



THE PILGRIM QUILL

MAY 2026

Journeying With Jeannie
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Dear Members and Friends,

A question came to me recently that has stayed with me: *When you have a minister in the community, do they serve only their own church?*

It's a fair question—especially in a time like ours.

We live in a world where tragedy reaches us instantly. We hear the headlines, we carry the weight of them, and sometimes we don't know what to do with all we are feeling. At times we want to talk about it...and at other times we want to turn it off completely. And yet, the needs around us remain.

In this Easter season, we are reminded that resurrection does not mean the absence of hardship—it means that even amid chaos, life, hope, and love still rise.

One of the ways we live that out is through care for one another.

Scripture often speaks of the image of a shepherd—one who watches, protects, and tends the flock. In the Gospel of John 21:15–17, Jesus tells Peter, “Feed my sheep.” He doesn't say, “only your sheep,” or “only those who belong.” He simply says, *feed them*.

That call shapes ministry in a simple but profound ways: care is not limited by membership—it is guided by compassion. When people face emergencies, loss, or uncertainty, they need someone to turn to. And yes, a pastor is one of those people. Not because pastors have all the answers, but because we are called to show up, to listen, to pray, and to walk alongside others in difficult moments.

Even Jesus, in times of grief, stepped away to be alone with God. After the death of John the Baptist in the Gospel of Matthew 14, he sought a quiet place. He knew the need to pause, to grieve, to reconnect with God's presence.

And yet, the story doesn't end there. When the disciples later found themselves caught in a storm, afraid and uncertain, Jesus came to them—right in the middle of the wind and waves. When Peter began to sink, Jesus reached out and held him.

That is what we are promised—not a life free of storms, but a presence that does not leave us in them.

So, to return to that original question: Would I help someone who is not a member of the church? Yes. Always. Because care is not something we reserve—it is something we share.

And I want you to hear this clearly: If you are ever facing a difficult moment, an emergency, or simply feel overwhelmed, you are not “bothering” your pastor by reaching out. This is part of the calling—to be present with you in both the ordinary and the extraordinary moments of life.

But even more than that, we are reminded in this Easter season that we are never alone. The risen Christ meets us in our fear, in our grief, and in our uncertainty—and reaches out a steady hand.

We walk together. We care for one another. And we trust the One who holds us all. And in this in-between time of transition, may we lean into one another with compassion, trusting that God's presence is steady even when the future is still unfolding.

Blessings,

Pastor Jeannie

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

To join the zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87682457999?pwd=NkICTOZEYWtTRnlwcEtrNDhCMGRhQT09>

ADULT FORUM

Sunday Mornings 10:15AM to 11:15AM in the lounge following the 9:00AM worship.



MAY 3– COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

May 10

Mother's Day Special-Story Telling

Leaders: Adult Ed. Team

Every family has a story! We have all been formed one way or the other by special women in our lives. Individuals will tell unique stories of their mothers, grandmothers and/or spiritual mothers. Be sure to bring your favorite to add to the conversation!

May 17

Celebration, Conversation and Treats

Leader: Adult Education Team

It's a review and remember session! How much do you remember? What were your favorites? Let's talk about the past year of Adult Education and look to the future! Any suggestions for the Adult Ed. Team?

**THAT'S A WRAP, FOLKS!
SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!**



EXPANDING HORIZONS

Monday Afternoons 1:00PM-2:30PM in the lounge.



May 4

My Life Advocating for Immigrants

Leader: Barbara Lent

A topic that is on our minds and in our hearts. Hear from someone who has been at the ground level of involvement. Barbara will share her experiences of giving voice to and supporting this important population.

May 11

Our Country's 250th and the Constitution

Leader: Dr. Paisley Harris

Retired Assoc. Professor UW-Oshkosh

Celebration is in the air and red, white and blue are the colors of the season. But what does the anniversary mean to us today? Dr. Harris discusses the impact of the country's 250th birthday in relationship to our Constitution.

May 18

Let's end the year with a trip to Waupaca for lunch!

Pride Picnic – Sunday, June 28th from 11:00am-4:00pm at the Prairie Theater and Event Center (Note Venue Change!).

Pilgrim will again have a table/canopy at the Pride Picnic with flags, temporary tattoos, stickers, pins, and sensory strips to hand out. ***Please sign up on the poster in the Narthex to be at our table*** – we need at least 2 people for each shift – the more the merrier!

From the picnic organizing committee, “There will be live music, performances, food trucks, a brat fry, vendors galore, activities, face painting, crafts and so much more!”

Thank-you! From the Membership and Evangelism Ministry.

Christian Outreach
Let’s Give A Birthday Party!



The Outreach Ministry invites you to help the guests at the Fondy Food Pantry celebrate the birthday of a family member.

Who - Members and Friends of Pilgrim for the guests of Fondy Food Pantry.

What - Birthday Cake pans full of goodies.

When - The month of May.

Where - Pick up an aluminum pan on the table in the narthex, a two gallon bag, fill it up and bring it back to church.

Why - So families who visit Fondy Food Pantry can have the fun of celebrating birthdays with cake and other birthday treats.

It’s easy...just pick up a pan and a two gallon bag from the table in the narthex. Some ideas to put in the pan are: cake mix, frosting, candles, birthday card, birthday napkins and plates, small gift such as a children’s book, word search or crossword puzzle book. (Don’t forget to use Scrip gift cards to purchase the items!) Use your creativity to make the pan you fill special. Then put the filled pan in the bag and return it to the table in the narthex. Outreach members will deliver them to the Fondy Food Pantry at the end of May.

We’ve all felt the pain of rising grocery prices. Fondy Food Pantry offers help for those experiencing a temporary setback or ongoing challenges. Fondy Food Pantry gives assistance free of charge, without judgment, and with complete confidentiality. In 2025 FFP served 15,430 households, 859 new households and distributed 7,500 lb of food per walk-in pantry session.

May our donations help others enjoy a Happy Birthday!

What Is Blanket Sunday?

For many years it has been a Pilgrim tradition to celebrate Blanket Sunday on Mother’s Day. Church World Service provides blankets to people who are experiencing difficult times. A simple blanket becomes a holy offering: warmth on a cold night, peace after a disaster, and a reminder that no one is forgotten by God.

\$10 - Provides a CWS Blanket to someone in need.

\$25 - Provides a CWS Blanket and a CWS Hygiene Kit, offering warmth and essential supplies.

\$60 - Family Bundle! Provides blankets and hygiene kits for an entire family, ensuring that they have what they need during challenging times.

It is simple to make a difference in someone’s life. Just use the included form, and write a check to Pilgrim UCC (note Blanket Sunday in the memo area).

You may give your gift in honor or memory of someone special in your life...mother, father, daughter, son or friend etc. On Mother’s Day a list of those being remembered will be in the bulletin. You may contribute anytime during May but names will only be shared on Mother’s Day. Forms will be available in the bulletin on April 19, 26, May 3 & 10 and on the table in the narthex.

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUING GENEROSITY!

Detach here and turn in to donate for Blanket Sunday



**BLANKET SUNDAY/MOTHER’S DAY
MAY 10, 2026**

**SUBMIT THIS FORM WITH YOUR BLANKET DONATION ON OR
BEFORE WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2026**

GIVEN BY:

In honor of:

In memory of:

Number of blankets _____ @ \$10.00 each



Pilgrim Green Team
Bags to Benches
(<https://www.facebook.com/NexTrexChallenge/>)



According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. is the world's largest producer of plastic waste, generating nearly 58 million metric tons annually. This is equivalent to approximately 255 pounds of plastic waste per person each year! The vast majority of this plastic waste goes into landfills or waterways, with less than 10% actually being recycled. A plastic bag, used to hold your groceries, has a lifespan of about 12 minutes after leaving the store. That same bag can take up to **1,000 years** to break down in a landfill.

We cannot emphasize enough how important it is to avoid purchasing and using plastic bags, containers and other products whenever possible. Instead, use reusable totes and bags when shopping, don't buy anything in plastic containers, avoid plastic straws, dinnerware, etc.

Unfortunately, we know that plastic bags and food wraps are unavoidable. Our breads, produce, cereal, mailers and more come sealed in plastic. These "soft plastics" are not recyclable with our other #1, #2, or #5 household plastics that go in our bi-weekly pick-ups. While many of us take our plastic bags back to the grocery store for recycling, too many just get tossed in the trash and end up in the landfill.

Local grocery stores like Festival, Piggly Wiggly, and Pick N Save are doing a part in helping this problem. They are drop-off locations to collect these plastic bags and films. The stores then send them to a company called [NexTrex](#) - a recycling solution that turns these qualifying plastics into eco-friendly outdoor products, such as high-performance composite benches and furniture.

Last month, the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes (CSA) enrolled in the NexTrex Recycling Challenge Program. CSA is dedicated to collecting, sorting, weighing, and dropping off 250 pounds of plastic quarterly. While doing their part for the environment, they also hope to add composite benches to their outdoor spaces - *any maybe ours?!* **CSA is inviting members of Pilgrim UCC to join them in their efforts.** Other partners in this project are Badger Soft Water and the Fondy Food Pantry. Members of Pilgrim's Green Team have been making weekly stops at Badger and the Food Pantry and picking up their soft water salt bags and box wrap that would otherwise go into landfills. Gary Ring reports that approximately 100 pounds of plastic waste is collected in soft water salt bags from Badger and 25 pounds of plastic wrap from the Food Pantry monthly.

Will you join us in keeping plastics out of landfills? Start collecting your plastic bags and films. Instead of taking them to your local grocery store, bring them to church. There will be a tall white collection container in the Narthex. Please be sure that plastics are clean, dry and free of food. Cut off or remove any stickered labels, especially if they contain personal information. You should be able to stick a fingernail through the stretchy plastic for it to be included. A shortened list of what is and what is not acceptable is below. The full list will be posted on the collection box itself. Items include:

Acceptable:

- Produce bags, store bags, ice bags
- Ziploc and reclosable bags, cereal box liners, case overwrap, bread bags
- Newspaper sleeves, dry cleaning bags, bubble wrap, plastic e-commerce mailers

Not Acceptable

- Frozen food or pre-washed salad mix bags, hot dog or meat wrap packaging
- Pet food bags (unless marked otherwise)
- Shiny, crinkly films like floral wrap
- Net or mesh produce bags, vinyl shower curtains or tablecloths
- Degradable or compostable bags

Please contact Tracy Abler for any questions at tabler@csasisters.org or call 920-907-2315.



Intergenerational Fellowship Nights

Join us for our final Intergenerational Fellowship Night of the program year on Friday, May 15th at 6:00 PM! Before we head into summer break, we'll gather for a relaxed and fun evening around a campfire at church. Enjoy s'mores, snacks, and classic campfire games as we spend time together in fellowship. This is a great opportunity for all ages to connect, unwind, and celebrate the close of a wonderful year. As always, friends and family are warmly invited. We hope to see you there!

Youth Group

All 6th–12th graders are invited to join us for our final Youth Group gathering of the year on Friday, May 15th from 4:30–5:45 PM! We'll kick things off with a party at church before heading over to the park for games and fun together.

This is a great way to celebrate a fantastic year, spend time with friends, and enjoy the start of the summer season. We hope all youth can join us for this special end-of-year event! Remember, friends are invited!

Sunday School

No Sunday School on Sunday, May 3rd due to Confirmation Sunday. Join us in the lounge as we celebrate our Confirmation Students with cake!

Our final Sunday School class of the school year will take place on Sunday, May 10th! To celebrate a wonderful year together, students will help plant native flowers in our prairie garden, followed by a fun end-of-year party.

Join us on Sunday, May 17th for Recognition Sunday as we celebrate our students, teachers, and shepherds in the Sunday School program! This special time of recognition will take place during the church service as we give thanks for a meaningful year of learning, growth, and community.

Memorial Garden Update

The Memorial Garden committee has been meeting for about a year. We visited other churches in the area that have Memorial Gardens. Our first task was to write the policy for using the Memorial Garden. We also drafted an application form to start the process to use the Memorial garden to spread ashes/cremains of a loved one. The Memorial Garden policy and application form was approved at the January 2026 council meeting, and it was approved by the congregation at the Annual Meeting on February 1, 2026.

What Is a Memorial Garden?

- The **Memorial Garden** will consist of 2 parts; the **Prairie Garden** and a new **Meditation Garden** located around the tree planted in memory of Ruth Sandidge.
- The **Prairie Garden** would be the designated area to spread ashes and will be the final resting place for earthly cremains. It will be a special space treated as holy and reverent.
- The **Meditation Garden** is a new garden of 480 native wildflowers and shrubs. It is an area for healing, renewal & quiet contemplation and a place of quiet beauty surrounded by wildflowers.
- The **Memorial Garden** is a setting for meditation of our faith in eternal life.

The name of the loved one whose ashes are spread in the Prairie Garden will be added to a bronze plaque. The cost for a name plate is \$250, and this plaque will be in the Meditation Garden near Ruth's tree. Ruth's name plate is the first name plate on the bronze plaque.

The cost of the new Mediation Garden is now fully funded from the two original donations of \$17,695 a year ago and from another recent donation of \$2,500.

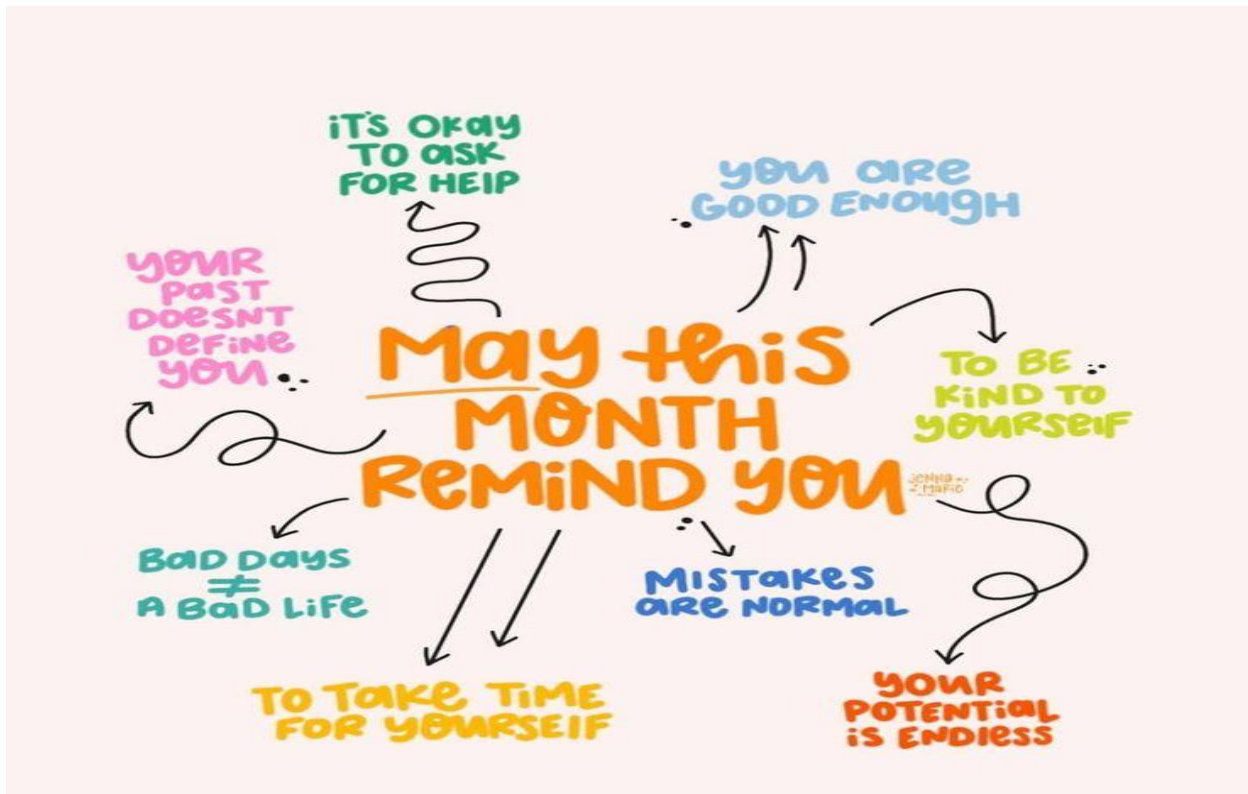
We hope that the planting of 480 wildflowers in the new Meditation Garden will begin this spring and will be done by early June.

We hope to have a dedication service for the Memorial Garden sometime this fall.

Donations to help maintain the Memorial Garden can be made to the Pilgrim UCC for the Memorial Garden fund #118.

Respectfully submitted by Gary Ring,
Memorial Garden chairperson.





May is Mental Health Awareness Month...and **Hope** is a huge part of Mental Health/Mental Wellness. There is a basket on the table in the Narthex with Mini Prayer Shawls. Please take one...or two. This is one way to hold hope in your hand...a small soft square that was knitted with you in mind...with love. Thank-you to Dixie Sullivan for showing us how God can use even bits of yarn to share love, comfort and hope!



Blood Pressures by Wendy Ellison on May 3

The first Sunday of each month, health professionals offer informal blood pressure screenings after worship. Stop in the room across from the Office and Wendy will be glad to take your (2 days after) May Day blood pressure!

[Fond du Lac Senior Expo](#)

This is a free event geared to seniors. It will include exhibitors, entertainment, presentations, booths featuring products and services tailored to seniors, live performances and food! Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 from 9:00am-1:00pm at the FDL County Fairgrounds Expo Center, 520 Fond du Lac Ave.

Mark your Calendar! In Fond du Lac, the first Outdoor Farmers Market on Main Street will be May 16th!!! Veggies and Fruits and Community - Oh My!

The Public Health Department will have a table with information about **NO Menthol Sunday – a national awareness day officially observed on May 17th**. The focus is on the health risks and targeted marketing of menthol tobacco products, and connect people with prevention and cessation resources to support a tobacco-free lifestyle.

Screen Free Week – May 4-10 - Take the Challenge!

This is a “global invitation the first week in May to **take a break from entertainment screens** and experience more peace, connection, and fun!”

Years ago we were concerned about kids being a captive audience for the marketing of products on TV. Today, *the viewers are the product*; with marketers gathering data - their attention, their preferences, their connections, their content, their locations and length of viewing each site. The data is captured, tracked, bought, and sold between tech giants and brands worldwide, so products, lifestyle, political messages, and false stories are made personal. We also know that in some people (youth and adult) the programs are addictive to the point of isolation. Mental, physical and spiritual health wise, this is not a good thing. The goal is to educate about this reality and encourage everyone to take a break - even a small break - from entertainment screens and consciously connect with other people, nature, fresh ideas, movement and to feel less stress. So, take the challenge - shoulders up, shoulders back, head up, phone down! *On the table in the Narthex there are sheets of ideas for spending non-screen time.*

May is Healthy Vision Month

From the National Eye Institute, “the focus is on promoting eye health and encouraging individuals to make healthy lifestyle choices that protect their vision.” Healthy Lifestyle Choices... not rocket science and important: being active (increases circulation), eating a varied diet with an emphasis on green leafy veggies and fatty fish high in omega 3’s (e.g. salmon, tuna, halibut), wearing sunglasses even on cloudy days – ones that block 99-100% of both UVA and UVB radiation, resting your eyes every 20 minutes when sitting at a computer/screen and looking at something at least 20 feet away for at least 20 seconds, discussing family history of eye diseases and/or difficulties and not using tobacco products in any form (constricts blood vessels).

Risk for developing eye conditions include obesity, family history, (glaucoma and macular degeneration have a familial component), and having other health conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol.

Many eye problems don’t have symptoms or warning signs and routine comprehensive eye exams are the only ways to check for many early eye diseases when they are easier to treat. Taking care of your overall health can go a long way toward keeping your eyes healthy.

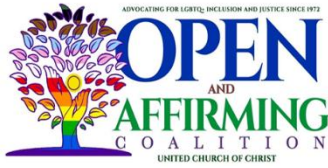
– *Check out the bulletin board for more general eye information.*

Property and Maintenance Survey #2

Here is a list of improvements we received with the first survey. Please provide a prioritized list of the top five improvements you would like to see accomplished. 1____ 2____ 3____ 4____ 5____

Please place your completed survey in the pail in the narthex by June 1st. Thank you.

1. Kitchen floor needs replacement (x6)
2. Paint sanctuary (x6)
3. Handicap accessible carport doors (x5)
4. Handicap accessible bathroom doors (x5)
5. New carpet in fellowship hall (x5)
6. Dishwasher in kitchen (x3)
7. Water fountain with bottle filler (x3)
8. Hand rail on alter steps by pulpit (x3)
9. Repair and paint ceilings in west rooms (x2)
10. Kitchen remodel, including dishwasher (x2)
11. Kitchen spruce up in lieu of remodel (x2)
12. Additional security cameras (x2)
13. Provide ventilation in garage (x3)
14. New chairs for fellowship hall (x2)
15. Remove 8 tree stumps.
16. Put maintenance free siding on east side of carport.
17. Put maintenance free siding around sanctuary windows.
18. Exterior water issues on north side
19. Replace 7 old furnaces
20. Transgender bathroom
21. Update the entire Education wing (flooring, walls, ceiling, toilets)
22. Hallway tile floor needs replacement
23. Handicap accessible sanctuary doors
24. Deep clean pastors' office for new pastor
25. Youth room and staff office door plaques
26. Digital sign
27. Paint fellowship hall
28. Seal and paint parking lot
29. Repair cracks in parking lot
30. Men's bathroom motion light switch
31. Men's bathroom paper towel dispenser
32. Women's bathroom paper towel dispenser
33. Air deodorizers in bathrooms
34. Bench or table in cloak room for placing things on when taking off coat.
35. Brighter lighting in halls
36. Not using the coat room for storage
37. On demand water heater under lounge sink
38. Update west bathrooms
39. Find a storage place for kitchen carts
40. Fix or replace things as they break



Hello Pilgrim family & friends!

Your ONA Team invites you to two exciting and important ONA meetings:

- 1) If you would like to see what our ONA Team is all about, you are invited to join us on Tuesday, May 5th (at Pilgrim in the lounge) starting at 4:00pm. We'll discuss the 2026 timeline for our covenant revision and our potential plans for 2027. We would LOVE to hear your ideas for Pilgrim as we grow and learn about being ONA.
- 2) Sunday, June 7th (in the Sanctuary after worship) will be our 2nd and final "We are ONA - What Now" discussion. This will be a duplicate of our January discussion – where we discussed the potential revisions to our ONA covenant as well as how the congregation sees us continuing to learn and grow in all things ONA. The June meeting will give people a chance to give input that they might not have thought of in January. Or giving people who couldn't attend in January the chance to give input.

We would love to have a majority of our congregation give input into our potential ONA covenant revision(s) as well as how we could act on that covenant out in our community. If you are unable to make this meeting but have information you would like to pass on, please contact Chris Deaner-Rogers or Sue Kaiser. Your opinion and input DOES matter and IS wanted.

Several good reads that will be discussed at our June meeting:

- A. The challenge put forth by the UCC wider church ONA Coalition in this article: **From the Streets to the Courts: Why We Must Keep Showing Up!** (<https://openandaffirming.org/showup/>)

The power of this paragraph resonates: *"For years, when churches became Open and Affirming, they would ask me, "What's next?" My answer used to focus on continuing the work internally: keep your team together, keep learning, keep the covenant alive. That is still true. But now, before I say anything else, I say one word: **witness.**"*

- B. **Justice 100 Fundraising Campaign** - Affirming Dignity, Creating Inclusion, Building Justice!

Discussions on how Pilgrim will support not only our Fond du Lac LGBTQ+ community efforts, but how we envision stepping up for the wider cause.

<https://d2dgo7ivtbkyn1.cloudfront.net/images/openandaffirming/ONA%20Justice%20100%20bulletin%20insert%20%28half%20page%20letter%29.pdf>

- C. **National Trans Day of Visibility Sacred Text** – continuing to learn and grow.

<https://openandaffirming.org/national-trans-day-of-visibility-sacred-text/>

THANKS to Pilgrim's choir for purchasing fruit and cheese for Café Q's Friday April 17th gathering. Four large trays were put together by Fran Schmid, Ellen & Neal Sieglaff and Sue Kaiser delivered it all on Friday 4/17! Your ONA Team hopes that many Pilgrim members are reviewing the Sign-up Genius calendar: (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4CA4AF2AA4F58-60367587-2026/182850317#/>) and are getting ready to pick a date and take responsibility for the meal preparation for a month. Pilgrim's Scrip program is another way we can support Café Q. Cards for grocery stores or restaurants are always appreciated. And when we purchase Scrip, Pilgrim also sees a benefit!

We look forward to seeing you on May 5th and June 7th
Your ONA Team



Gratitude Moments:

Many thanks to those who helped put up the Easter decorations: Patti Burns, Deb Wamser, Pearl Diorio, Paisley Diorio, Olivia Schilling & Fran Schmid

MAY Birthdays

Nolan Stutz	May 1
Jeanne Koepe	May 4
Gerald Rusch	May 5
Martial Blanc	May 5
Connie Anderson	May 7
Jessica Westphal	May 8
Michael Steinke	May 12
Jean Fischer	May 17
Jill Barbeau	May 17
Barbara Roder	May 18
Donna Jost	May 18
Karen McCreedy	May 20
Teresa Prus	May 21
Erika Schilling	May 21
Heather Connor	May 22
Peg Bradley	May 22
Jacob Steier	May 25
Tony Prus	May 26
Mike Fedyszyn	May 28
Don Schmitz	May 29
Lilly May Luckow	May 29
Albert Curl	May 31

Ushers for May	
Date	9:00 Service
May 3	Barb & Avery Geiger
May 10	Bart & Dawn Dahlke
May 17	Pete Vercooteren & Connie Anderson
May 24	Bill & Patti Burns
May 31	Deb & Jim Wamser

Welcomers for May	
Date	9:00 Service
May 3	Avery Geiger
May 10	Judie Behnke
May 17	Wendy Ellison
May 24	Fran Schmid
May 31	Ron McCreedy

Worship Leaders May	
Date	9:00 Service
May 3	Confirmands
May 10	Noreen Henderson
May 17	Ellen Sieglaff
May 24	Sue Kaiser
May 31	Sue Schmitz

MAY Anniversaries

Rebecca Dietenberger	May 22
Barb & Avery Geiger	May 24
Ellen Hynek	May 26
Thomas Richardson & Margaret Richardson Zedan	May 31

**Pilgrim UCC Church Council Meeting
March 23, 2026**

Present: Jim Bentley, Peg Bradley, Reverend Jeannie Douglas, Wendy Ellison, Avery Geiger, Donna Jost, Patty Minter, Ron McCreedy, Fran Schmid, Linda Stutz, Dixie Sullivan, Steven Wicichowski

Guest: Sue Schmitz

Jim welcomed everyone and established a Quorum. Pastor Jeannie opened with a prayer.

Secretary's Report: Motion was made to accept with corrections of spelling. Ron made a motion to accept, Linda seconded the motion. Motion passed with Unanimous Consent.

Treasurer's Report: Report attached. All insurance bills have been paid. Avery made a motion to accept the report, Steven seconded. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

Vice President's Report: Amy is on vacation from April 8 – 17th. Jill Barbeau has agreed to work during this time to get necessary tasks completed

President's Report: Several men from the church have been gathering for conversation and fellowship for breakfast. Nothing official.

Old Business:

1. **Guns to Garden Tools:** April 8th at the Mother House will be a demonstration. Peg will contact Tracy Abler and tell her we are in support and are willing to assist pending more information.
2. **Excess Hymnals.** There are 12 on the shelf for use in confirmation/Sunday school. The Congregation will be informed to take from the remaining they would like.
3. **Delegate to Conference Meeting** April 10 – 11. Tracy Abler will be attending and Gary Ring stated he is willing to attend as well. No one else has volunteered to attend as a delegate so Gary will be informed he can go.

New Business:

1. **Additional Lounge Chairs:** Sue Schmitz and Peg have been doing some research on additional chairs for the lounge areas which have arms to assist individuals to get in and out of them. Linda made a motion that we approve the purchase of 10 additional chairs for the amount of \$1258 and the money will be allocated from the Trust Fund allocation. Patty Seconded the motion. The motion passed with Unanimous Consent.

Ministry Reports:

- **Worship and Music:** Steven Wicichowski (Council Rep.) :
 1. Deb Wamser will ask Vicky Lamb if she would consider occasionally leading the Moment for Minors part of the Service
 2. Confirmation Sunday is May 3, 2026. Pastor Jeannie will do the welcome and announcements. The following Confirmands will be the worship leaders:
 - Riley – Call to worship
 - Renee – Scripture reading
 - Paisley – Prayer of dedication
 - Brooklyn – Words of grace.

3. In the next few months, the worship committee will continue to talk about changes to be made to the order of worship.

4. Linda will ask Amy to order online one packet of water dissolvable paper to potentially be used for the prayer cross.

- **Christian Education:** Dixie Sullivan (Council Rep) Report attached

1. Sunday School has grown by 5 additional children, averaging 6.5 kids per Sunday
2. See packets and cards were purchased and will be dispersed by kids on March 15th.
3. Actively planning for Confirmation Sunday

- **Adult Education:** Dixie Sullivan (Council Rep) Minutes attached

1. Information was shared regarding the changing of Sunday School to during the service instead of 10:15 – 11:15. Discussion ensued about the possibility of providing children supervision and engagement during that time when Adult Forum is occurring.
2. Mary Ann has been working on speakers for the '27 fall session.

- **Property and Maintenance:** Avery Geiger (Council Rep) Minutes attached.

1. Avery called Eliminator Pest Management about the flies. They will apply and insecticide around the sanctuary windows. After it warms up they may apply outside. All for FREE!
2. The improvement survey is in process. There were 42 suggestions.

- **Lay Life & Leadership:** Patty Minter (Council Rep):

1. Easter Coffee Hour is planned and set
2. Select cabinets in the kitchen were reorganized and labeled
3. Dining Out has returned. April 26th at Salty's is the next opportunity for dining out.

- **Stewardship & Finance:** Ron McCreedy (Council Rep): Minutes attached

1. February was above average, monthly needed amount.
2. Monthly Income for February (Pledges) was above average +\$5,216, (Pledges and other income) were above average +\$ 4319, Other Income includes Fall fest and Rummage.

3. **Membership and Evangelism:** Fran Schmid (Council Rep.) Minutes attached

1. No official membership changes. There have been several returning visitors.
2. Visitors are followed up by the Pastor and someone from M & E. Amy is checking the visitors book every Monday and passing on the information to Pastor Jeannie
3. WISE committee is working on facilitating the April Intergenerational movie night.

- **Christian Outreach:** Peg Bradley (Council Rep.) Minutes attached.

1. Homeless hygiene drive has been very successful
2. Outreach will provide dinner for Empower Her children on April 7th. Pizza will be purchased for 40 -50 children. Mary Ann Otto is making 60 cupcakes for dessert.
3. April we will collect items for the Fond du Lac Humane Society. We will also begin publicity for Blanket Sunday

Committee Reports:

- **Nominating Committee**
- **Ham Dinner**

- **Memorial Fund Committee:**
- **Green Team:** Minutes attached
- **SCRIP**
- **Trust Fund Report**
- **ONA**
- **Pastoral Support**
- **Search Committee:** The committee is engaged with a candidate.

Celebrations Rummage sale was a huge success. Richard Bradley is doing well after his cancer diagnosis and treatment.

Information Sharing

Adjournment:

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Wendy Ellison, Church Council Secretary.



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Confirmation 9AM Worship 10:15AM Coffee Hour	4 1PM Expanding Horizons	5 Cinco de Mayo 5PM Christian Ed	6 Blanket Sunday Orders Due	7 7PM Choir Practice	8	9
10 Mother's Day Blanket Sunday 9AM Worship 10:15AM Adult Forum	11 1PM Expanding Horizons	12 10AM Christian Outreach 11AM M & E	13	14 7PM Choir Practice	15	16
17 9AM Worship 10:15AM Adult Forum	18 1PM Expanding Horizons 6PM Council Mtg *Quill Deadline*	19	20	21 7PM Choir Practice	22	23 9:30AM Baby Shower
24 9AM Worship	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28 7PM Choir Practice	29	30
31						

Pilgrim United Church of Christ
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Pilgrim Quill

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

Pastor.....	Rev. Jeannie Douglas
Administrative Assistant.....	Amy Rector
Parish Nurse.....	Sue Schmitz
Child & Youth Coordinator.....	Michael Friedel
Adult Education Coordinator.....	Mary Ann Otto
Worship Musician.....	Chris Deaner-Rogers
Choir Director.....	Zachary Ball
Choir Accompanist	Chris Deaner-Rogers
Custodian.....	Green & Clean
Church Council President.....	Jim Bentley
Church Council Vice President.....	Linda Stutz
Church Council Secretary.....	Wendy Ellison
Church Treasurer.....	Donna Jost

Rides to church are available by contacting Randy Stutz 920-539-6277

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.