

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.” Galatians 5:22-23

During one of my last visits with our late dear brother, John Ferris, he shared some of his funeral desires and we agreed this would be a joyful celebration of his life. “Oh what love I have experienced through this 84-year journey,” he mused. And then, while holding up a copy of Betty’s funeral bulletin he said, “You’ll have to find a special verse from the scripture to put right here, like you did for Betty.” I immediately pleaded for suggestions, given the fact that John knew the scriptures like the back of his hands. Not a chance!

After much consideration, I chose the above words from Galatians 5 because John beautifully embodied the “fruits of the Spirit.” He was full of hope, gracious to the end and a true spiritual inquirer. He didn’t pretend to have all the answers, yet knew where he stood on the convictions of faith. He was open to the mystery of God and present to daily blessings of the Holy Spirit. He savored life passionately and gratefully.

As you may remember John’s wife, Betty, died this past spring. Together they shared 55 years of marriage, with chapters in Houston, Rochester, NY and Boston . . . though they traveled “home” for long vacations at their summer cottage on Lake Wisconsin. It was nicknamed the “Promised Land” for it’s breathtaking views of eagles and sand bars. In these last five years Betty & John made Grafton and Cedarburg their home in order to be close to family. We have been blessed to claim them in their final chapter of faith.

One day this fall I stopped by to visit with John, who was still grieving the loss of Betty. When I walked into Cedar Gardens I was immediately struck by this loud, almost obnoxious praise music echoing through the hallways. To my surprise the closer I got to John’s room, the louder the music resounded. It was like a college dormitory! I knocked; he didn’t answer. He couldn’t possibly hear! But I remembered him inviting me anytime . . . “Just come on in.” When I opened the door I found John’s walker pushed to the side, and there he was dancing like a teenager in the middle of his living room! Smiling and unwilling to show embarrassment, he quickly turned the volume down and said, “Oh Franz -- I was just warming up for my afternoon walk and giving God thanks for the wonderful day Betty is having in heaven. I’m ready to join her!”

***“If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk (dance) by the Spirit.”
Galatians 5:25***

Season of Lent



The season of Lent begins on February 21st with an Ash Wednesday service and imposition of ashes. Lent is a time of spiritual reflection and personal discipline.

For forty days (based on Jesus’ forty days in the wilderness) we prepare for the events of Holy Week through a more serious and dedicated focus on our faith. Perhaps you will want to do some personal “giving up” or “taking on” as a sign of spiritual discipline. Join us on Ash Wednesday for this meaningful start to the season of Lent.



Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday - February 21st
Potluck 6:00pm ≈ Worship 7:00 - 7:45pm

A sign-up for the supper is on the bulletin board. Please bring a dish to pass. If you can’t make the potluck, feel free to simply come for the service of ashes. Childcare will be provided.

“From dust you came and unto dust you shall return.”

Lenten Devotionals

“The Sanctuary for Lent 2007,” through daily devotional readings from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday will help you experience the stories of biblical people of faith. *They are available on the table outside of the office.* Please take one for your family and allow it to be a meaningful and inspirational resource for Lent.



For God so loved the world.
John 3:16

Alive Now Devotionals

There also are “Alive Now” devotionals for March and April available for you on the table outside the church office. Please feel free to take one for your daily reading.

Lenten Suppers and Services

5:45 Gathering ≈ **6:00 Dinner** ≈ **7:00 Worship**

Again this year Pilgrim is participating in a pulpit exchange on Wednesday evenings (following supper in Kalweit Hall). Dinner will be served at 6:00. The church teams will provide meals and donations will be taken with proceeds going toward *One Great Hour of Sharing*.

Our Worship theme is "The Beatitudes" taken from Matthew 5.

- February 21** 6:00 Potluck (facilitated by Worship Team)
7:00 Worship led by Rev. Franz Rigert, "*Blessed are Peacemakers.*"
- February 28** 6:00 Dinner (TBA) hosted by Outreach and Staff Relations Teams
7:00 Worship led by Rev. Michael Matheny, "*Blessed are Those Who Mourn.*"
- March 7** 6:00 Dinner (TBA) hosted by Missions & ACE Teams
7:00 Worship led by Rev. Jane Terry, "*Blessed are the Merciful*"
- March 14** 6:00 Dinner at St. Peter's UCC, Saukville
7:00 Worship led by Rev. Franz Rigert, "*Blessed are the Meek*"
- March 21** 6:00 Dinner (TBA) hosted by the Church Council and Finance Team
7:00 Worship led by Rev. Carol Maher, "*Blessed are Those Who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness*"
- March 28** 6:00 Dinner (TBA) hosted by Children's Ministry and Property & Grounds Team
7:00 Worship led by Rev. John Tshudy, "*Blessed are the Poor in Spirit*"

Each evening there will be child care and peanut butter & Jelly sandwiches for the picky eaters!

Please Note: As is our annual tradition, we either host (or are guests) with St. Peter's UCC, Saukville. This year they host us on March 14th.

Holy Week Schedule

- April 1** Palm Sunday, distribution of Palms, 8:00 & 10:30
April 5 Maundy Thursday, Worship, 7:00pm
April 6 Good Friday, Service of the cross, 7:00pm
April 8 Easter Sunday
Sunrise Matins – a brief Communion Liturgy, 6:30-7:00am
Breakfast, 7:00 – 8 :00am
Easter Worship, 8:00am
Breakfast, 9:00 – 10:15am
Easter Worship, 10:30am



News

Due to some logistical concerns, the 1st & 2nd and the 3rd & 4th grade classes have been divided. It has also worked out well to have our teachers rotating months with several parent volunteers rotating as helpers. Thanks to everyone for helping to make this transition go so smoothly!

VALENTINES DAY COOKIE SALE

Help send kids to church camp and buy your Valentine a sweet gift! On **February 11th** you will be able to purchase delicious cookies decorated for Valentines Day. These special treats will be available between services and after the 10:30 service!! Thank you for your support!!



YOUTH NEWS

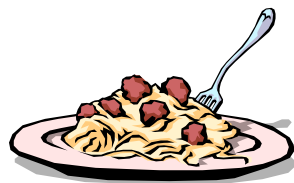
SPAGHETTI DINNER AND TALENT(LESS) SHOW

Please note time change for the Talent(less) Show and Spaghetti Dinner. The dinner starts at 6:00pm and the show starts at 7:00pm. See adjacent page for details.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP - Save the date, July 14th - July 22nd. Details to follow.

YOUTH CORPS

March 10th Community Service -working with Interfaith Caregivers. Details to follow.



Youth Corp Annual Talent(less) Show and Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday, February 11, 2007

Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Show at 7:00 p.m.

(PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGES)

\$7.00 Adults \$5.00 Kids under 12

Students (7th -12th grade) are required to participate
in some form to benefit from funds raised!

Parents will be needed to help with
both dinner and the show –
See the Youth Corp Bulletin Board
for additional info!

See Jeff Holmes (375-4391) or
Jenifer Schulz (375-0287) with Questions.

MISSION NEWS



DARFUR MISSION PROJECT - In February, our mission focus will be on the Darfur region of Sudan, Africa. Since early 2003, Sudanese government supported troops have been fighting two rebel groups whose aim has been to compel the government to address underdevelopment in the Darfur region. Government troops have targeted civilian populations from which the rebel groups draw their support. In three years of war, 200,000 Africans have been killed and a third have been forced to leave their homes. Countless women and girls have been victimized. Those who have fled their homes, face starvation and the risk of disease as humanitarian agencies find it increasingly more difficult to provide aid. Those who remain in their homes, live in constant fear of attack. Despite a Peace agreement, the violence has escalated and the situation in Darfur is being called "the largest and most complex humanitarian problem on the globe." We can help by providing monetary donations to the Humanitarian effort. If you wish to help, please place your donation in the blank envelopes in the pews and mark the envelope (or check memo line) with "Darfur." Please see the Missions bulletin board or go to www.saveDarfur.org to learn more.

ADULT MISSION TRIP - Our team of volunteers departed for Biloxi on Saturday, January 27th where they will work with the Back Bay Mission on hurricane relief. Our prayers and gratitude go with them as they represent our congregation in this effort. Thanks also to those who offered their monetary support to this project.

PICK-N-SAVE/WE CARE - Please remember that Pilgrim is a participant in the Pick-n-save/ We Care Program. This is an easy way to provide support to our church. Simply designate Pilgrim as the recipient (can be done by filling out a form at the service counter) and a donation will be given to Pilgrim each time your Advantage card is used.

THANK YOU!! - Thank you for your generosity in our holiday mission projects. We collected 12 bags of baby, craft, and health supplies for Meta House, 159 total items for the St. Ben's hat and mitten tree, and over 1000 pens for Haiti!

A.C.E. and ACTIVITIES



SENIOR COFFEE - There will be a senior coffee on **Thursday, February 15th at 10:00 am** in the narthex. Coffee and a snack will be provided. We will also have some special conversation to get to know each other better. The topic at this month's coffee will be "*Where did you live when you were ten years old? What memories do you have of that time?*" Please sign-up on the bulletin board in the narthex.

STAMPIN' UP - There will be a Stampin' Up demonstration on **Saturday, February 10th at 10:00 am**. Whether you are an experienced stamper or just a beginner, you are welcome to join in for some fun and fellowship. You will learn simple stamping techniques that can be used in card making, scrapbooking and other craft projects. We will make two cards that you will take with you - a Valentine's card for that special someone as well as a thank you card. Cost is \$2.00 for supplies. The sign-up is on the bulletin board in the narthex.

FUNSETTER'S - The next Funsetter's outing will be a trip to the Cedarburg PAC to see the Wisconsin Singers on **Friday, March 2nd**. The Wisconsin Singers are the UW Madison song and dance Company who will present a Broadway style show of singing, dynamic dancing and powerful instrumentals. Dinner will be at the Coffee Pot in Cedarburg at 5:15 and the show starts at 7:30. Cost is \$16.00 per ticket (Dinner extra). Checks for the cost of the tickets can be placed in Rochelle's mail slot. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex or call Rochelle McInerney at 375-7275.

Men's Breakfast – February 10th

February 10th, 7:30am -- "Galapagos - The Enchanted Islands" (Ron Wildasin) In September, the Wildasin's spent a week exploring the Galapagos Islands. After visiting nine islands, following in the tracks of Charles Darwin, hiking rugged lava rock land, snorkeling with various sea animals, photographing abundant wild life on landscapes that will remind you of the moon, they returned (exhausted) to civilization in Wisconsin. Hear the story -- See the power point photos.



OUTREACH NEWS

A big THANK YOU to the Men's Group for supplying the kitchenette with two new, very needed, coffee pots. A special thank you to Al & Dorothy Pfeiffer for picking them up for us! We all appreciate your thoughtfulness as we continue to enjoy our Sunday morning coffee time!

Flavored Coffee Donations Welcome

If anyone is interested in donating flavored coffee grounds or other item (such as cider, canned whipped cream, cocoa, candies, etc.) please see Kathy Ellenbecker. Also a new treat list is posted. Please take a moment to sign up. Thank you to all who have donated in the past and have helped to make our refreshment time on Sundays a big hit!



The Season of Lent

Lent is the 40 days from Ash Wednesday until Easter, not counting Sundays. In 2007, that's from February 21 through April 7. The Sundays are not included because each Sunday is, in its own way, a celebration of the resurrection. Thus, officially, the Sundays are counted as Sundays "in" Lent rather than "of" Lent (as opposed to other seasons, when we say "the 3rd Sunday of Easter" or "the 2nd Sunday of Advent").

The name of the season comes from the old English word *lengten* meaning Spring. Similar to the modern word *lengthen*, it simply meant that the days were getting longer. This reminds us that sometimes, faith symbols and seasons of the church year can have associations with the natural world.

The symbolism of 40 days parallels the time that the Gospels tell us Jesus spent in the wilderness. Traditionally it was a time for people to prepare for baptism at Easter, and later became a general season of self-reflection and repentance for all Christians.

Pilgrim thanks ...

- ... all Pilgrim staff, chair people and deacons who attended the Leadership Retreat.
- ... Doug Bader, Sue Steckel and Henry Wagner, who joined Jen Schulz and Franz Rigert in chaperoning the Confirmation Retreat.

In our prayers ...

- ... Keith Eakin, who underwent a medical procedure.
- ... Penny Papenfus, who had knee surgery on January 23rd.
- ... Kathy Ellenbecker, who had carpal tunnel surgery.
- ... Bonnie DeLeeuw, who is recovering from surgery
- ... Marilynn Martin, who lost sight in one eye. Hopefully a surgical procedure will restore it.
- ... Ron Wildasin, who had a lung reaction from chemicals used to treat the church's heating system. He seems to have recovered well!

Our prayers of sympathy are extended to ...

- ... the family of John Ferris who died on Tuesday, January 16th at the age of 84. A service was held at Pilgrim on Saturday, January 20th.
- ... Linda Strelow, new member and fiancé of Don Deetjen, whose uncle died.
- ... Ruth Ackmann, whose sister-in-law, Harriet, died.

Congratulations and God's blessings to ...

- ... Alex Santo, who turns 50 on January 28th.
- ... Miles Koch, baptized on January 7th.
- ... Tony Duckert and daughter, Isabelle, who were both baptized on January 21st.
- ... Don Deetjen and Linda Strelow, who will be married at Pilgrim on February 17th.
- ... Jodi & Jody Schubert, who welcomed a baby girl, Addison Rae on January 23rd. She was 7 lbs. 12 oz. and 20 ½ inches long.

Farewell to the Dowskes ... Sandy has received a transfer within the U.S. Postal Service to Arizona, where she and daughter, Chrissy, have already moved into a new home. Son, Greg, will complete 8th grade here in Grafton (and finish up his Confirmation program). He will live with relatives and then move to the Southwest in June.

"PEOPLE WILL FORGET WHAT YOU SAID, PEOPLE WILL FORGET WHAT YOU DID, BUT PEOPLE WILL NEVER FORGET HOW YOU MADE THEM FEEL." MAQA ANG-LOU



Thank you to everyone for the cards and prayers after losing Dad. Your thoughtfulness was truly appreciated through this difficult time.

Sandy, Dave, Stephanie and Kevin Wegner

Dear Pilgrim Family,

Thank you for all your cards, telephone calls and prayers during my illness. It was so nice of you to think of me! I appreciated it very much.

Paul Kasberger

Dear Pastor Franz & Friends at Pilgrim,

Thank you all for the words of encouragement and support. It has been a rough year for us but all of the support has made it easier for us. Thanks to all of you.

The Gurka's

Shannon, Scott, Ben & Cassie

Dear Pastor Franz & Pilgrim Family,

Thank you for your prayers, your caring thoughts, and kind words ... they meant more than you know.

Your outpouring show of support and cancer, have truly made my Cancer struggle ... more "Bearable!"

I am happy to report that the Chemotherapy, Radiation, and Surgeries are now over! I am looking forward to the New Year with a Renewed hope for a full Recovery.

I am so Grateful to be Blessed by God, Pastor Franz, and such caring Friends! THANK YOU ALL!

Laura Bloedorn

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Fireplace Safety and Care

- Never burn colored newspapers or magazines in the fireplace ... the ink and dye contain lead that can be inhaled.
- Feed the fire efficiently ... open a window close to the fireplace. The fire will use oxygen from the outside instead of from the house.

Make a Scented fire

Spread the rinds from an orange or lemon on paper towels, let dry overnight and toss on the fire to create a citrus aroma.

Managing Soot

- Table salt - Before lighting the fire toss a handful of plain table salt on the logs (real or fake). The salt will help to loosen soot from the chimney, and it will also give the fire a bright, yellow flame.
- Potato peels – dried overnight will burn with gusto that sends soot up and out of the chimney.
- Tea leaves and coffee grounds- helps prevent ash particles from flying up into the air when you clean up the soot.

Cleaning the Hearth

Wet a sponge or brush with distilled white vinegar and scrub off – Then rinse with water.

Jan Svoboda

Environmental Coordinator

Thought for the Month:

Caution – Never drive faster than your angels can fly.

2007 STEWARDSHIP REVIEW – HOW DID WE DO

The 2007 Budget of \$300,962 was an increase of \$60,958 over that of 2006. This was needed to absorb the mortgage payments for our wonderful facility. This was a tremendous challenge for our Congregation and we were all asked to “Pray On It” and consider, as always, the concept of equal sacrifice. Members were also asked to consider increasing their contribution by an amount equal to 50% of their pledge for the Capital Campaign.

What did this mean? In playing a simple numbers game we needed either 60 new pledges of, or 60 existing pledges to be increased by, about \$1,000. Or, more realistically, we needed 120 new pledges of \$500 or 120 existing pledges to be increased by \$500 or we needed 240 new pledges of \$250 or 240 pledges to be increased by \$250.

So, how did we do? Were our prayers answered? Well, we accomplished the goal of reaching \$280,000 of pledged contributions. Hopefully, the miscellaneous income we receive will make up for the rest. The two charts show the results of the Stewardship Drive. We sent out 290 Pledge Cards that would make the average pledge needed to be about \$965. We received 215 responses with an average pledge of about \$1322. These responses included some “good news” and some “not so good news” and showed that:

1. 32 Pledges were either from new members or from existing members who decided to make a pledge for 2007.
2. 18 pledges had to be reduced from their 2006 level.
3. 39 Pledges remained the same as 2006.
4. 77 Pledges were increased by up to \$300.
5. 98 pledges were increased by up to \$500.
6. 27 pledges were increased by over \$1000.
7. About 64% of the pledges were below the average received.
8. About 36% of the pledges were above the average received.

So, the result was quite a mixed one but together we accomplished the Goal that had been set for us. All we need now is to keep our fingers crossed that the “promises” that have been made will become reality.

Ed Proctor.

Finance Deacon

Church Council Highlights
January 9, 2007

RANGE	NUMBER
0	4
\$001 - 199	13
\$200 - 399	15
\$400 - 599	32
\$600 - 799	30
\$800 - 999	19
\$1000 - 1199	19
\$1200 - 1399	21
\$1400 - 1599	11
\$1600 - 1799	2
\$1800 - 1999	8
\$2000 - 2199	10
\$2200 - 2399	3
\$2400 - 2599	5
\$2600 - 2799	1
\$2800 - 2999	0
\$3000 - 3199	3
\$3200 - 3399	2
\$3400 - 3599	1
\$3600 - 3799	2
\$3800 - 3999	2
\$4000 - 4199	2
\$4200 - 4399	2
\$4400 - 4599	1
\$4600 - 4799	0
\$4800 - 4999	3
\$5000 - 5199	2
\$5200 - 5399	0
\$5400 - 5599	0
\$5600 - 5799	0
\$5800 - 5999	1
\$6000+	1
TOTAL PLEDGES	215
NO PLEDGES	75
TOTAL UNITS	290
% RECEIVED	74.12%
BUDGET	\$300,962
AMOUNT PLEDGED	\$284,282
DEFICIT	\$16,680
% OF GOAL	101.53%
% OF BUDGET	94.46%

INCREASE	NUMBER
DECREASE >300	7
DECREASE <300	11
0	39
\$1 - 99	23
\$100 - 199	26
\$200 - 299	28
\$300 - 399	9
\$400 - 499	12
\$500 - 599	15
\$600 - 699	5
\$700 - 799	7
\$800 - 899	3
\$900 - 999	1
\$1000 - 1099	9
\$1100 - 1199	0
\$1200 - 1299	5
\$1300 - 1399	4
\$1400 - 1499	0
\$1500 - 1599	4
\$1600 - 1699	0
\$1700 - 1799	0
\$1800 - 1899	1
\$1900 - 1999	0
\$2000 - 2099	2
\$2100 - 2200	0
\$2200 - 2099	0
\$2300 - 2399	0
\$2400 - 2499	0
\$2500 - 2599	0
\$2600 - 2699	0
\$2700 - 2799	0
\$2800 - 2899	0
\$2900 - 2999	1
\$3000 - 3099	0
3100 - 3199	0
3200 - 3299	0
3300 - 3399	0
3400 - 3499	0
3500 - 3599	0
3600 - 3699	1
NO PLEDGE	2
TOTAL	215

NEW PLEDGES	32
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Treasurer's Report Leslie reported that the monthly revenue for December was \$35,026.36 and the monthly expenses were \$30,839.76. She pointed out in the check register that we have used money from the memorial fund for the wood and labor to create the nametag holders. Leslie stated that we were over budget in programs but made up for it in hazard insurance savings. Leslie thinks that the Family Protection plan is more then 1%, Franz will look into. Rick brought up that the snapshot finance report put in the Pilgrims Progress might be a little confusing to the average reader. We will look into possibly adding some clarifications.

Pastor's Report:

- Franz stated that the UCC conference minister will be coming to our church in October.
- The new staff transitions are going well, as the former are mentoring the new.
- Franz initiated a discussion on ideas about the upcoming retreat. We discussed revisiting the church's mission statement, talking about whether committees goals were met, what's going well/needs improving.

Old Business:

- Faith Drive Update: Pledged amount of about \$285,000, which is 95% of the budget. Franz will check if we hit the number of pledges.
- Leadership Retreat: Franz and Eric will collaborate and send email with specifics to people attending.
- Liaison Assignments: Rick Flood was given Staff Relations; we will finish assignments at next months meeting.
- Kurt Eick: Tom and Warner will talk to Kurt about getting rid of the old church things out of Kurt's barn.

New Business:

- Warner and Val & Geoff Nauth will be talking to someone at a church in Sheboygan about what they did with memorial bricks.

Committee Liaison Reports:

- Warner (Worship): They have taken down the Christmas decorations. At their February meeting they will finalize Lent details. No seder service this year.
- Ted (Building): Bugs have been found in our water system. They will need to drain all the water and then a chemical specialist will use something to remove.

Next Meeting: February 13th 7:00

SCRIPTURE READERS FOR FEBRUARY

<u>8:00</u>	<u>10:30</u>
4 Al Pfeiffer	4 Donna Van Ryzin
11 Mary Beuscher	11 Rachel Gutridge
18 Candy Shoop	18 Rick Flood
25 Jean Weber	25 Mary Davies

FEBRUARY SUNDAY TREATS

4 Hackett's and Pam Holloway
11 Connie VerVelde & _____
18 Dorothy Pfeiffer & Mary Beuscher
25 Shannon Gurka and Lisa Weimer



For: Robert Stengl	By: Al & Diane Richards Kurt & Holly Sutin Nola & Butch Paegelow
For: Audrey Spaeth	By: Keith, Jean & Linda Eakin
For: Harriet Ackmann	By: Ruth M. Ackmann
For: Victor Panetti Jr.	By: Ruth M. Ackmann
For: John Ferris	By: Congregation of UCC in Canton, MA Pat Tumanic The Steckel Family

ADDRESS CHANGES

Joe & Annie Gehrke 1966 Blackhawk Drive Grafton, WI 53024-2811	Alan Wegner 827 Cheyenne Ave. Unit B Grafton, WI 53024-1646
Chris Kline 1511 Bridge Street Grafton, WI 53024	Tim & Laurie Collins 10524 N. Gazebo Hill Pkwy E Mequon, WI 53092-5198

Flowers and Bulletins for February

<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Bulletins</u>
4 Joe & Laury Hackett	4 Joe & Laury Hackett
11 Wayne & Connie VerVelde	11 Ed & Leila Behrens
18 Don & Linda Deetjen	18 Fred & Linda Yopps
24 Scott & Shannon Gurka	24 Barbara Lewis

Please call the office to indicate what you would like printed in the bulletin



FINANCE REPORT

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Cash Balance – Beg. Of Period	\$ 42,111	\$ 36,971
General Fund Cash Receipts	36,307	302,268
Building Fund Cash Receipts	3,669	82,466
Cash Disbursements	(33,052)	(336,022)
Loan Payments	-----	(36,648)
Cash Balance – December 31, 2006	<u>\$ 49,034</u>	<u>\$ 49,034</u>

OFFICE HOURS

Franz Rigert – 8:30 – 5:00 Tuesday – Friday
Saturday Mornings and Evenings by appointment
Diane Weber – 8:30 – 12:00 Tuesday – Friday
Heidi Jenkins – 9:00 – 12:30 Tuesday & Thursday
Chris Boon – 8:30 – 1:00 Tuesday
Office Phone 262-377-2640 – FAX 262-377-4187
e-mail – pilgrimucc@sbcglobal.net
WEB Page – www.pilgrimuccgrafton.org

Please submit March articles by February 19th.