



Pilgrim's Progress April 2024



Pilgrim United Church of Christ

FROM YOUR MINISTER

Grace and Peace to you,

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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- Youth Rummage Sale, April 27, p. 5
- Inclusion & W.I.S.E Articles, p. 10
- Older Adult Resource Article, p. 11
- Steeple Repair & Lift Articles, p. 14
- Music/Tech Appreciation, p. 15
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- Blood Drive, May 9, p. 6



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Sister Paracleta was my supervisor in Clinical Pastoral Education. It was from her that I learned the phrase *"Trust the process."*

It is a phrase I have learned to love and hate at the same time. Usually, *"Trust the process"* is uttered when moving through periods of change, growth, and struggle (or all of the above). And it serves as a reminder that sometimes we will meet uncertainty. And, we are supposed to trust the process and lean into the discomfort. And (most importantly for me) to resist the urge of control.

Easter is a primary example of *"trusting the process."*

It is a season and a moment in our tradition when we freely leave behind all that we knew (or thought we knew) and lean into the process of resurrection. A process that we unfortunately and fortunately have no control over.

Mary Magdalene, the other Mary, and Salome teach us about this process on Easter morning. They arrive at the tomb ready to carefully tend to Jesus' body. They arrive to ease (and control) the natural processes of death and dying armed with herbs, spices, and oils. But, they catch a surprise when Jesus is not there. And they are immersed in a process of resurrection—one they did not and cannot control.

This speaks to me as a preacher, who every year fights the urge to say something bold new and profound on Easter Sunday. Instead of giving up my control (and ego) and simply trusting the process of resurrection. I could say something beautiful and poetic - *and Jesus is still risen*. I could say something boring and confusing - *and Jesus is still risen*. Regardless of what I do (much like Mary, Mary, and Salome), the moment of resurrection occurs.

And where we get stuck? **Trust.** If not me, then who? If not Mary, Mary, and Salome, then who?

Well, the shortest and easiest answer is, of course, *God.*

And Christ.

And the Holy Spirit.

Easter arrives and grounds us in the reality that there is very little you, or I, or Mary, Mary, and Salome can do to usher in resurrection. It just happens because it is part of the process of resurrection. And it arrives—not out of our will or action, but because of *God's hope and God's process.*

Today, friends, and in the season of Easter, we are invited to trust in the process of God. A process that lives above and beyond all our hands, our work, our lives, and our control. And we call the end of this process: **Grace.**



Happy Easter, dear friends. Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed.

With much love, Pastor Ashley

PILGRIM ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPEN STAFF POSITIONS at Pilgrim are listed below. Job descriptions are included on page 13, available at church, and also on our website.

Please send letter of interest and resume to Pastor Ashley.

- Children's Ministry Coordinator
- Membership & Volunteer Coordinator
- Outreach/Marketing Coordinator



STEEPLE REPAIR PROJECT

Steeple removal repair work will begin the week of April 8. Please visit page 14 to read about the project and how it will temporarily impact areas of the church. Please check in with the office that week (M-W) if you plan to visit, as well as about parking availability.

YOUTH RUMMAGE SALE—Please bring your donations to the church during office hours, on Sundays, or other occasions when the church is open.

The rummage sale will be held here on Saturday, **April 27, from 8am—3 pm.**

More details...see page 5



Pilgrim's online giving link:

[Online Giving](#)

Pilgrim Website:



PLATFORM LIFT (Elevator) REPLACEMENT FUNDING PROGRAM:

Please visit page 14 to learn more about how you can support this Capital Funding Project.

Church Clean-up Day

Saturday, May 4 (8 am – noon)

Volunteers can gather anytime between 8 am and noon. Spend a few hours assisting with exterior window cleaning, lawn care, landscape beds, exterior window cleaning, shrub & tree trimming, and other general outdoor work. Please use the sign-up sheet in the narthex, SignUpGenius, or call the office to let us know you are planning to be here. We may want to contact you to bring along some specific tools for the work. **Thank you.**



DELEGATES NEEDED:

Wisconsin Conference UCC / Southeast Association Annual Meeting

Saturday, April 27, 9:00 am-2:30 pm

Please contact the office to register for the meeting. Pastor Ashley will drive.



This month, you will find articles from the **Inclusion Committee** and an **Older Adult Resource Section**, page 10-11

The **W.I.S.E** Team has also included an article with a link to a survey—please take a look on page 10.

April Scripture Readings

7	Marks of Faith	Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31
14	Christ Among Us	Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48
21	Enfolded by Love	Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18
28	Abiding in Love	Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

"Blessed are those who have not seen and have yet believed."

—JOHN 20:29



MISSIONS



Thank you to everyone who participated in the **POP TAB COLLECTION FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE, MKE.** Our friendly intergenerational competition was a lot of fun. The winning generation will be announced in early April. Thank you to all for a job well done!

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING –As soon as total donations are available, we will let the congregation know and will also send a Wisconsin Conference Office.

Thank you for supporting the special UCC Lenten Offering for “sharing the light.”



FAMILY PROMISE OF OZAUKEE COUNTY

We are looking for more members to join our Family Promise team. Beginning this year, Pilgrim will no longer be partnering with another church to provide meals to Family Promise, so we will need many hands to help out. We will be providing meals the weeks of **April 1-5, July 15-19, and October 7-11.** If you are interested in this wonderful volunteer opportunity or have questions, please contact our Volunteer Coordinators Brandon Mikulski, mikulskib06@gmail.com or Marji Groth at Marji_groth@yahoo.com. SignUpGenius Link: [Family Promise Volunteers](#) Thank you!



Family Promise of Ozaukee County seeks to end homelessness in Ozaukee County by rebuilding lives with compassion, and providing resources and services to individuals and families at risk of homelessness in the community. Our organization works to help anyone experiencing homelessness secure safe and stable housing. Our homeless services offer a continuum of care from the first call for help to securing housing. We support our clients every step of the way.

MR. BOB’S UNDER THE BRIDGE MINISTRY— Beginning **Sunday, April 7 - April 28,** we will be collecting the following items for Mr. Bob’s Under the Bridge Ministry:

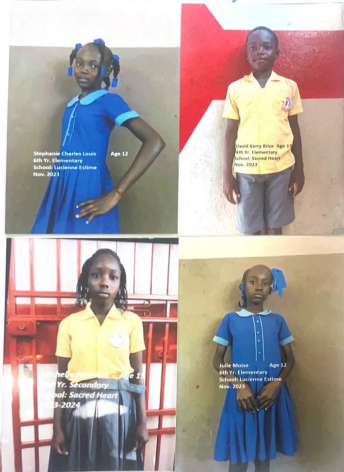
- ***NEW, unopened men’s, women’s, & children’s underwear**—the need is especially great for men’s underwear sizes M & L
- ***Travel-size toiletries** – shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes.
- ***Regular size deodorant.**

There will be a collection bin in the carport entrance for your donated items. Thank you!



*Mr. Bob’s Under the Bridge Ministry began in September 2007 with 6 backpacks and an open heart for distributing to our friends in the City of Milwaukee. In 2012, Mr. Bob’s became a 501(C)3 to enable them to better serve those in need in the city. In July 2019, Mr. Bob’s launched a mobile shower trailer to provide hygienic options for those they meet and serve. Today, their Mission continues to focus on **building a family of volunteers who embody our culture of serving others and committing to the well-being of the homeless and the hurting.***

MIREBALAIS, HAITI



HAITIAN STUDENTS It has been a joy to be part of a ministry at Pilgrim which educates our four students in Haiti. Education in Haiti for most students is rare, but we find that when possible, they are eager to learn, seldom miss a class, and that most of them walk to school with probably empty stomachs. The gross income in Haiti is about \$1,800. (Education is not in that kind of budget.) **Ventures In People** can educate a student in Haiti for \$175. Here in Wisconsin, we invest over \$12,000 a year (Wisconsin Census) to educate a student. Certainly, we can find it in our hearts (budget) to donate money to educate our four students in Haiti at a cost of \$175 per student.

For more information, contact George Schowalter Ventures In People Board member.

VENTURES IN PEOPLE (VIP)

Beginning Sunday, April 14 -

we will be asking for donations to continue our sponsorship of 4 students in Mirebalais, Haiti.

Your gift to help sponsor these children is greatly appreciated!



Our next Mission Team Meeting will be Sunday, June 2, following the 9:00 am service.

Any Pilgrim member/friend interested in joining the Mission Team is welcome to attend.

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

-Gandhi

Pilgrim Children's Hour

Sunday Mornings

1st-6th Grades" 10:25 am—11:30 am

3K-5K Will begin after children's time during the 10:30 service

If you haven't already, click [here](#) to register your child for the 2023-24 program year.



Exploring God's Love
Pilgrim Children's Hour
United Church of Christ



During the month of April, we will be exploring the stories of **The Empty Tomb** and **Zacchaeus**, and more!
We will also be celebrating Earth Day on Sunday, April 28!



Sunday, April 21 - Family Worship Service

Intergenerational Worship Services are held on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 10:30 am. Families are invited to begin worship together and then ALL children (3K-6th grade) will be invited downstairs for a snack, video message, and activity. The children will rejoin the worship service during communion.

August 4-8: Vacation Bible School
Open to kids currently in
3K - 4th Grades

**We will need volunteers currently in 5th-12th grades, and adults too!!!*

***Still looking to fill a
Children's Ministry
Position!**

Upcoming Dates:

April 21 - Family Worship Service

May 19 - Family Worship Service & last Children's Hour before summer break. Children will sing at the service, too!

August 4-8 - Vacation Bible School

Contact the Children's Ministry Team:

pilgrimchildrensministry@gmail.com

Devon Polzar -

Elementary/Middle School Education Coordinator

Tracey Van Ryzin -

Children's Ministry Education Coordinator



Have unwanted items lying around your home?
 Donate them to Pilgrim's Rummage Sale!



Saturday, April 27
 8 AM - 3 PM

Pilgrim Church
 1621 2nd Ave



*****Fundraiser for Pilgrim's Youth Mission Trip***
 Donated items for the sale can be dropped off in the World Room**

**We NEED Volunteers to set up, clean up, and run the sale!!!
 Please click [here](#) to sign up! We need help from all of Pilgrim's amazing volunteers!!!**

Confirmation Classes Resume on Wednesday April 3

Thank you to all those who donated and attended the
Youth ST. PATRICK'S DAY LUNCHEON to help raise funds for
 this summer's Youth Mission Trip to Hiram Farm in Ohio.

UPCOMING DATES:

Mission Trip Meeting—April 14

Pilgrim Rummage Sale—April 27 (Youth Mission Trip
 Fundraiser)



Confirmation Sunday—May 19 (10:30 service)

Youth Mission Trip—July 7-13



Contact the Youth Ministries Team: pilgrimyouthministriesgrifton@gmail.com

Devon Polzar
 Elementary/Middle School
 Coordinator

Meg Claeys
 Middle/High School Coordinator



SOCIAL AND ENRICHMENT / SPRING EVENTS

WOMEN'S JOURNEY - arrangements TBD (steeple repair). Stay tuned!

COFFEE CHAT is **Thursday, April 18, at 10:00 am** in the Conference Room. The discussion question will be, "*For what in your life do you feel most grateful?*"

SCOPA Group will not meet this month.

SHEEPSHEAD The group will meet at 1:00 pm on Fridays—**April 12 & 26**—Conference Room.

FUNSETTERS will gather for lunch next on **April 24, at 11:30 am**, Bamboo Bistro, Grafton. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex, the deadline to sign up is *Sunday, April 14*.



SAVE THE DATE:

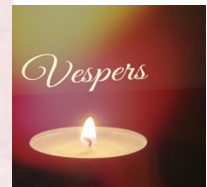
Spring Clean-up

Saturday, May 4, 8am—noon

Full article on page 2

VESPERS with Pastor Ashley returns on Wednesday, April 17, at 6:15 pm.

The link will be provided in the mid-week email.



VERSITI BLOOD DRIVE at PILGRIM

Thursday, May 9, 12:00-5:00 pm



Link to Donate and Save Lives:

[Donate Blood](#)

We welcome volunteers at the check-in table.

Please contact the office to take a shift of your choice: officemgr@pilgrimuccrafton.org

CAPUCHIN COMMUNITY WALK FOR THE HUNGRY FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024

The Capuchin Walk for the Hungry returns to Polish Fest on June 14, 2024.

All proceeds from the walk benefit Capuchin Community Services as they carry out their outreach to people facing hunger, homelessness, and poverty at House of Peace and St. Ben's Community Meal program. The registration fees are \$40 per adult and \$25 per child. Online registration closes at noon on Wednesday, June 5, 2024. After that, you can register at the main gate on Friday, June 14, 2024, starting at 5:30 PM.



Registration includes 3 days of entry to Polish Fest free.

Sunday Adult Study Series continues:

Sunday Adult Study Series

“Creation Stories of the Ancient World”

Within the scope of the ancient world, the cultures of the Mediterranean produced a stunning wealth of literary accounts of creation. Here, we find compelling creation stories in texts from cultures such as ancient Mesopotamia, often called the birthplace of civilization, and the majestic empire of ancient Egypt, as well as lesser-known cultures such as Ugarit and the Hittite civilization, and the more familiar Greek and Israelite worlds.

Join us between services in the downstairs conference room as we continue our *12-week* DVD study, which will explore a long history of how creation was understood by very early peoples.

CRAFT NIGHT at PILGRIM:

Thursday, April 18, 6:30 pm

Please bring the project of your choice to the coffee room and enjoy conversation and crafting!

The group has moved to the 3rd Thursday of the month. All are welcome!



Our Thanks to....

Women’s Self-Care Sampler - To everyone who helped to make this special evening a success, and to all those who participated as well!

Breakfast & Learn—To Beth Hartman & Patty Guist for sharing their “Grand Circle Tour” video presentation.

St. Patrick’s Day Lunch—to the youth leaders, volunteers, and all those who provided food and attended this wonderful event! Our thanks to Hope Holland-Mullins for all of her efforts to make this 1st Annual St. Pat’s youth fundraising meal a huge success.

Lenten Meals—to all the committees and teams who hosted/provided a meal, as well as for all the prep and clean-up. Thanks also to those who also provided foods and attended in support of One Great Hour of Sharing.

Easter Cantata—to the music leaders and vocalists who provided such a special presentation of “At His Name.”

Easter Flowers—to everyone who donated the beautiful flowers in the sanctuary.

Worship Team—for all efforts throughout Lent and Easter, and always.

Property & Grounds—to all the team members for their continued work regarding the lift and steeple arrangements.

For Healing and Strength:

*For Airman Aaron Schubert, as he is deployed to the Middle East and for his wife, Natalie, and Aaron’s family, Deanne, Jesse, & Sam

*For Richard Martin, who was receiving rehab at Cedar Community, and has now been moved to Cedar West.

*For Phyllis Testrake, who is discontinuing chemotherapy treatment.

*For Don Huibregtse, who is making plans for a bone marrow transplant

*For Bill and Sue Marten, Bill, who was diagnosed with a seizure disorder, and Sue, who is being treated for a chronic sinus infection.

*For Dan & Karen Weiss, who had recent surgeries; Dan with carpal tunnel surgery, and Karen, for 3 areas of skin cancer.

*For Jack & Lila Landmann, as they explore new living arrangements.

*For Carol Proctor, who recovers at home from recent surgery

*For Ethan, friend of Robyn Wiegand and Robert Olmr, who is undergoing aggressive chemotherapy after a year of remission.

*For Mary Davies, who is in hospice care.

*For Kathy Ellenbecker, who has begun physical therapy following hip surgery.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

*For all those who are expecting.

*For peace in our world of strife.

*For all those who struggle with mental illness.

*For all who are caregivers for family & friends.

*For the safety of our military men and women.

*For all who are homebound in senior living communities and assisted living facilities.

*For our brothers & sisters at Mount Horeb Baptist Church.

With Sympathy

*For Ray Kremer, who lost his brother, Jim, last month.



OUR MEMBERS IN CARE FACILITIES OR HOMEBOUND

Mary Davies, Village Pointe Commons

Pam Paul, Home

Carolyn Fuhr, Village Pointe Commons

Elizabeth Hembel, Lasata Care Center

Ryllis Guist, Newcastle Place

Richard Martin, Cedar West



OUR MEMBERS IN THE SERVICE

Garrett Rescorla, Boot Camp,

US Marine Corps

Josh Meier, Army National Guard, Pvt.

Jacob Godejohn – US Marine Corps, LCpl

Owen Godejohn - US Army-Basic Training

Luke Johnson - US Navy-Builder Chief Petty Officer

Adam Lusty – US Army, Staff Sergeant

Mark Aaron Schubert - US Air Force-Ellsworth, SD,
Airman




Pilgrim's giving site includes separate line items for special donations. If you do not see the offering you are looking for, you may designate next to "General Fund"



*Pilgrim website
*Specific Giving site.



Click here for Pilgrim's [Online Giving Link](#)

Leila Behrens	<i>In honor of family</i>	
Caryn Boegel	<i>In honor of Wilton Tettenborn, father</i>	
Braby Family	<i>In memory of Gladys & Foster Braby, Dave's parents</i>	
Meg Claeys	<i>In memory of Peggy Zahn, aunt</i>	
Nadine Eernisse	<i>In memory of Bill Eernisse, husband</i>	
John & Denise Frank	<i>In memory of Kurt & Lillian Schultz and Ruth & Milton Frank, parents</i>	
Ron & Pat Hofstad	<i>In memory of Lynda Goeman, Ron's sister</i>	
Jenkins Family	<i>In memory of Sue Steckel</i>	
LaVerne Johnson	<i>In honor of great-grandchildren, Luca, Finley, Stella, Perrie, Johanna, Kylie & Annaiese</i>	
Chris & Nicole Kline	<i>In honor of our granddaughters, Athena and Eden Kline</i>	
Kory, Oli, Kyle, & Parker Kobliska	<i>In honor of Linda Kobliska. In memory of Kim & Lester Kobliska, family</i>	
Tink & Dick Linhart	<i>Honoring faith and family</i>	
Bill & Susan Maca	<i>In memory of Linda L. Defurio & Gail M. Childs, sisters of Bill</i>	
Dale & Diane Nauta	<i>In honor of family and friends</i>	
Geoff & Val Nauth	<i>In honor of Olivia, Vincent, Ada, and Amar, grandchildren</i>	
Pastor Ashley Nolte	<i>In honor of my kids, Grace and Peter, and in memory of my grandparents, Ralph & June, and Stan & Lilah</i>	
Butch & Nola Paegelow	<i>In memory of Ralph & Mildred Wegner, parents</i>	
Dave & Melissa Pfeiffer	<i>In memory of Aileen Pfeiffer and Mel & Bea Trapp, parents</i>	
Polzar Family	<i>In honor of our Pilgrim Family</i>	
Lisa Quick	<i>In memory of parents & grandparents</i>	
Lynda Van Dyck	<i>In memory of Paul & Kathryn Kanios, parents, and Tom Kanios, brother</i>	
Ron Wildasin	<i>In memory of Judith Wildasin, wife</i>	
Wyka, Lucy	<i>In memory of Gene Wyka, husband</i>	



PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME TAG!

Wearing your name tag is so helpful to all members! If you do not have a name tag or misplaced it, please let the office know and we order a new one.

LOST & FOUND / EMPTY CONTAINERS: Items will be at the carport for a couple of weeks; remaining items will be donated to the rummage sale, if applicable.

APPROVED COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS—February 20, 2024**Treasurer's Report:**

Regular giving for January was \$27k. This is comparable to January 2023 level but \$2k below our 2024 target. Endowment funds were flat in January. Operating expenses were \$28k for January. This is \$3k below budget driven in large part by reduced payroll costs due to open positions and favorable snow plow expenses. We recorded \$1k of Continuing Education expenses during the month. Overall Operating Loss of \$2k for the month.

Pastor's Report:

Delivered and discussed. Lent services have begun. Sue Steckel memorial classroom was dedicated last week. First meeting of grief support group was February 9. Rescheduled Women's Self-Care Sampler to take place March 1. Working with Staff relations to finalize the job descriptions for the two new position and the interim sabbatical contract.

Old Business:

- Annual meeting review: Meeting was very well attended. Availability of child care during the meeting was much appreciated. Hybrid meeting format was well received. Discussed lessons learned as well as suggestions for improvement received from Tech Team.
- Interim Call Contract: Reviewed call contract that will be extended to Sylvie Bowen-Bailey. Proposed start and end dates have been extended to allow for one week of overlap with Ashley on either side of her sabbatical dates. Sabbatical support team has been assembled to assist Sylvie Bowen-Bailey during her time with us.
- New Positions: Reviewed job descriptions created for new positions of Volunteer Coordinator and Outreach and Marketing Coordinator.
- Lift Replacement: State approval for permit is in process. Lead time for all parts will be 8-10 weeks. Project estimated to be completed this summer.

- Committee Liaison Updates:

Building and Assets (Dave Nestler) - Computer project is almost complete. Currently waiting for proposal for replacement of AC unit(s). Work on steeple and cupola is scheduled to start after Easter with target completion early fall.

Staff (Pastor Ashley) – discussion on possibility of creating special name tags to make it easier for members/guests to identify Pilgrim staff/council members. Discussion on positioning and staffing of Welcome Table followed.

Non-Profit Security Grant (Pastor Ashley/Emma Lucht) – grant writing is now in process.

New Business:

Security – While the NPSG grant is in process, we are creating an ad hoc Security Team that will function in the interim. Emma will become a member of this team. If the grant is awarded, expected project completion date would be sometime during 2025.

Lenten meal – Council and Inclusion teams are responsible for the March 20 meal (burgers and brats).

Action Items:

Jill and Ashley will present call contract to Sylvie Bowen-Bailey Will also pursue licensing for Sylvie upon acceptance

Jill will advise Lisa of the date for the March council meeting

Ashley will work with council members regarding council 2024 President role.

Ashley will send out March 20 Lenten meal sign up sheet to Council and Inclusion Team members.

Next Meeting Date: March 14, 2024, at 6:30 pm.



From the Inclusion Team:

The prevalence of alcohol consumption and abuse in the United States is a shocking reality. The following statistics speak to this fact. It is a major concern in our society that affects individuals and families.



Alcohol use disorder is responsible for 95,510 deaths in the U.S each year.

86.4% of Americans over the age of 18 years have engaged in alcohol consumption.

15 million Americans have an alcohol use disorder, and only 8% of these people will get treatment.

80% of veterans in the U.S have some type of alcohol consumption problem.

7.5 million adolescents in the U.S. 17 years of age & younger live with at least one parent with an alcohol use disorder.

Alcohol use disorder costs the nation 249 billion dollars each year:

28 billion dollars in healthcare costs.

179 billion dollars in lost productivity in the workplace.

13 billion dollars in collision accidents.

25 billion dollars in the criminal justice system.

Individuals who drink alcohol before the age of 15 years have a five times higher risk of developing an alcohol use disorder than those who have their first drink at 21 years of age and older.

Females in this above group are at even higher risk for developing an alcohol use disorder than their male counterparts.

In 2019, 25.8% of individuals reported binge drinking in the past month:

29.7% of men

22.2% of women

Individuals who engaged in high-intensity alcohol consumption, drinking two times the amount of gender-specific binge drinking, were 70 times more likely to go to the emergency department for an adverse reaction to heavy drinking.

Individuals of all age groups who consumed more than three times the amount of gender-specific binge drinking amounts were 93 times more likely to have an alcohol-related emergency room visit.

According to the 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) statistics, almost 15 million people over the age of 12 in the U.S. had an alcohol use disorder:

9 million men

5.5 million women

Also from the 2019 NSDUH, 414,000 youth aged 12 to 17 years had an AUD:

163,000 males

251,000 females

7.2% of individuals aged 12 and older received alcohol treatment for an alcohol use disorder.

6.4% of adolescents aged 12 to 17 years received substance abuse treatment for an alcohol use disorder.

7.3% of adults 18 years of age and older received alcohol treatment for an alcohol use disorder.

Alcohol consumption combined with opioid drug use to about 22.1% of opioid-related overdose deaths.

28% of all driving fatalities were alcohol-related.

Source: <https://www.caron.org/addiction-101/alcohol-addiction/alcohol-use-disorder-statistics-and-demographics>

From the W.I.S.E. Team

Many of us may remember the warm welcome we received the first time we walked into Pilgrim UCC. A team of members is initiating the process for Pilgrim to be identified as a W.I.S.E. church to promote that same warm welcome to a wider group of people. As you may have read in last month's Pilgrim Progress, W.I.S.E. is an initiative to end the stigma around mental illness and to support people who are touched by it.

In order to best serve the congregation, we need to know what issues matter most to you. The Pilgrim W.I.S.E. team created a short survey to help us prioritize your concerns as we move forward. The online survey is available below and a link will be included in the Sunday News and Wednesday Mid-Week Update emails through the month of April. Paper copies are also available in the Narthex. This survey is anonymous and will be active through the month of April. Results will be collected and tabulated in May.

In June, the W.I.S.E. team will provide an overall conclusion of the findings to the congregation and detailed results will be available to anyone interested by contacting a W.I.S.E. team member.

Your feedback is important for us to know how to best serve you, your loved ones, and the Pilgrim community as a whole, so thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

-The W.I.S.E. team (Kris Fisher, Liz Yoon, Karen Tiffany, John Carli, Kelly DuBord, Dick Linhart, and Stephanie Polzar)



<https://forms.gle/m8S4ZMpYDdWvgo318>

**The Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ is recognizing that there may be a need for older adults to look to their church for assistance as they age.
*These needs may be of the spiritual, physical or practical nature.***

This is the first of articles that will be printed in the Pilgrim's Progress. This same article was printed in the Wisconsin Conference newsletter in March. The addition of these articles in the conference newsletter are being initiated through a committee titled Older Adults Ministry. This ministry has been meeting for the past eighteen months. They have been trying to determine how they can help churches recognize and respond to the needs of older members in the church. They also created the survey on older adults that was available at Pilgrim this past fall. As a member of that committee, I felt having articles addressing the same topic may assist members of Pilgrim. If you have a specific need and feel information on it could benefit others in our church, please contact Jan Braby at 262-501-6891 or email at brabyjan@gmail.com. Here is the first article—

The number of older adults is rapidly increasing in society and also in our church pews. Members of our congregations may be looking to the church to guide them when difficult situations present themselves to families.

The good news is that help is right around the corner. Since 1965, when the Older Americans Act was enacted in Congress, every county and tribe in Wisconsin has had a department that is responsible for assisting residents over the age of 60 with whatever questions they may have. This department expanded their services in the 2000's when the state created Aging and Disability Resource Centers. (ADRCs) An Information and Assistance Specialist is the frontline person to take any inquiry. They will suggest resources that are appropriate for the situation. Referrals may also be made to the department's Dementia Specialist, Caregiver Specialist or Elder or Disability Specialist. Based on a person's financial situation and physical condition, a person may benefit from a program called Family Care - a Medicaid program that is designed for folks who physically meet the qualifications for care and also are financially eligible. If a person's physical condition is failing and they have financial means, referrals are made to agencies or facilities that need to be paid for privately.

ADRCs are required to supply unbiased information on services that are available in the county. Other senior services operating in the state, make referrals based on companies that pay them a kickback fee if a person uses their services. The ADRC also yearly produces a resource book with information on what resources and services are available in the county. These resource books are free and can be obtained at the ADRC office or area libraries. There is no cost to make an inquiry nor is there for any follow up consultation. The phone number for the Ozaukee County Aging & Disability Resource Center is 262-284-8120 (local) or 866-537-4261.



BIRTHDAYS

1	Shawna Ogburn Brandon Peterson	10	Isabel Zurbuchen Cody Groth Ella Mueller	16	Carolyn Boatman Tiffany Chontos Brandon Mikulski	24	Jacob duVergey Dylan Hanneman Heidi Homme
2	Jack Faase Nancy Gruebling Jakob Nestler Tara Stumpf	12	Todd Brame Harry Ellenbecker	18	Louis Berns Isabelle Boegel Doug Mueller		Ed Proctor Michelle Wagner Hope Wooten Paul Zachow
3	Lydia Fischer Bella Mitchell	13	Peggy Mayer Carol Proctor Billy Willis	19	Owen Godejohn Ryan Nolte Haddie Wendorf	25	Jan Yoon Lisa Holtslander
5	Elsa Moede Shelly Papenfus Daniel Weiss	14	Dave Braby Ray Chontos Abigail Wimmer	20	Keira Bartsch Kristen Martin Martha Whitaker	27	Connor Burrows Bob Steckel
6	Erin Moede	15	Jennifer Wooten Grace Gehrke Daniel Mayer Karen Weiss	22	Toby Steckel	28	Julia Fischer Amy Leidel Tracey Van Ryzin
7	Sven Binder Dorothy Bowen Tracey Pederson Kurt Sutinen			23		29	Michael Wenzel Fred Yopps
8	Liam Binder George Schowalter Aaron Schubert Htee Sher Paw						



**Ashley, Hope, Beth, and everyone at
Pilgrim United Church of Christ:**

Thank you!!

Thank you for hosting this amazing night,
and allowing me to share my story. You
are such wonderful people, and it felt so
loving and safe with you all!

Love, Mandy



SIGNUPGENIUS LINKS:

- * [Sign Up to Usher](#)
- * [Sign Up to Read Scripture](#)
- * [Flowers](#) * [Bulletins](#)



VOLUNTEER LINK:

[Family Promise Volunteers](#)

- ◇ TREATS - To donate, please stop over to the sign-up sheet located at the kitchenette counter
- ◇ GREETERS - Watch for an email as we move down the alphabet for both 8 and 10:30 am
- ◇ WELCOME CENTER—Sign-Up is posted in the Narthex—or, just step over to the welcome area if you see someone may be in need of assistance.

Below are three staff positions currently available at Pilgrim. Complete job descriptions are located outside of the office, and also found at the website. If you would like a job description emailed to you, please contact the office.

Children’s Ministry Coordinator

Principal Function: The Children’s Ministry Coordinator is a valuable member of the church staff and is responsible for planning and facilitating Christian education classes, programming and special events for children 3K to 6th grade.

Position Type:

Part-time; 8 hours per week, not to exceed 416 hours per calendar year

Membership and Volunteer Coordinator

Principal Function: The membership and volunteer coordinator is a valuable member of the church staff. This position assists the pastor in welcoming new members. This position assists the pastor, staff, leadership teams, and congregation by establishing and creating connections within the congregation to fill committee/ program volunteer positions and foster active member involvement.

Position Type:

Part-time; 10 hours per week, not to exceed 520 hours per calendar year

Outreach and Marketing Coordinator

Principal Function: The Outreach and Marketing Coordinator is a valuable member of the church staff. This position is responsible for building and increasing the Pilgrim presence within the congregation and wider community.

Position Type:

Part-time: 6 hours per week with a flexible schedule



OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Ashley – available in the office Monday through Thursday, and can also be reached by calling 920-762-0192.

Lisa Quick or Sue Willman – available weekdays 8:30-1:00

Office Phone: 262-377-2640

Email: officemgr@pilgrimuccgrafton.org

Web Page: <https://pilgrimuccgrafton.org>

Newsletter articles due April 22



STEEPLE REPAIR

As everyone is probably aware, there has been rainwater leaking into the sanctuary, below the cupola, for the past several years. There have been several attempts by the roofers, Wenger Construction, to identify the source of the leak by inspections and water testing of the base and windows of the cupola, which have been identified as potential sources of the leaks, which have since been repaired. Unfortunately after the repair work and alleged buttoning up of the leak, a new or different leak has appeared. The latest inspection and water test last fall was concentrated at the top of the cupola and the base of the steeple, which has always been suspect. It was discovered at this time that the roof of the cupola, between and below the steeple base, was leaking because the roof of the cupola was not properly roofed and the spire of the steeple itself is not intended to be waterproof. The only way to properly re-roof the cupola roof between and below the steeple base is to remove the steeple, re-roof the top of the cupola and re-install and re-anchor the steeple to the cupola roof structure. In addition to discovering the inadequate cupola roof, it was discovered at least one of the anchor bolts securing the steeple to the roof structure was loose and at least one of the welds of the aluminum steeple frame was cracked. It was decided that the entire steeple frame and its anchor bolts should be inspected, repaired, re-skinned with aluminum cladding, and re-anchored to the re-roofed cupola roof structure. The steeple fabricator and erector will be removing the steeple with a crane and trucked back to Kentucky to be inspected, repaired, re-skinned, and returned for installation and re-anchoring on the re-roofed cupola. The inside bottom of the cupola has to be accessed with a man lift for un-anchoring and re-anchoring the steeple. Because of the excessive weight of the man lift, the narthex floor has to be temporarily shored up (temporary supports) from below in Kalweit Hall, from the removal to the re-installation of the steeple, April until approximately July. The original church addition general contractor, Jos. Schmitt, will be coordinating the steeple, re-roofing and shoring work. The majority of the costs in the steeple repair and re-roofing is covered by the building insurance policy.

- *Bob Steckel*



Platform Lift (Elevator) Replacement Funding Project

Announcing a Capital Fund Drive to fund the replacement of the platform lift (Elevator), including the entrance/exit doors, with openers on the Basement Level and Carport Level, along with the control gate on the Upper Level. After spending multiple years trying to maintain the lift at an operational and reliable level, the uptime is not acceptable. In late December 2022, the platform lift experienced a mechanical failure of the support bearing for the lift screw drive. The manufacturer of the lift has been out of business for over 20 years and repair parts are difficult to find and extremely costly. The Building & Asset Committee recommended to Church Council to replace the platform lift with a new hydraulic lift. Church Council subsequently approved the replacement project and at the annual Congregational meeting the congregation approved the replace of the platform lift and entry access points. The project cost is: \$43,671 for the indoor vertical platform lift, \$1,820 for electrical rework and state code upgrades, \$599 for adding an additional Rath ADA Phone and 24-hour connection for emergency calls, \$2,081 for rework of the landing openings to accommodate the new doorframes including Village of Grafton permit fees and \$2329 in a contingency fund for unplanned/unexpected costs. The expected project cost estimate is \$50,500. The goal is to raise the funds to cover the cost of this project by the end of June 2024.

Your donations can be made online, dropped off at the Church Office in-person, or mailed to Pilgrim Church; please designate the gifts “**Platform Lift**” If you have any questions about the platform lift replacement project, please contact Neal Hobbs.

Adult Choir - John Reiter, Director

Beth Eernisse
Dan Eernisse
Kris Fisher
Patty Guist
Beth Hartman
Ray Kremer
Marilyn Linde
Norm Loomer
Sue Loomer
Pastor Ashley Nolte
Devon Polzar
Steve Schafer
George Schowalter
Joyce Schowalter
Naomi Seiler
Larry Sween
Sue Willman
Liz Yoon
Paul Zachow



Hilltop Voice - John Reiter, Director

Dan Eernisse
Kris Fisher
Beth Hartman
Pastor Ashley Nolte
Devon Polzar
Naomi Seiler
Larry Sween
Sue Willman
Liz Yoon

GarageBand

Dan Eernisse
Kris Fisher
John Reiter
Naomi Seiler
Dave Willis
Sue Willman
Eric Wiltgen

Sound & Projection Team

Beth Hartman
Steven Beloin
Kory Kobliska
Assistants: Jenna Bloemer, Oli Kobliska,
Parker Kobliska, and Peter Nolte

Chimin' In - Liz Yoon, Director

John Carli
Beth Eernisse
Patty Guist
Beth Hartman
Val Nauth
Alex Santo
David Tiffany
Karen Tiffany
Sue Willman
Jan Yoon



New Members are always welcome and appreciated! Please contact a director or member of the group if you would like to learn more! Many thanks also to those who provide special music throughout the summer—we look forward to this year's selections!

APRIL 2024

APRIL MISSIONS

- * Family Promise Volunteers—April 1-2
- * Mr. Bob's Collection—April 7-28
- * VIP—Haiti—Begins April 14

Pastor Ashley will be out of the office - April 8-14

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Garage Band Practice 6:15-8:00 pm Confirmation Classes 6:30 pm</p>	<p>4</p> <p><i>Overeaters Anonymous</i> 6:30 pm</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Girl Scouts 12:30 pm</p>	
<p>7</p> <p>Comm Worship Services 8 & 10:30 am Adult Study & Choir-9:15am Pilgrim Children's Hour 10:25-11:30 am <i>White Privilege Meeting</i> 6:30 pm</p>	<p>8</p> <p>STEEPLE WORK THIS WEEK</p>  <p>Chirimín In 7:00 pm</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Women's Journey TBD Inclusion Meeting 7:00 pm</p> <p><i>Boy Scouts</i> 6:30-8:30 pm</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Garage Band Practice 6:15-8:00 pm Confirmation Classes 6:30 pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p><i>Overeaters Anonymous</i> 6:30 pm</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Sheepshead 1:00 pm</p>	<p>13</p> 
<p>14</p> <p>Worship Service 8 & 10:30 am Adult Study & Choir-9:15am Pilgrim Children's Hour - 10:25-11:30 am Youth Mission Trip Meeting 11:45 am <i>White Privilege Meeting</i> 6:30 pm</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Chirimín In 7:00 pm</p>	<p>16</p> <p>*Grief & Loss Support Group/ *Caregiver Support Group <i>both support groups -2:00 pm</i> Staff Meeting—6:30 pm</p> <p><i>Boy Scouts</i> 6:30-8:30 pm</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Vespers 6:15 pm Garage Band Practice 6:15-8:00 pm Confirmation Classes 6:30 pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Coffee Chat 10:00 am Craft Night 6:30 pm</p> <p><i>Overeaters Anonymous</i></p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Girl Scouts 12:30 pm</p> 
<p>21</p> <p>Comm Worship 8 & 10:30 am Adult Study & Choir-9:15am Family Service—10:30 am <i>Landowski-Sancomb</i> <i>Baptism—10:30 am</i> <i>White Privilege Meeting</i> 6:30 pm</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Rummage Sale Prep this week.... Council Meeting 6:30 pm</p>	<p>23</p> <p><i>Boy Scouts</i> 6:30-8:30 pm</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Funsetters—11:30 am Vespers 6:15 pm Garage Band Practice 6:15-8:00 pm</p>	<p>25</p> <p><i>Overeaters Anonymous</i> 6:30 pm</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Sheepshead 1:00 PM</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Church Rummage Sale YOUTH RUMMAGE SALE 8 am – 3 pm UCC Annual Meeting 9 am—2:30 pm</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Worship Service 8 & 10:30 am Adult Study & Choir-9:15am Pilgrim Children's Hour - 10:25-11:30 am <i>RJ—White Privilege</i> <i>Discussion</i> 6:30 pm</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Chirimín In 7:00 pm</p>	<p>30</p> <p><i>Boy Scouts</i> 6:30-8:30 pm</p>				

