



Happy Advent and welcome to a new Liturgical Season! During Advent, we prepare the way for Christ's birth—we focus on themes like hope, peace, joy, and love. We light our Advent candles in our Advent wreath each week to shine just a bit more light as our days get darker. Our candle lighting culminates on Christmas Eve, where we light the Christ Candle in the center of our wreath to symbolize the light and love of Christ breaking forth into the world. We also observe **Longest Night** (the Winter Solstice) during Advent—this year's service is **December 19 at 7 PM**.

Advent comes from the Latin *Adventus* meaning “coming” or “visit,” so we await the birth of Christ who comes into our midst on Christmas Eve. I tend to be an Advent purist. Actually, I recently discovered that there's such a thing as an “Adventophile” (a lover of Advent), count me in! I enjoy singing Advent hymns before we get to the sweeping hymns of Christmas (I sometimes relent by the fourth Sunday of Advent though to not appear Grinch-like.) As a child, we had an Advent wreath at home and I had my own Advent calendar, where each day I would open a “window” to reveal a new picture. As an adult, I still have an Advent calendar—a gift from my parents made of wood with a nativity scene painted on the front that actually has hollow spaces for treats. Why I didn't have this fancy wooden Advent calendar as a child, I will never know.

If **you** are now getting more and more excited about observing Advent this year with all this talk of wreaths, hymns, and calendars—fantastic! Another Adventophile, Rev. Dr. Mark Roberts, gives some suggestions for how we can experience Advent fully:

- 1.) Pay attention to the Advent content you experience in worship services.
- 2.) Enjoy Advent music (listen to the first movements of Handel's *Messiah*!)
- 3.) Use an Advent wreath in your home (or an Advent Calendar.)
- 4.) Let your Nativity scene function as an Advent Calendar.
- 5.) Dress for Advent—wear some blue! (Dr. Roberts advocates purple, but I forgive him for that and you should too.)
- 6.) Focus your personal devotions on Advent themes (see the Advent prayer from our *UCC Book of Worship* below.)
- 7.) Do acts of kindness and justice that inflame your hope for God's future (care for those in need!)<sup>1</sup>

### **General Prayer for Advent—from our UCC Book of Worship**

Because, O God, you faithfully come to redeem your people, we give you thanks and praise.  
In all our restless activity and all our attempts to predict, control, and secure our lives,  
We thirst for water; our spirits yearn for you.  
Without your aid, our best efforts fall short of bringing the life for which we long.  
We do not know how to create just and loving relationships and societies; we need your help.  
Come to us in Christ, and show us the way to true life.  
Empower us by your Spirit that we may take part in your labor to bring new life on earth.  
Come quickly, Christ Jesus, bright Morning Star of the world, and shine on us with your light. Amen.

Happy Advent and see you in church!

*Lauren*

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.patheos.com/blogs/markdroberts/>



**Saturday, Nov. 30 - 9:00 Greening of the Church**

**Sunday, Dec. 1 - 10:30 First Sunday of Advent**  
Service on the theme of Hope,  
Communion

**Saturday, Dec. 7 - 5 pm Christmas Party**  
Fun for all – Santa and Singing!

**Sunday, Dec. 8 - 10:30 Second Sunday of Advent**  
Service on the theme of Peace

**Sunday, Dec. 15 - 10:30 Third Sunday of Advent**  
Service on the theme of Joy.  
Mitten Tree Sunday - Please bring  
mittens for East End House families.

**Thursday, December 19 Longest Night**  
7:00 pm Organ Concert A peaceful, contemplative service  
7:30 pm Worship Service close to the longest night of the  
year, Communion

**Sunday, Dec. 22 - 10:30 Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
Service on the theme of Love with  
Christmas Fund special offering

**Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve**  
5:00-6:00 pm Intergenerational Christmas  
Pageant  
6:00 - 7:00 pm Coffee hour with Christmas cookies  
7:00 - 8:00 pm Candlelight Communion Christmas  
Eve Service

**Sunday, Dec. 29 - 10:30 Hymn Sing**  
Come request and sing your  
favorite hymns!  
No Sunday School.



## HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

The Greening of Pilgrim Church will take place on **Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am**. Please come and help decorate the church for Advent and Christmas. All help is greatly appreciated!



## PILGRIM CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Get ready for the All Church Christmas Party on **Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm!** Come join us for appetizers and dessert, Christmas caroling, and a magic show. There will be a special visit from Santa himself as well! We look forward to seeing you!

Submitted by Susan Carabbio



## ORDER YOUR POINSETTIA!

Poinsettias will decorate the church on two Sundays, December 15 and December 22. If you wish to order a poinsettia plant, fill in the form in the back of this issue or in the narthex and send it to the church office by **Friday, December 6** with a check made payable to Pilgrim Congregational Church. Poinsettias are **\$8.00** per plant for a 6 ½" pot.



## ADVENT IS HERE!

The Worship & Music Committee has been hard at work planning the Advent and Christmas Season here at Pilgrim. We hope that you will be able to join us for the many services and events happening at Pilgrim in December.

This year we have a new Advent wreath which is not only beautiful but sturdy! We have also switched to three blue candles and one rose candle with the Christ Candle remaining in the center of the wreath. On a practical level, our new blue candles now match with our blue paraments that hang from the altar, the lectern, the pulpit, and match the blue stoles Lauren wears during Advent.

On a deeper level, the Church has been divided over whether to use blue or purple as the liturgical color for Advent for hundreds of years. Purple is used to symbolize penitence and preparation. It is also the liturgical color of Lent. However, shades of blue came to symbolize royalty, the coming of Jesus Christ, the night sky before the dawn, the sea before creation, Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and hope in general. So at Pilgrim, we've made the move to blue to distinguish between Advent and Lent and lift up Advent as a Season of Hope.

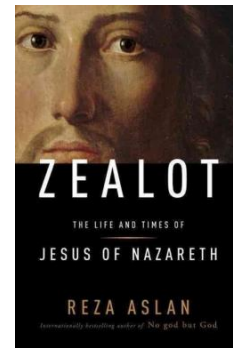
Behind the scenes, we are looking for at least six volunteers to help with the many tasks of changing and preparing the sanctuary between the two Christmas Eve services from 6-7 pm. If you can give even 30 minutes of your time between the two services, we can use your help – please contact Carol at [carol.chytil@gmail.com](mailto:carol.chytil@gmail.com). Many hands will make light work!

We are also asking that any members who are able to walk easily to please park as far as you can from the church for Christmas Eve, especially if you plan on staying for both services. We would like to leave the closer spots for those who have more difficulty with mobility. If you can carpool on Christmas Eve, that would be helpful as well.

May each of you enjoy Hope, Peace, Joy and Love this Christmas Season at Pilgrim Church.

Carol Chytil

Chair of Worship and Music Committee



### REZA ASLAN'S *ZEALOT*—DECEMBER 4

Come join us on **December 4th at 10 AM** to discuss Reza Aslan's bestselling and somewhat controversial book *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth*. As we begin the season of Advent and contemplate the child soon to be born into our midst, we will spend the morning considering the man he became and the lingering questions about his life and times.

We know the images of Jesus as the Good Shepherd, the Great Jewish Teacher, the Challenging Prophet, the Bringer of Peace and Justice, but Jesus the Zealot Rebel? This is Aslan's central thesis as he presents him as a passionate Jew in the "age of zealotry—a fervent nationalism that made resistance to Roman occupation a sacred duty incumbent on all Jews."<sup>2</sup>

It would be ideal if we all come having read the book (or at least skimmed it!) We'll meet in the sun room—10 AM December 4th. Hope to see you there!

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<sup>2</sup> Reza Aslan, *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth*, front cover.



## IMPORTANT CHURCH SCHOOL DATES IN DECEMBER

**Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> – First Sunday in Advent;** session two begins and Communion Sunday. Children meet downstairs in our gathering space before worship. Our theme this morning is “God Will Bring Peace.” During communion, children in grade 2 and above are invited to the sanctuary. Nursery care is provided.

**Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday in Advent.** Children begin in the sanctuary. Church school classes for children in grades PreK – 5 meet downstairs after the “Time with the Children.” Our theme this morning is “God’s Peaceful World.” Nursery care is provided.

**Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> – Third Sunday in Advent;** children will be joining adults in worship on for this special mitten-tree, intergenerational Sunday worship experience. Our young pilgrims will be singing an anthem and Eric will be preaching. Nursery care is provided.

**Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> – Fourth Sunday in Advent.** Children begin in the sanctuary. Church school classes for children in grades PreK – 5 meet downstairs after the “Time with the Children.” Our theme this morning is “Angels Visit.” Nursery care is provided.

**Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup> – First Sunday after Christmas.** Hymn Sing; there will be no church school.

Submitted by Eric Sherlock



## *Family News; Winter 2013*

Dear Pilgrim Church Families,

On December 1 the Pilgrim Church School will be transitioning from session 1 to session 2. First, I would like to thank our session 1 teachers for their hard, dedicated work and volunteerism: Jeanne and Mike DeSanto, Beth and Hugh Kurth, Sandy Schwartz, Kristen Clarke, and Lesley Morrison. For session 2 our teachers are:

- PreK/K: Lisa and Sean O’Brien
- Grade 1: Yolanda Taylor
- Grade 2: Jennifer Velis
- Grade 3: Brooks Taylor
- Grade 4/5: Shelley Moeller

This second session is going to be an exciting for the church school. During our time together we will be journeying through four church seasons: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, and Lent. Here, our theme of “Journeying Together Through the Liturgical Year” is really going to come to life, and our young pilgrims are going to be fully engaged with the stories of scripture for each season.

Upcoming family events for session 2 include:

- Pilgrim Church Potluck Christmas Party – All families are invited to come out on Saturday, December 7 for Pilgrim’s annual Christmas Party! Food, friends, music, Santa, and more! The party starts at 5pm. Bring a dish to share. All are welcome; bring your family and friends! Contact Susan Carabbio at [s.carabbio@comcast.net](mailto:s.carabbio@comcast.net) for more information.
- Advent Family Service – Children will be joining adults in worship on December 15 for this special mitten-tree, intergenerational Sunday worship





experience. Our young pilgrims will be singing an anthem and Eric will be preaching. See you there!

- Pilgrim Church Christmas Pageant – The annual Christmas Pageant will be on December 24 at 5PM. If your child is interested in participating this year please see Eric for more details. Rehearsals begin Sunday, December 8 immediately following worship. There will be a full dress rehearsal Sunday, December 22; lunch is provided. See you there!

Finally, in all of the holiday chaos my prayer is that your family is able to experience the *love* and *light* of Christ this Advent and Christmas season.

Grace & Peace,

*Eric*



### PILGRIM CHURCH YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS

December happenings for Pilgrim Youth, please note the changes in our schedule for December. On **Saturday, December 14th**, Pilgrim youth will be participating at City Mission Society's annual Christmas Shop helping to box and distribute clothes, toys, and other needed items for families and organizations in need this holiday season. Youth will meet at the church at 12 noon and have lunch at Pilgrim and then will head over to the First Congregational Church in Winchester to help sort and distribute. Additionally, please note that the date of the youth group holiday party has changed from Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> to **Sunday, December 22nd**. This party will be from 4-6 pm at Pilgrim Church. Youth will participate in fun games, win prizes and enjoy some holiday merriment. All youth are encouraged to invite friends! Please email or speak to Dana if you have any additional questions about upcoming December Youth Group events.



## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

### UPDATE ON THE 2014 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

The Stewardship Committee wants to express our sincere thanks for the generosity of our pledgers and the excellent witnessing by our speakers the last four Sundays, Sylvia, Steve, Yolanda, and Chris. As of Thursday 11/21 we have received 60 pledge renewals for a total of \$171,445 and 3 new pledges for a total of \$4500. This represents 84% of our goal of \$210,000 needed to have a balanced budget for 2014. If you have not yet renewed your pledge, we hope you will do so. If you are not a pledger, consider becoming one! So how does one pledge? There is the traditional process using pledge forms in the Narthex which may be mailed back to Pilgrim or placed in the collection plate. Or for the ultimate in convenience for you, you can send email to [derek.gardiner.02420@gmail.com](mailto:derek.gardiner.02420@gmail.com). Please indicate if you want a set of pledge envelopes.

The Stewardship Committee  
Derek Gardiner, David Nuss, Suzanne Abair



### TEDDY BEAR AND SANTA CLAUS SALE

On **Sunday, December 1** and **Sunday, December 8** immediately following services, there will be a sale of teddy bears and Santa Claus items. This is the accumulation of over 40 years of collecting by Eleanor Smith. All proceeds will go the Care Fund.



### FROM THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE:

Hard to believe that we are into the holiday season! We are gearing up for a fun year with many events for all ages. I would like to encourage anyone that would like to be involved in Fellowship to let me know. We are always looking for volunteers to help with one or many events. Any time you are able to give is very much appreciated! Please save the dates, as these events are for everyone at church. Everyone is welcome!

- December 7- Pilgrim Church Christmas Party starting at 5:00 pm!
- January 19- Chili Cook Off Luncheon!
- March 16- Men's Breakfast, the men of Pilgrim will be cooking breakfast!

We will send out an updated list in January of more events planned for the spring.

Sincerely,  
Susan Carabbio

### ZAMBIA SUMMER 2013

Dear Pilgrims,

BE PROUD!!! Pilgrim truly created miracles this past summer and I do want to share them with you all. Tom made sure every penny that you all donated to Mandevu was used there and the ladies were overwhelmed. I even have a video of them singing their thanks and praises to you all.

Yes, we did accomplish the construction of a new latrine and it is one that they will be able to empty and reuse. We have graduated photos of the process from the digging, cinder blocks, the lining and the covering with a door and windows. It is amazing. This alone has kept the school open.

Yes, we did replace the front wall and part of a side wall that was crumbling and riveted with holes and

about to collapse as well as the ragged metal front gate. Now the children, ladies and teachers are safe.

Yes, we re-wired electrical service to the building, and paid for the utility connection fee so service could be started. Now they can truly use it for the peanut machine we bought them in 2012 along with their sewing of uniforms. We added a popcorn machine as well this year so they can supplement their income generating capabilities to become more self-sustaining.

We have also supplied them with seed to plant for the coming year and sent two girls back to school who had been out for two years due to no funding.

They had planted a garden in the back former play area and will be using it to help feed the children a meal because the government funding for lunch programs was stopped last year and has not yet resumed.

They were growing and sorting peanuts to then roast and grind to peanut butter and sell. These are hard-working ladies. These ladies are truly industrious and we all need to be so very proud of them. I will also share with you that Mrs. Teresa Banda, the leading lady in Mandevu and the person who really makes things happen has overcome AIDS and is not on medicine to control it, and we celebrate with her.

You have all changed hundreds of lives for the better. We were also able to see and spend time with Nina in Ng'Ombe and she is truly amazing. Very honestly she no longer needs us for she has grown to become a truly magnificent teacher.

Blessings to each and every one of you. You have all been part of a truly great mission to children who are both AIDS orphans and vulnerable.

Tom, John and Isabelle, Caroline and Ruth

#### PILGRIM'S PROGRESS DEADLINE

The next issue of Pilgrim's Progress will be published January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please send all submissions to Diane ([admin@pilgrimcongregational.org](mailto:admin@pilgrimcongregational.org)) by December 20<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.



### BOOKS ON A MISSION

Many of you know that we have begged for space to store books that we collect to support one of our international mission partners Communities Without Borders. Some time ago, **Dick Edmiston and Elizabeth Chen** volunteered to house a truckload of books for us while we found an organization that could use these books as educational resources.

I am pleased to announce that we were able to ship out 7 pallets of books over the past week to Worldwide Book Drive. Worldwide Book Drive (WBD) works with organizations to distribute hundreds of thousands of books locally and internationally. One of the statistics that WBD quotes is that "an estimated 785 million people 15 years and older live without basic literacy skills. Access to proper reading tools, like books, is one of the greatest contributing factors. By putting books into the hands of those who are eager to learn but do not have the means, we can give the gift of education and learning to men, women and children worldwide."

So a big thanks to Ruth is in order for her diligent book collection and storage activities, and to Dick and Elizabeth for their offer of space and patience while we worked out the details of finding a worthy organization and pursued shipping details. AND the amazing leadership of Tom and Christie Murphy.



Submitted by Tom Murphy and Ruth Litchfield

### EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

Got a Great Idea for a Mission Project? Need a Little Help with Funding? Consider submitting an application for an Equipping The Saints (ETS) grant. The Equipping the Saints fund is here to support hands-on mission projects that expand our open and affirming ministries. Grants are available to all congregation members who have a suitable project and plan in mind. ETS reviews and funds grants twice a year – June 1<sup>st</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup> – and the December 1<sup>st</sup> deadline is fast approaching. Application guidelines are available on Pilgrim's website

<http://www.pilgrimcongregational.org/about-pilgrim/committees>. Please email applications to the ETS committee members: Michael Scott Morton, Chairman ([mssm@mit.edu](mailto:mssm@mit.edu)), Lisa Boehm ([lisapboehm@gmail.com](mailto:lisapboehm@gmail.com)), Susan Fagerstrom ([smf30@comcast.net](mailto:smf30@comcast.net)). ETS has helped fund mission work in Zambia and Honduras, subsidized Pilgrim's work with the Interfaith Garden, and most recently supported our Senior High Youth Group mission trip to Washington, D.C. We welcome your ideas and applications and we are here to answer any of your questions! Thank you!



## BRISTOL LODGE 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

*Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6).*

Those of you who were at worship this past Sunday (Nov. 24) must have been impressed by Julia Johnston's and Fiona McClave's testimony of their recent visit to the Bristol Lodge soup kitchen with others from the Pilgrim Youth Group. They spoke from their hearts as they described their feelings when serving those in need who were so grateful for what is probably their only hot meal of the day. Their fresh perspective on the privilege of serving the poor surely renewed faith in all those present.

*For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink. (Matthew 25:35)*

This year we celebrate a quarter century of feeding Christ by feeding our neighbors at Bristol Lodge Soup Kitchen next door in Waltham. Pilgrim Church has had the privilege of providing and serving a meal to our less fortunate brothers and sisters on the third Thursday of every month.

*If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday. (Isaiah 58:10)*

As times changes, so has our way to helping Bristol Lodge. In the past, interested members used to meet at the church on Thursday afternoon, prepare a meal and serve at Bristol Lodge. With renovations and construction downstairs, that model shifted to people signing up to bring food and/or to serve.

*What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. (James 2:14-18)*

We go to church on Sundays but think of Christ and his teachings every day, and serving a meal at Bristol Lodge is a chance to live Christ's direction to do good works in a meaningful way. Sharon Lawler has been the key organizer for many years - recruiting help from Pilgrims in purchasing food, delivering and serving the meal. Unfortunately, for various reasons, recruitment has dropped off significantly. However, Cheryl Johnson has joined Sharon in organizing a group of friends - mostly outside of Pilgrim - who are willing to organize small groups to continue to serve the hungry at Bristol Lodge. There are also Pilgrim members who would like to continue this mission and are eager to have the program continued. Everyone who has helped with the monthly meal realizes the privilege of providing and sharing a meal with those who are hungry and some who are also homeless.

*"Feed the hungry! Help those in trouble! Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you shall be as bright as day. And the Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy you with all good things, and keep you healthy too; and you will be like a well-watered garden, like an ever-flowing spring. (Isaiah 58:10-11)*

We hope as the years move forward, we will be able to continue to serve Christ through this meal service at Bristol Lodge. We are all stewards of God's blessings, including God's wealth. We encourage anyone who would like to be a part of service through Bristol Lodge to let us know. If you would like to be on a call list, you may notify Doug Johnston, chair of the Mission Committee.

Submitted by Mona Roy





## UPDATE FROM THE WEST SUBURBAN ALLIANCE OF GLBTQ YOUTH (WAGLY)

Fall is one of the busiest times of the year. Many congregations return to full programming, children go back to school, and vacation already begins to feel like a distant memory. For me though, the changing leaves and shorter days mark the anniversary of the first two phone calls that laid the foundation for what would become WAGLY, two calls from parents looking for a place for their recently “out” children to meet other GLBTQ youth.

Over the last three years, this program has grown from an idea to one of the most active and successful such programs in the state, attracting youth each Monday night from communities as close as Natick and Needham and as far away as Hopkinton and Hudson. While it would be impossible to thank all of our supporters over the years, our twenty-three “Supporting Congregations,” of which we are proud to include Pilgrim, have helped us dramatically change the landscape for GLBTQ youth in MetroWest Boston.

As we begin a new year of WAGLY programs, I wanted to take this moment to update your congregation on what we have been up to over the last 12 months. We have continued our flourishing weekly Monday evening meetings (6:45-8:30 p.m.), consistently attracting over 35 youth for small-group, team-building activities, and discussions of serious topics like healthy relationships and GLBT rights. Highlights have included the return of Jujubee (RuPaul’s Drag Race Season 2) for WAGLY’s Second Birthday Party, hosting the True Colors theatre group, and exploring the world of improv.

Umbrella, our monthly meeting for transgender and gender-nonconforming youth, has had a successful first year of activity. This program, initially created at the request of our teens, provides our growing population of transgender and gender-nonconforming teens an additional opportunity to reflect on shared experiences and challenges.

Because of the success of Umbrella, we are pleased to announce that starting in January, the program will meet on the first Wednesday and third Thursday of every month (6:45-8:30 p.m.), doubling its gatherings.

Through generous grants from the Foundation for MetroWest, the Unitarian Universalist Funding Program, and the Wellesley Congregational Church—in addition to donations from individuals and congregations—we have been able to increase participation in community events, expand the number of mass mailings to youth centers and counselors, and enlarge our library resources to now include materials for the entire family.

To keep up-to-date about WAGLY’s activities, we invite you to:

- “Like” the program at [www.facebook.com/WAGLY](http://www.facebook.com/WAGLY)
- Follow us on [www.twitter.com/WAGLY](http://www.twitter.com/WAGLY) info
- Receive our quarterly newsletter by emailing [info@WAGLY.org](mailto:info@WAGLY.org)

The best way you can support our work is to tell area youth about our programs. All high schools students, no matter their sexual orientation or gender identity, are welcome. We are always looking for adults interested in offering their skills to the program, in addition to people willing to donate gift cards to help us provide refreshments at our meetings.

Every week I receive a phone call from a parent in the community with a child who has recently “come out,” desperate to find a safe place for their child to meet other teens with similar experiences. Pilgrim’s ongoing commitment to WAGLY as a “Supporting Congregation” allows us to meet the needs of these GLBTQ youth in MetroWest Boston.

Thank you so very much for partnering with us in this important work.

Sincerely,

Rev. Jack Patrick Lewis  
Executive Director  
[Jack.Lewis@WAGLY.org](mailto:Jack.Lewis@WAGLY.org)

### COFFEE HOUR FOR 2013 - 2014

Please see the schedule for the 2013 – 2014 Church year below. Everyone will be notified of their date and their co-hosts by the Fellowship Committee. Procedures will be in place to accommodate changes to the schedule. Remember, hosting coffee hour does not mean you have to provide elaborate refreshments – it's about the fellowship, not the desserts. If you have any questions, please contact Susan Carabbio at [s.carabbio@comcast.net](mailto:s.carabbio@comcast.net). Thank you!

<b>2013 – 2014</b>		<b>Hosts</b>	<b>Hosts</b>
<b>December 1</b>	Communion/Advent I		Dayton
<b>December 8</b>	Advent II	DeSanto	Dinsmore
<b>December 15</b>	Advent III	F. Johnston	Ferrell-Jones
<b>December 22</b>	Advent IV	Gardiner	German
<b>December 29</b>	Hymn Sing		
<b>January 5</b>	Communion	Greene	Vega
<b>January 12</b>		Hopkins	Huston
<b>January 19</b>			Kirby
<b>January 26</b>		Kimball	Collins
<b>February 2</b>	Communion	Labbe/Clark	Lawler
<b>February 9</b>		Carabbio	
<b>February 16</b>		LoBuglio/Royer	Logan
<b>February 23</b>		Mason	McClave/Shore
<b>March 2</b>	Communion	Carabbio	Mitchell
<b>March 9</b>	Lent 1	Moir	Morrison
<b>March 16</b>	Lent 2	Munkres	Murphy
<b>March 23</b>	Lent 3	Nuss	O'Brien
<b>March 30</b>	Lent 4	Porter	Ramacciotti-Mahiou
<b>April 6</b>	Lent 5/Communion	Reaske	Rogers
<b>April 13</b>	Palm Sunday	Roy	Council
<b>April 20</b>	Easter	Saradjian	Carabbio
<b>April 27</b>		Velis	Schwartz
<b>May 4</b>	Communion	Mission	Council
<b>May 11</b>	Mother's Day	Council	
<b>May 18</b>		Stevens	Taylor
<b>May 25</b>	Memorial Day Weekend	Pilgrim Nursery School	
<b>June 1</b>	Communion	Fellowship	
<b>June 8</b>		Mission	
<b>June 15</b>	Father's Day	Council	
<b>June 22</b>			

## **Youth Group SCHEDULE Spring 2014**

***Dana's Contact Information:*** [Pilgrimyouthmin@gmail.com](mailto:Pilgrimyouthmin@gmail.com)

\*\* Youth Group this year will be held every Sunday during Church services. Youth will come downstairs with the Sunday school after time with the children and head to the Youth room. Youth Group this year will be primarily be a mixture of fellowship and spiritual reflection. For weekly lessons we will primarily be using the re:form curriculum from Spark House and we will often follow along with Sunday School lessons or Lauren's Sermon (depending on the topics and relevancy to the youth). Lessons will often utilize multimedia or incorporate a hands-on component (such as a game or craft) to keep the youth actively engaged and reflecting on their spirituality in unique ways.

<b>Saturday, December 14</b>	12PM-3:30PM City Mission Society Christmas Shop
<b>Sunday, December 22</b>	4PM to 6PM Youth Christmas Holiday Party!!
<b>Saturday, January 25</b>	Fellowship event (either Laser tag or Nashoba Valley)
<b>Sunday, January 26</b>	Parents meeting immediately following Church to discuss spring schedule and sign up to chaperone Spring events
<b>Sunday, February 9</b>	Youth Group Valentines Luncheon Fundraiser (raising money for nonprofits in need)
<b>Saturday, March 22</b>	Youth Group Spring Game Night
<b>Thursday, April 10</b>	Youth Volunteer at Bristol Lodge
<b>Sunday, April 13</b>	During Church - Make Easter Baskets for Pilgrim Care committee (Family and youth will deliver baskets on Saturday April 19)
<b>Sunday, May 18</b>	Youth make sandwiches for the Outdoor Church in Cambridge (during Church)
<b>May Date</b>	(Tentative) Fellowship or service project with neighboring church (discuss with parents potential possibilities at January meeting)
<b>Saturday, June 7</b>	Final Fellowship Event!
<b>Sunday, June 15</b>	4PM to 6PM Final Youth Group Party!!



# December 2013

November 2013							December 2013							January 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Dec 1</b> 10:30am Worship/Advent I 11:45am Teddy Bear/Santa Sale 2:00pm Confirmation	<b>2</b> 7:30pm Mission	<b>3</b> 11:00am Bible Study	<b>4</b> 10:00am Zealot Book Discussion 7:00pm Web Committee 7:30pm Adult Ed Class w/Eric (at the O'Brien home);	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 5:00pm Pilgrim Christmas Party
<b>8</b> 10:30am Worship/Advent II 11:30am Rehearsal (entire cast) 11:45am Teddy Bear/Santa Sale 4:30pm Confirmation Church Visit (meet @ Pilgrim)	<b>9</b> 8:00am PRC 7:00pm Chasing Ice Movie - Cary Library 7:30pm F&A Mtg.	<b>10</b> 11:00am Bible Study	<b>11</b> 7:30pm Adult Ed Class w/Eric (location tbd)	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 12:00pm Youth Group - City Mission Society Christmas Shop 5:00pm Rental - Sanctuary and PH
<b>15</b> 10:30am Worship/Advent III/Family Sunday - Mitten Tree 11:30am Rehearsal (angels/shepherds ) 2:00pm Confirmation	<b>16</b> 10:00am Care Mtg. 7:00pm Council Mtg.	<b>17</b> 11:00am Bible Study	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7:00pm Longest Night Service	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 10:30am Worship/Advent/C hristmas Fund Offering 12:00pm Rehearsal (Full Dress - and lunch) 4:00pm Youth Christmas Holiday Party	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 4:30pm Cast Report Downstairs in costume by; costume by 5:00pm Christmas Pageant 7:00pm Candlelight Communion	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 12:00pm Private Rental - PH
<b>29</b> 10:30am Worship/Hymn Sing	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Jan 1, 14</b>	<b>2</b> Office Reopens 12:00am Lex. Pops Practice - Sanctuary	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>





## POINSETTIA ORDERS

Poinsettias will decorate the church on two Sundays, December 15 and December 22. They will be from Wilson Farms, and are especially beautiful and full this year. We are lucky to be getting them for almost 25% below retail cost. If you wish to order a poinsettia plant, fill in the form below and send it to the church office by **Friday, December 6** with a check made payable to Pilgrim Congregational Church. Poinsettias are **\$8.00** per plant for a 6 ½" pot.



I/We would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia(s) for the Christmas services.

Enclosed is my/our check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

Optional: "In memory of

\_\_\_\_\_  
"

"In celebration of, In honor of, etc. (Please circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_  
"

Please check one:

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like my plant(s) to be delivered to a shut-in by the Care Committee  
(this takes place following the service on the 15<sup>th</sup> and over the next few days).

\_\_\_\_\_ I will take my plant(s) after the service **either December 15<sup>th</sup>** \_\_\_\_\_  
**or December 22<sup>nd</sup>** \_\_\_\_\_.

