



**Pilgrim Lutheran**  
CHURCH AND SCHOOL  
*Academic Excellence with a Heart*

# PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

4300 N Winchester Ave, Chicago, IL 60613  
Phone 773•477•4824 Fax 773•477•8996  
[www.pilgrimchurchandschool.org](http://www.pilgrimchurchandschool.org)

▪ Rev Kristian Johnson, *Pastor*

▪ Christopher Comella, *Principal*

Mike Suhajda,  
*Congregation President*

**June 2016**

Jeanne Valencia,  
*Volunteer Editor*

## Season Of The Spirit! (Pastor Kristian Johnson)



Welcome to the Season of the Holy Spirit! The church celebrates Pentecost this year, starting with May 15th, and continuing ALL THE WAY to Christ the King Sunday, the 20th of November. Why do you think the liturgical Gods made Pentecost the longest season?

Good question.

One reason is because the Holy Spirit has SO MUCH to teach us. God invites us to become students of the Holy Spirit!

In a world where more and more people say, "I'm not sure what I believe about God, or church, or Jesus...we have this thing called the *Holy Spirit*."

As we hear people say, I'm spiritual, but not religious... they are acknowledging there is something... mysterious and real... that is out there... and they're right!

But the experience of Pentecost proves that it's not only up there or out there... but also with us... and in us... So let us become students of the Holy Spirit, and active vessels of its love, grace, creativity, and power in this season...

I close with a prayer from Pastor Ted Loder:

Loving God,  
send the gift of your Spirit  
to fill this place  
and ourselves  
and the world.  
Touch us  
with truth  
that burns like fire,  
with beauty  
that moves us like the wind;  
and set us free,  
free to try new ways of living;  
free to forgive ourselves and others;  
free to love and laugh and sing;  
free to lay aside our burden of security;

free to join the battle for justice and peace;  
free to see and listen and wonder again;  
at the gracious mystery of things and persons;  
free to be,  
to give,  
to receive,  
to rejoice as children of your Spirit.  
And,  
teach us how to dance,  
to turn around  
and come down where we want to be,  
in the arms and heart of your people  
and in you,  
that we may praise and enjoy you forever.

Ted Loder, Guerillas of Grace (adapted)

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING- Sunday, June 12th at 10:45 AM

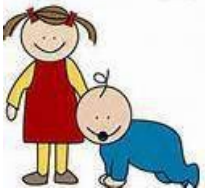
Calling all members! Join us after worship on Sunday, June 12th as we lift up our mission and vote on a proposed budget for the 2016-17 year.



**Endowment Fund Matching Gifts!** In honor of her parents and Pilgrim, member Marian Azzaro has made the following invitation and challenge to the Pilgrim community: From now until June 19th (Father's Day) Marian will match the first 20 gifts of \$50 or more to the Pilgrim Church Endowment Fund with a \$50 gift of her own. (for a maximum of \$1000). So that we can best track this, please use the "Online Giving" link on the web page **[www.pilgrimchurchandschool.org](http://www.pilgrimchurchandschool.org)** Create your online profile (unless you have one already), and designate the "Church Endowment Fund."

### Save the Dates:

- ★ Sunday, June 12th - Congregational Meeting at 10:45 AM
- ★ June 22-24 - UKANDU Sports Camp
- ★ June 23-25 - Youth Mission Weekend
- ★ Monday, June 27th through Friday, July 1st - Vacation Bible School!
- ★ Sunday, July 3rd through Thursday, July 7th - Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Family Camp
- ★ July 5-8, 11-15, and 18-22 – Pilgrim Summer Enrichment Program
- ★ July 31st – August 10th – El Salvador Mission Trip



**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](mailto:katieruger@gmail.com) if you're interested. Thanks so much!

**Auction Thank You!** - Our final numbers are in from the "Totally 80's Pilgrim Prom" auction fundraiser and we raised over \$70,000! Thank you to Samantha Doerfler and our wonderful team of volunteers!



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

**Pilgrim held an Ice Cream Social** on June 1st in the Pilgrim Playground in honor of Mrs. Daczyszyn (Grades 2/3) and Ms. Huelskoetter (Grades 1/ 2) as they retire from classroom teaching. We will also be using the 9:30 AM service on Sunday, June 12th to honor Karen Huelskoetter for her work in the classroom as a member of our congregation.



Pictured left to right: Former Principal David Maring, Current Principal Chris Comella, Ms. Karen Huelskoetter, Mrs. Stephanie Daczyszyn, Pastor Nicholas Zook

**Thank You!** - to everyone who walked and contributed to this year's, 3-mile Walk/Run to Reach El Salvador on Sunday, May 22nd! Because of your generous support, we raised over \$1700 for Pilgrim Participants and their mission this summer in partnership with the Lutheran Church of El Salvador.



**Helping Vets** - Currently, there are several hundred homeless veterans in Chicago. When a veteran leaves a shelter or transitional housing and moves to a permanent residence, they often do not have the basic items needed to setup a home. These are things that you and I may take for granted, but the men and women who bravely defended our freedom often go without. Alderman Pawar is collecting household items to support our vets as they move into permanent homes. The items listed on a sheet available on the back table will be accepted at the 47th Ward Office (4243 N. Lincoln) through June. For more information, please call [\(773\) 868-4747](tel:(773)868-4747) or email [info@chicago47.org](mailto:info@chicago47.org)



This group knows a little bit more about the struggle for justice in Palestine, thanks to guest presenter, Elisabeth Trost on Sunday, May 22nd.



## Summer Opportunities

**New Pilgrim Sports Camp**—Join us for our first summer sports camp, happening **June 20th-24th** from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM at Pilgrim! We will be playing basketball, volleyball, and soccer while growing together with old and new friends! Pilgrim is partnering with UKANDU <https://ukanduchicago.wordpress.com> to provide this outreach program for FREE. Snacks and drinks will be provided and we ask you to bring a bag lunch. Please spread the word! Flyers and registration forms are available in the school office and on the back table of the church.



### **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](mailto:cewallis1949@yahoo.com) for more information.

**Summer Enrichment Program—July 5-8, July 11-15, July 18-22, 9 AM to 1 PM.** Ages 4-9. For flyer and registration forms, visit <http://tinyurl.com/pilgrimenrich> or contact Camp Coordinator, Arlene Calderone at [amjcalderone@gmail.com](mailto:amjcalderone@gmail.com)



## Dining Reviews: Shokran (Julie Lea)



On a delightful Sunday in May, our large dining group had a taste of 'good ole southern cookin' at Luella's Southern Kitchen on Lincoln Avenue.

They were extremely accommodating by reserving our tables and taking our orders. It is BYOB, so beer and wine were shared. It is a lively, rather small space with light wood paneled walls and colorful, stylized pictures on the walls. The menu consists of chicken gumbo, fried chicken and collard greens, BBQ brisket with mac & cheese, which was very popular, creole catfish, shrimp & grits; all

being very tasty and delicious. We all enjoyed warm, beignets for dessert. It is a great addition to the restaurants in the neighborhood; inexpensive and family friendly.

Next month, June 26th, noon brunch at Misericordia, 6300 North Ridge will be our dining outing.



## School Subjects

(Principal Christopher Comella)

### Congratulations Pilgrim Class Of 2016!

(Friday, June 3rd-Pilgrim 8th Grade Graduation Service, 6:30 PM)

#### GRADUATE

Jocelyn Basler

Cole Friedman

Maya Llewellyn

Cristal Reyes

Ruby Zlotkowski

#### HIGH SCHOOL DESTINATION

Lincoln Park High School

Northside College Preparatory High School

Jones College Preparatory High School

Phillips Exeter Academy

Lincoln Park High School



**Pilgrim Playlot Project Update.** The playlot for our preschoolers is in desperate need of renovation. The roof over the annex and under the playlot is also in need of repair. This part of the building is strategically very important to growing our ministry and our school. The Pilgrim Playlot Committee is selling tiles to support this timely effort. Each tile costs \$100. It's all part of Pilgrim's goal to raise \$50,000. Right now, at \$19,000, we're almost halfway there. Watch the video at <http://pilgrimchurchandschool.org/play> and prayerfully consider supporting this project! Share the Play Lot Project with grandparents, aunts, uncles, family and friends, too! To donate today, drop a check in the office, send it via paypal or donate on our website [www.pilgrimchurchandschool.org](http://www.pilgrimchurchandschool.org)

#### History Extravaganza Musical and Film Fest!!

Standing ovations to Pilgrim students and teachers for bringing US historical events to the stage in two wonderful performances!

Many thanks to Mrs. Tighe, Mrs. Andreen, Mrs. Cardo, and all the parent, students, and staff that made this possible.



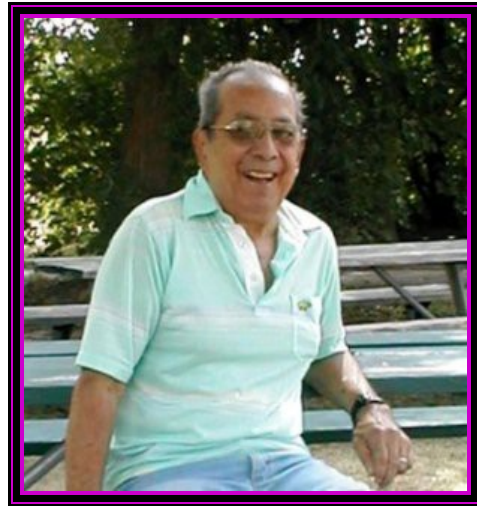
#### † The last day of school is Wednesday, June 8th

Students report to their respective homerooms at the usual start times. **Chapel starts at 9 AM on June 8th.** Our final chapel is our last time to recognize the good work accomplished this school year, and to bid "Farewell and Godspeed" to those who are leaving Pilgrim. Teachers dismiss students at the conclusion of chapel.

Starting Thursday, June 9, Pilgrim offices are open on an abbreviated schedule from 8:30 AM to 2 PM.

*The family of the late Vito Valencia would like to thank all who participated in his memorial service. We warmly appreciate the gifts, cards, prayers, calls, and words of support we received during these difficult days. God bless you.*

*\_ Jeanne, Vidal, Raymond, Jason, and Jonathan*



*9/11/1927-3/11/2016)*

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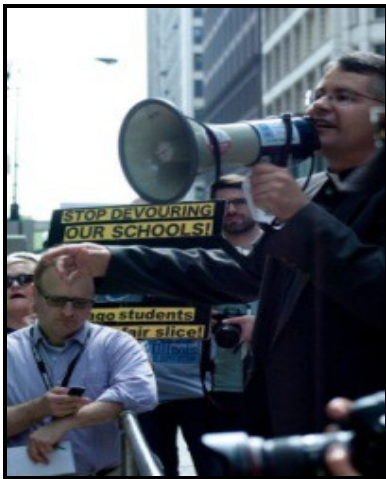
## Hot Meals Ministry

*(Janet Taylor)*



HOT MEALS is asking for your help in inviting more homeless and/or needy guests to our meal together every Saturday at 11:30 AM in Maring Hall. The church office has flyers that you can distribute.

For more information Re: HOT MEALS contact Janet Taylor - [jkstay@aol.com](mailto:jkstay@aol.com) or 773-777-4052.



## Speaking Out In Unity

Pastor Kristian Johnson joined other CPS parents in a march from the Thompson Center to Chicago Public School Headquarters on Wednesday, May 25th with one clear message: Fair and sustainable funding of public education.

He was interviewed by both ABC7 and Univision (in Spanish).

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**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!



# Update On Mission Gifts From The Growing Forward Capital Campaign

Thanks to God, Pilgrim Lutheran Growing Forward Capital Campaign raised \$117,811 as of December 31, 2015. Of this total, \$49,538 was rolled over from the previous Capital Campaign and new offerings amounted to \$68,273.

This is something to celebrate! And one of the wonderful goals of our ongoing Pilgrim Campaign is our commitment to give \$5,000 of every \$50,000 raised to God's mission reaching out beyond Pilgrim! Thanks to the generosity of everyone participating in this and the previous Capital Campaign, Pilgrim was able to make possible the following grants in 2015:

\$ 800 for ELCA/World Hunger for digging a well.

\$ 715 for ELCA/Good Gifts for purchasing a family farm for feeding families in need

\$ 300 for ELCA/Good Gifts for two Ambulance Bikes

\$ 400 for ELCA/Good Gifts for School Supplies for a classroom for a year

\$2360 for Pilgrim El Salvador Solar Team to bring electricity to 10 rural homes

\$1000 for Pilgrim El Salvador Farming Hope/Lane Tech Homeland Helpers irrigation project

\$1000 for Hope House Clinic at Homeless Shelter for medicine and supplies

\$1000 for UCAN for development of new Lawndale Campus serving at-risk youth

\$1730 for Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago for Tuition Assistance

\$2000 for Luther North College Prep High School for Tuition Assistance

**And, so far, in 2016, Church Council has approved the following new grants:**

\$ 500 for Coat Angels to keep at least 10 Chicago children warm

\$2000 for Luther North College Prep High School Tuition Assistance

\$2000 for Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Colon, El Salvador, to buy land for their church and its mission to serve refugees

As soon as we raise the next \$31,726, we will have reached \$100,000 in new donations for our Pilgrim Growing Forward Capital Campaign and another \$5,000 will be available to expand the mission of Pilgrim with more Mission Gifts! We pray and encourage everyone to be part of raising this money so that it can be released with our prayers to spread the love of Jesus in this earth and lift many people up!

## **Schedule for Mission Gift Meetings and Applications for 2016 – 2017**

Two years ago, the Church Council created a Mission Gifts Team to recommend Mission Gift grants to the Council for approval. However the Mission Gift Team depends on all of you in the congregation for input as to whom you think would be worthy recipients. Please think about where you would like your Mission Gift money to go, and submit an application to the Mission Gifts Team. And, in order to encourage everyone to participate in the Mission Gifts program, we scheduled application deadlines over the next 12 months. The applications will be considered at a Mission Gift Team meeting two weeks after the deadline. The upcoming dates are:

- Oct 05, 2016 Applications Due to Pilgrim Church Office for 3rd Grant Cycle 2016
- Jan 11, 2017 Applications Due to Pilgrim Church Office for 1st Grant Cycle 2017

Grant applications are available in the Mission Gift notebook on the table in the narthex and should be submitted to the church office. If you have any questions, feel free to contact anyone on the Mission Gifts Team.

With our thanks and prayers in Jesus Christ,

Anna-Kari Johnson, for the Mission Gifts Team (Tarah Dickerson, Joe Cardo, Claudia George, Anna-Kari)





## Rai\$ing Fund\$

(Anne Barsano)



**JUNE** is the month for beautiful brides, fresh-faced graduates and handsome and loving dads! Why not purchase a gift card from Pilgrim to honor them, whether it be from a specialty store, such as Bed, Bath and Beyond, Macy's, Carson's, Crate & Barrel, William-Sonoma, Dick's, Bass Pro Shop, Barnes & Noble, iTunes or a generic one, such as Visa \$50 (no activation fee) or Amazon (\$10, \$25, 50 or \$100)? We will be selling after the Sunday service and in the school office on Mondays from

9-10 AM. You may also contact Anne Barsano at [cbarsan@aol.com](mailto:cbarsan@aol.com) or 773•472•6037 to place an order and arrange for pick up.



**Our Magazine Drive** will be held in September but don't let that keep you from renewing or ordering subscriptions for a gift over the summer. Go to [www.gaschoolstore.com](http://www.gaschoolstore.com) where Pilgrim's account number is 2633014. Ordering subscriptions this way starts or renews 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 items earn for Pilgrim! Contact Anne Barsano at



[cbarsano@aol.com](mailto:cbarsano@aol.com) or 773•472•6037 with questions.

Do you purchase from **Office Depot/Office Max**, either online or at the store? Did you know that you can go to [www.officedepot.com](http://www.officedepot.com) to 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.



### Happy Fathers Day



### Coffee Hour Teams

#### JUNE

(After 9:30 Worship)

- 05 The Azzaros; L Cardo; J Stoker
- 12 The Gronaus; The Heintzes
- 19 The Williams; A Campbell
- 26 J Daniel; K Danner



Do you work for a company that offers matching gifts? If so, please consider inviting your company to make a matching gift to "Pilgrim Lutheran Church English Synod", which is our official name on the federal register of religious non-profits. Thank you!



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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**.