



# THE PILGRIM QUILL

MAY 2024



Hello Pilgrims,

This month on Pentecost Sunday we will celebrate the confirmation for our 2023-2024 confirmation class. This is the result of their commitment to deepen their faith and their relationship with God through the Confirmation program of Pilgrim United Church of Christ.

You will notice that Confirmation has the word firm in it. Confirmation is a time when young people have the opportunity to make a firm decision whether they will claim the name Christian for themselves and will offer up their prayers, gifts, and service as a member of the United Church of Christ.

Our students were baptized when they were infants or young children when their parents dedicated their lives to Christ and community. Confirmation is the time when they claim for themselves the vows that were once made on their behalf.

Our Confirmation program encourages our youth to start thinking for themselves, to ask the hard questions, and to claim our faith as their own. Throughout the process our youth have studied the scriptures and our denomination, as well as the history, traditions, and shared experiences of our faith. We have considered both Christian ethics and belief and the call for Christian activism.

These days, young people are busy and their lives are filled with many activities; but Confirmation is an important part of helping them experience the fullness of the Christian faith. We hope that you will answer the invitation to this very important journey in the life of the church — the journey of Confirmation, by attending our Confirmation service on Sunday May 19th at 9 AM, with a reception to follow in the fellowship hall.

A rite of passage, our confirmands are passionate, curious, and faithful for and too the

gospel of Jesus Christ. They have grown into their faith, have more questions than answers, and are all precious children of God. At our confirmation service they will answer the following questions that unite us all in Christ:

1. Do you desire to affirm your baptism into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?
2. Do you renounce the powers of evil and desire the freedom of new life in Christ?
3. Do you profess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?
4. Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciple, to follow in the way of our savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best as you are able?
5. Do you promise, according to the grace given to you, to grow in the Christian faith and to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, celebrating the presence and furthering Christ's mission in all the world?

Amen and Alleluia,

Pastor Rob

## Sunday Scriptures

Sunday, May 5:

Acts 10:44-48 - The Holy Spirit

Sunday, May 12:

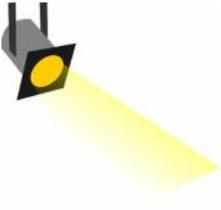
Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 - Matthias the Apostle

Sunday, May 19:

Acts 2:1-21 - Pentecost

Sunday, May 26:

Luke 11:2-4 - The Father



## NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



say - "No matter WHO you are or WHERE you are on life's/faith journey - YOU ARE welcome here!" - that we mean it! Not just say the words but believe it and act that way. That we ALWAYS reach out in love to each other (members & newcomers alike) - even when we don't think the same. That we always work to ask for and listen to other people's ideas and to understand each other.

### 5. What has brought you to Pilgrim United Church of Christ?

The continued personal knowledge that I need a community of faith.

### 1. Introduce yourself to us? (Who are you? Where do you live? Who do you live with? What do you do? Where are you from?)

My name is Sue Kaiser born (September 1956), & bred & living in Plymouth, WI.

I have been married to my high school sweetheart, Gary, for 47 years.

We've lived in the same house in Plymouth for 45 years.

I have been a substance use Recovery Coach and Peer Support Specialist (with 24+years lived experience) for Lighthouse Recovery Community Center in Sheboygan, WI for approximately 5 years. Before 'retirement' I was a project manager for a local Environmental, Health & Safety company for over 30 years.

### 2. Who or what has the biggest influence on you in your life right now?

I am pretty passionate about my work in social justice, so I would say that the people I serve have a lot of influence in how I see the world. Of course, God also has a lot to 'say' about how I 'do' that work.

### 3. What do you do for fun/ hobby/ relaxation?

I like to read (and do book study's with people), I play softball (pitch) on a city league & a Christian league, I do 'recovery' things (retreats, fund-raising, etc.), I LOVE animals (all of them but at home - cats & dogs), enjoy traveling with my husband and I am pretty passionate about singing and theater.

### 4. What is the number one thing you wish people knew about you?

I would like Pilgrim (and others) to know - I have BIG 'expectations' that when we (UCC Church)

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### Pride Picnic – Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at Lakeside Park

Pilgrim will again have a table at the Pride Picnic from 1:00-4:00pm. Mark your calendar and watch for the poster! Sign-up for an hour – represent Pilgrim, hand out water based tattoos and connect with participants during this fun afternoon!



### 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 Srip table.



## Recognition Sunday- May 5, 2024

### Adult Education

The Adult Education committee is deeply grateful for the people who have taught classes from September 2023 - May 2024. Your gift of time and talent has enlightened and challenged those who attended. With many thanks to:

Dr. Paisley Harris	Mary Ellen McMeen
Tara Heindl	Ellen Sieglaff
Lowell Louis	Chris Frederick
Brad Leonhard	Rev. Kerri Parker
Professor Connie Kassor	Rev. Breanna Illene
Pastor Rob	Janet Clark
Peg Bradley	Amanda Miller
Jaclyn Jaeckels	Jack Laufenberg
Kathryn Boris	Jim Thomas
Megan Sawall	Neal Sieglaff
Ben Blanc	Barb Geiger
Sue Schmitz	Nariman Manasrah
Juliane Troicki, Ph.D	Linda Stutz
Jill Stiemsma	Jim Bentley
Diana Beck	Macy Burns
Chris Deaner-Rogers	Jodi Budwit

With additional thanks to the Adult Education Committee whose work makes our classes possible:

Carol Browning, Joni Greenfield, Neal Sieglaff, Linda Stutz, Rachel Wicichowski, Dixie Sullivan and Peg Bradley

## Basic Needs of People Around the World Are Met Through KIVA

In March the Outreach Ministry gave 10 loans to people around the world through KIVA. Since 2012 Pilgrim has loaned \$18,170 to 115 people in 38 countries. Most of the money came from repaid loans. KIVA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. KIVA's mission is to connect people through lending to alleviate poverty. KIVA works with micro finance institutions on five continents to provide loans to people without access to traditional banking systems.

This article will highlight 5 of the loans made and next month the other five will be highlighted. Three of the loans went to women in the Philippines who needed money to build sanitary toilets in their homes. Dioscora works hard to support her four children. She is married and has a pig fattening business. Antonith is a hardworking entrepreneur who has a general store. Teresita is married and works hard to support her three children. She also has a pig fattening business. All three women know that by using the sanitary toilet they are reducing health and hazard risks for their families and neighbors as well as promoting environmental protection.

Ado lives in Togo. She is married and the mother of three. She sells groceries that she buys at the market. To grow her business, she will use her loan to buy bags of tomatoes to sell to her customers. She will use the profit to take care of her house. The average annual income (USD) in Togo is \$1,500.

Unice lives in Bungoma, Kenya. She is a divorced smallholder farmer and stands as a testament to resilience and determination. Despite facing the trials of life alone, she has cultivated her farm with unwavering dedication, drawing upon her years of experience to nurture the soil and tend to her crops. Understanding the importance of modern agricultural practices, Unice seeks to elevate her farm to new heights. With a vision of abundance and prosperity, she aims to invest in certified seeds and nutrient-rich fertilizers, knowing that these inputs will enhance the quality and yield of her produce. Driven by her passion for farming and the desire to provide for herself and her community, Unice deserves the opportunity to access the necessary resources to realize her aspirations. With a loan, she can unlock the full potential of her farm, contributing not only to her own well-being but also to the agricultural prosperity of Bungoma.

This month let's remember these 5 women in our prayers as they struggle to support their families. We are fortunate to be able to help such strong women.

If you would like to learn more about KIVA see their website [www.kiva.org](http://www.kiva.org) or talk to Peg Bradley or any member of the Outreach Ministry.

### Diner's Club!!!

**There will not be a Diner's Club in May.**  
Watch for more information on the next get-together.

Gatherings begin at 5:00PM with  
sit down for the meal at 5:30PM.  
If there are other restaurant suggestions,  
let Patty Minter know.  
Happy Dining!!!



### 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](mailto:pattyminter@gmail.com)



Adult Education Classes - New Opportunities to Learn,

Strengthen Your Faith and Make New Friends!

Meet on Sunday Mornings from  
10:15AM to 11:15AM

in the **lounge** for those wishing to attend in person.

We will have a few minutes to chat after worship before the program begins promptly at 10:15AM. Those preferring to join from the comfort of your home, the link for the programs is the same.

To join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87682457999?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87682457999?pwd=NkICT0ZEYWtTRnlwcEtRNDBCMGRhQT09)  
[pwd=NkICT0ZEYWtTRnlwcEtRNDBCMGRhQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87682457999?pwd=NkICT0ZEYWtTRnlwcEtRNDBCMGRhQT09)  
Meeting ID: 876 8245 7999  
Passcode: 769374

May 5  
Coffee Fellowship



May 12 & 19  
**The Great Narrative:**  
**Introduction to the History of Our Time**

by Johann Chapoutot  
Leader: Ben Blanc

May 12 - From Providentialism to the  
Nazi Millennial Dream

May 19 - Conspiracy Theories and  
the Contemporary "isms"

An eminent historian of Germany and Nazism, Johann Chapoutot scrutinized the mental world of Nazi ideologues. With this new book, he broadens his vision by retracing the grand narratives that since the Middle Ages have shaped collective beliefs and guided individual lives: providentialism and scientism, communism and postmodernism, and not least, the array of conspiracy theories that are currently invading our political landscape.

## EXPANDING HORIZONS



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?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88978012384?pwd=cGxJa0pJbExSMOFFWEtIMmtJYzNodz09)  
[pwd=cGxJa0pJbExSMOFFWEtIMmtJYzNodz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88978012384?pwd=cGxJa0pJbExSMOFFWEtIMmtJYzNodz09)  
Meeting ID: 889 7801 2384 Passcode: 762316

May 1, 8 & 15

**After Jesus Before Christianity**  
**A Historical Exploration of the First**  
**Two Centuries of Jesus Movements**

by Erin Vearncombe, Brandon Scott,  
and Hal Taussig for the  
Westar Christianity Seminar  
Leader: Neal Sieglaff

May 1 - Living with Empire

May 8 - Belonging & Community

May 15 - Real Variety, Fictional Unity

What do we really know about how Christianity took shape? Do the rituals, practices, and beliefs common today look anything like those of the earliest Christians? These questions frame the thought experiment of a group of scholars from the Westar Institute, home of the groundbreaking Jesus Seminar. Too often the history of Christianity has been written backwards, projecting later assumptions onto the past and so distorting what we can see. This team of scholars asks: What if history is played forward, without assuming an inevitable outcome, without assumptions or preconceptions? How would that change what we see in the first two centuries after Jesus?

**May 22**

**End of Semester Road Trip to  
Daycholah Center, Ripon, WI**

Expanding Horizons will end the semester with a tour of the Daycholah Center (UCC Camp), lunch at the center (\$16.75 per person), and tour the Wisconsin Conference office located at Daycholah. Golf carts are provided for those who have trouble walking on uneven ground. Whether you attend Expanding Horizons regularly or not, you are welcome to join us for this special event.

**To sign up please give cash or a check for \$16.75 made out to Pilgrim UCC to Peg Bradley (920-922-0731) by Sunday, May 5th.**



**Pilgrim Book Club**

**Monday, May 6**  
6:30PM in the lounge

**Chop Wood Carry Water:  
How to Fall in Love with the  
Process of Becoming Great**

by Joshua Medcalf

Chop Wood Carry Water is the story of one boy's journey to achieve his lifelong dream of becoming a samurai warrior. Guided by "Akira-sensei", John comes to realize the greatest adversity on his journey will be the challenge of defeating the man in the mirror.

You are welcome to join our discussion of this unusual book.



## Rummage Sale Thank You

Pilgrim Family, did you know, that we made over \$5400 on the rummage sale in March. That is truly amazing! So, a big THANK YOU goes out to Pilgrim members and friends of Pilgrim for their generous donations.

Another big THANK YOU goes out to Chris Clementi and family for providing the leadership and countless hours coordinating dates and workers, making signs, making price tags, advertising on-line, displaying items, pricing items, and all the other tasks that have to get done to have these sales. Thank you, Chris.

Many hands make lighter work for everyone. Setting up fellowship hall with tables and clothing stands, clearing out bookshelves, hauling boxes from the back room to the sales floor, unboxing and displaying items, cleaning items, pricing items, testing to see if things work, and setting up yard signs, all need to be done before the sale. The days of the sale, not only do we sell and pack up goods, we carry them out to cars, restraighten tables and clothes, visit with customers and generally enjoy the camaraderie with other Pilgrim members and friends. When we are all exhausted and the sale is ended, unsold items are boxed up, tables and chairs are put back and the fellowship hall is made ready for Sunday. Then in the days and weeks after the sale unsold items are donated to area charities and some items may show up at the next sale.

So, another big THANK YOU goes out to all the workers that helped to make this rummage sale a success. THANK YOU to:

Chris & Matt Clementi  
 Julia and Margot Clementi  
 Trevor Clementi  
 Dianne and Jim Bentley  
 Avery and Barb Geiger  
 Ron McCreedy  
 Joni Voss-Hayibor  
 Chris and Bayard Frederick  
 Mary and Brian Christenson  
 Rachel and Steve Wicuhowski  
 Mary Berens  
 Cathy Drew  
 Bobbie Flaherty

Barb Roder  
 Sue Schmitz (and Don)  
 Barb Tadych  
 Judy Faubel  
 Donna Jost  
 Dixie Sullivan  
 Deb Wamser  
 Pearl and Paisley Dioiro  
 Michael Potter  
 Fran Schmid  
 Marilyn Hoch

Sandy Heucker  
 Terre Mand

Finally, thanks to those who brought us treats to keep our strength up during the long hours. Cookies, candies, donuts, veggies, etc. (Chris, Jane, Diane and ?)



# Notes from Karen

(Our Sunday School Director)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

### Thank You

On behalf of Pilgrim's Sunday school program, thank you to everyone for their support over the program year as we collected various items each month for the St. Katharine Drexel Homeless Shelter. The staff at the shelter were very appreciative of any and all items they received throughout the year.

### Recognition Sunday

Please plan to attend on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> when we have Recognition Sunday during our worship service. This is the time when we acknowledge the youth who have participated in our Sunday school program this year and thank our wonderful teachers and shepherds who gave of their time to teach our children about Jesus' love for them in their lives.

This year many of the adults involved had to adapt their schedules as we changed the program shortly after it began. We went from a 2 room Sunday school to a 1 room Sunday school to better fit the needs of our church as it currently is. I so appreciate their understanding and helpfulness as we adapted to the changes that were needed.

If you see any of the following individuals, please take a moment to say thank you to them. Those two simple words go a long way and many of them have graciously helped for many, many years.

#### Teachers

Teresa Prus  
Gary Ring  
Chris Clementi  
Vicki Lamb  
Jean Wright

#### Shepherds

Tony Prus  
Marilyn Hoch  
Julia Clementi  
Fran Schmid  
Deb Wamser  
Nicki Lipke  
Patty Minter  
Noreen Henderson

### Intergenerational Outdoor Game Night!

On **Friday, May 17th**, from **6:00PM – 7:30PM**, the CE ministry will be hosting an intergenerational outdoor game night. Join us for a fun evening out on the lawn as we play a variety of games such as ladder golf, bocce ball, and corn hole (also known as bean bag toss). Maybe you aren't interested in actually playing but would enjoy the sounds of laughter as the younger people run around on the lawn, then please feel free to bring a lawn chair and come enjoy some fellowship.

## Church Camp

The weather tells us that summer will be here soon and that means it's also time to begin thinking about maybe attending a church camp opportunity. We have brochures available on the SCRIP table. Please feel free to take one home and check out all the different camps that are being offered at our three beautiful locations in Wisconsin. Moon Beach located up in the North woods of Wisconsin by St. Germain, Cedar Valley, a lovely retreat center located in Washington County, or closer to home, Daycholah Center located on Green Lake all offer different opportunities for any and all ages. There are scholarships available if needed (please talk with Karen).

## Heifer International

Thanks to the generosity of our entire church family, the children have been collecting money to purchase animals through Heifer International. While this effort is continuing through the end of our program year there isn't an amount to give at this time. Please know your willingness to support this endeavor is greatly appreciated.



Whether it's celebrating Mother's Day or getting work done around the house in preparation for summer, don't forget to use SCRIP. Home improvement stores such as Fleet Farm, Menards, Lowe's or Home Depot can help meet your needs for those big or small jobs you are working on. Of course there is also your everyday visits to local grocery stores, gas stations and fast food restaurants that I try to have on hand each Sunday morning.

Please plan ahead so that I can meet your needs as we continue to keep the SCRIP program thriving here at Pilgrim. If you purchase SCRIP that I do not have on hand on any given Sunday then I will be able to order it and have it available the very next Sunday.

If you have questions as to how the SCRIP program works please stop and visit me at the SCRIP table in the narthex on Sunday mornings or give me a call at 920-904-5740. THANKS!!!

Karen

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

**May Day**

May 1st is ½ way between the spring equinox and summer solstice; marking the end of winter and the coming summer. It's a celebration of the changing seasons - the increasing daylight and all things green and colorful!

The May 1st tradition of anonymously leaving a basket of flowers (growing, cut, artificial, paper....) on a neighbors' doorstep seems especially appropriate. For lack of a basket or flowers, a positive message/contact to neighbors and family, getting outside as much as possible (physical exercise and taking slow deep breaths of fresh air) is also good - mind, body and spirit!

**Beyond Just a Date on the Calendar – Actual Proof  
that Spring is Here!**

**Lemonade Day – May 4<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-1:00** - A program of UW Madison Extension – Fond du Lac County. Youth in grades 3-6 can begin to understand the concepts behind starting and running a business. Watch the local news and/or check Facebook (FDLlemonadeDay) for a map. Lemonade is good for hydration, contains vitamin C and aids digestion.

**Fond du Lac Outdoor Farmers Market** begins May 18 and will continue through October 26. 8:00am-12:00pm on Main Street in FDL! Shop local and fresh!

**May is Mental Health Awareness Month**

The ways of medicine and how mental illness is treated has changed dramatically over the past 20 years, but there are still stigmas, questions, guilt, and controversy over diagnosis and treatment - at all ages and levels of society. *A mental illness is a medical condition that disrupts a persons' thinking, feeling, mood, ability to relate to others and daily functioning.* Think of a continuum line with mental illness on one end and getting up on the wrong side of the bed on the other end. A Mental Wellness Challenge is everything on that line. The WISE Team is working on ways that we as a congregation can live into our WISE Covenant – “to promote understanding and compassion, reduce

stigma through education and to support connections with local community agencies...to care for the whole person.”

We all have mental wellness challenges. And we are not alone.

**Screen Free Week – The first week in May. Find time to dream, connect and play!**

(In 2010, “TV Turnoff Week” became “Screen-Free Week”.)

Consumerism (commercials and so called “reality lifestyles”), body image, (to be perfect...) destructive communication, (tearing down), clique mentality, (to fit in/to have friends...) stereotypes, (racial exaggerations) danger fixation (violence, scams). So. Many. Rabbit Holes!

We're getting wiser about the impact that screen entertainment can make on beliefs and emotions. Today, WE are the product being sold...our attention, preferences, connections, content and locations are all being captured, tracked, bought and sold between tech giants and brands worldwide. *“In our information-driven society, we have lost much of our ability to perceive and experience. We have become too dependent on outside interpretation. We have learned to see with each other's eyes and smell with others' noses. Spontaneity empowers a more independent sense of experience; it allows us to generate feelings from within, not feelings directed from the outside.”* Rev. Susan Sparks

This Screen Free Challenge is aimed at children and youth, but I believe it is crucial for adults also. The goal is to hit the reset button – literally and figuratively – and take even relatively small breaks from screens, like several evenings, an afternoon or a whole day. The conscious awareness of how often we reach for our phones in FOMO (fear of missing out) or boredom can be a real eye opener! That time of mindless scrolling could be spent in an endless list of activities – 100 of which are on a list on the table in the Narthex.

**May is also Blood Pressure and Stroke Awareness Month**

Being aware of and managing blood pressure is one *medical* health habit in stroke prevention. (The others are managing blood sugar/diabetes and

cholesterol). And those *lifestyle* health habits of eating a balanced (lower processed, lower salt, lower fat) diet, being physically active, not using nicotine, limiting alcohol, getting enough sleep, and connecting with others in a positive way, also contribute to blood pressure control and stroke prevention.

**Check out the bulletin board for more information about blood pressures and strokes.**

Christian Outreach is sponsoring  
Big Brothers/Big Sisters for the month of May.  
The following items (new or used) are needed to help them entertain the kids:

Board games  
Legos  
Activity books  
Playdoh  
Kinetic sand  
Age appropriate books to take home and read  
Arts & Crafts

Thank you for all of the donations you have generously given through the year.



*Blanket Sunday  
May 12, 2024*

Pilgrim UCC has a tradition of celebrating Mother's Day with the benefit of helping other Mothers and families with Blanket Sunday.

The blankets are sent to many areas of the world and are used for a variety of things; they are a blanket, a roof, a way to carry babies or food! Each blanket is \$10.00. You can make your check out to Pilgrim Church and be sure to note in the memo area "Blanket Sunday", or if you give cash please note that it is for Blanket Sunday.

Please use the form that is in this May Quill and there are forms in the narthex.

On the form is the opportunity to honor a mother or special person in your life; or it can be in memory of a special person.

**MOTHER'S DAY  
MAY 12, 2024**

SUBMIT THIS FORM WITH YOUR  
BLANKET DONATION  
ON OR BEFORE MAY 22, 2024

GIVEN BY:  
\_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF:  
\_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Blankets \_\_\_\_ @ \$10.00 each

Checks to be made out to Pilgrim Church  
and notate  
**Blanket Sunday in the memo.**



Dear Pilgrim Church,

Thank you for supporting us with our camp experience. There were very funny jokes, we made new friends and had a great time!

Christopher Jackson  
 Levi Broton  
 Pearl Diorio  
 Charle Wicichowski

Congratulations on 45 Years!

Don Kurki  
 Kurki Funeral Chapel

Chapter DO of the P.E.O. Sisterhood sends its congratulations to Pilgrim United Church of Christ on your 45 years of worship and living the Words of Our Lord and Savior. We pray for another 45 years of service.

### Ushers for May

Date	9:00 Service
May 5	Steven & Rachel Wicichowski
May 12	Pete Vercooteren & Connie Anderson
May 19	Donna Jost & Bobbie Flaherty
May 26	Nicky Banks

### Welcomers for May

Date	9:00 Service
May 5	Linda Stutz
May 12	Avery Geiger
May 19	Barb Tadych
May 26	Ron McCreedy

### Worship Leaders for May

Date	9:00 Service
May 5	Bobbie Flaherty
May 12	Noreen Henderson
May 19	Ellen Sieglaff



- 1 Nolyn Stutz
- 2 Missi Etheridge
- 4 Jeanne Koepke
- 5 Gerald Rusch  
Martial Blanc
- 7 Connie Anderson
- 8 Jessica Westphal
- 12 Michael Steinke
- 13 Cameron Olson  
Cooper Olson
- 15 Liz Edgerton
- 17 Jean Fischer  
Jill Barbeau
- 18 Barb Roder  
Donna Jost
- 20 Rachel Wicichowski  
Karen McCreedy
- 21 Teresa Prus  
Erika Schilling
- 22 Heather Connor  
Peg Bradley
- 25 Jacob Steier  
Pat Caulfield
- 26 Tony Prus
- 28 Mike Fedyszyn
- 29 Don Schmitz  
Lilly May Luckow
- 31 Albert Curl



Jason & Lisa Laudolff	May 3
Mike & Tracy Abler	May 4
Jim & Deb Wamser	May 7
Rebecca & Brad Dietenberger	May 22
Avery & Barb Geiger	May 24
Ellen & Len Hynek	May 26

**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 United Church of Christ  
Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, April 15, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Patti Burns.

Pastor Rob Van Ess led the group in prayer.

Members present: Fran Schmid, Jill Barbeau, Karen Goodacre, Jim Bentley, Avery Geiger, Patti Burns, Donna Jost, Patty Minter, Ron McCreedy, Wendy Ellison, Steven Wicichowski

Secretary's Report: The minutes from March 18, 2024 were reviewed. A motion was made by Ron McCreedy and seconded by Karen Goodacre to accept the report as corrected and written. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The month of March is on the + side. Per Barb Roder the Green team is requesting that \$7660 be transferred to the Prairie Garden fund. There is also a refund from Church Mutual Insurance from Workers Compensation. Jim Bentley made a motion to pass the report as given, Fran Schmid seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Vice President's Report: We continue to search for a candidate to fill the vacant Adult Education Coordinator position. There was a candidate that had submitted a resume and was interviewed. The candidate is unable to be present on Wednesday mornings. This is a difficult position to fill due to the pay schedule and the requirement to be present on Wednesday mornings. We will continue to recruit for this position.

Pastor's Report:

Report attached.

Pastor Rob will be on vacation from April 22 – 28<sup>th</sup>. Reverend Steve Hecky will be preaching on that Sunday. Pastor Steve from COP will be available for calls in case of an emergency, as well as Sue Schmitz, Parish Nurse.

Old Business:

Tax forms were corrected and resent to Donna Jost. They have been forwarded on to those who needed them.

New Business:

Patty Minter made a request for new guidelines as to providing coffee, refreshments and supplies to non-members of the church who use the church for meetings as well as for showers, funerals, etc. We have gone through double to coffee supply recently and the cost of supplies and coffee is going up. Discussion ensued. We, the council will review the current policy as well as Patty Minter will present some suggestions at the next council meeting.

Ministry Reports:

Christian Outreach

\$3,000 was dispensed to Kiva

Currently we are collecting food for the food pantry and it is going very well.

The donations to New Beginnings were delivered.

Worship and Music

Twelve plain white baptismal handkerchiefs were purchased. Stephanie Jackson will embroider them with a dove and a cross

34 assorted flowers were ordered by members for Easter and 34 flowers were purchased from Pick 'n Save (14 lilies, 10 tulips, and 10 hyacinths.)

Confirmands will lead worship on May 5<sup>th</sup> for recognition Sunday. Pastor Rob will recognize the choir members, director and organist/accompanist.

Christian Education

Recognition Sunday will be May 5 during the worship service. We have 2 students who will be finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and will receive their own Bible. Karen will take them to Reach Out to have them

personalized. There is a coffee hour on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Karen will reach out to those hosting to see if they can add a cake to their selection to include in this celebration following worship service. They will also take care of small thank you gifts for the teachers and shepherds.

Church Camp - Pastor Rob was able to get some camp brochures and booklets for Karen to hand out in opening worship as well as have available on the table in the narthex. As always, the CE ministry will make scholarships available for anyone wanting to attend church camp but may need some financial assistance.

May family fun night outdoor games is May 17<sup>th</sup>. Are there any games anyone would like to share for the evening? Karen has yard Yahtzee and will check with Tracy Abler about Bag Toss. Chris and Susan will check to see what they may have available and let us know at the next month's meeting.

#### Property & Maintenance

Will meet on April 16<sup>th</sup>

The air conditioning project is completed

#### Lay Life & Leadership

Patty Minter, Jill, and Karen will form a committee to discuss a celebration for confirmation Sunday after service.

#### Stewardship & Finance

Monthly financial statement was reviewed.

Average monthly Income needed for Expenses is \$18,654. YTD we were - \$1,439

March was a good month with the Rummage Sale income of \$5,473 and Giving was up \$4,081 above the needed Budgeted Monthly Average

Stewardship & Finance will review and discuss How and When to make a presentation(s) to the Pilgrim Congregation on Legacy Gift Giving which will help sustain Pilgrim UCC for future generations.

#### Membership & Evangelism

Upcoming Events: Pride Picnic – June 23<sup>rd</sup>. A poster and sign-up to be at our booth will be up mid-May. Pastor Rob will be giving out glitter blessings and we will have water-based rainbow tattoos available. Fond du Fest – September 7<sup>th</sup>. A poster/sign-up will be put up in the end of July. Over the summer we will be looking at the membership rolls and officially defining membership to get a more accurate demographic.

#### Committee Reports:

Nominating Committee No Report

SCRIP Update

Kwik Trip are selling well

Please keep purchasing SCRIP

WISE Team:

Will be meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April to plan their activities for the next year

Ham Dinner: No Report

Memorial Fund Committee: No Report

Green Team Committee: The Prairie Garden has been funded.

Trust Fund Report: No Report

**Celebrations:** We had 2 Baptisms last Sunday. There were 5 individuals who recently became Members of Pilgrim UCC.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm

Next meeting will be held May 20, 2024 at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Ellison



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:30 Expanding Horizons 6:00 Confirmation Class	2	3 7:00 AL-ANON	4
5 9:00 Worship - Recognition Sunday 10:15 Coffee Fellowship 6:00 NA Mtg	6 4:30 Christian Ed 6:30 Pilgrim Book Club	7	8 9:30 Expanding Horizons	9	10 5:00-6:30 Pride Picnic Mtg 7:00 AL-ANON	11
12 9:00 Worship 10:15 Adult Ed Pie Auction 6:00 NA Mtg	13 11:00 Faith Formation Here	14 4:30 Worship 5:00 Property	15 9:30 Expanding Horizons 6:00 Confirmation Class	16	17 6:00 FFN - Game Night 7:00 AL-ANON	18 Joní Voss Reserved for Baby Shower
19 9:00 Worship - Confirmation 10:15 Adult Ed 6:00 NA Mtg	20 6:00 Council Meeting	21 11:00 Membership PEO 1:00/2:30 Book Club	22 9:30 Expanding Horizons - Road Trip to Daycholah Center	23	24 5:00-6:30 Pride Picnic Mtg 7:00 AL-ANON	25
26 9:00 Worship 6:00 NA Mtg	27 MEMORIAL DAY 	28	29	30	31 7:00 AL-ANON	

**Pilgrim United Church of Christ**  
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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.....  
Interim Adult Education Coordinator ..... Peg Bradley  
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