

The Pilgrim

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH



“The Pastor Carol Tomer Children’s Door”

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

*An ELCA Congregation
A Reconciling in Christ Congregation*

*A Home for Hungry Minds and Souls
A Caring for Creation Congregation*

Church Office: 1935 St. Clair Ave.
Saint Paul, MN 55105-1646

Office Hours: by appointment only
for duration of COVID-19 pandemic
(*email and voice mail are checked regularly*)

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*Interim Lead Pastor
(Beginning February 7)*

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(also known as the Vestry)
Tim Dykstal, *Executive Team*
Tim Moore, *Executive Team*
Karla Leitzman, *Executive Team*
Jason Hendrikson, *Treasurer/Executive Team*
Timothy Bell-Kemp, *At-Large Member*
Janet Erickson, *At-Large Member*
Matt Spindler, *At-Large Member*
Lois Wintersteen, *At-Large Member*

Other Chairpersons/Roles

Pete Newburg, *Financial Secretary*
Barbara McCauley, *Chair of Congregational
Life and Care*
Beth Nelson and Jay Oakman, *Properties*

**MeeAe Kim, Aly Xiong, Bethany Mollman
Jimmy Gerding, Ella Boelke**
Nursery Attendants

Joanna Deer & Karie Johnson
Wedding Coordinators

Cover photo by Rocky Mjos.

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February Worship Overview

The Pilgrim COVID-19 Preparedness Plan has been posted on the Pilgrim website. The Pilgrim building is currently closed, except for small groups that have applied for use of the building, following safety guidelines. Please contact the church if you have questions. Meanwhile, our ministries continue!

Sunday Worship in February

About Virtual Gatherings via Zoom

We look forward to continuing to gather together, at the same time, for worship via Zoom, which will enable us to see each other on the screen, share joys and concerns by typing in the chat section (in morning worship), and stay for “coffee” time following worship. For those unable to attend at 9:30 am, a worship recording will be available later.

Morning Worship/Forum Overview for February

9:00-9:20 am — PreK & Kindergarten-2nd grade

9:20 am — Zoom gathering opens, for arriving and pre-worship conversation; Prelude begins around **9:27 am**

9:30 am — Worship via Zoom

10:20 am — Coffee Conversation via Zoom, following worship

10:30 am — High School Pathways (starting January 17)

10:40 am — Forum via Zoom, on some Sundays

(Grade 3-5 & Middle School Pathways will meet at **6:15 pm** on **Wednesday** evenings, **starting January 13**)

Sunday Morning Worship Details

February 7 — **6th Sunday after Epiphany**, Point for Pilgrims, 1st Grade Families in Faith Blessing, Pilgrim youth Eliana Bly preaching

February 14 — **Transfiguration Sunday**, Point for Pilgrims, Kindergarten Families in Faith Blessing, Pastor Chris Smith preaching

February 21 — **First Sunday in Lent**, Point for Pilgrims, Pastor Jen Rome preaching

February 28 — **Second Sunday in Lent**, Point for Pilgrims, Pastor Chris Smith preaching

Sunday Morning Forums

Sunday morning Forums are at **10:40 am** on Zoom following worship. You can use the same link that is used for Sunday morning worship to access the forums.

February 7 — Meet Pastor Chris Smith! — Introductions, Questions, and Connection with Pilgrim’s Interim Lead Pastor

February 14 — Who Do You Say That I Am? Keeping Company With Jesus Today — led by David Weiss — “Jesus seems to get around a lot. I even saw him (on several signs) in the middle of those who stormed the Capitol on January 6. That type of visibility makes it all the more important for us to be clear about how we see Jesus. Drawing on a range of Historical Jesus research, I’ll share my sense of the Jesus we might capture on video if we could travel back even before the Gospels were written. Who was that Jesus? And what does it mean to keep company with him today? As always, we’ll meet more questions than we can answer, but maybe it’s good these days (of all days) to remember that the gospel is very much at home in our questions.” — David Weiss. David Weiss does public theology — thinking out loud about God in the ebb and flow of whatever life sends our way. With graduate degrees in theology and Christian ethics, he writes essays, hymns, and poetry, posting most of it to his blog, “Full Frontal Faith: Erring on the Edge of Honest” at www.davidrweiss.com. He spent 2014-15 with Pilgrim as our Theologian in Residence.

February 21 — Budget Forum — Come and learn more about the vision for the year ahead, as it informs the proposed budget being presented at the congregational meeting on February 28. And learn about how 2020 went for Pilgrim, in terms of matching resources to ministry.

February 28 — Annual Congregational Meeting — Please join us for fellowship and reflection on our shared ministry and mission. This is our annual financial meeting, as we commit ourselves to some of the ways in which we will respond to the Holy Spirit’s movement among us in this next year.



Pilgrim Virtual Worship Is Available to Those Without Computers!

You can attend Pilgrim virtual morning worship by telephone. Those wishing to attend these worship gatherings in this way will need the following three pieces of information:

- ❖ Telephone number: 312-626-6799
- ❖ Meeting ID: 916 7782 1243
- ❖ Passcode: 994874

Once you have dialed the telephone number, you will be asked to enter the **Meeting ID** followed by the # (**pound sign**), and then the **Passcode** and **pound sign**. If the gathering has not yet been started by the host, you will be asked to try again later, so please don't call in much before **9:20 am** begins.

The Meeting ID and Passcode will be available in the Saturday congregational emails, for morning worship, and will also be a part of the Pilgrim general voicemail message, available on Thursdays.

Lenten Midweek Evening Worship

Ash Wednesday, February 17

4:30-6:30 pm — Drive-through imposition of ashes on Pilgrim's west lawn. We need to be reminded of and comforted in our deep humanity that God shares with us in Christ in a concrete way—that's why it is important for us to find a concrete way of sharing in the imposition of ashes for Ash Wednesday, February 17.

For the drive-through, please come any time between 4:30-6:30 pm to Prior Ave on the west side of the Pilgrim Church building. Approach from the south (intersection of Prior and St. Clair), that way you will be able to pull over to the curb on the Pilgrim side of the street. Please wear masks and remain inside your car. Pilgrim pastors and leaders will be outside, masked, and ready to greet you.

You will be given a bag with a piece of charcoal drawing stick, a paper towel, and a prayer. You will be able to make a cross on your own forehead or on those in the car with you as the pastors speak the words to go along. Thank you to Pilgrim's COVID SMART Team and creative colleagues for finding ways to make this possible!

7:00 pm — Virtual Ash Wednesday Worship, Pastor Jen Rome preaching

Lenten Wednesdays, February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24

7:00 pm — Virtual Holden Evening Prayer with reflections on stories of healing — With all we are living through together — the unmasking of the prevalence of white supremacy, COVID, pastoral transition, and with the hurt and illness that can come with daily living, we long for healing. We will enter into biblical stories of healing and let the music of Holden Evening Prayer wash over us.

Contemplative Evening Worship, Winter 2021

A Special Message to the Evening Community

*From Pastor Jen Rome and
Paul Stever, Pilgrim's Music Director*

When a key leader, like Pastor Carol, leaves, many thoughts and feelings open up. Especially when we have been blessed by the ministry and leadership of that person in our lives. The feelings range broadly — grief in the wake of their departure, joy for their new opportunities, anger or frustration that things cannot be the same, hope for the possibility of new things. These feelings are the beginning of the stirring of the Holy Spirit in us as a community living forward into the future God holds for us. The spirit of the Evening Community continues, with our calling to depth, silence, contemplation, poetry, and music. The interim time provides this opening for the Spirit to bring forth creativity in the Evening Community — new voices, known voices singing in new ways, and new influences beautiful and fitting for the moment — Your voices! Your creativity! Your sense of this moment in our community and history! We are planning on reaching out to you to hear about your experiences and hopes for Evening worship in the months to come. The Spirit of God will release your talent and beauty to create something wonderful and engaging for you and others yet to come. Let's walk in this Pilgrim way gently and with courage together!

Contemplative Evening Worship

Sunday Night Contemplative Worship Services offer you an opportunity to keep your spirits warm and nourished during the long winter months. You are invited to attend these services from the comfort of your home via Zoom. These services will include the well-loved Word Weavings that we have used since 2002, along with contemplative liturgy and elements of the meditative music of the Taizé community. The schedule for winter will be:

Sunday, February 14 at 6:51 pm: God Embraces All; Woven Together in Spirit Liturgy with Word Weavings; followed by reflection and conversation.

Sundays, February 28, March 14, and March 28 at 6:51 pm: **Taizé Evening Prayer with Word Weavings;** followed by reflection and conversation.

Sundays, February 21 and March 21 at 8 pm: Compline: Choral Contemplative Prayer — a sung service on Facebook Live. You can access this on the Pilgrim Facebook page.

We are also considering offering some outdoor evening worship this spring and summer as we did last fall. It could be a wonderful opportunity to be together in person (distanced and masked) outside underneath the night sky!

Join us for Contemplative Evening Worship and conversation afterwards to share your stories and hopes!

Pastor Jen Says a Couple of Things About Interim Life

So here we are. Pastor Carol is gone. Interim Pastor Chris Smith will be here soon. And, well, we're still here. You are here for each other. Your Vestry is here for you. Your Pilgrim staff is here for you. God is here for you. GOD IS WITH US RIGHT NOW in the in between before the in between.

My experiences of interim times in the past have been spirit-filled, honest, positive, and hopeful. It can feel a little awkward sometimes, especially at first, because we're doing something new. And that is normal and okay. In fact, it might even be good — because we are beginning to sense the opening up of our community to the Holy Spirit in new ways. We are beginning to wonder what God might be calling us to as a Pilgrim community.

It hasn't been that long since I had the opportunity to live through both sides of an interim at my previous call — including a good pastor leaving, a good interim, and another good pastor arriving. It was rich and brought growth and excitement we might not have experienced otherwise. And my husband Zach is an Interim Pastor for the Presbyterian Church USA. He's been doing one interim gig after another since we came to the Cities in 2001. Each one is a gift, a new unwrapping of the talents and joys of the congregation. Each one is an opportunity for the congregation to listen to each other and the surrounding community to wonder about the future to which God is inviting them as they serve others.

Sure, it can be awkward for a little bit. But that awkwardness gives way to powerful servant leadership and beautiful ministry shared. In many ways Interim is an exercise in trust — trust in each other and trust in God — trust that God has something wonderful for us. I trust our new Interim Pastor Chris Smith. I trust our staff. I trust our Vestry. I trust you. I trust God.

You've got this. We've got this. God's got this. God has beautiful ministry in store for us. Let's take those first awkward steps together, looking out with wonder to see what is to come.

Pastor Jen

Alex's Children, Youth, and Family Updates!

Living Into God at Home Together — LIGHT Time!

Hi Pilgrim Children, Youth, and Families!

Living Into God at Home Together, LIGHT Time, is underway! We are trying some new, creative methods out for Faith Formation this year — including storytelling, videos, and Taking Faith Home cross-generational devotion time with Children Choir's Director, Maggie Priola. While the content and leadership of LIGHT Time now alternates between 'regular' meetings and Taking Faith Home devotion times, the meeting times will remain the same for your family. To confirm details, you should be receiving weekly CYF (Children, Youth, Family) emails with listings of all events and updates delivered to your inbox. Reach out to Alex anytime with questions, and see YOU:

3rd-5th graders Spotlights & Middle School Pathways:
Wednesdays at 6:15 pm

Pre-K-2nd graders Flashlights: **Sunday mornings at 9:00 am**

High School Pathways: **Sundays after worship at 10:30 am**

Each LIGHT Time group has their own Zoom link. These are included in the weekly CYF emails. Please bring a Bible to each new LIGHT Time session: Flashlights and Starlights a Spark Story Bible, Spotlights a Growing in God's Love Bible, and Pathways a regular Bible — let Pastor Jen know if you need a Bible! :)

Reminder that you may join whichever age-group your child/youth feels most comfortable in, parents and caregivers are always welcome to join LIGHT Time, and! Whether or not you can make it to Faith Formation at this time, these days, your Pilgrim family is always here for you — please do not feel any obligation. You are already more than enough.

Upcoming CYF Events

Elementary School Snow Day

Who: Kindergarten-5th Grade Pilgrims

When: Friday, February 12 at 4:30 pm

What the: Mask up, bundle up, and be dropped off or come as a family to Pilgrim's lawn! We'll make snow angels and have a friendly snow-sculpture competition!

Minnehaha Hike!

Who: Middle & High School Pathways

When: Friday, March 5 at 4:30 pm

What the: A re-scheduled hike at Minnehaha! Meet at Minnehaha Creek Park to get outside, see friends, and check out the amazing waterfall!

Summer Events

- ✦ Registration opens **February 1** for **Camp Wapo!** Pilgrim has spots reserved for three camps:

Seeds: **July 21-23 2021**

Youth Camp: **July 25-30, 2021**

Sr. High Camp: **July 25-30, 2021**

Please contact Alex (alextheshiprosales@pilgrimstpaul.org) with any questions and to receive a detailed email about registration – if you haven't received that message already!

- ✦ Mark your calendars with these new, updated **Vacation Bible School** dates: **July 12-16** at Immanuel Lutheran Church!
- ✦ **Middle & High School Pathways retreat: July 13-15 2021**

Alex Theship-Rosales

Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

Our Life Together in Faith

Epiphany Small Groups: Getting Through February!

During the season of Epiphany, Pilgrim will be offering small groups for your participation. February continues to bring little daylight, and as we all find our way through times of transition and wait out the pandemic, being/staying/becoming connected to one another can buoy our spirits, and keep us nourished emotionally, spiritually, and even physically. We encourage you to take part in as many of these offerings as you wish. Our presence with one another is powerful and deepens the reality of God's care for us.

Parent to Parent

Monday, February 8 – 8:15-9:00 pm

Parents just need a place to be and check in and support each other while caring for their children during COVID. This group will be led by other parents with an opening question about something on their hearts and minds as they parent right now, with plenty of time for checking in,

sharing, and caring for one another in prayer and presence. Knowing laughter and understood tears are all welcome!

Contact: Pastor Jen

Always a Guest Book Study Group

We will use *Always a Guest* by Barbara Brown Taylor as our focus.

Thursdays, February 4 and 11 — 11:00-11:50 am

Each week, a facilitator will choose one of the chapters of the book as a focus. You need not purchase the book; readings will be available to you online.

Contact: Nonny Smith

Music Notes, February 2021



By Paul Stever, Music Director

Compline on February 21 and March 21 at 8pm

Pilgrim tenors and basses are again working to prepare a short contemplative service based on the liturgy for bedtime called “compline.” We will sing the service on Facebook Live on Sundays, February 21 and March 21 at 8pm and the recording will be available for listening any time after the service. A Facebook account is not required, you can either click the link on the Pilgrim website that leads to the Facebook live events or go directly to the Pilgrim Facebook page, a good link is www.facebook.com/pg/PilgrimStPaul/events/. If you missed the Nov 1 service, our first Facebook Live service, you can still listen at <https://www.facebook.com/PilgrimStPaul/videos/286994779142250>

Paul Stever Sings and Plays (on Youtube)

Every Saturday at 8:30 am I will be releasing a 5 minute video of me singing and playing a hymn. I began this new venture at the end of Advent with quite a number of carols and hymns for the season and will continue to highlight music appropriate for the seasons upcoming, but I am also especially excited about sharing from our new hymnal supplement “All Creation Sings” which was published and released on November 30. There are many great new hymns, including new tunes, and I look forward to incorporating these into worship as well! If you haven’t listened to one of my 5 minute youtube videos yet, here’s one example from January. Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Paul Stever sings and plays *Will You Come and Follow Me*. (<https://tinyurl.com/y4azus82>)

Vestry News

Interim Update

Dear members of the Pilgrim community:

With Pastor Carol Tomer having taken a new call in the Pacific Northwest, we now begin an interim period in the life of Pilgrim Lutheran Church. During this interim, we are thankful for the people of Pilgrim who give us continuity with the past and who sustain our present, including our pastors Jen and Lynn, our music ministers Paul, Maggie, and Dick, our Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries Alex, and Cathy, Mary, Denika, Chuck, and Mike, who keep the office running and help us to stay in contact with one another, especially during this time when we must be physically separate.

We are also happy to announce that guiding us during this period will be our new interim lead pastor, the Reverend Chris Smith.

Pastor Chris comes to us highly recommended by the Saint Paul Area Synod. Most recently, from August 2018 to May 2019, he was the Interim Senior Pastor at Incarnation Lutheran Church in Shoreview. He has had many interim and non-interim calls around the Synod, including serving as Senior Pastor at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Apple Valley from 2007-2015. (Coincidentally, Vestry member Timothy Bell-Kemp was a member of SOTV during that period and was confirmed by Pastor Chris!) Pastor Chris has a doctorate in Biblical Preaching from Luther Seminary (where also he served on the Adjunct Faculty from 2009 to 2016), an M.A. in Classical Philology from Harvard University, and — in a break from “tradition” at Pilgrim — a B.A. from St. Olaf College. He is also the coordinator of the Friends of Huruma, the non-profit organization, based in the United States, that supports the Huruma Centre Children’s Home located in Iringa, Tanzania.

Pilgrim is fortunate to have a pastor of Pastor Chris’s energy and abilities to serve as interim lead. Among the many tasks he will guide us through is a thorough assessment of the congregation’s talents, needs, and desires for the future. Such an assessment is a vital step before we begin the search for a permanent lead pastor, and it will take time and energy to complete. We also face the challenges of resuming congregational life “in the flesh” when the pandemic eases, of continuing our work toward economic and racial justice, and of joyfully celebrating our 100th anniversary in October 2021. These challenges mean that Pastor Chris will likely be with us for a longish interim period, perhaps as much as a year or more.

If you have questions or suggestions about how we can best approach this interim period, please reach out to any member of the Vestry. Our names

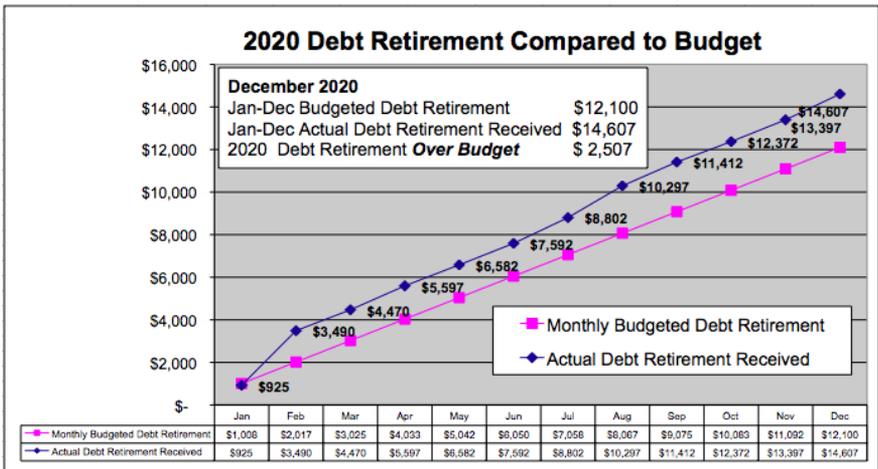
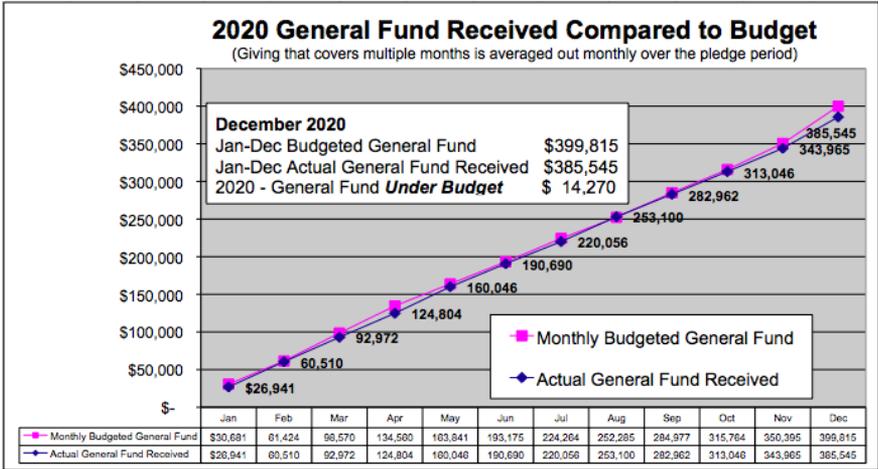
and contact information are listed on Pilgrim's web site.
 (<https://www.pilgrimstpaul.org/post/welcome-pastor-chris-smith>)

And please offer a warm Pilgrim welcome to Pastor Chris as he begins his ministry with us. He will join us for the forum on **Sunday, February 7**.

Sincerely,

*The Pilgrim Vestry
 January 19, 2021*

Giving Graphs



Education, Service & Fellowship

Pilgrims ARE, Advocates for Racial Equity, in Action!

On January 12, we held a JCART event — that's "Joint Church Anti-Racism Team," a collaboration with three other neighborhood congregations — on the Doctrine of Discovery. I had never before heard of this important part of the church's history. It originated in a papal message (bull) in 1493 (<https://tinyurl.com/y4bk2sfk>), whereby the pope "gave" all lands and peoples of the New World into the possession of any Christian monarch who could explore or conquer them. Thus the church, which ought to have upheld the dignity of all people, instead lent its authority even to the most cynical and genocidal villains of the era as long as they claimed to be spreading the faith. In the US, the doctrine has been a basis for real estate titles since 1823, when John Marshall invoked it in a Supreme Court opinion. The ELCA formally repudiated the doctrine in 2016 and there are several interesting articles describing the repudiation at <https://tinyurl.com/y2338398>. We also learned about the repudiations in the United Methodist and UCC denominations. Watch for future JCART events as we continue on a path of education, repentance and accompaniment. ~Joan Haan

Book Club News

Date: **Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 7 pm**

Book: *Love Thy Neighbor: A Muslim Doctor's Struggle for Home in Rural America*, by Ayaz Virji, MD

This will be a Zoom meeting, and the link will be sent out shortly before the meeting. If you would like to be added to the group list please contact Lynda Hirschboeck at hirschbo@gmail.com.

Classics for Pilgrim

Classics for Pilgrims meets on the fourth Thursday of each month to read classics suggested by the group. On **Thursday, February 25** the group will be discussing *All Quiet on the Western Front* by Erich Maria Remarque. We invite you to join us via Zoom from **7-8:30 pm**. If you are looking for a way to meet other Pilgrims a book discussion provides an opportunity to share and discuss different points of view. All are welcome. Contact: Barbara Taylor (**651-699-1095**) bstaylor50@gmail.com or Karen Ekdahl (**651-647-0681**) or Karen.ekdahl@gmail.com.

Pilgrim Public Art Update

The public art committee has partnered with Public Art St. Paul, a nonprofit organization, to guide us through the process of creating public art at Pilgrim. We have worked on various parts of the process, including defining the content of the work, public engagement from the surrounding community, developing a “Request for Qualifications” for the artist response, and reviewing 19 different artist submissions. We have chosen finalists and are now reviewing their project proposals. Stay tuned for further updates regarding this exciting project at Pilgrim. If you have any questions, please contact **Kent Miller**.

Virtual More Than Happy Hour

Tuesday, February 16, 6-7:30 pm

More Than Happy Hour is a once-a-month space for young adults to gather and talk about life, church, and the world. We focus on a discussion theme. Anyone and everyone is welcome to join, or bring a conversation topic. Pilgrim buys us dinner!

This month, we will be joined by young adults from St. Catherine University leading the Mapping Prejudice Project who will share about their work.

In COVID-19 life, we’re living up to our name — and this gathering will certainly be MORE than happy hour. Pilgrim’s Young Adult Innovation grant will pay for your dinner via Door Dash, and then from home, we can enjoy our dinner and talk in Zoom-land. Reach out to Hannah Olson at hannahdelaine@gmail.com by **February 12** so we can coordinate for payment for your dinner and make sure you get the Zoom link.

Pilgrim Mamas Gathering Virtually

All those who identify themselves as mamas from Pilgrim are invited a Pilgrim Mama’s get together approximately once a month in the later evening. Please contact **Kirsten Anderson** at kirsten.m.anderson@me.com for information.

How To Be a Helper or Be Helped During This Time

In these challenging times, we are equipping Pilgrims in shared ministry and caring for one another. As a part of this commitment, we have a process whereby you can let us know of a need you have, and let us know how you can help to meet a stated need. You can read about it; there’s a summary on the Pilgrim website home page, in the quick links section. It’s titled, “**Being a Helper — Our New System.**”

Here’s a direct link to the document: <http://tiny.cc/pao3qz>.

Children, Youth, & Families

Families in Faith Classes

Families in Faith Classes are shared experiences for children and their parents/caregivers to learn faith practices together. There is one class for each year of a child's life from Birth-6th graders led by Pastor Jen. Virtual classes will take place **Wednesday Evenings from 6:15-7:00 pm** for PreK-6th grade and on **Sunday mornings at 8:30 am** for babies and toddlers. There will then be a blessing shared during **9:30 am** virtual worship the following Sunday. Children and families will receive a gift and materials at home in advance of Families in Faith classes. Siblings, grandparents, godparents, etc. are welcome to join in!

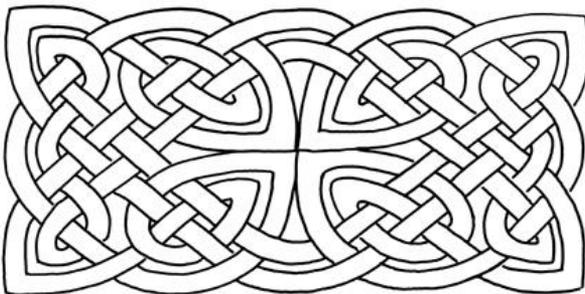
Wednesday, February 3: 1st Grade Prayer Pillows: Parents/caregivers and children learn different ways to pray. Children receive a prayer pillow. Blessing during 9:30 am worship on **Sunday, February 7.**

Wednesday, February 10: Kindergarten FAITH5: Parents/caregivers and children learn a devotional practice to use at home. Children receive a candleholder for family devotions. Blessing during 9:30 am worship on **Sunday, February 14.**

Confirmation With Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Deep Dive Confirmation for 7th-9th Graders

Grade 7-9 Pilgrim youth are invited to participate in Deep Dive Confirmation, a collaborative effort of progressive St. Paul ELCA Congregations, which during COVID will invite participants to watch a movie in advance that highlights the connection of faith and activism. Pilgrim youth attend a Zoom Deep Dive gathering dedicated to a small group conversation just for Pilgrims. See the CYF weekly email with details about the movie and Zoom discussion on Sunday, February 21, 7:00-8:00 pm.





Prayer Corner

We pray for God's loving presence for these Pilgrims who need healing, hope, comfort, and care:

Concerns: For our governor and all Minnesota public servants, as they lead and serve our whole state; for our national and international leaders, for wisdom during this pandemic; for the vulnerable in our society, including those suffering with COVID-19, those who are unemployed, those struggling with depression and other mental health issues.

Ongoing Health Concerns: Prayers for Leslie Tunstall, whose Stage IV lung cancer has recently become more aggressive and is no longer responding well to the chemotherapy intervention — prayers for her to fully experience the joy of the world each day as she discontinues chemotherapy and embarks on this new phase of life; Eleanor Boyer, mother of Elaine Boyer-Haymond, in hospice care; for Josh Moss' mother, Darlene Moss, and their loved ones, in hospice care for brain cancer; Serena Asta, chronic neurological Lyme disease; Lisa Berg; Lillian Knutson; Mike Regal, Chuck's son, ongoing care following a serious motorcycle accident; Cathy Comeford, sister of Jeanne Comeford, undergoing treatment for cancer; Daniel Leshner, for physical, emotional, and spiritual health.

Births: Rory Anderson, born April 22; Inho Robert McAdory-Kim, born January 31; Hanna Ruby Heggeseth born to Brianna and Paul Heggeseth on January 1, 2020; Maeve McElrath, born to Eileen and Matt McElrath on Sunday, March 24; Margaret (Maggie) Linnea Moore, born to Britt and Tim Moore on March 22; Naomi Anne Weeks, born to Kyle & Rachel Weeks on February 24.

Christian Sympathy: Brett Kahnert and family, on the death of his aunt, Vicki Gunness; Jenn Radke, on the death of her paternal grandmother Barb on January 10 and her maternal grandmother Myra on January 11; Carolyn Olsen, on the death of her mother Shirley Hayde on January 2; the Oakman and Deer families, on the death of Jay's paternal grandmother, Dorothy, on December 23; family and friends of Katherine Jacobson, wife of former Pilgrim Pastor Del Jacobson, who died on December 16; family and friends of Mardell Johnson, who died on November 9; family and friends of Dick Johnson, who died on October 2; Sara McAdory-Kim and family, on the death of her aunt Marcia McAdory Rachel on September 26; Hannah Schendel, on the death of her great-uncle, Edwin Monroe Cronk; family and friends of Jan Harper, former Pilgrim member and spouse of Jean Hay, who died on August 31; family and friends of former Pilgrim member Wilbur Decker, who died on August 11; Jason Henrikson, on the death of his father, John, on August 3; Karie Johnson, on the death of her uncle, Donald Ostergaard, on July 25; Drew Johnson, on the death of his grandfather, Ted Anderson, on July 17; Lois and Richard Wintersteen, at the death of their granddaughter, Bethany Kennedy, from pancreatic cancer, on July 15; Peter Spuit and family, on the death of Peter's uncle, Mark, who died by suicide the week of May 17; the Heggeseth family, on the death of Paul's uncle and Brianna's great-aunt; family and friends of Jean Hay, former member of Pilgrim, who died on April 21; Caleb Drexler Booth and family, on the death of his uncle, Craig Breimhorst, on April 16, from COVID-19; Craig Goldman, on the death of his sister Carol; Lois and Richard Wintersteen, on the death of Lois' sister Norma on March 31; family and friends of Mary Lou Jacobson, a former member, who died on March 22; Ross Radtke, on the death of his grandmother on February 9.

Ministry Partnership: The ministry and people of our sister congregation, Luganga Lutheran Church in Tanzania and Pastor Bimbiga; Pilgrim staff members and Pilgrim lay leaders

In and beyond the congregation: For peace in our world, for healing in our country, for the invisibly ill, for the mentally ill

You are encouraged to send greetings to those you are moved to communicate with. Let us know if you are expecting or adopting a child. If you wish to add or remove a prayer request, please call the church office regarding the Prayer Corner. For prayers during worship, please contact a pastor.

Parochial Report

February Birthdays

Week 1

Don Hogquist
Sandra Maurer
Bonnie Nash
Alexander Lyons
Grayson Andrist
Aaron Riekenberg
Carl Bussian
Nate Casey

Annette Tews
Claire Kaiser
Amanda Klepp
Nancy Montgomery
Didrik Peterson
Sophie Johnson
Amarantine Remy Ninow
Kirsten Anderson
Johanna Shreve

Week 2

Karen Hedenstrom
Freya Anderson
Pamela Itzin
Solfrid Ladstein
Drew Baese
Britt Moore
Andrew Jens Shuros
Jan Jacoby
Meredith Samuelson
Matt O'Toole
Donna Dingle

Week 4

Lynda Hirschboeck
Ella Otto
Nikki Wunderlich
Karen Ekdahl
John Lavik
Naomi Weeks
Nancy Smith
Frida Brynhild Marie Johnson
Maya Adelmann
Zander Tastad
Jaymin Kim

Week 3

Walter Heinecke
Jay Oakman
Zachary Wilson
Samuel Oakman

February Anniversaries

5 Bryan and Sandra Maurer
16 Stacy and Todd Dunn
28 Art and Beverly Stolp



A Thank-You Note From Pastor Carol Tomer

Dear Pilgrims,

I want to thank you all for the varied dimensions of the farewell journey that we shared these past weeks. I wish we hadn't been saying goodbye during COVID, but your creativity and care made it possible for us to find our way through our goodbyes. Special thanks to the Vestry and the Staff Care Team for guiding the details of these weeks.

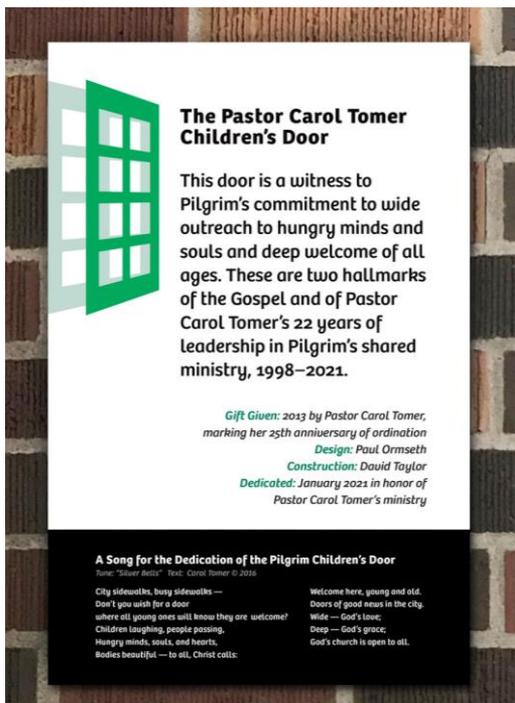
Thank you for the gifts and words of encouragement and humor and worship and music and blessing. Thank you for the sit-bys and the drive-by; what creative adaptation and care to make these in-person goodbyes possible! Thank you for the lovely framed photo of Pilgrim — another of Jay Oakman's amazing photos of beautiful Pilgrim worship!

Thank you for the creatively designed inside plaque and outdoor top panel by Rocky Mjos for the children's door, as well as the honor of having it named "The Pastor Carol Tomer Children's Door." Our last morning worship service together and the farewell program/party, as well as evening worship and the farewell time following, were such joys, even via Zoom. All of it was overflowing with such creativity and moving encouragement and beauty and laughter and music and blessing. My heart and my soul are full of gratitude.

As I shared in that last morning worship service, I will always love and pray for you. This is most certainly true!

With gratitude always, to God and to all of you —

Pastor Carol Tomer



Deadline for the March Pilgrim Newsletter

The deadline for sending in materials for the March Pilgrim newsletter is **February 15**. As usual, please send things to **serenapilgrim@gmail.com**.

Have You “Liked” Pilgrim Yet?

Be sure to visit the Facebook page and Pilgrim website to keep up with Pilgrim news, events, announcements.

<https://www.facebook.com/PilgrimStPaul>
<http://www.pilgrimstpaul.org>

Have You Remembered Pilgrim in Your Will?

Some people are able to continue to give to Pilgrim in death, as well as in life. Giving through your will helps to continue the 90-year tradition of ministry and mission at Pilgrim, continuing the legacy of your witness. With the advice of your attorney or tax adviser, the following language may be added to your will, trust, or codicil:

“I bequeath X% of my estate to Pilgrim Lutheran Church,
1935 St. Clair Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55105. “

Shared Ministry Statement

Pilgrim practices “shared ministry,” affirming that each member of this community is a minister both within and beyond the walls of the church, which we affirm in baptism. We partner with one another and with the wider ELCA to walk together in this journey of faith. We agree to share the decision-making responsibilities of being a church, as well as the joy of serving in mission, side-by-side. We welcome all to become involved through the use of their abilities, time, and resources. Every program, group, or emphasis within our congregation is sustained by the involvement of the ministers of the Pilgrim community.