



THE PILGRIM QUILL

AUGUST 2023



Hello Pilgrims!

I have a patio with a simple table and chairs surrounded by some beautiful flowerbeds and some pots of flowers. It's "my spot." I love it. The beds were started by Judy Hipple. Judy and her husband, Jack lived in the house before us for over 50 years. Judy loved flowers. When we first moved in, those flowerbeds around the patio had not been tended to in many years. The first year we simply watched what grew and took every new flower as a gift. The bed had been taken over by two invasive plants, red turtlehead & narrow-leaf evening primrose. So much so that's almost all we saw but for some irises, a large purple peony, an old misshapen lilac bush that we cut way back and some pink mallow. At the end of last season, I mercilessly thinned out the turtlehead and primrose knowing it would always come back. This year has been full of surprises as a result.

Thinned, weeded, and cultivated we saw several "new to us" flowers make an appearance. A little tending to the garden and now we have ton of black-eyed Susan (another one of my favorites), one impressive 6' tall mullein plant (I know it's a *weed* but it's so beautiful that I can't pull it), common eastern fleabane, more pink mallow, some stunning foxglove beardtongue, just a few coral bells, threadleaf coreopsis, one highly coveted wild bergamot plant, and yellow daylilies. That's 9 additional species of plants that laid dormant in the ground due to the invasive turtlehead and primrose (which also as predicted returned with a vengeance and are beautiful).

Inspired by Judy's hard work, I've added several pots of flowers to enhance my backyard oasis. Yet those pots of flowers on the patio need to be watered every day. They dry out so much faster than the plants in the beds. I enjoy watching the growth and development of each plant. I deadhead my red geraniums (another of my favorite flowers) to get more blooms out of them. I also have two different types of basil and thyme, petunias, coleus (Nick's favorite), white creeping geraniums, rosemary, (which I use in my

favorite bread recipe), sweet potato vine, spikes and spider grass.

The care and maintenance for my little spot of heaven on earth takes time, planning, dedication (those plants are not going to thin and water themselves), and patience. I needed to be open to new things. Embrace the unexpected. Surrender to what I cannot control and let the beauty reveal itself in due time. The first year I couldn't even tell what I had growing in the beds. I needed to care for what I saw and get to know the beds. The second year I embraced the surprises as they came and enjoyed the ride, adding those pots, and spending my time tending, or just plain sitting, in my garden under an umbrella, enjoying the bunnies, bees, butterflies, birds, and the spiders that make an appearance. This leads me to imagine what we could do in the future. Expand the flower bed a bit this way or that. Put in a path. Perhaps some more shade for the bunnies I consider myself on a first name basis with. A big shout out to Peter C, Hop-A-Long Harry, Pretty-girl Patti, Baby-boy, Mr. B and Cha-cha (at least that's what I call them).

Ministry is just like inheriting someone else's garden. Whether it is handed down from one generation to the next, or the start of a new pastor at an old church, the experience and requirements for the job are pretty much the same. After my first year serving, I have had some time to see what grows in our "church ministry garden." In my second year I imagine we'll add some new pots of ministry and see how everything gets along. What new things would grow well at PUCC? What lies dormant in our church garden that will emerge anew to reveal itself? What new plans will we entertain?

This fall and winter may we be open to new things, embrace the unexpected, surrender to what we cannot control, and let the beauty reveal itself in due time. In our gardens it's Mother Nature we are listening too. In the church as a garden it's the Holy Spirit. May we hear the calls of both as we enjoy the lazy dog days of August.

Amen and alleluia,

Pastor Rob

Sunday Scriptures

Sunday, August 6:

Matthew 14:13-21 - Face to Face

Sunday, August 13:

Genesis 37:1-4; 12-28 - When All Seems Lost

Sunday, August 20:

Genesis 45:1-15 - Bold Moves

Sunday, August 27:

Exodus 1:8-2:10 - Be Transformed

Becoming a WISE Congregation for Mental Health *(Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged)*

“The objective of the WISE Initiative is to encourage congregations to become more welcoming of those living with mental health challenges”. This is a certification and recognition by the UCC.

Becoming a WISE-designated faith community requires a congregational vote, and our goal is to feel comfortable voting on this at the next meeting in 2024.

There are 10 steps to consider:

1. Consult with the Pastor and/or Faith Community Leaders
2. Form a WISE Team
3. Connect with UCC Mental Health Network and examine available resources
4. Develop an approach that leads to a vote to become WISE for Mental Health
5. Draft a WISE Covenant and share with your WISE liaison (from the UCC Association and Conference)
6. Involve Leadership and the congregation in engaging the WISE Covenant
7. Adopt your WISE Covenant
8. Certify and celebrate becoming WISE
9. Publicize locally
10. Turn to the future

Our mental health - mental wellness - touches our physical and spiritual selves - which in turn touches our families, neighborhoods, cities, states, and the country. We want to promote understanding, compassion and reduce stigma. We've had several speakers from NAMI and informational articles in the Quill. You'll be seeing more information in bulletins, some Mission Moments, posters, and at a coffee time on November 5th.

The WISE Task Force has been meeting since January: *Sue Schmitz, Patti Burns, Donna Overbo, Judy Burton, Randy Stutz, Kaitlynn Zick, Barb Geiger, and Chris Frederick* – with advisors: *Pastor Rob and Dr. Brian Christenson.*

News from Council President, Patti Burns

Hello from the beautiful country of Ireland. It truly is very green! It rains almost daily but only for short periods of time.

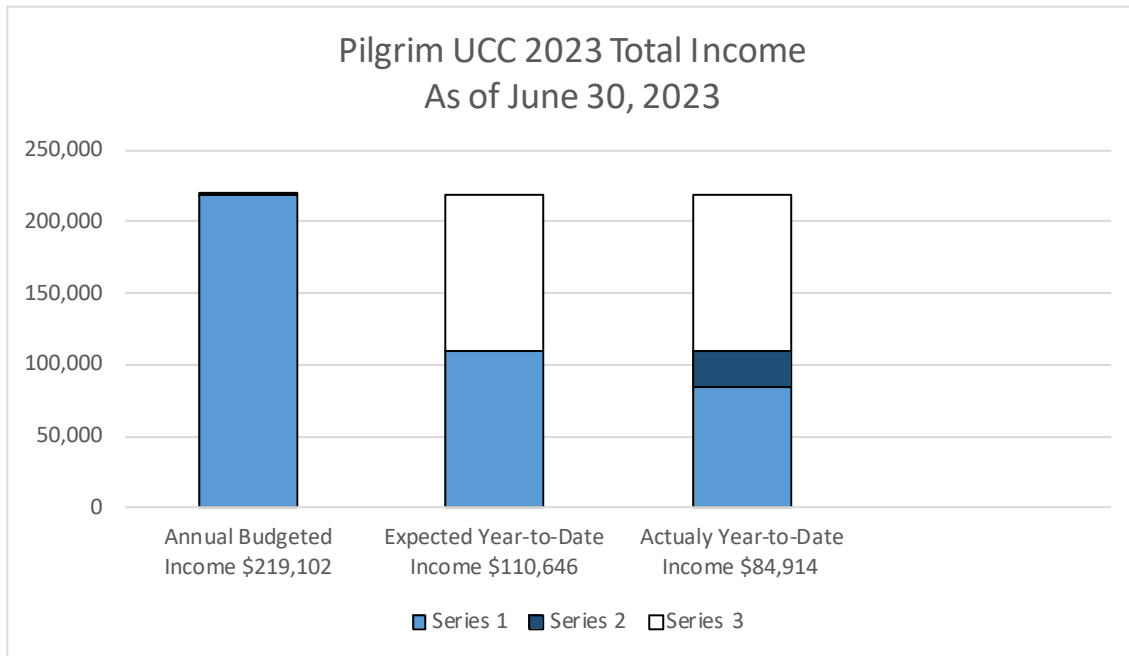
We are about halfway through our trip and I am amazed every day by something new that I see or learn. I love to travel to see new places in God's masterpiece.

There is such a rich history in Ireland including the history of Christianity in the country. I have not found a leprechaun yet but as I indicated, we have some time yet!

Pilgrim has had a busy summer. Our youth and their chaperones have returned from a successful mission trip. We had a great representation at the Pride Picnic. Christian Education is gearing up for the big Family Fun Night. The Holy Roller Bikers have been out and about. Fondue Fest will be in September. Another good opportunity for members and friends of Pilgrim to be out in the community sharing who we are.

I hope everyone enjoys the rest of the summer.

Patti Burns



**Pilgrim UCC Church Fond du Lac
535 Stow Street
Mid Year - Stewardship and Finance Committee Report / Reminder**

The Stewardship Committee works with Budgeting and Finances of Pilgrim Church and meets regularly to review monthly spending and income reports, which includes monthly Pledge Income from Pilgrim Members. In past years, especially during COVID, this chart appeared monthly in the Quill to remind Members regarding, how we were doing financially, since we were a virtual only church.

Since, we have returned to regular Sunday morning Worship Services has been good, and we have witnessed, a better financial giving situation. We seem to be on track financially.

This report is just a reminder that Pilgrim Church continues to have monthly financial responsibilities. We know during the summer Church attendance goes down, due to lots of personal activities, vacations, no Sunday School, etc., But our monthly financial responsibilities continue.

Above is a chart as to how we are doing financially. There are some Budget Programs that have not occurred or completed yet, such as Scrip, Rummage Sales, or Our Annual Ham Dinner. Please continue to keep up to date with your Pledge Commitment and or Normal Giving. Thank You.

Bayard Frederick, Tina Potter, Peter Vercouteren and Ron McCreedy, Chair



Adult Classes

Adult Forum will return in the fall on Sunday mornings after worship from 10:15AM to 11:15AM. The first Sunday of each month will be reserved for Coffee Fellowship.

Expanding Horizons will be returning on Wednesday mornings from 9:30AM to 11:00AM.

The new year will start off with a Welcome Back Brunch on September 13th.

Watch for exciting and informative topics to be presented in both of these Adult Education programs.



Loaves and Fishes

Pilgrim Church will serve the Loaves and Fishes meal on **August 23rd** at the Church of Peace.

Every time we provide a meal, several volunteers are needed to donate and prepare food, set-up, serve, clean-up and distribute leftovers. It is hoped that those that have helped in the past will volunteer again; new volunteers are always welcome!

The sign-up poster is in the narthex for volunteers to sign-up for the various tasks.

If you have any questions, please contact Jim Bentley at 920-922-5093.



If you love to sing, and if music and singing is one of your favorite parts of Sunday morning worship, then come and join the chorus!

The Pilgrim Choir rehearses Thursday nights from 7:00PM - 8:15PM, and sings twice per month on Sunday mornings; typically the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month.

Rehearsals will begin on Thursday, September 7th, with a welcome back gathering on Thursday, August 31st.



If you are interested in becoming a part of the Pilgrim Choir, please email Zach at zball1895@gmail.com.

Stigma Awareness Event

Save the Date

Thursday, August 24th, 2023

3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Lakeside Park Pavilion

71 Promen Dr., Fond du Lac, WI



Join us in stamping out stigma and the barriers to individuals seeking recovery



Join us in stamping out stigma! On August 24th, 2023 from 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM, area resources and organizations will be available at the Stigma Awareness Event at Lakeside Park Pavilion.

A local panel of speakers will share their stories about substance use, recovery, and address stigma that comes with addiction.

Diner's Club!!!

The next get-together is planned for
**Sunday, August 13th at TJ's Harbor
Restaurant, Hwy. 45 North.**

The sign-up poster is in the narthex.

Please sign-up by August 11th.

Gathering begins at 5:00PM with
sit down for the meal at 5:30PM.

As always, if you have suggestions for other
restaurant choices, let Patty Minter know.

Happy Dining!!!



Flowers for Church

Members can continue to
sign-up to provide flowers in church on
the Sundays of each month

**In Memory Of Someone or
In Honor Of Someone or
Special Occasion.**

The sign-up poster is hanging on the window
(of Cathy's office) behind the Scrip table.



Coffee Hour

1st Sunday of Each Month
(except where noted)

**Volunteers are Needed and if no one
signs up for any given month,
there will be NO coffee hour. We can have coffee
hour for a reason or no reason!**

The sign-up poster is in the narthex with
dates and instructions; **any member
of the church can sign-up.**

If you notice supplies getting low or if you
have questions, please let Patty Minter
know at 920-251-0425 or
pattyminter@gmail.com



Notes from Karen

(Our Sunday School Director)

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Community Family Fun Night



The Christian Education Ministry will again be offering our annual August Family Fun Night out on Pilgrim's beautiful lawn for the community to come and join us for an evening of games, fun and fellowship! The date for this event will be **Thursday, August, 10th from 6:00PM – 8:00PM. Mark your calendars and tell your friends and neighbors!**

There will be bounce houses, carnival games, balloon animals, BINGO, crafts, a cake/cookie walk, food, music, friendship and fellowship!

As always, we will need many volunteers to help with this event. A sign-up poster is in the narthex and you may always reach out to Karen with any questions you may have.

Sunday School Classes

While it's hard to believe that we are already nearing the end of summer and starting to think of the school year beginning, the time has come to start planning for the return of Sunday school classes here at Pilgrim.

It important that we know if your child/children will be planning to attend Sunday school classes this year. PLEASE, fill out an enrollment form (one is included in this edition of the Quill or they can be found on the table in the narthex) and put the form on Karen's desk. This will enable the CE ministry to plan as we need to order materials.

This year we will be returning to use the SPARK curriculum which will follow along with the Sunday morning lectionary Pastor Rob will be using.

Lastly, if you can help out with our program in any way - teaching a few classes or being a shepherd (no planning required unless the teacher asks you to help with something ahead of time), otherwise you are the second adult in the classroom to lend a helping hand as needed. Please reach out to Karen or a member of the CE ministry and talk with us. We are in need of both teachers and shepherds.

Rally Day/Pancake Breakfast

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, September 10th**, following our worship service, we will gather between 10:00AM - 10:15AM in the opening worship area for our annual Rally Day/ Pancake Breakfast. Yes, that's right, the CE ministry is bringing back the annual Pancake Breakfast! This will be a time to introduce and meet incoming teachers and shepherds, find out what's happening in our Adult Education, when our monthly family fun nights will be and other information. **EVERYONE** is invited to join us!



Sunday School

2023/2024 Sunday School Enrollment Form

I give my permission to have my child/children photographed; understanding that these photos may or may not be used for publicity in newspapers, our church website, other social media venues, and even on our bulletin covers.

_____ Yes _____ No

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Address: _____ Phone (H): _____

E-mail: _____ Phone (W): _____ Phone (cell): _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone #: _____

Child's Name: _____ DOB: _____ Grade '23-24: _____

Does your child have any allergies? Yes___ No___

Please list: _____

Does your child take any medications? Yes___ No___

Please list: _____

Does your child have any physical limitations or medical conditions we should be aware of?

Yes___ No___

Please list: _____

Please return by Sunday, August 27, 2023 to Karen

Additional children sign up on back

Child's Name: _____ DOB: _____ Grade '23-24: _____

Does your child have any allergies? Yes___ No___

Please list: _____

Does your child take any medications? Yes___ No___

Please list: _____

Does your child have any physical limitations or medical conditions we should be aware of?

Yes___ No___

Please list: _____

Child's Name: _____ DOB: _____ Grade '23-24: _____

Does your child have any allergies? Yes___ No___

Please list: _____

Does your child take any medications? Yes___ No___

Please list: _____

Does your child have any physical limitations or medical conditions we should be aware of?

Yes___ No___

Please list: _____

Child's Name: _____ DOB: _____ Grade '23-24: _____

Does your child have any allergies? Yes___ No___

Please list: _____

Does your child take any medications? Yes___ No___

Please list: _____

Does your child have any physical limitations or medical conditions we should be aware of?

Yes___ No___

Please list: _____

Youth Mission Trip Stockholder's Meeting

Our youth completed their mission trip to Cleveland and will be sharing details of their trip at the annual stockholder's meeting on Sunday, September 24th at 4:30PM. More information to come.....

Blessings,
Karen



I'd like to start off with a very big heartfelt THANK YOU to Dianne Bentley for filling in and handling the SCRIP program on Sunday mornings while I was unable to do it. Dianne you have done an amazing job and I THANK YOU SO MUCH.

While it's hard to believe we are beginning to talk about school starting, school shopping will be on the list of the things we need to do as we prepare for summer to come to an end. Please keep Pilgrim's SCRIP program in mind as you begin to shop for those necessities the kids need as well as the everyday shopping we do for groceries, gas and going out to eat. Land's End, TJ Maxx, Target, Kohl's and Walmart are just a few of the many places that we can use SCRIP.

The SCRIP program is very user friendly and it is part of our church's budget so please consider giving it a try if you are not already a regular user of the program. If you have questions as to how SCRIP works, please talk to Karen at the SCRIP table on Sunday mornings or give me a call at 920-904-5740.



**Shoulders Up – Shoulders Back – Head Up –
Phone Down!**

It's Reminder time...

It wouldn't be August if I didn't remind parents to check **immunization and physical requirements** for school. (The State of Wisconsin requires a sports physical every 2 years before starting the fall season). Please contact your Primary Care Provider with questions and to schedule an appointment before the August rush.

And speaking of school...when shopping for a new backpack, remember to look for ones that have wide straps and rests snugly above the small of the back. *There are some informational brochures on the ledge under the bulletin board.*

Ears to Hear

In a nutshell . . . the ear canal from the outer ear to the eardrum slopes slightly "up" to facilitate drainage. The cells along the canal secrete a thin, slightly acidic, waxy film that protects the lining and traps dirt, dead skin flakes etc. The ear wax/dirt/dead skin acidic stuff slowly slides to the outer ear and basically, falls out. Behind the eardrum, the *cochlea* looks like a small spiral-shaped snail shell. It is filled with liquid and a smaller structure called the *organ of Corti*. This contains 4 rows of tiny hairs (totalling in the thousands).

So . . . for a person to hear a sound, the outer ear acts like a funnel that sends sounds into the ear canal to the eardrum. The eardrum vibrates and moves 3 tiny bones in the middle ear which leads to pressure waves in the fluid inside the cochlea and movement of those tiny hairs. The dancing hairs convert the waves into electrical signals which are sent to the brain via auditory nerves. The brain then interprets the noise.

The louder the sound, the more/more violently those hairs move. Over time and with repeated loud sounds, some hairs break off. This causes a decrease in the electrical signals and less messaging to the brain - or rather, hearing loss.

Noise Pollution

Questions to determine whether you are being exposed to excessive sound that may damage your hearing:

1. Are you often in an environment where the sound is so loud that you have to shout to make yourself understood?
2. After exposure to loud sound, have you ever noticed tinnitus (ringing in your ears)?
3. Does music sound slightly strange or distorted after you have been listening for a while?
4. Do voices sound muffled after you've been around loud music or other loud sounds for an extended time?
5. After exposure to loud sound, do your ears sometimes feel "full" or "stopped up"?
6. When you are listening to headphones, can a person standing next to you hear it too? *(When you are using headphones, you should be able to hear a person next to you speaking in a normal tone of voice, and they should not be able to hear your headphones.)*

If you answer YES to any of these questions, you have been exposed to damaging sound levels. Check out the bulletin board for more information on noise!

Hearing is a mechanical process that just happens. To Listen requires awareness and focus on who or what is making the sound. Sometimes our focus - our brain - is elsewhere and we don't remember e.g. what another person says, news, bird songs, safety warnings, or that still small voice - even though we did hear it... The trick, I think, is to be cognizant of loud noises that can damage, and take measures to protect the ears. And to practice listening with intention - with respect and focus.

"And he told them many things in parables, saying; "Listen"! Matthew 13:3a

Related to Being a WISE Faith Community . . .

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline marked one year on July 16th. 988 is a safe place for anyone experiencing thoughts of suicide, a mental health or substance use crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress - to call, text, or chat with a trained counselor. From an article on the Wisconsin Public Radio website,

“From July 2022 through June 2023 the 988 Life line received 91,834 contacts with over 98% of the contacts resolved through the conversation.” “. . . About 25-30% of those calls involve people considering suicide. The balance of calls are from those discussing other mental health issues”.

Many of our neighbors hurt and need a WISE Faith Community – like us.

I put this in the Quill a few years ago – it’s a favorite of mine. I do not remember where I found it to give an author credit. Many analogies compare gardens to life – and to a gardener, these carry much wisdom.

Weed out the annoyances in your life
 We’ve all got our own row to hoe
 It’s OK to be a late bloomer
 You always reap what you sow
 Weeds never sleep
 Some problems are perennial
 A little manure goes a long way
 It’s important to branch out
 There are some things best left unfertilized
 Don’t be afraid to go out on a limb
 As you approach the autumn in your life,
 it’s harder to hide your true colors
 Avoid people who would like to cut you down
 It’s important to have roots
 One person’s garbage is another person’s compost
 It’s OK to grow where you’re planted.
 I hope you are enjoying the summer months!
 This is a day the Lord has made - Rejoice!



Dear Pilgrim Church,

Thank you so much for the use of Fellowship Hall and the kitchen for Tom Sieglaff’s memorial celebration of life.

For many years we held Sieglaff family Christmas parties in those spaces so for many, it is a place of happy memories and comfort. It felt like a homecoming.

What a gift to be able to provide that to the family during a time of grief.

Please use this check to offset the general costs of its use (general fund).

Thank you!! Love,
 Neal & Ellen Sieglaff

Dear Pilgrim Church Family,

We would like to extend our deepest thanks to all of you for the love and support during these past several months. I have learned so much about the power of prayer and the support of my faith family that I have difficulty putting into words what you have all given me and my family.

I was recently told by the treatment team that I am in remission, Hallelujah!! I believe that with the knowledge of the cancer team and the prayerful support of my networks, my chemo has done its job effectively. I have to continue chemo through October to insure this dreaded disease is gone, but I am hopeful for continued good reports.

This has been a very humbling experience to accept everyone's kindness and generosity and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts. I can confidently say that my church family is filled with fantastic cooks which has been a life saver for Randy and I during this time. Your generosity has been so appreciated in every way. I hope to be back in worship soon as I miss you all terribly.

Love and Blessings to you all,
 Linda and Randy Stutz

Dear Pilgrim United Church of Christ,

Thank you so much for your support! When you walk through the Gardens and see a child scrubbing Harry the Dirty Dog, a family reading together in the treehouse or a person reflecting quietly by the koi pond, know that your generosity made those experiences possible.

Thank you for your gift of \$200 given on 5/11/23. Baba Dioum said, "In the end we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand and we will understand only what we are taught." Bookworm would not be able to work toward our mission of inspiring the love of books and nature in the young and young at heart if not for the generosity of people like you.

Until we see you again, be a bookworm!

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Wieland
Executive Director
Bookworm Gardens

Pilgrim United Church of Christ,

St. Vincent de Paul Society of Fond du Lac County and The Solutions Center sincerely thank you for your valued gift of \$1,000.

May the Lord bless you as you have blessed his poor.

St. Katharine Drexel Homeless Shelter

Dear Pilgrim United Church of Christ,

We would like to thank you for your generous donation of \$378. We're proud to reserve your donation for our all-inclusive playground project, Play4All.

We appreciate your contribution and partnership.

Sincerely,
Rosenow School

Thank You!

On behalf of the Fond du Lac Humane Society, I would like to extend our sincere thanks for your recent donation. This letter acknowledges receipt of your donation in the amount of \$200 dated 5/9/23.

Last year, we cared for 677 cats, 309 dogs and 19 of what we like to refer to as our "little critters", all homeless and unwanted companion animals that found their way to our door.

Every day we go through the following:

- 125 lbs. of cat litter
- 90 lbs. of cat food
- 15 lbs. of kitten food
- 90 lbs. of dog food
- 8 gallons of bleach
- 4 boxes of exam gloves
- 2 dozen garbage bags
- 1 dozen rolls of paper towels
- This is in addition to the \$100,000+ in pet medical bills incurred every year

Unlike many other nonprofit organizations, we receive no state or federal funding. This means we rely on the support and generosity of the community to continue our mission to provide care and find good homes for these helpless animals, many of which have special needs or require medical attention.

Your continued support and generosity are truly appreciated. If our animals could talk, I know they would all say, "Thank you". If you have any questions regarding the Fond du Lac Humane Society, please check out our website at www.fdlhumane.org or call us at 920-922-8873.

Thank you for your support.

Beth Rogan
Shelter Manager

Karen,

Thank you so much for helping to always look out for the boys. We are incredibly thankful for the generous camp scholarship making it possible for Dorian to attend camp.

All the best,
Amber & Dorian

Dear Friend,

I can't thank you enough for supporting The Salvation Army with your recent donation of \$852.14.

Lost and hurting people are coming to us in great numbers - more than we've seen before. Every day, we see folks trying to navigate the heartbreak of a job loss or families struggling to overcome a crisis. It's tough, but friends like you make it possible to carry on.

Your generosity allows us to make a positive impact in people's lives and we are deeply committed to using every penny of your contribution to its fullest - offering life-changing support and service to those in need.

Thank you for making the decision to help our less fortunate neighbors!

Sincerely,
Lieutenant Daniel Champlin
Corps Officer

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your \$500 gift to Mercy Ships. You helped bring hope and healing to children and adults who were struggling to survive.

I wish you could see the smiles and joyful tears on the faces of our patients and their loved ones and hear the heartfelt thanks directly from the people you are helping. They are extremely grateful and so are we.

Friends like you are a blessing and your kindness CHANGES LIVES FOREVER.

Following the model of Jesus,
Don Stephens, Founder

Pilgrim United Church of Christ,

Thank you so much for your recent generous gift to Mercy Ships, it is greatly appreciated.

Our new ship, the Global Mercy, docked in Senegal in February. So far, over 500 surgeries have been completed on board.

Your gifts help all this happen.

God bless you all,
Bob & Sherilyn Cook
Church Relations Managers
Mercy Ships

Pilgrim United Church of Christ,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$500 in support of our 2023 Great Futures Campaign. We're grateful you have joined us in our efforts to do whatever it takes to help kids become the best version of themselves on their paths to bright futures.

Imagine a place where who you are, where you're from or the circumstances that surround you do not determine your access to a safe and fun environment full of positive opportunities to grow and thrive. Through your support, our Boys & Girls Club is making that vision a reality for all young people in our community.

Again, thank you for helping us give youth what matters most - meaningful life experiences they need today to become anything they can dream tomorrow. Together we are fulfilling our promise to every kid, every day. Please know how deeply your contribution is appreciated.

Sincerely,
Dan Hebel
Chief Executive Officer

Tiffany Heim
Director of Resource Development

Caring for God's Creation

Have a Green Picnic

Barbecues and picnics are almost synonymous with summertime. While they are great ways to gather outdoors with friends and family they can create a lot of unnecessary waste. Here are a few quick tips to make your next gathering more environmentally friendly:

- *Use compostable plates and cutlery
- *Opt for washable rags versus paper napkins and towels
- *Ditch the plastic straws
- *Swap out hot dogs and hamburgers for some delicious meat alternatives



PICNIC

Ushers for August

Date	9:00 Service
August 6	Jim & Dianne Bentley
August 13	Bobbie Flaherty & Donna Jose
August 20	Pete Vercooteren & Connie Anderson
August 27	Bill & Patti Burns

Welcomers for August

Date	9:00 Service
August 6	Jim & Dianne Bentley
August 13	Judie Behnke
August 20	Ron McCreedy
August 27	Wendy Ellison



- 2 Todd Moely
Bob Cornell
Jean Cornell
- 3 Verabelle Pattee
- 4 Barb Spies
- 5 Nicky Banks
- 9 Donna Overbo
- 11 Amber Kilawee
- 13 Wendy Ellison
- 14 Jason Laudolff
- 15 Lynn Zwerg
Bart Dahlke
- 16 Tammy Steier
- 23 Julia Etheridge
- 28 Gretchen Schadeberg
- 29 Kerm Giles
- 31 Barb Mittelstaedt



- August 5 Richard & Peg Bradley
- August 7 Albert & Whitney Curl
- August 8 Bob & Jane Flaherty
- August 11 Neal & Ellen Sieglaff
- August 20 Patty & Mark Minter
- August 22 Kristie & Patrick Luckow
- August 30 Doug & Joanne Baltz
- August 31 Gary & Joni Greenfield



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: _____

Pilgrim UCC Fall 2023 Master Schedule

This Schedule is Subject to Change

Worship & Event Schedule

Special Events in Orange

Mission Moments in Blue

Additional worship services in Red

Choir in Green

Themed Sun Services in Purple

Confirmation Classes in Light Blue

Special Music Highlighted

**all services at Pilgrim UCC unless otherwise noted*

September 2023

Sun Sept 3 – Sun Oct: **Season of Creation Sermon Series** w/ Pastor Rob & the Green Team

Wed Sept 6: 6-7:30 PM – 1st Confirmation Class

Sat Sept 9: 9 AM – 5 PM – Pilgrim will host a booth at **Fond du Fest** promoting our Creation Justice Church Covenant

Sun Sept 10: 9 AM Worship – **Rally Day/ Pancake Breakfast after Worship/ Confirmation Commitment Sunday** – No Adult Ed/ Sun School – **Choir** – **Mission Moment: Gary Ring (Refuse)**

Fri Sept 15: 6 PM **Intergenerational Game Night**

Sun Sept 17: 9 AM Worship – 10:15 Adult Ed & Sun School Begins Fall 2023 – **Mission Moment: Rachel Wichowski (Reusable Bags)**

Wed Sept 20: 6-7:30 PM – 2nd Confirmation Class

Sun Sept 24: 9 AM Worship – 10:15 Adult Ed & Sun School – Handbell Quartet – **Mission Moment: Barb Roder (Quick Clothes)**

Special Sunday School Dates*

*Sunday school runs Sept 17, 2022 – May 12, 2023 after worship (10:15 AM – 11:15 AM)

Sept 10: Rally Day/ Pancake Breakfast – Come enjoy a pancake breakfast and meet teachers, shepherds and friends: as we talk about Christian education and our special events and ministries at Pilgrim.

Sept 17: 1st Day of Sunday school

Nov 26: No Classes – Thanksgiving Weekend

Dec 3: Make N' Take – During our normal class time, while the Alternative Gift Fair is happening, students will be able to make a variety of crafts as gifts while learning not all gifts have to be store bought.

Dec 17: Youth Christmas Program – during worship. No Sunday school Classes

Dec 24: Christmas Eve – No Classes

Dec 31: New Year's Eve – No Classes

Family Fun Nights

Fri Sept 15: 6 PM Intergenerational Game Night

Fri Oct 20: 6 PM Intergenerational Craft Night – Blanket Making

Fri Nov 17: 6 PM Chili Cook-Off and Game Night

Fri Dec 15: 6 PM Intergenerational Christmas Caroling/ Jingle Bingo/ Cookies & Hot Cocoa

Scripture Readings for Fall 2023*

*Scripture readings are used both in worship and Sunday school.

<p>Sept 17: <i>Joseph Helps His Family</i> (Gen 45:1-15; 50:15-21) Sept 24: <i>The Vineyard Workers</i> (Matt 20:1-16) Oct 1: <i>The Chief Priests</i> (Matt 21:23-32) Oct 8: <i>Parable of the Vineyard</i> (Matt 21:33-36) Oct 15: <i>The Wedding Banquet</i> (Matt 22:1-14) Oct 22: <i>Paying Taxes</i> (Matt 22:15-22) Oct 29: <i>The Greatest Commandment</i> (Matt 22:34-46) Nov 5: <i>Be Humble</i> (Matt 23:1-12)</p>	<p>Nov 12: <i>Ten Bridesmaids!</i> (Matt 25:1-13) Nov 19: <i>Parable of the Talents</i> (Matt 25:14-30) Nov 26: <i>Sheep & Goats</i> (Matt 25:31-46) Dec 3: <i>Be Ready</i> (Mark 13:24-36) Dec 10: <i>John the Baptizer Prepares the Way</i> (Mark 1:1-8) Dec 24: <i>Angels Visit</i> (Luke 1:26-38) Dec 24 10 PM <i>Jesus is Born</i> (Luke 2:1-20) Dec 31 <i>Simeon & Anna</i> (Luke 2:22-40)</p>
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Dates for Fall Term (Sept – Dec) 2023 Conformation Class*

<p>Wed Sept 6: 1st Class Sun Sept 10: Commitment Sunday Wed Sept 20: 2nd Class Wed Oct 4: 3rd Class w/ Mentors Wed Oct 18: 4th Class Wed Nov 1: 5th Class Wed Nov 15: 6th Class</p>	<p>Wed Nov 29: 7th Class Wed Dec 13: 8th Class Wed Dec 20: 9th Class w/ Mentors *Field Trips and retreat TBD Wed Evening sessions are from 6-7:30 PM (Spring Term Jan – May 2024)</p>
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Christian Outreach

September: Coats for Kids, & hats, gloves/ mittens, scarves for Rosenow School
 October: KIVA: Connecting people through lending to alleviate poverty.
 November: Toys for Tots and Angel Tree
 December 3: Alternative Gift Fair (After worship)

Health Ministries Fall 2023

September 2023

A Transition Month
 National Yoga Awareness Month
 National Suicide Prevention Day and Week
 First day of autumn – Autumn Equinox
 Autumn is a second spring, when every leaf is a flower.
 Albert Camus
 WISE - Expanding Horizons on September 20th
 Bulletin Board – Lunch ideas
 Youth – Suicide prevention

October 2023

Healthy Lung Month – vaccines – deep breathing
 Dyslexia Awareness Month
 All Saints Sunday – Oct 29
 WISE – What is a Covenant? (Present WISE Covenant to Council)
 Bulletin Board – cold/flu/pneumonia
 Youth – National Book Month - Importance of reading and the Little Library in front

November 2023

Shorter day light days and the holidays
 Health Literacy Month
 End daylight saving time – an extra hour of life (?)
 Medicare enrollment time
 Great American smoke-out – nicotine effect.
 WISE – Covenant (Mission Moment and Coffee Time
 November 5th)
 Bulletin Board - Youth - Vaping

December 2023

Advent begins Dec.3rd. Happy New Year!
 National Handwashing Awareness Week
 Winter Solstice and National Flashlight Day
 The Longest Night
 WISE – Covenant again with any changes and
 questions/comments
 Bulletin Board - Handwashing
 Youth – Sleep and blue screens

Adult Forum

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” -Nelson Mandela

ADULT FORUM meets Sunday mornings from 10:15AM to 11:15AM in the lounge for those wishing to attend in person. There will be a few minutes to chat after worship before the program begins promptly at 10:15AM. Those that prefer to join from the comfort of your home, the link for the programs will be the same throughout the winter/spring semester. To join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87682457999?pwd=NklCT0ZEYWtTRnlwcEtRNDBCmGRhQT09>

Meeting ID: 876 8245 7999

Passcode: 769374

September 17: The Supreme Court – Presenter: Dr. Paisley Harris

Dr. Harris leads a two week discussion to help us understand both the intricacies and the impact of the Supreme Court in today’s political climate.

September 24: Rawhide – Presenter: Tara Heidl

Rawhide Youth Services helps hurting youth who feel lost or abandoned. It is their mission to help these youth discover the hope of a healthy and fulfilling life.

October 1: Coffee Hour – No Adult Ed

October 8: The Supreme Court – Presenter: Dr. Paisley Harris

Dr. Harris finishes her two week discussion on the Supreme Court.

October 15: Sabbath – Presenter: Lowell Louis

Lowell Louis, from the congregation of B’Nai Israel in Oshkosh, discusses the Sabbath and its significance from the perspective of the Hebrew Bible and his own tradition as well.

October 22: NAMI – Presenter: Brad Leonard

Fond du Lac strives to support and empower every person, young and old, touched by mental illness. They are committed to removing stigma and nurturing recovery through advocacy, education and outreach throughout Fond du Lac County.

October 29: Do Nothing Course – Presenter: Professor Connie Kassor

Learn to boost creativity, improve sleep, reduce stress, enhance productivity and improve mental and physical health.

November 5: Coffee Hour – No Adult Ed

November 12: Limitless Possibilities – Presenter: Josh Vale

Josh Vale comes with his charismatic charm and tells how he is dedicated to empowering people with disabilities to maximize their independence and to lead satisfying productive lives in the community.

November 19: A Thanksgiving Reflection: Come Before Winter – Presenter: Peg Bradley

Based on Paul's request of Timothy to "come before winter," we will explore what that means in our lives today.

November 26: Aging & Disability Resource Center – Presenter: Raine Bleecker

Come listen about important pre-need information including funeral planning and living wills.

December 3: Alternative Gift Fair – No Adult Ed**December 10:** Forward Services – Presenter: Maurice Pentek

Come hear about a wonderful resource in Fond du Lac that provides training, education, career guidance and supportive services for anyone needing a little help.

December 17: Advent – Presenter: Rob Edmondson

A special presentation to help prepare ourselves for Christmas.

December 24 & 31: No Adult Forum due to Christmas & New Year's Eve.

Expanding Horizons

EXPANDING HORIZONS will meet Wednesday Mornings 9:30AM - 11:00AM in the lounge for in-person learning; the link for those wishing to view via Zoom from home is as follows:

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

Meeting ID: 889 7801 2384

Passcode: 762316

September 13: WELCOME BACK BRUNCH**September 20:** WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged) for Mental Health – Presenter: Sue Schmitz

In 2015, a process for churches to become WISE congregations was adopted at the UCC General Synod. Learn about Pilgrim's WISE Task Force and why this designation is important for PUCC.

September 27: Illuminating Project – Presenter: Juliane Troicki, Ph.D.

The Illuminating Women exhibit showcased 30 inspiring women from the Fond du Lac community.

October 4 & 11: El Salvador – Presenter: Jill Stiemsma

Jill Stiemsma teaches English in El Salvador for an organization that funds housing, women's businesses, children's scholarships and much more.

October 18: One Woman Play – Presenter: Jill Stiemsma

Jill presents a one woman play she wrote about Oscar Romero who was murdered while celebrating Mass, including the voices of his supporters and critics.

October 25: HOPE LGBTQ+ - Presenter: President Maddie Wiles

HOPE serves LGBTQIA+ students in Oshkosh and provides awareness and programming around identities, acceptance and resilience.

November 1 –**December 13:** The Texts of Terror by Phyllis Trible: A Look at Feminist/ Womanist Biblical Criticism

In highlighting the silence, absence and opposition of God, as well as human cruelty, these neglected stories - interpreted in memoriam - challenge both the misogyny of Scripture and its use in church, synagogue and academy.

November 1 / Week 1 – Introduction: Faith and Feminism

November 8 / Week 2 – Hagar

November 15 / Week 3 – Tamar

November 22 / **NO CLASS – DAY BEFORE THANKSGIVING**

November 29 / Week 4 – An Unnamed Concubine

December 6 / Week 5 – The Daughter of Jephthah/Conclusion

December 13 – CHRISTMAS BRUNCH – A time to review our fall schedule and talk about our spring speakers.

December 20 – No Expanding Horizons due to the holiday week.

December 27 – No Expanding Horizons due to holiday week.

UPCOMING EVENTS



DOWNTOWN FOND DU LAC
FARMERS MARKET

SATURDAYS • MAY - OCTOBER
8:00 A.M. - NOON • MAIN STREET



THIRTEEN THURSDAYS

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
PRESENTED BY

FVSBank

GATES OPEN AT 6 PM • MUSIC STARTS AT 7 PM

JUN 8	COPPER BOX <i>Roots Americana</i>
JUN 15	LISTENING PARTY <i>Folk Rock</i>
JUN 22	GOOD MORNING BEDLAM <i>Indie Folk</i>
JUN 29	THE JIMMYS <i>Blues</i>
JUL 6	JESSE STRATTON BAND <i>Country Americana</i>
JUL 13	5 CARD STUDS <i>70's Era Night</i>
JUL 20	ARTIE WEST QUINTET <i>Rockabilly Honky Tonk</i>
JUL 27	THE ASTRONOMERS <i>Alternative Pop</i>
AUG 3	UNITY THE BAND <i>Reggae</i>
AUG 10	RANDOM MAXX <i>80's Era Night</i>
AUG 17	BELLA CAIN UNPLUGGED <i>Top 40 Country • More</i>
AUG 24	THROWBACK STEREO <i>90's Era Night</i>
AUG 31	KATZ SASS <i>Blues Rock</i>

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FOND DU LAC CYCLERY AND
BOB'S ON THE AVE PRESENT:

PIZZA RIDES

EVERY THURSDAY AT 5:30PM
MAY 4TH - SEPTEMBER 28TH
MEET AT FOND DU LAC CYCLERY

ALL ARE WELCOME

Family-friendly ride at a conversational pace.
Bring a friend or meet a new one!
Pizza, food, and beverages available for purchase at
Bob's on the Ave - Live music on Thursdays!

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Downtown Fond du Lac
fondue fest

saturday, september 9 • 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
www.fonduefest.com

We would like Pilgrim UCC to be represented at Fondue Fest this year - Saturday, September 9th in downtown Fond du Lac from 9:00AM to 5:00PM. Please sign-up on the poster in the narthex or contact Fran Schmid at dhschmid@charter.net or 920-638-1098 if you are able to help out for a 2-hour shift. Thank you.

Membership and Evangelism

With an annual attendance of more than 25,000 people, the 15th annual Fondue Fest comes in as the largest event in downtown. Three stages with all genres of music playing all day, a huge Kids Zone, art and craft vendors, Farmers Market vendors, cheese and chocolate fondue provided by MPTC Culinary students, car show and finale shows by Thelma Sadoff Center for the Arts and Fat Joe's Burgers and Brew.

Fondue Fest gives the downtown the opportunity to show their endurance, the strength of their friendships, and a chance to celebrate community in the downtown. Fondue Fest continues to be Fond du Lac's largest one-day festival.



ADVENTURES ON THE FARM

 AUGUST 20, 2023
 11:00 A.M. - 3:00 PM
 N8114 CTY RD. WW, MT. CALVARY

Cash Raffle at 2:45 p.m.

-  Street Grub & Shaved Ice Food Trucks
-  Live Music by Brent Bel
-  A&W Root Beer Floats

KID'S HAND STAMP - \$5.00 INCLUDES

- Train Rides  Bouncy House
- Critters Exhibit  Pony Rides
- Balloon Animals  Obstacle Course
- Our Wonderful Petting Zoo  Horse Program

 Face Painting
by Rachel

 Hay Wagon Rides

N8114 County Rd WW, Mt. Calvary, WI 53057



August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 9:00-10:30 Yoga w//lean	4 7:00 AL-ANON	5 Kitchen & Fellowship Hall for Voices de la Frontera (all day)
6 9:00 Worship 10:15 Coffee Hour 6:00 NA Mtg	7 4:30 Christian Ed 5:30 WISE	8	9 10:00 Adult Ed Mailing 4:30 Worship	10 9:00-10:30 Yoga w//lean 6:00 FFN Outdoor Games	11 7:00 AL-ANON	12
13 9:00 Worship 6:00 NA Mtg	14 11:00 Membership 6:00 Property	15 FDL Women's Chorus - Kitchen & Guild Room	16	17 9:00-10:30 Yoga w//lean	18 7:00 AL-ANON	19
20 9:00 Worship 6:00 NA Mtg	21 6:00 Council Meeting	22	23 Loaves & Fishes	24 9:00-10:30 Yoga w//lean	25 7:00 AL-ANON	26
27 9:00 Worship 6:00 NA Mtg	28 6:00 Green Team	29	30	31 9:00-10:30 Yoga w//lean		

Pilgrim United Church of Christ
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Email: pilgrim.info@pilgrimuccfdl.org
Website: www.pilgrimuccfdl.org

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The Pilgrim Quill

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.

Pastor Rev. Rob Van Ess
Administrative Assistant Cathy Drew
Parish Nurse Sue Schmitz
Sunday School Coordinator Karen Goodacre
Youth Coordinator
Adult Education Coordinator Rob Edmondson
Worship Musician Chris Deaner-Rogers
Choir Director Zachary Ball
Choir Accompanist
Custodian Floors2Clean
Church Council President Patti Burns
Church Council Vice President Jim Bentley
Church Council Secretary Wendy Ellison
Church Treasurer Donna Jost

Those Who Serve

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.

Pilgrim United Church of Christ Mission Statement