



PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

44 CHAPEL ROAD – KENMORE, NY 14217

(716) 875-5485

A Congregation in Mission, Community and Service

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

SEPTEMBER 2012

PASTOR: Rev. Ben Eder

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM

EDITOR: Mary Werth

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY: 9:30 AM

ASSOC. EDITOR:

WORSHIP: 10:00 AM





“Money Drives the Mission”

One of the sayings I heard a lot in the early days of my ministry was, “Money drives the mission.” Just like any other organization or institution, a church can’t exist or accomplish anything without money. Some of our costs/expenses/obligations include: salaries; upkeep of the property; office supplies; Christian education; utilities; property insurance; and so on.

While “money drives the mission,” the mission of the church is not about money: it’s about the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Nevertheless, that mission cannot be accomplished without the financial means to do it: we have our tithes to the English District – LCMS; our monthly contribution to Hananiah Lutheran Church in Buffalo; and numerous other missions and organizations that we help during the course of the year.

Through the years the saints of Pilgrim have blessed our congregation with substantial gifts. They responded to the outpouring of God’s grace in their lives. These gifts are earmarked for special projects currently underway or being planned in the near future (the digital sign; greater handicapped accessibility, for example). If we depend on our savings for current expenses, then they will be gone and we will not be able to do these extra things. Also, a church that runs through its savings for current expenses is obviously not in a healthy situation and that situation would have to be rectified in due haste.

Former Eastern District President John Brunner used to say, “I’ve never seen a church close due to lack of money; I’ve seen a church close due to lack of vision.” This is true...when churches close they often have a pile of money that they pass on to a District or another congregation/ministry. So, the lack of money is not a problem; it’s a lack of vision.

To my knowledge, in our 90-year history Pilgrim has never asked members to pledge for stewardship purposes. Whenever there has been a need, the people have come through. I wish I could say that every year we have had a balanced budget (some years we run a deficit; other years a surplus). I would like to see more consistent and regular giving on the part of our members. Some give to the church only when they attend, like they do to a concert or a football game; however, our presence and needs are year-round. We need your support all of the time. I would like to see our members attend on a more regular basis, and get involved in the leadership and ministry of the congregation.

At the outset of World War II, Winston Churchill said to the President and Congress of the United States, “Give us the tools, and we will do the job.” I would say, “Give us the means, and we will do ministry together.” In the coming year we will be assessing our handicapped accessibility; launching a series of community dinners for those who could use a meal; and other projects and needs as they become apparent. By God’s grace, we have accomplished a lot together in the past...let’s work together for an even more vibrant ministry here at Pilgrim.

+ Pastor Ben Eder

Sunday Server Schedule

	Sept 2	Sept 9	Sept 16	Sept 23	Sept 30
READER	Wes Wiers	Mary Werth	Karen Smith	Carolyn Alessi	Sue Holway
USHER	Linda Eder & Peggy Clark	Naomi George & Harvey Caldow	Roger Watkins & Pat Watkins	Eric Fellner & George Alessi	Antwane Bishop & Mike Confer
COMMUNION ASSIST	Harris Bartz	Gary Smith	Jack Hambridge	Frank Alessi	Wes Weirs

	Oct 7	Oct 14	Oct 21	Oct 28
READER	Wes Wiers	Mary Werth	Karen Smith	Carolyn Alessi
USHER	Peggy Clark & Jarrod Clark	Naomi George & Harvey Caldow	Roger Watkins & Pat Watkins	Eric Fellner & Mike Confer
COMMUNION ASSIST	Harris Bartz	Gary Smith	Frank Alessi	George Alessi

	Nov 4	Nov 11	Nov 18	Nov 25
READER	Wes Wiers	Mary Werth	Karen Smith	Carolyn Alessi
USHER	Naomi George & Harvey Caldow	Roger Watkins & Pat Watkins	Eric Fellner & George Alessi	Antwane Bishop & Mike Confer
COMMUNION ASSIST	Harris Bartz	Gary Smith	Jack Hambridge	Frank Alessi

AN FYI...

It was brought to my attention that some members were not aware that at the last Congregational meeting it was decided that the Pilgrim would purchase a gift for Pastor Domenick Lettieri's Ordination into the Ministry. A gift of vestments, stoles and other accessories was given to Domenick on the day of his Ordination from our congregation. I apologize if this was not known to all our members at the time, if you were not present for the meeting, and it was not included in the summary of the meeting that was printed in the newsletter due to this being a surprise for him.

Jennifer Bartz

Please Note –

We still have many weeks available for the remainder of the year for Altar Service for Worship. I would like to remind you that this is not a chore but an opportunity; an opportunity to participate in the Worship, prepare yourself and our

Lord's Supper for your church family.

Please check the chart posted at the back of the church.

Thank you for considering this opportunity!

Jennifer Bartz

Birthdays &



Anniversaries

Ruth Caldow	Sept. 13
Bob Neumann	Sept. 16
Harvey Caldow	Sept. 20
Jennifer Bartz	Sept. 28
Joyce Innes	Sept. 28



Sept. 1	Rev. Ben & Linda Eder
Sept. 9	Brian & Sarah Hinterberger



Every Good Gift & Every Perfect Gift Is From Above...

J a m e s 1 : 1 7



ESTHER CIRCLE

Esther Circle will meet **MONDAY** evening, Sept. 17th, at 6:30 p.m. at church. Note the change in meeting day. We will have a regular business meeting to organize for the coming year. After our speaker, we will have dessert and coffee.

At 7 p.m., Pauline Kalenik from Generations Antiques and Collectibles on Highland Ave. will present Jewelry Through the Ages. She describes her presentation as “Show and Tell”, covering jewelry from 1800 to the 1970s. She also invites us to bring old (or not so old) jewelry for her to discuss. Although she is not an appraiser, she will attempt to explain its origin and background.

Please join us, as we always welcome visitors, new members and new ideas. If you have any questions, please call Sue Holway (773-3625) or Pat Watkins (875-6825).

UPDATE ON OUR COFFEE HOUR COLLECTIONS:

Since January, we have been collecting donations for Immanuel Lutheran Church in Joplin, MO. They have a disaster response team that is providing tornado relief and coordinating volunteers in their community. So far you have donated \$132.00 to assist them in their efforts. We still have 4 more months to collect donations for their work so please continue to be generous.





“The Sunday School material has been ordered and is here;

Now all we need is for your child to come and appear!”

That little poem says it all. The Sunday School teachers are eager to meet their students. Sunday School classes will resume on September 9th from 9 – 9:50 a.m.

We are reminded of the Scripture verse Mark 10:14: “Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God.”

Parent-parish partnership

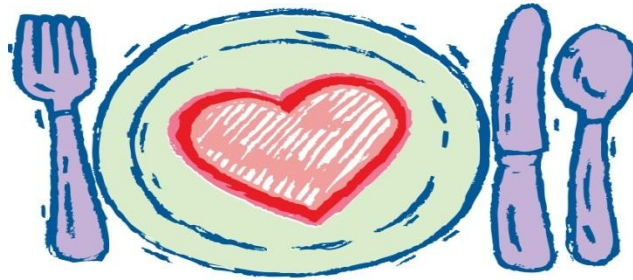
“Let no Christian parents fall into the delusion that Sunday school is intended to ease them of their personal duties,” said 19th-century British preacher Charles H. Spurgeon. “The first and most natural condition of things is for Christian parents to train up their own children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”

Studies show that parents are their kids’ strongest influencers in faith matters. Dr. Christian Smith, director of the influential National Study of Youth and Religion, wrote: “In most cases, parents are the most important Christian pastors teenagers will ever have — for better or worse.” The sense of separateness between home and church, he said, “must be replaced by a more cooperative, integrated, comprehensive approach to the faith formation of young people.”



WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

The next book for the Women's Book Club is Big Stone Gap by Adriana Trigiani. This book is about a young woman who has always lived in the same Blue Ridge Mountain town, has taken over the family business, and has stayed in her mother's house after her mother's death. She discovers something that changes her world and her place in it forever. The discussion date has not been set, but will be sometime after Sept. 17th.



COMMUNITY DINNER

Pilgrim is sponsoring a Community Dinner for Friday, Sept. 7th, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The event is free and is meant to reach those who could use a kind word and a nutritious meal. Further information may be found on the bulletin board.



SAVE THE DATE ...

The 90th Anniversary Celebration for Pilgrim Lutheran Church
will be held on Sunday, October 21, 2012.

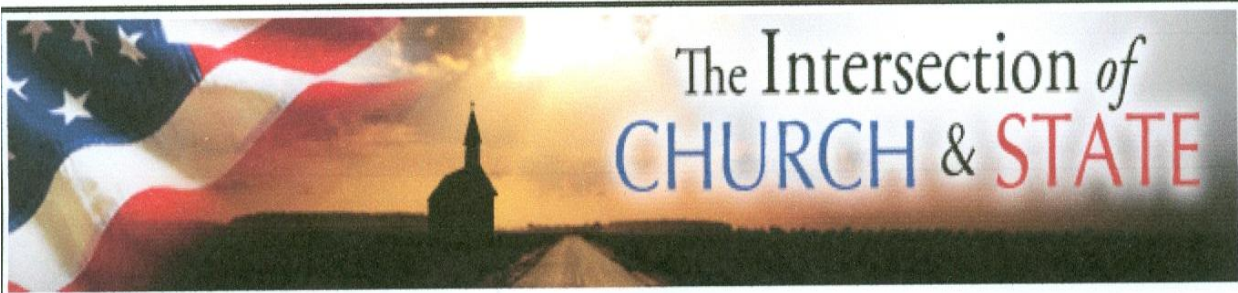
Planning is underway for the Worship Service at 10am,
Followed by a banquet in the late afternoon.

Watch for further details but.....

SAVE THE DATE ...



We would love to include some stories about Pilgrim's past in the October newsletter. Please take a little time and write down what you remember. It can be heart-warming, funny, serious, reflective, and even just plain weird.



The Intersection of CHURCH & STATE

'The Intersection of Church & State' to Air as Paid Programming on the Fox Business Channel

Be sure to watch for the new television program, *The Intersection of Church & State*, coming this fall from Lutheran Hour Ministries. The hour-long special will air first as paid programming Sunday, September 30 on Fox Business Channel at 5 p.m. Eastern time, 4 p.m. Central, 3 p.m. Mountain, and 2 p.m. Pacific.

The Intersection of Church & State examines the truth of the complicated relationship between civil government and the church in the United States. The program's host, Speaker of The Lutheran Hour Rev. Gregory Seltz, explores how the First Amendment to the Constitution was crafted both to protect the church and the state and to provide a framework within which the two can work together for the common good.

You can find information about the program, social networking avenues and future airings on other networks and local stations as it becomes available at www.intersectionofchurchandstate.com.

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THE TUMBLEWEED

I watched the lonely tumbleweed
Flit aimlessly about
The winds across the desert sands
Did cry, "There's no way out!"

The tumbleweed, with courage staunch
Approached a sandy mound
It cautiously surveyed the hill –
An exit it had found!

Around the mound the tumbleweed
Did staunchly take its stand
It scurried to and fro until
It drifted 'round the sand.

Across the desert floor it raced
Enraptured by the wind
And soon approached a ridge so high
I scarcely laughed and grinned.

"What now! You lonely tumbleweed
Think you can mount so high?"
I watched, enthralled by its impulse –
It leaped up to the sky!

I scaled the ridge to see beyond
And much to my surprise
Across the desert sands, the weed
Did leap before my eyes!

It gaily danced amidst the breeze
Unmoved by sands of time.
Oh, for the courage of that weed! –
Sure wish that it were mine!

"Dear God, the giver of all things
Please hear me as I plead
Grant me the dauntless courage of
That lonely tumbleweed."

by Doris V. Neumann



Billy Graham's daughter was interviewed on the Early Show and Jane Clayson asked her, "How could God let something like this happen?" (regarding the attacks on Sept. 11).

Anne Graham gave an extremely profound and insightful response. She said, "I believe God is deeply saddened by this, just as we are, but for years we've been telling God to get out of our schools, to get out of our government and to get out of our lives. And being the gentleman He is, I believe He has calmly backed out. How can we expect God to give us His blessing and His protection if we demand He leave us alone?"



'Men's NetWork' How-to Instructions Help Guys Get the Job Done

Sometimes jump-starting a group project at church with a bunch of guys can be a daunting task. The work can be made easier when using one of the **Men's NetWork's** how-to guides. These tip sheets give you pointers on things like starting a fantasy football league, promoting an event, organizing a men's retreat, generating friendly competition among area men's groups, and using **Men's NetWork** Bible studies as an outreach tool.

To find the guides, just go to the **Men's NetWork** at www.lhmmen.com, find the "Startin' Up" section in the green bar at the top of the homepage, click open and drop down to "How To" There you will find what you need to get you started. Whether you want to begin a men's ministry in your church or are trying to figure out how to organize a golf tournament, these easy-to-use guides will give you valuable information and vital tips to make your work easier.

And, of course, we're always looking for new ideas! If you have any suggestions for additional how-to guides, please send them to mensnetwork@lhm.org.



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SCHOOL DAZE

A monsoon is a French gentleman.

Stanley had to miss some school. He had an attack of whooping cranes in his chest.

In looking at a drop of water under a microscope, we find there are twice as many Hs as Os.

A fibula is a small lie.

Scientists are hypothetical people.

The Gorgons had long snakes in their hair. They looked like women, only more horrible.

Vacuums are nothings. We only mention them to let them know that we know they are there.

MISDIRECTED DIRECTIONS

Important Notice: If you are one of hundreds of parachuting enthusiasts who bought our *Easy Sky Diving* book, please make the following correction: on page 8, line 7, the words “state zip code” should have read “pull rip cord”.

**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE OCTOBER
NEWSLETTER IS SEPTEMBER 23rd.**