The Pilgrim Quill

MARCH 2022

Dear Friends,

I hope that this newsletter in your hands or on your screen will remind you of the caring, loving, hoping, smiling people who we call our "church family." I hope that it will also bring to your attention all of the ways in which we continue to stay in touch with one another and continue the operational work as well as the spiritual "work" of Pilgrim UCC.

As we gradually begin to "open up" activities that we have left behind in 2019, join me in giving thanks to God for the technology and the technicians that have made worship and meetings possible during these last two years; for each tradition that we are once again able to experience together; and for each opportunity to make "new" the "always did it that way" and the "chalk it up as experience" in the living of these days in 2022! It is my privilege to be here with Pilgrim UCC during this time of *beginning again*.

I hope that, in bringing you news of the "wider church:" the National setting of the UCC, as well as the WI Conference UCC, you will feel better connected to our denomination.

The NE Association of the WI Conference UCC is planning its Annual Meeting on April 30th. The time and place will be announced.

The WI Conference UCC Annual Meeting is being planned June 10-12 at the Green Lake Conference Center, on Green Lake, Ripon. Look here: https://www.wcucc.org/about-wcucc/annual-meeting/.

If you would like to be one of the delegates to represent our church at either of these meetings, please let me know.

This is the information that we have so far for the WI Conference Annual Meeting:

The Theme: *"Building up the Beloved Community"*

The Scripture: John 13:34 - *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.*

This year's theme, "*Building up the Beloved Community*," will recognize the toll that the pandemic has taken on congregations, pastors and lay leaders. We will focus on tending to both individual and congregational wellness, lift up best practices and good strategies for fostering healthy church dynamics and challenge ourselves to think in fresh ways about the Church.

The UCCI Inc. The 2022 Camp schedule has been published on ucci.org Moon Beach, Pilgrim Center, and Cedar Community are open with COVID "precautions." "Camping" opportunities for all ages are in the schedule of events. Be sure to check it out.

The Season of Lent begins on March 2, Ash Wednesday. Consider pausing each Wednesday evening at 7:00PM to come worship in-person or online.

We will be joining with our brothers and sisters in Christ from Church of Peace in Fond du Lac, Union Congregational UCC in Waupun and Salem UCC in Wayne. For the links and more information, check out the next page.

You're welcome to join in our Holy Week Services:

Palm Sunday, April 10, 9:00AM
Maundy Thursday, April 14, 7:00PM
Good Friday, April 15, 7:00PM -
(at Church of Peace, FDL)

Easter Sunday, April 17th at 9:00AM

So… you've been thinking about joining in the membership of Pilgrim United Church of Christ? In the UCC, there is no hierarchy that tells the churches what to do and how to behave. We talk about having a "priesthood of all believers," which means that all of us do ministry! The congregation is the heart of all that. Worship is what we do as a faith community, as well as serving others as we are able.

No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey, you are welcome here!

If you would like to know more about our church or would like to talk to me about joining in the membership of Pilgrim UCC, please let me know.

Send an email: believe417@gmail.com or call the church office and leave a message: 920-921-0415.

Meanwhile, check out: ucc.org and pilgrimuccfdl.org

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the snow or rain fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Pastor Mary Jo

. . . begins on **Ash Wednesday**, March 2nd. We will gather for Worship at 7:00PM here at Pilgrim United Church of Christ. We will share Holy Communion and there will be the imposition of ashes.

During Lent, we will share the Wednesday evening services at 7:00PM with our brothers and sisters in Christ who are members and friends of area United Church of Christ Congregations and their Pastors:

Rev. Stephen Stepp
Church of Peace, Fond du Lac;
Rev. Christopher Ross
Union Congregational UCC, Waupun
Rev. Ruth Hansen
Salem UCC, Wayne
Pastor Mary Jo Laabs
Pilgrim UCC, Fond du Lac

The Services will take place in-person and will be live-streamed on YouTube or on Zoom.

The theme of the Lenten Wednesday Services is: ***"Questions Jesus Asked"***

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The dates, places and preachers are as follows:

March 9, at Church of Peace, Fond du Lac
Link: Church of Peace UCC Fond du Lac- YouTube
Matthew 9:18-31 "*Do You Believe That I Am Able to Do This?*" Rev. Christopher Ross

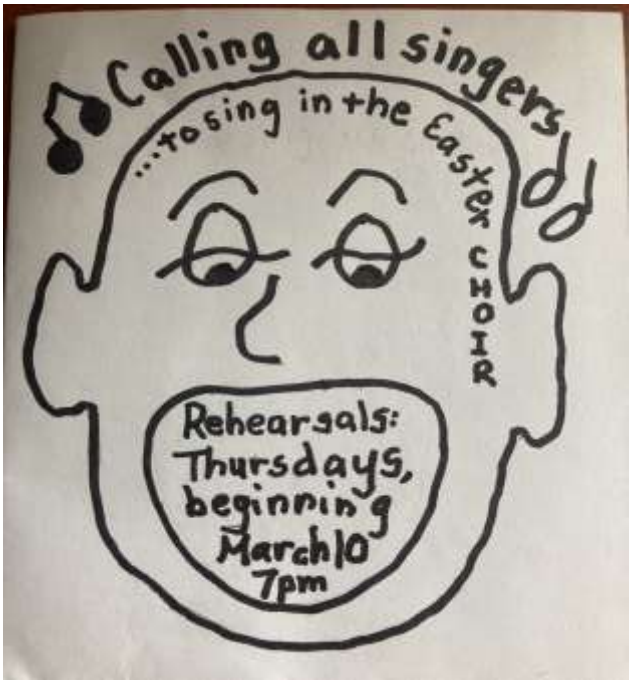
March 16, at Union Congregational UCC in Waupun
Link: https://zoom.us/j/3091624606
Mark 5:1-9 "*What is Your Name?*"
Rev. Stephen Stepp

March 23, at Salem UCC in Wayne
Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/755543942
Matthew 6:24-34 "*Why Do You Worry?*"
Pastor Mary Jo Laabs

March 30, at Pilgrim UCC, Fond du Lac
Mark 10:35-45 "*What is it You Want Me to Do for You?*" Rev. Ruth Hansen
Link:
https://pilgrimuccfdl.us11.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8a96d372e22c3996ae584bb30&id=100b120494&e=68560007ce

April 6, at Church of Peace, Fond du Lac
Matthew 21:23-27 "*Does It Come from Heaven, or Is It of Human Origin?*"
Rev. Stephen, Rev. Christopher, Rev. Ruth and Pastor Mary Jo
Link: Church of Peace UCC Fond du Lac- YouTube

Helen Gilsdorf says a strong feature of the Lenten music will be the inclusion of many spirituals which reflect the human longings so prevalent in the spirituals.



News from *Council President, Barb* Geiger

March moves us Forward and Pilgrim is Moving Forward

In March, we turn our clocks ahead on the weekend of the 12-13th, and we are hopeful the sun will shine more warmth upon us. I continue to be amazed by all the dedication and passion for those who make Pilgrim the special church that it is.

Pastor Mary Jo and the worship ministry have some unique shared services planned for the Lenten season involving a special collaboration between 4 area UCC churches. I'm looking forward to this opportunity to experience Lent through the leadership of each of their pastors! Details found in this quill under "Lent".

The intergenerational family fun nights have resumed and I heard the one on February 11th was enjoyed by 23 people. On March 18th they will be playing BINGO, and yes, there will be prizes for all the winners - thanks to the Christian Ed ministry.

The Christian Outreach has been helping our community in many ways by sponsoring collections monthly. March is "birthday cake pan"!

The membership & evangelism ministry is busy behind the scenes to welcome members and coordinate member directory information. In the office, Cathy Drew is assisting with this member information as well. Thank you!

Property & Maintenance ministry has been busy replacing programmable thermostats, repairing and replacing lighting as needed, working on the bells, and numerous other issues. Thanks to Avery and Dave Overbo for installing the wrought iron handrail on the steps in the sanctuary.

As you know, May 16th, we will welcome Reverend Rob Van Ess as our next settled pastor. Again, we thank the Search Committee members For all their work.

Help the world by leaving a trail of who you are.
— Mark Nepo, The Book of Awakening

Pilgrim Church Gives a Loan to Help a Child Stay in School during Covid Pandemic

The Covid pandemic has touched all of our lives in so many ways. The suffering throughout the United States has been overwhelming. We can sometimes forget that the pandemic is global and many people do not have the resources we have to help them cope with the disease. However KIVA gives us the opportunity to offer the help they need. KIVA is a 501(c)3 U.S. nonprofit organization. Its mission is to connect people through lending to alleviate poverty.

With money repaid on previous loans, Pilgrim gave two loans this month. The first loan was given to Entin who lives in Tangerang, Indonesia. She is 49 years old, married with two sons and one daughter. Entin and her husband run a business selling food. One of her children is still in school. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, her child must stay at home and use an online system. This has made it difficult for her child to access the course materials and send assignments to the teacher. The child needs a smartphone for the online education. Entin's income is not sufficient to buy a smartphone, but she will be able to repay the loan received by using the profits generated from her business. Pilgrim's loan to Entin will insure that her child continues her education. Entin is a very hardworking mother who always strives for the best for her children doing all she can to improve their living conditions and create a happy life for them.

The second loan was given to Brenda Michelle who lives with her family in Sogod Cebu, Philippines. She is married and has two children. She has had a vegetable vending business for the past five years. Her loan will be used to buy fruits and vegetables to sell in her food stall. Brenda Michelle would like to build and expand her business to secure the future of her family.

We can all identify with the difficulty of children trying to learn when they are unable to go to school. KIVA gives us the opportunity to bring a blessing to a child far away.

If you would like to learn more about KIVA, see their website **www.kiva.org** or talk to Peg Bradley or any member of the Outreach Ministry.

News from Christian Outreach

March is "Build a Cake Pan"!!

For the month of March, Christian Outreach will be collecting for the Fondy Food Pantry. We are requesting you gather the items to make a "birthday cake pan".

What you need to do is buy an aluminum foil pan and place in the pan:

Cake Mix
Frosting
Candles
Napkins
Paper plates
Book or coloring book

You could also include cupcakes liners or any other fun ideas you think would be fun for a child to have on their birthday.

After you have placed your items in the pan, cover it with plastic wrap and we will deliver the pans to Fondy Food Pantry.

There will be samples of cake pans in the Narthex and a few extra aluminum pans to use.

Thank you for your support.

Christian Outreach Committee

The candidating weekend, February 11-13, was a very exciting and successful weekend. Our top candidate, **Rev. Rob Van Ess**, was invited to visit Pilgrim Church for the call weekend and he was highly recommended by the search committee.

We had 23 people who attended the Friday night Family Fun Night game event that provided a fun, social evening to enjoy company with other church members and to meet Pastor Rob and his husband, Nicky Banks.

It was a pleasure to see so many people attend the Meet N Greet sessions throughout the day Saturday. Pastor Rob enjoyed getting to know the members of our church.

On Sunday, February 13th, Pastor Rob led the Sunday worship service which was followed by a congregational meeting where the search committee shared a complete summary of the search process and the many reasons we were led to make the call to him. The call agreement terms and compensation were presented, then a motion was made to extend the call to Pastor Rob. A vote then took place according to the church bylaws including members who were present both in person and electronically via Zoom.

The results were unanimously in favor of extending the call to Rev. Rob Van Ess! He accepted our call and he is honored to be our next pastor. Pastor Rob will begin as our Pastor on Monday, May 16th.

An Installation service will be planned for a future date so that the Association and Conference staff can also welcome Pastor Rob as our new pastor. Please stop is some time to welcome Pastor Rob at your convenience.

Thank you for all of your prayers and support throughout this Search & Call process.

Gary Ring
Chair of the Search Committee

Adult Education

ADULT FORUM meets on Sunday mornings from 10:15AM to 11:15AM in the sanctuary for those who would like to attend in person. We will have a few minutes to chat after worship and before the program begins promptly at 10:15. If you would prefer to join from the comfort of your own home, the link for the programs will remain the same throughout the winter/ spring semester.

Join Zoom Meeting:
(**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86527265927?pwd=akZvb2ZnZDRoM1lsZmEyWnZyYVpEUT09**
Meeting ID: 865 2726 5927 Passcode: 609609)

March 6 Coffee Hour

March 13 Church & State -
The United States Constitution
Leader: Dr. Paisley Harris
Associate Professor of History,
University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh
Fond du Lac Campus

We've all heard about the "separation of church and state" in reference to the United States Constitution. We might not be clear, however, about the origins, intentions, meanings and protections that this clause represents. Dr. Paisley Harris, history professor at UW Oshkosh, Fond du Lac will discuss what the US Constitution actually says about church and state, offering both historical and legal perspectives.

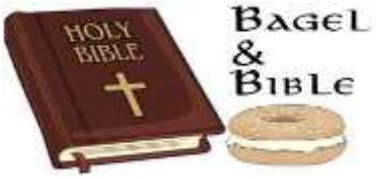
March 20 Marion University Social Justice Program
Leader: Dr. David Leichtner

Individuals in the BS in Social Justice program will explore the connections between the ideals of justice, the realities of injustice, and practical solution sets to bridge the gap between the two. At the same time, they will gain hands-on experience with local organizations and institutions such as shelters, health advocacy programs, community centers, domestic abuse services, and social service agencies.

Students in the Bachelor of Science in Social Justice program gain a broad understanding of how ethics, philosophy, human rights, and history intersect with power, diversity, and broad social issues. Those with this degree pursue either graduate school or careers in social service, social policy analysis, mediation and intervention and social justice advocacy.

March 27 15 years of Grassroot Youth Rugby in the Fond du Lac Community
Leader: Ben Blanc

The Fond du Lac Rugby Academy recently celebrated its 15 years of existence. Learn how we promote healthy living for kids 1st to 8th grades through a variety of partnerships from public to private schools, Boys and Girls club, Big Brother Big Sisters, Recreation Department, churches and libraries. The club pays special attention to disadvantaged socio economic categories by offering help through scholarship, athletic shoes exchange programs and transportation.



BIBLE WITH BAGELS

Meets Wednesday mornings from 9:00AM to 10:30AM via Zoom. The link for these meetings will remain the same for each Wednesday throughout the winter/spring semester. To join Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88978012384?pwd=cGxJa0pJbExSM0FFWEtIMmtJYzNodz09

Meeting ID: 889 7801 2384
Passcode: 762316

March 2 Scholarly Study of the Book of Matthew
Leader: Brian Smith
Professor Emeritus Ripon College

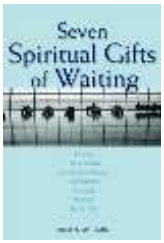
It should be noted that 90% of Mark's gospel (which we studied last October) is included in Matthew. However, new materials include nativity stories, more references to Jewish scriptures and several long teaching discussions.

Brian Smith was on the Faculty of Ripon College from 1987 to 2019 when he retired in May. He has done extensive research in Abrahamic Religions, religion and politics and ethics and international affairs. Brian has also published several articles through the years covering political and religious topics. We are delighted to have him share his academic perspective in this bible study.

March 9 Nurturing Nature in Your Backyard and Saving Wild Areas
Leader: Diana Beck

We will explore the benefits and impact of including habitat in your yard. The presenter, Diana Beck, is the current president of our local Audubon and has organized local habitat tours in the past. We will view some video of a talk by Doug Tallamy and a few pictures of local yards promoting habitat. Tips for how to eliminate some of your grass areas and still keep your neighbors happy will be included.

March 16 Seven Spiritual Gifts of Waiting
Waiting's Gifts for a Different Kind of Lent
Rev. Holly Whitcomb



Two Hour Morning Mini-Retreat on Zoom

Waiting presents an enormous challenge and the upcoming season of Lent invites us to embrace the spiritual practice of waiting. Lent will not be rushed and Covid will not be rushed. Yet if we can welcome waiting, waiting will present its spiritual gifts, especially now. Based on Holly Whitcomb's popular book, this mini-retreat will offer an overview and will examine the spiritual opportunities that waiting offers.

Register by emailing Suzette Curtis at puccadulted@gmail.com

March 23 St. Katharine Drexel Shelter
Leader: Amy Loof
Director of Homeless Services
Solutions Center

Faith-based organizations serve as the backbone of the emergency shelter system in this country. The partnership between SVdP and Solutions Center represents a convergence of resources by two trusted local organizations that have a proven record of success, accountability and creativity.

Our organizations place a high value on positively impacting the human condition and subsequently, improving the lives of our neighbors. This shelter is a very tangible way of how we can help individuals and families thrive.

With generous support from the community, together we will build and operate the new St. Katharine Drexel Shelter to provide a safe and structured living environment for singles and families experiencing homelessness.

March 30 The Human Element Documentary

For millennia, many civilizations thought that earth, air, fire and water were the primary forces - the elements - of nature. Now, through new knowledge of how the world works, science has led us to realize that humanity itself has its own elemental power.

Earth scientists speak of natural tectonics. These are the forces cracking the planet's crust with earthquakes and volcanoes. But humanity is a tectonic force, too. The combined power of our population, our technology, our survival needs and our desire for affluence has reshaped the Earth as we know it.

Environmental photographer James Balog captures the lives of everyday Americans on the front lines of climate change. With rare compassion and heart, THE HUMAN ELEMENT inspires us to re-evaluate our relationship with the natural world.

Suzette Curtis

Caring for God's Creation

If the world reduced meat consumption by 15%, it would save the same greenhouse gas emissions as taking 240 million cars off the road each year. Consider planning for meatless Mondays during Lent.

Dear Pilgrim Church,

Thank you so much for your generous donation of essential clothing at Rosenow Elementary. We're so grateful for our neighborhood partnership. Your kindness will positively affect many scholars!

Sincerely,
Rosenow Staff

Dear Pilgrim Church,

Thank you to our Pilgrim Church family for the cards, prayers and loving concern after the death of my father. It is wonderful to have the support of others during this time.

Love,
Ellen Sieglaff

Dear Pilgrim Family & Friends,

I know I'm late in sending out thank you's for Pete's Memorial in November but I have so many people to be thankful for.

Thanks for the cards, flowers, trees and benches.

Oh the desserts were delicious and the help serving was wonderful. I had no idea so many people would attend and help in so many ways.

Thanks again,
Barbara Tadych

Notes from Karen

(Our Sunday School Director)

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Return to in person Sunday school classes have begun! A special thank you to Nicki Lipke and Melissa Seibel for helping to keep the children busy during our congregational meeting when we had the vote for our new pastor. This provided all teachers and shepherds the opportunity to be at this very important meeting.

Fondy Food Pantry Collections

Monthly collections for the Fondy Food Pantry have been sporadic due to our inability to meet in person in January, but we are once again collecting items and will begin collecting jars of peanut butter and jelly for the month of March.

Intergenerational Family Fun Night- BINGO!

On **Friday, March 18th**, the CE ministry will be hosting an intergenerational evening of fun playing BINGO. We will have prizes, an individualized snack, and an evening of fun and fellowship for all. We encourage you to invite a friend to come along and join the festivities! If you haven't given a family fun night activity a try yet, we encourage you to do so. We will begin at **6:00 p.m. and go until 7:30 p.m.** This is a **FREE** event (where can you go and play BINGO for free?). So, come join your Pilgrim friends for an evening of fun and as always some laughter!

Church Camp

Good News! The United Church Camps Outdoor Ministry will be open for guests this summer. Yes, even with snow on the ground and frigid temperatures in the air, it's not too early to start thinking about attending church camp.

We are fortunate and blessed to have available to us 3 different but very unique and beautiful sites in our United Church Camps Outdoor Ministry. Whether it be at Moon Beach located in St. Germain or closer to home, our very popular Daycholah Center (previously known as Pilgrim Center) in Green Lake or Cedar Valley found in West Bend. There are a multitude of choices for all ages to choose from to find a camp that is designed especially for you, your child or family to enjoy and experience. This year there are no brochures or calendars available but you are encouraged to go to the **ucci.org** website to look at all that is available and the dates that the various camps are being offered. Please note that the camps will be following Covid-19 protocols to provide a safe experience for everyone. These guidelines are printed at the ucci.org site.

As always they are a variety of scholarships available both through the United Church camps and here at Pilgrim Church. Please talk with Karen if you have any questions regarding financial assistance to attend camp. So start looking at those busy summer calendars and plan for a camp experience!

Blessings,
Karen

Parish Nurse

Shoulders up – Shoulders back – Head up – Phone down

Happy March!

In like a lion – out like a lamb is a statement of hope.

In like a lamb – out like a lion is acknowledging that we're not in charge.

March is Brain Injury Awareness Month

(March 22nd is the recognition day)

The brain is the most complex part of the human body. It's a three-pound organ that interprets senses, stores intelligence, initiates body movements and controls behavior. Each area of the brain is responsible for certain physical and mental functions.

The most common mild traumatic brain injury is a concussion caused by a fall or hit to the head. The brain response at the cell level is bruising, (swelling) damage to blood vessels (black and blue) and injury to nerves (pain). Moderate to severe traumatic injuries are marked by brain structure changes and results in long term complications. Both minor and severe brain injury can have the same cause (sports - young and weekend warriors), vehicle accidents, trips/falls, assaults, etc. with long term effect based on severity and treatment.

As we at PUCC work to become a WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged for Mental Health) congregation, it's important to know that brain injury can affect emotions/emotional responses, word finding, memory, problem solving, appropriateness of verbal responses, anxiety and depression as well as decreased physical coordination, balance and strength – both short term and lifelong. A safe spiritual home to be involved in is more than a blessing – it's necessary.

Check out the bulletin board area for more information about concussions. There's also a helmet labeled with the different parts of the brain as a visual, and some brain teasers for increasing the circulation to the concentration, language and recognition areas of the brain!

Connecting National Nutrition Month and Lent
Ash Wednesday is March 2)

Lent comes just as the weather is getting warmer and we discover our last summers' clothes have shrunk somehow over the winter months… As your Nurse, I would be remiss if I didn't mention that Lent can be a time of renewed energy toward healthy habits. We imitate Jesus in the wilderness during this time – confronting temptations and contemplating what we are being called to do in our own ministry. (My very simplistic interpretation)

The best way to lose weight is to increase activity and eat a balanced/lower fat diet - to lose 1-2 pounds per week max. Think about what changes you want to make, and can live with. Maybe being aware of portion sizes and choosing "not so much", or scheduling 30 minutes out of the 1440 minutes in a day for physical activity. The results can be transforming! Mind-Body-Spirit.

Daylight Savings Time
starts Sunday, March 13
(spring ahead,
lose an hour of sleep)

Sleep is as important as diet and exercise when it comes to self-care. It affects brain function, hormone balance and the ability of the body to repair itself – consequently affecting emotions, energy levels, immune response, the ability to problem solve, focus and digestion.

Be aware – be good to yourself. It's 480 minutes out of those 1440 . . . just sayin'.

National Pi Day – March 14
(3.1415926535….)

Pi is a "magically irrational" number (meaning its digits don't end or repeat) used for measuring any size circle.

We celebrate this day on a Monday - after losing an hour of sleep and 2 weeks into facing our temptations and giving up sugar for Lent . . ., the perfect day to be "magically irrational" . . .?

Yeah – You're on your own on this one . . .

It's All Connected – Mind, Body, Spirit, Seasons and New Growth

The Vernal Equinox is March 20th - when day light and night darkness are roughly the same length and we in the Northern Hemisphere celebrate the first day of spring. In March: The Full Moon on March 18th is referred to as a "Worm Moon" – with signs of earth worms surfacing as the ground thaws. Birds are migrating northward, following the path of the Sun. The increasing sunlight inspires birds to sing. Trees, shrubs, flowers begin to awaken. The earth starts to tilt more toward the sun and so do we.

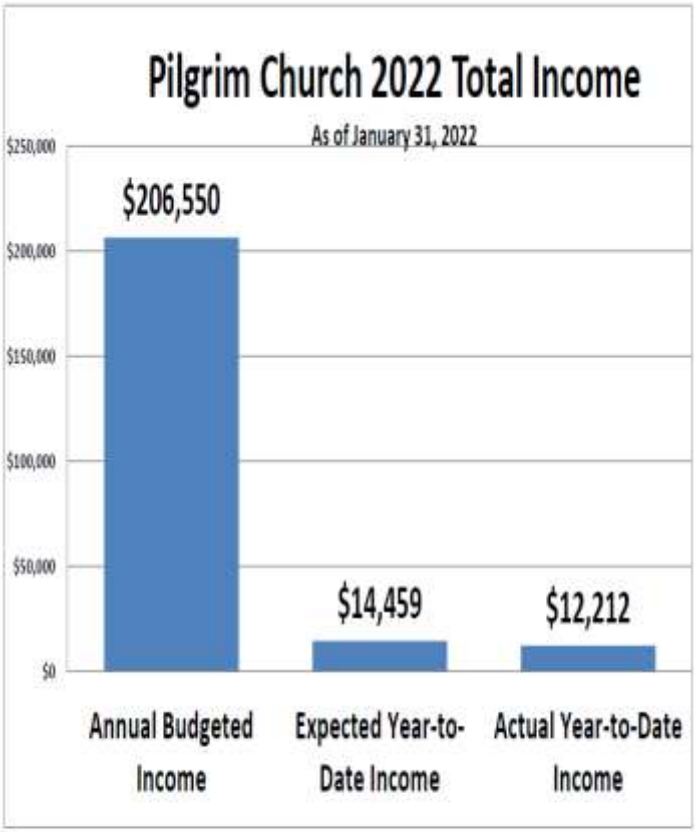
You are a child of the King which means you are loved, important and have been given talents to share with the world. Spring is almost here! Praise the Lord!

Viruses – The more you know…

I feel like I should write something about the virus that continues to upend our lives on different levels. Again, in the week and a half between me writing and you reading this, any information will be "old news", contradicted and interpreted differently in multiple venues and questioned ad nauseum. So… repeating last month's thoughts on viruses in general as a reminder…

Viruses are sub-microscopic particles that need host cells to infect and change. General layers of protection will always apply – frequent handwashing, no nose picking (Ever!), protect that 6 feet of airspace, stay home if not feeling well and if possible, stay away from others who are not well. Masking and Vaccination are hot button topics for some. They are both layers of protection – and the more layers, the more protection against getting sick.

Our immune system that God created, works even better when we work with it instead of challenging it.



Use any of our easy ways to give:

Phone text at 920-796-9933

Internet at https://puccfdl.breezechms.com/giv/online

Mail at Pilgrim UCC, 535 Stow St., Fond du Lac, WI 54935

In person at Sunday Service

LOAVES and FISHES

Pilgrim Church will again be participating in the Loaves and Fishes Program. Loaves and Fishes provides meals to approximately 300-400 local people twice a week. Pilgrim has been assigned the following Wednesday dates for this year:

May 11th
August 17th
November 30th

Easter Flowers! Below is the order form to order Easter Flowers. Copies of this form will also be on the table in the narthex for your convenience in ordering flowers. Please note the **deadline for ordering flowers is April 3rd**.

Easter Flower Order Form

On **Easter Sunday, April 17th** our Sanctuary will be enhanced by a variety of spring flowers. You are invited to purchase a plant or plants by completing the order form below. Please return this form to the church office by mail or by dropping it in the Sunday offering plate. Please enclose your check or cash with the order form; checks should be made out to Pilgrim Church with notation of "Easter Flowers" in the memo section. Please note the deadline for placing an order is **Sunday, April 3, 2022.** Your flowers may be taken home on Easter Sunday after the 9:00AM worship service.

Please order: _____ (qty.) Spring Flowers at $9.00 each

Complete information below as you would like it to appear in the Easter bulletin (**please print**):

Flowers are Given By: _____

In Memory Of: In Honor Of: _____

3	Blane Dille
	Bryce Dille
6	Les Abitz
	James Graves
9	Bill Burns
17	Stephen Speidel
19	Hannah Dahlke
	Fran Schmid
20	Wendy Dille
	Anne Thomas
	Trey Laudolff
22	Ginny Gilmore
26	Kim Olson
	Sharon Murphy
29	Rich Bradley
	Renee Holl
30	Mike Abler

Jody & Dave Osborn	March 6
Gary & Lois Ring	March 8
Gayle & John Mandel	March 11
Bobbie & Tim Flaherty	March 14

Did we miss your birthday or anniversary? If you have a birthday or anniversary this month and your name is not on the list, perhaps we don't have your information. Please call Cathy in the church office (921-0415) or fill out the form below so your name can be included next year! Thank you!

✂

If you would like your birthday and/or anniversary listed in The Quill, just fill out this form and return it to the church office.

Name: _____

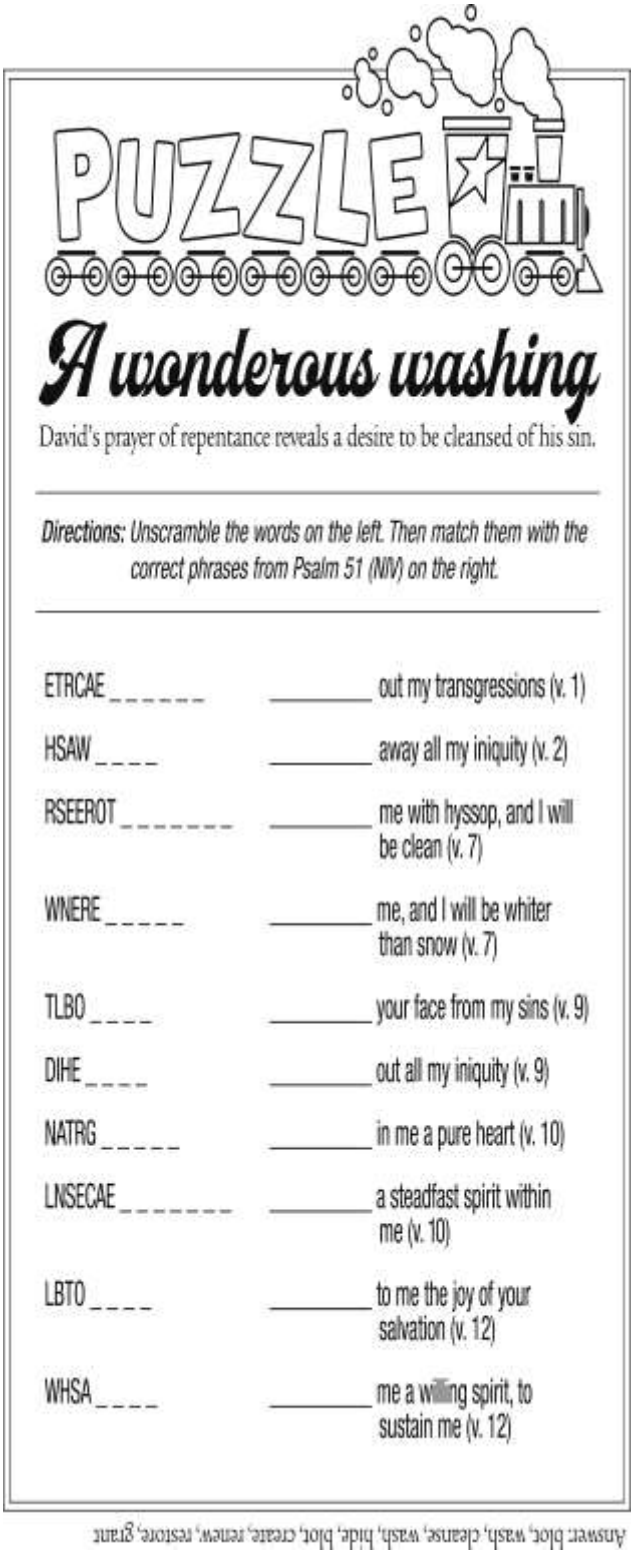
Birthday: _____

Anniversary:_____

Ushers for February	
Date	**9:00 Service**
March 2	Linda Stutz - **Ash Wednesday**
March 6	Avery & Barb Geiger
March 13	Bart & Dawn Dahlke
March 20	Gary & Joni Greenfield
March 27	Kaitlynn Zick & Randy Stutz

Welcomers for February	
Date	**9:00 Service**
March 6	Linda Stutz
March 13	Judie Behnke
March 20	Barb Tadych
March 27	Ron McCreedy

Worship Leaders for February	
Date	**9:00 Service**
March 2	Sue Schmitz - **Ash Wednesday**
March 6	Sue Schmitz
March 13	Noreen Henderson
March 20	Ellen Sieglaff
March 27	Jim Bentley



PILGRIM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 2022
VIA ZOOM

Present: Barb Geiger, Pastor Mary Jo, Patti Burns, Donna Jost, Patty Minter, Donna Jost, Fran Schmid, Bayard Fredrick, Karen Goodacre, Gary Ring, Suzette Curtis, Avery Geiger, Linda Stutz,
Jill Barbeau, Wendy Ellison.

1. Welcome and Quoram Present

Barb opened and acknowledged the quorum was present at 8:08 PM.

2. Opening Prayer

Pastor Mary Jo opened the meeting with a reading and prayer.

3. **Secretary's report**- Patti Burns submitted suggested changes to the December meeting minutes. Patty Minter made a motion to accept, Linda Stutz seconded the motion. With no objections and suggested changes the minutes were accepted with unanimous consent.

4. Treasurer's report- Donna reported that under the line listed as Financial position the monies spent on the asphalt and carpeting are different than those listed on the spread sheet and will be corrected. Under activities-offerings are 97% of budget and are up. Under outcomes we are at + $10,374, and SCRIP is +$6,612 in outcomes. Jim Thomas reports income from 2021 is up 5.1%. The end of year report was accepted by unanimous consent. Thank you to Karen for all she has been doing regarding SCRIP! And Jim Thomas for all he is doing as completing the audit.

Donna Jost made the following 2 motions to be reworded in the Bylaws.

Motion #1 *Church Council Designates that portion of Pastor Mary Jo Laabs' "Housing Allowance" in the budget which will be approved by the congregation at its Congregational meeting on January 30th, 2022, and any subsequent amendments to provide for her housing and related expenses corrections*, Patty Minter seconded the motion. Accepted with unanimous consent.

Motion #2 *the Church Council authorizes the treasurer and assistant treasurers to execute standard resolution forms at National Exchange Bank and Trust, Wells Fargo Advisors, and such other financial institutions as may be appropriate, authorizing the Council President, Church Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurers to sign checks and conduct other routine church business. The treasurer can access the information in the Church's checking accounts (currently Operating, SCRIP, Memorial, and Trust funds) as needed to coordinate financial activity.* Linda Stutz seconded the motion. Accepted with Unanimous Consent.

This will be revisited when new pastor is on board.

5. **Pastor's report:** Attached as written, no additions.

6. **President's report:** Barb Geiger thanked everyone for getting their reports in and for completion of the audit.

7. Vice President's report: Nothing to report

8. **New Business:** (Pastor Mary Jo was excused during this portion of the meeting.) The pastoral candidates proposed compensation plan was discussed. The formula is from the UCC conference guidelines. The compensation plan is negotiable so it cannot be formalized at this time. The compensation plan will have to be signed by the candidate as well as the President, Treasurer, and the Secretary of the church council at the acceptance of the

candidate to accept the position. Barb Geiger will present the changes suggested to Jane Anderson. Bayard made a motion to accept the purposed compensation plan to present to the candidate with requested changes as discussed, Patti Burns seconded the motion. The compensation plan with requested changes and corrections was approved for presentation by unanimous consent.

A congregational letter will be sent out to all members to invite them to the candidate service on February 13, 2022 with a member vote after the service as to approving them as a pastor at Pilgrim UCC.

9. Ministry/Committee reports and Updates (as necessary)

Worship & Music- Linda Stutz (council Rep.) attached reported.
Christian Education- Karen Goodacre (Council Rep.) No meeting
SCRIP- Karen Goodacre (Council Rep.) Continue to encourage people to call and order
Property &Maintenance – Avery Geiger (Council Rep.) Report attached. Meeting held via ZOOM.
Lay Life – Patty Minter (Council Rep.) No meetings or new report has been inactive due to COVID
Stewardship & Finance – Bayard Fredrick (Council Rep.) Pledge cards were sent out to members, some are still coming in. A final count is not completed.
Membership & Evangelism - Fran Schmid (Council Rep.) Nothing to add. Thank you to whoever was responsible from taking down the holiday decorations and putting them away.
Nominating Committee- Patti Burns recognized the members. Gary Ring reported on the weekend plan for February11-12th. There will be time slots for members of the Church Council to meet the candidate on the 11th and members to meet the candidate on the 12th with a service with the candidate leading. At this point we are planning on an in person service but if not able due to COVID restrictions, the Candidate would love to do a virtual service. To accept the candidate as our new Pastor, it will take a 2/3 approval rate of approval the candidate would like 93% or better.
Ham Dinner & Bazaar- Linda Stutz (Council Rep.) No new information.
Christian Outreach – Jill Barbeau (Council Rep.) Minutes attached. The warming shelter may reopen in February. Pilgrim stated we are set to provide the food. Karen is unsure if they will be open or not. She will continue to keep those that need to be informed in the know.
Memorial Committee – Reports attached.
Trust Fund report – Pastor Mary Jo: nothing to report.

10. **Celebrations** - Gary would offer up that a letter be sent to the Search Committee for all the work they have done and accomplishments made. Barb said that she is willing to work on that, Patti Burns also said she is willing to work on that as well.

11. **Information Sharing –** We will wait for guidance regarding resuming in person services for February. Barb will remain in touch with Sue Schmidt and the UCC conference.

12. Adjournment – Patty Minter made a motion that we adjourn, Fran Schmid seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Ellison

St David's Day Gymanfa Ganu

Plymouth Congregational Church

1325 Georgia St Oshkosh, WI 54902

St David is the Patron Saint of Wales, and to honor him and to celebrate our Welsh Heritage, we will gather on

Sunday, March 6, at 2:30 p.m.

For a Welsh/English Hymn Sing

Directors: Josh Giese, Devin Scherck and Rev. Tom White

Accompanist: Sarah Conrad

A te bach, a "little tea" will follow the singing at the church

Dewch, canwn i'r Arglwydd!
Come, let us sing to the Lord!

www.wggaw.org/peniel

Gymanfa Ganu 100 YEARS of SONG

Peniel Welsh Chapel

Festivities all week, August 22-28, for the 100th Anniversary of the Cymanfa on Sunday at 2:30 & 6:00 p.m.

Fond du Lac Evening Lions
District 27-B1
"We Serve"

Flea Markets

Presented by the
Fond du Lac Evening Lions Club

SUNDAY MARCH 20, 2022 8 AM - 2 PM
FOND DU LAC COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
RECREATION CENTER

Map - Directions

Food Service Provided by the
Fond du Lac Lions Club

AAUW

Fond du Lac (WI) Branch

HOME | SCHOLARSHIPS | ABOUT US | PROGRAMS | **BOOK SALE** | CONTACT US

Book Sale

We will start collecting books in November for the Mar 2022 sale. They may be dropped off on Tuesdays at Building E at the Fairground between 8 am and 2pm.

Our September Sale was a success, thanks to all our shoppers and the Altrusa members who helped out this year. Our next sale is in March. Due to a conflict, we will be in the Cow Palace

March 17 -20

FDL Fairgrounds Cow Palace

Thurs. 4-8. Fri. 9-8. Sat. 9-5. Sun. 10-2

Unfortunately, the Cow Palace is smaller the Rec building but will spread as much as we can. Covid seems to be calming down and we won't need masks, but as of now it looks like masks will be needed. We will follow the CDC guidelines

Thursday
$5.00 admission

Saturday,
half price books day

MARCH 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:30 PEO 4:00 Exec Board Mtg	2 9:00 Bible w/Bagels 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service	3	4 6*:00 AL*-ANON	5
6 9:00 Worship 10:15 Coffee Hour 11:30 Confirm. Class *6:00 NA Mtg*	7	8 11:00 4:30 Christian Ed 7:00 Adult Ed	9 9:00 Bible w/Bagels 7:00 Lenten Service Church of Peace	10	11 6*:00 AL*-ANON	12 *(Turn Clocks Ahead)*
13 *Daylight Savings Time* 9:00 Worship Handbell Quartet 10:15 Sunday School 10:15 Adult Ed 11:30 Confirm. Class *6:00 NA Mtg*	14 11:00 Membership 4:45 Worship 6:00 Property	15 9:30 PEO	16 9:00 Bible w/Bagels 7:00 Lenten Service Union Congregational UCC in Waupun	17 *St. Patrick's Day*	18 6:00 Family Fun Night 6*:00 AL*-ANON	19
20 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 10:15 Adult Ed 11:30 Confirm. Class *6:00 NA Mtg*	21 6:00 Church Council	22	23 9:00 Bible w/Bagels 7:00 Lenten Service Salem UCC, Wayne **Quill Articles Due**	24	25 *6:00 AL-ANON*	26
27 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 10:15 Adult Ed *6:00 NA Mtg*	28	29	30 9:00 Bible w/Bagels 7:00 Lenten Service Pilgrim UCC, Fond du Lac	31		

Pilgrim United Church of Christ Mission Statement

Pilgrim United Church of Christ, a theologically progressive Christian church, pursues growth in faith, social justice, and respect for all voices-with Jesus as our model for how to live and love.

Those Who Serve

Interim Pastor ..... Rev. Mary Jo Laabs
Administrative Assistant ..... Cathy Drew
Parish Nurse ..... Sue Schmitz
Sunday School Director ..... Karen Goodacre
Youth Director .....
Adult Education Director ..... Suzette Curtis
Organist ..... Helen Gilsdorf
Choir Director ..... Zachary Ball
Choir Accompanist .....
Custodian .....
Church Council President ..... Barb Geiger
Church Council Vice President ..... Patti Burns
Church Council Secretary ..... Wendy Ellison
Church Treasurer ..... Donna Jost

We are happy to send you our newsletter, but if you no longer wish to receive it,
please contact us and we will remove you from our mailing list.

The Pilgrim Quill

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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