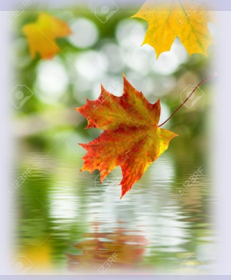




# Pilgrim's Progress

## October 2025



Pilgrim United Church of Christ

### FROM YOUR MINISTER

*Grace and Peace to you,*

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Job Openings: Mission Dir. & Treasurer, p 12-13
- Narthex Accessway, p. 2
- Mission Needs: Neighbors in Need, Family Promise, Mt. Horeb Candy Collection, p. 3
- Intergenerational Hike II p. 2, 4
- Book Club, p. 6
- Landscape Thank you, p. 6
- Volunteers Needed, p. 8
- Cancer Awareness / WISE Team Members p. 9
- Endowment Update, p. 10



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One of my best friend's favorite literary character growing up was named Anne Shirley. She was the main character in the series *Anne of Green Gables*. In her first year on Prince Edward Island, she was astounded by autumn:

*October was a beautiful month at Green Gables, when the birches in the hollow turned as golden as sunshine and the maples behind the orchard were royal crimson and the wild cherry trees along the lane put on the loveliest shades of dark red and bronzy green, while the fields sunned themselves in aftermaths... "Oh, Marilla," she exclaimed one Saturday morning, coming dancing in with her arms full of gorgeous boughs, "I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."*

*I am so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers.*

According to meteorologists, we should be hitting "peak color" in our area of Southeastern Wisconsin in the last part of the month. As Anne indicates, this season is especially beautiful. The trees, urged by the shortening daylight, stop producing chlorophyll. Through this process, the leaves no longer absorb sunlight, and they die. (This is a gross underestimation of an incredibly complex process).

Autumn occurs for us in the Northern hemisphere in October and November. Also, in October and November, we have our annual traditions of Halloween, Samhain, Dia de los Muertos, and All Saints Day. All these traditions, in their own way, mark the end of life. They also occur (not ironically), the same time the trees show us what it is to let go and die.

This sounds terribly morbid when it is written like that. But I find that the trees in October remind us, vividly, of that season of our life that is often feared: dying.

In the church, we talk about death a lot—although it is often passively referenced in Jesus' death, during prayers, and at funerals. And, then, it is something to be mourned. In our wider culture, aging is something to be 'fixed' through makeup, hair color, Botox, and surgery. Or, we apologize for it—often heard in comments, such as, "Sorry, I am getting old," or, "I am not as young as I used to be." And death and aging become a problem to be solved.

But in our faith tradition, it is not a problem to be solved—it is something we are invited to accept, honor, and respect. Jesus did not try to solve the problem of his death on the cross. He did not try to apologize to those who died beside him. Instead, he entered this season of his life willingly and without apology.

As I sit here, looking at the trees, some of them have started to change. None of them seem to be burned by it. They surely don't seem to fight with the loss of chlorophyll; they just let it happen. And when they do, they are stunning. And we are caught off guard by their beauty—sometimes so much that it moves us to awe at how beautiful they are—even and especially in their dying.

I am glad we live in a world where there are Octobers. *In this season, we are offered the gentle reminder that letting go and aging IS beautiful.* Surely, we know and love the color of October as much as we love the color of May. Surely, we know they are different—both good and beautiful in their own ways.

*Wherever we are in our life seasons, we will make our way through this month of October. And the natural world will preach to us of the beauty of this season of letting go.*

*With much love, Pastor Ashley*



# PILGRIM ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Upcoming Events:

### OCTOBER

- 3-4 Confirmation Retreat
- 5 World Communion Sunday:  
*First Communion, 10:30 service*
- 12 Faith & Blue Sunday
- 13-17 Family Promise Week
- 18 Intergenerational Hike



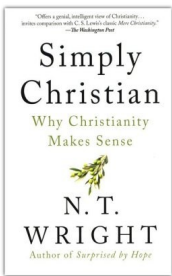
**Narthex Accessway** We continue to seek matching funds for this project, which provides an entrance from 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave to the double doors on the north side of church. If you are able and willing to give any amount, please designate *Narthex Accessway* on your donation. Your gift will be greatly appreciated!



*Our thanks to Neal Hobbs, John Carli, Ron Wildasin, and Dennis Grabow for their work toward completion!*

### BOOK CLUB in NOVEMBER

Visit page 6 to review the upcoming book club selections and schedule, beginning



ning with  
"Simply Christian."

Discussion dates include  
**November, January,  
March, and May.**



Pilgrim's online giving link:

[Online Giving](#)



## ADVENTURE AWAITS! PILGRIM GOES ON A HIKE

VIRMOND COUNTY PARK

OCT  
18

SATURDAY  
9:30AM

Join us for an intergenerational hike  
We will start with snacks and a prayer at the pavilion  
and then send you out onto the trails to hike with GOD  
\*The pavilion is reserved all morning if you would like to  
come out and commune in nature too!!



Pilgrim United Church of Christ - 1621 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Grafton, WI 53024

### OPEN STAFF POSITIONS

\* *Missions Director*

\* *Treasurer*

The job descriptions for these vital roles at Pilgrim are included on page 12-13, available at church, and also on our website.

Please send letter of interest and resume to Dave Braby at [brabydave@icloud.com](mailto:brabydave@icloud.com)

### For Your Review:

- ♦ Volunteer Page—Please help us fill in October, page 8
- ♦ Endowment Update—New ways to leave a legacy, page 10
- ♦ Picture Page—We hope to share pictures each month, not only to show "what's happening at Pilgrim," but to encourage all to attend! P. 15
- ♦ WISE Team—Introducing members and their testimonials to the team!



Visit the Inclusion Team's Article, "The Human Side of Cancer," as they focus on Cancer Awareness, p. 9

### OCTOBER Scripture Readings—*Common English Bible*

- 5 **Free to Grieve** Lamentations 1:1-6, 3:19-26; Psalms 137 & 37:1-9; Habakuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4; 2 Timothy 1:1-4; Luke 17:5-10
- 12 **Planting Life** Jeremiah 29:1-7; Psalms 66:1-12 and 111; 2 Kings 5:1-15c; 2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19
- 19 **Ask Boldly; Live Justly** Jeremiah 31:27-34; Psalms 119:97-104 and 121; Genesis 32:22-31; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8
- 26 **Take Heart** Joel 2:23-32; Psalms 65 and 84:1-7; Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22; 2 Timothy 4:6-8; 16-18; Luke 18:9-14



We will be accepting offerings for **Neighbors In Need** on World Communion Sunday, October 5, through the end of the month.

**Neighbors In Need** supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Please join us in supporting this special Mission offering by making a donation using one of the special envelopes found in the pews or use the online giving link.

*Carry each other's burdens and, in this way,  
you will fulfill the law of Christ.  
-Galatians 6:2*



## FAMILY PROMISE OF OZAUKEE COUNTY

We will be providing meals for the week of **October 13—17**. If you are interested in this wonderful volunteer opportunity or have questions, please contact our Volunteer Coordinators,

Brandon Mikulski: [mikulskib06@gmail.com](mailto:mikulskib06@gmail.com) or

Marji Groth: [Marji\\_groth@yahoo.com](mailto:Marji_groth@yahoo.com).

SignUpGenius Link: [Family Promise](#)

*Thank you!*



## EMPTY PRINTER CARTRIDGES –

Drop off your ink cartridge in the bin located in the carport entrance. The ink cartridges can be new, used, any brand, and in any condition. Funds raised will be contributed to the VIP General Fund.

*Please note: this recycling program does NOT extend to toner or laser cartridges or large print cartridges.*

**We will be collecting candy this month to be distributed at St. Ben's in November for their ongoing food service.**



If you would like to donate a bag of candy or find you have an extra one after Halloween, that would be so appreciated!

Please deposit in the box located in the Narthex.  
***We will be collecting during the month of October.***

## **OPEN STAFF POSITION**

### *Missions Director*

Please send letter of interest and resume to Dave Braby at [brabydave@icloud.com](mailto:brabydave@icloud.com)

*Contact Pastor Ashley with questions concerning this very fulfilling role.*

*Pilgrim members and friends are always welcome to join the Mission Team.*

If you would like to join this team, or have an interest in particular mission opportunities, please contact Pastor Ashley or any Mission Team member.



## Pilgrim Children's Hour

**Children's Hour takes place every Sunday morning during the 10:30 am worship service**

*\*Kids start the service in the pews with their families, and they head downstairs after the Children's Time during the service*

*\*On Communion Sundays (1st and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays this year), we will come back upstairs for Communion so they can participate*

*\*During Children's Hour, we will have stories, games, crafts, music, snacks, and more!*

*\*Most Sundays, we will split up into two groups (3K-5K and 1st-6th), with our 6<sup>th</sup> graders taking more of a service role as they help our younger grades*

*\*We are excited to begin using a brand new curriculum called **Two or More** this year!*

*\*We will also be presenting a **Children's Christmas Program** on Sunday, December 21 (10:30 service)*



Pilgrim Children's Hour  
United Church of Christ

Use this link to  
register your  
child(ren):

[Registration for the  
2025/2026 Children's  
Hour](#)

ADVENTURE AWAITS!

# PILGRIM GOES ON A HIKE

VIRMOND COUNTY PARK

OCT 18 | SATURDAY 9:30AM

Join us for an intergenerational hike  
We will start with snacks and a prayer at the pavilion  
and then send you out onto the trails to hike with GOD  
\*The pavilion is reserved all morning if you would like to  
come out and commune in nature too!!!

Pilgrim United Church of Christ - 1621 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Grafton, WI 53024



## First Communion & Acolyte Workshops



We will be celebrating First Communion on Sunday, October 5 during the 10:30 am worship service.

Come join us as we give the opportunity to our first communicants to participate at the Lord's Table on *World Communion Sunday!*

## Pilgrim's Nursery

*The Nursery is open during the 10:30 am worship services. Bring your babies through 3 year olds to the nursery and we will have two youth workers there to watch over our little friends during the entire worship service.*



## Contact the Children's Ministry Team:

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

Devon Polzar

Elementary/Middle School  
Education Coordinator

Emma Lucht &  
Tracey Van Ryzin

Children's Ministry Education



## Confirmation Classes

Confirmation Classes are held on Wednesday nights through May 6. **Classes are open to ALL 7th and 8th graders, regardless of where they are at on their spiritual journey.** If you would like more information on our Confirmation classes, please reach out to the Youth Ministry Team.



We are heading to Daycholah Center in Green Lake for a **24-hour Retreat** on October 3-4. *Prayers for safe travels!*

## THANK YOU!!!!



Thank you to the youths and adults who were able to share **Mission Trip Reflections** last month!

Thank you to all those who helped cook and serve during our **Youth Brat Fry!**

Thank you to all those who enjoyed a grilled meal in support of our youth, too!!!

## Youth Mission Trip: July 12-16, 2026



We are heading to Lake Traverse Reservation in South Dakota next summer! Sign up by October 7 using the link below to let us know if you are interested!

[2026 Mission Trip Interest Form](#)

Contact the Youth Ministries Team

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

**Meg Claeyes**

Middle/High School Coordinator

**Devon Polzar**

Elementary/Middle School Coordinator



**WOMEN's JOURNEY:** Tuesday, October 14, at 12:30 pm; please bring lunch to church

**COFFEE CHAT:** Thursday, October 16, at 10:00 am



**SCOPA Group:** Monday, October 6, at 1:00 pm

**SHEEPSHEAD:** Fridays, October 10 and 24, at 1:00 pm

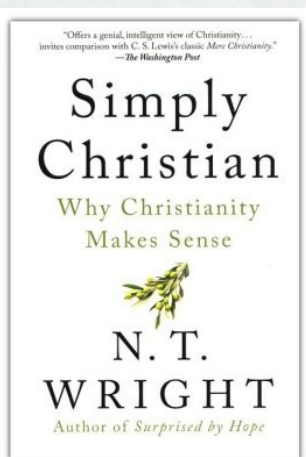
**CRIBBAGE:** Monday, October 13, at 1:00 pm

**DOMINOES:** Wednesday, October 15, at 1:00 pm

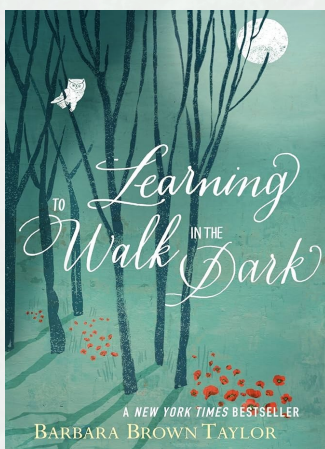
**FUNSETTERS:** Monday, October 27, 11:30 am, at Highland House, Mequon



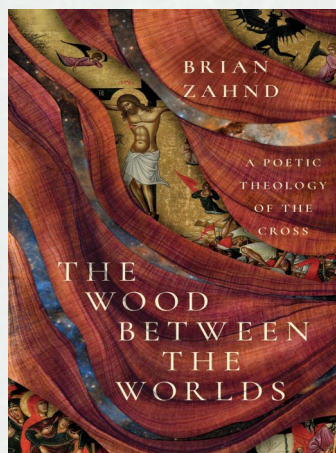
Pastor Ashley will host a series of book discussions throughout 2025-26. The books for discussion, as well as the corresponding dates, are listed below .



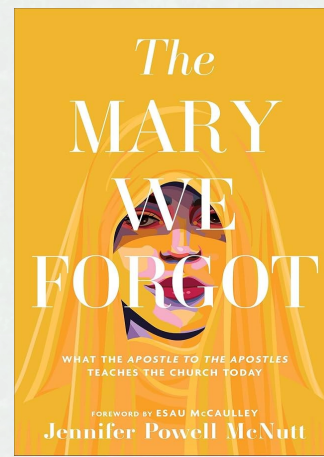
November 2, 5:00 pm



January 25, 5:00 pm



March 22, 5:00 pm



May 31, after service, 10:15 am

Pastor Ashley will begin with "Simply Christian" on Sunday, November 2, at 5 pm. This book examines what it means as we identify as Christians. *(Although we will not be reading it for discussion, "Mere Christianity," by C.S. Lewis, would be a great partner book to read along with "Simply Christian")*

**Heartfelt thanks** to the following individuals for faithfully tending to our landscaping beds!

Beck Family  
Caryn Boegel  
Cory Jepsen-Hobbs  
Dick Linhart  
Lisa Quick

Warner Schafer  
Tagliapietra Family  
Nancy Vanden Wymelenberg  
Dave Wegner  
Ron Wildasin



Your efforts are so appreciated,  
not only by all of us, but also our  
visitors and everyone passing by Pilgrim!  
- CJ Plante

### ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

w/Pastor Ashley:

- *Scripture & Sermon*—Mondays, 10:30 am
  - *Vespers*—Wednesdays via Zoom at 6:15 pm
  - *Bible Study*—Wednesdays, 7:00 pm
- Adult Study** continues on Sundays mornings at 9:15 am in the Conference Room.



"As the Deer Pantet  
For the Water..."



## Our Thanks to....

**Blood Drive, Sept. 4**—To John Carli and Ron Wildasin for set up and take down, and to Linda Eakin and Deb Lushine for managing the reception table. And, as always, many thanks to those who came in to donate life-saving gifts!

**Intergenerational Hike, Sept. 13**—To Devon Polzar for arranging and preparing for the hike, and to all those who attended. Thanks in advance for the new hike scheduled this month.

**Breakfast & Learn, Sept. 20**—To Ron Wildasin for arranging the event, to those who assisted with breakfast, and to all who attended and shared stories from major events in history.

**First Communion/Acolyte Training**—To Children's Ministry and Ron Wildasin for preparing the upcoming class for First Communion Sunday on October 5.

**Narthex Accessway Project**—To Neal Hobbs, John Carli, Ron Wildasin, and Dennis Grabow for all the assistance in creating the helpful new sideway to the north entrance of the Narthex.

**Mission Reflections, Sept. 28**—To all the youth and adults who provided their experiences in Brooklyn—wonderful!



## For Healing and Strength

\*For Faye Junker, who is recovering from cataract surgery on Friday.

\*Prayers for Ken Klas, who received good news—test results came back indicating that a known blockage is not cancerous.

\*For Dorothy Overbye, who was hospitalized this past week.

\* For Carrie Mazzari, who had another surgery this past week on her foot.

\*For Sherry, Caryn Boegel's sister-in-law, who is recovering from spinal surgery.

\*For Warner Schafer, who is recovering at home following knee replacement surgery. For Steve, his son, who is staying with Warner during recovery.

\*For Larry Sween's dad, Kent, who was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer.

\*For Lys Buck, who continues chemo treatments for recurrent endometrial cancer, which she will have every three weeks. Please continue prayers for Lys' mom, who is also receiving chemo for abdominal cancer. Prayers also for Liz, Jordan, and Emlyn.

## \*Ongoing

\*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 Laura & Andrew Robinson, who welcomed baby Evelyn on September 15.

\* To Audrey Kleckner, for achieving a perfect ACT score of 36.

## 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, LCpl,  
New River, NC

Josh Meier, Army National Guard, Pvt.

Luke Johnson - US Navy-BUILDER Chief Petty Officer



**Ways to Participate**—Please use these SignUpGenius Links to offer your gifts here at Pilgrim. As always, the Narthex board is ready, and you may always call or email church to assist.



**Thank you  
to our volunteers!**

## USHERS

**8:00 am**

**10:30 am**

5	LaVerne Johnson Mary Johnson	5	Bill Maca Robyn Wiegand
12	OPEN OPEN	12	Karen Maihofer Cherie Burton
19	Mary Johnson OPEN	19	Caryn Boegel OPEN
26	LaVerne Johnson Mary Johnson	26	OPEN OPEN

Scripture Readers: [Sign Up to Read Scripture](#)

Ushers: [Sign Up to Usher](#)

Flowers: [Flowers](#)

Bulletins: [Bulletins](#)

Greeters: [Sunday Greeters](#)



**Cherie Burton will be available for  
volunteer discussion and to answer  
questions about involvement here at Pilgrim.  
We could really use your participation in  
service needs, as well as those of  
committees and group events.**

**Upcoming Volunteer Drop-in Nights:**

**October 8 and 22**

**November 12**

**December 10**



**GREETERS** encouraged! Visit the  
SignUpGenius Link above,  
or sign up at church.

October 5, 10:30a: Mitchell Family

## SCRIPTURE READERS

**8:00 am**

**10:30 am**

5	Lynda Kanios	5	Diane Stoiber
12	Steve Schafer	12	Cory Jepsen-Hobbs
19	OPEN	21	Jane Sowers
26	OPEN	28	Emma Sancomb

## October



**Marigold**

The marigold ignites  
your passion and  
creativity.



**Cosmos**

Let the cosmos  
inspire your love for  
balance and harmony.

## SUNDAY MORNING

### TREATS

5	Amber Thomas
12	Janet Van Zile
19	Audrey Beck
26	Cherie Burton



### FLOWERS

5	OPEN
12	OPEN
19	Karen Hempelman
26	OPEN

### BULLETINS

5	Amy Mitchell
12	OPEN
19	Karen Hempelman
26	OPEN



## The Human Side of Cancer

Cancer touches nearly everyone, either directly or indirectly. In 2025, it's estimated that over 19 million people globally will be diagnosed with some form of cancer, and more than 10 million lives will be lost to the disease. In the United States alone, over 2 million new cases are expected, with more than 600,000 deaths. These numbers serve as a powerful reminder of why cancer awareness is so important—not just for prevention and treatment, but for compassion and support.

There are many types of cancer, each with its own challenges. Among the most common are breast, prostate, lung, colorectal, and skin cancers. Breast cancer remains the most frequently diagnosed, while lung cancer continues to be the leading cause of cancer-related deaths worldwide. Other types, such as pancreatic, liver, and leukemia, often present more aggressively and can be harder to treat. Understanding these differences helps us better support those facing a diagnosis and encourages early detection, which can be life-saving.

But cancer is more than a medical condition. For those diagnosed, the experience can be overwhelming. Many face not only physical symptoms and side effects from treatment, but also emotional challenges like fear, anxiety, and depression. The road to recovery can be long and uncertain, and even after treatment ends, survivors often grapple with lasting changes to their bodies, their routines, and their sense of self.

Families and friends of cancer patients are also profoundly affected. Caregivers often take on demanding roles – managing medications, attending appointments, and offering emotional support—all while coping with their own feelings of worry and grief. Studies show that spouses and close family members are at increased risk for mental health struggles, especially in the first year after diagnosis. It's a reminder that cancer doesn't just impact one person.



*That's why awareness matters.* It's not just about statistics or symptoms—it's about empathy, education, and action. By talking openly about cancer, we reduce stigma and encourage early screening. By supporting research, we move closer to better treatments and cures. And by standing with those affected—patients, survivors, caregivers—we remind them they're not alone.

*-Submitted by Nicole Pekarske*

### Introducing some of the members of the WISE Team



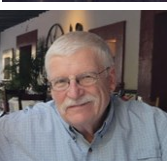
Life lessons are experienced and sometimes not appreciated in the moment. My mother developed a major mental illness while I was about to graduate high school. I lived at home while attending college. The illness created disruptive stresses in the immediate and extended family. That illness and its presence is one of many reasons why I began studies in social work. Now I look back on a 51-year career in the field, of which the last 42 years have been in the adult protective services system. I have no answers, though I have learned to listen. I offer that perspective to the WISE committee. — *Dick Linhart*



I am on the WISE Team because so many people I know and care about have struggled with their mental health. This includes my students, coworkers, friends, family members, and myself. Whether you personally identify as having mental health challenges or not, the issues affect us all. — *Liz Yoon*



I've been a member of Pilgrim for 11 years. I am a part of the WISE team because I want everyone to feel as welcome as my family and I did the first time we visited. My hope is to reduce stigma and fear while providing a healthy and supportive environment for anyone struggling with mental health issues and their loved ones who support them. — *John Carli*



I am involved with the WISE ministry because I want to help shine a light on the stigma of mental illness. — *Bruce Linde*





Click here for  
Pilgrim's

[Online Giving Link](#)



### OPEN STAFF POSITION

#### *Treasurer*

Please send letter of interest and  
resume to Dave Braby at  
**[brabydave@icloud.com](mailto:brabydave@icloud.com)**

*Contact Pastor Ashley with questions  
concerning this vital role.*

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 Endowment Update

The Pilgrim Endowment Display has been updated to reflect several new contributors, as well as projects that have benefitted from Endowment disbursements. Thank you for your support!

### We now have five giving levels:

**Donor** \$100-\$499

**Benefactor** \$500 - \$999

**Legacy** \$1,000 – \$9,999

**Pillars** \$10,000+

**Visionaries** are those who include Pilgrim Endowment Funds in estate planning, name a Pilgrim Endowment Fund as a beneficiary in an investment fund or life insurance policy, or commit to directing memorial funds to a Pilgrim Endowment Fund at the time of passing.

### Choose one of three Endowment Funds:

Alice Eickstedt Building & Assets Endowment Fund

Vern D. Overbye Endowment Fund for Missions

Ministry & Educational Endowment Fund



**Endowment donation and request forms** are available in the Church Office, or you can choose a Pilgrim Endowment Fund using our online giving portal.

Contact Chairperson Neal Hobbs at [nhobbs@wi.rr.com](mailto:nhobbs@wi.rr.com) if you have questions.



## Pilgrim UCC Council Meeting - August 13, 2025, 6:30pm APPROVED COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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

Absent: Dave Nestler, Nick Sancomb

**Centering Moment** offered by Marilyn. Centering moment for September meeting TBD.

**Next Meeting Date:** Monday, September 22 - 6:30 pm

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Reviewed draft minutes from June's meeting. No corrections/updates proposed. Beth motioned to approve. Marilyn seconded. Minutes approved.

### **Treasurer's Report**

#### Incoming

Regular giving totaled \$27k for June and \$29k for July. These amounts do not include the summer appeal. In total, this is \$13k over the same period last year. Overall giving is under budget by \$14k YTD. The summer appeal has collected \$13k so far to help close this gap. Endowment fund values were up \$29k in June/July and are up \$38k year to date.

#### Outgoing

June and July's overall Operating Expenses were \$23k and \$29k, respectively. In total, this was \$7k under budget. Building Maintenance was under budget \$3k in total in June and July.

#### Summary

From a pure Operating income/expense perspective, we report a \$5k gain for June and a \$12k gain in July (including the summer appeal special giving). After running at a YTD loss all year, after July, we report a \$1k gain.

Marilyn motioned to approve Treasurer's Report as presented and motion was seconded by Jill. Treasurer's report approved.

### **Pastor's Report**

Pastor's report reviewed and discussed. Items of note:

Ashley is considering starting a weekly Monday am scripture chat in the fall.

Also considering a Wednesday night Bible study group.

### **Committee Liaisons**

Building and Assets –

Official proposals for Coffee pot and Flow Logic projects have been submitted to council for approval. Carrie motioned to approve, seconded by Marilyn. Proposals both approved.

Finance – nothing to add beyond Treasurer's report

Staff – Staff Relations is working to fill open positions

### **Old Business**

Summer appeal – we have collected \$13k in special gifts through the end of July. There will be one more summer appeal letter that will go out in late August

### **New Business**

Mt Horeb Health Fair – attendance at this annual event continues to decline. Mt Horeb members are evaluating its future.

### **Action Steps between now and next meeting –**

None noted

### **Adjourn**

Jill motioned to adjourn. Marilyn seconded. Motion passed and meeting adjourned.



## **Mission Director Job Description**

**Principal Function:** The mission director is a valuable member of the church staff. The mission director is responsible for coordinating and maintaining all church mission projects and communication with pastor, staff, and members.

**Position Type:**

Part-time; 10 hours per week, not to exceed 520 hours per calendar year  
Payroll; Monthly  
Flexible Schedule  
Annual Review

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

Prepare and oversee yearly national missions such as OGHS, Strengthening the Church, Neighbors in Need, etc.

Provide guidance and mentoring to coordinators regarding timelines and logistics of each mission project such as St. Bens, Habitat for Humanity, Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge, Mt. Horeb, and all seasonal and ongoing projects

Prepare weekly bulletin blurbs and monthly newsletter articles for Pilgrim's Progress

Keep connected with Church World Services and other mission organizations

The Mission Director facilitates the Mission Team of volunteers, which includes providing direction, planning, and giving reports in a regular manner and reports to Church Council as needed.

Effective communication connecting the mission team through meetings, emails, and personal contact with team members and recruiting for new members

Periodically report results of past projects to congregation

Explore additional areas for mission work and assign a coordinator to facilitate

Coordinates domestic and international adult mission trips

Keep missions bulletin board current

**Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:**

Independent, able to set priorities, attentive to detail, organized, great follow through and effective communicational skills, passion in missions.

Supervisory duties for the Mission Director 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.

**Education and Experience:**

A high school diploma or equivalent is required and two or more years of college is preferred

Ability to follow directions and communicate with all staff and the congregation

**Work Environment:**

Flexible during special events  
Attend monthly staff meetings





## Treasurer Job Description

**Principal Function:** The church treasurer is a valuable member of the church staff. The treasurer is responsible for maintaining financial management and communication with Pastor, Church Council, and the Financial Advisory Committee.

### **Position Type:**

Part-time; hours may vary per week, but not to exceed a total of 260 hours per calendar year.  
Payroll; Monthly  
Flexible Schedule  
• Annual Review



### **Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

Financial management, record keeping, payroll, reconciling bank statements, etc.  
Federal and state tax reporting and tax 990 filing  
Provide detailed monthly financial reports to the Church Council and attend other congregational meetings as required.  
Serve as the Council's representative to the Finance Advisory Committee  
Maintain bank statements and reconcile them with Pilgrim's books.  
Work with the Finance Advisory Committee to develop the annual General Fund operating budget.  
Review/audit all financial transactions of each of the finance committees (Building and Assets, Endowments, and Memorials) and the Deacon (Counting Team).  
Review and verify the annual external audit as required for all church endowment funds.  
Prepare and submit to the Church Council the Approved Proposed Budget for the upcoming year as well as the end of the year Financial Report, both of which are included in Pilgrim's Annual Report.  
Have the ability to work with the various Finance Committees and teams.  
Be familiar with accounting software and renew yearly.  
Advise the pastor of significant giving changes of individuals as a possible pastoral care concern.  
Supervise the Accounting Assistant Position.

### **Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:**

Experienced and demonstrates proficiency in general bookkeeping practices and have a general knowledge of computer operation  
Has no criminal convictions related to money matters  
Maintaining strict confidentiality of all church matters and the personal financial affairs of congregational membership  
Independent, able to set priorities, attentive to detail, great follow through and organized.  
Supervisory duties for the Treasurer 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.

### **Education and Experience:**

Two or more years of college, or equivalent work experience in an accounting/finance related function  
Prior experience with bookkeeping management.

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS / THANK YOU / OFFICE HOURS

2 Brady Groth  
Maxwell Mazzari  
Leslie Plautz  
3 Patty Guist  
Natalie Roffers  
4 Gavin Halula  
Joseph Voras  
Stephanie Wegner  
5 Austin Bell  
7 Tim Boesch  
Nolan Stumpf  
8 Avery Kunz  
John Olmr  
9 Beth Hartman  
10 Jack Hockinson  
Pam Paul  
11 Adeline Braun  
Pat Grabow  
12 Levi Robinson

13 Valerie Klippel  
Lisa Tagliapietra  
14 Samantha Homme  
Amy Kivioja  
Charlie Sutinen  
15 Doug Bader  
Reese Plautz  
Kevin Runkel  
Becky Willis  
16 Nadine Eernisse  
Vance Roberts  
17 Deb Lushine  
Debra Mayer  
Amy Mitchell  
18 Mia McCraw

19 Jessie Homme  
Kevin Wilcox  
20 Bexton Mazzari  
Jim Van Zile  
Zachary Weir  
Brynn Wendorf  
Emlyn Yoon-Buck  
21 Ben Jenkins  
22 Ty Mekelburg  
23 Kristen Schowalter  
24 Melody Mikulski  
25 Suzanne Beck  
Aryah Glab  
Charlie Polzar

27 Karen Maihofer  
Geoff Nauth  
Chrissy Pfeiffer  
Ashley Schell  
Art Wille  
28 Carver Thomas  
30 Adam Cotton  
Sophie Schumaker  
31 Mallory Shimp



### UPDATE:

There has been an upgrade installed by the company, but, unfortunately, there have been a few snags along the way.

Once the directory is ready for the Pilgrim Family to properly utilize, we will advise you with a new mobile phone login, as well as how to log in on your other devices.

*Thanks for your patience!*



**Pilgrim Family Directory**  
copies are available  
upon request.

Please contact the office if  
you would like one emailed  
to you, or left here at  
church for you to pick up  
when you visit church.



A sweet doe  
heading to her  
favorite pew

### OFFICE HOURS

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

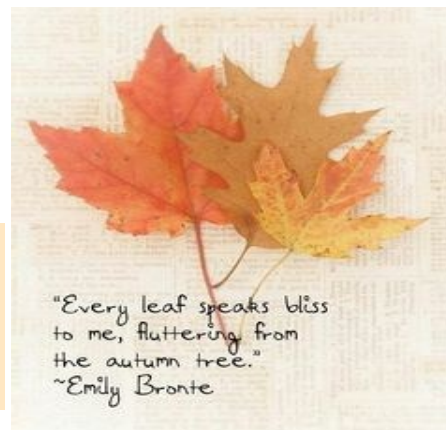
Lisa Quick or Sue Willman – available weekdays 8:30 am -1:00 pm  
Office Phone: 262-377-2640

Email: [officemgr@pilgrimuccgraston.org](mailto:officemgr@pilgrimuccgraston.org)  
Website: <https://pilgrimuccgraston.org>  
Facebook: @PilgrimUCCGrafton  
Instagram: @PilgrimUCCGraftonWI



**PP Deadline:**

**20th of each  
month.**



"Every leaf speaks bliss  
to me, fluttering from  
the autumn tree."  
~Emily Bronte



## PILGRIM PICTURE PAGE

There's so much going on Pilgrim!

We would love to see pics of your events—please send to the office at [officemgr@pilgrimuccrafton.org](mailto:officemgr@pilgrimuccrafton.org)



It's a great way to share your event with our Pilgrim Family, and serve as a reminder of all there is to enjoy and learn about at Pilgrim.

Intergenerational  
Hike  
Saturday, Sept 13  
Lion's Den



Narthex  
Accessway  
Project

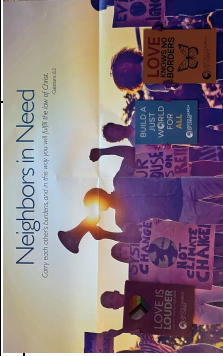






Habitat for Humanity—Presentation  
Sunday, September 21



# OCTOBER 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <b>Neighbors in Need</b> <small>City of Richmond is in need of your help. Let's make a difference.</small>		 <b>PILGRIM GOES ON A HIKE</b> <small>ADVENTURE AWAITS</small> <b>OCT 18</b> SATURDAY 9:30AM <b>VIRMOND COUNTY PARK</b>	<b>1</b> *Vespers—6:15 pm *GarageBand - 6:15 pm *Confirmation-6:30 pm *Bible Study—7:00p	<b>2</b> Community of Practice -11:30 am Overeaters Anon—6:30p	<b>3</b> St. Ben's Desserts Confirmation Retreat depart 4:15 pm	<b>4</b> Confirmation Retreat
<b>5</b> <i>Comm Worship</i> 8 & 10:30 am Adult Study & Choir 9:15 am Children's Hour—10:30a <i>First Communion</i> 10:30 am 	<b>6</b> Sermon & Scripture 10:30 am SCOPA—1:00 pm	<b>7</b>  My favorite color is October. Boy Scouts—6:30p	<b>8</b> *Volunteer Drop-in Meeting 6:00 pm *Vespers—6:15 pm *GarageBand - 6:15 pm *Confirmation- 6:30 pm *Bible Study—7:00p	<b>9</b> Overeaters Anon—6:30p	<b>10</b> Sheephead 1:00 pm	<b>11</b> 
<b>12</b> <i>Worship Services</i> 8 & 10:30 am Adult Study & Choir 9:15 am Children's Hour—10:30a Faith & Blue Sunday	<b>13</b> <i>Family Promise Week thru 10/17</i> Sermon & Scripture 10:30a Cribbage—1:00 pm Chimin' In 7:00 pm	<b>14</b> Women's Journey 12:30 pm Grief Support Group 1:30 pm	<b>15</b> Dominoes—1:00 pm *Vespers—6:15 pm *GarageBand - 6:15 pm *Confirmation—6:30p *Bible Study—7:00p	<b>16</b> Coffee Chat—10 am Overeaters Anon—6:30p	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Intergenerational Hike 9:30 am Virmond Co. Park
<b>19</b> <i>Comm Worship</i> 8 & 10:30 am Adult Study/Choir 9:15a Children's Hour—10:30a	<b>20</b> Sermon & Scripture 10:30 am Staff Mtg—6:30 pm	<b>21</b>  NATIONAL APPLE DAY Boy Scouts—6:30p	<b>22</b> *Volunteer Drop-in Meeting 6:00 pm *Vespers—6:15 pm *GarageBand - 6:15 pm *Confirmation- 6:30 pm *Bible Study—7:00p	<b>23</b> Overeaters Anon—6:30p	<b>24</b> Sheephead 1:00 pm	<b>25</b> 
<b>26</b> <i>Worship Service</i> 8 & 10:30 am Adult Study & Choir 9:15 am Children's Hour—10:30a	<b>27</b> Sermon & Scripture 10:30 am Funsetters—11:30 am Council Mtg—6:00 pm Chimin' In—7:00 pm	<b>28</b> Boy Scouts—6:30p	<b>29</b> *Vespers—6:15 pm *GarageBand - 6:15 pm *Confirmation- 6:30 pm *Bible Study—7:00p	<b>30</b> Overeaters Anon—6:30p	<b>31</b> 	<b>FALL BACK</b> Don't forget to set clocks back one hour at one hour at 2 a.m. Sunday <b>CHANGE</b> your fire alarm's batteries! <b>November 2</b>