



Pilgrim's Progress

April 2025



Pilgrim United Church of Christ

FROM YOUR MINISTER

Grace and Peace to you,

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Lenten and Easter Schedules, p. 2
- Habitat for Humanity—*Sign a Stud*, April, 6. p. 3
- Pancake Breakfast, April 13, p. 5
- Rummage Sale, May 3, p. 5
- Versiti Blood Drive, May 8, p. 6
- Spring Clean—May 10, p. 6
- Summer Brewer Baseball Game—signup info, p. 2
- Easter Flower Order, p. 8
- Caregiver, Inclusion, & WISE Team Articles, p. 10-11
- Earth Day Articles, p. 12



Inside this issue:

- [Pilgrim Announcements](#) 2
- [Missions](#) 3
- [Children's Ministry](#) 4
- [Youth Ministry](#) 5
- [Social, Enrichment](#) 6
- [Our Thanks, Pilgrim Prayers & Cares](#) 7
- [Financials, Flower Order Office Hours, Media Links](#) 8
- [Council Minutes](#) 9
- [Caring for the Caregiver, Pennies for Lent](#) 10
- [WISE and Inclusion Team Articles](#) 11
- [Birthdays, Earth Day](#) 12
- [Volunteer Page](#) 13
- [April Calendar](#) 14

I have a favorite week in the church—a week that I love more than any other: **Holy Week.**

I have always found a deep sense of the Divine during Holy Week. There is something about its ebb and flow, how it holds the entirety of human life, death, and the promise of resurrection so carefully and tenderly.

I do have a favorite day during Holy Week: Good Friday. I have never admitted that this day is my favorite, because it feels a bit sick and twisted to confess such a belief. Good Friday is anything but good. It is fraught with an incredibly complex history, which includes things like substitutional atonement, moral influence, and ransom theory, along with a good dose of potential Anti-Semitism. These ideas are not why I am drawn to Good Friday. (Call me a heretic, but I am not sure any of them speak to the truth of Good Friday).

Instead, Good Friday arrives and reminds me every year of death.

Death is that thing that so many of us are uncomfortable talking about. We are scared to mention it. We don't want to bring it up among good company. Some of us carry the real remnants of death in our grief. And we are careful about when and where we open that part of ourselves. Some of us worry and wonder about others experience of grief. I hear people ask me, "I never know what to say." "I don't know what to do." "I don't know how I can help." "I don't know how to make them feel better." People get tangled up in words and good intentions when death/grief comes up.

There is so much unknown surrounding death, while at the same time, it (along with change) is the only thing in our life guaranteed to happen. Even for Christ.

Friends, the reason why I am so drawn to Good Friday is that it makes hope possible. We cannot have Easter Sunday without Good Friday. We cannot sing "*Christ the Lord is Risen Today*" without first singing "*Were You There?*"

There would be something missing if our faith bypassed Good Friday and only celebrated Easter Sunday. Just like, there would be something lost if we did not have grief alongside hope. *Easter Sunday without Good Friday feels empty. Hope without grief feels vacant.*

Good Friday allows grief and hope to be tangled together in ways that do not entirely make sense. It is the moment of ultimate in-between where we are mourning what was and not yet welcomed into what waits to be. And so much of our lives is lived in this space. So much of our lives are spent in moments when we are held between what was and what we cannot see. But those are the places where promise and life are born—echoing that beautiful hymn, "*Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*"

We can never escape Good Friday, friends. We must go through it. And when we do, we find ourselves on the other side, on Easter Sunday.

Much love to you, my friends and fellow travelers, as we make our way together through Good Friday to Easter Sunday.

Pastor Ashley



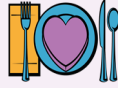
PILGRIM ANNOUNCEMENTS



PILGRIM LENTEN MEALS: Please join us for the final two Lenten gatherings:

**All meals begin at 6:00 pm (gathering at 5:45pm) in Kalweit Hall, with worship to follow in the sanctuary at 7:00pm. Please sign up on the Narthex bulletin board for each Lenten dinner or contact the office.*

April 2 Baked Potato Bar—by Music Ministry



Suggested meal donation—\$5/adults, \$2/children. Any profits will be given to support One Great Hour of Sharing.

April 9 Brats & Burgers—by Council

- **YOUTH PANCAKE BREAKFAST: Palm Sunday April 13,**
- **9:15—10:15 am—please sign up at church**
- **Visit Youth page 6 for details.**
- **Link to donate a breakfast item: [here](#)**



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE at Pilgrim

Palm Sunday, April 13 — 8:00 & 10:30 am
Maundy Thursday, April 17—7:00 pm
Good Friday, April 18—7:00 pm
Easter Sunday, April 20
 Worship Services at 8 & 10:30 am

Holy Week Schedule

BREWER GAME - SUNDAY, JUNE 29
1:10pm game time

Join your Pilgrim family at a home Brewer game, Sunday, June 29, 1:10 pm, against the Colorado Rockies. We will be sitting in the Loge Outfield section. Ticket price is \$33 per person, and you may pay here at church or online.

Last day to sign up is Sunday, May 25. Please use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex or through this SignUpGenius link: **[Brewer Ballgame](#)**

We are planning to tailgate before the game.

Details will be shared in future announcements regarding transportation, parking, and tailgating plans.

Any questions, please contact Cherie Burton, Pastor Ashley, or Lucy Wyka

GO BREWERS!!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY MKE – “SIGN A STUD”
SUNDAY, April 6, between services

On Sunday, April 6, between services, you will be able to “Sign a Stud”, a 2x4, that will be eventually used to build a wall for a Habitat of Humanity house in the Milwaukee area. The homeowners will be able to read these messages, or enjoy your designs, of inspiration as they go about working on their future house and holding them close on their “journey to homeownership.” So, bring your favorite quote, message, verse, or drawing ideas to worship on Sunday, April 6th and write them down on a 2x4! **Thank you!**

Pilgrim’s online giving link: [Online Giving](#)

Pilgrim Website:

Flower Orders Due April 6

- ◆ Jan Braby’s final article on **“Caring for the Care-giver”** - p. 10
 - ◆ **Inclusion & WISE Teams**—page 11.
 - ◆ **Earth Day** Article, p. 12

EVENTS in MAY:

3 Youth Rummage Sale, 8 am–2 pm, p. 5

8 Versiti Blood Drive, noon–5 pm, p. 6

10 Spring Clean-Up Day, p. 6

April Scripture Readings

6	Something New	Isaiah 43:15-21; Psalm 126; Philipians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8
13	Into Jerusalem	Psalms 31:9-16 & 118:1-2, 19-29; Luke 19:28-40; Isaiah 4-9a, Phil. 2:5-11; Luke 23:1-49
20	Resurrection Joy	Acts 10:34-43; Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 118; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26; John 20:1-18
27	Resurrection Witness	Acts 5:27-32; Psalms 50 & 118:14-29; Rev. 1:4-8; John 20:19-31



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING (OGHS) is the special Lenten Offering of the United Church of Christ. This year's theme is **BE THE LIGHT**.

You are the light for people in need when you give to One Great Hour of Sharing.



- You offer light when disasters hit
- You offer light when conditions threaten families and communities
- You offer light that restores structures and transforms lives
- You offer light when circumstances make it difficult to imagine a future without hope
- You offer light to people forced to flee their homes in search of safety
- You offer light where war has wrought despair and destruction
- You offer light to people when disasters devastate communities and overturn lives.

We will be accepting donations beginning on March 9 through April 13, Palm Sunday. Please use an envelope found in the pews and mark it for Missions-OGHS or use the online giving link.

PENNIES FOR LENT

During Lent, we are reminded to examine our lifestyle and ask, "What can we do for others?"

Offering compassion and a serving heart to our neighbors is part of faith formation at any age. Our children & youth are collecting pennies through April 12. For example, Day 1 suggests a coin for every lamp. A penny would be added for every lamp in your home. This daily schedule continues on page 10. You'll find more information in the Narthex, as well as a cup for your coin collection. On Palm Sunday, we ask that you bring the money collected to church and it will be added to the check we will send to our Conference office.



Our light is shining because we are helping those in need through our gifts to ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING. Thank you!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY MKE – “SIGN A STUD” – SUNDAY, April 6 between service



On Sunday April 6th between services, you will be able to “Sign a Stud”, a 2x4, that will be eventually used to build a wall for a Habitat of Humanity house in the Milwaukee area. The homeowners will be able to read these messages, or enjoy your designs, of inspiration as they go about working on their future house and holding them close on their “journey to homeownership”.

So, bring your favorite quote, message, verse or drawing ideas to worship on Sunday April 6, and write them down on a 2x4! *Thank you!*



FAMILY PROMISE OF OZAUKEE COUNTY

We will be providing meals the week of **March 31 through April 4, 2025**. 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 Thank you!

ONGOING MISSION PROJECTS:

Empty Printer Cartridges - Funds raised from the ink cartridge collections will be contributed to the VIP General Fund.

Empty Prescription Viles - Empty amber (only) prescription bottles are delivered to the Bread of Healing Clinic.

Pop Tabs – Collected for and delivered to Ronald McDonald House, MKE.



SERVING AT ST. BEN'S COMMUNITY MEAL PROGRAM

If you are interested in joining other Pilgrim members to help serve at St. Ben's Community Meal, please contact Lucy Wyka at missions@pilgrimuccgraston.org. We currently serve one evening per month (day of the week varies every month.) Our responsibilities are serving coffee and milk to clients who participate in the evening meal. St. Ben's Community Meal is served Sunday through Thursday. Our commitment time is from 4:45 to 6:30pm. A carpool from church can be arranged.

Our next Mission Team Meeting will be Sunday, April 27, following the 10:30 am service. Any Pilgrim member/friend interested in joining the Mission Team is welcome to attend. Please contact Lucy Wyka at missions@pilgrimuccgraston.org

Pilgrim Children's Hour

A Reminder: Children's Hour now begins after the Children's Time during the 10:30 am worship service for ALL kids (3K-6th grade) On the 3rd Sunday of the month, we will bring the kids back upstairs to participate in communion.

JOIN US on Sundays for stories, songs, crafts, games, snacks, and more!!!

[Click Here to Register your Child for the 24-25 Program Year](#)



Exploring God's Love

Pilgrim Children's Hour
United Church of Christ

During April, we will focus on the stories of *The Last Supper, Easter, and Jesus' Ascension*. We will also explore the *Books of the Bible*.

Be the Light

A special Children's Mission Project is taking place during Lent as we collect pennies for **One Great Hour of Sharing**. Kids will be bringing home the penny sheets each week through Palm Sunday (and it will be emailed out each week, too).



Pilgrim's Nursery

The nursery is open on Sundays during the 10:30 am service.

The nursery is available for children 6 weeks through 3 years old.

It is staffed by two youth workers EVERY Sunday!



Upcoming Dates:

April 13—Palm Sunday

Pancake Breakfast, 9:15—10:15 am

April 20 – Easter Sunday &

Family Worship Service



Contact the Children's Ministry Team:

childrensministry@pilgrimuccgrifton.org

Devon Polzar -

Elementary/Middle School Education Coordinator

Emma Lucht & Tracey Van Ryzin -

Children's Ministry Education Coordinators





Confirmation Classes @ Pilgrim

Confirmation Classes are held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm—8:00 pm. Contact us if you have 7th or 8th grader who would like to participate.

During Lent, youth have the option of coming at 6pm for the Lenten Meal. During our class time, youth will assist with meal clean up, and will then attend the Lenten Worship Service as well.

****No Class on April 16...Classes will resume on April 23****

UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS:

All proceeds go toward Youth Mission Trips

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



Church Rummage Sale

Donated items can be dropped off downstairs in the World Room before April 27

Saturday, May 3
8 AM - 2 PM



Pancake Breakfast

All you can eat buffet!

April 13

9:15-10:15am

Adults -- \$10

10 & under -- \$5



BREAKFAST HELP NEEDED:

Youth & Parents to volunteer for prep/serve/clean up: [here](#)

To donate a food item: [here](#)

THANK YOU to all those who supported our youth mission trips last month by attending the St. Patrick's Day Meal! And, a special THANK YOU to Hope for all of your amazing cooking!!!



Contact the Youth Ministries Team

youthministry@pilgrimuccgrifton.org

Meg Claeys

Middle/High School Coordinator

Devon Polzar

Elementary/Middle School Coordinator



SOCIAL AND ENRICHMENT

- WOMEN's JOURNEY** will meet on **Tuesday, April 8, at 12:30 pm**, in the conference room at church.
Bring your lunch.
- COFFEE CHAT:** **Thursday, April 17, at 10:00 am** in the Conference Room.
- SCOPA Group:** **Monday, April 7, at 1:00 pm** in the Conference Room.
- SHEEPSHEAD:** **Fridays, April 11 & 25, at 1:00 pm** in the Conference Room
- CRIBBAGE:** **Monday, April 14, at 1:00 pm** in the Conference Room.
- DOMINOES:** **Wednesday, April 16, at 1:00 pm** in the Conference Room
- FUNSETTERS** **Tuesday, April 29, 11:30 am**, at The Stillery, Grafton.



Spring Clean-up—May 10

Mark your calendar for
Saturday morning, May 10,
for our annual outside clean-up of
the *church grounds and landscape beds*.
We also have the outside windows to be cleaned this year.
It takes a lot of hands to complete this work, so please consider it and add to your calendar.
We'll have a sign-up sheet posted in the narthex. Bring some rakes, shovels, etc.
Thank you.



Sunday Adult Study Series continues:

Adult Study Series Course:
“The Lives of Great Christians”
We will hear about great Christian theologians throughout history. Ultimately, God will not ask us what we know, but how we have loved. All are welcome! We meet in the downstairs conference room

Founder's Day Lecture


VISIT HALL FLYER to register

How We Heal Doing Justice While Building Community

Tuesday, April 8, 2025 | 6:30–8 p.m.
Event Space, 2nd floor of the Younger Family Campus Center

Speaker: Dr. James W. McCarty

Relationships rooted in love and imagination are vital to the success of any social movement for justice. We will explore how we can join the collective work of healing justice in ways that transform our world and ourselves.



LAKELAND UNIVERSITY

Ulrich Center
for Faith, Ethics & Justice

Lakeland.edu/founders-day

GOSPELLERS WORKSHOP & CONCERT:
All Cedar Community residents & friends are welcome to sing in the workshop/concert with the WI Conference UCC Gospellers on April 12, Cedar Ridge Campus, Grand Hall, West Bend:
10:00 am—2:30 pm
\$30 fee includes workshop fees and lunch.
please register with Norm Loomer by April 2

Norm.loomer@gmail.com


Participants will sing with the Gospellers in the concert, beginning at 3:00 pm



flyer posted in the hall with full details!

VERSITI BLOOD DRIVE returning to Pilgrim:
Thursday, May 8, noon–5 pm Current link to register:
https://tinyurl.com/pucc5825

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



Our Thanks to....

St. Patrick's Day Lunch: To Hope Holland-Mullins, Youth Team Leaders, students, volunteers, and to everyone who supported this special fundraising event.

Breakfast & Learn: To Ron Wildasin for arranging the speaker on "Emergency Management," to those who assisted with breakfast, and to all who attended.

Lenten Meals in March: To Hospitality, Worship, Children's, Youth, Property & Grounds, Finance, Inclusion, Missions, and Care teams for providing wonderful Lenten Meals in March; our thanks to the youth who are on hand each week to assist.

Lenten Services: To Paul Zachow for providing leadership on March 26, and to the continued service of musicians, tech team, worship team, readers, and ushers.



For Healing and Strength

*For Ross Walker, who had a total hip replacement after a fall last week. Ross will be transferred to Lasata's rehab facility.

*For Mary Gabrich, who is receiving hospice care at home.

*For Dave Tiffany, who was recently diagnosed with Parkinson's and is working with doctors to manage medications.

*For Karen Tiffany, who completed radiation and is currently dealing with post-treatment symptoms.

*For Dennis and Karen, Hope-Holland Mullins' brother- and sister-in-law, as they continue to manage health situations in Iowa.

*For Vicki, a dear friend of Pastor Ashley, who is struggling with a relapse of bipolar disorder.

*For Jim Tomaszewski, Leila Behren's friend, who has completed over half of his radiation treatments for prostate cancer.

*For Marsha, Lys Buck's mom, who is receiving chemo treatments for abdominal cancer.

*For Rhonda, Mike & Meg Claeys' mother/mother-in-law, who is receiving chemo treatments for pancreatic cancer.

*For Jack Landmann, who is residing in memory care at The Arboretum in Menomonee Falls; prayers for Lila, who continues to support him.

*For Kris Fisher and her mom, Mary, as they wait to return home after a fire.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

*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 Mount Horeb Baptist Church.

Congratulations

*To Alex & Kayla, Kathy Monroe's son & daughter-in-law, who welcomed twin boys, Cameron Henry & Nathan John, last month.

With Sympathy

*For the family and friends of Gerry Orten, who passed away March 15. Prayers for Bonnie and their children & grandchildren.

*For the family and friends of Martha Whitaker, who passed away March 18. Prayers for Richard and their children & grandchildren.

*For the family and friends of Dennis Condon, who passed away March 19. Prayers for Lenys (Walden) and Dennis' children.



OUR MEMBERS IN CARE FACILITIES OR HOMEBOUND

Pam Paul, Home

Carolyn Fuhr, Village Pointe Commons

Jack Landmann, The Arboretum, Memory Care

Shelly Papenfus, Home



OUR MEMBERS IN THE SERVICE

Adam Lusty – US Army, Staff Sergeant

Mark Aaron Schubert—US Air Force, Airman

Garrett Rescorla—US Marine Corps, PFC, New River, NC; schooling for aviation mechanics, with aircrew to follow

Josh Meier, Army National Guard, Pvt.

Luke Johnson - US Navy-Builder Chief Petty Officer



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



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" at the top.

As always, thank you for your generosity.

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.

Easter Flower Details **Deadline: April 6**

__ Tulip-\$15 / __ Daffodil-\$15 / __ Hyacinth-\$15 / __ Easter Lily (Single)-\$16 / __ Easter Lily (Triple)- \$30

Person or Family donating: _____

In **Honor** or **Memory** (*circle one*) -or- other tribute: _____

Relationship to You: _____

Please mail in your order and payment -or- bring to church and leave in Lisa's box or the offering basket.

Checks payable to *Pilgrim Church*. If using our giving app, you may also email your flower order.

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 am -1:00 pm
Office Phone: 262-377-2640

Email: officemgr@pilgrimuccgrafton.org

Website: <https://pilgrimuccgrafton.org>

Facebook: @PilgrimUCCGrafton

Instagram: @PilgrimUCCGraftonWI

PP Deadline:
20th of
each month

Please contact the office:

- ◆ If you need a name tag
- ◆ If your contact information has changed
- ◆ If you need assistance with Pilgrim's online directory, or would like to be added to this application.

Pilgrim UCC Council Meeting—February 10, 2025 APPROVED COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Present: Carrie Britt, Geoff Nauth, Rev. Ashley Nolte, Marilyn Linde, Beth Eernisse, Dave Nestler, Nick Sancomb, Jill Timmerman

Absent: none

Set Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 18, 6:30 p.m.

Centering Moment: Ashley – blessing for new council and program year. Welcome new members Marilyn Linde and Nick Sancomb to Council.

Approval of January Minutes: Special note. Minutes were not available during meeting time. Minutes were subsequently emailed to council members for review. Jill motioned to approve. Beth seconded. Minutes approved via email vote.

Treasurer’s Report –

- Giving/Income - Regular giving for January totaled \$19k. This is \$8k under the same period last year and \$10k under budget for the month. It should be noted though that we have changed our accounting practices for recording larger prepaid pledges received during 2025. Any payments over \$5k are now being booked to the Prepaid Account and those funds will be amortized over the course of the year. Factoring out the impact of that change, we would be close to where we started in January 2024.
- Endowments – fund values were up \$10k in January
- Operating Expenses - on budget
 - * Operating expenses to highlight:
 - Continuing Education payment of \$1k
 - New property insurance is now paid quarterly and hence is over budget by \$2k
 - Building maintenance was under budget by \$1k
 - Payroll was under budget by \$2k. Church will be fully staffed as of February
- Summary
 - * From a pure Operating income/expense perspective, we report a \$15k loss in January.

Motion to approve Treasurer’s Report as presented was made by Nick and seconded by Marilyn. Treasurer’s report approved.

Pastor’s Report

Pastor’s report reviewed and discussed. No questions or concerns. Report is available upon request. Ashley will be participating in the Ministers Financial Vitality Initiative (UCC program). Council approved sharing of the church’s budget as part of that program.

Old Business

Nothing to attend to at this meeting

Liaisons

- Building and Assets –
 - * Reviewing request for upgrade to coffee maker (funds to come from Memorials)
 - * New lift requires that a knock box be added. In progress.
 - * Building locks are being changed. More keys added and locks will all be keyed the same. In progress.
 - * New insurer requires an update to fire alarm system. In review. Sidewalk extension is still in discussion. Waiting on weather and bids.
- Staffing – Emma Lucht joined in Children’s Ministry team effective February 2025.
 - * Other staff doing well
- Finance – no additions beyond Treasurer’s report
- Not-For-Profit Security Grant - application was updated and resubmitted in November.
 - * No feedback expected prior to April 2025.



New Business

- Further discussion regarding change in status of churches as a “safe space”. Wisconsin Council of churches position is that when the church is open it is a public space and ICE cannot be denied access to public areas within the church. In the event that ICE should arrive with a warrant, Ashley will review protocol for handling.
- Discussed who we are as Pilgrim Church and as part of the greater community of faith and how to best function given the current political climate.

Action Steps between now and next meeting –

None listed

Adjourn —Marilyn motioned to adjourn. Beth seconded. Motion passed.



This will be the last article I will be submitting to our Pilgrim newsletter. During this past year, I have offered you many resources and techniques to consider as a way of bringing you more peace in your days.

Today, we will talk about how a little bit of gratitude goes a long way. We will also talk about how reflecting on our actions throughout the day can remind us of how we are all interconnected.

Let me ask you a question. What if, instead of habitual mind chatter (which we all have), the background of our consciousness was a constant, soft thank you? This is not merely positive thinking, as we have discussed in the past. As author Mary Davies states “This is our soul in conversation with an abundant universe, expressing gratitude for the infinite miracles that surround us all the time. It’s like floating in a sea of awe. It’s like lying on your back under a sky of thanksgiving.” Even times of pain and suffering can be seen with awareness of the divine. It depends of which eyes we use to see. Some people keep a gratitude journal so that they intentionally begin to note the small things that bless their day.

Another way of finding joy is to reflect of how our daily actions or interactions with others have benefited another person. This does not have to be a big action. Small actions, as small as lifting someone up in prayer, count. It could be a smile or help in opening a door for someone. Or, as a caregiver, gently calming your loved one when they become agitated. Again, you have to be alert to note these interactions but when you do, you will notice that we are all interconnected and that we need each other.

That being said, I am here for you if you are a caregiver and you need a person to voice your frustrations and fears to. Remember the Caregiver Coffees are also a great venue for that. If your situation is more complex, please call the ADRC at 262-284-8120 and talk to the Caregiver Specialist there. She will guide you in what is best for your own unique situation.

Submitted by Jan Braby

PENNIES FOR LENT—Countdown to Palm Sunday!



- March 30** *Pray today, thanking God for shelter and for those who have no place to sleep*
- March 31 A penny for every bed
- April 1 A penny for every pillow
- April 2 A penny for every roll of paper towels
- April 3 A penny for every box of tissues
- April 4 A penny for every toothbrush and tube of toothpaste
- April 5 A penny for every box of band-aids
- April 6** *Pray today, thanking God for your health and for those who are sick*
- April 7 A penny for every chair in your kitchen
- April 8 A penny for every picture hanging in your living room
- April 9 A penny for every candle
- April 10 A penny for every flashlight (including smartphone)
- April 11 A penny for every pet your family has had
- April 12 A penny for every person in your family
- April 13** *Pray today, thanking God for the gift of light and for those living in darkness*



On Palm Sunday, please bring the money collected to church throughout Lent and it will be added to the check we send to our Conference office.

WISE is an acronym for Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged.



The Pilgrim WISE Team is focused on creating a welcoming environment for people with mental health challenges. How could Pilgrim enhance efforts to create and connect people to our community of faith is a question to consider.

Creating community can reduce a sense of isolation, loneliness, stress, anxiety, etc. as we cope with changes occurring in life. As a community, we regularly gather, not always knowing what is happening in the lives of others we meet and greet. If there was an easy way to reduce the stress, isolation, loneliness and anxiety while creating a more welcoming environment, would you do it for others?

Bridging the silence and potential embarrassment of not remembering the name that goes with the face of the person in front of you can go a long way to creating a sense of belonging and welcoming. In addition to a warm smile and eye contact, **wearing your name tag** can go a long way to creating a feeling of being welcomed, thus reducing stress, anxiety, isolation and loneliness.

Think of others upon entering the narthex as you find your name tag and affix it to your right shoulder.

Be a part of enhancing our welcoming and supportive Pilgrim community of faith by wearing your name tag.

Submitted by Dick Linhart



As the Inclusion team seeks to celebrate the diversity found at Pilgrim Church, we would like to you take a minute and stop by the poster board in the Narthex. The Inclusion Team is asking, **“Who is in our Pilgrim Church family?”** Included is a wheel that illustrates the diversity of the membership. If you are willing, consider the wheel. What adjectives or descriptions fit you and your family? We would love it if you could write those words down on a post it notes and stick it to the board. We will be using these words later in this spring to celebrate the diversity at Pilgrim.

We also hope that the congregation has been enjoying the question prompts at the Sunday morning services and that they have fostered new connections among the congregation.

We believe the work of honoring and celebrating one another is important right now, especially as we navigate a world that is marked with increasing fear, anger, and division. We are more alike than we are different. We are strongest when we support and care for one another, no matter our age, political affiliation, marital status, gender, income bracket, past histories, and experiences.

Together, we are Pilgrim Church!



BIRTHDAYS / EARTH DAY

1 Shawna Ogburn	10 Isabel Zurbuchen	18 Louis Berns	24 Jacob duVergey
2 Jack Faase	11 Cody Groth	Isabelle Boegel	Dylan Hannemann
Nancy Gruebling	Ella Mueller	Doug Mueller	Heidi Homme
Jakob Nestler	12 Todd Brame	19 Owen Godejohn	Ed Proctor
Tara Stumpf	Harry Ellenbecker	20 Kashton Glab	Michelle Wagner
3 Bella Mitchell	13 Peggy Mayer	Ryan Nolte	Hope Wooten
5 Elsa Moede	Carol Proctor	Haddie Wendorf	Paul Zachow
Shelly Papenfus	Billy Willis	22 Keira Bartsch	25 Jan Yoon
Daniel Weiss	14 Dave Braby	Kristen Martin	28 Connor Burrows
6 Erin Moede	Ray Chontos	23 Tommy Golding	Bob Steckel
7 Sven Binder	Abigail Wimmer	Toby Steckel	29 Amy Leidel
Dorothy Bowen	Jennifer Wooten		Tracey Van Ryzin
Tracey Pederson	15 Grace Gehrke		30 Michael Wenzel
Kurt Sutinen	Daniel Mayer		Fred Yopps
8 Liam Binder	Karen Weiss		
George Schowalter	16 Carolyn Boatman		
Aaron Schubert	17 Tiffany Chontos		
Htee Sher Paw	Brandon Mikulski		
	Tammy Mueller		



Earth Day began on April 22, 1970, founded by Wisconsin U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson

“Earth Day inspired 20 million Americans at the time, 10% of the total population of the United States, to take to streets, parks, and auditoriums to demonstrate against the impact of 150 years of industrial development, which had left a growing legacy of serious human health impacts.



By the end of 1970, the first earth day led to the creation of the **United States Environmental Protection Agency** and the passage of other first-of-their-kind environmental laws, including the *National Environmental Education Act*, the *Occupational Safety and Health Act*, and the *Clean Air Act*.

Two years later, the Congress passed the “*Clean Water Act*.”

“Environmentalism is not a partisan issue, environmentalism is a quality of life issue for all of us.” -Tia Nelson

Create your own Earth Action Day action or pledge for the Earth

Step 1: Create your pledge (example: “On Earth Action Day, I plan to do more composting.” -or- plant a native tree, or donate old clothes, or discontinue using plastic bottles, or I helped clean up a park, etc.)

Step 2: Post the action or pledge you took on social media using #EarthActionDay and tag Pilgrim.

Step 3: Share this with 5 people or organizations or businesses

Example: *For #EarthActionDay, I’m pledging to cut out single use plastics for the rest of the year, I am tagging @x.@x,@x...what action will you take? Join me and make your pledge today for **Earth Day 2025.***



Earth Day Articles submitted by Cherie Burton



Ways to Participate

SIGNUPGENIUS LINKS:

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

SCRIPTURE READERS

8:00	10:30
6 Steve Schafer	Jane Sowers
13 OPEN	Jane Sowers
20 OPEN	Cory Jepsen-Hobbs
27 OPEN	Joel Schowalter

USHERS

8:00	10:30
6 Steve Schafer LaVerne Johnson	Jane Sowers Karen Maihofer
13 Dave Pfeiffer OPEN	Lucy Wyka OPEN
20 OPEN (2)	OPEN (2)
27 John Frank OPEN	OPEN (2)



Vol-un-teer: a person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task.

FLOWERS

6	OPEN
13	Ed & Carol Proctor
20	Easter Flowers
27	Beth Hartman

BULLETINS

6	OPEN
13	Ed & Carol Proctor
20	OPEN
27	Beth Hartman



Please contact Cherie Burton about GREETING on a Sunday

TREATS:

April 6—Isabel Boegel

April 13—Pancake Breakfast

All other dates are open—visit the sign-up sheet at the kitchenette counter, and \$ donations welcome.








Please contact Cherie Burton with questions about volunteer opportunities:

volunteer@pilgrimuccgrifton.org

APRIL 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
6 Comm Worship Services 8 & 10:30 am Adult Study & Choir-9:15am Pilgrim Children's Hour - 10:30-11:30 am "Sign a Stud" 	7 SCOPA—1:00 pm Youth Ministry	8 Women's Journey 12:30 pm lunch Grief & Loss Support Group 1:30 pm <i>Boy Scouts 6:30-8:30 pm</i>	9 LENT Gathering—5:45 pm Meal—6:00 pm Service—7:00 pm <i>GarageBand practice follows</i>	10 Community of Practice 11:30 am <i>Overeaters Anonymous—6:30</i>	11 Sheepshead 1:00 pm	12 Girl Scouts 12:30 pm	
13 Palm Sunday Worship 8 & 10:30 am Adult Study & Choir-9:15am Pancake Lunch 9:15—10:15 am	14 Chimin' In 7:00 pm	15 Council Meeting—6:30 pm <i>Boy Scouts 6:30-8:30 pm</i>	16 Dominoes—1:00 pm GarageBand 6:15 pm <i>GarageBand practice follows</i>	17 Coffee Chat—10:00 am  Maundy Thursday 7:00pm <i>Overeaters Anonymous-6:30p</i>	18  Good Friday Service 7:00 pm	19 	
20 Easter Sunday Comm Worship 8 & 10:30 am Adult Study & Choir-9:15am Family Sunday—10:30 am	21 Staff Meeting 6:30 pm	22  <i>Boy Scouts 6:30-8:30 pm</i>	23 GarageBand—6:15 pm Vespers—6:15 pm Confirmation Classes 6:30 pm	24 <i>Overeaters Anonymous-6:30</i>	25 Sheepshead 1:00 pm	26 Girl Scouts 12:30 pm	
27 Worship 8 & 10:30 am Adult Study—9:15am Pilgrim Children's Hour - 10:30-11:30 am Missions Team Meeting 11:45 am	28 Chimin' In 7:00 pm <i>Boy Scouts 6:30-8:30 pm</i>	29 Funsetters—The Stillery 11:30 am <i>Boy Scouts 6:30-8:30 pm</i>	30 GarageBand—6:15 pm Vespers—6:15 pm Confirmation Classes 6:30 pm	YOUTH RUMMAGE SALE PREP April 27—May 2 SALE: May 3 			Saturday, May 3 8 AM - 2 PM