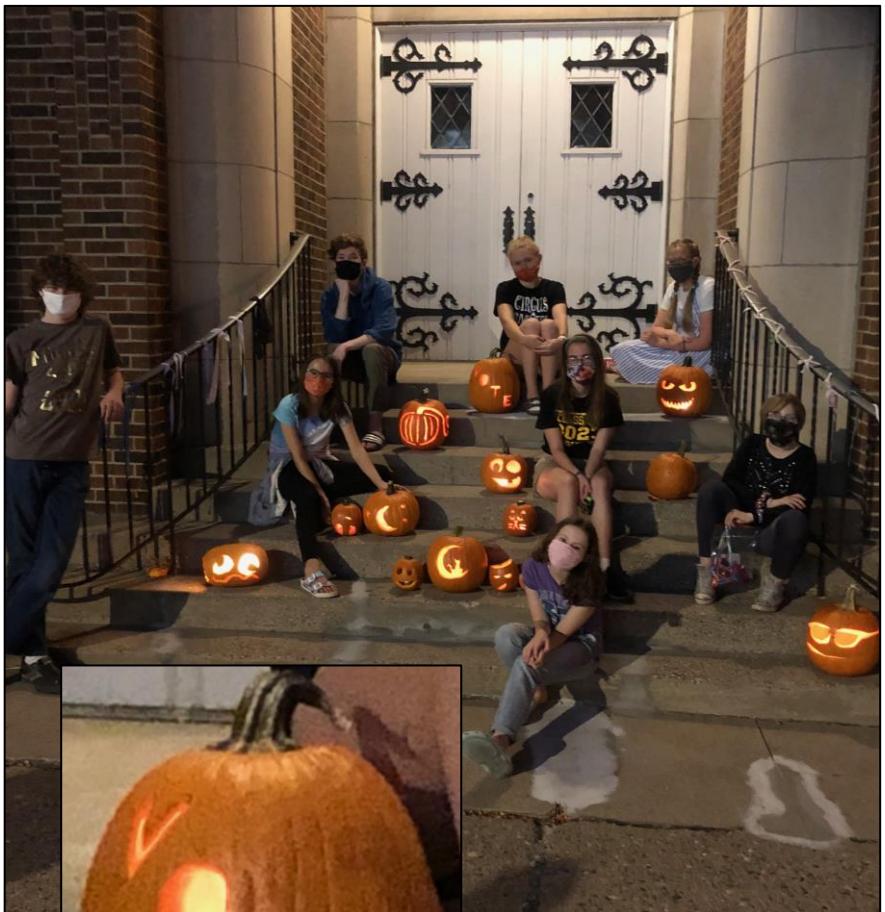


The Pilgrim

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH



*Middle and High
School Pathways
Pumpkin Carving –
Creativity and
Public Witness!*

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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Karla Leitzman, *Executive Team*

Jason Hendrikson, *Treasurer/Executive Team*

Pastor Carol Tomer, *Executive Team*

Janet Erickson, *At-Large Member*

Timothy Bell-Kemp, *At-Large Member*

Lois Wintersteen, *At-Large Member*

Matt Spindler, *At-Large Member*

Other Chairpersons/Roles

Pete Newburg, *Financial Secretary*

Barbara McCauley, *Chair of Congregational Life and Care*

Beth Nelson and Jay Oakman, *Properties*

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Joanna Deer & Karie Johnson

Wedding Coordinators

Cover Photo by Mike Schulze, from The Pilgrim

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November 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 November *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 November

Schedule

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

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

****Daylight Saving Time ends November 1 — Set your clocks back!**

November 1 — All Saints Day, Liturgy of Remembrance; On this festival Sunday, we remember with thanksgiving Pilgrims who died in the past year and Pilgrims who were baptized in the past year; Point for Pilgrims; PJ Sunday; Families in Faith Grade 6 Blessing: My Self, My Gifts; Pastor Jen Rome preaching

**During this liturgy, all Pilgrims are invited to hold up pictures or candles, in memory of loved ones who have died.*

Forum at 10:40 am — Balm for the Soul, Pre-Election: The Ancient Gifts of Christian Song and Rituals

Paul Stever will lead this forum. He writes: “Christian sacred music and worship practices have many strengths in connecting people with each other and in nourishing a relationship with God. In this discussion time, I will share some reflections from my time on sabbatical from the first 3 weeks of January 2020, which you can also read about in my article in the November Pilgrim newsletter. I will invite reflection especially on our music and faith practices, sharing some of the ones I have found especially meaningful, like the liturgy

for compline. Participants might come to this time reflecting on their own experiences with unique liturgies, like the ones Pilgrim has offered on Sunday evenings, and also favorite hymns, considering how the music and texts have shaped your life of faith. These types of rituals, music, and faith practices ground us, giving vision to see beyond ourselves and giving hope in difficult times.”

8 pm — Compline: Contemplative Choral Prayer, livestreamed — check Pilgrim website for details.

November 8 — A Service of Faith and the Common Good, Point for Pilgrims, Families in Faith Pre-K Blessing: Parenting Kids Faithfully; Guest Preacher: Bishop Jessica Crist, retired bishop of the Montana Synod, ELCA, former chair of the ELCA Conference of Bishops, and mother of a leading candidate in the November election for Attorney General of Montana

6:51 pm — Holden Contemplative Evening Prayer — “The Fragrance of Prayer”

10:40 am Forum — Faith, Civic Responsibility, and This Present Moment: A Time for Reflection — We will gather for a virtual forum in which we are invited to talk together on the first Sunday after Election Day. Ballot counting will be continuing in some areas. Some important outcomes may well be unresolved. In any event, much will have transpired, and much might still be on the horizon. This forum is an opportunity for Pilgrims to join together and share about what's on our hearts and minds, in light of our faith, the values that influence our sense of civic responsibility, and how Pilgrim has provided opportunities to take responsive action. During the conversation, several members of the congregation will share brief reflections on their own perspectives: Carl Samuelson, Katia McDonough, Joan Haan, Drew Johnson, Kurt Schultz, Nonny Smith, and Peg Hayes. Larry Kohlenstein will facilitate the conversation.

November 15 — The Gift of Sabbath, Point for Pilgrims, Families in Faith Grade 5 Blessing: Do Justice; Pilgrim reflections on Sabbath

10:40 am Forum — There Is No Peace: Processing Experiences of Spiritual Abuse — Spiritual abuse involves coercion and exploitation under the guise of religion, often administered on the part of a dominant, charismatic leader. While it can be difficult to identify, spiritual abuse often results in complex psychological trauma. This forum will clarify the characteristics of spiritual abuse, process common spiritual abuse symptoms and experiences, and center on how faith communities can worship and express their beliefs and values while doing no harm. Time will additionally be spent learning the neuroscience of emotional trauma and its unique manifestations within survivors of spiritual abuse, as well as evidence-based ways of healing from spiritual abuse. This forum will be led by Adam Arnold, MA, LMFT, LADC, a member of

Pilgrim and a licensed psychotherapist. He works with individuals and families through a trauma lens.

November 22 — Generous Commitment Sunday, Celebration of Thanksgiving, Point for Pilgrims, Presentation of Silver Pilgrim Award, Families in Faith Grade 4 Blessing: Friends in Christ: Pastor Carol Tomer preaching

6:51 pm — Woven Together in Spirit: Contemplative Worship — “It is enough, Lord”

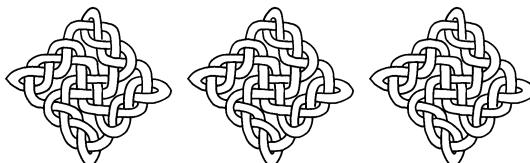
10:40 am Forum — The Impact of Women Clergy — In 2020, we have been invited to observe the ELCA's (our national church body) 50/40/10 commemoration of the 50th anniversary of ordaining Lutheran women, the 40th anniversary of ordaining Lutheran women of color, and the 10th anniversary of LGBTQ individuals being able to serve freely. Join Pastor Carol and Pastor Jen to reflect on the impact of ordained women on the church. During the forum, participants will have an opportunity to: reflect on how women serving as clergy have shaped their understanding of church, God, and humanity; ask Pastor Carol and Pastor Jen about their experiences as women clergy; and view a bit of video created for our Saint Paul Area Synod Assembly for this commemoration, planned by a team including Pastor Carol and featuring her as a moderator of a conversation among women clergy about their experiences! You can view the full set of videos here:

<https://www.spas-elca.org/events/synod-assembly/2020-observances/>

**Wednesday, November 25 at 8 pm
Thanksgiving Eve Holden Contemplative Evening Prayer**

November 29 — First Sunday of Advent, lighting of the Advent candles, Point for Pilgrims, Pilgrim Johnson Fellow Leif McLellan preaching

10:40 am Forum — What do Advent and the Pandemic Have in Common? Come and join our own Kirsten and Matthew Anderson (parents of Solvei, Freya, and Silje) and David and Gloria Anderson (Kirsten's parents) as they discuss the importance of Advent during the pandemic. Both Advent and the pandemic encourage us to emphasize the role of the home in faith formation. Using *Taking Faith Home*, a resource written by David and Gloria, the four will talk about three easy steps to bring faith into the home this season: have caring conversations, read the Bible, and pray.



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.

Contemplative Evening Worship, Fall 2020

Sunday Night Contemplative Worship at Pilgrim continues this fall, but — as with so many other things in our communities in these days — it will look a little different. These contemplative worship gatherings will happen via Zoom. Each service will feature the same kind of contemplative word weavings that Pilgrim's Sunday night worship services have been known for since 2002, as well as including some other familiar elements from the past, along with creative new dimensions. Because of copyright matters with poetry shared during these services, these worship services will not be available for viewing later. Here is the overview for November:

2nd Sunday, 6:51 pm — *Holden Contemplative Evening Prayer*, followed by coffee conversation — worship via Zoom

4th Sunday, 6:51 pm — *Woven Together in Spirit: Contemplative Worship*, followed by poetry reflections and conversation — worship via Zoom

Themes and dates of the upcoming contemplative services:

November 8 — The Fragrance of Prayer

November 22 — It is enough, Lord

Holden Evening Prayer

Holden Evening Prayer has been a part of Pilgrim's rich ministry and worship life for many years, as it has in many other churches. In most years, it would usually be offered only in Lent at Pilgrim, but in these days

of continued isolation for many and contracting daylight, Holden Evening Prayer feels like a natural part of our current rhythms of life. It has already been planned to be offered on the **second Sunday of the month** at **6:51 pm**, but in order to allow as many Pilgrims as possible an opportunity to participate (it will not be archived for later viewing, due to copyright concerns related to the poetry that is shared), music director Paul Stever will host a second Zoom meeting on a weeknight at **8 pm (Wednesday, November 25)**. Paul will also include a "live" piece of music played from the choir room or sanctuary at these gatherings. This link below should work for both of these gatherings, but current zoom links are also always available from PilgrimStPaul.org off the homepage:

<https://zoom.us/j/93059983565?pwd=SGo3RVpTK2o5ckIzWIQwdGpNRWdDQT09>

Pastoral Musings by Pastor Carol

Our season of snow has arrived, early and unbidden. I keep looking at an incongruous scene on the neighbor's front lawn: a tree full of red, beautiful autumn leaves, against a backdrop of white snow on the roof. Autumn red against winter white. How odd! How unexpectedly beautiful! How extraordinary!

So many things are extraordinary in these days. Some feel that nothing quite fits together this year. Red autumn leaves juxtaposed with white winter snow are perhaps a telling image for this year. Pandemics of such consequence—coronavirus, racism, climate change—shaping daily lives in ways that we can deny no more than we can deny the displays of red leaves and white snow around us.

I am once again, as if for the first time, aware of the ways we have, as a country, managed to deny the tragically destroyed lives of indigenous people who called our lands home long before Minnesota became a state or the United States a country. I had the privilege of participating in the Sacred Sites Tour in mid-October, as we visited sacred places in Native American local history and heard amazing and horrible stories associated with those places. And I wondered: how is that so many of us never knew these things?

I hope we will continue to learn and make choices informed by truths about our past and our present. As local communities, a state, a country, and a global community, I believe we are being transformed by the truths of our siblings on God's earth, truths as undeniable as red leaves on white snow.

This month is the time when we give thanks for the undeniable generosity that sustains this Pilgrim community—YOUR generosity. "Better Together in These Extraordinary Times" is the theme for Pilgrim's Generous Commitment campaign, which will culminate on November 22. The Gratitude and Generosity Team is gathering stories about how our shared ministries are making a difference for Pilgrims and for those far beyond Pilgrim. These stories are everywhere—if we have ears to hear—and we need to tell these stories. As church leader Debi Thomas has said, "No

single story will ever capture the whole. I need your testimonies as much as you need mine.” Thank you for telling and sustaining these stories, with your words, your lives, and your financial generosity. Woven with one other and those we have yet to meet, we are all better together, in these extraordinary times and in every day, a truth anchored deeply in the gospel of Jesus Christ, the good news around which we gather. When one suffers, we all suffer together; when one rejoices, we all rejoice together. We are woven together in the one body of Christ—with those we do not know personally, as well as with those we see on our Zoom screens—with prayers that practice our connectedness and with generosity that changes us and expands our connectedness. Truly, undeniably, gratefully—we are better together in these extraordinary days!

Pastor Carol

Pastoral Musings by Pastor Jen

On October 4th, we gathered for worship outside, masked, safely spaced with at least six feet between us. I felt very aware that this was the last time we would gather together in person for quite a while. I had that in mind as I preached that day. Here are some excerpts from my sermon that day about Jesus and Zacchaeus, who had climbed a tree to be able to see Jesus in the midst of a large crowd:

Jesus walked up to the tree and looked up at Zacchaeus and said,
“Zacchaeus, hurry up and come on down; I’m going to stay at your house today.”... And he went to stay at his house.

So we won’t be able to be a crowd of people gathering to see what’s going on with God again for quite a while. We don’t have to climb a tree to get Jesus to notice us and come and tell us this. To tell each one of us what he told Zacchaeus, “I’m going to stay at your house today.” Jesus is going to stay at your home. To settle down in one of your comfy chairs. And stay with you. God knows we’ll need the company and the care, especially until there can be a crowd again. Jesus is bringing his comfort and justice into your living room. You might as well rearrange the furniture around him. Because he will stay with you through the months to come. As you arrange your life around his love and justice.

Pastor Jen

Alex’s November Noticings

I’ve always found November to be a particular month. It’s cold, but not without some random, appreciated warm days. It’s a little desolate outside with the last of the geese leaving, bare trees, and chilly streets. It’s full—with tests in school, packed work schedules, activities and, these days, enough Zoom meetings for a lifetime. Yet it’s also the month of Thanksgiving. It’s a time to make a fire—a time to gather (with those in your COVID bubble, of course). Winter is on its way, but while some of

the first flakes may dance down to earth, they're not here to stay yet (unless they are, which is sometimes the case). For me November is a time to reflect and take a deep breath—we've made it over the hill of beginnings in September, the blink-of-an-eye-business of October, and now it's a gentler descent into the familiarity of Christmas. I hope you can take deep breaths throughout this month. Remember that you are already more than enough. ☺

Looking ahead, Middle and High School Pathways have an Advent Wreath-making event this month and a brisk hike at Minnehaha Falls in December. And, summer will get here eventually!

Looking behind, it's fun to look back at our fall events. I am so thankful for the Hammocking day High School Pathways shared in late September. As the day faded into sunset, Pilgrim youth "hung" out, got a chance to see one another face-to-face, and Amelia led us in a wonderful devotion on gratitude and things we would like help with. As I sat with my back against a tall pine tree and listened to the sacred words spoken, I was filled with appreciation and thankfulness. Pathways — let's go "mocking" again once the snow melts! In October we had our final outdoor worship service for the year, and right after, some Elementary school pals and parents met to say hi, draw with chalk, and play a few physically distanced games! I liked "shadow tag" especially, a game to play during a pandemic, where you're "it" if you "tag" someone with your shadow. Thanks to all who taught me a new way to "tag!" We also played a personal favorite, "Frogger," where one pretends to be a fly, buzzes a bit, and then falls when sneakily noticed by the Frogger. Finally, at the end of the month we set up tables behind Pilgrim and carved pumpkins with middle and high school Pathways. The creativity and togetherness was a true blessing — and we even were able to enjoy some hot apple cider, cocoa, Oreos and candy too!

Our first go of Living Into God at Home Together, LIGHT Nights, will complete this month — thank you to everyone who has supported it, led, attended, and been involved! There is still time to join if you would like to, just contact me and I'll get you set up with a Zoom link and information. We'd love to have you/anyone in your family join us! We begin with Gathering Time singing at **6:15 pm**, followed by Breakout groups (determined by age) at **6:25 pm**, and every Breakout Group finishes at staggered times, for sure wrapped up around **7 pm**. We are focusing on Racial Justice this month — interacting with themes of Anti-racism, and the two calls/phrases for justice we hear echoing across our country, "Say Their Names," and "No Justice, No Peace!" This conversation is a challenge and a journey, but the wrestle and growth we need is a process of love. Please join us alongside your loved ones as we learn together.

Happy November everyone, we're all in this together!

*Alex Theship-Rosales
Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries*

Our Life Together in Faith

Circles of Connection

Geographical Small Groups of Pilgrims Gathering this Fall

As we live into the reality of the coronavirus, we are adapting to a new normal of extended practices of social distancing. And, yet, as we navigate these current days, we long for community. In the meantime, in order to maintain connection and care among Pilgrims, staff have formed groups of Pilgrims of all ages to stay connected to each other based on close geographic proximity. If you'd like to be added to a circle, please let Pastor Jen know at pastorjenrome@pilgrimstpaul.org.

Each group has already or soon will be invited by small group leaders to meet one last time virtually or at a safe distance outdoors in November. During these gatherings the groups will Check In (get to know one another better or for the very first time! Find out new things about other Pilgrim's stories), Dig Deep (join in conversation around a short list of discussion topics based on the theme for this month, Racial Justice; and Pray for each other.

Music Notes, November 2020

By Paul Stever, Music Director

Compline Service at Pilgrim

Pilgrim tenors and basses are working to prepare a short service based on the liturgy for bedtime called "compline." Our hope is to be able to sing it for you live, over the internet, on **All Saints Sunday, November 1 at 8 pm** and to make a recording that could be available on our website for you to listen to on your own, by Election Day, **November 3**. Please watch the Pilgrim website and weekly congregational email for more details and a link to listen.

Brief Sabbatical Notes

In anticipation of our forum discussion on **November 1 at 10:40 am**, I thought I would share some notes I wrote from what seems like a lifetime ago, at the end of January of this year:

I, Paul, returned from sabbatical and am looking forward to returning to worship at Pilgrim. Thanks so much to all the musicians and staff members who helped make it possible for me to be away. While in Rochester, NY two of the primary projects I was interested in were to:

- 1) study resources related to musical settings of the St. John Passion, primarily at the Sibley Music Library at Eastman*

School of Music, including also a few hours studying some history of the compline liturgy.

2) visit worship services from a variety of faith traditions. Over 3 weeks, I visited approximately 20 services from Jewish, Catholic, Episcopal, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Greek Orthodox, Baptist, and United Methodist congregations, ranging from 8-400+ people in attendance, as well as a handful of concerts and choir rehearsals, to see what kinds of things other churches do.

When visiting churches, some of the things I reflected on were:

What was the flow like between spoken and musical elements in a service and what was the energy like throughout the service? What kind of expectations did worship leaders have for the congregation's involvement in the service? What kinds of elements in a service made it feel more formal or cerebral? What elements contributed to a sense of community and connection? How were services different from or similar to one another? For a number of churches, I attended more than one service and could compare differences among multiple services by the same congregation.

In every service, there was at least one segment or aspect of the service that seemed particularly moving or noteworthy to me, and I hope that these reflections will remain with me as I re-join our own creative worship planning.

Vestry News

By the time you read this, the Pilgrim congregation will have had its annual program meeting. The program meeting is where members of the congregation, and its ministry teams, report on their activities for the year. It's also where the congregation elects a new council — also known as the Vestry. In the normal course of human events, the new elected Vestry gets acquainted over the summer, kicks into gear in the fall with an annual retreat, and — over the remainder of its term — manages the church's budget, coordinates its teams, and strategizes its direction.

There's nothing newsworthy about any of that, except that usually the program meeting happens in May. This year, as it has everything else, the pandemic altered that schedule, and our program meeting was scheduled for Sunday, September 27. Thankfully, the Vestry elected in May 2019 was able to extend its term over the summer. Members who stayed longer than their allotted terms were Andrew Barry, Caleb Drexler Booth, Matt Koukol, and Heather Ninow. Members who are continuing to serve into 2020-21 are Janet Erickson, Jason Hendrickson, and Karla Leitzman. They all deserve thanks for their flexibility and commitment to the cause.

— By Tim Dykstal

Education, Service & Fellowship

JCART (Joint Church Anti-Racism Team) Events

By Pastor Carol Tomer

On October 11, Pilgrim and 3 nearby congregations (Immanuel Lutheran, Fairmount Avenue Methodist, and Macalester Plymouth United Church) launched our shared “neighborhood journey to repent of our colonial history and serve God’s vision of healing and justice.” Here are three upcoming events:

Virtual Watch Party: Dakota Exile

Our four congregations are invited to join a virtual watch party of the TPT documentary *Dakota Exile*. The documentary covers the history of displacement and assimilation of the Dakota people in southern Minnesota and is a great learning resource for those unable to attend a Sacred Sites Tour.

The viewing party begins at **4 pm on Sunday, November 15** and should last 90 minutes. The first hour will be devoted to a brief introduction and to viewing the film (Duration: 56 minutes), followed by open discussion. Attendees are welcome to watch the film on their own time, concurrently with the viewing, or in the Zoom event, linked below. The discussion will take place over Zoom, starting at approximately **5 pm**.

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87406461478?pwd=V1M3aohvcnFWbGhoamFINEJnOEthZz09>

Meeting ID:

874 0646 1478

Dial-in:

+1 312 626 6799 US

Documentary link:

<https://www.tpt.org/dakota-exile/video/tpt-documentaries-dakota-exile/>

December JCART Events

Tuesday, December 1 (time TDB) — Book discussion, via zoom, led by Dr. Katrina Phillips, from Macalester College, focused on:

Mni Sota Makoce by Gwen Westerman and Bruce White
Fort Snelling at Bdote: a Brief History by Peter Decarlo

Professor Katrina Phillips is an enrolled citizen of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe. She earned her BA and PhD at the University of Minnesota, and she teaches classes on American Indian history and the

history of the American West at Macalester. Her first book, *Staging Indigeneity: Salvage Tourism and the Performance of Native American History*, is scheduled to come out of the University of North Carolina Press in the spring of 2021. Her next project will look at activism, environmentalism, and tourism on and around Red Cliff.

Tuesday, December 8, 7 pm — Presentation via zoom on the role of boarding schools in the colonial history, including the involvement of churches, led by Christine Diindiisi-Wallette McCleave, President of the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition.

November Book Club News

Date: **Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 7 pm**

Book: *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* by Christy Lefteri

This will be a Zoom meeting. The link will be sent out a few days before the meeting. If you'd like to be added to the group list for that night please contact Lynda Hirschboeck at hirschbo@gmail.com.

The Christian Journey of Aging

*A Pilgrim Series, Thursdays, 11 am,
Every Other Week, via Zoom, for 75 Minutes*

*An Invitation from
Pastor Carol Tomer and Pamela Erwin*

In these days, we are mindful of daily life that cannot be taken for granted, amidst the risks and unknowns that are re-shaping our lives. We are awakening to new perspectives and new ways of envisioning living in our world. The Christian faith and the Christian community grounds us in God's guidance throughout our lives, as we together explore where God is leading us in this time of life. Aging — something that we do throughout our lives — comes into view even more as our life journey "matures." You are invited to these gatherings, regardless of age; we are not defining a minimum age for the gatherings. The gatherings are led by various Pilgrims and staff and supported by a new book titled *Aging*, by theologian William Willimon, which you need not read before or after these gatherings, but is a resource you might appreciate. Watch the congregational emails for short readings for each gathering.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| November 5 | Truthful Aging — led by Lois Wintersteen |
| November 19 | With God in the Last Quarter of Life — led by Coralie Hunter and Elizabeth Ankeny |
| December 3 | Aging in Church — led by Larry Kohlenstein |
| December 17 | Ending in God — led by Pastor Carol Tomer |

Links for the Zoom gathering each time will be posted on the Pilgrim website, on the Events During COVID page. Attendance via phone is also an option; contact the Pilgrim office for that information.

Public Art Update

By Kent Miller

The Public Art Team is now in the process of gathering input from the community around the church. Our partner Public Art Saint Paul is hosting an event for collecting input from the community. This event allows us to engage more directly with the community around the church and allows more voices and points of view to be understood. Our next steps include creating a proposal that is a “Request for Qualifications” to see what artist would be interested in creating art for this project. After that the Public Art Team would have to narrow down the list of artists to three and then give them the opportunity to create a full proposal of art ideas.

Classics for Pilgrims

The Classics for Pilgrims book for November is *Confusion* by Stefan Zweig. The Zoom discussion will be taking place on the **third** (not fourth) Thursday, **November 19 from 7-8:30 pm**. Book discussions are a fun way to meet and engage with other pilgrim members. Contact: Barbara Taylor: **bstaylor50@gmail.com** or **651-699-1095** or Karen Ekdahl: **[Karen.ekdahl@gmail.com](mailto:karen.ekdahl@gmail.com)** or **651-647-0681**.

Virtual More Than Happy Hour

Thursday, November 5, 6:30-7:30 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. Pilgrims buys us dinner!

This month, we will continue the conversation introduced by Pilgrim young adult Leif McLellan to reflect on our identities and the privilege that we have held and experienced in our communities. We will explore being guests and strangers in places outside our own communities.

In COVID-19 life, we’re living up to our name—and this gathering will certainly 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 **November 1** so we can coordinate for payment for your dinner and Claire Kaiser can send you 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

Virtual 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 grade, as well as all-ages Communion and Baptism Education Classes, led by Pastor Jen. 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! The classes that take place in November are:

Pre-K: Parenting Kids Faithfully

Wednesday, November 4, 6:15-7 pm

Parents/caregivers and children learn ways to engage faith at home—reading Bible stories with your children, holy play. Receive Spark Story Bible. BLESSING: **Sunday, November 8, 9:30 am Worship**

Grade 5: Do Justice

Wednesday, November 11, 6:15-7 pm

Parents/caregivers and children learn and experience the importance of caring for those in need as we follow Jesus. Receive catechism and work gloves. BLESSING: **Sunday, November 15, 9:30 am Worship**

Grade 4: Friends in Christ

Wednesday, November 18, 6:15-7 pm

Parents/caregivers and children learn about how to be church together, including friendship building skills and hospitality. Receive friendship bracelet. BLESSING: **Sunday, November 22, 9:30 am Worship**

Middle & High School Pathways Fall Events

Friday November 20, 5:30 pm – Advent Wreath Making

Meet behind Pilgrim to assemble your very own Advent wreath/sanctuary space. We will talk about creating sanctuary spaces, the upcoming Advent

season, and be creative as we craft our own holiday wreath. Bring any outdoor materials/objects you might want to incorporate into your wreath! Contact Alex with any questions:
alextheshiprosales@pilgrimstpaul.org

Friday December 4, 5:30 pm – Minnehaha Hike

Meet at Minnehaha Creek Park for a brisk hike to see the falls and get outside! If it's cold enough we may even see the waterfall *frozen* which is very cool. Bring a hiking snack, dress warm, and meet you there! Contact Alex with any questions: alextheshiprosales@pilgrimstpaul.org

Congratulations to Pilgrim’s ELCA Youth Summit Participants!

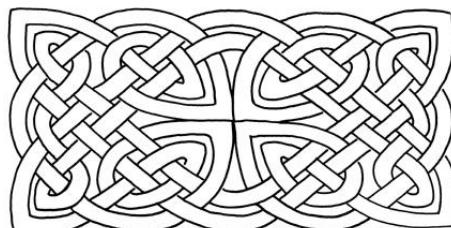
By Alex Theship-Rosales

Please join me in congratulating high school seniors Eliana Bly and Henry Reiley – chosen to be the team to represent the Saint Paul Area Synod at the ELCA Youth Summit! We are very grateful for the leadership these two remarkable individuals have shown over their years as a part of the Pilgrim community.

The ELCA Youth Summit is a national, annual event to celebrate leadership – please read on to learn more (from the Youth Summit planning committee):

“The theme for the 2020 Summit is Living Reflections of God. Youth can expect to participate in community building activities with the Youth Core Leadership Team including games and small groups between learning sessions. The theme verse is Proverbs 27:19, which says, ‘As water reflects the face, so one’s life reflects the heart.’ The 2020 ELCA Youth Leadership Virtual Summit will help youth discover and affirm themselves, as they are created perfectly in God’s image, both outwardly and inwardly. Through online webinars, the participants will meet leaders who are reflecting God through the ministries and agencies that they lead and serve. And finally, through small group discussions, the participants will share their hearts, passions, hopes and dreams of how they will reflect God through their involvement in their community, church, school, and vocation.”

Eliana, Henry, and I will attend the online summit on **November 6 and 7**.





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: Mardell Johnson and her family as she shifts to 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 Lesser, for physical, emotional, and spiritual health.

Births: Rory Anderson, born April 22; Inho Robert McAdory-Kim, born January 31; Hanna Ruby Heggeseeth born to Brianna and Paul Heggeseeth 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: 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 Heggeseeth 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; Pastoral Intern Hannah Olson, on the death of her grandmother on November 16.

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

November Birthdays

Week 1

Amarah Otto
Paul Stever
Patrick Donaldson
Etta Donaldson
Theo Hicks
Christopher Wells
Claudia Gordon
Sarah Oakman
Eda Jane Samuelson
Richard Wintersteen
Kristofer Sween
Kirsten Donaldson
Kent Miller
Tracy Riekenberg

Week 2

Kate Bjorkman
Austin Sween
Henry Sween
Luke Knutson
Brian Otto
Lois Wintersteen
Teresa Greseth
Parker Hendrikson
Charles Johnson
Ellen Rose Jacobsen
Matt Koukol

Week 3

Philip Haan
Aoife Donaldson

Eric Nelson
Hannah Sween
Noah Sherman
Drew Mergens
Solvei Marie Anderson
Jeanne Comeford

Week 4

Michael Schulze
Thora Barry
Paul Heggeseth
Rachel Boelke
Penny Bartz
Kelli Goldman
Parker Swenson
Allen Olson
Elliot Andrew Rogness
Claire Stalka
Tamara DeRoy
Katie Tastad
Lilja Boelke
Ruth Hagestuen
Scott Swenson
Joseph Goldman
Sara McAdory-Kim
Katia (Kathleen) McDonough

Week 5

Scott Greseth
Sandy Johnson
Kathie Amble

November Anniversaries

- 2 Claudia and Steve Becker
8 Barbara and Dave Rossi
13 Jamie and Michael Jacobsen

- 24 Becky and Paul Stever
27 Donna and Gary Holman

Looking Ahead

Christmas Eve worship, via Zoom: **4 pm** and **7 pm**

Deadline for the November Pilgrim Newsletter

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

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.

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>



**November 3 is
ELECTION DAY
in Saint Paul!**

Need information on registration?
Issues and candidates?
How about a sample ballot? Check out:

<http://ballotpedia.org>
<http://www.vote411.org>