



PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

Pilgrim Lutheran Church and School
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- **Rev Kristian Johnson**, Pastor
- **Christopher Comella**, Principal

Marian Azzaro, *Congregation President*

November 2013

Jeanne Valencia, *Editor*
Robert Knapp, *Photographer*

Pilgrim's Reformation (Pastor Kristian Johnson)

“So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.” John 8:36

It's really amazing to see what happens when someone is set free... when a dog is let out of its pen... when a bird is let out of its cage... even when our pet turtle is let out of his tank (yes, he can move)...freedom releases energy.

Jesus comes to set us free... and when we are met by this redeeming love, the Holy Spirit releases an amazing amount of energy and creativity in us...

Though we are free, it's not an “anything goes” kind of freedom... because our freedom is grounded in the truth.

And that means we need to be ready to debunk the lies that come our way. I've heard people say, “Well, Pilgrim is a small church.” Allow me to debunk this lie... Pilgrim is not a small church! We are a growing organization with a 1.1 million dollar budget, a phenomenal school with 170 students, a dedicated worship community, hundreds of volunteers of all ages, and over 25 staff. Most days, I struggle to get my head and my heart around the girth and awesome potential of this place.

On Sunday, September 8th, I initiated The MYT (Multiply your Talents) Challenge, in the spirit of Matthew 25:14-30. Instead of giving my

September tithe to Pilgrim, I gave it out to all of you, in 14 gifts of \$25 and 7 gifts of \$50 (total of \$700). With the gifts came the challenge: multiply the gift and bring back the talents on October 27th, 2013 (Reformation Sunday)

When we gathered on Reformation Sunday, the creativity was amazing! Art projects, dinners, sales, and even an original video were just some of the things people did to multiply their talents for the sake of God's mission in the world. Over \$1600 was raised for Pilgrim and Mission Projects from the initial \$700 investment... Praise God!

It was amazing to see all the lives that were impacted by just a few dollars and a few people who rallied around the Multiply your Talents challenge. I couldn't help but wonder... what would happen if, more and more, we were take this kind of missional energy to our school, to our church, to homes, careers... to our LIVES?

And then it dawned on me... it may be already happening...

May God bless us as we live into our mission and vision:

Mission Statement and Core Practices Approved!

At our recent congregational meeting, Pilgrim approved the following mission statement and core practices:

*In Christ's love, we gather, prepare, and send all
as leaders for God's mission in the world. (GPS)*

As a learning and serving community, we :

Praise God with all generations together
Invoke everyone to be present together in Christ
Lift up academic excellence with a heart,
Grow in prayer and in the Word,
Respond by advocating justice for the vulnerable,
Invest time, talent, and resources generously, and
Mpower homes for faith formation



Thank you to all who participated in the months of sessions that has culminated in shaping this foundation for ministry!

Give The Gift Of Warmth Through Coat Angels!

SPaRK's service team has once again chosen Coat Angels for this fall's Seasons of Service project. Coat Angels, founded by Pilgrim parent **Micki LaSeur**, provides coats for children in the city that would otherwise have no coat to wear this winter. A fifty-dollar donation provides a coat, hat, mittens and a scarf for one child, and makes a wonderful Christmas gift for friends and family. We will be selling gift cards after the 10:30 service on Sundays from November 10th through December 1st. You can also purchase a gift card by contacting Pilgrim parent **Lara Otsuka** at lcotsuka@gmail.com. Later in December, we will shop for coats and then bag and tag them for delivery. Please watch for dates for these activities and join us for a meaningful holiday experience!



Open House

Luther North College Prep
5700 W Berteau, Chicago, IL 60634
November 14th, 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Parents and students, come meet their dedicated faculty and coaching staff and learn about their programs.



Feeding The Hungry



The first Sunday of every month Pilgrim makes a special effort to collect money to help feed the hungry. As a reminder to donate, an usher stands behind Pastor Johnson during communion to accept envelopes with donations for the Hot Meals program and the Ravenswood Food Pantry. You can mark on the envelope which program you are supporting. Thanks for keeping the hungry in your hearts.



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS! The HOT MEALS Volunteers Wish All Of You A
Wonderful Thanksgiving And A Blessed Christmas!!**

Thank you to all of the members of Pilgrim who have given a bit more of their time this past half year - distributing fliers and "business" cards. The results are obvious. The number of guests on a Saturday morning is slowly going up.

Please consider distributing more fliers and "cards" in the New Year - both can be found on the table at the back of the church OR in a box marked HOT MEALS on a counter in the kitchen.

Thank you also to the students at Pilgrim school that help on Saturday mornings; and specifically Grades 5/6 who are making the centerpieces for this whole school year.



Questions? Comments? Want To Volunteer? Contact **Janet Taylor**,
Jkstay@aol.com or 773-777-4052.

Thank You, From Common Pantry

Dear Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church,

On behalf of Common Pantry, our volunteers, and our clients, I want to personally thank you for your recent donation of \$270.00 and 46 lbs of supplies. Your generosity will help us provide food to hundreds of households that will come to the pantry for assistance. Common Pantry executes two weekly emergency food distribution sessions that impact over 300 client households each month. We also operate a monthly home delivery program that assists over 45 senior clients in our community. In these difficult economic times, we truly appreciate your support of our operations.





Dining Reviews

(Julie Lea)



September

After entering through the alley to **Ignatz's Ristorante**, on South Oakley, a charming, cozy living/dining area with chandeliers, awaited us and a very warm welcome. We were seated at a readied table by the large front window. Italian bread was served with roasted garlic and olive oil and Parmesan cheese. Yummy! Bottles of excellent red and white Italian wine were ordered. Antipasto platter came with artichoke hearts, boiled eggs, two types of onions, cold cuts, cheese, black olives, etc. Delicious! Chicken Marsala, Chicken A La Tippe, and Linguine with clams in the shell were the entrees, ordered, which included salads and pasta with the chicken dishes. The food was exceptional, as was the service. The chef/owner came over to greet us. It was unanimous that the service, food, and atmosphere was perfect. It is definitely worth the trip to 'Little Italy.' I very highly recommend it.

On November 17th, dining will be at **Himmel's Bistro** at 2251 West Lawrence. Please check for the announcement.

October

For Oct. the dining group, if they elected to, decided to attend the 'multiply your talents' dinner hosted by **Renee and Ralph** in their home. We were greeted with warm hospitality. We enjoyed a chose of drinks: wine, juice, water; etc. along with brie cheese and crackers for starters and lively conversation; at times humorous. The main course consisted of brisket of beef roasted over potatoes, baby carrots and onions, very tasty! Sides of rice with bits of carrots and peas, broccoli, cauliflower with bits of cranberry for salad served with French bread. The food was very delicious! Rhubarb crisp and pumpkin cookies were served for dessert. After this sumptuous dinner toasts were made with sambuca and slivovitz liquors. What a successful and wonderful dinner and company for a worthy cause. Thank you Renee and Ralph!

There will be no newsletter in January so please include January items with your December articles/reports/notices. Deadline for submission is November 15th.

Email items to jmvalencia@comcast.net or leave in my church mailbox. Thank you :)



Installation

Please join us on Sunday, November 24th as we officially install our new Administrative Secretary, **Barbara Anthony** at the 10:30 AM service.



Parents' Night Out

WHEN: Saturday, November 16th from 5 to 8 PM WHERE: Maring Hall

WHO: Children ages 3 to 10 (youngsters must be toilet-trained)

WHAT: Age-appropriate games, movie, craft, cookie-decorating and pizza

COST: No fee, but we'll gladly accept a \$2 donation per family to help pay for supplies

RSVP to Kristi Killelea, 773•343•6073 or kkillelea@gmail.com
Space is limited, so submit your request ASAP! Final deadline to reserve is Nov. 14.

Raising Fund\$

Anne Barsano



Because Thanksgiving is so late this year, there are only three weeks after Turkey Day for us to order **Gift Cards** for Christmas!! So we will be placing orders on November 25th (pick up Wednesday morning before break), December 2nd, 9th and 16th (with pickup hopefully the Wednesdays after those dates). We will still be selling on Monday, Friday and Sunday during those weeks and will have most of our usual stock on hand. The **Holiday Order Form** will be available by the middle of November. Please contact **Anne Barsano** cbarsano@aol.com if you are interested in a store which is not listed. We have access to MANY more!!



Market Day congratulations! We had 42 people place orders this Market Day- a record for this year!! We sold 49 pies! Don't worry if you forgot to order one as we have the following extras for sale: Fruit Medley Deep Dish and Pumpkin Pies \$12.21, French Silk Pie and Turtle Cheesecake \$14.25, Pecan Pie \$13.23 and Chocolate Java Cake \$15.26. Please let **Anne Barsano** know if you would like to purchase one. This is our best year for pie sales in many years!!



There are still spaces/tables available for the **Flea Market** on Saturday, November 9th (\$20/space, \$25 with table). If you are planning to donate to the Pilgrim tables, please bring your donations to Pilgrim no earlier than Sunday, November 3rd and put them on the stage marked "Flea Market." We will take most everything with the exception of clothes and large pieces of furniture.

Baby equipment and clothes in good condition and bicycles of all sizes will be accepted. Profit from the sales of the tables and from the Pilgrim tables will go to support Pilgrim's missionaries in Africa, the Knutsons.

The concession stand will benefit the Pilgrim Volleyball Team. Help is needed Friday and Saturday with set-up, pricing, sales and security. Please contact **Anne Barsano** with questions.



Even though **Dominicks** will be leaving in early 2014, you can still benefit Pilgrim by going to escrip.com, selecting one of the stores they support and placing your Christmas order through the store's site. Pilgrim receives a portion of your order. Your loyalty card is still good even though we have no Dominick's around. You can charge your purchases or even use gift cards for most of the stores- then Pilgrim benefits in two ways!



Pilgrim Groups And Committees

CHURCH COUNCIL Oversees the business of the church, but delegates committee work to the committees. They meet the last Tuesday of the month in the School Library at 7:30 PM. Council positions are elected, but anyone interested is encouraged to attend. Contact **Marian Azzaro** marianazza@aol.com or 989-172 for info.

DINING GROUP A group for all ages which dines out once a month, usually on the 3rd Sunday, and patronizes restaurants with varied ethnic cuisines. We would love to have you join us!! Contact **Julie Lea** 764-3140.

GIRL SCOUTS Pilgrim Church is the home of four troops of Girl Scouts: Cadettes, Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, Seniors, and Ambassadors. Contact **Judy Daniel** 588-2101.

HOT MEALS Successful outreach program working in teams to prepare and serve Saturday noon meals for area homeless. Each team commits to a 3-hr shift (10 AM-1 PM) about four times a year. Interested in helping? Contact **Janet Taylor** 777-4052 or jkstay@aol.com.

MOMS IN TOUCH Part of an international organization. All Pilgrim School mothers are invited to join us in the church parlor on Wednesdays, 9-10:30 AM, to pray for our children and school (childcare provided). Contact **Cathy Basler** 509-0988.

PARISH LIFE BOARD This group meets monthly on the first Tuesday at 7:30 PM, and is responsible for most of the hospitality, assimilation and outreach activities and projects that go on within the church. If you are interested in joining, please talk to **Anne Barsano, Shellie Volkens, Jim Volkens, Emily Haite, or Gloria Schwarz.**

PROPERTIES COMMITTEE Oversees the property of the congregation and coordinates its repair and general upkeep, including church, school, teacherages and parsonage. They meet the first Sunday of the month in the School Office at 9:30 AM (8:30 in the summer). For more information, contact **Angela Cardo** 244-0160 or acardo@pilgrimchurchandschool.org.

PTL The Parent Teacher League is a very active organization that supports the staff and families of Pilgrim Lutheran School. The PTL hosts many events for the families and staff through the year. Contact PTL President, **Bob Knapp** rkimages@me.com 612-3563.

QUILTERS The group welcomes anyone interested in fellowship and quilting (or other needlecraft). Gatherings are informal and do not adhere to a set schedule. For dates and locations of meetings, please contact **Gail Mendiola** 725-8028 or **Chris Wallis** 561-5419.

SCHOOL BOARD Oversees our Christian education programs, including Preschool, K-8, Before School Program, After-School Program (PAS) and sports programs, as well as other programs helpful for youth. Board positions and committees are elected, but anyone interested is encouraged to attend. They meet the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM in the school Library. For more information, contact **Nancy Liljedahl** 271-9290.

T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets every Thursday from 6:30-8:00 PM in the church annex. Please join us for a friendly support program with helpful hints and discussions of current information regarding personal health. Contacts: **Millie Ostrander** 281-5762 or **Anne Barsano** 472-6037.

WOMAN'S SOCIETY An organization of women that meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 12:30 PM. All women are invited to join this group for fellowship and fund raising activities.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE Plans and creates meaningful worship for the needs of the congregation. They coordinate the activities of the choirs, ushers, acolytes, Altar Guild, organist, worship and communion assistants. They are also responsible for the creation, purchase and display of seasonal decorations in the church. They meet as necessary after the late church service in the Parlor. For more information, contact **Chris Wallis** 561-5419 or cewallis1949@yahoo.com.

Coffee Hour Teams

NOVEMBER

- 03 The Doerflers; The Dooleys
- 10 The Azzaros; The Nootens
- 17 The Gronaus; The Heintzes
- 24 The Otsukas; The Williams

HAPPY
THANKSGIVING



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

November 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 8:30 am - 10:00 am Certificates 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm - 7:00 am Ultimate Lock In	2 8:30 am - 9:30 am Prayer Team 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Hot Meal Team #2 6:00 pm Confirmation Dinner 6:30 pm - 10:00 pm Trivia Night
3 Daylight Saving Ends 8:00am Worship Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service - Confirmation Sunday All Saints Sunday 11:30 am Coffee Hour Team #4 Doerfler/Kaniff 1:00 pm Quilters & Crafters Workday	4 8:30 am - 10:00 am Certificates	5	6 8:50 am Moms in Prayer 10:10 am School Chapel 7:30 pm Harmony Choir rehearsal	7 School Photo Day 9:00 am MOPS 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Market Day pick-up 6:30 pm T.O.P.S.	8 Retakes for School Photos 8:30 am - 10:00 am Certificates 5:00 pm - 11:00 pm Flea Market set up 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm Faith5 Night 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm All Together Night - Confirmation 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	9 7:00 am - 9:00 am Flea Market Set Up -Maring Hall plus Annex and Kitchen 8:30 am - 9:30 am Prayer Team 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Flea Market -Maring Hall plus Annex and Kitchen 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Hot Meal Team #3
10 8:00am Worship Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 11:30 am Coffee Hour Team #5 Azzaro/Nootens	11 Veterans Day Market Day orders due 8:30 am - 10:00 am Certificates	12 7:30 pm Executive Committee	13 8:50 am Moms in Prayer 10:10 am School Chapel 12:30 pm Woman's Society 4:00 pm Confirmation Class (7&8) 7:30 pm Harmony Choir rehearsal	14 6:30 pm T.O.P.S. 7:00 pm MOMSnext	15 8:30 am - 10:00 am Certificates 6:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm School Dance	16 8:30 am - 9:30 am Prayer Team 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Hot Meal Team #4 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Parent's Night Out
17 8:00am Worship Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 11:30 am Coffee Hour Team #6 Gronau/Heintz	18 8:30 am - 10:00 am Certificates	19 6:30 pm PTL Board Meeting 7:30 pm Board of Education	20 8:50 am Moms in Prayer 10:10 am School Chapel 4:00 pm Confirmation Class (7&8) 7:30 pm Harmony Choir rehearsal	21 9:00 am MOPS 6:30 pm T.O.P.S.	22 8:30 am - 10:00 am Certificates 6:30 pm Girl Scouts Pot -Luck Thanksgiving Meal	23 8:30 am - 9:30 am Prayer Team 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Hot Meal Team #5

24 8:00am Worship Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 11:30 am Coffee Hour Team #7 Otsuka	25 8:30 am - 10:00 am Certificates	26 6:30 pm Worship Committee 7:30 pm Church Council	27 8:50 am Moms in Prayer 10:10 am School Chapel 7:30 pm Harmony Choir rehearsal	28 Thanksgiving Day 6:30 pm T.O.P.S.	29 8:30 am - 10:00 am Certificates 6:30 pm Girl Scouts	30 8:30 am - 9:30 am Prayer Team 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Hot Meal Team #6
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Legend:

- Annex

Maring Hall

Sanctuary

Auction event

Off-site event

School events

Kitchen

Parlor

School office

Library

Parsonage