



THE PILGRIM QUILL

AUGUST 2026

Pastor's Article
Rev. Jeffrey Dodson

*"Whoever welcomes you welcomes me,
and whoever welcomes me
welcomes the one who sent me."*

– Matthew 10:40

Greetings and peace to each one of you in the name of Christ!

I am delighted to write to you and introduce myself as your new minister at Pilgrim United Church of Christ. I am the Rev. Jeffrey Dodson, and it is so good to be joining Pilgrim and returning to full-time preaching.

I have spent the past year and a half serving as a Hospice Chaplain with ThedaCare, traveling throughout the Fox Valley/central Wisconsin area visiting patients and families and providing pastoral care during one of life's most tender moments. Before working with ThedaCare, my family and I moved to Ripon, Wisconsin in 2019 to serve the First Congregational Church of Ripon. I bring with me a variety of experiences working in congregational ministry, outdoor ministry, chaplaincy, and theatre.

My wife Ashley and I met in 2009 at Daycholah Center at Green Lake (formerly Pilgrim Center) while we were both serving on staff, and we were married at the Ley Chapel there in 2012. The Ripon/Fond du Lac area is where we call home and are raising our three wonderful daughters, Ainslie (11 years old), Frankie and Ellie (both 8 years old).

We have a lovely Victorian home in Ripon and our children attend school at the Ripon Area School District. Ainslie is going into Middle School (6th grade), and Ellie and Frankie are going into 3rd grade. Ashley is the Ripon Area Director and CLC Program Coordinator for the Boys & Girls Club of the Tri-County Area. We have a dog, Artemis—a phantom goldendoodle—and two cats, Rosy and Ruby.

I start my new role as your Minister on August 1st and my first Sunday with you will be August 2nd, during which we will celebrate with song, story, and the sacrament of Holy Communion. Throughout the month of August I will be moving into the pastor's office and getting familiar with the mission and ministry of Pilgrim, and of course, taking time to get to know each of you personally!

I will have church office hours in August on the following days:

Mondays: 9:00 AM to 12 noon

Tuesdays: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Wednesdays: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Thursdays: 9:00 AM to 12 noon

Fridays and Saturdays will be my Sabbath days, and I will typically not be available on those days except for scheduled special services or events.

I will be in the office at other times throughout the week. If you would like to visit with me during a time not listed, feel free to call me and we can set up a time to get together.

You can contact me at jeffrey.dodson@pilgrimuccfdl.org or on my cell phone (719) 330-8549.

I have been reflecting on the ways I have already been welcomed here in Fond du Lac, and how incredible it feels to experience hospitality as someone who is new to a community. Thank you for the ways you have greeted me, Ashley, and our daughters, Ainslie, Ellie and Frankie.

My time in Fond du Lac has already been filled with beautiful expressions of “welcome!” From the first moment my family and I met the congregation, we were welcomed by church members, ministerial colleagues, staff, and the wider community. Thank you to all who have provided time and generosity in making us feel at home!

When we say “welcome” to another person, we do so as an act of faith, for we are also saying “welcome” to God. In the Gospel of Matthew 10:40, Jesus says to the disciples, *“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.”* It makes a difference in someone’s life to say “welcome” to them, because we recognize that God goes with them wherever they go. I know from experience, having just felt God’s love and presence in the “welcome” I have received here at Pilgrim United Church of Christ. In the midst of life’s transitions, I am glad to be reminded that God goes with me.

Thank you for the many ways you have welcomed my family and me, and for the ways you will continue to welcome all who come to this church and this community. Thank you for living your faith day to day through the extravagance and simplicity of saying “welcome.”

May you see God revealed each time you say, “welcome,” and may those to whom you say it feel the spirit of Jesus’ great welcoming love.

I’m glad to be here. I’m glad you’re here too.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey Dodson', with a stylized, flowing script.

Rev. Jeffrey Dodson

ADULT EDUCATION NEWS!

Watch Your Mail!

Our brochure for our Fall offerings of **Adult Forum** and **Expanding Horizons** will be mailed on August 1st!
Plan on inviting some of your friends and family to your favorite sessions!

Read the Book!

If you're looking for a great summer read, consider picking up ***Theo of Golden*** by **Allen Levi** and joining in our book discussion led by Peg Bradley on September 28th.

LET'S GET STARTED!



ADULT FORUM

September 13

Pilgrim Celebration Sunday

Let's rally with a potluck and to be informed and inspired by upcoming events of Adult Education at Pilgrim.
The team will provide the baked egg recipes. Everyone is invited to bring a dish to pass.

EXPANDING HORIZONS

September 14

(12:30PM Start)

Welcome Back to Expanding Horizon Salad Luncheon

Hosts: Adult Education Team



We'll gather to share a meal, to reconnect and to review the upcoming year. Bring a salad topping to share



Christian Outreach

News from the Outreach Ministry

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Thanks to everyone who contributed to our Back to School collection during July. Many children will have a happy first day of school because of your generosity.

July 14th the Outreach Ministry prepared and delivered lunches to the volunteers building the Habitat for Humanity house in Fond du Lac. It was a very hot day and the cold drinks and lunches were appreciated. All the workers were ready to sit down, relax and enjoy the food. The house is being built for a woman and her three children. This summer Pilgrim has been very supportive of this important work through a monetary donation from the Trust Fund, a collection of needed items from the congregation and the lunches.

We will not be collecting items for any nonprofit during August. **We would like to encourage you to use this month to make a donation to your favorite organization.**

Autumn is just around the corner. We will be collecting for the Fondy Food Pantry in September. Watch for details in the September Quill.

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It's a Wrap (paper, of course)

We've completed our six-week campaign to reduce single-use plastics (SUPs)! The messaging centered on two principles that make change stick:

Make it easy

- Keep reusables in your car
- Find a reusable water bottle you'll actually use, and keep it handy
- Get familiar with plastic-free alternatives for household items — paper sandwich wraps, bamboo toothbrushes, shampoo bars, and paper-bag microwave popcorn
- Have a container at home for collecting soft plastics

Build habits incrementally — one swap a week

- Week 1: Say no to the straw
- Week 2: Bring your refillable cup for soda or coffee
- Week 3: Bring a reusable container for your "doggie bag" next time you dine out

Talking about a new habit with peers helps it stick, too. There have been lots of good conversations at our display table each week. We also encourage you to tell a Green Team member what you became aware of or tried — how did it go, and what did you learn? We'd love to know if you've made any changes.

Real progress comes from rethinking the small, automatic choices we make every day: remembering the tote bag, skipping the disposable cup, saying "no straw." These aren't dramatic lifestyle overhauls — they're the quiet accumulation of new defaults.

Recycling Plastics

The City of Fond du Lac accepts #1, #2, and #5 plastics curbside. Rinse containers before recycling; bottles must be empty, but lids can stay on.

Polystyrene (what we often call Styrofoam) can't go in curbside bins — but small amounts (coolers, appliance packaging shells, free of tape and labels) can be dropped off at *Atlas Molded Products, 90 Trowbridge Dr.* Leave donations in the small shed at the entrance to the driveway.

Don't bag your recyclables in plastic — every item must go directly into the bin.



WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, Engaged) for Mental Health

Simple Ways to Support Those Living with Dementia and Those Who Care for Them

In our congregations, there are families quietly navigating memory loss – and what they need most is not a program, but a community that sees them and stays. Here are a few simple ways you can be that presence.

Supporting Someone Living with Memory Loss

- **Greet them warmly and with patience** – a familiar, friendly face goes a long way
- **Use their name**, speak slowly and clearly, and keep conversations simple and calm
- **Sit with them during worship** so they don't have to navigate the space alone
- **Stay connected even as the disease progresses** – your presence still matters

Supporting a Caregiver

- **Ask how they are doing**, not just how their loved one is doing
- **Offer specific help** rather than a general 'let me know if you need anything' – bring a meal, offer a ride, or simply sit with them
- **Check in consistently** – caregiving is a long journey, not a single moment of need
- **Let them talk without trying to fix anything** – sometimes being heard is enough

**Courtesy of Advocate Health Care, Aurora Health Care

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**Hope** is a huge part of 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!

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Blood pressures August 2nd with Sue Schmitz

On the first Sunday of each month, health professionals offer informal blood pressure screenings after worship. It's a measurement of how hard your heart is working to pump blood throughout your body. Stop in the room across from the Office for your August check!

Also, there is now an automatic blood pressure cuff on that desk. It's an older model, but has been calibrated and is accurate. There are instructions on using the unit and blood pressure recommendations on the desk also. You can stop in anytime the church is open for a quick check.

Back to School Preparations:

No matter how old you are, pieces of August are spent getting ready for the new school year. Here are a couple reminders...

First, - check your child's immunization record. Contact your Primary Care Provider or check the Health Departments' Immunization Clinic schedule if your child is due for any vaccines. Sports Physicals are required every 2 years in Wisconsin. If needed, make that appointment now to avoid the mid-August rush.

Second, - Back Packs: As you shop for a new back pack, please remember that 2 wide adjustable shoulder straps are preferable to one strap or "string straps" to avoid shoulder and back strain. It should fit snugly to the child's back and rest in the curve of the lower back – not below the waist. The backpack should not have any loose or hanging strings/cords/key chains, and for safety, the child's name should not be printed/stitched on the outside of the bag.

And Third, - August is Children's Eye Health and Safety Month.

The ABC's for healthy vision (for ALL ages) are *Appearances, Behaviors, and Complaints*. If you notice crossed, cloudy, red, crusty, swollen or watery eyes, (*Appearances*) please schedule an eye exam. If you notice blinking more often than normal, closing one eye or squinting when reading, holding books (tablets) close to the face when reading or sitting close to the TV (*Behaviors*), these should be checked out. If you/your child experiences headaches, itchy or burning eyes, blurred vision, or sensitivity to light, (*Complaints*) these also should be reported.

For the fun of it, August 17 is "I Love my Feet Day".

There are 8000 nerves, 26 bones, 33 joints and 19 muscles in each foot. Amazing! Celebrate and love your feet – every day!

Wellness Support:

For many, it's easier to practice wellness habits during the summer months. The warmer weather and longer daylight encourages being outdoors, fresh produce is more abundant, and life seems to open up. For some, accountability to a person or group is crucial for making wellness changes.

There's been a request for a wellness support group (for lack of a better description) – people coming together routinely to learn from, and support each other in their journey toward better health.

If this is something you might be interested in, please contact me (Sue Schmitz). I don't have any preconceived ideas about what this group would look like. This summer I'm gathering ideas and looking for input from people who express an interest.

United States of Kindness Reminder

Launched by Kindland, an initiative of the Values-in-Action Foundation, the United States of Kindness is a national campaign to celebrate America's 250th anniversary through action: 250 Acts of Kindness.

The United States of Kindness challenges every person, organization, and community to participate in 250 acts of kindness, one for every year of our nation's history. These acts can be large or small, but together, they form a movement that connects people and restores hope. The United Church of Christ, UCC Wellness Ministry and UCC Mental Health Network are registered for this campaign...a call to act with intention, to notice the good around us, and to celebrate kindness in every form. Health wise, kindness is uplifting and transformative. It improves mental and physical health, increases social connection, enhances learning environments, and strengthens workplace culture.

There are Kindness ideas for the young and young at heart on the table in the Narthex from Kindland. Please help yourself. Every gesture can be done in and with kindness.

Information taken from the US of Kindness website: (<https://www.usofkindness.org>)

Two Community Health Opportunities in August:

1. FDL County Caregiver Conference

August 27th from 8:30am-3:00pm at Community Church on Streblow Drive

This is a day of breakout sessions, key note speakers, food, resource booths, and support for caregivers. Registration is required by Friday, August 21st, to ensure adequate food and seating. Cost is 5.00 for family caregivers, and 15.00 for professional caregivers. (Cash or check accepted day of conference)

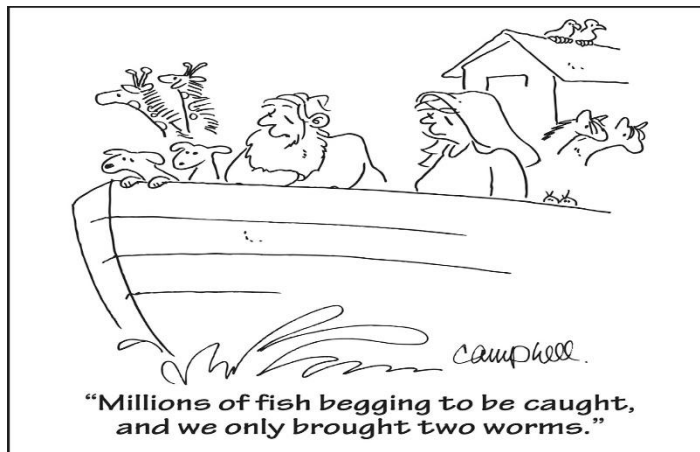
To register and/or questions, please contact Alyssa Sommerfeldt at 920.929.3419 or email alyssa.sommerfeldt@fdlco.wi.gov.

2. Stepping On Workshop! (7 week Falls Prevention class)

Fall Class 2026: August 19th-September 30th from 12:30pm - 2:30pm at The ARC. on Park Ave.

"Stepping On can help you avoid a fall so you can keep doing the things you love to do. You'll learn: To identify and remove or avoid fall hazards in your home and outside. How vision, hearing, medication, and footwear affect your risk of falling. Strength and balance exercises you can adapt to your individual level."

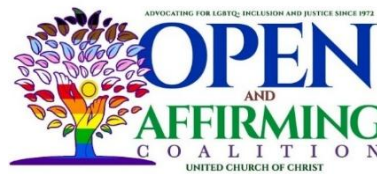
Call the ADRC at 920-929-3466 for more information, questions and/or to sign up!



To lighten the moment for those who enjoy fishing:
Why didn't Noah go fishing?
He only had 2 worms.

Hello Church!

As July ends and August approaches, we pause to remember the joy, faith, and community that carried us through Pride Month. That celebration reminded us that belonging is not simply a theme for one month, but a shared commitment we are called to keep living out.



Rev. Derek Terry, Executive Director of the Open and Affirming Coalition of the United Church of Christ, captured that spirit in these words:

"I left Pride Month convinced that what sustains us is one another. It is joy. It is faith. It is community. It is the wholehearted belief that love is stronger than fear. Joy is how we survive. Joy is how we resist. Joy is how we keep loving one another when the world tells us not to. And yet, as Pride Month came to an end, we were reminded why this work matters.

On the final day of Pride Month, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld laws allowing West Virginia and Idaho to exclude transgender girls from participating in girls' school sports. Even as we celebrated LGBTQ+ joy, another barrier was placed before some of our most vulnerable siblings.

The work continues.

Our movement was never just about one month on the calendar. It has always been about building a world where every LGBTQ+ person knows they belong, where every family is supported, and where every child can grow up knowing they are loved exactly as God created them."

Pilgrim continues the work of helping to build a world where everyone belongs by:

- Participating annually, as a church, in both Fond du Lac's Diversity Day in Feb. and in Pride Picnic in June. We are always looking for other events to take part in – let us know if you would like to lead us into new venues.
- Helping to sponsor Café Q's monthly meeting meals. Anyone interested in helping to provide a meal can do so here: (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090F4CA4AF2AA4F58-60367587-2026/182850317#/>).

Café Q's July monthly meeting was a campfire theme. Hotdogs and smores were on the menu. The Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes (CSA), Associate Home Circle, *Fabulous Fondy Fifth**, were the providers of the meal. We THANK them for stepping up once again! August, September, October and December are still unclaimed months, and we need a meal leader for each month. Can you help?

(* What are associates? <https://www.csasisters.org/spiritual-path/what-are-associates.cfm>)

- Amending our ONA covenant to include scripture that anchors us in why we have entered this ministry and to challenge ourselves moving forward.
- Continuing our education outreach to Pilgrim members and to our community. Please plan to attend the Sunday, September 27th ONA sponsored education session after our worship service that Sunday.



Our education this month has a bit of humor included. We hope you enjoy laughing while learning!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IrYx7HaUIMY>

Your Pilgrim ONA Team (August Quill)

The SCRIP program NEEDS YOU!

As we begin to get ready for the new program year and the return of school, please keep the SCRIP program in mind. This is such an easy way to give a little bit more financially to our church budget. The program is easy to use – stop at the SCRIP table in the Narthex and purchase your needs for the week...gas, grocery & restaurants (places you go regularly) cards to name a few. You buy the cards at face value (ex. \$25 Kwik Trip – you pay \$25 but the church earns a percentage of each card purchase. Please stop and talk with Karen on Sunday morning or call her at 920)904-5740 if you have any questions. This program has so much more potential than we are utilizing!!



THANK YOU PILGRIM FAMILY

On behalf of my grandson Henry and I, we would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation for the opportunity Pilgrim helped us with to attend Daycholah Church Camp. Many friends were made and wonderful memories. We attended the &Me camp together. If any one would like to learn more about camp so you could plan to go in 2027, please reach out.
Henry Schadeberg and Linda Stutz

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Thanks to Mikel Rice (See Job 1)

04-20-2007

YOU MUST BE JOB

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### **Community Family Fun Night**

Join us on **Thursday, August 6th from 6:00-8:00pm** for a night of fun and fellowship! The Christian Education Ministry is hosting the Community Family Fun Night here at Pilgrim. Please mark your calendars and tell your family, friends, and neighbors to come to this free community event. There will be a bounce house, carnival games with prizes, crafts, a cookie walk, free food, live music, and friendship. Plan to come rain or shine to celebrate our wonderful church and community.

As always, we will need many volunteers to help with this event. A sign up poster is in the narthex. Please consider volunteering to help ensure that our event is a great success.

### **Sunday School**

We are looking forward to the upcoming school year! Please take a moment to register your students for Sunday School using [this link](#) or with the paper copy found on the youth bulletin board. We are so excited to welcome back our students!

Please know that Sunday School will now be offered during church service. Students will attend church until the Time for the Young and Young at Heart when they will then be dismissed for Sunday School. Sunday School will not be taking place on the 1st Sunday of each month so that students can attend worship service with their families and have the ability to participate in communion. After church service we will be offering a child care service so that parents/guardians may still attend Adult Education programming. Parents/guardians will have the ability to sign up for their children to attend this child care service. The sign up form will be available in the next Quill.

### **Teacher and Shepherd Sign Up**

Please consider serving as a teacher or shepherd in the Sunday School program. Lessons are provided to you and no prior teaching experience is needed. Please fill out [this link](#) or stop by the youth bulletin board to find the sign up sheet. We would love to have you join the team!

### **Youth Group**

We're excited to launch a new season of Youth Group gatherings! These gatherings will include a mix of fun, faith-building activities, and opportunities for connection with friends. Whether it's games, service projects, or outings, there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

To stay in the loop about upcoming Youth Group events and to register, please fill out [this form](#). We can't wait to see you there!

### **Gratitude Moments:**

Many thanks to those who came to help change the church décor from Easter to Pentecost. Thanks to Jim & Dianne Bentley, Avery & Barb Geiger, Db Wamser, Jean Wright.

Also, gratitude to Rev Jeannie for allowing us to use her butterflies and streamers for our Easter celebrations.

Thank-you to the Green Team for their education over the summer; making us more aware of earth stewardship options! Very well organized and informative – and with ice cream too!!!

Thank-you to Karen Goodacre for her time, energy, dedication and passion for the SCRIP Program. You Rock!

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### **From Membership and Evangelism**

**Gratitude Moment and Thank-you for those who helped represent Pilgrim at the Pride Picnic in June!**  
Fran Schmid, Jim Bentley, Sue Kaiser, Andrea and Trixie Yttri, Peg Bradley, Neal and Ellen Sieglaff, Mary Berens, Gary Ring, Tina Potter and Pastor Jeannie Douglas

**Our next event will be taking part in Fondue Fest on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> on Main Street in Fond du Lac.** Watch for a poster and sign up to be at our table under our purple canopy by Joes Fox Hut Pizza!



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### **A Morning Prayer**

**God, who notices the mustard seed, a woman's touch on the fringe of a garment, a kid holding out a lunch bag to share, keep me present to this day.**

**Invite natural beauty to surprise me with the smell of wind, the touch of a leaf or dog fur, the taste of pure water.**

**Remind me to notice people behind laptops in a coffee shop, behind a bakery counter, behind the wheel in a stopped car, and wonder about them and pray for them.**

**Let me read the one email that matters, give money to someone on the street, tell someone I love them, and then say it again and mean it.**

**Strip off the veneer of my distraction and let me enjoy food, read a few pages of a book, watch a tv show, listen to a song, smile at a stranger, open my heart to the news remember again to pray. Amen**

By Maren

### Property and Maintenance Ministry Survey

Here are the results of the PMM survey. The PMM will be looking into the five items with the most points. PMM will present information for each of the five items to the Church Council for approval and funding.

| priority                                                                    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | total | result |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-------|--------|
| multiplier                                                                  | 5  | 4  | 3  | 2  | 1  |       |        |
| number of surveys                                                           | 38 |    |    |    |    |       |        |
| 01. Kitchen floor needs replacement                                         | 7  | 0  | 2  | 1  | 0  | 43    | 4      |
| 02. Paint sanctuary                                                         | 1  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 12    |        |
| 03. Handicap accessible carport doors                                       | 5  | 4  | 2  | 2  | 0  | 51    | 2      |
| 04. Handicap accessible bathroom doors                                      | 4  | 5  | 2  | 0  | 0  | 46    | 3      |
| 05. New carpet in fellowship hall                                           | 6  | 4  | 1  | 0  | 3  | 52    | 1      |
| 06. Dishwasher in kitchen                                                   | 0  | 0  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 5     |        |
| 07. Water fountain with bottle filler                                       | 0  | 3  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 12    |        |
| 08. Hand rail on alter steps by pulpit                                      | 2  | 2  | 0  | 1  | 1  | 21    |        |
| 09. Repair and paint ceilings in west rooms                                 | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 1     |        |
| 10. Kitchen remodel, including dishwasher                                   | 2  | 5  | 3  | 1  | 1  | 42    | 5      |
| 11. Kitchen spruce up in lieu of remodel                                    | 0  | 1  | 2  | 1  | 1  | 13    |        |
| 12. Additional security cameras                                             | 0  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 2  | 11    |        |
| 13. Provide ventilation in garage                                           | 1  | 0  | 2  | 3  | 0  | 17    |        |
| 14. New chairs for fellowship hall                                          | 0  | 0  | 2  | 4  | 1  | 15    |        |
| 15. Remove 8 tree stumps                                                    | 1  | 0  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 10    |        |
| 16. Put maintenance free siding on east side of carport                     | 1  | 0  | 2  | 2  | 0  | 15    |        |
| 17. Put maintenance free siding around sanctuary windows                    | 0  | 1  | 3  | 2  | 2  | 19    |        |
| 18. Exterior water issues on north side                                     | 0  | 0  | 2  | 2  | 1  | 11    |        |
| 19. Replace 7 old furnaces                                                  | 1  | 0  | 1  | 1  | 2  | 12    |        |
| 20. Transgender bathroom                                                    | 1  | 1  | 2  | 0  | 0  | 15    |        |
| 21. Update the entire Education wing                                        | 1  | 2  | 0  | 1  | 2  | 17    |        |
| 22. Hallway tile floor needs replacement                                    | 0  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 10    |        |
| 23. Handicap accessible sanctuary doors                                     | 1  | 1  | 0  | 1  | 2  | 13    |        |
| 24. Deep clean pastors' office for new pastor                               | 2  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 4  | 16    |        |
| 25. Youth room and staff office door plaques                                | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0     |        |
| 26. Digital sign                                                            | 1  | 5  | 1  | 2  | 0  | 32    |        |
| 27. Paint fellowship hall                                                   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0     |        |
| 28. Seal and paint parking lot                                              | 0  | 0  | 1  | 1  | 3  | 8     |        |
| 29. Repair cracks in parking lot                                            | 0  | 1  | 0  | 3  | 2  | 12    |        |
| 30. Men's bathroom motion light switch                                      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 1     |        |
| 31. Men's bathroom paper towel dispenser                                    | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 2     |        |
| 32. Women's bathroom paper towel dispenser                                  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 3     |        |
| 33. Air deodorizers in bathrooms                                            | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0     |        |
| 34. Bench or table in cloak room for placing things on when taking off coat | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 2     |        |
| 35. Brighter lighting in halls                                              | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 1     |        |
| 36. Not using the coat room for storage                                     | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 2     |        |
| 37. On demand water heater under lounge sink                                | 1  | 0  | 2  | 1  | 2  | 15    |        |
| 38. Update west bathrooms                                                   | 0  | 0  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 5     |        |
| 39. Find a storage place for kitchen carts                                  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 1     |        |
| 40. Fix or replace things as they break                                     | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 4  | 7     |        |
| total                                                                       | 38 | 38 | 38 | 38 | 38 |       |        |



|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Todd Moely          | Aug 2  |
| Bob Cornell         | Aug 2  |
| Jean Cornell        | Aug 2  |
| Verabelle Pattee    | Aug 3  |
| Barb Spies          | Aug 4  |
| Joshua Goetsch      | Aug 5  |
| Donna Overbo        | Aug 9  |
| Amber Kilawee       | Aug 11 |
| Diana Beck          | Aug 12 |
| Benedict Behrens    | Aug 12 |
| Wendy Ellison       | Aug 13 |
| Brandon Peterson    | Aug 13 |
| Lynne Zwerg         | Aug 15 |
| Bart Dahlke         | Aug 15 |
| Tammy Steier        | Aug 16 |
| Gretchen Schadeberg | Aug 28 |
| Barb Mittelstaedt   | Aug 31 |
| Ryan Jackson        | Aug 31 |



|                                     |        |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Peg & Richard Bradley               | Aug 5  |
| Whitney & Albert Curt               | Aug 7  |
| Ellen & Neil Sieglaff               | Aug 11 |
| Patricia & Mark Minter              | Aug 20 |
| Kristie & Patrick Luckow            | Aug 22 |
| Michelle Buck-Stark & Jeffrey Stark | Aug 22 |
| Joanne & Doug Baltz                 | Aug 30 |

### Ushers for August

| Date   | 9:00 Service                 |
|--------|------------------------------|
| Aug 2  | Avery & Barb Geiger          |
| Aug 9  | Steve & Rachel Wicichowski   |
| Aug 16 | Jim & Dianne Bentley         |
| Aug 23 | Linda & Randy Stutz          |
| Aug 30 | Bobbie Flaherty & Donna Jost |

### Welcomers for August

| Date   | 9:00 Service  |
|--------|---------------|
| Aug 2  | Avery Geiger  |
| Aug 9  | Ron McCreedy  |
| Aug 16 | Jim Bentley   |
| Aug 23 | Randy Stutz   |
| Aug 30 | Wendy Ellison |

### Worship Leaders August

| Date   | 9:00 Service       |
|--------|--------------------|
| Aug 2  | Ellen Sieglaff     |
| Aug 9  | Noreen Henderson   |
| Aug 16 | Sue Kaiser         |
| Aug 23 | Joel Deaner-Rogers |
| Aug 30 | Jill Barbeau       |

**Pilgrim UCC Church Council Meeting**  
**June15, 2026**

Present: Jim Bentley, Linda Stutz, Wendy Ellison, Avery Geiger, Patty Minter, Ron McCreedy, Fran Schmid, Dixie Sullivan, Jean Wright for Peg Bradley

Guests: Tina Potter

Jim welcomed everyone and established a Quorum. And opened with prayer at 6:00 PM

**Secretary's Report:** Linda made a motion to accept the minutes with corrections as made, Ron seconded the motion. Minutes accepted as provided by Unanimous Consent.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Report attached. Report passed with unanimous consent. Jim made the motion and Linda seconded it.

**Vice President's Report:** Linda reported there has been concern raised again about the volume of the organ being too loud. She will speak to Chris.

1. Reviews of Amy and Michael will be completed
2. Request for an additional bulletin board. Linda will talk to Bill Burns to see if he is willing to build it.

**President's Report:**

Jim made a motion that the Church Council designate that portion of Reverend Jeffrey Dodson's compensation designated "Housing Allowance" as stated by the terms of the Call Agreement and any subsequent amendments to provide for his housing and related expenses. Call agreement was approved by the congregational meeting on June 7, 2026. Linda seconded the motion, motion passed with unanimous consent.

**Pastor's Report: Report attached.** May 16 – June 12

1. Met with 17 people for short-walk in counseling.
2. Attended 12 meetings
3. Special Services: provided 19

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

1. Request for scholarship for Grandma and me camp was made. Jim made a motion that the monies be provided from the allocated trust fund. Fran seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent for them to go to Grandma and Me Church Camp.
2. Tina Potter brought up a perspective fund raising opportunity. She suggested a Dinner and Entertainment which we would sell tickets to attend. Perhaps \$25/ ticket. It would occur in the spring as the Ham Dinner is in the fall. She suggested that we would have volunteers cook a

simple meal and then have church members perform the entertainment as well as a silent Auction. The council discussed being able to get enough volunteers as we have issues with getting enough for the Ham Dinner and other volunteer opportunities. The council will discuss this at a later date. Tina is willing to be the lead in this project.

3. **Ministry Reports:**

- **Worship and Music:** Steven Wicichowski (Council Rep.) : Report attached

1. The dissolvable paper has arrived for the prayer cross. The current prayers will be gathered and set aside until we have another service to properly dispose of. Linda will put an article in the Quill regarding the use of the new paper.
2. There is a schedule of individuals for the 'Young at Heart' section of the Service.
3. Summer Music also has a schedule of ' Special Music'
4. The Ministry has developed a guideline statement regarding special music per request to have some reference point on how things should be handled.

- **Adult Education:** Dixie Sullivan (Council Rep) No minutes

- **Christian Education** Dixie Sullivan(Council Rep.) Minutes attached.

1. Sunday School time change + curriculum decision is on hold until new 2026 – 2027 program year until Pastor starts.
2. Family Fun Night – save the date ( August 6<sup>th</sup>) – sign up sheet will be available to help out
3. Evaluating & Planning 2026 – 2027 program year for Intergenerational Night

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

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

1. Hosted coffee hour/celebration after service to welcome new settled Pastor. Reverend Dodson
2. A sign has been posted in the Kitchen with directions on what needs to be done when the Kitchen is used for special occasions
3. Thank you to those that assisted in the coffee hour on June 7.

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

1. Monthly Income needed to meet Budgeted expenses: \$18,771
2. Sunday offering and pledges – only May \$11,563
3. May (offering & pledges) were below average - \$4,556
4. May, overall- Budget is on track with spending and income.
5. UCC, strength of the Church Offering for April/May – total \$815
6. Fund Raising Type Dinner with auctions prepared for the June Council presentation.

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

1. Wise is working with NAMI on a series of classes (Hearts and Minds) to be held in January and February of 2027 which would be open to the community.
2. Pride Picnic June 28<sup>th</sup>
3. Fondue Fest application is approved and a sign up poster will go up Mid July
4. We have added 6 new members, had 4 new confirmands and had one couple ask to be removed from the membership in May.

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

1. 21 birthday pans were taken to Fondy Food Pantry. Almos \$500 was donated on Blanket Sunday
2. July begins our annual Back to School collections
3. We have a tentative plan for Sept – Dec. Collections.

#### **Committee Reports:**

- **Nominating Committee**
- **Ham Dinner**
- **Memorial Fund Committee:**
- **Green Team:** Minutes attached.

#### **SCRIP**

- **Trust Fund Report:** Via email the council reached unanimous consent to release the funds to the following recipients. Steve made the motion, Wendy Seconded it, via E-mail.
- **Pilgrim UCC – 30% allocation: \$1,879.30**
  - **Pilgrim UCC Building Fund – \$521.17**
  - **Kathy's House – Milwaukee – \$1,000.00**
  - **Church World Services Menstrual Kits – \$500.00**
  - **Habitat for Humanity Fond du Lac – \$1,000.00**
  - **UCC Church Camp Roots & Wings – \$500.00**
  - **United Way Transportation Fund – \$1,000.00**
  - **Solutions Center Youth Services – \$1,000.00**
  - **Back Bay Mission – \$1,000.00**
  - **World Central Kitchen – \$1,000.00**
  - **Rosenow School Student Services – \$773.00**
  - **Fond du Lac High School Student Services – \$773.00**
- **ONA: Minutes submitted**
- **Pastoral Support**
- **Search Committee:** Seated Pastor has been chosen; Reverend Jeffery Dodson
- **Memorial Garden:** report attached.
  1. There is a plan to have a dedication service for the Memorial Garden on Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>.
  2. Donations to help maintain the Memorial Garden can be made to the Pilgrim UCC Memorial Graden fund #118

#### **Celebrations**

#### **Information Sharing Adjournment:**



The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted: Wendy Ellison, Church Council Secretary.



| SUN                                                                               | MON                                                                  | TUES                                                   | WED                             | THUR                                            | FRI                  | SAT                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                   |                                                                      |                                                        |                                 |                                                 |                      | 1<br><br>**Reverend<br>Jeffrey's 1 <sup>st</sup><br>Day** |
| 2<br><br>9am<br>Worship/Communion<br><br>BP checks after<br>worship<br><br>6pm NA | 3<br><br>5pm CE                                                      | 4<br><br>5pm P & M                                     | 5                               | 6<br><br>6pm Family Fun<br>Night<br><br>6pm SAA | 7<br><br>7pm ALANON  | 8                                                         |
| 9<br><br>9am Worship<br><br>6pm NA                                                | 10                                                                   | 11<br><br>10am Christian<br>Outreach<br><br>11am M & E | 12<br><br>4:30pm<br>Worship Mtg | 13<br><br>6pm SAA                               | 14<br><br>7pm ALANON | 15                                                        |
| 16<br><br>9am Worship<br><br>6pm NA                                               | 17<br><br>** September<br>Quill Deadline**<br><br>6pm Council<br>Mtg | 18                                                     | 19                              | 20<br><br>6pm SAA                               | 21<br><br>7pm ALANON | 22                                                        |
| 23<br><br>9am Worship<br><br>6pm NA                                               | 24                                                                   | 25<br><br>5pm WISE                                     | 26                              | 27<br><br>6pm SAA                               | 28<br><br>7pm ALANON | 29                                                        |

|             |    |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------|----|--|--|--|--|--|
| 30          | 31 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9am Worship |    |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6pm NA      |    |  |  |  |  |  |

**Pilgrim United Church of Christ**

535 Stow Street  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935-2865  
Phone: 920-921-0415  
Email: pilgrim.info@pilgrimuccfdl.org  
Website: www.pilgrimuccfdl.org

**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. Jeffrey Dodson  
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