

# The Pilgrim

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH



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April 2020

# 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.  
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(also known as the Vestry)

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Caleb Drexler-Booth, *Executive Team*

Matt Koukol, *Executive Team, Recording Secretary*

Jason Hendrikson, *Treasurer*

Pastor Carol Tomer

Andrew Barry, *At-Large Member*

Heather Ninow, *At-Large Member*

Janet Erickson, *At-Large Member*

Karla Leitzman, *At-Large Member*

## Other Chairpersons/Roles

Pete Newburg, *Financial Secretary*

Barbara McCauley, *Chair of Congregational*

*Life and Care*

Mary Beth Lake, *Missions & Social Justice*

Beth Nelson and Jay Oakman, *Properties*

Peter Spuit, *Worship, Music & Evangelism*

**Kate Tosteson, Rachel Boelke, and**

**Matthew Anderson**

*Interim Faith Formation Staff Team*

*(15 hours/week total)*

**MeeAe Kim, Aly Xiong, Bethany Mollman**

**Jimmy Gerding, Ella Boelke**

*Nursery Attendants*

**Joanna Deer & Karie Johnson**

*Wedding Coordinators*

*Cover Photo: Merle Strom, celebrating her 100<sup>th</sup>  
birthday — photo by Carol Tomer*

**NOTE:** Pilgrim's office is closed for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis. The office email is being checked on a daily basis and the Pilgrim voice mail several times per week.

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# April Sunday Morning Worship

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We have suspended all of our worship gathering at Pilgrim through the whole month of April.

So, here are the worship gatherings that will **NOT** happen at Pilgrim:

- ◆ April 5, Palm Sunday, morning worship
- ◆ April 9, Maundy Thursday, evening worship
- ◆ April 10, Good Friday, evening worship
- ◆ April 12, Easter Sunday, morning worship
- ◆ April 19 morning worship
- ◆ April 19 choral contemplative evening worship (and the related April 19 gathering called “A Conviviality of Contemplatives”)
- ◆ April 26 morning worship
- ◆ April 26 Nordic contemplative evening worship (and the related April 26 gathering called “Seven Times Well”)

Please watch the Pilgrim website for online supports related to some of these worship gatherings and other aspects of the usual things on the schedule.

No decisions have yet been made about worship gatherings in May. We will keep you informed along the way.

## Sunday Morning Virtual Gatherings in April

In addition to online support for worship at home:

- ◆ Facebook Live Pilgrim Family Faith Time, **10-10:30 am**
- ◆ Virtual Coffee Time, **11-11:45 am**

Details are available weekly in congregational emails and on the Pilgrim website.

## VIRTUAL Maundy Thursday Communion Worship — Learning for All Ages April 9, 6:30-7:30 pm

Join Pastor Jen and others for a Maundy Thursday experience that combines worship and learning in a video Zoom meeting! We will learn about Holy Communion in a unique way that is meaningful and interesting for all ages. Embedded in the worship experience with prayer and liturgy, we will engage in activities that work for all ages: sharing stories about receiving communion, the biblical story of Jesus celebrating the Passover meal with the disciples, and what communion means to us personally and as Lutherans.

Adults living on your own or with a partner — this event is not just for children — it is also for you. It will not be “childish” but engage important ideas through questions and practices with room for differing developmental responses in a meaningful, communal way.

Parents and Caregivers, this worship-learning experience is for children of any age who would like to begin receiving communion as well as those already communing. You are the ones to whom your children will turn most often with questions about what Communion is and how to receive it — so you will learn together as a family.

To RSVP, please email [pastorjenrome@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjenrome@gmail.com) by **April 5**. If you will be attending with your children, please include the age/s of your child/ren and how many from your family/group are coming. This way we can make sure you get the materials and link needed to use at home during the virtual class. Pastor Jen will send you an email with for information and instructions after you RSVP.

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## Pastoral Musings by Pastor Carol

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Dearly beloved,

I just re-read my pastoral musings from last month’s Pilgrim newsletter, and it seems that we were living in a totally different world at the time of that writing, in mid-February. What an extraordinary time these weeks have been and will continue to be!

We now have a “COVID-19” section on our website. As I look at the congregational messages archived there, beginning on March 13, it’s quite an overview of some dimensions of the journey we’ve been traveling together in these days. We adjusted how we did worship, then we decided to suspend Sunday gatherings through April 1, and now we’ve suspended all in-person gatherings through the end of April. We have not made plans regarding in-person gatherings in May yet, but we have decided that May 3 will not be Confirmation Sunday. As our life together continues to unfold, our congregational emails and our website are good ways to stay updated.

In suspending two weeks of March gatherings and all April gatherings, we are hoping that some of these gatherings may be rescheduled for a later time. It’s just one of the many questions that await discernment. We are living with many unknowns. And, we are living with many disappointments. I know the planning that Pilgrim staff, lay leaders, and ministry teams have all put into church gatherings that have now been suspended. I know the ways we give our hearts to it all. And I know that, far and wide, each of us is dealing with all kinds of sadness, loss, and fear. But we are also dealing with lots of newness, creative adaptation, discoveries of resilience, and digging deep into the terrains of faith and hope. We are meeting again the God who is ever moving in us, in the

midst of our vulnerabilities and longings for new life. We are indeed journeying through Lent with Jesus; it may even feel like Holy Week has already begun. And we may be wondering about what the Easter season might mean in this present time.

I am so grateful to be a part of a faith tradition that helps us walk this journey with authentic, honest engagement with the depths of life, even this time of pandemic. We are still the church, together, and God is still full of the kind of grace and love that is made known to us in Jesus. As I shared in a recent congregational email, I love the way church musician Tom Trenney, from Nebraska, has described our church communities in these days:

*Music is not cancelled. It will just sound a little different for a while. Church is not cancelled. Worship will just look a little different for a while. Relationships will not be cancelled. They will just feel a little different for a while. Faith will not be cancelled. It will just grow in different ways for a while. Love will not be cancelled. In fact, we will need more of it for a while. Grace and peace be with you all as we find our way in this new wilderness.*

We are on the journey together. I shared on St. Patrick's Day a poem from Brother Richard Hendrick, a Capuchin Franciscan living in Ireland. (You can find it in the March 17 post in our "COVID-19" section of the website.) Here's an excerpt:

*So we pray and we remember that / Yes there is fear.  
But there does not have to be hate.  
Yes there is isolation. / But there does not have to be loneliness.  
Yes there is panic buying. / But there does not have to be meanness.  
Yes there is sickness.  
But there does not have to be disease of the soul  
Yes there is even death. / But there can always be a rebirth of love.  
Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.  
Today, breathe.  
Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic  
The birds are singing again  
The sky is clearing, / Spring is coming,  
And we are always encompassed by Love.*

This Love, whom we name as the Triune God, Trinity of Love, is with us, for us, in us during this long Holy Week of our souls and in the promise of Easter. In the Christian community, Easter is a 50-day season and also celebrates God's daily gift to each of us, the gift of rising with Christ, of being lifted into God's grace, no matter what is going on. As you have heard me pray, some of you having heard this over many years: We are the body of Christ, ever moving, growing, and rising from the dead.

God is with us, in all things. Even and especially now. And we are with each other. Even and especially now.

*Pastor Carol Tomer*

# Pastoral Musings by Pastor Jen

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We've all got so much on our plates; trying to figure out what to do or not to do, trying to figure out what's best with COVID-19 out there — for our children, for our elders, for the most vulnerable among us — because that's what we do as siblings in Christ! We want to care for and protect life because that's what God made us to do, what Christ does for us, and what the Spirit calls us to do.

So we get to do that together in the upcoming weeks in new ways as in-person worship and gatherings are suspended. Your Pilgrim staff has already found and tried some new ways to worship, learn, and care for each other virtually that will keep all of us healthy and cultivate spiritual health. And there many lovely ideas, experiments, and explorations continuing to form — from congregations, other congregational leaders, and FROM YOU! Yet we can only move so fast — we're beginners at this, you know. It's a lot to figure out. I know you understand and are praying for your staff as we're praying for you — that's just one of the things we love about Pilgrims!

We need each other. Especially when things are so scary and confusing and fast. Being together, in whatever forms that takes, is how God cares for us. You are not alone, even if you're the only person in your home. Know you are surrounded by the love of your siblings in Christ; you are surrounded by the love of God — the very love that binds us together.

Your church loves you. You are beloved children of God. We're in this together, dear siblings in Christ.

♥ *Pastor Jen Rome*

## From the Windows of Our Homes — Weaving a Web of Connections

*“Our home is the caretaker of our memories. From our windows, our imaginations take wing.”*

*– Kent Nerburn, in Small Graces*

In *Small Graces*, Kent Nerburn describes visiting an elderly woman confined to a small room in a nursing home. She had once toured the majestic cathedrals of Notre Dame and St. Peter's, but now her view is confined to seeing the cupola of a small church in the distance. As the woman shares the view with Nerburn, tears came to both their eyes. “Isn't this a gift?” she says. Nerburn reflects, “I had come that morning, prepared to look with sadness on the shrinking horizons of her life, to weep for her lost dreams and the tiny window that framed the boundaries of her day. But those were my tears, nor hers. Her tears were for the beauty. . . From her window she received the spirit of the dawn. . . She had taken a moment from the seamless flow of time and space and held it up in private consecration, and we had partaken of it together in a small communion of our spirits.”

These days, it sometimes feels as if our worlds have shrunk and we are disconnected from normal time and from others. We look at “shrinking horizons.” But, as Pastor Carol has said, Pilgrim is a place where we can weave webs of connection, especially in these days.

I am delighted to begin serving as Interim Director of Shared Ministries and want you to know about some opportunities to practice our own web weaving.

## Virtual Connecting

The staff met this week to talk about ways we could strengthen our web of connections. Pastor Carol has previously encouraged Pilgrims to reach out to 5 other Pilgrims to check-in and see how they are doing. We want to build on that. So, be listening for the sound of a Pilgrim calling, either by phone, e-mail or text. We will be doing check-ins with Pilgrim households. We will have more details in the next few days.

## Virtual Prayer Team

I miss our communal time of lifting up the prayers of the people on Sunday mornings, as maybe you do. We will be launching a regular time for a team to gather virtually to pray for Pilgrims. This virtual prayer team will pray for the community’s concerns as we have done in Sunday morning gatherings, and this will also be a place where we appropriately lift up the concerns gathered in our virtual connecting. Watch for more details.

## Small Groups

One of the great strengths of Pilgrim is our vision for shared ministry; “each member is a minister both within and beyond the walls of this church.” There are many teams of Pilgrims who are already connected, and these groups are some of the avenues of ongoing connection and care that we hope we will continue to sustain in these days. We are also exploring ways we can continue to support and encourage spiritual nurture and growth. If you have ideas about ways we can virtually support one another (topic groups, book groups, etc.) I would love to hear from you. As we focus on virtual connecting, any ministry team leaders that need help in how to use virtual tools for continuing to meet, contact Mary Brodd, Pilgrim’s Office Coordinator, at [pilgrim@pilgrimstpaul.org](mailto:pilgrim@pilgrimstpaul.org).

This week, while talking on the phone, I became aware of all of the activity outside my cottage window; a turkey vulture snacked on a treat in the street while a pair of fox sparrows hopped along the ground. Yellow Sulphur and Monarch butterflies hovered around the morning glories along the fence. I was touched by the beauty and thankful for the opportunity to enjoy God’s creation while having an extended conversation with a loved one far away. From the windows of your world, may you discover the beauty that surrounds you, and be reminded of God’s graciousness, goodness and love for you.

*Pamela  
pamelajerwin@gmail.com*



# Pilgrim Prayers of the People

*By Caleb Drexler Booth*

*From Pilgrim Morning Worship, on March 15, 2020*

Let us pray. For health of all. For unity in spirit. For peace that transcends. God, this seems like something new. Social distancing. Sudden shortages on rice, onions, and toilet paper. Happy Birthday handwashing. Closed campuses, cancelled venues, global travel restrictions. While we can find some fleeting form of comic relief in shaking feet instead of hands and commiserating with strangers over soon-to-be-restocked grocery shelves, the reality is parts of our life are changing in sudden and real and subtle, unalterable ways. In some respects, it feels much like it did nearly 20 years ago. A sense of waiting for something unexpected. A fear of impending tragedy. A skeptical glance at neighbors and strangers. A holing up in our homes.

Our social distancing plays out in more ways than one meter of separation.

Then there are the very real economic impacts that shake the security of the future. Loss in our market-based retirement savings. Downturn in a service-based economy and face-to-face workforce. Industry waiting to see how government responds, how consumers respond, how bottom lines lead to future decisions.

But in the foreground of all of this we see the human face, masked, fever-pitched, struggling for breath, fighting for life against a microscopic force. We see the face of our neighbor locked in quarantine. The faces of our friends, parents, and grandparents at risk of exposure. The faces of those not affected and those not yet affected. And the faces of our kids not knowing how to process these images. Us not knowing how to process these images.

And meanwhile in the midst of this new threat, we still face the same illnesses, the same grief from losses, the same community and global conflicts that have been afflicting us.

For health of all. For unity in spirit. For peace that transcends. God of mercy, hear our prayer.

And there it is. There is our hope. Our peace. In you. You who were present with the Israelites through their wilderness. You who fed the five thousand. You who healed at a word, at a touch. You who loved and still love this world and all the people in it with living water. Even in this coronavirus scare, there is so much to be thankful for and to uplift our spirits. We are grateful for the end to the St. Paul teacher strike and for the resilience of our students and educators across the country finding innovative ways to maintain learning. For the volunteers willing to shop and run errands for the most vulnerable in our community. For our government officials and community leaders who have the prescience to

plan budgets, authorize experts, and inspire courageous action. For your community continuing to deepen and grow in shared humanity.

We are your hands in loving embrace (or elbow bumps). We are your voice speaking peace. Work your everyday miracles through us. Give healing to the world in need. Bridge our social distance with your unity of spirit. And give us peace. God of mercy, hear our prayer.

## Announcing: Pilgrim's Interim Director of Shared Ministry



We are excited to announce that we have an Interim Director of Shared Ministry. It is Pamela Erwin, a newer member of Pilgrim. She kindly began serving a week earlier than planned, on March 24, for 13.5 hours/week, and will shift to 20 hrs/week by April 15. She is in phased retirement from her work as a professor of Bethel University, in the Biblical and Theological Studies department. Her primary area of teaching has been in Youth Ministry and Practical Theology. She has also served as one of their academic

deans and has wide experience in serving on church staffs as well. We are so excited to be welcoming Pamela Erwin and her gifts and experience into our staff and our shared ministry.

## Announcing: Applications Being Received for Pilgrim's Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

Details are on the Pilgrim website, for this 20 hours/week position. Applications due by **April 20**.

## Saint Clair Sunday Evenings

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### Evening Community Updates

Out of care for health and safety, all April worship gatherings have been suspended — which includes Choral Contemplative Prayer that was scheduled for the evening of **April 19** and Nordic Contemplative Prayer that was scheduled for the evening of **April 26**. Because all April in-person gatherings have been suspended as well, that will include the Conviviality of Contemplatives gathering scheduled for **April 19** and the Seven Times Well contemplative conversation scheduled for **April 26**. A few of these gatherings will be rescheduled for a later time. We are and will be working on various kinds of online supports, in lieu of these gatherings.

In lieu of in-person Nordic Contemplative Evening Prayer on March 22, Jane Ann Nelson, Paul Stever, and Pastor Carol Tomer prepared an aid for meditation for you. It's available on the Pilgrim web site any time.

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## M@P... Midweek @ Pilgrim

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*Food, fellowship, learning, serving & singing for all ages*

All M@P meals, activities are suspended for the month of April. We hope to gather in early May for game night and potluck; we will communicate with you when we know more.

### Lenten Midweek Evening Worship

The last Wednesday night when we would have gathered in the season of Lent was **April 1**. In-person worship was suspended that night. To access lovely recordings of Pilgrims leading Holden Evening Prayer, go to the Pilgrim website.

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## Education, Service & Fellowship

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### Tanzania Trip Postponed

*By Coralie Hunter*

The Core Team of the Tanzania 2020 trip has decided to postpone the trip until next year. This decision was not taken lightly but with a view that we need to be realistic in the challenges of traveling at this time.

Pastor Bimbiga, pastor of our sister congregation in Luganga, has sent this response:

Hallow Coralie, many greetings from Luganga your brothers and sisters in Christ. Corona Virus have attacked nearly the whole World. Up to Yesterday in Tanzania we got six people effected. The Government closed all schools and colleges. Christians and Muslims we are allowed to continue with services. Every day in our morning Glory service we are crying to our Lord God so as to save us and the whole World from Corona Virus. We believe in God that He can stop it.

Very sorry for canceling the trip, but we believe in God that next time you will come.

*Thanks,  
Your Pastor Huruma Bimbiga*

### Congregational Care Team

*By Pastor Jen Rome*

Conversations are beginning as Pilgrim seeks to form a Congregational Care Team. This team will support Pilgrims visiting other Pilgrims when they need it (virtually or when it's safe, in person). We will begin with a

focus on cross+generational visiting—an opportunity for people of different ages to get to know each other, share what’s going on in their lives, pray for each other, and bless each other. The visits will be mutual—a blessing to each person part of the visit. It will be wonderful to see what connections the Spirit of Christ will form through the ministry of this team.

## Pilgrim Women’s Retreat is Cancelled

The Pilgrim Women’s Retreat scheduled for April 17-19 at Gustavus Adolphus College has been cancelled due to the current health crisis. Congregational Life and Care will reassess the situation in a few months to determine when a retreat could be planned.

## Classics for Pilgrims

*Please be in touch about whether this group will meet.*

Pilgrims are invited to join in a discussion of *The Street* by Ann Petry on **Thursday, April 23, 7-8:30 pm** at the home of Barbara Taylor (**651-699-1095** or **bstaylor50@gmail.com**).

The May title is *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller, hosted by Don Holst. Contact Barbara Taylor at **bstaylor50@gmail.com** or **651-699-1095**.

## Book Club News

April’s meeting has been suspended.

## Brew Testament on Pause

In keeping with our social distancing practices during this unprecedented and uncertain time, the monthly Brew Testament gathering is on pause until further notice. Any interest in, or questions about, this group can be directed to Tim Moore at **tim.moore927@gmail.com**.

## Pilgrim Mamas

All those who identify themselves as mamas from Pilgrim are invited to the Pilgrim Mama’s get together on **DATE TBD** starting at **8:30 pm**. Please contact Kirsten Anderson at **kirsten.m.anderson@me.com** for location information.

## Pilgrims Caring for Creation (PCC)



Of course, all Pilgrims care for creation! The PCC group seeks to maintain a supportive creation-care community. The best way to foster priority for creation among ourselves and others is to help each other find opportunities to practice it. Besides a core group of meeting attendees, we maintain a listserv of over 50 Pilgrims. Please inform the church office if you’d like to be added to our listserv and feel free to attend meetings, which we’ll probably Zoom, generally on the **2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:15 pm: April 8**.

# A Pilgrim Art Exhibit

*In the Upstairs Community Room  
“The Mundane and the Fantastic”*

*Featuring the work of Pilgrim member Sam Tosteson*

Thanks to Sam for leaving the exhibit in place until we can return to having gatherings in the Pilgrim building.

About this exhibit, Sam writes:

Welcome to this show! With these pieces, I seek to explore the relationship between the everyday and the idea of something more and different. As I created them, my spirit was mostly focused on themes of transition, impermanence, and energy.

## Young Adults: More Than Happy Hour

*Tuesday, April 14, 6:30-8 pm  
Virtual More Than Happy Hour*

Well, in our 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 take-out/delivery, and then from home, we can enjoy our dinner and talk in Zoomland (or whatever platform works best). Reach out to Hannah Olson at [hannahdelaine@gmail.com](mailto:hannahdelaine@gmail.com) by **April 5** so we can coordinate for payment for your take-out/delivery. Our topic for the night is “COVID-19 the young adult realm.”

**May 7: 6:00-7:30 pm** at The Naughty Greek (2400 University Ave. W., St. Paul, MN) — theme for discussion is “implicit ethnic bias in spirituality.”

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 – in the past we’ve talked about death and grief, and family dynamics and the holidays. Anyone and everyone is welcome to join, or bring a conversation topic. While we gather in community, Pilgrims buys us dinner! If you have questions or are interested in bring a topic, reach out to Hannah Olson at [hannahdelaine@gmail.com](mailto:hannahdelaine@gmail.com).

## ABIDE: Online Small Groups for Young Adults

This is a great resource for connection and spiritual growth while we’re socially distancing. Registration is open. Check it out! (The ELCA is Pilgrim’s national church body)

### Online Small Groups

“As the Parent has loved me, so I love you. Abide in my love.” | John 15:9  
During this time of crisis we are learning to abide in new ways. Join with young adults (18-35) all around the country once a week for small group

fellowship, conversation, and prayer. Registration is open. Look out for details on all our social media channels, including Facebook group ELCA Young Adults. #YAabide

## Children & Youth

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### Facebook Live Pilgrim Family Faith Time: Sundays, 10-10:30 am

We can't be together at church for Lambs, Sunday School, or Pathways, but we CAN still hang out virtually! So we're lead a little virtual at-home faith formation from home that you can join in! We'll have some goofiness, camp song, bible story, reflection, prayer, a game — for all ages to enjoy together — and your kids can wear their pajamas!

Here's what you need to do to participate:

- ◆ Go to the Pilgrim Parent Group on Facebook: Pilgrim Parent FB Group
- ◆ If you are already a member, please invite people who aren't already members with the invite button on the FB group page
- ◆ If you are not yet a member of the Pilgrim Parent Group on Facebook go to: Pilgrim Parent FB Group and ask to join!

This FB group is the best platform we have right now. Thanks for being flexible with us — we are learning as we go! If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jen.

### Pathways Youth Meet Virtually in Zoom

*Middle School: Wednesdays 4-5 pm*

*High School: Tuesdays 4:30-5:30 pm*

Pathways Youth Leaders put together a way for youth to check in with each other and share what's been going on with you — Zoom meetings. We check in, hear a tiny bit of bible, pray for each other, bless each other, and all the goofiness that inevitably comes.

Links to meetings are sent out weekly by email and on Parent FB page. Contact Pastor Jen for the link or more info, and contact Heather Ninow if you are having technical problems.

### Lambs (Age 0-3 and Parents/Caregivers)

Our Lambs class on April 19 is postponed. **We Will Keep You Posted on a Rescheduled Date for Our Final Lambs Class for the Program Year.**

Lambs class is an opportunity for parents/caregivers of young children to grow with their children and connect with other parents/caregivers. Lambs meets in the nursery and includes story, song, and play with your child as well as a welcoming and supportive space for parents to connect,  
*The Pilgrim, April 2020*

share and grow as people of faith and as parents. Lambs is held in the Nursery downstairs at 9:45 am on select Sundays.

## Sunday School (PreK-5th Grade)

Sunday School is suspended for the month of April. **We Will Keep You Posted as to When It's Safe to Resume.** Even if that is past “last day of Sunday School” that is set for May, we will plan a Sunday for Sunday School classes can reconnect and enjoy being together.

Pilgrim offers Sunday School during the school year for kids in Preschool to 5th Grade. Classes take place on Sunday mornings from **9:45 am to 10:45 am.** We use the *Spark!* curriculum to teach children the stories from the Bible in dynamic ways, connecting the stories to their lives. The children learn about the same Bible story they hear read in worship.

## Youth Pathways (6th-12th Grade)

Pathways is suspended for the month of April. **We Will Keep You Posted as to When It's Safe to Resume.** Even if that is past “last day of Pathways” that is set for May, we will plan a Pathways gathering, so youth can reconnect and enjoy being together.

On Sunday mornings from **9:45-10:45 am,** Middle and High School Pathways youth meet downstairs in the Youth Room to grow together in faith and connection through learning about the Old Testament, Faith and Life, and Faith Practices.

## Deep Dive Confirmation

Our April 26 Deep Dive Class is postponed. **We Will Keep You Posted as to When It's Safe to Resume.**

Deep Dive Confirmation is a new opportunity this year, offering 7th-9th graders a special and engaging experience as they journey toward confirmation. Deep Dive is a collaboration of ELCA Lutheran congregations with the hope of connecting youth across congregations and engaging youth in field-trip immersion learning about the promises made to us by God in baptism.

*Full Year Calendars for Lambs, Sunday School, Pathways, and Deep Dive Confirmation are available on the Pilgrim website. If you have any questions please contact Pastor Jen.*

*Pilgrim Parents/Caregivers: Pilgrim Parent Group on Facebook Connect and support each other! To join the Facebook Group, follow this link: [www.facebook.com/groups/pilgrimparents](http://www.facebook.com/groups/pilgrimparents) and click on “Join Group.”*

# Summer Camp Opportunities at Camp Wapo!

**Camp WAPO** at this point is continuing with summer programming. We will communicate with you when we hear more from them. Here are the dates for our congregation at **Camp WAPO** weeks this summer!

Seeds Camp (for completed 1st-3rd graders)	July 31-August 2
Wapo Youth Camp (for completed grades 4-8)	August 2-7
Senior High Camp (for completed grades 9-12)	August 2-7

Registration is still open for spots not used by congregational reservations. You can still use the registration link that was emailed to all families in early January. If the session you choose is full, it is worth getting on the waiting list. If you need that link, please contact Pastor Jen. For more information: <http://campwapo.org/camp/wapo>.

There is also Sr. High Servant Leadership Program (Completed Grades 9-12). Along with standard Senior High camp, Camp Wapo is also offering interested senior high youth an opportunity to grow in faith and leadership skills by working with younger campers in a program called "Servant Leadership Program" (SLP). Those participating in the SLP will be housed in Wapo youth cabins, trained to assist Wapo counselors in leading a variety of activities while also being coached and challenged by an SLP counselor. This experience is ideal for those demonstrating maturity, commitment and joy in working with younger kids. This program is limited to seven 11th-12th graders each week. Those interested need to submit an application with references by April 15. Interested? Talk with Pastor Jen or go to <http://campwapo.org/camp/wapo>

## Information Meeting for All Ages Pilgrim Camp

**We Will Keep You Posted As To When This Meeting Is Rescheduled.** Camp WAPO at this point is continuing with summer programming. We will communicate with you when we hear more from them.

This summer, Pilgrims of all ages are invited to head north together to Wilderness Canoe Base camp with Camp Wapo **July 23-26**. We'll have time together to play and rest and grow in faith together! At our meeting we will be joined by Nate Berkas, Director of Wilderness Canoe Base to answer questions and share about camp. If you have any other questions, contact Pilgrim Elizabeth Schoenkencht at [eschoenk@comcast.net](mailto:eschoenk@comcast.net).

## Register Now for God-Centered Day Camp (VBS)!

*June 15-June 19, 2020*

At this point we are planning on continuing with VBS. We will communicate with you when we know more.

*The Pilgrim, April 2020*



**Who Is My Neighbor?** There are always more neighbors to meet! Immanuel and Pilgrim Lutheran Churches are joining together again for a week of fun and faith! Registration is \$40/child for morning day camp (VBS) (**M-F, 9 am-noon**), and \$40 more for afternoon care, which includes offsite service projects (M-Th, until 4 pm). You can register on the Immanuel Lutheran Church website: <http://ilcsp.org/> Registration for morning day camp is open to all children who have completed PreK through fifth grade. Afternoon care is available to children who have completed kindergarten through fifth grade. For more information contact [pastorjenrome@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjenrome@gmail.com).

## Registration for Immanuel's Music and Arts Camp is Open!

Immanuel Lutheran at this point is continuing with summer programming. We will communicate with you when we hear more from them. About a dozen Pilgrim children and youth attended this camp last year and loved it. All Pilgrims who have completed Kindergarten-8th grade are invited again this year! It is a summer day camp where faith and creativity connect in a God-centered environment. Teachers are local artists! This year's camp is **August 10-14**, with the theme "Love Is..." Cost is \$175 (and \$125 for each additional child). Please register using this link: <http://ilcsp.org/imac/>

## Save the Dates for the Youth Pathways Cabin Getaway This Summer!

At this point we are planning on continuing with our Pathways Cabin Getaway. We will communicate with you when we know more.

### **July 14-16, 2020**

We will head up north to live the lake life together this summer at the cabin of Pilgrims Mark and Lee Gunsten. Water, rest, and fun are all on the schedule!

### **2021 ELCA Youth Gathering**

The 2021 ELCA Youth Gathering will be in Minneapolis, NEXT **June 29-July 3, 2021**. Pilgrim youth—let's start looking forward to this! The theme is "boundless: God beyond measure." The theme is based on Ephesians 3:19, "I want you to know all about Christ's love, although it is too wonderful to be measured. Then your lives will be filled with all that God is." Participants will explore how they can find themselves within the boundlessness of Christ's love. Visit [ELCA.org/Gathering](http://ELCA.org/Gathering) to learn more. We will have an information meeting at Pilgrim on **August 19, 6:30 pm**.



# Prayer Corner

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**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; Paul, father of Karie Johnson, hip replacement surgery; Jean Hay, being treated for pancreatic cancer — More details at this caring bridge site, for her partner's cancer and her own ([caringbridge.org/visit/janharper3/journal](http://caringbridge.org/visit/janharper3/journal)); John Fabie, cancer treatment; Jerry Barte, brother of Karen Bjorkman, diagnosed with multiple myeloma; Neal Doty, brother of Diane Doty Stalka, recovery from surgery; Mardell Johnson, recovering from pneumonia, and her daughter, Susan, recovering from a fall; Nancy Aarsvold, recovering from a cardiac arrest; Jan Harper, former Pilgrim member and partner of Pastor Jean Hay, diagnosed with lung cancer; Fred Drexler, father of Kate Drexler Booth, recovering.

**Ongoing Health Concerns:** Serena Asta, chronic neurological Lyme disease; Lisa Berg; Bev and Art Stolp; Lillian Knutson; Mike Regal, Chuck's son, ongoing care following a serious motorcycle accident; Kai McElrath, 1 year old niece of Matt and Eileen McElrath for the continued healing of her neuroblastoma cancer; Cathy Comeford, sister of Jeanne Comeford, undergoing treatment for cancer; Daniel Lesher, for physical, emotional, and spiritual health.

**Births:** 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::** Ross Radtke, on the death of his grandmother on February 9; Pastoral Intern Hannah Olson, on the death of her grandmother on November 16; Karen Walker and family on the death of her mother, Pilgrim member Joan Doth, on October 27; Eileen McElrath and family, on the death of her grandmother, Dorothy Ann Tompkins, on October 13; Sharyn Joyce, on the death of husband Bill on October 4; Jean Omodt and Hannah and Nathan, on the death of father/grandfather Ray Omodt on September 12; Catherine Koukol and family on the death of her mother on September 3; Sheila Hoffman, Theo Hicks, and family at the death of husband and parent Art Carlson on August 25; Louise Rogness, at the death of her mother Catherine Hewitt on August 24; Roger and Pat Sween and Kristo Sween and Donna Dingle at the death of Katharine Sween on August 17, daughter of Roger and Pat, sister of Kristo; family and friends on the death of Barbara Grudt on August 7; Claudia Becker and family, on the death of her mother Ginny Colby on July 29; Diana Doty Stalka and family, on the death of her son Mason on July 19; Tim Dykstal and family, on the death of his mother Virginia on June 28; Dave Toeniskoetter and family, on the death of his father Richard on June 25; Brett Kahnert and family on the death of his grandmother on June 16; Petra Vogt and family on the death of her step-grandmother, Erika Peitsch, on May 20; Catherine Mueller, on the death of her mother, June D. Mueller, on April 16; Pastor Lynn Peterson and family, on the death of her mother, Jeannette Peterson, on April 27.

**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.*

*The Pilgrim, April 2020*

# Parochial Report

## April Birthdays

1 Kris Hogquist  
 1 Steve Becker  
 1 Lauren Knutson  
 1 Sharyn Joyce  
 5 J.R. Klepp  
 6 Charles Goldman  
 6 Jenn Radtke  
 8 Marit Madeline Peterson-  
 Johnson  
 9 Lois Holst  
 10 Sandra Elmstrom  
 10 Miles Tosteson  
 12 Aidan McCullough  
 13 Karie Johnson  
 13 Corey Pederson  
 13 Tara Andrist  
 14 Quinn McCullough  
 16 Becky Stever  
 16 Maisie Kate Rogness  
 17 Brendan Boylan  
 17 Jane Toeniskoetter  
 17 Nancy Aarsvold  
 18 Paul Shay  
 18 Nadia Rose Murphchinski  
 19 Eric Smith  
 20 Tim Moore

21 Heather Ninow  
 22 Barbara McCauley  
 22 Micah Weeks  
 23 Natalie Hokanson  
 24 Amelia Smith  
 24 Deb Filer  
 24 Dustin Andrist  
 24 Andrew Barry  
 26 Adeline Grams  
 27 Nick Schuessler  
 29 Matt Henrikson  
 30 Thomas Prather  
 30 Katharine Robertson

## April Anniversaries

2 Nathan & Rachel Boelke  
 8 Kristen & Jen Sherman  
 11 Pamela Erwin & Thomas Becknell  
 13 Ron & Trudith Gustafson  
 20 Lori & Brian Otto  
 23 Mark & Judith Tande  
 27 Heather & Daniel Ninow



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# Looking Ahead at Pilgrim

*These are our plans, pending COVID-19 health guidelines ahead.*

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**Sunday, May 3, 9:30 am** — Shift to one Sunday morning service schedule

**Sunday, May 31, 9:30 am** — The Festival of Pentecost  
**10:45 am** — Spring Congregational Meeting

## About the Next Pilgrim Newsletter

The next newsletter deadline will be **Saturday, April 15** for the May issue. Submit articles to **serenapilgrim@gmail.com**.

Please remember, in submitting items, that we cannot make the newsletter any thicker because of U.S. Postal Service requirements. So, thanks for your help in keeping submitted items brief.

## 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.