



**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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

2026



Studio Recital

Come check it out. May 31st at 3:00 p.m. here at Pilgrim. Our very own Eliza will be having a recital of her students.
Come and enjoy an afternoon of music and a reception following the program. Any questions talk to Eliza.



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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)
tanner@plcsuperior.org (Pastor Tanner)
noah@plcsuperior.org (Noah)

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

Leadership

Pastor Rev. Tanner Howard
Office Manager Judy Hagen
Custodian Anna Johnson
Music Director/Pianist Lorelei Holland
Violinist Eliza Wilson
Choir Director Curt Hanson
Education Coordinator Rebecca Waterhouse
Financial Secretary Julie McLaren
SAM (Synodically Authorized Minister) Jenny Carey Dudderar
Seminarian Noah Holland

COUNCIL

Council President Tad Matheson
Council Vice-President Jeff Gronski
Council Secretary Colleen Elonen
Congregation Treasurer Greg Elonen

Sandy Breitzmann, Noah Holland, Jan Cummings,
Dianne Johnson, Rich Garay and Molly Warring

PLC ONLINE ~ Check out Pilgrim's website at

www.plcsuperior.org for the monthly calendar and newsletter, pictures, and much, much more.

Financial Report

March 2026

Income: \$20,624.68
Expenses: -24,794.59
Surplus (Deficit) (4,169.91)

*These figures have been submitted by
Greg, Congregation Treasurer.*

Vacation Bible School

Dates for VBS are
June 22-26, 2026.
Mark your calendars



Next planning meeting will be
June 4th at 5:00 p.m. at UPC.

Anyone who would like to participate
is welcome to come and join. If you
have any questions talk to Pastor
Tanner.



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.

Church Attendance

March 2026 –

(5 inhouse Sunday Services – only 4 online services)

Total In-House Sunday Attendance:	315
Average In-House Sunday Attendance:	63
Total Online Sunday Attendance:	142
Average Online Sunday Attendance:	36

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!!

May 3 – 5th Sunday of Easter

Ushers: Team 2: Tad Matheson, Capt.
Worship Asst: Colleen Elonen
Sound System: Fred
Altar Guild: Rachel and Colleen
Hospitality: Sue Connolly
Greeter: Eileen Ward

May 10 – 6th Sunday of Easter

Ushers: Team 3: Jeff Gronski, Capt.
Worship Asst: Courtney Dietsche
Sound System: Tyler
Altar Guild: Elaine and Mary
Hospitality: Mary Matheson
Greeter: Sandy Breitzmann

May 17 – 7th Sunday of Easter

Ushers: Team 4: Rich Garay, Capt
Worship Asst: Don Miller
Sound System: Greg
Altar Guild: Sandy and Theresa
Hospitality: Elaine Arnovich/Ted Nelson
Greeter: Dick Erickson

May 24 – Day of Pentecost

Ushers: Team 1: Ted Nelson, Capt
Worship Asst: Sue Connolly
Sound System: Jeff
Altar Guild: Laura and Greg
Hospitality: Jan Cummings
Greeter: Joyce Klick

May 31 – The Holy Trinity

Ushers: Team 2: Tad Matheson, Capt.
Worship Asst: Julie McLaren
Sound System: Jamie
Altar Guild: Rachel and Colleen
Hospitality: Sue Winner
Greeter: Anyone ??

Scripture Readings May 2026
Lectionary A

May 3 – 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60
 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
 1 Peter 2:2-10
 John 14:1-14

May 10 – 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31
 Psalm 66:8-20
 1 Peter 3:13-22
 John 14:15-21

May 17 – 7th Sunday of Easter

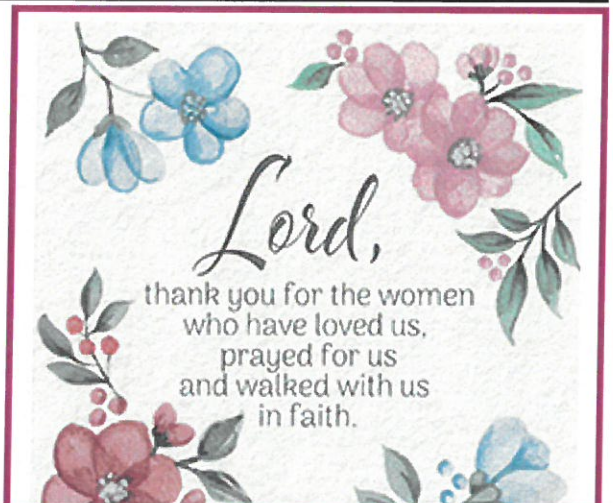
Acts 1:1-11
 Psalm 93
 Ephesians 1:15-23
 Luke 24:44-53

May 24 – Day of Pentecost

Numbers 11:24-30
 Psalm 104: 24-35
 Acts 2:1-21
 John 20:19-23

May 31 – The Holy Trinity

Genesis 1:1 – 2:4
 Psalm 8
 2 Corinthians 13:11-13
 Matthew 28:16-20



Happy Mothers Day to all of you.
 Whether you are a mom, like a mom, an Aunt or Grandma. Thank you for being there for all of us!!

May 2026

Christ is Risen! He is Risen, Indeed! Alleluia!

Saints and siblings in Christ – Happy Easter – still!

I got a picture this week from my folks of the first rows of green beans, peas, and other veggies being planted in the garden back in Iowa. The receiving of that picture happened to coincide with a morning temperature at my house of a mere 12 degrees – not exactly ideal planting weather in our neck of the Northwoods. Which is a bummer because no matter where I have lived – from New York to Alaska, Montana to Minnesota – my brain continues to operate on the north-central Iowa planting schedule of my childhood. And I'm already itching to get in the garden this season.



You see, sitting around and waiting isn't something I've ever been terribly good at. I know patience is a virtue or something like that, but I'm just not good at it. Especially when it comes to getting the garden going. So, when a friend offered to leave behind a couple of drop-over greenhouses as they were moving last fall, I jumped at the chance to give it a try. And with a great deal of enthusiastic help from Lorelai, we got the first one assembled this week and, while it would have made a great toddler fort in the living room, we set it up in the garden. Now I have no idea if it's going to work yet, but I have to say that I'm excited to try something new. To see if this way of doing things works in this particular garden. To see if, just maybe, something different actually works better.

The church has not, historically, been known for its great ability to change. We tend to settle into things and go with the flow. Adaptation comes slowly, if at all. And one of the greatest challenges that the church has continuously faced is the attitude that we are out of touch with the world around us.

Part of shepherding a 2000-year-old faith tradition is a certain amount of respect for and grounding in the history and traditions that come with that legacy. That's not a bad thing. But problems arise when we cease to remember the rally cry of the Reformation leaders from 500 years ago: *ecclesia reformata semper reformanda* – that is, the church reformed is always reforming. Who we are now is not who we were 10 years ago or 500 years ago. And it's not who will be 10 years from now. Let alone 20, 50, or 100 years from now. Our responsibility now is not simply to guard the legacy of what was, but to prepare for those who will carry it on and come after us. And that's not something we can wait to do. Patience is one thing, but abdicating our responsibility to plan for the future is another thing entirely.

You've probably heard me quote this famous Talmudic quote this year, and you'll hear it again: "It is not your duty to finish the work, but neither are you at liberty to neglect it." Walking the walk of faith is not a race with a specific destination – it's a journey of consistent effort. We have a responsibility to contribute to the ongoing work of God in this place at this time; and to explore those new things that might help us grow and flourish in the future.

In Christ,

Pastor Tanner

Still looking for HELP!! –

From the Archive Committee

We have a desperate need for photos and articles from years 2000 to 2025. We have very sparse amounts of materials from these years.

Please search through your memories from these years and consider submitting those materials for inclusion in Pilgrims Archives.

There is a purple storage case in the coffee room that you can deposit your photos in. Please identify the people in the photos as well as what year they are from. Please identify who gave them as well. So if we have any questions we will know who to talk to.



Then on May 13th we will be having an Identification Tea from 9:00 – Noon. We will have tea and treats. Looking for people to come in and look through photos and stuff. We need help in identifying lots of people. Hope to see a big group of people come.

Small Groups

Our first round of small groups is off and running and we're already excited to invite you to join the next round! This summer we're going to be digging into a book called, "Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith – A Lutheran Perspective on Faith Traditions in America".



Recognizing that hundreds of Christian denominations and dozens of non-Christian traditions have followers in the United States, we might ask: How do we view this wide variety of beliefs and practices? How does the Lutheran tradition compare with others? How do we walk the walk of faith and live in faithful harmony with our neighbors who believe and practice differently from us? Together we will explore 12 of these traditions, with opportunities to hear from our neighbors here in the Twin Ports who are part of those groups.

Small groups kick off the week of June 7th, and sign-ups are available in the narthex or by calling or emailing Pastor Tanner for more information. If you would like to be part of an online small group, we're also looking for folks to join a Zoom gathering – email tanner@plcsuperior.org to sign-up.

A reminder that these groups don't need to meet at the church and can be loosely organized around other groups that are meeting. Are you a retired couple who would be willing to host 2 or 3 other retired couples in your home once a week? Maybe you're a college student sticking around for the summer and looking to connect with other young adults. Perhaps you're in the choir and want to keep meeting with your fellow singers through the summer on Tuesday evenings. Or a working professional who's looking to get to know some folks on a patio with prayer. Find your people. Get signed up. And get excited for small groups this summer!

New Member Class

Are you interested in becoming a member here at Pilgrim Lutheran Church? Maybe you just want to learn a little more about who we are and what we're up to? Join us for a new member class and informational session on Sunday, June 7th after worship. Members of the congregation will be available to tell you a little more about Pilgrim and our ministries, and Pastor Tanner will be available to answer any questions you have about membership. A sign-up is available in the narthex



Newsletter News!!

With costs of everything rising we are trying to cut down on some costs. We are asking everyone to give us their email address and we will be sending out newsletters this way. If you still prefer to get a newsletter by mail please sign up for this. We are asking for a \$25.00 donation to cover the cost. It will be a yearly donation. Thank you for your help in this matter. There are sign up sheets for both in the narthex.



Rain Garden

Join us for a clean up of the Rain Garden on Barker's Island on May 2nd from 10:00 – noon, rain or shine. Pilgrim is the sponsor for this garden and we've had a good work crew the couple of times that we've done it. Donuts will be available. Bring work gloves and gardening shoes or boots. It's a rain garden so it might be a little wet. Other gardening implements will be available. If you have questions, please contact Greg or Colleen Elonen (715-394-9195). Hope to see you there.

Coins for the Community.

We will be collecting spare change for Seafarers Center for the next three months. Thank you for your continued support! We will let you know what was Collected for Safe Haven from 1st quarter was \$43.16. Thank you!!

Still collecting pop tabs. They will be going to the Ronald McDonald house in Duluth. These go to the funding of having families stay with their kids while they are in the hospital. It means so much to be able to have your family with you when you are going through medical things. Lets fill up the jars. Keep collecting those tabs. Thank You!!



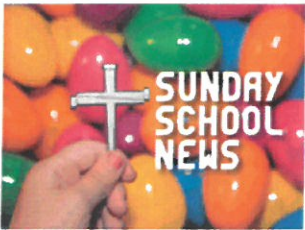
Confirmation News

Please join us for Confirmation Sunday on May 31st as we celebrate three amazing young people who are taking this important step in their lives of faith.

Michael Olson, Ashley Owskey, and Ava Walrath will affirm their baptismal promises and share about their faith during worship, as we surround them with prayers and blessings for their journey of faith.



Sunday School

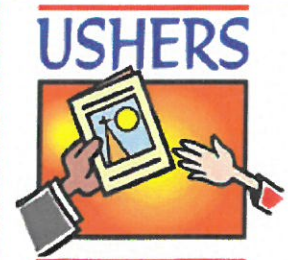


We will have Sunday School through May 31st. We hope you all have a wonderful summer. Watch for things to start up again in the fall.

Don't forget about VBS which will be held on June 22-26. Time 4:45 – 7:00 p.m. – Dinner from 4:45 – 5:30 at United Presbyterian Church, 229 N. 28th Street. Look for the flyer on the next page.

Looking for Ushers!!

We are looking to get a few more people on a team and even enough to start a 5th team. Then it is a 5 week rotation. If you have any questions talk to any of our ushers. There is a sign up sheet by the calendar in the narthex. Thank You for considering doing this.



Bell Choir

The last time the bells will play during church will be May 3rd. Watch for something in the newsletter and bulletins for this fall to see when they will start up again. Thank you to all the bell players and Lorelei for putting in the time to play for us. It was so enjoyable to listen during worship. Thank You!!

A free community Vacation Bible School brought to you by:
Concordia Lutheran Church, Our Savior's Lutheran Church,
Pilgrim Lutheran Church and United Presbyterian Church!



RAINFOREST FALLS

Exploring the Nature of God

June 22-26

for kids going into K-5th grade!

4:45-7p

Dinner is from 4:45-5:30p.

United Presbyterian Church

229 N. 28th St. in Superior

Use the QR code or the link to register!

<https://forms.gle/T697LykTbhaurVTJ9>



Our goal is to make VBS a truly inclusive experience. There is space on the registration form to share any accommodations your child may need.

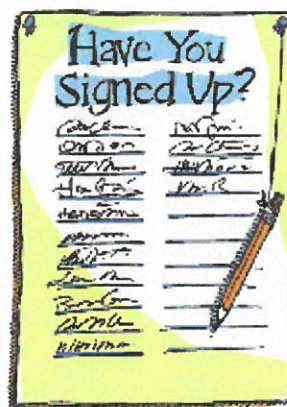


Sign Up Sheets

Have you seen how many sign up sheets we have. There are many things going on at Pilgrim. There is something there for anyone. They change all the time too.

Always check out the sign up area.

It is located under the big Calendar in the Narthex.



Theology on Tap

A space for faithful folks and questioners alike to gather, learn, and grow in faith

Wednesdays at 7:00
@ Keyport Lounge
1900 Belknap Superior

Questions? Contact Pastor Tanner
at Pilgrim Lutheran Church

We'd love to have you join the conversation at Theology on Tap – Wednesdays at 7:00 at Keyport Resturant (1900 Belknap Street). This is a fun, laid back gathering where we decide what we're talking about as we go and get to know each other along the way.

Grab a friend and we'll see you soon!

Community Meals

We are excited to be able to offer free meals for our community on the first and third Sundays of each month! First Sunday Suppers will continue to be held here at Pilgrim at 5:30, Zion and Pilgrim will be cooking.

We invite you to join us for meals on the Third Sunday at United Presbyterian Church from 4:30-6:30.

First Sunday Suppers

Free Community Meal

First Sunday of
the month at 5:30

Pilgrim Lutheran Church
820 Belknap Street

Everyone is Welcome!

Fireside Chats - Conversations About Faith

Each month our Generous Together Stewardship Team has asked a member of our congregation to reflect on their understandings of faith and their faith life. If you would be interested in contributing an article, please contact Pastor Tanner or a member of the committee. This month's submission is from Katie Howard.

Faith is a hard thing to write about, isn't it? It's a difficult thing to pinpoint and even harder to define. It can be defined as tangible. An actionable, lived-out experience that goes beyond Sunday church. It can be defined as a sensory experience, a moral compass that guides how you interact with the world around you, or a feeling. It can be simple, unquestioning and blind, or rational and evidence based. It's doubtful at times, and always profoundly powerful. If you're like me, you may define it as a little sprinkling of all the above. My faith looks different now than it did 10 years ago, and I imagine it will be totally different in the next 10. Cool, right?

I am in a unique season of raising very small children, and I'll be honest, church is hard right now. My attention is completely divided while I'm there. Sometimes I leave having no idea what the sermon or readings were about because I spent the entirety of the service soothing overtired babies. I am leaning heavily on my connection to the church and understanding that the simple act of showing up on Sunday is an act of faith and worship. I've realized it doesn't always have to be about what I take away from on a Sunday. Every time I look at my children, when I am rocking a crying baby in the middle of the night, putting my toddler back to bed after a bad dream, or when my husband and I collapse on the couch after putting all 3 kids to bed, I feel God's love.

Growing up, I attended youth group and church on Sundays at a Lutheran church in my hometown. I *loved* church. It was an incredibly positive experience, faith came easy, and I felt a strong connection to my youth leader and pastors. My faith had never really been tested, and I felt well supported by my faith community.

In my 20s, I was a working professional, unmarried, attending church and leading a small group in a completely different denomination, because that's where the friends I had made in that community went. I was showing up, but my connection to God was lacking. I was in church every Sunday, but my faith was weak. I started to realize that while I was spending time in "religious" environments, I wasn't spending authentic time in God's presence. God was patient, and I eventually found my way back.

You would think that as the wife of a pastor, faith would come easy, but that has not always been my experience. The first few years of our marriage, I felt my faith being tested. Tanner is a wonderful pastor, spiritual leader, and a deeply faithful person (I know I'm biased but stay with me here). He is your pastor, but he is not mine. He is my partner in life, my best friend, the father of my children. He is not my spiritual leader in the same sense and

certainly not my pastor. After we got married, I found myself without a formal pastor for the first time in my life and there is a nuance to attending church as the spouse of a pastor. I started finding new ways to strengthen my faith simply by being open to what God wanted to show me, where it felt like He was guiding me.

For every faith season, whether it feels strong or weak, I remind myself that on the other end of this invisible string is God. God is always strong, transformative, and consistent even when I'm not. I have never felt weaker in my faith when I spend time with Him, and the greatest thing about all of this is He is ever present. Our human understanding is that we invite Him into our space, but the reality is that perception downplays the strength of God. He is already in that space, whether we invite Him or not. He exists whether or not we choose to acknowledge that existence. He is with me at church on Sunday whether I catch the sermon or not, at 3am when I am rocking a sleeping baby, while I'm watching my kids play together, and in all other spaces I inhabit and for that I am so grateful! When I accept that He is there in all spaces and take intentional time to feel his presence, I feel my faith growing stronger.

Thank you!!

I would like to thank each and every one of you for all the calls, texts and messages I received on Administrative Professionals Day aka Secretaries Day. I am truly blessed to be working at Pilgrim. Pastor Tanner is a huge bonus to have as my boss (even if he put my picture on facebook).

Blessing to all of you.

Judy



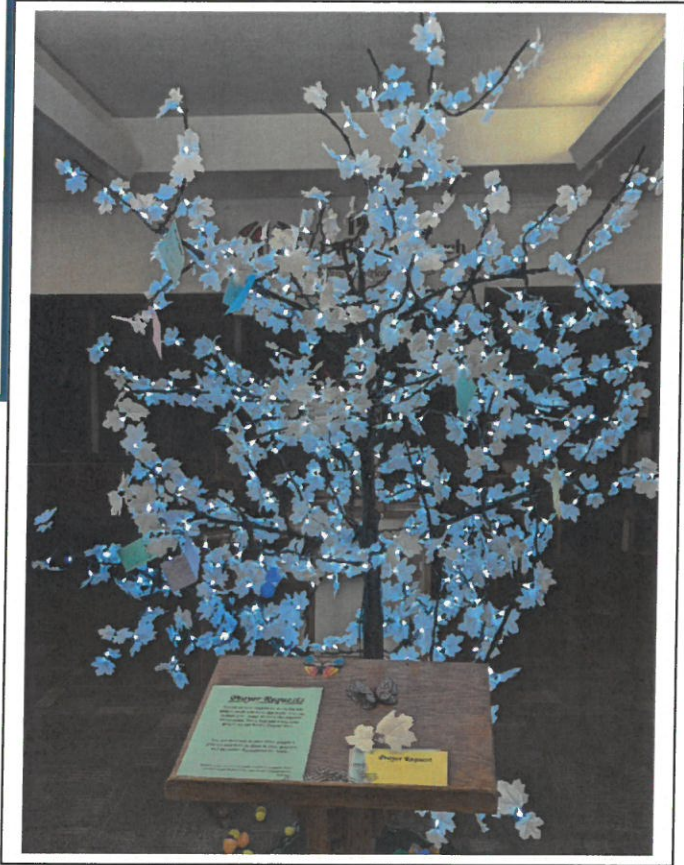
Did you know? Pastor Tanner has a trained therapy dog named Piper who loves to make new friends! She is hypo-allergenic and non-shedding, and is available to visit you at home and in some of the assisted and independent living facilities in the area. So if you need a pup-pick-me-up, let Pastor Tanner know!

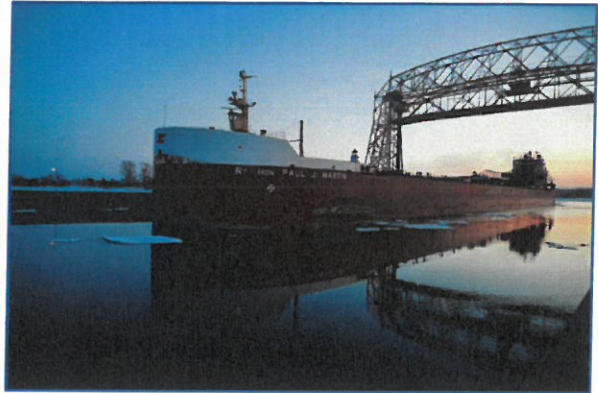
A reminder: If you or someone you know is in the hospital and you'd like Pastor Tanner to visit or call, please let the church office know. Federal law prohibits hospitals from calling the church and letting us know that you are ill, even if you've indicated who your church is on your forms. Thank you!





Here are a few pictures of things that have been happening around Pilgrim.





Blessing of the Port

Thursday, May 14th

Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center and Museum

4:00 pm **Self-directed tour of the museum**

5:00 pm **Blessing of the Port**



with the Twin Ports Ministry to Seafarers

Please invite your congregation
in your May newsletter and bulletins.





You!!

Remember how important you are to Pilgrim.

Pilgrim is a group of people that work together to help the church do what it does.

Without you Pilgrim wouldn't be here.

Without you we couldn't pay our bills.

Without you we couldn't take care of our building.

Without you we couldn't help others in our community.

Without you we couldn't teach youth in Sunday School.

Without you there wouldn't be a Pilgrim Church.

Thank you for all that you do to help Pilgrim help others.



SMALL
ACTS. 
BIG
IMPACT.

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

May 2026

Eliza's lessons scheduled
throughout the month

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 8:15 Bell Practice 9:30 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Confirmation Class 4:00 NA Group 5:30 Community Meals	4 <i>5:45—Girl Scouts</i>	5 5:30 Choir Practice <i>6:15 Martial Arts Class</i>	6 <i>11:00 Lessons, Teresa</i> 7:00 p.m. Theology on Tap	7 <i>10:00 Bible Study</i> <i>6:15 Martial Arts Class</i>	8 3:00–6:00 UWS using kitchen	2 <i>8:00 Martial Arts Class</i> 10:00—noon Clean up at Barkers Island Rain Garden
10 9:30 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Confirmation Class 1:30 NA Committee 4:00 NA Group <i>Happy Mother's Day</i>	11	12 5:30 Choir Practice <i>6:15 Martial Arts Class</i> 6:30 Council Meeting	13 9:00—Noon Identification Tea (Archives) <i>11:00 Lessons, Teresa</i> 7:00 p.m. Theology on Tap	14 10:00 Bible Study <i>6:15 Martial Arts Class</i> 5:00 CHIMS meeting at Pilgrim	15 <i>Progress Articles Due</i>	16 <i>8:00 Martial Arts Class</i>
17 9:30 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Confirmation Class 4:00 NA Group 5:30 Community Meals at UPC	18 <i>5:45—Girl Scouts</i>	19 5:30 Choir Practice <i>6:15 Martial Arts Class</i>	20 <i>11:00 Lessons, Teresa</i> 7:00 p.m. Theology on Tap	21 No Bible Study <i>6:15 Martial Arts Class</i>	22	23 <i>8:00 Martial Arts Class</i>
24 9:30 Worship— Pentecost Sunday 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Confirmation Class 2:00 Studio Recital 4:00 NA Group	25 <i>Memorial Day</i>	26 5:30 Choir Practice <i>6:15 Martial Arts Class</i>	27 <i>11:00 Lessons, Teresa</i> 7:00 p.m. Theology on Tap	28 10:00 Bible Study <i>6:15 Martial Arts Class</i>	29	30 <i>8:00 Martial Arts Class</i> 2:30 Studio Recital Dress Rehearsal
31 9:30 Confirmation Worship 9:45 Sunday School 3:00 Studio Recital 4:00 NA Group						