



# Pilgrim's Progress

## September 2024



Pilgrim United Church of Christ

### FROM YOUR MINISTER

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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- Versiti Blood Drive, p. 6
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- Confirmation, Youth Brat Fry, p. 5
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### Well, hello again, Pilgrim. It's Pastor Ashley.

It is Monday, August 26, 2024, and it is my first day back in the office following my sabbatical. I met with Pastor Sylvie this morning, and it sounds like you all had a lovely summer together. She spoke so incredibly fondly of her time with all of you. I am proud of you, Pilgrim, for taking such good care of her, and proud of her for taking such good care of you.

This summer I was able to take a sabbatical (which is different than a long vacation). A sabbatical is a time for specific rest, renewal, and education. Most sabbaticals have a goal or a purpose. My goal and purpose was to finish up the last piece of my experiential education for my Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. I started this degree in the middle of the COVID pandemic because I felt terribly unprepared to handle the shifting needs of the congregation—which were very much focused on mental health. I attended classes for 4 years, year-round at LU. The last requirement was to complete an internship in a clinical mental health setting. This summer, I spent 300 hours as an intern at Rogers Behavioral Health-Brown Deer Clinic in the Severe and Persistent Mental Health unit. Most of my summer was spent their learning from the staff and patients about the different symptoms, treatment, and management of a variety of mental illnesses. Gosh, friends, *the human experience is so diverse and painful and beautiful all at the same time.*

Early on, I recognized the difference between the work of clinical mental health and the church. And I found a deep need to continue to tap into my deep sense of spirituality. Throughout the summer, I worked with a spiritual director and attended worship. I was able to worship at Mount Horeb and my home congregation, and I realized: *it IS very lovely to be able to go to church.* To sit in a pew. To worship. To sing. To be prayed for. I realized how much I missed just being able to worship with a community.

I was also able to lean into something that I have always known deep in my bones—worship can exist outside of church walls. So, I tapped into my love of nature. My family and I traveled to Glacier National Park, where we woke up early to hike 4 miles to find waterfalls. We sat beside a still and clear Lake MacDonald and watched the sun set. We played rounds of SkipBo, Uno, and A-Hole (a family favorite card game). But the gem of my summer was the 6 days I spent in the Boundary Water Canoe Area Wilderness with 4 other women. Over the course of 6 days, we covered about 44 miles. We were away from cellphone towers, roads, other people, cars, motorized boats, and running water. And we let the rhythm of our bodies fall into the rhythm of the world. We were greeted in the mornings by loons. We were lulled to sleep by crickets. The wind tousled us on the lakes at mid-day. And we just existed. And it was one of the simplest most glorious things I have ever done.

And then, on the last Saturday night of my sabbatical, I let the high school version of me rock out with the Smashing Pumpkins and Green Day at American Family Field.

And here I am on Monday, August 26, 2024, already back into the rhythm of life in the church. And I am grateful for the quiet I found in my office. The comfort in this routine. *The feeling of being back home again, with you.*

*Thank you, Pilgrim, for the gift of the last three months. Now, we go—together* (until the summer of 2031 when my next sabbatical comes around).



With much love, Pastor Ashley

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SEPTEMBER Events:

\***BLOOD DRIVE**—Thursday, September 5, noon –5 pm. Visit page 6 for details.

\***CARPET CLEANING**—Friday, September 6, throughout the day—please call ahead if you need to visit Pilgrim then, or plan to come another day.

\***RALLY DAY**, September 8—Two services are back, with Pilgrim Children's Hour and our usual activities. Please check Children's Page 4 and the adult study article on page 6.

\***VESPERS**—Vespers with Pastor Ashley returns on September 11, 6:15 pm.

\***BREAKFAST & LEARN**—Saturday, September 21—*Civil War Collection*—p. 6; sign up on the narthex board.



**Hi Friends:** A technical issue has keep this rest of this page from properly being prepared. Please kindly review the newsletter for all the "news you can use." Thank you.

## OPEN STAFF POSITION:

**-Children's Ministry Coordinator**

The Job description for this important position is included on page 10, available at church, and also on our website.

Please send letter of interest and resume to Dave Braby—September is fast approaching!

Pilgrim's online giving link:

[Online Giving](#)

Pilgrim Website:



SignUpGenius Opportunities at Pilgrim—click below or sign up at church for August. Calls/emails welcome also

USHERS: [Sign Up to Usher](#)

SCRIPTURE READERS: [Sign Up to Read Scripture](#)

FLOWERS: [Flowers](#)

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP: [Bulletins](#)

Please visit Page 9 for our monthly Older Adult article on "Becoming a Caregiver."

## SEPTEMBER Scripture Readings

- 1 **Be Love** Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Psalms 45 and 15; Deuteronomy 4:12, 6-9; James 1:17-27; Mark 7
- 8 **Be Opened** Proverbs 22; Psalms 125 and 146; Isaiah 35:4-7a; James 2; Mark 7:24-37
- 15 **Who Are You, Jesus?** Proverbs 1:20-33; Psalms 19 and 116:1-9; Isaiah 50:4-9a; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38
- 22 **First in Caring** Proverbs 31:10-31; Psalms 1 and 54; Jeremiah 11:18-20; James 3:13-4:3,7-8; Mark 9:30-37
- 29 **Courage for Community** Esther 7:1-10; 9:20-22; Psalms 124 and 19:7-14; Numbers 11; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

Proverbs 31:25





**SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE FOR MOUNT HOREB** – *A heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated to the School Supply drive for Mount Horeb. Through your generous donations, a check for \$1,510 was sent to Mount Horeb so their volunteers could purchase school supplies for the children and youth.*

**MOUNT HOREB BAPTIST CHURCH COMMUNITY & WELLNESS FAIR**  
*A special thank you to Rachel Gutridge, Cory Jepsen-Hobbs, Marilyn Linde, Naomi Seiler and Troy Freund for volunteering at Mount Horeb Community Fair on Saturday, August 10. It was a wonderful time getting to know members of our sister church.*



Below is a brief summary of the thank you letter Family Promise of Ozaukee County sent for our collection during VBS. For the full letter, please see the Mission bulletin board in the Narthex.

*"Thank you very much for the generous donation of 4 large boxes containing juice, snacks, art supplies & coloring books. Because of your generosity and support of our mission, we can continue making a difference in the lives of homeless families and individuals in the community."*



**MISSION TEAM FAIR –SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2024, between services**

The Pilgrim Mission Team will be holding a Missions Fair to showcase all the wonderful mission opportunities available at Pilgrim. Please mark your calendars and consider attending to learn about ways you can become involved with Pilgrim’s Mission Team.



**FAMILY PROMISE OF OZAUKEE COUNTY**

Pilgrim will be providing meals to Family Promise the week of **October 7-11, 2024**. If you are interested in this wonderful volunteer opportunity, please contact our Volunteer Coordinators Brandon Mikulski at [mikulskib06@gmail.com](mailto:mikulskib06@gmail.com) or Marji Groth at [Marji\\_groth@yahoo.com](mailto:Marji_groth@yahoo.com). Thank you!

**SERVING AT ST. BEN’S COMMUNITY MEAL PROGRAM**

The next serving dates at St. Ben’s are Tuesday, September 17 and Tuesday, October 15 from 4:45-6:30pm. We will be volunteering on the floor serving milk and coffee and refilling water pitchers. If you are interested in joining us or have any questions, please contact Lucy Wyka at [Missions@pilgrimuccrafton.org](mailto:Missions@pilgrimuccrafton.org). A carpool from church can be arranged.

**ONGOING MISSIONS:** Empty Prescription Bottles welcome inside the carport door for the Bread of Healing clinic. Empty Printer Cartridges can be dropped off at a bin in the same location: new/used/any brand/any condition. The cartridges will be contributed to the VIP General Fund. Note: no toner or large print cartridges.

Thank you to those who provide treats for St. Ben’s Desserts on the first Friday of the month...see Mission Board sign up.

*Our next Mission Team Meeting will be Sunday, September 15, following the 10:30 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

Returns on Sunday, September 8

**We have some exciting changes to our programming this fall, which include:**

**Children's Hour beginning after the Children's Time during the 10:30 worship services for ALL kids (3K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade).** This invites our children to be in a small part of worship each week so they can experience the hymns, prayers, and community at Pilgrim. Children in 3K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade will then be invited downstairs for games, stories, crafts, snacks, and more for the remainder of the service.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month, we will still bring the kids upstairs to participate in communion once a month.



Exploring  
God's Love

Pilgrim Children's Hour  
United Church of Christ

**LINK:**

**[Pilgrim Children's Hour Registration](#)**

**THANK YOU to the many volunteers who made this summer's Vacation Bible School a success!**

***Visit your Sunday email for a video of some of the activities from VBS!***

### First Communion Workshop & Acolyte Training:

All 3rd Graders are invited to attend ONE of the following workshop dates:

Sunday, September 29

Sunday, October 6

Please email Devon with which date your child will be attending.

**First communion will take place during the 10:30 service on October 20.**

*If you child is older than 3rd grade and did not complete their 1st communion, they are invited to join us, too!*



Contact the Children's Ministry Team:

[childrensministry@pilgrimuccgrafton.org](mailto:childrensministry@pilgrimuccgrafton.org)

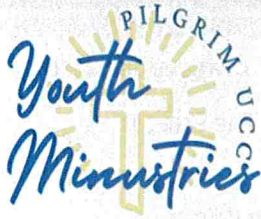
Devon Polzar -

Elementary/Middle School Education Coordinator

Tracey Van Ryzin -

Children's Ministry Education Coordinator

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



## Confirmation Classes @ Pilgrim

**\*\*Open to those in 7th and 8th grades\*\***

Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm—8:00pm

Classes begin on September 18

Parent and Youth Informational Meeting—Wed., Sept 11 @ 6:30 pm

Please plan on attending with your youth if they are participating this year.

R.S.V.P. for the meeting by clicking [here](#).

*Confirmation is a two-year program at Pilgrim. However, if your youth missed their 7<sup>th</sup> grade year, we still welcome them to attend during 8<sup>th</sup> grade.*



# YOUTH BRAT FRY



for 2025 Mission Trip  
RALLY DAY!!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH!

BRATS, BURGERS AND HOT  
DOGS TO GO

SOLD BETWEEN SERVICES AND  
AFTER SECOND SERVICE

Thank you for supporting our youth as we  
raise funds for the next mission trip!

Youth Mission Trip 2025 Details to be Announced Soon!

**Contact the Youth Ministries Team:** [youthministry@pilgrimuccgrifton.org](mailto:youthministry@pilgrimuccgrifton.org)

*Meg Claeys*

Middle School/High School Coordinator

*Devon Polzar*

Elementary Education/Middle School  
Coordinator



**WOMEN'S JOURNEY** will meet at 12:30 pm on **Tuesday, September 10**, at Lime Kiln Park. Bring your lunch.

**COFFEE CHAT** will meet on Thursday, **September 19, at 10:00 am** in the Conference Room. The starter question will be: *What was your best summer experience?*

**SCOPA Group** will meet this month on **Monday, September 9**, at 1:00 pm in the Conference Room.

**SHEEPSHEAD** Join this group on **September 13th** and **27th** at 1:00 pm in the Conference Room.

**FUNSETTERS** will resume on **September 24** with lunch at Flipside in Grafton, 11:30 am.

Join  
us



GIVE THE GIFT OF BLOOD THIS FALL  
**Fall Into Giving**

**Versiti  
Blood Drive  
at Pilgrim**

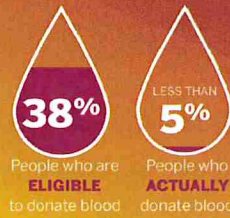
**Thursday, September 5  
noon—5:00 pm**

Please visit the link below to register:  
Or call **877-232-4376**

<https://tinyurl.com/pucc9524>

If you would like to take a shift at the reception table, contact the office.

WHY is blood donation important?

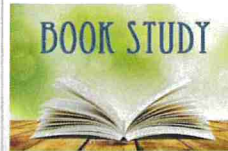


**Grief & Loss Support Group with Pastor Ashley, and Caregiver Support Groups with Tee Hall** will meet on **Tuesday, September 10, at 2 pm**, with Tee Hall.

**Pastor Ashley will begin the following book study in October:**

**“Ballot and the Bible”**

(author Kaitlyn Schiess)



Kaitlyn Schiess is an historical biblical scholar who brings an intersection of politics and religion.

The point of the studies is not to find answers, but to have conversation.

The Book Study will cover a 3-week period.

*October dates will be shared soon!*

### September Breakfast & Learn

For those who are interested in civil war history, mark your calendar for **Saturday, September 21, 8:00 am**. You will see a collection of civil war items, limited addition prints, and stories that relate to some of the items. Look for the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

The breakfast cost to be covered by a free will offering.



*Sunday Adult Study Series continues:*

**“Creation Stories of the Ancient World”**

*Returns Sunday, September 8, between services*

You are invited to join us between services from 9:15-10:00 in the downstairs conference room as we finish the last episode or two of this DVD study, and then decide as a group what topic to explore next.

### Worship Service Volunteers

**Get back in the swing in September by signing up as an usher or scripture reader at one of our two services each week.**

The best way to sign up is by using SignUpGenius on our website, but please feel free to use the sheets in the narthex. *Thank you.*

USHERS: [Sign Up to Usher](#)

SCRIPTURE READERS: [Sign Up to Read Scripture](#)



**Our Thanks to....**

\***VBS** —To the Children's Ministry Team and all the volunteers and participants for making "Camp Firelight" such a success.

\***Summer Music**—To all those who presented beautiful music for our summer services. Names are listed on page 10.

\***Mount Horeb Fair**—To all those who volunteered at the Community & Wellness Fair on August 10. Names & pics on the mission page.

\***Pulpit Supply**—To Paul Zachow for providing leading worship and sharing the message on August 11.

\***Summer Activities**—To everyone who continued with Pilgrim's committee/mission work, providing social opportunities, service participants, and more.



**For Healing and Strength:**

\*For Julie Rottier: The stem cell procedures went well. Julie is currently in the post-procedure recovery process.

\*For Richard Martin, who had surgery recently to remove a lump from his neck.

\*For Don Huibregtse, as he continues chemo treatments.

\*For Rhonda, Mike & Meg Claeys' mother/mother-in-law, who is undergoing chemo.

**Ongoing Prayers:**

\*For Phyllis Tetrake, who remains at home.

\*For Mary Davies and Martha Whitaker, who are in hospice care.

\*For Adam Lusty and Aaron Schubert, as they serve their country in the Middle East.

\*For the safety of all our military personnel

\*For all those who are expecting

\*For all those who struggle with mental illness

\*For all who are caregivers for family & friends

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

\*For our brothers & sisters at Mt Horeb Baptist Church.



**Congratulations:**

To Linda TeStrake and Shawn Bartsch, who were married at Pilgrim on Sunday, September 1.

**With Sympathy**

\*For Kris Fisher, who recently lost her beloved dog, Axxel.



**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

Richard Martin, Cedar West



**OUR MEMBERS IN THE SERVICE**

**Overseas:**

Adam Lusty – US Army, Staff Sergeant; current deployment in the Middle East.

Mark Aaron Schubert - US Air Force-Airman; current deployment in the Middle East.

**Stateside:**

Garrett Rescorla, US Marine Corps, PFC, Pensacola, FL; Naval Base-awaiting schooling to begin for Aircrew

Josh Meier, Army National Guard, Pvt.

Luke Johnson - US Navy-BUILDER Chief Petty Officer

Jacob Godejohn – US Marine Corps, LCpl

Owen Godejohn - US Army

**FINANCE REPORT**

<b>Operating Cash</b>	<u>July</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Cash Balance- Beginning of Period	\$ 166,392	\$184,984
Cash Receipts	18,224	312,469
Cash Disbursements	<u>(61,307)</u>	<u>(374,144)</u>
Cash Balance - July 31, 2024	<b>\$ 123,309</b>	<b>\$123,309</b>

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



<b><u>PILGRIM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST—</u></b> <b>Operating Giving and Expenses through July 31, 2024</b>	<b>2024 YTD</b>	<b>2024 Budget</b>	<b>2024 Budget compared to 2024 Actual Incr/(Decr)</b>
<b>Total Operating Incoming Funds</b>	<b>198,804</b>	<b>201,337</b>	<b>(2,533)</b>
<b>Conference Support</b>	<b>9,461</b>	<b>9,468</b>	<b>(7)</b>
<b>Salaries &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>116,052</b>	<b>130,615</b>	<b>(14,453)</b>
<b>Building &amp; Maintenance</b>	<b>34,169</b>	<b>41,503</b>	<b>(7,334)</b>
<b>Programs of the Church</b>	<b>22,640</b>	<b>23,209</b>	<b>(569)</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>182,323</b>	<b>204,795</b>	<b>(22,473)</b>
<b>Net Operating Income / (Loss)</b>	<b>16,481</b>	<b>(3,459)</b>	<b>19,940</b>

Please note that neither the income received nor the expenses paid occur on a regular quarterly basis. Therefore, items showing large increases or decreases from Budget may not show much difference from Budget at year-end.

**Pilgrim UCC Council Meeting**

Minutes of June 20, 2024

**Treasurer's Report** – Regular giving for May was \$24k, \$4k below May last year. Regular giving is \$6k YTD ahead of last year and \$10k ahead of 2024 budget. Other giving in May was \$2,345 toward the lift. That brought the lift total to \$43K. Endowment fund values in May were up \$10K and are up \$18k YTD. Operating Expenses totaled \$20k for the month (\$10k below budget). Building maintenance was \$7k under budget in May due to the reversal of \$7k of Wegner expenses in January which receive insurance proceeds in May. This was unexpected. In summary, May shows a \$5k operating gain before depreciation and a \$19k gain YTD.

**Pastor's Report**

Sylvie is transitioning in. Visiting members and planning worship. See report.

**Old Business**

Quarterly Income Statement for Pilgrims Progress – looked at current info presented in Pilgrim Progress. Suggested combining the chart and the graph on monthly basis. Geoff to work with Joy to determine level of effort to submit.

**Liaisons**

Building and Assets – AC replacement, Sidewalk project, and Insurance

Finance – no additions to treasures report

Staffing –

Membership and Volunteer Coordinator

Offered to candidate with delayed full time acceptance





**Pilgrim UCC Council Meeting**

**Minutes of July 4 & 5, 2024**

On July 3, 2024 Geoff Nauth, President, received an Email from Neal Hobbs of the Building & Assets Committee. Neal had completed his negotiations with Mared Mechanical for purchase and installation of new AC units for the sanctuary. He was seeking Council approval and execution of a contract for purchase and installation of the units in the amount of \$47,480. Neal reported that Mared Mechanical had agreed to hold their quoted price through July 5th.

Neal outlined how we would pay for this work as follows: "\$32,840 from the Building Maintenance Reserve account + \$1,012.5 from the Building Memorial + \$2,500 from the Undesignated Memorial + \$5,346 from Eickstedt Building & Assets Endowment Fund (the remainder of the minimum distribution for 2024) + MM – Building Bequest \$3,112.86 = \$44,811.36. Recommended quote from Mared Mechanical plus contingency amount equals \$52,280. The shortfall of \$7,468.64 needed to fund the project will be drawn from the General Operating Funds account until the Eickstedt MM \$50,000 CD matures."

On July 4, 2024 Geoff Nauth, President polled the Council by email requesting their vote for approval of the Mared contract. Geoff received a Yes Vote from Beth, Jill, and Rachel, and voted yes as well. With an approval of a majority of the Council Geoff as President signed the contract with Mared Mechanical.



## PILGRIM UCC MUSIC MINISTRY

*Music welcomes and invites us into God's arms unconditionally. It touches hearts in numerous unique and powerful ways. It is indeed a treasured gift both given and received and an important ministry welcomed at Pilgrim's worship services.*

**THANK YOU** to The Three Grands (George Schowalter, Sheryl and Rich Peshek), Cedar Community Choristers (Jan Braby, Joyce & George Schowalter, and Marcia & Howard Vrankin), Charlie Plante, Patty Guist and Beth Hartman, for providing special music for our summer worship services. Your gifts of time and talent were greatly appreciated.

### **Pilgrim Music Opportunities Starting Up Again this Fall – September 2024**

**Adult Choir** (*John Reiter, Director*) – Rehearsals are Sundays between services beginning at 9:15 and start Rally Day – Sunday, September 8. Our Adult choir (open to teens and adults) provides featured music for worship services throughout the year, and this year will offer a Christmas Cantata.

**Hilltop Voice** (*John Reiter, Director*) – Small group of vocalists that offer gathering music and featured music for worship services throughout the year. Rehearsal times vary and can be Wednesday evenings or Sunday mornings between services. Familiarity with reading music and ability to work on pieces individually is encouraged, as rehearsals are primarily for polishing and not learning songs. Music is provided to all members as far in advance as possible.

**GarageBand** – Small group of praise band musicians that provide gathering and featured music for worship services throughout the year. Weekly rehearsals are currently scheduled on Wednesdays starting at 6:15 pm.

**Chimin' In Bell Choir** (*Liz Yoon, Director*) – Is open to teens and adults. No prior bell experience is necessary, but some familiarity with reading music is helpful. Rehearsals are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of each month at 7 pm.

If you are interested in participating in any of the above Pilgrim music groups/choirs or if you have any questions, please contact:

\*John Reiter, Music Director [jer-13@att.net](mailto:jer-13@att.net)

\*Sue Willman, Music Assistant [suewillman55@gmail.com](mailto:suewillman55@gmail.com)

For Chimin' In, please contact \**Liz Yoon, Bell Choir Director*, by email, or phone for more details. [lysnliz@gmail.com](mailto:lysnliz@gmail.com) or 262-910-1789

### **OFFICE HOURS**

*Pastor Ashley* is available in the office Monday through Thursday and can also be reached at: 920-762-0192

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

Office Phone: 262-377-2640

Email: [officemgr@pilgrimuccgrafton.org](mailto:officemgr@pilgrimuccgrafton.org)

Website: <https://pilgrimuccgrafton.org>

Facebook: [@PilgrimUCCGrafton](https://www.facebook.com/PilgrimUCCGrafton)

Instagram: [@PilgrimUCCGraftonWI](https://www.instagram.com/PilgrimUCCGraftonWI)

October  
newsletter  
deadline—  
September 20





**Pilgrim Needs You!** If you are committed to your current involvement at Pilgrim, please know we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. If you are either not committed to a group or activity, or would like to help Pilgrim in additional ways, please consider these opportunities so the church can continue its work! Contacts for are found on page 15-Directory. The *Service Opportunity Booklet* is out & about to learn more!

**CARE TEAM:** This team provides many options for ways you can bring TLC to others in need.

**CHILDREN/YOUTH:** Many helping hands are needed to reach kids and youth of all ages through the team's creative programs.

**FINANCIAL/STEWARDSHIP:** Stewardship could really use some extra help; check out the other groups, too!

**HOSPITALITY:** Assist the team to provide our bountiful fellowship opportunities, and whenever there are special events throughout the year.

**INCLUSION:** This group is a special place to keep love moving in all directions!

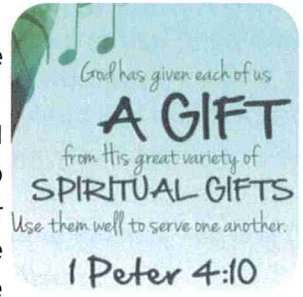
**MISSIONS:** Pilgrim is a "mission church," so let's keep our work going through a variety of wonderful events available all year long.

**MUSIC TEAMS:** GarageBand/Chimin' In Bell Choir/Hilltop Voice Choir— - see page 10!

**PROPERTY & GROUNDS:** This committee always needs members, and your preference could be inside or out!

**RACIAL JUSTICE:** These team members are committed to promoting healthy discussions and ways to reach our community through films, books, and events.

**TECHNICAL:** Working on live-streaming equipment and recording of services - great for the tech-savvy, or anyone who likes to work with media!



**WORSHIP:** A service-oriented team, with a variety of areas to participate in and to share your ideas about our services. The need for ushers and scripture readers is always present—even if you aren't interesting in joining the group, please let us know that you can help in these areas! Sign-ups are always available on the narthex board and our SignUpGenius online.

**SignUpGenius Opportunities at Pilgrim— just click below or sign up at church, please! Calls/emails welcome also.**

USHERS: [Sign Up to Usher](#)

SCRIPTURE READERS: [Sign Up to Read Scripture](#)

FLOWERS: [Flowers](#)

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP: [Bulletins](#)

## SEPTEMBER SCHEDULES:

**READERS:**

- 1 9 am—Donna Tredrea
- 8 8-Steve Schafer /10:30- Cory Jepsen-Hobbs
- 15 8-Steve Schafer / 10:30-OPEN
- 22 8-OPEN / 10:30-Nicole Kline
- 29 8-OPEN /10:30-Norm Loomer

**USHERS**

- 1 9-Steve Schafer
- 8 8-LaVerne Johnson / 10:30-John Carli  
Nicole Kline OPEN
- 15 *All OPEN*
- 22 8-Donna Tredrea / 10:30-Lucy Wyka  
OPEN
- 29 *All OPEN*



**FLOWERS**

- 1 Karen Hempelman
- 8 Nicole & Chris Kline
- 15 Carli Family
- 22 Emma Lucht
- 29 Caryn Boegel

**BULLETINS**

- 1 OPEN
- 8 Carli Family
- 15 Jim & Janet Van Zile
- 22 Leila Behrens
- 29 OPEN

\*GREETERS ARE ASSIGNED via alphabet; however, if you would like to greet on any particular day, we may very well have an opening!  
 \*TREATS are back! Visit the sign-up sheet at the kitchenette; thank you also for your \$\$ donations, and that basket is there as well.



### *Becoming a Caregiver*

Just the other day, my husband's good friend's wife went in for a hip replacement. All went well with the surgery. She came out of the surgery and was responding well and the next minute, she had a stroke. A severe one, at that. Unbeknownst to my husband's friend, it would now appear he may soon find himself in the role of a full time caregiver. That is sometimes how quickly things change in life. No longer can he do the things he wants to or go help another neighbor (he was quite well known to be the guy to call).

In June, we discussed transitions—that period of time when our image of what our life will be like...changes. Many times we have some knowledge that the change may occur, but many times, such as in the above scenario, we get thrown full force into our "new normal." Most of us have not been trained to be caregivers, so we flounder in our new role and our whole self identity is turned upside down. What to do?

There is no doubt that the needs of our loved ones must be first and foremost but, the caregiver themselves also need to find ways to take care of themselves. For each person, the way to take care of themselves may be different. The important thing is to determine what brings one joy. It may be a walk in the park, gardening, being able to have coffee with a friend, playing cards with the guys, etc. Carving out time to do whatever it is, is the important thing. I once knew a woman who was caring for both her husband and her mother-in-law, both who had dementia. The best she could do for herself was spend fifteen minutes every morning to do Tai Chi on her deck.

*If you find yourself or know of a person who is caring for another, encourage them to find and do that little "something" that will help them as they labor in love taking care of another.*

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Brayden Godejohn Kenneth Plaisted Melanie Plante	11	Willow Bauer Val Dowe	20	Samantha Burrows Jeanette Koch Miles Koch	24	Matt Snyder Amy Swenson
2	Marilyn Dearth Kathryn Jozwowski Irene Schumaker	13	Sam Jenkins		Lila Landmann Olivia Lucht	25	Alex Fuentes Eric Lusty Garrett Simenc Liz Willis
3	Karen Hempelman	14	Samantha duVergey Frank Harth Amanda Koch	21	Brooke Carli Allen Krueger	26	Laurie Gabrich Callan Klippel Elnore Merchen Vincent Moede
4	Aubrianna Maurer	15	Linda Boesch Evan Foerster	22	Robyn Wiegand		Dylan Mursch Aidan Stumpf
5	Morgan Eernisse Mason Krueger	16	Jill Timmerman	23	Leila Behrens Sean DuBord Liz Wendorf Sydney Wooten	27	Matthew Kline Daniel Meer
6	Janet Kunz Jonathan Waldhart	18	Christopher Leidel Lisa Pease			28	Michelle Fuentes Brian Klippel Aimee Mekelburg
7	Amanda Binder Parker Kobliska Dawn Pfaff Shane Rescorla	19	John Frank Scott Roffers Lori Schmit Erin Schumaker			29	Caryn Boegel Marilyn Linde
8	Matthew Faase Daniel Pfeiffer					30	Marji Groth Joel Multerer
10	Sharron Roffers Allison Voras Macy Voras						



### Children's Ministry Coordinator Job Description

**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.

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

Assist the Elem/Middle School Coordinator with children's ministry programming for children 3K through 6th grade, including Vacation Bible School, Christmas program, and other special events

Prepare and facilitate Christian education classes for 3K-6th grade on Sunday mornings during the program year

Provide a nurturing presence for children and a reassuring environment for parents

Insure that Children's Ministries operates under Pilgrim's safe sanctuary guidelines

Help recruit, train and empower volunteers

Contribute to the preparation of the annual children's ministry report.

Keep Children's Ministry bulletin boards current throughout the year

**Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:**

Ability to teach bible stories and diversity foundations in a nurturing, loving and non-judgmental way in keeping with the philosophy of the United Church of Christ

Gracious, mature, responsive, pleasant, and can demonstrate working as a team player.

Independent, able to set priorities, attentive to detail, great follow through and organized.

Supervisory duties for the Children's Ministry Coordinator will be the responsibility of the Pastor. The Staff Relations Committee will provide any needed support and/or guidance, as requested by the Pastor.







Every Church Staff Member is an at-will employee of the congregation, and is ultimately responsible to the Church Council and Pastor. Church Staff members maintain a shared promise of confidentiality, conflict resolution, and cooperation. The Church Staff Member also understands the need to attract and retain church volunteers, (which may include but not be limited to, congregational members / friends /visitors) as he or she works to maintain and extend the mission of Pilgrim United Church of Christ. The Staff Relations Committee will provide any needed support and/or guidance to all Church Staff Members, as requested by the individual employee, the Pastor and/or the Church Council.

Support the theological understandings of Pilgrim United Church of Christ (UCC), which promotes intentional hospitality, social diversity, freedom of thinking, and a spirit of grace rather than judgment. Our congregation is Open and Affirming of LGBTQ persons, and is committed to promoting Accessibility and Safe Sanctuary to all who participate in our congregational life.



# SEPTEMBER 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1 Comm Worship 9:00 am</b>  Pastor Ashley! Bartsch/Testrake Wedding—1:00 pm	<b>2</b>  Office Closed	<b>3</b> Boy Scouts—6:30 pm	<b>4</b> Nursery Staff Training 6:30 pm GarageBand Practice 6:15pm	<b>5</b>  BLOOD DRIVE noon-5pm Overeaters Anonymous—6:30p	<b>6</b> St Ben's Desserts 9:00 am-St Joe's Carpeting Cleaning 8:30am	<b>7</b>
<b>8 Worship Services 8 &amp; 10:30 am</b> Adult Study & Choir-9:15am Pilgrim Children's Hour-10:30-11:30 am  *BRAT FRY between/after service	<b>9</b> SCOPA 1:00 pm Chimin' In 7:00 pm	<b>10</b> Women's Journey 12:30 pm *Grief & Loss Support Group/ *Caregiver Support Group Both groups—2:00 pm Boy Scouts—6:30 pm	<b>11</b> Worship Team—5:15 pm GarageBand Practice 6:15 pm Vespers—6:15 pm Confirmation Meeting 6:30 pm	<b>12</b> Community of Practice 12:30 pm Overeaters Anonymous—6:30p	<b>13</b> Sheephead 1:00 pm	<b>14</b> Boy Scout Merit Badge Clinic 8:00 am Junker Memorial Fellowship 11:00 am w/Service at 12:15 pm with lunch to follow
<b>15 Comm Worship Services 8 &amp; 10:30 am</b> Family Sunday—10:30 am Adult Study & Choir-9:15am Mission Team—11:45 am	<b>16</b> Staff & Leadership 6:30 pm	<b>17</b> Serving at St. Ben's 4:45 pm Council Meeting—6:30 pm Boy Scouts—6:30 pm	<b>18</b> GarageBand Practice 6:15 pm Vespers—6:15 pm Confirmation Classes 6:30 pm	<b>19</b> Coffee Chat 10:00 am Crafters—6:30 pm Overeaters Anonymous—6:30p	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Breakfast & Learn 8:00 am "Civil War Collection"
<b>22 Worship Services 8 &amp; 10:30 am</b> Adult Study & Choir-9:15am Pilgrim Children's Hour-10:30-11:30 am	<b>23</b> Chirmin In 7:00 pm	<b>24</b> Funsetters at Flipslide 11:30 am Boy Scouts—6:30 pm	<b>25</b> GarageBand Practice 6:15 pm Vespers—6:15 pm Confirmation Classes 6:30 pm	<b>26</b> Overeaters Anonymous—6:30p	<b>27</b> Sheephead 1:00 pm	<b>28</b> 
<b>29 Worship Services 8 &amp; 10:30 am</b> Adult Study & Choir-9:15am Pilgrim Children's Hour - 10:30-11:30 am	<b>30</b>					

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Rev. Ashley Nolte - Staff

Linda Eakin Kathy Ellenbecker Marji Groth

Rachel Guttridge Heidi Jenkins Susan Maca

Donna Tredrea Marilyn Linde

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Rev. Ashley Nolte—Staff

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Sylvia Stephens Sue Willman Kathy Ellenbecker

Dorothy Bowen Marilyn Dearth Cory Jepsen-Hobbs

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Todd Brame Kris Fisher Beth Hartman Bill Marten

Sue Marten Liz Yoon

**MISSIONS** Lucy Wyka- Staff / Rev. Ashley Nolte - Staff

Judy Kopka George Schowalter Cory Jepsen-Hobbs

Dennis Grabow Pat Grabow Donna Tredrea

Laura Robinson Susan Maca Marji Groth

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**PROPERTY & GROUNDS** John Carli-Chair/Rev. Ashley Nolte-Staff

Bob Steckel Dennis Grabow Neal Hobbs

Brian Maurer Bruce Linde

**RACIAL JUSTICE TEAM** Ron Wildasin-Chair

Rev. Ashley Nolte - Staff

Kris Fisher Rachel Guttridge Naomi Seiler

Ron Wildasin Ray Kremer Jan Van Zile

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Rev. Ashley Nolte - Staff / Children & Youth Ministry - Staff

Annie Gehrke Ron Wildasin

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Warner Shafer Robyn Wiegand

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Rev. Ashley Nolte - Staff

**WORSHIP** Ron Wildasin - Chair / Rev. Ashley Nolte - Staff

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Char Peterson Karen Tiffany

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Neal Hobbs - Chair  
 Bill Maca—Member-at-Large

**Building Assets Mgmt**

Neal Hobbs

Larry Sween

Bob Steckel

**Stewardship**

Caryn Boegel

**Memorials**

Lys Buck

Dick Linhart

**Endowments**

Neal Hobbs

Tony Tagliapietra

Heidi Jenkins

**Counting Team** - Kathy Monroe, Finance Deacon  
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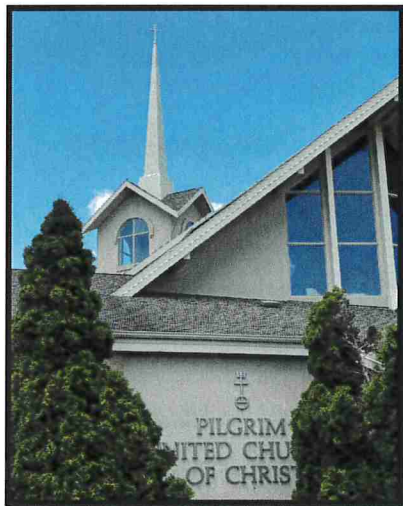
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## **Pilgrim's Progress**

*September 2024*



PILGRIM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Ashley Nolte, Pastor



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***“Mission Drive. People Focused. We are the Light on the Hill!”***