

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

Pilgrim Lutheran Church and School

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Kristian Johnson, Pastor Christopher Comella, Principal

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Interior Life

(Pastor Kristian Johnson)

"Our real journey in life is interior: it is a matter of growth, deepening, and of an ever greater surrender to the creative action of love and grace in our hearts." _Thomas Merton

When we open our hearts to Jesus, light and healing come streaming in; reconciliation and new life start showing up.

It says in Romans 8, "The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for even when we do not how to pray as we ought, that very spirit intercedes with signs too deep for words, and God searches our heart." Allow God to search your heart in this new season of fall...

If God finds hurt, simply say to God, I've got this pain...this hurt... this worry... this fear... I release it to you and to your cross... I don't want to carry it any more...

And if God finds a holy dream, a desire to grow closer in your relationship with God, a passion to serve in a deeper or new way... simply say to God... I've got this passion, this prayer... Fan the flame of this passion... send me people that will help me make this vision a reality, step by step...

But some of us who are reading this might be saying, I don't have time to develop an "interior" life... it's hard to find time to pray and read the bible, or commit time to come to a prayer meeting or a bible study...

There once was a famous heart surgeon who was waiting for the service manager at the Auto Repair Shop to take a look at his Mercedes, and there was a loud-mouthed mechanic who was removing the cylinder heads from the motor of a car. He saw the surgeon waiting and lured him into an argument.

He asked the doc after straightening up and wiping his hands on a rag, "Look at this car I'm working on. I also open hearts, take valves out, grind them, put in new parts, and when I finish this baby will purr like a kitten. So how come you get the big bucks, when you and I are doing basically the same work?"

The surgeon very calmly leaned over and whispered to the loudmouth mechanic, "Try doing it with the engine running."

Listen for the voice of God in your heart.. for God can fix your heart while it's still running... and don't be surprised if God invites you, in the midst of a busy fall, to slow down...And Abide with God...

Happy Fall, everyone!



Penny Social

100 Scoop Ice Cream Sundae Tickets will be available for purchase of refreshments and some activities.





Connecting faith & finances for good."

We need to announce that our fantastic Business Manager, Lindsay Beveridge, is moving to Geneva, Illinois in a new home she is purchasing with her new husband, Brian, and their beautiful children, Annabelle and Lincoln. We are sad to lose her from the neighborhood and from her administrative position in the office, but we are happy for them as they celebrate a new beginning for their family. We will be saying a prayer of appreciation for her on Sunday, October 18th.

Installation of New Office Staff- Sunday, September 20th

We are thrilled to announce the installation of our new and wonderful office staff will be on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>September 20th</u> at the 10:30 AM service. It will be great to officially welcome Communications Administrator **Halley Williams** and Office Administrator **Kathy Danner** to their positions. They already have been working here two months, and have been doing fantastic work relating to church members and school families out of the school office. Please join us that day!

Job Opening: Business Manager

This position supports the ministry of Pilgrim Lutheran Church and School through important bookkeeping and administrative duties. The position is 36 hours a week and requires someone with proficiency in accounting practices and excel, maintaining a general ledger, and with excellent communication and people skills. Please send resumes by email attachment to pastorkristian@pilgrimchicago.org

Sunday School Begins- Sunday, September 13th



Calling all children! Join us on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>September 13th</u> for a Kick Off to our Fall Sunday School Program at 9:15 AM. right before the block party. We will have activities and crafts and a bible lesson to get our kids ready for the big day!

March with Pilgrim in the Von Steuben Day Parade- Saturday, September 12th

We are inviting the Pilgrim Community to come out to the Von Steuben Day German Parade on <u>Saturday, September 12th</u> to march in this wonderful community event. Let's show our pride in Pilgrim Lutheran Church and School. Please meet at the North Center CVS at 1:15 PM. The parade usually ends around 3:00 PM in Lincoln Square.

If you need more information or have any questions please contact Pastor Kristian at pastorkristian@pilgrimchicago.org or Principal Comella at ccomella@pilgrimchicago.org



Thanks and we hope to have a huge turnout!!!



El Salvador Mission Trip 2015





... 37 strong, including 15 youth! It was an awesome group! We installed solar panels systems for five families living in mud houses, helped serve hundreds of meals at the Hope Casa Esperanza Casa Concordia. We helped build a hydroponic pond at Farming Hope, attended to over 500 people through a health and dental ministry, prayed with over 2,000 in a march for peace" —



Youth Group (Jonathan Valencia)

Our summer event was Bowling using the lanes at St. John's. Though the group was small we had a blast, especially when the black lights came on! Gutter balls, spares and strikes...we were throwing them all! We finished off with a prayer before munching down Bacci pizza and toasting our cups of pop to a successful Youth Group reboot! Looking forward to more events this coming Fall!:)



THANKYOU for making Pilgrim better!



Many thanks to the Pilgrim Properties Committee Chair Jim Volkens and to the Playground Committee headed up by school parent Tricia Koning Llewellyn and school parents Mindy Wieland and Chad Smith. Over the summer we have put a new roof on the school, laid new carpet in the classrooms and completed Phase I of the Pilgrim Playground Renovation Project. Thanks are also due to Dave Emery, Pilgrim's Facilities Manager, and to the whole Pilgrim congregation for your contributions to the Capital Campaign.

Hot Meals Ministry

(Janet Taylor)

The fall of the year is always a good time to review our goals and to make new goals. HOT MEALS and HOT MEALS PLUS is doing just that!!!!



The 60plus volunteers (ten teams) for **HOT MEALS** continue to provide a hot noon meal every Saturday to homeless guests - averaging 40 to 50 guests every Saturday. HOT MEALS volunteers are assisted every Saturday by high school students from Lane Tech, graduates of Pilgrim's school and present students of Pilgrim's school. Are you aware that for three years now Mrs. Tighe's classroom has made the place mats and centerpieces for our Saturday guests? Thank you to Mrs. T. and her students.

The plans for the next year of HOT MEALS is to include another classroom - actually helping on several Saturday's yet this year and in 2016.

Want to get involved in HOT MEALS? Contact Janet Taylor, 773•777•4051 or ikstay@aol.com

HOT MEALS PLUS took a short summer hiatus. Recipients (home-bound guests that would like a meal delivered once a week) and drivers are needed to re-start the program. Two of us would be glad to answer your questions RE: HOT MEALS PLUS and/or to join us - give us names of home-bound people that would like a delivered meal AND/OR volunteer to be a driver. The latter is a two-hour commitment on Saturday at noon - once a month? every six weeks? Contact Jackie Mokszycki - 773•677•0676 or jmokszycki@gmail.com or Janet Taylor (see above).

Pilgrim church is to be commended for making the HOT MEALS program a reality - every Saturday for over 25 years homeless guests have received a hot, healthy meal! Thank you!!!!

Luggage Drive For UCAN

During the month of September, as part of this fall's "Season of Service" project, we are having a Luggage Drive for UCAN (www.ucanchicago.org). UCAN's mission is to support youth who have suffered trauma from abuse or neglect. The luggage is needed for when the children are moved to foster care. New and lightly-used luggage and duffel bag donations can be placed on the north west wall of the narthex beneath the bulletin boards.

Thank you for your participation and generosity!





School Subjects

(Principal Christopher Comella)

*	Preschool Suzana Bataneant
*	Kindergarten Beata Halter
*	Grades 1 & 2 Karen Huelskoeter
*	Grades 2 & 3 Stephanie Daczyszyn
*	Grades 4 & 5 Kathy Tighe
*	Grades 5 & 6 Angela Cardo

Grades 7 & 8 Shannon Andreen	*	Before- & After-School Arlene Calderone; Madlin Sada

*	Multi-Subject Michael Knuth
*	Cafeteria & Library Araceli Brandon
*	Upper Grade Math Paula Raabe
*	Science & Spanish Andrew Yearick
*	Choir Director Dr. Jennifer D'Agostino

Pilgrim families will note some staffing changes in the classrooms. We have expanded the number of students served in the PK4 classroom, and so Mr. Knuth will be co-teaching with Mrs. Bataneant this year. Both teachers are excited about how this will have a positive impact on the PK classroom. Mr. Yearick is taking on 2nd Grade English, Language Arts and Reading. Mrs. Andreen is adding 1st Grade math to her responsibilities. Mrs. Raabe is now teaching an 8th Grade math class and a 7th Grade math class, rather than a combined 7/8 class. Mrs. Cardo is teaching all upper Grade PE, in addition to 6th Grade English/Language Arts and 5/6 science, social studies, and Christian Ed. Learning Assistance services will be provided through Aspire Illinois and Mrs. Saiki will stay connected to Pilgrim, working as a consultant through the Chicagoland Lutheran Education Foundation (CLEF). Rebecca Sorensen is coming on-board to teach Upper Grade Chorus classes and Ouida Zaporta is our new band teacher. Finally, parent, Jennifer Goolsby (Miles/6th) is joining Valerie Carlson (Valerie Rae/6th) as our Lunchroom Manager. Our school is fully staffed and ready for a great year of learning.

The Pilgrim Board of Education (BOE) meets Tuesday, September 1, at 7:00 PM in Mrs. Andreen's classroom. Please note that BOE meetings are now scheduled for the 1st Tuesday of each month. This month we welcome three new BOE members, Bianca Hardin (Bailey, 3rd), Eric Crabtree-Nelson (Clayton, Kindergarten), and Jeff Grott (Andy, 5th). The main topic for discussion is going to be our School Improvement Plan, which grew out of our accreditation process last school year. All parents are welcome to attend BOE meetings.

Pilgrim Sports teams are gearing up for a new season. All upper grade students are welcome to join our sports teams. For information about interscholastic volleyball, contact coaches Robert Knapp and Wende Niforatos(Tom/7th). For information about cross country, contact Beata Halter.

Finally, please know that you are an essential partner in all that we do at Pilgrim. You are always welcome in classrooms, and I welcome your feedback and questions. Feel free to contact me (ccomella@pilgrimchicago.org) whenever something arises. If you would like to become involved in events and activities hosted by the Parent Teacher League (PTL), please contact either Anna Lambros (Marty/4th and Lily/2nd) or Carrie Goerne (Cameron/3rd and Keaton/5th). Everyone is also welcome to attend weekly chapel services. At 10:10 AM. The students are always happy to see you there!



Rai\$ing Fund\$

(Anne Barsano)

FIFT CARD sales are back on the fall schedule of Sundays in the church foyer after the late service and Monday and Friday, 8:30-10 AM, in the school office. Now is the time to get back on a schedule of buying your Jewel, Mariano's, Peapod, Strack and van Til, Whole Foods, Target, Meijer or Walmart cards before you head out to the store. We also carry Home Depot, Menards and Lowes cards for preparing your lawn and gardens for winter. Order forms may be found on the table in the narthex, in the school office and on the Pilgrim website under fundraising and on SIS under promotions. Please contact Anne Barsano with questions, 773 • 472 • 6037 or cbarsano@aol.com





• are considering having a FLEA MARKET in Maring Hall from 9 AM - 3 PM on November 7th to benefit the Tuition Assistance Program, if we are able to rent at least 10 spaces or tables and have people to help with the sale. Spaces will be \$25 or \$30 with a table. As usual we will have tables set up for Pilgrim sales and there will be a refreshment stand. Please let Anne Barsano (cbarsano@aol.com or 773 = 472 = 6037) know by October 2nd if you are interested in your own space or if you could help with a variety of jobs or donate to the Pilgrim tables. We are also looking for a co-chairman for the event. Thank you!

Through the end of the month. Orders may be turned in to the school office or you may go online to www.gaschoolstore.com and order any time. Our school number is: 2633014. Remember: Pilgrim earns 40% of your order in profits! Check out the flyer on the "Digital Savings Membership (similar to the Entertainment Book but both paper and as an APP). Please contact Anne Barsano with any questions (cbarsano@aol.com or 773 • 472 • 6037).



Deadline: Please submit items for the October newsletter by September 15th. Send to j3valencia@yahoo.com or put in my church mailbox.

Dining Review (Julie Lea)



On a hot August Sunday, the dining group dined on the beautiful, floral filled patio at Adriatic Restaurant featuring fine Mediterranean and American food. Our very friendly waiter brought us cold water and Rose wine and beer was ordered. The menu has a variety of flavorful dishes; some of the following which were ordered: meat kabobs, chicken picatta, pork loin with vegetables, mushroom ravioli, pesto. The very tasty dishes were served in a timely manner by an excellent waiter. We enjoyed the

food while relaxing on the patio in very comfortable seats. It is a great restaurant to take company or special occasions.

<u>Sunday, September 20th</u>, it is BBQ time at **Honky Tonk BBQ**, 1800 South Racine, for great food and a fun filled time.

Facebook Announcement

Hello Everyone! We are clarifying the purpose of our Facebook pages as we seek to improve our marketing and communication efforts.

"Pilgrim Lutheran Church and School" is now our primary Facebook page for more frequent "day to day" posts about Pilgrim for active participants in the church and school. You can also "check in" on this site and, when posting pictures online, you can post to this page. Please make sure you like this facebook page.



The former page, "Friends of Pilgrim Lutheran Church and School" has now been changed to: "Friends and Alumni of Pilgrim Lutheran School" to help us communicate with those who are no longer directly connected to the school through a current attending student, but who want to maintain a connection to the school. Please direct our alumni, parents of alumni, former staff and friends of the school to this page. Thank you!

Your Legacy: Family, Church, Charity



Join us for any part of a three-week seminar: "Your Legacy: Family, Church, Charity," Sunday, September 20th, 27th, and October 4th at 9:15 AM in Maring Hall. Would you like to help sustain ministry for generations to come? Or your alma mater's endowment fund? How does one go about leaving an inheritance? It doesn't matter if you're a Midwestern farmer, a Pacific coast fisherman, or a Southern Belle. If there are people or causes you care about,

we can help you uncover ways to enrich their futures and unleash your generosity. Join us for a series of presentations inspired by the Scriptures that will invite you to pray about your legacy and develop a strategy to help ensure your legacy lives on.



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 **Mike Suhajda** 773-878-8163 or mike@accurate-prod.com 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 three-hour shift (10 AM-1 PM) about four times a year. Interested in helping? Contact Janet Taylor 777- 4052 or ikstay@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 Jim Volkens 773-477-4824.

September Worship Schedule

Sunday, September 6th: 9:30 AM

Sunday, September 13th: 10:00 AM (Block Party)

Sunday, September 20th: 8:00 and 10:30 AM

*(Our new Fall schedule begins, with 9:15 AM Education Hour)

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** 612-3563 or rkimages@me.com

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** 773-725-8028 or **Chris Wallis** 773-561-5419.

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.



SEPTEMBER (After Worship)

06 Team 8 (after 9:30 Service)

13 Team 9 (Block Party)

20 Team 10 (after 10:30 Service)

27 Team 11 (after 10:30 Service)