

# The Pilgrim

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH



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October / November 2019

# 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 Open:** Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
8:30 – noon & 12:30 – 3:30 pm  
Office is closed Friday

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## Members of the Congregational Council

(also known as the Vestry)

Tim Dykstal, *President*

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*

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

**Grace Dombrow, Jimmy Gerding**

*Nursery Attendants*

**Joanna Deer & Karie Johnson**

*Wedding Coordinators*

*Cover photo: Mike Schulze at Holden Village,*

*Washington State, July 2019, part of the*

*Pilgrim pilgrimage group*

*Cover Photo by Jane Ann Nelson*

*Photo page 6 by Shantre Pinkney*

**NOTE:** Please note the change in the Pilgrim office hours. The office is open **Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday, 10:00 am-noon; 12:30-3:30 pm.** Other hours by appointment.

# What's in Your Pilgrim?

|   |    |
|---|----|
| October/November Sunday Morning Worship at 8:30 & 11 am.....                | 4  |
| Sunday Morning Forums .....   | 5  |
| Joe Davis, Pilgrim Artist-Theologian in Residence .....                     | 6  |
| Plan Ahead for Sunday Morning, October 6 .....                              | 7  |
| Pastoral Musings by Pastor Carol.....                                       | 8  |
| Pastoral Musings by Pastor Jen.....   | 10 |
| From My Sermon on Sunday, September 1.....                                  | 10 |
| Our Life Together in Faith .....  | 11 |
| Michelé Crowder Joins Pilgrim as Johnson Creativity and Leadership Fellow . | 11 |
| Saint Clair Sunday Evenings.....  | 12 |
| M@P... Midweek @ Pilgrim.....   | 13 |
| Music Notes October/November 2019.....                                      | 15 |
| Contemplative Prayer Choir .....  | 15 |
| Hymn of the Month (October and November):.....                              | 16 |
| Vestry News .....   | 16 |
| Stories from the September Pilgrim Vestry Retreat .....                     | 16 |
| Catching Dreams for Living and Giving Generously .....                      | 18 |
| Giving Graphs.....  | 19 |
| Happy Give to the Max Day!.....   | 19 |
| Education, Service & Fellowship .....                                       | 20 |
| Iraqi Clothing Drive .....  | 20 |
| Pilgrim Men's Breakfast.....  | 20 |
| Book Club News .....  | 20 |
| Pilgrims Caring for Creation (PCC) .....                                    | 20 |
| Posted on the Narthex Bulletin Board   PCC Section: .....                   | 20 |
| A Fall Dayhiker Trip! .....   | 21 |
| Brew Testament 2019 .....   | 21 |
| Young Adults .....  | 22 |
| Community Emergency Service Home Delivery Program .....                     | 22 |
| Children & Youth.....   | 22 |
| Lambs (Age 0-3 and Parents/Caregivers).....                                 | 22 |
| Sunday School (PreK-5th Grade) .....  | 23 |
| Youth Pathways (6th-12th Grade).....  | 23 |
| Deep Dive Confirmation .....  | 23 |
| Pilgrim Parents/Caregivers: Pilgrim Parent Group on Facebook.....           | 23 |
| Families in Faith Classes.....  | 23 |
| Beyond Pilgrim.....   | 24 |
| Cross-Generational Worship Seminar .....                                    | 24 |
| Shared Ministry Statement.....  | 24 |
| Prayer Corner .....   | 25 |
| Parochial Report .....  | 26 |
| Looking Ahead at Pilgrim .....  | 28 |
| Looking Ahead.....  | 28 |
| Pilgrim New Member Series .....   | 28 |
| November 5 is Election Day in St. Paul!.....                                | 28 |

# October/November Sunday

## Morning Worship at 8:30 & 11 am

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**October 6 — Pilgrim Anniversary Sunday** (our congregation is 98 years old!), *Local Community-Building, Global Peace: A Welcome of Neighbors Far and Wide* — Postlude by guest organist Dr. Marilyn Wangberg Brattskar from Norway, Guest Preacher: Bishop Munib Younan, former Lutheran bishop of Jordan and the Holy Land

‡ **9:30 — Brunch for all**

‡ **8:00 am — First Sunday Meditation**, Upstairs Community Room

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE:** The Twin Cities Marathon will be blocking Summit on Sunday morning; please allow for extra travel time. Use Ayd Mill Road to cross Summit.

**October 13 — Holy Communion**, Worship led by Pilgrim's Artist-Theologian in Residence and his hip hop, R&B, funk, and soul band: "Poetic Proclamations! A Sunday with Joe Davis & The Poetic Diaspora."

**October 20 — Holy Communion**, Families in Faith Rite: Birth-Age 1 — Baby Faith Steps (11 am), Pastor Jen Rome preaching

**October 27 — Reformation Sunday Festival Worship**, Brass, Procession of All Ages, Point for Pilgrims, Baptism of Margaret Linnea Moore (11 am), Guest preacher: Professor Amy Marga, Luther Seminary

**\*\*Daylight Saving Time ends November 3 — Set your clocks back!**

**November 3 — All Saints Sunday**, Liturgy of Light and Remembrance, Holy Communion; Families in Faith rite: 4th Grade — Friends in Christ (11 am), Pastor Carol Tomer preaching. On this festival Sunday, we light candles in memory of those Pilgrims who died in the past year and in thanksgiving for those Pilgrims who were baptized in the past year, and we are all invited into a time of candlelighting at the beginning of the service, in memory and thanksgiving for dear ones.

‡ **8:00 am — First Sunday Meditation**, Upstairs Community Room

**November 10 — Global Morning Prayer**, PJ Sunday, Point for Pilgrims, Armistice Day remembrance, Families in Faith Rite: 5th Grade — Do Justice (11:00), Pastor Jen Rome preaching

**November 17 — Holy Communion**, Reception of New Members, Preachers: Pilgrim 5th-12th graders, sharing their "Spitting Fire" creative work that they did with Artist-Theologian Joe Davis

**November 24 — Reign of Christ Sunday**, Generous Commitment Sunday with the procession of offerings and pledge commitments, Celebration of Thanksgiving, Point for Pilgrims, Families in Faith Rite: PreK — God’s Story (11:00); Preaching: Josh Moss, Director of Faith Formation and Shared Ministry

## Sunday Morning Forums

*Our Sunday morning forums meet in the Upstairs Community Room (UCR), unless noted otherwise.*

**October 6 – Christians in the Middle East: The Challenges We are Facing.** This forum will be led by our special guest, Bishop Munib Younan, who served as Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Jordan and the Holy Land from 1998-2018. In 2010, he was elected President of the Lutheran World Federation, a position in which he served until 2017. In this forum, he will be talking about our vocational peacemakers in a conflicted world.

**October 13 & 20 – Whiteness and Privilege: What Does It Mean for Pilgrims?** The Pilgrim Racial Justice Task Force invites your participation in this two-part series. Via video, we will hear stories from national leaders on racial equity and be invited to share our own stories. Through reflection and small and large group conversation, we will explore the “danger of a single story,” “understanding privilege,” developing a “mental checklist” for promoting behavior change and identifying “entry points” of systemic racism and productive action. Come with your stories, questions, and concerns. Leave with handouts, new awareness, and opportunities for growth.

**October 27 – Imagining the Atonement through Christian History.** Come explore the many ways that Christians have told the story of what went wrong in Eden and what God in Jesus Christ did about it. Using our Bibles, we will see how theologians interpreted the various ways of talking about Christ’s life, death and resurrection for the sake of humanity. Amy Marga is Associate Professor of Systematic Theology at Luther Seminary. Her present research focuses on Feminism and Mothering in the Christian tradition. She is a trained racial justice facilitator through the Minneapolis YWCA and teaches a course on Race and Protestantism at Luther Seminary. She enjoys speaking on feminism, gender, race, and the Christian tradition in local congregations. She lives in St Paul with her husband, two boys, and a poodle.

**November 3 – Stories about the Saints in Our Lives: Pilgrim TEL Talks.** “Together, Enriched for Life” (TEL) — It’s Pilgrim’s version of TED talks. It’s the life of faith, lived in community, together, enriching our grateful stewardship of the lives God has given us. In this TEL talk forum, various Pilgrims will share short stories of some of the saints in their lives — ancestral stories, inspiring loved

ones, unsung saints. Stories retold, enriching us now, as we bring the past into the present, in thanksgiving to God.

**November 10 – Caregiving of Elders: A Conversation for All of Us.** A panel of Pilgrims – caregivers and elders – will invite us into conversation about the journey of caring for elders and all the ways we give and receive care of loved ones. This will also be a time for listening for interest in forming an ongoing group of Pilgrims for supporting one another on this journey.

**November 17 – Public Art: What Can It Be?** Pilgrim’s young adult innovation team is exploring interactive public art in our community in this coming year. And we are also exploring the possibility of child-friendly Pilgrim public art. So, it’s a great time to learn more about public art. This forum will be led by Colleen Sheehy, who is the Executive Director of Public Art Saint Paul, a private nonprofit. Prior to that role, she was Director and CEO of Plains Art Museum in Fargo, ND, and also worked for 15 years as Director of Education at the Weisman Art Museum at the University of Minnesota. She loves connecting artists and audiences for the civic good.

**November 24 – The Things We Say When Trying To Be Comforting.** As we all walk with others in the context of grief and/or dying, we seek to be helpful and say helpful things. Let’s reflect together about these journeys. Pilgrim Pastoral Intern Hannah Olson will lead this forum. The book *Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies I’ve Loved* by Kate Bowler is a resource for this conversation.

## Joe Davis, Pilgrim Artist-Theologian in Residence

*By Pastor Carol Tomer*



With joy, Pilgrim is welcoming Joe Davis as our Artist-Theologian in Residence this fall. Some will remember Joe as our Pilgrim Anniversary Sunday preacher and forum leader last fall.

Here’s a bit about him: Joe Davis is a nationally touring writer, speaker, and performer based in Minneapolis. He is the frontman of emerging soul, funk, and spoken word ensemble, *The Poetic Diaspora*. As a student and educator, he has served as teaching artist at dozens of high schools and universities, recently as the Artist-in-Residence at Luther Seminary, receiving a masters in Theology of the Arts.

You can learn more about him at [JoeDavisPoetry.com](http://JoeDavisPoetry.com).

Here's what he is doing at Pilgrim during these months:

**Sunday, September 29, 9:45 am forum**

**“From Monocultural to Intercultural: A Pathway to Deeper Beloved Community”**

**Sunday, October 13, 8:30 & 11 am worship** — Worship led by Joe and his hip hop, R&B, funk, and soul band: **“Poetic Proclamations! A Sunday with Joe Davis & The Poetic Diaspora.”**

**Sunday, October 27, 12:30-2 pm** (over lunch) — **debriefing** for the Pilgrims who took the IDI, the intercultural Development Inventory (after hearing about it at the Sept. 29 forum)

**Sunday, November 3, 12:30-2 pm:**

**Spitting Fire: Spoken Word Poetry as a Spiritual Practice, for 5th-12th graders** — Nationally-touring spoken word poet and teaching artist Joe Davis will explore the history and culture of spoken word poetry as a way of connecting our story with God's story. Participants will learn games, tools, and practices to develop their own creative writing and storytelling. Together, they will create a presentation that they can share with the community at morning worship on Sunday, November 17.

Pizza lunch from Davanni's will be provided, so a cost of \$8.00 is suggested. To sign up for the event, email or text Penny Bartz (pennybartz@gmail.com or text 651-491-2806) with your child's name, their pizza preference (cheese, pepperoni, or veg) and any dietary restrictions. Also contact Penny with any questions.

**Sunday, November 17, 8:30 & 11 am** — **Our preachers** are the Pilgrim 5th-12th graders, sharing their “Spitting Fire” creative work that they did with Joe on November 3.

## Plan Ahead for Sunday Morning, October 6

*It's a big Sunday at Pilgrim. We're calling it:*  
**Local Community-Building, Global Peace:  
A Welcome of Neighbors Far and Wide**

It's Pilgrim's 98th anniversary. And we'll be welcoming a global church leader from the Middle East and a distinguished organist from Norway. And we'll be flinging the doors as invitingly wide open as we can, with brunch for all.

Our guest preacher and forum leader that morning will be Bishop Munib Younan, who served as Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) from 1998-2018. In 2010, he was elected President of the Lutheran World Federation, a position in which he served until 2017. Born in Jerusalem to Palestinian refugee parents, Bishop Younan continues to work for a just and lasting peace between

Palestine and Israel. In his forum at Pilgrim, he will be talking about our vocation as peacemakers in a conflicted world.

Our guest organist is Dr. Marilyn Wangberg Brattskar, from Holmen Church in Asker, outside Oslo, Norway. She will be playing the postlude at worship that day.

Here's a bit more about the day:

### **About Sunday, October 6 — by Josh Moss**

#### **Brunch: 9:30-10:45 am**

Every person has their own characteristic way of existing in the world as unique as a fingerprint. My son calls this a person's "sensibilities." Some people are surly, some are helpful; some are kind, some are welcoming; some are doers and some are thinkers. Think about when you met your significant other or your closest friend — there was likely some sort of chemistry or attraction that helped you say yes to a second date or another cup of coffee, right? Maybe there was even a person in your life with whom you already had that special chemistry who helped set up the first date? Churches have their own sensibilities, too — that uniqueness that draws people in and keeps them coming back for more. I'd like you to really consider what it is about Pilgrim that keeps you coming back for more — and I'm also inviting you to think about the special people in your life who you would like to invite into the Pilgrim community and a life centered in Jesus' unique gospel sensibilities.

## **Pastoral Musings by Pastor Carol**

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I want to share with you some of my adapted reflections from this past September's Rally Sunday and invite you into Pilgrim life together this autumn.

Rally Sunday is a homecoming Sunday of sorts. Of course, homecomings don't require having been away. Homecoming is about gathering around the communities, practices, and meanings that anchor us, that we come home to, over and over. The old nursery rhyme comes to mind: *To market, to market, to buy a fat pig. Home again, home again, jiggety-jig.* It sounds like there's dancing going on. That's how I think of gathering for worship. We dance when we come home, jiggety-jig.

There's a wonderful book by Gertrud Mueller Nelson, *To Dance with God*. It's about family ritual and Christian community celebration. She tells this story. One afternoon, she was busy sewing. The wastebasket near her sewing machine was full of scraps cut away from her project. This basket of discards was a fascination to her daughter Annika, who was not quite four years old. Annika began going through the scraps, collecting the long bright strips, and then off she went. When Gertrud took a break to check on her, she found Annika in the garden, affixing the strips to the top of a pole with great sticky wads of tape. Annika proclaimed, "I'm making a banner for a procession. I need a procession so that God will come down  
*The Pilgrim, October / November 2019*



and dance with us!” With that, Annika solemnly lifted her banner to flutter in the wind and slowly she began to dance.

We process to begin worship on special Sundays. It’s our liturgical jiggety-jig, our way of inviting God to dance with us, sharing our joy of being together as the body of Christ. Some people might think we don’t dance in churches, but I think our church processions, be they ancient or of the 21st century, are one of our ways of dancing with joy at being together with God and with one another, the joy of being anchored in community.

Think about communities that anchor us. Sometimes, they are communities that we have been a part of in various ways over many years. One of those communities for me has been Holden Village, a community that Pilgrims have gone on pilgrimages to Holden seven times over the past 20 years. I first went to Holden the summer I graduated from college, and later lived there for two years as village pastor. Holden is for me an anchoring community of faith and faith practices and an anchoring community of connection. Some of you have connections with camps that you’ve been a part of over the years — whether it be Wilderness Canoe Base, or Wapogasset, or other kinds of camps.

This summer, I got to spend time at Kabekona Lake near Walker. In the 1930’s, a group of Lutheran seminarians bought lots on this lake, so that as they moved over the years, they would have a place to gather together with one another over the years. That lake community has indeed been a place of anchoring for generations — with shared connections and commitments to the church, in which they have been woven deeply, so that every summer is a cherished homing. Some of you have similar experiences of lakes to which you’ve returned over the years, whether it be longtime resorts or cabins.

Most of us would say that we have been shaped by the schools or colleges in our lives, and sometimes we return for reunions and homecomings. I will soon be returning to one of the schools that has been an anchoring community for me, Luther College, a special place for my family for generations. In this month of October, at Luther’s Homecoming, I will be receiving Luther’s Distinguished Service Award. It’s a special joy to be able to share this news with you, my Pilgrim community.

And of course, local congregations anchor many people, because they are centered around faith and meaning-making, anchoring us in some of our deepest values. But here’s the difference with congregations: We don’t have to wait to take a special trip in order to stay connected to our congregation. I think that’s why congregations can have some of the greatest power for anchoring our lives in community — we can connect weekly, twice a week, or more, and the congregation is filled with people with whom we can share our lives in ongoing, enfleshed ways, because we live in the same area. Now, of course, it does take effort to show up, I know, and sometimes it takes everything in us to show up. But the community is so enriched by each of you, by your presence and by the

ways you care for the strangers and friends whom you meet in the congregation. Your efforts to get to church make a very big difference to others. And I hear so many stories of the ways you are grateful for the support and encouragement and care you receive in this community as well. And there's this too: in these days of such great spiritual hunger, congregations of meaning-making and grace and gospel are great anchoring communities to invite people into.

God is dancing with us, of this we can be sure. Every time we gather, we give thanks that Jesus danced with God like no other — Jesus, who despite the cost, trusted God enough that even death was transformed into life. When we gather, we are invited to participate in the dance of Jesus, seeking to live as Jesus did in the world, believing that we can experience God's life-giving ways even in the midst of the brokenness of this world, trusting that there will be a day when every tear will be wiped away and all creation will sing for joy.

So, every time we gather, let's pick up the scraps of our lives — all of the colors and shapes, the sorrows and the joys, the hopes and the doubts. Sometimes, we might even need to use sticky wads of spiritual tape. And let's be enfleshed banners, if you will — all of us together, with hearts and souls and bodies gathered to worship — inviting God to dance with us. Home again, home again, jiggety jig.

*Pastor Carol Tomer*

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## Pastoral Musings by Pastor Jen

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### From My Sermon on Sunday, September 1

Psalm 78 is like God sitting with us on the rocking chair, singing us songs and praying prayers that we will carry with us our whole lives long. Most Psalms are prayers that people say right to God. But in this Psalm, it's just the opposite. God is saying something right to us. God is telling us to share God's love from generation to generation. Read this psalm and wonder what God might be saying to us as a community in Christ:

#### **Psalm 78:1-7**

##### **Elder:**

Listen, my people, to my teaching,  
and pay attention to what I say.  
I am going to use wise sayings  
and explain mysteries from the past,  
things we have heard and known,  
things that our ancestors told us.

##### **Adult:**

We will not keep them from our children;  
we will tell the next generation  
about God's power and great deeds

and the wonderful things God has done.  
God instructed our ancestors  
to teach God's loving ways to their children,  
so that the next generation might learn them  
and in turn should tell their children

**Child:**

In this way we also would put our trust in God  
and not forget what God has done,  
but always live God's loving ways.

(adapted from the website *Worshiping with Children* by Carolyn Brown)

Passing on the wisdom of living God's loving ways isn't just a family affair. God's loving ways teach us that all elders are our grandparents. All parents are our parents. All children are our children. And we as a community in Christ pass on living God's loving ways from generation to generation. Loving ways that we can see in Jesus and each other.

*Pastor Jen Rome*

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## Our Life Together in Faith

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### Michelé Crowder Joins Pilgrim as Johnson Creativity and Leadership Fellow



Michelé Crowder will serve as a Johnson Fellow as she sings in the Chancel Choir, leads some informal theater playtime for children, and gains some administrative experience. Michelé served with the Riverside Innovation Hub with Augsburg University as an Innovation Coach, guiding congregations as they explored accompaniment ministry with young adults in their community. Currently, she serves as a Global Musician-Educator as part of the Global Mission Unit of the ELCA. Ms. Crowder bravely comes from the state of Texas to explore traditional and alternative forms of ministry in the Twin Cities. She is a performing artist ready to explore the

artsy scene that is the Twin Cities.

*Johnson Leadership & Creativity Fellowships are meaningful four-month (renewable), stipended experiences for young adults that support vocational discernment, strengths- and job-skills development through project leadership. Fellowship projects also strengthen Pilgrim's commitment to its mission, core values, and ministries. Fellowships are*

*The Pilgrim, October / November 2019*

flexible, in terms of the number of hours needed to fulfill the role, and are intended to be compatible with concurrent work/study. For further information about Johnson Fellowships, contact Pastor Jen Rome, Pastor of Next Generation Ministries, at [pastorjenrome@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjenrome@gmail.com).

## Saint Clair Sunday Evenings

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Worship, Music, and Arts ~ 6:51 pm Sundays

201-2020 Theme:

*Moved in Infinite Love By All Things*

### **Celtic Contemplative Communion**

**October 13 — Haste to Me, Lord**

**November 10 — My life is not my life**

*Featuring musicians Dick Hensold, Michelle Kinney, Marc Anderson on Northumbrian smallpipes, medieval greatpipes, recorder, cello, percussion, and Peggy Larson as cantor*



### **Compline for a New Millennium: Contemplative Night Prayer**

*3rd Sundays, September through November, dates announced soon for 2020*

Featuring Pilgrim's Contemplative Prayer Choir

#### **October 20**

*Extended pre-service recital begins at 6:30 pm with a prelude by classical guitarist Jim Falbo*

#### **November 17**

*Extended pre-service recital begins at 6:30 pm with a community sing led by Paul Stever*

### **Nordic Contemplative Evening Prayer**

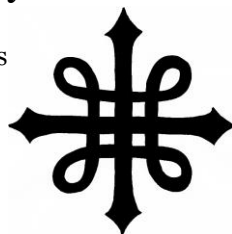
*6:30 pm Extended Prelude Begins*

**October 27 — Roads Everywhere and Signs in Our Hearts**

**November 24 — In the Shadow of Your Wings**

*Musical Guests: Earthtones vocal ensemble*

*Featuring Peggy Larson's uniquely Nordic singing styles, including kulning (Swedish) and joiking (Sami), and Rachel Jensen on Hardanger fiddle and violin.*



# M@P... Midweek @ Pilgrim

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

## **M@P Schedule:**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>5:05-5:45</b> | <b>Junior Choir (Grades 4-8)</b>           |
| <b>5:15-6:15</b> | <b>Meal (<i>pending after 9/25/19</i>)</b> |
| <b>5:45-7:10</b> | <b>Let Us Play (Age 5 and up)</b>          |
| <b>5:45-8:45</b> | <b>Nursery Care (Age 0-4)</b>              |
| <b>6:15-7:10</b> | <b>Adult Learning</b>                      |
| <b>6:15-6:30</b> | <b>Cherub Choir (PreK – K)</b>             |
| <b>6:35-7:10</b> | <b>Jubilee Choir (Grades 1-3)</b>          |
| <b>7:15-8:45</b> | <b>Chancel Choir</b>                       |

## **M@P Meals**

*By Josh Moss, Director of Faith Formation & Shared Ministry*

Attending a M@P meal is a great way to connect with other Pilgrims and avoid cooking dinner yourself. In fact, many people have said those are the two main reasons they attend M@P. So — we heard that and we responded. There have been several iterations of the M@P meal over the last several years... Soups for You, Pizza Luce, Chef Alan Scholer and even some self-assembly meals have come and gone. We've had some meals with an educational component, some that involved simply fellowship, and now we're offering supervised child care while we have adult learning opportunities and some open small groups. Very importantly, M@P meals help facilitate our Children's Choir rehearsals — without them, families might find it difficult to make it to Wednesday evening choir practices. M@P meals have been central to our community for a number of years.

**But have you heard that M@P Meals may be ending?** It's true.

After several years and several experiments, we have yet to find a way to make M@P meals sustainable. During the last couple of weeks, a dedicated team has been meeting diligently to wrestle with the struggles of M@P meals. With input from the M@P meals team and staff, a menu was selected for the remaining weeks of M@P, but there's still more visioning and planning to be done for the coming Winter and Spring meals. During the coming weeks, the M@P meals team will continue to meet intermittently. If you'd like to be part of that discernment group, please email Kate Spindler ([katespindler@gmail.com](mailto:katespindler@gmail.com)). Nursery Care The Nursery will be regularly staffed during M@P from **5:45-8:45 pm** to support part of the mealtime, adult learning, and Chancel Choir rehearsal.

## **Let Us Play**

We will be having supervised free-play time for children too old for the nursery from **5:45-7:10 pm** in the west Sunday School rooms off the Fellowship Hall. Children will enjoy games, self-directed art, and relationship building. This will help bridge the gaps for parents and caregivers who wish to attend adult education whose children are in

choirs for only part of the time. We invite Pilgrims to come and share a special activity with the children — like drumming, acting, favorite games, art project, yoga, etc. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Jen.

### **Adult Learning**

Along with a chance to eat and socialize, adults and youth are invited to Adult Learning from **6:15-7:10 pm**. Offerings will vary throughout the program year.

### **This is Hard!: Conversations on Difficult Topics with Children and Youth: September 11-October 9**

**6:15-7:10 pm in the Upstairs Community Room**

*Childcare and Nursery provided*

Parents, Caregivers, and Grandparents will explore and support each other with what we need to have good, hard conversations with our youth and children. We will draw on expertise, shared wisdom, and our faith to help us. We will practice finding the words we need and using conversation techniques with each other so that we are more comfortable and more confident when we have these conversations with the young ones we care about!

**October 2** – We Need to Talk About Race, Racism, and White Supremacy (led by Amanda Klepp)

**October 9** – Talking About Biblical Creation Stories AND Evolution (led by Leslie Brandt)

### **J-Walkers – Through October 9**

**6:15-7:10 pm in the Fireside Room**

The J-Walkers are a participant-driven emerging small group who meet weekly on **Wednesdays from 6:15-7:10 pm** to share joys and concerns and participate in critical discernment of Bible-related topics. Through **October 9** the J-Walkers are talking about Acts 9-15 (Peter's Dream). Whether you know a lot about the Bible or nothing at all, you're invited to join in the discussion as we together walk with Jesus along the journey of faith and life.

### **We Make the Road by Walking: An All-Ages Journey Through the Stages of Life and Faith – October 16-November 13,**

**6:15-7:10 pm**

*The quest for aliveness is the best thing about religion, I think. It's what we're hoping for when we pray. It's why we gather, celebrate, eat, abstain, attend, practice, sing, and contemplate. When people say, "I am spiritual," what they mean, I think, is simple: I'm seeking aliveness. – Brian D. McLaren*

How will you respond when someone — maybe your children, your spouse, or your neighbor — asks why you go to church? The quest for aliveness travels squarely through the mysterious Land of Spirituality. Using McLaren's book, *We Make the Road by Walking*, as our road map we'll explore what it means to live an honest and curious life of faith. Together we'll help equip and engage one another not only for

talking about faith, but living it daily. This is a great opportunity for parents, caregivers and anyone who's ever been asked (or themselves have asked) a hard question about faith to learn how to explore and articulate their own spirituality.

This is a five-week, peer-led mini-series that offers peer-to-peer insight and engagement for folks in all stages of the journey of life and faith — from childhood through the wisdom ages. We hope you'll join!

**Climate Church: Reflecting on Worship – November 20**  
**6:15-7:10 pm**

We'll draw on a chapter (available ahead of time) from the book *Climate Church, Climate World: How People of Faith Must Work for Change* by Jim Antal. The chapter, titled "Worship as a Pathway to Freedom," invites us to reflect on worship in our Pilgrim community and explore next steps in deepening the alignment of worship with our commitment to care for creation. Pastor Carol Tomer will lead our conversation.

## Music Notes

### October/November 2019



*By Paul Stever, Music Director*

|       |                     |  |
|-------|---------------------|--|
| 10/6  | 8:30 am<br>11:00 am | Chancel Choir, Marilyn Brattskar, organ solo<br>Marilyn Brattskar, organ solos   |
| 10/13 | 8:30 am<br>11:00 am | Junior Choir, Joe Davis & The Poetic Diaspora<br>Joe Davis & The Poetic Diaspora |
| 10/20 | 8:30 am<br>11:00 am | Ellie Shuros, harp<br>Chancel Choir  |
| 10/27 | 8:30 am<br>11:00 am | Jubilee Choir; brass quartet<br>Chancel Choir; brass quartet                     |
| 11/3  | 8:30 am<br>11:00 am | Chancel Choir<br>Junior Choir  |
| 11/10 | 8:30 am<br>11:00 am | Pilgrim Instrumental Ensemble<br>Chancel Choir                                   |
| 11/17 | 8:30 am<br>11:00 am | Jubilee Choir<br>Chancel Choir   |
| 11/24 | 8:30 am<br>11:00 am | Junior Choir; Nancy Olson, guest organist<br>Nancy Olson, guest organist         |

## Contemplative Prayer Choir

We have a new choir for tenors and basses, the Pilgrim Contemplative Prayer Choir. This choir is a kind of outgrowth of the ministry of The Minnesota Compline Choir, which will no longer be offering its own choral ensemble for the foreseeable future.

On **October 20 at 6:51 (6:30 pm prelude music by Jim Falbo, guitar)** and **November 17 at 6:51 pm (6:30 pm community sing)**, the choir will lead its remaining fall Choral Contemplative Prayer services (dates in winter/spring 2020 to be announced soon!). The service will include traditional compline chants alongside newly composed music and “Word Weavings” of scripture and poetry. More information about the service and the Contemplative Prayer Choir for tenors and basses (auditions now open!) is available at the website.

**<https://www.pilgrimstpaul.org/choral-contemplative-prayer>**

## Hymn of the Month (October and November): Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, ELW #858

This is one of my favorite hymns and hymn tunes, probably due to the way the strong melody supports and expresses the text so well. It is based on Psalms 103 and 150 and is usually sung in a translation by Catherine Winkworth, a famous 19<sup>th</sup> Century poet and hymn translator. It was originally written in German by Joachim Neander in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century and, as with all translations from a foreign language, there can be some challenges. In this hymn, the last two lines of our third stanza say, “Ponder anew what the Almighty can do if with his love he befriends you.” This is not meant to cause us to question and wonder “if” God will befriend us, but rather is stated more clearly in the original text “*who* with his love befriends you”, meaning that we should rejoice and reflect on how wonderful it is that God befriends and loves us, with conviction of this truth.

NB: The “Hymn of the Month” paragraphs are created with the aid of Paul Westermeyer’s *Hymnal Companion to Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

## Vestry News

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### Stories from the September Pilgrim Vestry Retreat

*by Tim Dykstal, President*

A friend once shared with me his story of religious conversion. The conversation made me uneasy. I was embarrassed for my friend, because he was so excited about his newfound faith that I felt him pushing it on me. But I was also embarrassed for myself, because the conversation exposed the lack of enthusiasm I felt for my own faith — or the lack thereof — at the time.

If listening to my friend’s faith story made me uneasy, how am I going to manage to tell my own story? And why should I?

At the annual retreat of Pilgrim’s Congregational Council (otherwise known as the Vestry), we spent considerable time grappling with the importance of



just that — of telling the stories, to strangers and friends, of being a Pilgrim on the journey of faith and life. Peter Reuss — the consultant with whom the Gratitude and Generosity team is working on our annual stewardship appeal — urged us to collect those stories as evidence of the difference that our church makes in our lives and in the community. We segued from his presentation to a couple of sessions on “community engagement,” the term that we gave to the activities that we also call shared ministry (internal community engagement) and outreach and welcome (external community engagement). We discussed a particularly pointed article from *Living Lutheran* by Rob Moss about how to “invite” rather than simply “welcome” others to church. Moss outlines five techniques for doing so, techniques that get progressively more challenging:

- ❖ CHALLENGE 1  
Try using the phrase “my church” in a conversation.
- ❖ CHALLENGE 2  
Consider one word or phrase that describes your congregation well, then use that word to finish the phrase: “My church is \_\_\_\_\_.”
- ❖ CHALLENGE 3  
Think about one thing your congregation does very well. Use that to finish the phrase: “My church is really good at \_\_\_\_\_.”
- ❖ CHALLENGE 4  
Invite one person to check out something in which your congregation is involved.
- ❖ CHALLENGE 5  
Invite someone you know to come to worship with you.<sup>1</sup>

How do you talk or tell your story about Pilgrim to others? Like me, do you usually resort to the phrase, “The church I attend?” Reading this article brought home to me how this language, while nominally accurate, doesn’t have the “punch” or attractiveness of saying “*my church*.” We know, after all, that Pilgrim’s dedication to shared ministry invites us to be not mere attenders of church, but active participants in our own faith lives. And what can be more active than claiming this home for hungry minds and souls as our own?

Engaging friends and strangers outside the Pilgrim congregation was one side of our focus on community engagement. We talked also about engaging those on the inside, our fellow congregants. Has our consumer culture affected the way that we look at church? Do we look to be served rather than to serve others? Or perhaps (we talked about this as well) it may be difficult to engage each other as shared ministers, as load bearers, because we are trying to do too much, running activities that are peripheral to our core mission.

We welcome your thoughts on these topics. If you’ve got a story to share, feel free to flag one of us down at church. We are (in alphabetical order): Andrew Barry, Caleb Drexler Booth, Tim Dykstal, Janet Erickson, Jason Hendrickson, Matt Koukol, Heather Ninow, and Pastor Carol Tomer. If your relevant Pilgrim ministry committee or team has a matter for the

Vestry to vote on — some new initiative, perhaps, or a need that involves the financial support of the congregation — it's best to get it to the executive team. (Caleb, Jason, Matt, or myself) two weeks before the Vestry as a whole meets. The Vestry meets on the third Tuesday of the month.

I want to close with the most important thing that came out of this retreat. Whether it is the friend whom we already know in the pew or the stranger outside the church's walls, we all acknowledged that we are not called to engage each other in order to up our membership rolls or add to our revenue. Thinking that just throws us back into the consumer culture that our Pilgrim home is a counter to. Rather, we are called to do so because our mission is to help each other "live generously in response to God's love." Our stories will stick when we keep that mission in mind.

<sup>1</sup> Rob Moss, "Why We Will No Longer Be A Welcoming Church," *Living Lutheran*, June 22, 2016. Available at <https://www.livinglutheran.org/2016/06/will-no-longer-welcoming-church/>

## Catching Dreams for Living and Giving Generously

*By Jaimee Lucke Hendrikson,  
Co-chair of the Gratitude & Generosity Team*

This spring, Pilgrim was invited to join a cohort of Lutheran congregations to participate in Stewardship for All Seasons. With support from the Synod, this program is guiding us through a process of preparing our congregation's story, educating each other about that story so we can better tell it, focusing attention on our mission, and inspiring us to live and give generously.

The Vestry and members of the Gratitude & Generosity Team have been involved and already, participation in Stewardship for All Seasons has inspired new engagement, such as the convening of a Dream Catcher Team. This team took on the inspirational task of finding out from Pilgrims about their hopes and dreams for our community by asking questions such as:

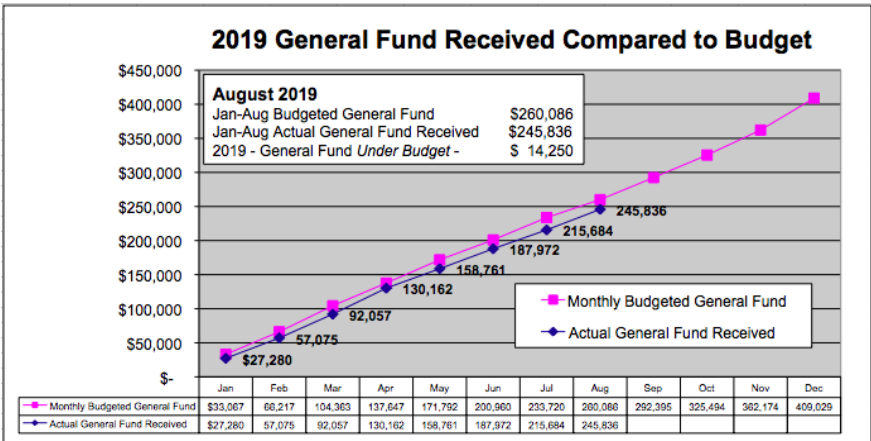
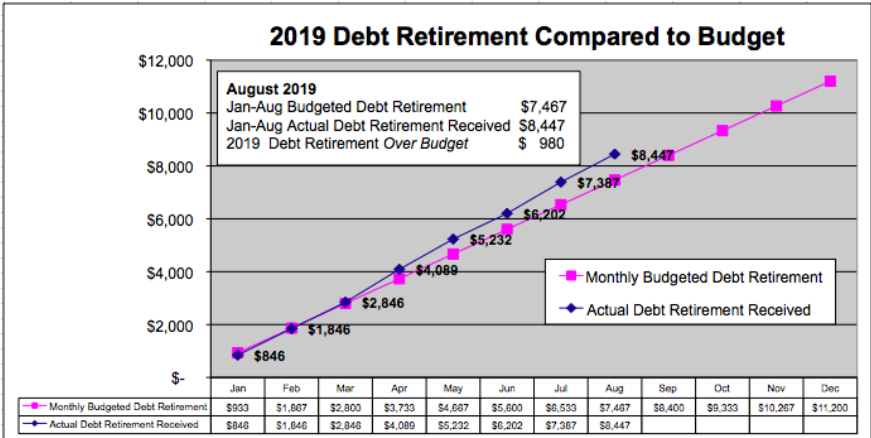
- ❖ What is something you hope that Pilgrim might do in 2020 to deepen our invitation and welcome others into our Christian Community?
- ❖ What does Pilgrim do well that the world needs more of?
- ❖ What action, activity, event have you been hoping to do or are launching now that needs resources or attention? And how is this action tied to our outreach?

Through this process, more than 83 ideas were collected! The Dream Catcher Team moved forward a list of 15 to the Vestry, and they've identified three goals to focus on for the coming year. These dreams, which you'll learn more about soon, reflect the input and creativity of many Pilgrims and will inspire our fall stewardship drive to increase funds so we can make these ministry initiatives a reality. They will call us all into

deeper participation in sustaining our ministry excellence and expanding our invitation to others to be a part of the Christian community.

We're excited to be sharing these ideas and our work with you in the next month. Be on the lookout for letters in your mailbox, special temple talks announcing these dream catcher ideas, and an invitation for you to consider how you might support the growing ministries of Pilgrim.

## Giving Graphs



## Happy Give to the Max Day!

It's **Thursday, November 14**. It's a great day for outreach, for inviting people to support good organizations doing God's work in many different ways. If you choose to spread the word about supporting Pilgrim via "Give to the Max," tell your friends about why Pilgrim is a Home for Hungry Minds and Souls. Visit [www.GiveMN.org](http://www.GiveMN.org)!

# Education, Service & Fellowship

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## Iraqi Clothing Drive

The Missions and Social Justice Committee is sponsoring a new drive for fall: *Minnesotans Share the Warmth*, a clothing drive for Iraq, organized by The Iraqi and American Reconciliation Project ([reconciliationproject.org](http://reconciliationproject.org)). We will accept warm coats, winter shoes, winter accessories, both new and used. All items should be laundered and clean. The deadline for contributions will be **October 10**. Drop off bins will be placed outside the Fireside Room.

## Pilgrim Men's Breakfast

The Pilgrim Men's Breakfast group meets at **7 am**, usually on the first Monday of the month at the Highland Café and Bakery, 2012 Ford Parkway. The group will meet on **Monday, October 7**, and **Monday, November 4**. For more information, contact **Dave Toeniskoetter** (**651-470-8632**).



## Book Club News

Date: **Thursday, October 17, 2019** at **7 pm**. Mary Jahnke will host.  
Book: ***Kitchens of the Great Midwest*** by J. Ryan Stradal

Date: **Thursday, November 21, 2019** at **7 pm**. Judy Tande will host.  
Book: ***Still Life*** by Louise Penny

We hope you'll join us. Contact **Lynda Hirschboeck** at **651-698-7399** or **[hirschbo@gmail.com](mailto:hirschbo@gmail.com)** if you have questions, or if you'd like a list of the upcoming books for this year.



## Pilgrims Caring for Creation (PCC)

Of course, all Pilgrims care for creation. PCC is a subgroup of us who are trying to learn, teach, and act to care for God's creation. Please inform the church office if you'd like to be added to our listserv and feel free to attend meetings, which are generally on the **2nd Wednesday** of each month at **7:15 pm: October 9, November 13**.

Posted on the Narthex Bulletin Board | PCC Section:

### **PCC Book Review of the Month**

(The issue won't be posted, but it will be displayed in the Pilgrim Library for you to read.) It's the September 23, 2019, *TIME Magazine Double Issue/Special Climate Issue*

It's a good one to check out from the library. It is packed with good information, essays, and statistics from some familiar names: Bill

McKibben on “2050: How Earth Survived,” Jane Goodall on “Reasons to Be Hopeful,” Al Gore on “Why I Have Hope,” as well as many more.

## A Fall Dayhiker Trip!

You are invited to join a hiking adventure in Bayfield, WI! The “original” hiking group from Pilgrim will meet at the Seagull Bay Motel on **Friday evening October 25** to hike, eat, play board or other games, eat, visit Bayfield, eat....This is an easy-going group. People go on hikes with small groups at varying ability levels. In between hikes we talk, eat, play games.... on Sunday we go to the local Lutheran Church.

We pool funds to pay for food for lunches and hiking, also to pay for a large cabin where all can be together for meals, and other activities. We have gone out to eat in Bayfield as well. Room rates vary, but we do get the discounted rate for off-season.

Call or text **Julie Meyer** at **651-269-6696** if you’d like to join in this hiking adventure. You can also contact **Seagull Bay Motel** at **715-779-5558** for information about room cost and availability. (Hikers leave any time from Sunday to Tuesday.)

## Brew Testament 2019

Have you been curious about Pilgrim’s monthly bible study + beer (& other beverages) gathering? Have you attended previously but not been back for a while? Now is a great time to check us out. For 2019 our core members have evolved the Brew Testament experience into a forum for connecting contemporary issues to the guidance, challenges, parables, and reassurances available in scripture and related works. Each month a member or members lead the group in exploration of a topic they are passionate about, allowing for different perspectives at each meeting, and encouraging sharing, growth, and deepening connections. And did we mention there is beer & other beverages? Home brew and other delicious offerings each month. Come learn, grow, and teach with us fellow Pilgrims on the journey.

**When?** First Monday of the month, **8-10 pm**  
**Where?** Rotating between member homes and local breweries  
**How to connect?** Email Tim Moore at **tim.moore927@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>**

## Young Adults

Pilgrim folks in their (our) 20s and 30s are getting together with a group of Gloria Dei young adults a couple of times a month. Below are our October and November upcoming events planned by the Pilgrim group — please attend if you can! If you do Facebook, you can also join our new group here to keep up to date:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/173752103542570/>

### **October Happy Hour:**

Date: **Monday, October 21**

Time: **5:30-7 pm**

Place: **Groveland Tap**

(1834 St Clair Ave, St Paul)

Host: **Pilgrim**

### **November Happy Hour:**

Date: **Thursday, November 21**

Time: **5:30-7 pm**

Place: **Tongue in Cheek** (989 Payne Ave. St. Paul, parking lot located behind our building on Jenks Ave.)

Host: **Pilgrim**

## Community Emergency Service Home Delivery Program

Pilgrims will continue to support the Community Emergency Service Home Delivery program in 2019. The work we do involves packing grocery and personal items that will be delivered by other volunteer groups. This work requires the ability to read and lift grocery bags. It is a good activity for a parent paired with a child who is about 7 years or older. Our packing dates will continue on the **1st Saturday of every other month from 9-11 am**. This will start in February and continue with even numbered months. CES is located at 1900 11th Ave. S. in Minneapolis. Please feel free to contact **Jeanne Barr** at [adelj1019@gmail.com](mailto:adelj1019@gmail.com) if you have questions.

## Children & Youth

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**If you have not yet registered your children for faith formation, please do so on the church website!** You will be able to register for Lambs, Sunday School, Youth Pathways, Deep Dive Confirmation, and Youth Choirs all at once! Please take the time to register your child or youth. This helps the staff and leaders immensely with class lists and communications.

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

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, share and grow as people of faith and as parents. Lambs is held in the Nursery downstairs at **9:45 am** on select **Sundays: October 20, November 17, January 19, February 16, March 15, and April 19.**

## Sunday School (PreK-5th Grade)

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-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)

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. **Friday, November 15** is our Fall Overnight at church with a service project, night games, crazy snacks, and a late night movie.

## Deep Dive Confirmation

Deep Dive Confirmation is a new opportunity this year, offering 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> graders a special and engaging experience as they journey toward confirmation. It is one Sunday a month from **1:00-3:00 pm.** 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. On **October 13** we head to the Minneapolis Institute of Art to explore images of the Word of God and the Holy Supper; and on **November 10** we will visit the State Capitol to explore Confessing Faith with Integrity. For more info, contact Pastor Jen.

**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 or Director of Faith Formation and Shared Ministry Josh Moss.**

## 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."

## 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 led by staff. The classes

happen during faith formation hour from **9:45-10:45 am** and during **11 am** worship that day, children and families will receive a gift and a blessing and help lead a part of worship.

**October 20: Birth-Age 1: Baby Faith Steps:** Parents learn about how to nurture their infant's faith development and celebrate baptismal birthdays. Parents bring their infants to class. Will take place during a regularly scheduled Lambs class.

**November 3: Grade 4 Friends in Christ:** Children and Parents will learn about how to be the church together, including friendship building skills and hospitality for the whole family! Kids lead Coffee Time.

**November 10: Grade 5 Do Justice:** Children and parents will learn and experience the importance of caring for those in need as we follow Jesus. Children receive Small Catechisms and lead the Dismissal in worship.

**November 24: PreK Parenting Kids Faithfully:** Parents and children will learn about ways to engage faith at home — reading Bible stories with your children and holy play. Children receive a Spark Story Bible.

## Beyond Pilgrim

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### Cross-Generational Worship Seminar

Pastor Jen will be teaching about ministry with children, youth, and families in the coming months. On **November 4**, she will be leading seminar at Luther Seminary with Pastor Heather Roth Johnson on Cross-Generational Worship, exploring the “why’s” and “how’s” of cross-generational worship. For more info: <http://faithlead.luthersem.edu/classes>.

### 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.





# 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; Lisa Berg; Anthony (brother of Katherine Murphy) and April Murphy who lost house, cars, and belongings in Oklahoma flood; Paul Stever's dad, John, treatment for stage 4 metastatic prostate cancer; Namshin Kang, grandfather of Jaymin Kim, hospitalized due to serious health issues; Jordan Wilkie, deployed to Afghanistan, son of Kris and Paul Wilkie; Bill Joyce, in home hospice care; Lillian Knutson, recovering from surgery; Merle Strom, healing from a back injury; 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 Leshar, recovering from surgery, prayers for physical, emotional, and spiritual health; Tom Mayer, partner of Deb Filer, with health concerns; Bev and Art Stolp; Deb Filer, as she cares for a family elder in a deeper way; Serena Asta, chronic neurological Lyme disease; Mike Regal, Chuck's son, ongoing care following a serious motorcycle accident.

**Births:** 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::** 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; 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; Jay Oakman, Laura Sattler, and family on the death of his uncle, Steve Sattler; Melissa Johnson, on the death of her mother in march 16; Hannah Schendel on the death of her grandfather; Karen Bjorkman, on the death of her father; Former member Jim Savoie on the death of his wife Gail on November 29; Michael Schulze, on the death of his wife, Nora Schulze, on October 29, 2018; Jean Omodt, Hannah and Nathan, at the death of Jean's mother, Esther, on October 28; The family of Sandra Boehm, who died on October 27; Katia McDonough and family, on the death of her mother, Kay McDonough, on October 19.

**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. We also invite prayer requests for loved ones, either in this Prayer Corner or through our Prayer Chain. 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 and Judy Boehm, 651-690-3568, regarding the Prayer Chain. For prayers during worship, please contact a pastor.*

*The Pilgrim, October / November 2019*

# Parochial Report

## October Birthdays

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Lee Fargo<br/>           1 Mary Beth Lake<br/>           2 Nathan Boelke<br/>           2 Sara Mergens<br/>           2 Ellie Ann Shuros<br/>           2 Judith Tande<br/>           2 Larry Tenter<br/>           7 Brenda Kowske<br/>           8 Kathryn Reiley<br/>           9 Sophia Bowser<br/>           10 Leo Lake<br/>           11 Phyllis Zumach<br/>           12 Virgil Amsden<br/>           13 Carl Eckert<br/>           14 Mark Tande<br/>           15 Lisa Berg<br/>           16 Rebecca Batalden<br/>           16 Nils Gustafson<br/>           17 Chris Bjorkman<br/>           17 Esther Eckert<br/>           17 Ross Radtke<br/>           18 John Askew<br/>           19 Jeanne Barr<br/>           19 Christopher Boylan<br/>           19 Gregg Hammerly<br/>           20 Eric Hanson<br/>           20 Nicole Helland<br/>           21 Jen Newburg<br/>           21 Magnus Spindler</p> | <p>24 Kyle Weeks<br/>           24 Rachel Weeks<br/>           25 Owen Christenson<br/>           25 Elizabeth Conklin<br/>           25 Beth Nelson<br/>           25 Norah Louise Rogness<br/>           26 Sonja Hagander<br/>           26 Elizabeth Landahl<br/>           27 Anne Hall<br/>           28 Michael Lindsay<br/>           29 Annie Milligan-Wells<br/>           29 Jack Milligan-Wells<br/>           30 Coralie Hunter<br/>           31 Jack Kahnert</p> |
|---|---|

## October Anniversaries

- |   |
|---|
| <p>1 Kurt Schultz &amp; Karen Hedenstrom<br/>           1 Melissa &amp; Erik Johnson<br/>           6 Dan Hoseck &amp; Ivory Ruud<br/>           6 Britt &amp; Tim Moore<br/>           6 Corey &amp; Coralie Pederson<br/>           9 Dianne &amp; David Judd<br/>           19 Greg &amp; Sara Mergens<br/>           20 Michele &amp; Micah Whetstone<br/>           23 Donna Dingle &amp; Kristofer Sween<br/>           27 Ruth Hagestuen &amp; Bonnie Nash</p> |
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## November Birthdays

1 Amarah Otto  
 1 Paul Stever  
 2 Theo Hicks  
 2 Christopher Wells  
 4 Claudia Gordon  
 4 Sarah Oakman  
 4 Eda Jane Samuelson  
 5 Richard Wintersteen  
 6 Kristofer Sween  
 7 Kent Miller  
 7 Tracy Riekenberg  
 8 Kate Bjorkman  
 8 Austin Sween  
 8 Henry Sween  
 9 Luke Knutson  
 9 Brian Otto  
 9 Lois Wintersteen  
 10 Teresa Greseth  
 10 Parker Hendrikson  
 10 Charles Johnson  
 12 Ellen Rose Jacobsen  
 12 Matt Koukol  
 13 Joan Doth  
 16 Philip Haan  
 17 Eric Nelson  
 18 Hannah Sween  
 19 Noah Sherman  
 20 Drew Mergens  
 21 Solvei Marie Anderson  
 21 Jeanne Comeford  
 21 Michael Schulze

22 Thora Barry  
 22 Paul Heggeseth  
 23 Rachel Boelke  
 24 Penny Bartz  
 24 Kelli Goldman  
 24 Parker Swenson  
 25 Allen Olson  
 25 Elliot Andrew Rogness  
 25 Claire Stalka  
 26 Tamara DeRoy  
 26 Katie Tastad  
 27 Lilja Boelke  
 27 Ruth Hagestuen  
 27 Scott Swenson  
 28 Joseph Goldman  
 28 Sara McAdory-Kim  
 28 Katia (Kathleen) McDonough  
 29 Scott Greseth  
 29 Sandy Johnson  
 30 Kathie Amble

## November Anniversaries

2 Claudia & Steve Becker  
 7 William & Sharyn Joyce  
 8 Barbara & Dave Rossi  
 13 Michael & Jamie Jacobsen  
 24 Paul & Becky Stever  
 27 Donna & Gary Holman

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# Looking Ahead at Pilgrim

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## Looking Ahead

**Sundays, December 22 & December 29** — One Sunday morning service at Pilgrim, at **9:30 am**

**Sunday, January 5** — Winter Rally Sunday; Morning Worship at **8:30 am & 11:00 am**, Learning Hour resumes at **9:45 am**

## Pilgrim New Member Series

On **Saturday, October 26, 9:30 am-12:30 pm**, we'll have a gathering for those interested in joining Pilgrim. We'll get acquainted, do some intro and review of Lutheran Christian basics, and share in an orientation to Pilgrim. (Some articles, as resources about the Lutheran Christian lens and life, will be available to read before the gathering; copies of Martin Marty's Lutheran Questions, Lutheran Answers are also available for purchase in the Fireside Room.)

On **Sunday, November 3, 7 pm**, new members are invited for dessert, along with some Pilgrim leaders, in a member's home.

On **Sunday, November 17**, at either morning service, new members are received during worship.

If you are interested in becoming a new member, please call or email the church office by **October 21**. Child care is provided for the Saturday, October 26 gathering, if requested by October 16.

## About the Next Pilgrim Newsletter

The next newsletter deadline will be **November 15** for the **December/January** 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.



## November 5 is Election Day in St. Paul!

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

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