

January 20, 2010

The Pilgrim Spire

Pilgrim United Church of Christ

130 Broad Boulevard
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

Staff

Pastor

Rev. Kirk W. Bruce

Christian Education Director

Marilyn Freeman

Choir Director

Ryoji Shimpō

Secretary

Amber Parana

Custodian

Peter Paugh

Contact Info

Office phone:
330.928.4847

Office Fax:
330.928.1017

Email:

Rev. Kirk W. Bruce

pilgrimpastor@ameritech.net

Marilyn Freeman

pilgrimce@ameritech.net

Amber Parana

pilgrimoffice@ameritech.net

The Pilgrim Spire is published twice monthly, on the first and third Wednesday of every month.

If you have something you'd like to share with your fellow Pilgrims, please contact the church office by January 29th to include your announcement in the next edition of *The Pilgrim Spire*.

We don't want you to miss a single issue! Please contact the office with any address changes, temporary or permanent.

Pastor's Parable

Paul was leafing through one of his hunting catalogs when he found something that made him laugh. "Look," he said to his wife. "What I've always wanted: a camouflage toilet seat."

"Get it," she said. "Then you'll have an excuse for when you miss."

One of the challenges of faith is knowing when we are missing it. There is another challenge equally as tough, and that is knowing when we are hitting it. I was listening to a friend one time tell me that he didn't know how far off he had been, until he was back on track. I think faith is one of those things that we don't always know when we have it, but we know when we don't- we feel absolutely miserable. One challenge we have is that after we live a life of faith for a time, we forget what it was like not to have it. But faith is about having a power beyond ourselves that leads us, guides us, and fulfills us- when we let it.

What is the difference between a glass that is full of cold water and one that is empty? There is no difference in the glass; it is simply in its ability to be used. Likewise the difference between a life that is being used by faith and one that is not, is not found in the life, but there is difference in the person who is living it.

Our challenge in life is to always be looking for the ways in which our faith in Christ is working through us, within us, and on us. Our challenge is to be open to faith in Christ. We may not have it perfectly; in fact we will never have faith down perfectly. But that is the joy we have in Christ, to grow in faith, and look at the ways it shapes and blesses our days.

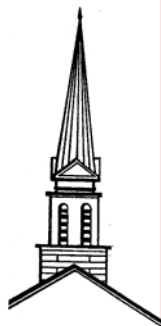
See you Sunday,

Pastor Kirk



**Your
Fellow
Pilgrims**

- Steeple Lighting
- Prayer Requests
- Haiti Relief
- Thank You



The Steeple lights the sky over Cuyahoga Falls:

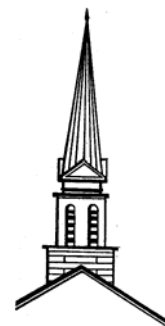
In loving memory of my son Bruce

from

Carolyn Kelley

To light the *Pilgrim United Church of Christ Steeple* from dusk to dawn for a week in honor or remembrance of someone or a special event, please sign the sheet in the Social Hall or contact the church office.

Donations to **LIGHT THE STEEPLE** are \$5.



Please keep the following in your **THOUGHTS & PRAYERS**:

Charlene Calvin, back at Cardinal Village; *Juli Kump*, began a new radiation treatment last week; *Lou Yanik*, recovering from knee surgeries; Myrtle Glanville, recovering at Falls Village; *JoAnn Neill* as she cares for her husband *Don*; *Nita Snider*, recovering from back surgery at Gardens of Western Reserve; *Schneider Family dog, Amber*, recovering from a terrible ear infection; *Kandes Family*, mourning the sudden loss of their mother *Diane*; *Michele Cecil*, that she embraces an opportunity for a new start; *Maren Olds*, that she not get discouraged when life doesn't go as she planned; for acceptance of those that are less than perfect, providing new and old friendships to help keep balance; all other prayers that have not been given voice.

*Marilyn Freeman would like to **THANK** everyone for the cards, prayers, calls, love and support she received in response to the passing of her mother, Twyla Wagner. Sharing stories, tears, and laughter has helped her in the grieving process.*

Former Pilgrim Pastor, Dr. Don Nichols' wife, *Sally Nichols*, passed away. The memorial service will be held in April. Condolences can be sent to

Dr. Don Nichols
43 Cherry Drive NW
North Canton, OH 44720

Note: If you have put someone on the prayer list, please contact the church office at least once a month with updates to keep this list current.

The United Church of Christ has launched an emergency appeal for Haiti after a major earthquake struck the country. Thousands of people are feared dead and countless have been left homeless. The quake, measuring 7.0 on the Richter Scale, struck 10 miles southwest of the capital just before 5pm local time Tuesday, January 12.

Thankfully all the partnerships and infrastructure to get money to where it needs to be is already in place, thanks to regular OCWM support. **Funds given to Pilgrim UCC marked "Haiti" will go directly to the needs in Haiti.**

Funds are being rushed to our Haitian partners to support their initial emergency response. As damage assessments are made and plans for relief, recovery and rehabilitation are developed, additional support will be shared. The need is massive.

In addition to monetary contributions, we ask that you **PRAY** for the people of Haiti, their leaders and emergency and humanitarian aid workers.



Pilgrim Fund Raiser

By using Pilgrim UCC's Scrip program and shopping with gift cards you are helping us grow our Capital Improvement Fund to pay for much needed upgrades and renovations to our church.

Please consider using a gift card for any purchases you are planning to make! Grocery and gas are consistently easy ways to support our program but the largest contributions come from restaurant, department store and clothing store purchases.

You may pay by check or cash. If you have any questions, please contact Victor Ing at 330.459.9554/victoring@gmail.com or Rich Shisler at 330.815.6977/rshis@neo.rr.com.

ONLINE ORDERING IS AVAILABLE!

You can now order and pay online at www.shopwithscrip.com. There is only a \$.39 charge to pay online from your checking account. You will need this enrollment code to place an order: **L9BF1D5C21269**.

If you'd like to use this order method please register online and create an account as soon as possible as it takes several days for your account to become active.

2010 Order Schedule (Jan-May)

Order Deadline	Order Pick-Up
January 10th	January 17th
January 24th	January 31st
February 7th	February 14th
February 21st	February 28th
March 7th	March 14th
March 21st	March 28th
April 4th	April 11th
April 18th	April 25th
May 2nd	May 9th
May 16th	May 23rd

Home delivery is available.