

## Pilgrim's Progress

March 1, 2020 - Vol. 61 No. 3



Installation - March 29 at 2 pm  
"Y'All Come!"

We will hold a special service of worship on **March 29 at 2pm**. This is the service celebrating the Installation of Pastor Reebee as our settled pastor. This service is done with the Metropolitan Boston Association of the United Church of Christ. Because association representatives, many local interfaith clergy and folks from neighboring UCC churches will be in attendance, this kind of service is always held on a Sunday afternoon. But, it's most important the Pilgrim's congregation come out to celebrate! An association representative will ask questions of Pastor Reebee and the congregation, and bless our covenant. Then, we party!

Who's part of the worship leadership for that service? Pilgrim will be well represented among the readers and in the installation liturgy itself. Pilgrim's choir will be singing the anthem! We have the blessing of hearing a sermon by Rev. June Cooper of City Mission Boston, and a Charge to the Pastor and Congregation by Rev. Gregory Morisse with whom Pastor Reebee facilitates Boundary Awareness Trainings for clergy. The Association will be represented by Moderator Rev. Stacy Swain, who is also in Pastor Reebee's Clergy Covenant Group. And there will be a few other folks.

What about the offering? Church Council has just decided (with Pastor Reebee's recommendation) to split the offering between two great causes. The first is the Scholarship Fund for members in discernment and seminarians in the Metropolitan Boston Association. The second is the Southern New England Conference campaign to retire medical debt through RIP Medical Debt which purchases medical debt for pennies on the dollar and retires that debt. You can read about this initiative [HERE](#). In two other regions of the UCC, this initiative has been a great blessing to thousands of households facing crippling medical debt. Churches in the Chicago area were able to erase \$5.3 million in debt, and St. Louis area churches forgave \$12.9 million.

We're excited about this final moment of celebration at the completion of our pastoral search process. Y'all come celebrate with everyone at Pilgrim!

# Wilderness

LENT 2020

## Lent 2020: Wilderness

Our theme for Lent is Wilderness. We'll use this theme throughout the season of Lent, through worship words, worship visuals, and Bible study, as well as in our social media presence. The wilderness theme is a reference to Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness, and the Israelites' 40 years in the wilderness. Now, wilderness can mean a lot of different things to us, and our worship and reflections will reflect that range of wilderness experiences. Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome at this waypoint in the wilderness. If the wilderness is a place of renewal and joy, come to give thanks. If you are lost in a wilderness of pain, come to share your burden. If you are feeling tempted, come for strength. We will gather here, in the wilderness, in the midst of it all, to give thanks, to pray, to walk together, and to be Pilgrims on the way, following Jesus through the Wilderness.

Come experience the wilderness in all these forms through Intergenerational Worship on Sunday March 1!



### Lenten Pre-Worship Series on Sabbath and Wendell Berry

March 8, 15, and 22 we will have a Lenten Poetry reflection series before worship, 9:30-10:15 in the Conference Room upstairs. Grab your booklet "Wendell Berry and the Sabbath Poetry of Lent" at church this Sunday - you are welcome to take one even if you can't make this or Tuesday morning Bible Study.



## Lent, Easter and Spring Save the Dates

Here are some dates you might want to put on your calendar now!

Feb 26 - Ash Wednesday Worship, Pilgrim Hall, 7:30pm (Choir will practice in the sanctuary 6:00-7:00.)

March 1 - The First Sunday of Lent. Intergenerational Worship focused on our theme for Lent, WILDERNESS.

March 1 Lexington Interfaith Choral Festival, 3pm at Temple Isaiah. (10 Pilgrims are signed up to sing – you can join them!)

March 8 Worship

March 15 Worship, Youth Fellowship, and Small Group Dinner

March 22 Worship, Movie Night – Intergenerational event with Pilgrim Nursery School, Neighbors invited!

March 29 Worship

April 5 Palm Sunday Worship!

Holy Week – Worship at Pilgrim on Maundy Thursday at 7:30pm

April 12 Easter

April 19 Holy Hilarity Sunday, Intergenerational Worship

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## The Lexington Interfaith Choral Festival

The Lexington Interfaith Choral Festival will take place at Temple Isaiah on **Sunday, March 1 at 3 pm**. If you are participating, choral practice begins at 2:00 pm. Temple Isaiah is located at 55 Lincoln St., Lexington (781-862-7160).





## Creativity and Creation Retreat

We are planning an intergenerational retreat on Saturday, May 9. If you and/or any members of your household have any interest in this, please speak to Deborah Burger or Pastor Reebee. Thank you.

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### Notes from Sarah Jane:

All children and youth are encouraged to sing "As the Deer" **this Sunday (3/1)** during our intergenerational service. Many have already learned this song with Max; but for those who may have missed our practice during Sunday School, the song is very short and repetitive, so it will be easy to learn before church! All families: Please plan on coming to church at 9:30 so that we can have a final practice with the bells and the choir.

Peace,  
*Sarah*



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### Pastor Relations Committee News

We are pleased to announce that the work of Pilgrim's 2020-2021 Pastor Relations Committee (PRC) is underway.

The UCC defines the Pastor Relations Committee as "a standing committee in a congregation, with the purpose of supporting a healthy relationship between the pastor and congregants in order to enhance the effectiveness of the church's ministry." The goal of the PRC "is to promote faithful, shared ministry between the pastor and the congregation. The committee works in a context of confidentiality, support, care, and honesty with the pastor, while promoting healthy communication in the congregation as a whole."

Members of the 2020-2021 PRC are: Bob Beckwith, Alexis Stevens, and Susan Moffitt.

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*Wilson Farm Day*



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**PILGRIM NURSERY**

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*March 3rd, 2020*

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Present your Shop at Wilson Farm Day flyer (either printed or a digital copy on your phone) at checkout on the date 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.



PILGRIM NURSERY SCHOOL AND  
PILGRIM CHURCH PRESENT

# FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Featuring the 2012 movie based on  
Dr. Seuss' classic "The Lorax"

**Sunday, March 22 | 4 PM**  
**55 Coolidge Avenue, Lexington**

Pilgrim's Mission Committee invites you to donate new, white adult socks for the Outdoor Church, an ecumenical church for homeless and street involved folks in Cambridge.

### Socks for Outdoor Church

The Mission Committee will be collecting NEW SOCKS for the outdoor Church at the Movie Night at 4pm on Sun. March 22. They should be new, white, adult-sized socks. If you are not able to come to the Movie Night on the 22nd you can still contribute socks by putting them in the box in the coat room from March 15<sup>th</sup> through March 29<sup>th</sup>.

The Outdoor Church was founded in 2003 to offer worship services and pastoral care to the street people of Cambridge, MA.



## **LexRAPs Winchester Event March 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm**

Love Has No Borders

Winchester Unitarian Society fundraiser for LexRAP

Jenks Center, 109 Skillings Road, Winchester

Saturday March 14, 7-9pm

Donations at the door

Winchester Unitarian Society is hosting a community-wide fundraiser to create awareness of refugee and immigrant experiences, inspiring hope-filled action through the power of stories and music. Proceeds will benefit LexRAP.

LexRAP's own Marianne Boswell will share her family's refugee story and how LexRAP began with the question, "Who's with me?"

Dr. Jawad Abo-Tabik will share his story of, after years of displacement, finally finding a place to belong in Lexington.

Marianne and Jawad will be joined by storytellers:

Abdi Nor Iftin, a refugee from Somalia who lived in Kenya before immigrating to the U.S. will share his story of life before coming to the U.S., chronicled on NPR's, This American Life: "Abdi and the Golden Ticket" and in his memoir, Call Me American.

Patty Cameron, a Sanctuary volunteer and part of an interfaith coalition that provides safety and companionship to an immigrant at risk of deportation.

Karen Hirschfeld, co-chair of the Immigrant Justice Committee of the Network for Social Justice will share her vision for Winchester as a Safe Community for all. Interwoven throughout the evening, Manuel, Betty Anne and Gabriella Díaz will perform Spanish folk music from the country Manuel fled as a 6-year old child with his family during the Spanish Civil War. Beth Levin, Cantor at Temple Shir Tikvah, will lead the audience in songs which are sung at interfaith vigils at ICE detention centers.

### A Note from Anita Bradley

"A sincere thank you to all the Pilgrims who helped make my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday special. Love to you all."

-Anita Bradley

### 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!

### Recent Sermons

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

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



### UCC STILLSPEAKING DAILY DEVOTIONAL

#### Mic Drop

By: Kaji Douša  
February 26, 2020

*Walk a little longer. Listen a little more intently. Pray a whole lot more. Open your heart just a bit wider and watch what the gracious, merciful, slow-to-anger God can do.*

Continue reading [HERE](#)