

Pilgrim's Progress

February 5, 2019 – Vol. 60 No. 2



Dear Pilgrim folks,

Lent comes very late this year as all of February slips by before Lent even starts on March 6th. We have a very long season of Epiphany which are the weeks running from Jan 6th up to Ash Wednesday. Epiphany is about the light of Jesus spreading farther and farther into the world. The light of the star over the stable drew shepherds who shared the news in the countryside, and then magi came from far away lands and took the good news back with them. Our lectionary texts feature Jesus beginning his teaching and preaching ministry and calling the disciples. Jesus en"light"ens hearts wherever he goes and the crowds grow.

Seasonally this is a great tie in for those of us in the northern hemisphere. We experience the light growing day by day. The community of Utqiagvik which is the northernmost US town finally saw the sun after two months in darkness. Folks there call this time quvianaqsiniaqtuq which means in the local Iñupiaq language 'It's going to get wonderful!' The light Jesus brought to so many in his day--hope, inclusion, healing, forgiveness, love--is light for us as well. We can see things differently. We can orient our lives differently. We can anticipate that "it's going to get wonderful" even when we tire of the long road to justice.

It was wonderful at the Annual Meeting this past Sunday. It was wonderful having our kids process the elements in to spirited drumming in worship on Sunday. It is wonderful to be a part of a healing, growing community of faith. It is wonderful to be exploring how Pilgrim can serve its neighbors. It will be wonderful to gather in these ever lengthening days as the light seeps in more and more. It will be wonderful as the Search Team draws ever closer to presenting a candidate for settled pastor.

The season of Epiphany gets short shrift sometimes as it is jammed between the post Christmas let down and the seriousness of Lent. So enjoy the long season of light. As Desmond Tutu wrote, "hope is being able to see the light despite all the darkness." Amen.

Blessings,

Karen

NEWS & NOTES

Church Election

Just a reminder that if you are a member and received a council ballot, it needs to be returned by **Friday, February 15th** in order to be counted in the election. This is in accordance to the church's by-laws. Thank you!

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Updated Church Directory

Please note that we will be updating the church directory in the very near future. If you have any recent changes in address, e-mail, phone, etc., please let Diane know as soon as possible. She will double check to see if we already have your new info, and if not, incorporate the changes. Thank you!

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Parking at Pilgrim



Just a gentle reminder that if you are a bit more able-bodied, perhaps you could park in the back so that the front spaces could be reserved for less able-bodied folks. Thanks!

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Help Wanted!

A very lovely Lexington resident, Shelly Malin called to see if we knew of anyone who might be able to clear off her car in the event of snow. This would not be shoveling the driveway as her landlord takes care of that, but clearing her car of snow. She is within walking distance of Lexington center and said that she can pay \$30 per job. Her email is smalin2010@aol.com, or her phone is 781 862 4091 or 781 879 2822. She was unfortunately scammed by the last person who she paid and never showed up again. If you know of anyone, please be in touch with her.

Thank you!



Mission: Cambodia 2019

Pilgrim's 2018 help to Cambodia via the Cambodian Cocoon organization was both extensive and very effective, as reported in Mission News earlier. In December we provided funding for three additional water wells and two bicycles to be shared by villages that will be delivered in 2019.

I write to let you know the Cambodian Cocoon organization will be in Cambodia for the month of February, 2019. They will be selecting the villages to receive these three additional water wells and two bicycles funded by Pilgrim. This is an amazing response. I sincerely thank Pilgrim for this generous contribution to such a worthwhile cause.

But I also write to pass along a request for gifts of food for struggling villagers. Cambodian Cocoon provides food for some individuals and families in desperate need, and already has donations for 99 food bundles. Arriving in Cambodia this month, they have discovered a pressing need for an additional 15 bundles. Each bundle (110 lbs bag of rice, canned fish for protein, and pottery water filters if needed) will feed an elderly person for 3 months, or a small family for one month. A food bundle costs \$40. If there are any in Pilgrim interested in donating a food bundle through Pilgrim, you can write a check to Pilgrim UCC for \$40 (or multiples of \$40), include a Memo "Cambodian Cocoon for food bundle", and either send it to the Church offices or put it in the collection plate on Sunday. Donations received by February 17, 2019 will get to the Cambodian Cocoon group while they are still in Cambodia this month. Otherwise they will be used for the next trip in November.



Two of several bundles of rice, protein, and water filters contributed by Pilgrim members last year.

Thank you for all your support.

Dick Edmiston



“Building Bridges One Meal at a Time”

Please consider being involved with the next time LexRAP has a lunch with English language learners in Lowell at IINE (the International Institute of New England) in Lowell. This gives you and the refugees to learn a bit about each other while they have valuable practice speaking English.

Various thing you may do to support this effort are:

- You may make a contribution for the cost of the food.
- You may contribute a batch of cookies or brownies.
- You may meet in the morning of **February 26th** to prepare food in Lexington at Barbara Freedman's house and/or you may travel to Lowell to eat with refugees and help them practice their English.

But you need to sign up! Sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040c4cadad2c7-building13>

For further information please contact Sandra Gardiner at sandra.gardiner.02420@gmail.com or you may email Barbara Freeman of LexRAP at barbara.a.freedman@gmail.com.

Shop at Wilson Farm Day! – TODAY, FEBRUARY 5!!

Please see the flyer below and stop in at Wilson Farm **TODAY** and help support Pilgrim Nursery School. A total of 20% of your purchase will be donated back to PNS. You know there are so many awesome things at Wilson's, so why not pop over there today and help PNS too! Thanks for your support.



**20% of your
purchase
will be**

**DONATED
BACK TO YOUR
SCHOOL!**

**Be the top school
and get 25% back!**

FEBRUARY 5, 2019

Pilgrim Nursery School



- Clubs and Extra-Curricular Activities -
- School Funded Field Trips -
- Supplies and Equipment -
- School Improvements -
- School Bands -
- Sports Teams -



10 Pleasant St. Lexington, MA • 781-862-3900 • WilsonFarm.com

Your school principal will decide how to allocate any funds earned through Shop at Wilson Farm Day– so you know the money will go where it's needed most!

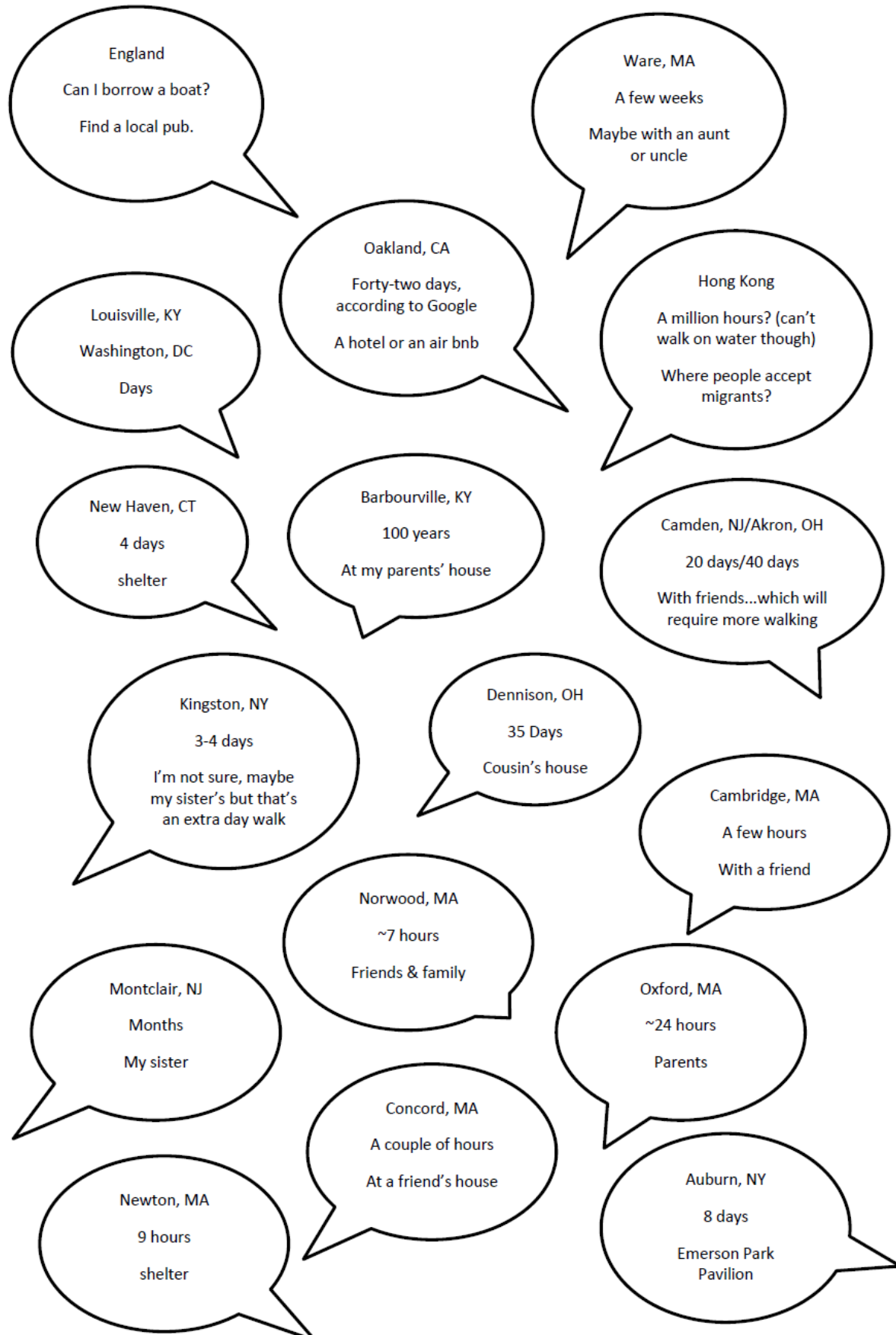
Present your Shop at Wilson Farm Day flyer (either printed or a digital copy on your phone) at checkout on the date listed above and Wilson Farm will donate 20% of your pre-tax subtotal purchase to your school. Does not include: custom orders, CSA shares, or gift cards.

You will be required to walk to the place of your birth.

Where is that place?

How long will it take you to travel on foot?

Where can you stay if the census registration takes a day or two of questioning?



Mount Orange, NJ

2 weeks

With cousins

Fayetteville, NC

11 days

my sister's house

Waltham, MA

8 hours

library or shelter

Harlingen, TX

120 days

I do not know. A motel?

Atlanta, GA

A week or so? I'm ready!

Wherever my path takes
me

Richmond, VA

2-3 weeks – maybe a month
(probably 20-25 days)

Will use Marriott points to stay
in hotels along the way

Syracuse

12 days

?

Fort Benning, GA

Two months

With my sister

Haverhill, MA

A very long time

In a church?

Dennison, OH

35 Days

Cousin's house

Frankfurt, Germany

A very long time!

No idea! Maybe
Airbnb ☺

New York City

2-3 days?

Childhood friend's
home

Montclair, NJ

10 days?

Sister-in-law's home

Kansas City, KS

71 days

My mother

Manchester, MA

One very long day

Maybe on the beach

Mount Auburn Hospital
in Cambridge, MA

½ a day

Go back home!

Detroit

50 Days

?

Sign Up to Volunteer at Pilgrim!

To sign up to be a liturgist, greeter, coffee hour host or to volunteer with Pilgrim's Children's Church, please click [HERE](#). Thank you!

Click [HERE](#) to access the Pilgrim Church Calendar.



Recent Sermons

Please feel free to watch or read recent sermons on our website. [HERE](#) is the link to the most recent sermon.



UCC STILLSPEAKING DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Huh?

By: Jennifer Brownell
January 31, 2019

God hears you, even when I can't.

Continue reading [HERE](#)