



Pilgrim Lutheran
CHURCH AND SCHOOL
Academic Excellence with a Heart

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

4300 N Winchester Ave, Chicago, IL 60613
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▪ Rev Kristian Johnson, *Pastor*

▪ Christopher Comella, *Principal*

Mike Suhajda,
Congregation President

MAY 2016

Jeanne Valencia,
Volunteer Editor

More Than Once (Pastor Kristian Johnson)

Jesus knows... when it comes to us.... It's going to take more than once.

So Jesus finds a way to show up... multiple times... it's what Jesus does! He keeps manifesting with a creativity and a mystique that draws people in until the point that they get it... and they get hooked on the mission.

Imagine you're one of the disciples on that boat in John 21, after the resurrection, and they hear a man on the beach, yelling at them. "Who's that guy on the shore taunting us about the fact that we don't have any fish?" they ask. Jesus is calling out to them, asking, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" In effect, Jesus is saying: "Instead of going out to fish for people, you've gone back to your old job... And how's that working out for you?"

Then he guides them to a 153 fish catch, and when they get to shore, they realize that Jesus has built a fire, and he cooks them breakfast... In the course of just a few days they've seen Jesus washing their feet, Jesus being publicly executed, Jesus showing them his wounds, now he's cooking them fish for breakfast... he knows it takes more than once, it even takes a little craziness, to get our attention and bring us back to who we're meant to be.

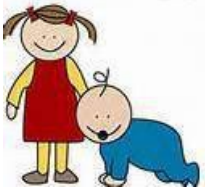
Remember, the early Christians in the time when Paul wrote Corinthians didn't have a fancy church building... They were in their homes, inviting Jesus to show up, again and again, through a meal, in their homes.. in their daily lives...

Remember that as you are seeking to grow in your faith, instill the faith in your children, start new habits... it's going to take more than once. But in the repetition, we will experience Jesus bringing us back to who we're truly meant to be.

Jesus knows it's going to take more than once... after breakfast when Jesus gets to talk with Peter one on one, he asks him not once, not twice, but three times: "Peter... do you love me?"

After Peter had denied his identity as a follower of Jesus three times by a fire in Jerusalem a few days earlier, now, with the embers of a beach fire still glowing, Jesus, knowing it takes more than once, brings Peter back to his true identity and his mission by allowing him to affirm Peter's love for Jesus three times.

What has Jesus been trying to say to you? I know most times I feel a call, it takes multiple little voices and signs until I start to listen... but take the time to listen...



Nursery—Are you interested in hanging out with some cute kiddos in the nursery on Sunday mornings? I have a volunteer opportunity for you! We're looking for a few more families to help staff the nursery during the Sunday morning service on a rotating basis. Commitment would be about once every few months. Please contact Katie Ruger at katieruger@gmail.com if you're interested. Thanks so much!

WALK-A-THON to Reach El Salvador!- Sunday, May 22nd at 7:45 AM

You can change lives here and around the world! Join us in a fun 3 mile walk/run in Chicago to send a mission team 2,825 miles to Central America! Please sponsor walkers who are raising funds for the travel costs and materials to build houses, churches, distribute medicine and feed refugees this summer!

- ★ Sunday, June 12th - Congregational Meeting at 10:45 AM
- ★ June 22-24 - UKANDU Sports Camp
- ★ June 23-25-Youth Mission Weekend
- ★ Sunday, July 3rd through Thursday, July 7th-Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Family Camp
- ★ July 31st-August 10-El Salvador Mission Trip



Splash in God's World!



Vacation Bible School!—Monday, June 27th through Friday, July 1st

9 AM to 12 noon. This week-long program, filled with music, crafts, drama, and bible activities, is jointly hosted by Luther Memorial Church and Pilgrim Lutheran Church for children ages 3 (potty-trained) through grade 5. Older children and youth are invited to volunteer as helpers (service learning hours are available!).

Online registration form available. The cost is \$35 per child with a \$50 per family cap on fees. Pay electronically through Pilgrim's website or by check payable to Pilgrim Lutheran Church with "VBS 2016" in the memo line. Scholarships are available.

For more information, contact Chris Wallis at cewallis1949@yahoo.com for more information.

Please email newsletter items to Jeanne Valencia, j3valencia@yahoo.com or leave in my church mailbox. When submitting photographs, please include date taken and a brief caption. Thank you :) 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊



JULY 2016 PILGRIM SUMMER ENRICHMENT

A Program for Children Ages 4-10

Our programs allow young children to explore topics of interest to them in a safe and loving environment with free play and field trips.



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**July 5-8: Under
the Stars, Moon,
and Sky
Trip: Adler
Planetarium**

**July 11-15:
Stomping with
Dinosaurs
Trip: Children's
Museum/Navy Pier**

**July 18-22:
Natural Wonders
Trip: Peggy
Notebaert
Museum**

**Each Week:
Games, Books,
Crafts, & Fun!**

PILGRIM LUTHERAN

4300 N. Winchester
Chicago, IL 60613

pilgrimchicago.org

Applications in the School
Office or on-line.

For more information, contact Camp Coordinator, Arlene Calderone at amjcalderone@gmail.com

Faith Testimonial (April 17th Service)

Stewardship (Joel Heiniger)



Good Morning and thank you for being here at Pilgrim Lutheran Church for worship on this beautiful Spring morning.

For the past couple of months, I, along with a few other church members, have been part of a Stewardship Team that Pastor Kristian has been leading. Right at the start we would like to express our sincere gratitude for all of you that have been so faithful in the area of Stewardship.

When Pastor first asked me to participate in this group, I immediately thought this would be mainly focused on creative ways to get church members to raise funds. But after our first meeting, I quickly learned that it is so much more than that. It really covers a far greater objective – encompassing our Time, Talent and Treasure.

We have all heard the parable of the three stewards in Matthew 25:14-30. The conclusion of that is: A steward is not praised for protecting his assets but for multiplying them to further the work of his master!

Everyone here has been blessed with Time, Talent and Treasure. Time is a valuable asset but it attracts many robbers. There is a poem that goes like this, "Lost, yesterday, somewhere between sunrise and sunset, two golden hours, each set with sixty diamond minutes. No reward is offered for they are gone forever."

In Ephesians 5:16, God affirms the importance of time by instructing us to redeem the time because the days are evil.

We each must recognize that every day is a gift from God and we will need to give an account to Him for how we spend our time. There are so many areas at Pilgrim where you can utilize your time and talent for ministry - - - Hot Meals, Annual Block Party, Vacation Bible School, Auction Committee, Sunday School, Pilgrim Quilters, and many others. *"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ."* Colossians 3:23-24. Sharing your Time, Talent and Treasure at Pilgrim Lutheran Church and School will be a wonderful way to multiply your assets and receive that reward.

So we have put together a short and concise Survey which will be emailed out to everyone this morning. There are also hard copies available as well in today's bulletin. This should take only about 10-15 minutes to complete. The results of this survey will be extremely valuable to us on the Stewardship Committee. It will greatly help us out and provide direction for us as we move forward to Cultivate Creativity, Growth and Generosity in response to the Good News of Jesus.

We want to Thank you all in advance for spending the time to complete the survey.

(Survey On-Line: <http://app.getresponse.com/click.html?x=a62b&lc=Uy5Cx&mc=l0&s=zVj3NC&u=BswE&y=l&>)

🎵🎵 **Invitation to Worship/Music Team** — Attention all singers, instrumentalists, dramatically talented, poets, artists of every kind. We have openings available on Pilgrim's worship music team! We would love to have you join us! For more information, contact Marta Hardacre at martasmarta79@gmail.com

School Subjects

(Principal Christopher Comella)

Welcome, Renee!

We are overjoyed to announce that Pilgrim's own Renee Stuedemann will be serving on staff as our new Office Administrator, taking the place of Kathy Danner. Please take the opportunity to congratulate Renee, and express our gratitude to Kathy. Starting the week of May 16th, Halley will be in the office on Mondays and Wednesdays, from 8:15 AM to 4:15 PM as well as Friday morning, from 8:15 to 11:15 AM. Renee will be in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:15 AM to 3:15 PM.

Congratulations to Pilgrim for winning a grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Foundation!

The grant gives Pilgrim up to \$7,000 to put together an educational solar PV program. This means constructing a solar panel on the roof that produces electricity as part of the science curriculum at Pilgrim. As the staff studies how to implement the Next Generation Science Standards in the 2016-2017 school year, this grant allows for a valuable tool to teach about energy, technology, and ecology. Installation of the solar panel will be followed by a "Solarbration." Look for more details about this project in the coming months.

Teachers thankful for the many kindnesses shown during Teacher Appreciation Week!

Pilgrim's Parent Teacher League pampered us with chair massage, beautiful plants, tasty wine, and delicious coffee. Your love and support of the staff has been awesome. Thanks Pilgrim! Special thanks to Anna Lambros, Carrie Goerne and all the PTL Room Reps who helped to pamper the teachers.

Play Lot Renovation: Upcoming opportunities to participate in this important cause.

Sunday, May 15th - Ravenswood Manor Garage Sale. In the alley behind 4529 N. Mozart. All sales will be donated to the play deck fund.

Time for spring cleaning and we are welcoming DONATIONS for the garage sale. If over \$5 value, please put a price on it and drop it off. Please no clothing, no couches and no broken items. We really need 8-12 volunteers to make this happen! Include your whole family and have them sell some lemonade. INFO & SIGN UP HERE: <http://vols.pt/CvgjyZ>

Friday, May 20th, 2:45-3:30 PM - Popsicles For The Play Lot!

Thursday, May 26th, 7-9 PM – Delicious Shoe / SFIZI Shopping Night with our own Pilgrim parent Ann Sedgwick at her new storefront at 4827 N Damen. **20% of sales will be donated!**

Play Lot Renovation Volunteers Needed

- * porch/deck contractor & suggestions
- * painting play lot lines assist Mr Emery over summer
- * fundraiser help
- * mural project for 4310
- * source items/planning/project management over summer
- * social media/write thank yous
- * positive people to help boost this project to our community. We can do this!



Godspeed to Seminarians Hans and Marissa Becklin who have completed their time at Pilgrim as students in the MIC (Ministry in Context) program at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago as they prepare for ministry as ordained Pastors in the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America).



Sunday, May 1st, 2016

Extending Our Sincere Thanks - To the people of Pilgrim Lutheran Church and School who have helped provide guidance, support, and who have helped shape our learning experience over the course of the past year, we extend our sincere thanks. This congregation and community has an enormous and magnificent capacity for compassion, kindness, and love, and we have been so grateful and blessed to share the experience of worship and community life with you. Our time as your Ministry in Context students has been the first experience of immersion ministry that either of us have engaged in—Pilgrim has shaped us as leaders, and thus you will all have a fond place in our hearts as we continue in our future ministry. We will continue to hold your community in prayer as we go forth from this place, and trust in our continued unity as one body in the Holy Spirit.

Thank you for the hospitality that you have extended to us—we are immensely thankful. Blessings,
Marissa and Hans Becklin

Hot Meals Ministry (Janet Taylor)



A reminder to all readers of PILGRIM'S PROGRESS. Continue to invite people in need to HOT MEALS - every sat. from 11:30 - 12:30 for a noon lunch. Remember those bright yellow business cards - - - more available at the back of church. Thank you to all for your help to make HOT MEALS a successful program.

If you would like more information about HOT MEALS, contact Janet Taylor at Jkstay@aol.com or Jackie Mokszycki at Jmokszycki@gmail.com



Electronic Giving: Save time, simplify your life, and support Pilgrim! We're keeping up with the times by offering a new way to help our ministry. Our new Electronic Giving program is an automated program that will allow you to make contributions without having to lift a pen to write a check or reach into your wallet for cash!

Rai\$ing Fund\$

(Anne Barsano)



Gift Cards: Now that Spring is here, your gardens and lawns are looking for help! Pick up some Lowe's, Home Depot, Menards, Target or Walmart gift cards before you head out to shop!



Spring also starts the bustle of weddings and wedding showers! We carry cards for most of the usual bridal registries, such as Bed, Bath and Beyond, Amazon, Macy's, Crate & Barrel, Williams Sonoma (Pottery Barn) and many others. You can buy them to give as gifts or use them to buy the gifts. You can also use them on line!



Father's Day is June 19th, so why not pick up a card to buy a gift for him, or for him to buy from his favorite store. If you are going out, why not purchase some cards for that restaurant? We carry a wide variety of cards from the mundane to the magnificent.

Check the green list for denominations and contact Anne Barsano (312-972-9040 or cbarsano@aol.com) with questions. Send in an order with your child and the cards will go home the same way, or you can purchase them on Sunday in the church foyer and Monday and Fridays in the school office. See you soon!



Don't forget to renew your magazine subscriptions throughout the year to support Pilgrim. Our account number is 2633014 through www.gaschoolstore.com. Reordering this way starts or continues your subscription faster than through the publishers and Pilgrim earns 40% of your order. You can also order gifts, books and magazine gift cards through the site--just look around! All earn for Pilgrim! Contact Anne Barsano at cbarsano@aol.com or 312-972-9040 with questions.



Do you purchase from Office Depot/Office Max, either online or at the store? You can go to www.officedepot.com, submit your online or in-store order number and Pilgrim earns 5% credit for free supplies. Pilgrim School's number needed for the prompt is 70030841. You may have to look at the bottom of the page for a reference to school rewards.

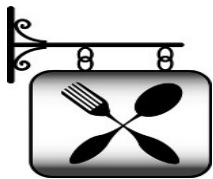


The last collection for Campbell's Soup labels will be the end of May, as Campbell's is stopping the program. Please send in all of your UPC's with the little box around it, by that time, even if you have to cut them off the cans, etc. Pilgrim obtains sports equipment with the labels!

Coffee Hour Teams

MAY

- (After 10:30 Worship)
- 01 Doerthe Erdbear; The Dooleys
 - 08 J Lea; G Egebrecht
 - 15 S Abu-Absi; The Dickersons
 - 22 G Schwartz; S Riedle Volkens
 - 29 Telford Family; Crabtree-Nelson Family



Dining Reviews: Shokran (Julie Lea)

February 21st: Ten diners partook of Mexican food at el Maya, a bold colored décor restaurant on Montrose Avenue. It is influenced by the ancient Maya Indians, so a little different from the usual Mexican food we are used to. We enjoyed their own made salsa & chips, which were very good. We brought in beer, wine & sangria for drinks. They have enchiladas with your choice of filling; main menu: 'platos fuertes', skirt steak, chicken, fish served with mole & other sauces, and potatoes, vegetables and seasonings. The food was on the mild side. Our orders were taken in a timely manner, but we had to wait way too long a time for the dinners to arrive, but they did arrive all at the same time. Complementary dessert of warm chocolate mousse cake was shared by all, which was delicious. It is moderately priced, but service and food needs improvement.

March 20th: On this sunny day, Irish food was enjoyed at O'Shaughnessy's Public House on Ravenswood Avenue. We had a very warm greeting & were ushered to our table in the back room. Several special cocktails were ordered along with Irish beer. Rack of lamb was the special of the day and ordered by a number of diners. Other menu items were fish & chips, salmon, curry chicken, the corn beef & cabbage sandwich which arrived late, so he was offered a free beer; all the dishes were very delicious. Our waitress was excellent and very informative. It has some of the best Irish food; great fun atmosphere; reasonable prices and good for families.

April 17th: On a beautiful Sunday a dozen diners ate delicious Thai food at "Taste of Thai Town" on North Pulaski Avenue. A golden Buddhist statute is near the entrance door and we were warmly greeted and ushered to our table in one of the various rooms of the 'old police station'. They serve beer and wine, both of which were ordered. Two deluxe appetizers, consisting of crab Rangoon, larb moo tord, pot stickers and substituting mini fish sticks; all very tasty; were enjoyed by all. There were the usual Thai items, but including ones not usually on the typical menu. There were hot pots, noodles dishes and rice came with most of the entrees. The service was prompt, friendly and well informed. The prices are very reasonable and awesome food; a must try! Our next outing will be May 22nd. Watch for notice and come join us!

First Communion, Sunday, April 10th.
We enjoyed a special presentation from the Doerfler, Ruger, Abu-Absi, Santana, Egan, Stewart-Couch, Hays, Harnish, Johnson, Campbell-Stanek, and Volkens Families who participated in this year's class. A special reception followed.



GATHER

WORSHIP is on Sundays at 8 and 10:30 AM. (9:30 AM in the summer, Memorial Day thru Labor Day.) Come as you are and experience uplifting music, an inspiring message, and the powerful sacrament of weekly communion.

CHURCH COUNCIL oversees the business of the church, but delegates work to 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 information.

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 773-764-3140.

MOPS (MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS) a morning group for moms! Discussions and speakers focus on relevant, important and interesting topics. Meets at 4332 N. Winchester Ave. Cost is \$10 and includes childcare on site. For questions or to RSVP, please contact Tarah Dickerson at tdickerson15@hotmail.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 or Chris Wallis.

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 health information. Contacts: Millie Ostrander 773-281-5762; Anne Barsano 773-472-6037.

WORSHIP PARTICIPATION We welcome artists, actors, singers, instrumentalists, readers... we value creativity in our praise!

WOMENS 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. Contact: **Millie Ostrander** 773-281-5762

PREPARE

PILGRIM LUTHERAN SCHOOL provides "Academic Excellence with a Heart" for students ages preschool through 8th grade. Seats available!

CONFIRMATION CLASS AND YOUTH GROUP are programs open to all ages, but designed for those in 7th to 12th grades to grow confident in their identity as a Christian and to prepare them for a lifetime of service to God and the world.

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS meet at various times and places to help us listen for God's voice and grow as leaders for God's mission in the world.

EXPLORING THE BIBLE CLASS Sunday mornings, 9:15 AM, September through May.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS ...this helps children and people of all ages learn the language of faith, the Ten Commandments, the creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the meaning of the sacraments, including communion.

GIRL SCOUTS Pilgrim Church is the home of four troops of Girl Scouts: Cadettes, Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, Seniors, and Ambassadors. Contact Judy Daniel 773-547-2956.

PRAYER TIME on Saturdays at 8:30 AM in the parsonage, 4332 N. Winchester Ave.

SUMMER VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL for children ages 3 to Grade 5. Enjoy music, art, drama, games, snacks, and bible lessons. Teens and adults are invited to serve as volunteers.

SUNDAY SCHOOL and NURSERY Sundays at 10:15 AM. Come for an interactive, inter-generational Sunday School program for all ages. Music, bible learning, drama, art, and snacks... for everyone!

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** 773-561-5419 or cewallis1949@yahoo.com.

SENT to SERVE

FOOD MINISTRIES- HOT MEALS provides Saturday noon meals for the community. **PARTNERSHIPS with local Food Pantries** (Lincoln Square Friendship Center and Common Pantry). We are a launch site for Pilgrim Hope Chicago, and have started a **Hydroponics Garden!** Each team commits to a three-hour shift (10 AM-1 PM) about four times a year. New volunteers always welcome! Contact **Janet Taylor** 773-777-4052 or jkstay@aol.com.

EL SALVADOR MISSION TRIP every year July 31 through August 10. Work with children, medical ministry, solar energy project, construction projects, sponsoring children to go to school, youth ministry, homeless ministry. **MOMS IN TOUCH** Part of an international organization. All Pilgrim School mothers are invited to join us in the church parlor on Wednesdays, 9-10:10 AM, to pray for our children and school (childcare provided). Call **Cathy Basler** 773-509-0988

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 Co-Presidents, **Anna Lambros** 773-612-3563 or **Carrie Goerne**.

PILGRIM KIDS CARE provides children and their families with hands on service opportunities. We partner with the Night Ministry, Coat Angels, Pablo Casals Elementary, the Common Pantry, and Lincoln Square Friendship Center Food Pantry.

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.

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 first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM in the school Library. For more information, contact **Chad Smith**.