



**Pilgrim Evangelical
Lutheran Church**
820 Belknap Street
Superior, WI 54880
(715) 392-4731

Non-profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Superior, WI 54880
Permit No. 1194

Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
Website: www.plcsuperior.org
Facebook: [PilgrimSuperior](https://www.facebook.com/PilgrimSuperior)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

If you change your address or phone number,
or have a temporary address,
PLEASE CALL US AT 715-392-4731



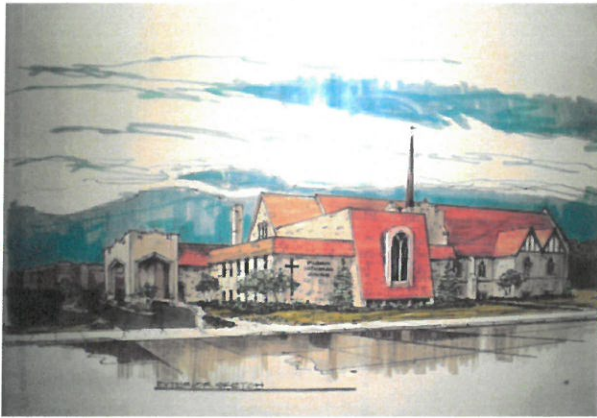
THIS MONTH AT PILGRIM

Worship Schedule in December

- December 3 – Worship at 9:30 a.m. (Praise and Worship- Installation of Pastor Tanner)*
- December 10 – Worship at 9:30 a.m. (Traditional service with organ music)*
- December 17 – Worship at 9:30 a.m.*
- December 17 - 4:00 p.m. Lesson and Carols Service and Vesper Tea*
- December 24 – No 9:30 a.m. worship*
- December 24 – 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship*
- December 31 – Worship at 9:30 a.m.*

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Monthly Pilgrim Progress

To make things easy we are going to have the Progress deadline be the **15th of each month**. If there is a problem contact Judy and talk to her.

Church Office Hours

Monday—Thursday: 9:00 am—1:00 pm
Church Phone: 715-392-4731

E-mail and Website Addresses

officemgr@plcsuperior.org (Judy)
pastor.plcsuperior@gmail.com (Pr. Tanner)

Church website: www.plcsuperior.org
Facebook: PilgrimSuperior
Synod website: www.nswi.org
ELCA website: www.elca.org

PLC ONLINE ~ Check out Pilgrim's website at www.plcsuperior.org for the monthly calendar and newsletter, pictures, and much, much more.



STAFF

Pastor Rev. Tanner Howard
Office Manager Judy Hagen
Custodian Mark Pero
Music Director/Pianist Lorelei Holland
Organist Dr. David Tryggestad
Choir Director Curt Hanson
Education Coordinator Rebecca Waterhouse

**SYNODICALLY
AUTHORIZED MINISTERS**

Jenny Dudderar
Andrea Rubesch

OFFICERS

Council President . . . Mary Johnson-Garay
Council Vice-President . . . Dan Breneman
Council Secretary Courtney Dietsche
Congregation Treasurer Don Miller
Financial Secretary Julie McLaren

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Colleen Goesling
Scott Swanson Bob Patterson

MISSIONARIES TO TANZANIA

Dr. Steven & Bethany Friberg

PLC ON FB: Go to your FACEBOOK page. Enter 'Pilgrim Superior' in the search box. When Pilgrim's FB comes up, 'LIKE' it. You can then see regular PLC news, updates and photos.



December 2023

Saints and Siblings in Christ,

Hello! I am so excited to be coming on board to serve Pilgrim as your new pastor. I want to first say a huge thank you. Thank you for the opportunity to work together.

Thank you for the work that you've done together in the midst of this transition time. Thank you for stepping out in faith and extending a full time call to me. I really am looking forward to this new adventure we are setting off on together, and I can't wait to learn more about your hopes and dreams for this congregation.

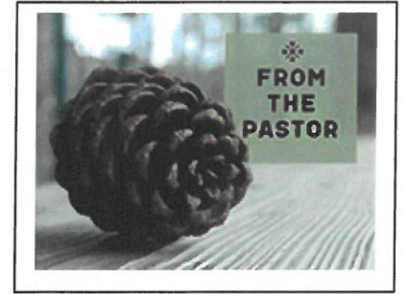
In addition, I want to express a special thank you to the amazing members of your call committee. I am grateful for their wisdom and the time and effort they put into both your paperwork and also meeting with me through the interview process. Thank you all for your service to this community of faith!

I join you faithful folks right as we begin a new church year and the season of Advent. It's a special time of year. It's a busy time of year. As we gather for worship in this season, we will be surrounded by the words of promise from the prophets, warnings of John the Baptist, and the persistent faithfulness of Mary. Many of these readings will be oh so very familiar to us, though the words may hit our ears differently this year. I hope that you'll join us for worship as we gather around these deep and enduring promises of God throughout the season.

Finally, a couple of housekeeping things to keep in mind: this month I won't have set office hours as I plan to be making my rounds and getting a feel for the flow around Pilgrim. That said, I will be around the office and please don't hesitate to reach out if you'd like to meet – the coffee pot will always be on! You can call me at the office or reach me by email at pastor.plcsuperior@gmail.com . If you or someone you know could use a visit, please let me know! Same goes for hospital visits or surgery – I don't know unless you let me know. And of course, if you have any ideas about things we can do here at Pilgrim or ways we can serve our larger community, don't keep those things to yourself!

A Blessed Advent and Happy Christmas season to you all,

Pastor Tanner

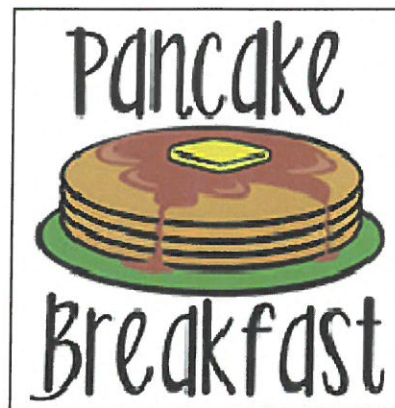


Pancake Breakfast on December 3 at Pilgrim from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The YMCA Whalers will be hosting a breakfast of pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice and coffee. Cost is \$8.00. They are raising money for some Olympic Gold medalists to come and work with the kids on swimming.

Everyone is welcome.

Come for church and go have breakfast after.

It's a win-win for everyone.



Vesper Tea



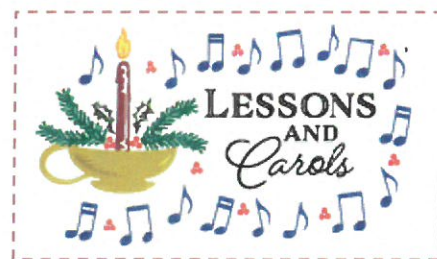
PLCP will again be hosting a Vesper Tea after the service of Lessons and Carols on Dec. 17th. Traditionally, this Tea honored St. Lucia who was a Christian maiden who was condemned to death for her Christian beliefs. She was later made a saint and on St. Lucia day (Dec 13) she is celebrated all over Sweden and United States.

The Vesper Tea has been PLCP's (Pilgrim People) main fundraising event for over 50 years. Donations received are distributed throughout our community for programs such as the Boys and Girls club, CASDA, Habitat for Humanity and the Ruth House to name a few. We will need many volunteers to help set-up the tables, prep food and serve, and with clean up. There will be sign-up sheets in the Narthex on the kiosk for whatever you can help with to make this a successful event! Please contact Jan Cummings or Sue Winner for more information.

Portraying St. Lucia this year is Abigail Seyoum. Her attendants are Suzie Warring and Evelyn Warring. The junior ushers are Presley Peterson, Otto Johnson, Mae Johnson and Hugo Johnson.

*** Service of Lessons and Carols / Santa Lucia Vesper Tea ***

SAVE THE DATE!! Pilgrim's traditional **Service of Lessons and Carols** will be held on **Sunday, December 17 at 4 pm**. The Pilgrim choir, along with many choral friends from around the area, will present the service of music and scripture which marks the transition from Advent to the birth of our Savior. The presentation of **Santa Lucia** and the **Vesper Tea** will follow. The celebration returned in its complete form last year after the previous two years when the pandemic forced the service to be in much abbreviated forms and the Vesper Tea had to be cancelled altogether. The Service of Lessons and Carols has been a tradition at Pilgrim since the early 1980s and the Vesper Tea dates back to 1937. Don't miss this treasured annual event!



DECEMBER SERVERS

Below is the list of those who are signed up to help with our worship service. If you are signed up and cannot make it, please find someone to fill in for you and also let the office know. Thank you to all of you for helping with our worship here at Pilgrim.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!!

December 3 – 2nd Sunday in Advent

Ushers: Team 1: Ted Nelson, Capt.
Worship Asst: none – Praise & Worship service
Sound System: Fred
Altar Guild: Laura and Sandy
Hospitality: Mary Johnson-Garay

December 10 – 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Ushers: Team 2: Tad Matheson, Capt.
Worship Asst: Mary Johnson-Garay
Sound System: Tyler
Altar Guild: Rachel and Colleen
Hospitality: Robin Rickman

December 17 - 25th Sunday after Pentecost

Ushers: Team 3:
Worship Asst: Mary Houk
Sound System: Colleen
Altar Guild: Elaine and Nancy
Hospitality: Jenny Dudderar

December 17 – 4:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols

Ushers: Team 4: Tyler Austreng, Capt.

December 24 – Christ the King

No Service at 9:30 a.m.

December 24 – Christ the King

Ushers: Team 2: Tad Matheson, Capt.
 And Team 3:
Worship Asst: Jenny Dudderar
Sound System: Jamie
Altar Guild: Laura and Sandy
Hospitality: na

December 25 – Christmas Day

No Service today

December 31 – Christ the King

Ushers: Team 4: Tyler Austreng, Capt.
Worship Asst: Sue Connolly
Sound System: Tyler
Altar Guild: Rachel and Colleen
Hospitality: Julie & Tim McLaren

Church Statistics

October 2023

Total In-House Sunday Attendance:	244
Average In-House Sunday Attendance:	49
Total Online Sunday Attendance:	na
Average Online Sunday Attendance:	na
Total Combined Attendance:	244
Total Average Attendance:	49
Envelope Offering (General Fund)	\$ 8,210.00
Loose Offering (non-envelope):	\$ 710.00
Electronic Offering (General Fund):	\$ 2,778.93
Total General Giving:	\$ 11,698.93

Scripture Readings December 2023 Lectionary A

December 3 – Second Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11
 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
 2 Peter 3:8-15
 Mark 1:1-8

December 10 – Third Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
 Psalm 126
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
 John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 17 – Fourth Sunday in Advent

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
 Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26
 Romans 16:25-27
 Luke 1:26-38

December 24 – Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7
 Psalm 96
 Titus 2:11-14
 Luke 2:1-20

December 31 – First Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3
 Psalm 148
 Galatians 4:4-7
 Luke 2:22-40

PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

Pilgrim Lutheran Church October 24, 2023 Council Minutes

I. Call to Order and Opening Prayer: Meeting called to order at 6:37 by President Mary Johnson-Garay. Joel led us in opening prayer.

II. Those in attendance: Mary Johnson-Garay, Colleen Elonen, Courtney Dietsche, Don Miller, Dan Breneman, Joel Huenemann, Jamie Peterson, Ted Nelson. Excused: Tad Matheson.

III. Approve Minutes: Don made a motion to approve the September 26 council meeting minutes. Mary seconded. Motion approved. Dan made a motion to approve the October 15 special meeting minutes. Colleen seconded. Motion approved.

IV. Pastor's Report:

- The Book of Daniel Bible study is ongoing.
- The funeral for Bud Somerville was held on October 22.
- To prepare for the transition to our new pastor, Pastor Joel will preach on November 5 and 12, Jenny Dudderar will preach on November 19, and Pastor Tanner will preach on November 26.
- Joel will be in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays in November, with his last day being the 16th
- Joel met with Pastor Tanner at the blood drive, and they discussed worship styles and settings. Lorelei will pick the hymns for Advent and Christmas.

V. Music/Ministry:

- We will be doing only a Christmas Eve service at 4:30 pm, not a Christmas Day service. Advent will begin on November 26.
- The Thanksgiving dinner and worship beginning at 4:00 pm will be at United Presbyterian Church.
- The Vesper Tea will be on December 17 at 4:00 pm. Planning for the event continues.
- The contract for Pastor Tanner Howard has been signed and a starting date chosen. He will meet with Pilgrim staff to get acquainted with them and their duties.
- The organ was tuned on October 24.
- Colleen Elonen will be selling homemade pies in November as a fundraiser for Ruth House.

VI. Property:

- Dan will look into the repair of the stone around the bell tower and how to change the time that the bells ring.
- The council is still working on getting handicap parking signs and reviewing the UWS parking contract.

- Kitchen cleaning will happen on October 27. There will be general cleaning days on November 10 and 11 from 9 am to 4 pm. A list with projects will be in the narthex for people to sign up.
- There have been ongoing issues with the custodian, and the council will look into options for hiring a new one or a cleaning company.
- The back door lock needs to be looked at as it isn't functioning well.

VII. Finance:

- Don is starting to work on the 2024 budget.
- Judy will serve as the second person (Financial Secretary) when money is being counted.
- Colleen made a motion to approve the financial report. Dan seconded. Motion approved.

VIII. Old Business:

- Dan and Tad will work on removing some pews to increase accessibility.
- To ensure building safety, Don will check on having a button connecting the front door and the office so that Judy can buzz people in during open hours.
- In order to begin recording services again, we will need to purchase some additional equipment and have someone set it up. Colleen will check into this.

IX. New Business:

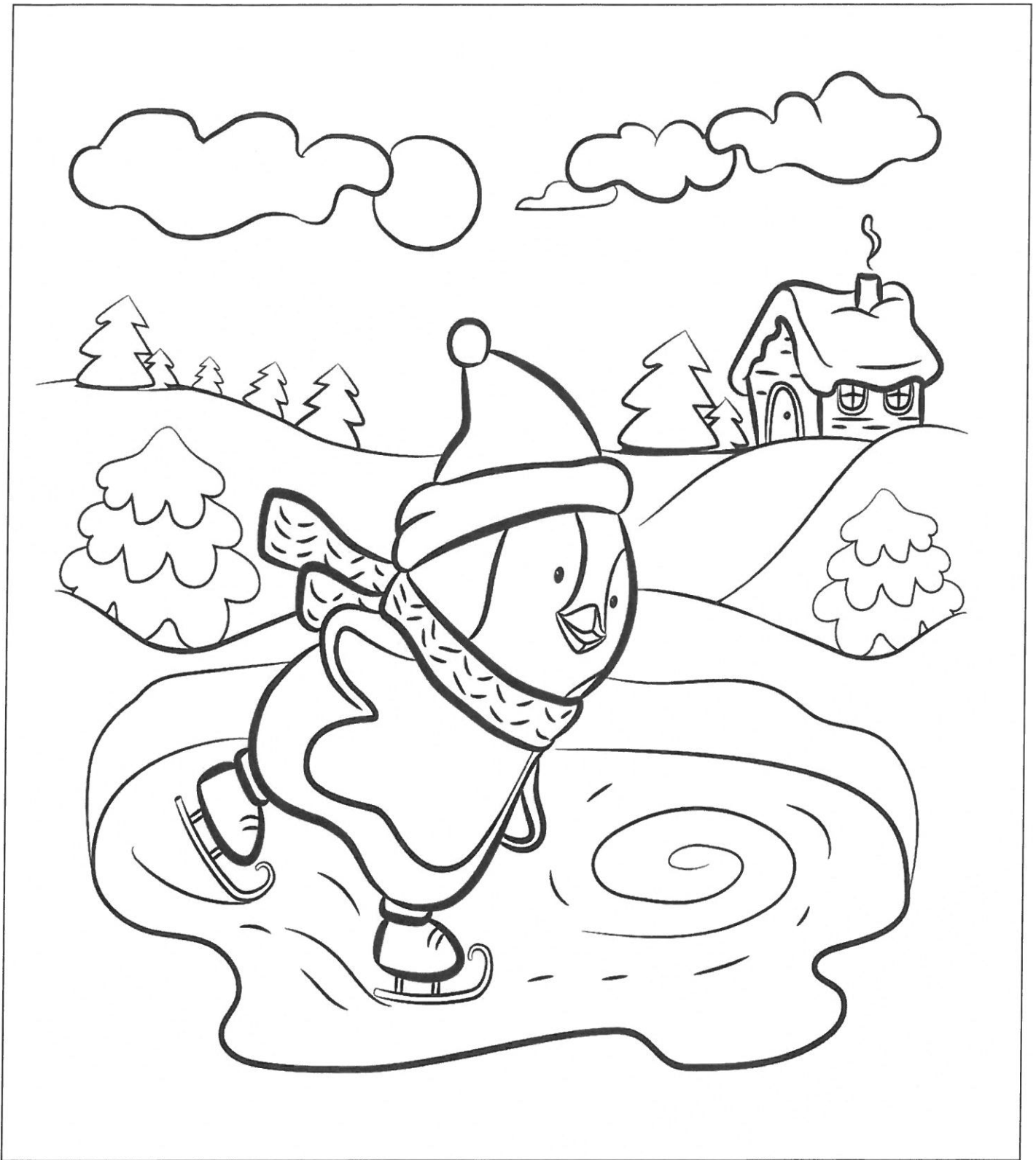
- The emergency contact cards are being prepared for November.
- The next blood drive will be sometime in April or May. The council is working on setting the date.
- A recognition for Anna Hansen and Pastor Joel will happen on November 19. Pastor Tanner's installation is planned for December 3.
- The gardener who has been helping with the church grounds will be finished this year. We will look for a new person in the spring to help with landscaping maintenance. We will also be looking for volunteers to help the gardener.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21, and we closed with the Lord's Prayer.



We are taking orders for poinsettias. They must be turned in by the 10th of December with the money. There are forms at church to fill out. Cost is \$13.00 this year.





Have fun coloring a page. If you bring you page back to church we can put it on the bulletin board.

Name _____ Age _____

Are you Consistent or Inconsistent?

As a person who has worked in the fitness industry for a very long time, I am asked almost weekly what is the most important behavior to achieving a level of health where one feels rested, energetic, strong, and of course weight loss that feels good. I can see their thoughts spinning around waiting for a big, simple, quick scheme. Such as drink this shake, or buy this program, or take this pill and your results will happen overnight. You will feel great! But, as we should know by now, that is not the way to achieve good health.

It takes, wait for it consistency.

Yep, it is that simple. You need to make sure you go to bed at the same time each night and wake up roughly at the same time each morning, you need to do some form of aerobic exercise for at least 30 minutes a day five times a week and two short sessions a week of weight bearing exercise. I encourage you to choose foods that fuel your body and to watch your portions and it is also recommended that we take 5 - 10 minutes a day to slow down and be present, also known as mindfulness. This boring, consistent type of living is what will bring to you the energy you seek, the strength you desire, the weight loss you have been struggling to attain and the peace of mind we all prefer. It isn't a hard recipe when you look at the points above, but for some reason it is so hard for so many. They would rather pay for a pill, shake or program which only proves to be quakery. Committing to being consistent takes breaking old habits and being patient while new ones form.

This brings me to the word re-form. While I was sitting in church on Reformation Sunday, it was the first time I understood the meaning of Reformation Sunday. I had no idea the Catholic Church was selling shorter stays in purgatory for a price! Now, I have asked my Catholic friends if they had ever heard of this and of course they hadn't and we have really laughed at the absurdity of the idea of "paying our way" to a shorter stay in purgatory, whatever purgatory is?? But it also lead me to the comparison of our desire to become healthier by paying for trickery and people thinking they can shorten their stay in purgatory by paying out money. It was the easy way into heaven. Of course we know that will not get us into heaven, but don't we convince ourselves that we can shorten our responsibilities to the church through certain behavior choices?

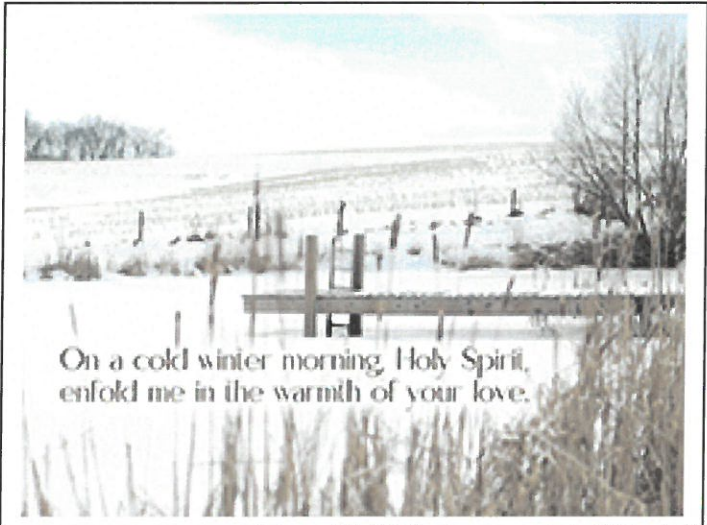
We can make excuses that we don't have time to come to church, volunteer or participate in the church services at all, but we still send in our money! I have actually heard people say that to me. We convince ourselves that we can't take the time to go to church because we have more important things than listening to another gospel message we have heard many times. But, it isn't about us, it is about putting ourselves into the church to hear the message of God over and over again so we can go out and share our testimony to others who don't know who God is. It teaches our children that we have someone we can lean

into when there is nobody to lean on, it brings us together with other people who share similar values. It develops consistent patterns that changes our heart and our thinking.

The gospel was written to be a guide for us to be better Christians. We shouldn't use the gospel as a weapon against people, but as stories to share with our neighbors of how the gospel has changed us. We can become better at sharing our stories by being consistent in attending church services, participating in bible studies, becoming a part of the living, breathing church.

As we welcome Pastor Tanner Howard, let us re-form ourselves and become the best version of ourselves as Christians and members of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, through forming consistent habits and re-engaging in our church community by attending church services on a regular basis, participating in various activities and going out to invite our neighbors into our community.

Respectfully,
Mary Johnson-Garay
Council President



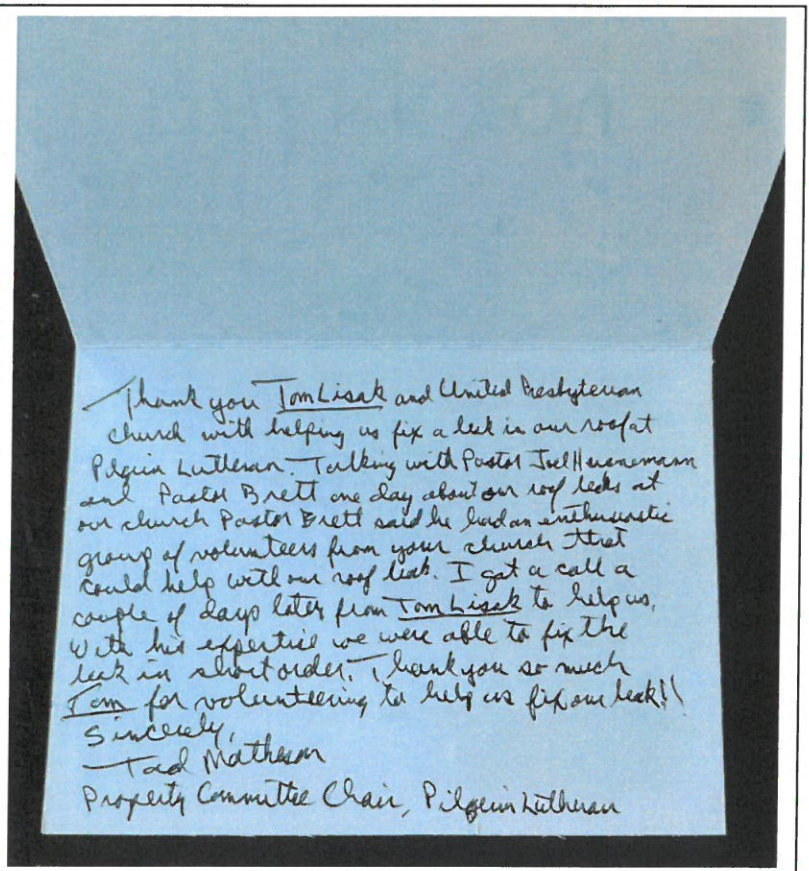
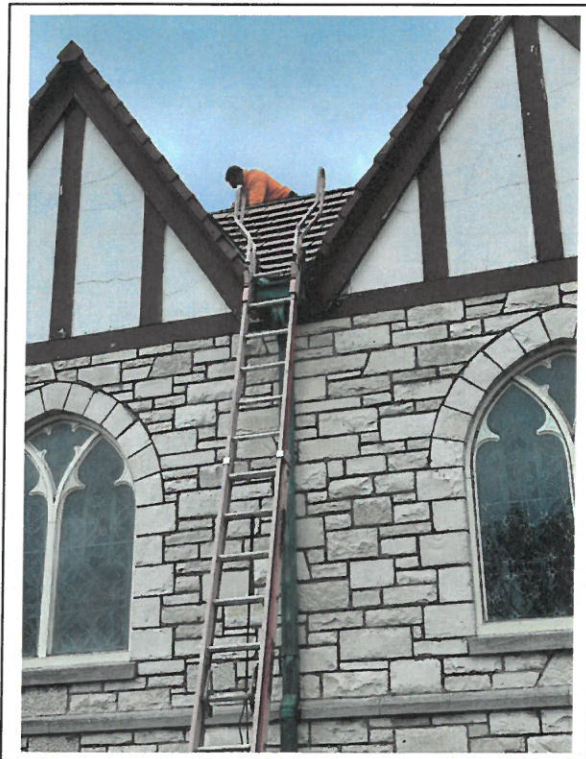
Coins for the Community

The mission for September and October was to collect money for The Seafarers. One coin at a time – we collected \$56.76. Wonderful job Pilgrim!

Now for November and December we are collecting for Ruth House.

Drop your change in the jar (or bills) and let's see what we collect this next time.

Thank you for your help!



*** Thank You * Thank You * Thank You ***

A big THANK YOU to all the members who came to help with the Church cleanup! We were able to accomplish much of our "To Do" list – everything from dusting, vacuuming and shampooing carpets to cleaning out the supply and kitchen closets. Much thanks to the kitchen clean up crews who made the main area and the prep area neat and orderly. Thanks to Dan Breneman, Joan Altman, Elaine Arnovich, Colleen Goesling, Betty Henry, Ted Nelson, Alice (Riggle) Kosloski, Greg Elonen, Sandy and Roger Breitzman, Courtney Dietsche, Jan Cummings, Tad Matheson, Nancy Clark, Jean and Don Miller, and Grace Elonen. We will plan on striping and waxing of floors after Christmas.



December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Violin lesson's scheduled throughout the months					
3 9:30 Worship Installation of Pastor Tanner Usher 1 9:00—1:00— Pancake breakfast hosted by YMCA Whalers 4:00 NA	4	5 5:30 Choir Rehearsal	6 3:00-4:00 piano lessons—Zach	7 5:30-6:30 piano lessons—Zach 6:30 Praise practice	8	9
10 10:00 Worship Usher 2 <i>Poinsettia orders are due today.</i> 1:30 NA committee	11	12 5:30 Choir Rehearsal	13 3:00-4:00 piano lessons—Zach	14 5:30-6:30 piano lessons—Zach 6:30 Praise practice	15 <i>Progress Articles Due</i>	16 9—11:30 Lessons & Carols Rehearsal
17 9:30 Worship Usher 3	18	19 5:30 Choir Rehearsal	20 3:00-4:00 piano lessons—Zach	21 5:30-6:30 piano lessons—Zach 6:30 Praise practice	22	23
4:00 pm—Service of Lessons & Carols/Vesper Tea - Usher 4						
24 No 9:30 Worship 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship — Usher 2& 3	25	26 5:30 Choir Rehearsal 6:30 Council meeting	27 3:00-4:00 piano lessons—Zach	28 5:30-6:30 piano lessons—Zach 6:30 Praise practice	29	30
31 9:30 Worship Usher 4						