she is." Karen was ordained and installed an Elder in January and took the office of Clerk after apprenticing with Charles Briggs, Pilgrims' veteran outgoing Clerk (pictured below).



Karen is a "preacher's kid," although not in the usual way. Her mother, Lynne Trout, left

her career as a legal secretary at age 50 to study at Moravian Seminary in Bethlehem PA. She was called last year to be Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Delanco, New Jersey (north of Philadelphia), so her ordination as Minister of Word and Sacrament predates Karen's ordination as Elder by only a few months.

As Clerk, Karen keeps congregation records and represents the Session at events such as baptisms and ordinations. Karen also chairs the advisory board of the Pilgrimage, Pilgrims' hostel and experiential learning center for visiting youth. She is employed by a DC-based trade association where she has honed her graphic design skills, skills that she also uses to prepare signs and banners for Pilgrims. Karen and husband Sam (pictured above) live in Glover Park. †

A Death in the Family

Karen Kinney's mother, Gerry Robinson, passed away Monday night, March 16. (*Karen was very moved to learn that, at that very hour, we were lifting up her mother "into the light" during our Monday Lenten series.*) Contributions in lieu of flowers can be made to the Messiah United Methodist Church, 25 Middle Street, Taneytown, MD 21787, Marked for the "Caring and Sharing Ministry," or the "Mission Committee." You can send Karen a note at kark-inr@aol.com or 1168 Harry Shirley Road, Kearneysville, WV 25430.

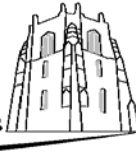
Karen writes, "[Mom] died peacefully surrounded by family singing, laughing and praying - telling favorite Mom and Grandma stories. I am very grateful to have been her daughter and her friend. Our family is also very grateful for your prayers during this time." †

POSTMASTER SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:

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Washington, DC 20037

Voice: 202-387-6612
Fax: 202-387-6614
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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 on Sundays for
Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.
Worship at 11:00 A.M.

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What's going on at the Pilgrimage?

We just experienced a wonderful output of service from Pilgrimage volunteers. March is the month of college trips; thirteen different colleges and universities used the Pilgrimage as their home for alternative spring breaks this year. With the non-stop nature of college season behind us we look forward to a quick breather in April, turning our focus back to development.

The following groups are coming this April. If you see any of them, say hi!

- Gwynedd Square Presbyterian Church - Landsdale, PA - April 8-11
- New Creation Community Presbyterian Church - Greensboro, NC - April 10-13
- Agape Singers of University Presbyterian Church - Rochester Hills, MI - April 15-18
- The Presbyterian Church - Geneva, NY - April 15-17
- Silver Spring Presbyterian Church - Mechanicsburg, PA - April 17-19
- Milton Communities Commission - Milton, VT - April 19-25
- Massanutten Presbyterian Church - April 24-26
- Trinity Presbyterian Church - Arlington, VA - April 24-26
- The Learning Project - Boston, MA - April 27-30
- Limestone Presbyterian Church - Wilmington, DE - April 30-May 2 †