



PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

44 CHAPEL ROAD – KENMORE, NY 14217

(716) 875-5485

www.pilgrimkenmorelcms.org

A Congregation in Mission, Community and Service

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

AUGUST 2023

PASTOR: Rev. Ben Eder

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM

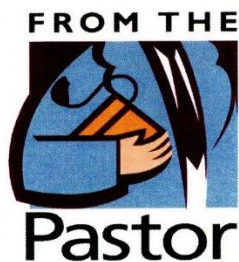
EDITOR: Mary Werth

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY: 9:30 AM

ASSOC. EDITOR:

WORSHIP: 10:00 AM





*“This is what the LORD says—
he who made a way through the sea,
a path through the mighty waters,
who drew out the chariots and horses,
the army and reinforcements together,
and they lay there, never to rise again,
extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:*

*“Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.*

See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?” - Isaiah 43:16-19

What do I say for my final newsletter article as pastor of this congregation? I want to reflect on what the Lord has been doing in the final months of my pastorate here.

As 2023 began, I explained that Pilgrim had two chief goals for this year: to put in the new organ and to replace me as pastor. The first goal has been accomplished, and we are praying and working to accomplish the second. It's all in God's timing, and a Divine Call has already been issued. My prayer is that Pastor Pratt will say “Yes” and that he will come to lead Pilgrim in short order.

I gave Pilgrim nine months' notice on my retirement, and now that day is almost here: my last Sunday as Pastor of Pilgrim is August 27th. Officially, my Call at Pilgrim and pay period ends on August 31st.

There is a lot that I could say in this article, but I want to stress only two things. First, I am grateful that the people of Pilgrim have always had a “high view” of the pastoral ministry. That is to say, they have a high respect for the pastoral office and the men who serve in that office. They recognize that the pastoral office is of divine origin, beginning in the Old Testament and extending through the New Testament and to the present time (this office shall remain until Christ returns on the Last Day).

Secondly, I am also thankful for the forgiveness the people of Pilgrim have extended to me through the years. It is not news to the people of Pilgrim that their pastor is a sinner, as all pastors are, and you have forgiven my mistakes, my failures, and my other deficiencies.

Throughout my ministry I have always tried to point others to Christ, not myself. I will continue to do that in my retirement. As Peter stated, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life!” *John 6:68*

Finally, I am excited about the new developments taking place at Pilgrim: the prospect of a new pastor; the addition of our new Administrative Assistant, Amber Trimmer; the influx of new members from Nazareth (and other places too). I will continue to pray for and be the biggest cheerleader of Pilgrim Lutheran Church.

God is doing a new thing at Pilgrim. Can't you see it?



SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE

AUGUST 2023

WEEKEND OF	Aug. 6	Aug. 13	Aug. 20	Aug. 27	
READER	Eric Fellner	Tim McGuan	Kathy Farkas	Mary Werth	
USHER	Jim Hartz	Dooley O'Rourke	Jim Miller	Tyrone Bryant	
COMMUNION ASSISTANT (Sat/Sun)	Dan Griebel/Eric Fellner	George Alessi/Tyrone Bryant	Rod Mohr/Mike Wuerch	Jim Hartz	



Thy will be done

Placing ourselves completely into God's hands can be challenging. If you need help in that area, pray these words from Thomas à Kempis: "Lord, you know what is best. May your will decide what shall be done. Give what you will, how much you will and when you will. Do what you know is best for me. Do what pleases you and brings your name most honor.

"Put me where you will, and deal with me in all things as you please. I am in your hand — turn me backwards and forwards, turn me upside down. Here I am, your servant, ready for anything, for I have no desire to live for myself but only to live perfectly and worthily for you."



2023 SUNDAY COUNTERS SCHEDULE

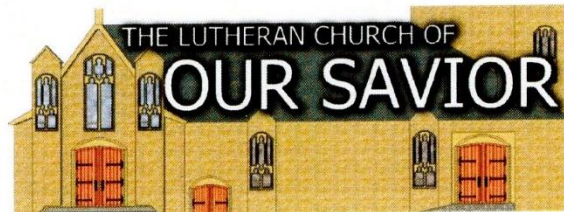
Monthly Rotation

	AUGUST
LEAD COUNTER	Mike Wuerch
COUNTER	Dolores Zeeb
COUNTER	Jim Hartz

We still need a few more congregational members to help count offerings after Sunday Service, on a Monthly rotating schedule.

If you feel the calling to do so, please contact Carolyn Alessi, Dianne or Mike Wuerch.

**OUR CURRENT ONLINE GIVING LINK IS NO LONGER ACTIVE.
WE WILL INFORM EVERYONE WHEN A NEW ONLINE SERVICE IS AVAILABLE.**



Our Savior Lutheran | 26 Brunswick Blvd Buffalo 14208

We are collecting donations to send monthly.
All donation amounts are welcome.
Please designate amount on your offering envelope.



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Mike Eder	Aug. 1
Gary Smith	Aug. 11
Carol Obot	Aug. 22
Adaline Trimmer	Aug. 23
Eric Fellner	Aug. 26



Aug. 26 Tim & Sharon McGuan



Ingredients for true success

How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these.

—George Washington Carver



ESTHER CIRCLE

The Esther Circle Book and Bake Sale is Saturday, August 5th, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We hope to set up outdoors, but if it is rainy we will be inside downstairs.

Our next meeting will be September 11th at 12:30 at church. We invite all women of Pilgrim to join us at that time. We especially invite the women from Nazareth to meet with us also. We usually meet on the second Monday of the month.

Remember our ongoing programs: mites can be given to Karen Smith; Dash's receipts to Sue Holway; used printer cartridges to Pat Watkins; and canceled postage stamps to Sharon McGuan. If anyone needs a box for mites (loose change) for missions, there are extra boxes on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Remember how good those Terri Lynn nuts and candies tasted? You can order online anytime—think about purchasing some for your own baking or for gifts.

As we enter a new phase here at Pilgrim, we thank Pastor Ben and Linda for all their service to Pilgrim. Pastor and Linda, it has been a joy to know you, and we will most definitely miss you. We wish you God's blessings in all you do and wherever you travel. (And we hope that in the future, you will return to "fill in" or visit from time to time.)

Please pray for improved health for all our church members and friends who are experiencing various health problems. May our loving and healing Lord keep us all in His care.

Carol Obot and Sue Holway



A small laugh

"God warned a man named Lot to take his wife and flee out of the city," said the Sunday school teacher, "but Lot's wife looked back and was turned to salt."

A curious boy then asked, "What happened to the flea?"



Please join us for a

Retirement

CELEBRATION

in honor of

Pastor Ben Eder

Sunday, August 27th

Sermon 10:00 am

District President/Bishop Jamison Hardy
will be present.

Catered Brunch for those Attending Sermon

Immediately Following

Fellowship Hall

Kindly Sign Up by August 15th

Please sign up by clicking on the link below.

We hope you will join us!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A45A5AA2FA2FB6-worship>

Esther Circle Outreach - Camp JOY 2023

The Lutheran Church of Our Savior

26 Brunswick Blvd, Buffalo, New York 14208



ALL FELLOWSHIP AND POT FAITH DONATIONS WILL GO TO CAMP J.O.Y.

Monday-August 14 - Friday-August 18, 2023 - 8:30am-4:30pm

The Camp J.O.Y, summer program encompasses a variety of structured activities that address the spiritual, educational, artistic, and physical aspects that reach and teach children and brings them JOY.

Camp J.O.Y, connects children with a faith community to build meaningful relationships, to know of Jesus and be gathered into His church as we plant seeds and nourish them along the way. The Camp J.O.Y, environment is the village away from home that is safe, enriching, and loving. Camp J.O.Y. activities are designed to give children a chance to unplug from technology to discover their creative powers and enhance their skills and abilities. Children ages 5 to 12 are engaged in a daily schedule of activities which includes nutritious breakfast and lunch Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm for six weeks: July 10-August 18.

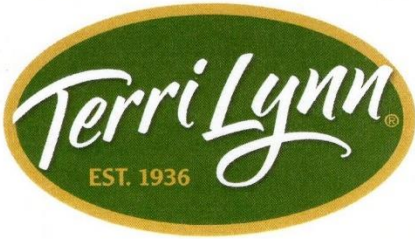
Camp J.O.Y. experiences - big, small, amazing, and ordinary add up to six weeks of growth, learning, love, JOY, and a huge amount of "Fun in the Son".

It is held at Our Savior Lutheran Church located at **26 Brunswick Blvd Buffalo, NY.**

Camp J.O.Y. August Sessions 2023

Monday-August 7 - Friday-August 11, 2023 -
8:30am-4:30pm

Monday-August 14 - Friday-August 18, 2023 -
8:30am-4:30pm



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Sweet & Salty Trail Mix



Dark Chocolate Sea Salt Caramels

All profits are used to support local charities such as Ken - Ton Meals on Wheels, Local Church Food Pantries, Lutheran Bible Translators, Lutheran Hour Ministries plus many others.

**Pilgrim Lutheran Church Terri Lynn's Webstore is
contactless, safe, and easy!!**

<https://pilgrimesthercircle.terrilynn.com>



We welcome you to “God’s Living Water”

Pilgrim’s Second Sunday VBS Celebrations for the 2023 - 2024 School Year!!

The theme for this year’s second Sunday VBS program is **God’s Living Water**.

In these second Sunday of the month sessions, we will learn how God has used water throughout the Bible to show us His grace, love and cleansing power which culminated in the life and death of Jesus, who called each of us in our baptism.

The stories we will celebrate this year are:

September - God Creates All Creatures

October – Water From the Rock

November – Thank You God for Your Saving Gifts

December – Jesus the Living Water is born

January – Naaman is Healed

February – Jesus At the Well

March – Jesus Washes the Disciples’ Feet

April – Jesus the Living Water Dies for our Sins

May – Thousands Believe in Jesus

June – Lydia Hears God’s Word

The Sunday morning sessions will begin at 9:00 am. And we will share our stories via short videos with the congregation during the worship service.

We look forward to sharing God’s Living Water will you!



Upcoming Events

Buffalo Zone LWML Picnic August 14th

The Buffalo Zone invites all women of Pilgrim to a Buffalo Zone Picnic on Monday, August 14th from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Chestnut Ridge Park, Shelter 27. There is no fee for this event which is always a lovely day of fellowship! There is no alternate rain date.

Please bring your own table service, beverage and a dish to pass. The Zone officers will bring dessert items. RSVP to Lisa Hoover at Lisdq@rocketmail.com if you would like to attend. Also please let Sharon McGuan, Sue Holway or Carol Obot know if you are planning to attend. We hope to car pool to this event.

Buffalo Zone Fall Event

Ladies, please Save the Date, Saturday, October 7 from 9:00 am to noon to attend The Buffalo Zone Fall Event. The site is to be determined. But the program has been set – Author, Educator and Speaker Ann Werk will be our featured speaker. Ann, former teacher and principal at St Paul Lutheran Church and School in Batavia, NY, is the author of several devotional books. She will be sharing her faith with us and encourage us as we share our faith with others. The Ingathering for this event is also to be determined, but we hope to see you on October 7th!

LWML Fall Retreat

The Eastern District LWML is sponsoring a retreat September 22 - 24th at Pioneer on the Lake, in Angola, NY. The theme “Encourage One Another” will be led by Pastor Pingle, President of the Eastern District. Registration forms are in the LINK, the LWML Eastern District newsletter. Registration is due by August 25th. Contact Carol Obot or Sharon McGuan for more information.

LWML Fall Retreat - Assistance Needed

The District LWML is looking for a certified Tai Chi instructor. If you know of someone that would be willing to lead some sessions at Pioneer on the Lake Camp on Saturday afternoon, September 23rd, please contact Beth Quinn at 610-761-0263 or bethquinn@gmail.com with the name and contact number. Or you can give the information to Sharon McGuan or Carol Obot and we will contact Beth for you. The instructor will be compensated.



SOCIAL MEDIA MESSAGES BRING COMFORT TO WOMAN

Evelyn has been unemployed due to paralysis that affects her face and right hand. Before she became paralyzed, she worked as a house cleaner and sold fruits and ice cream on the street. She has three kids and often goes several days without eating because she can't afford food and rent. The owner of the room she currently rents said if she didn't pay the rent, he would put their belongings on the street. She asked her family for financial assistance, but they were unwilling to help. One evening the LHM team received a message through their **Project JOEL** social media page from Evelyn. This message followed a recent social media campaign from **LHM—Guatemala** on the topic of "facing suicide." Evelyn reached out asking for help. She said she was tired of fighting to fix her family situation, and she had tried to take her life. LHM—Guatemala staff responded immediately and said they were there for her and ready to help. Evelyn messaged back and forth with LHM—Guatemala staff for a week. The staff member shared Evelyn's story with a few members at the local church, who were quick to give Evelyn the money she needed to pay her rent. Evelyn went to the LHM—Guatemala office to pick up the donation and was also given a Bible and food that would help feed her and her family. The staff members continue to provide spiritual counseling to Evelyn. She has continued selling fruit and ice cream and has expressed her gratitude to everyone at the ministry center.

BOOKLETS ENCOURAGE WOMAN

Ingrid is 41 years old and was recently diagnosed with cancer. She struggled emotionally after receiving the diagnosis and decided she would read an LHM—Guatemala booklet on anxiety. Since then, Ingrid has been in contact with LHM—Guatemala staff as they are giving her spiritual counseling through social media messaging. LHM—Guatemala staff invited her to join online activities to strengthen her relationship with God. Ingrid appreciates having the LHM staff who care about her and help her during a challenging time.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM ENCOURAGES SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS

LHM—Sri Lanka staff recently held a children's program that 114 Christian and non-Christian children attended. A local pastor brought his Sunday school children to the program and many of them were non-Christians enrolled in the LHM—Sri Lanka Bible classes. The children enjoyed the program so much that the pastor asked for the ministry's Bible lessons so he could use them in his Sunday school program. More children are now attending Sunday school and wanting to enroll in LHM's Bible course to learn about Jesus. The pastor is eager to work with LHM—Sri Lanka staff again and provide the Gospel message to more children in the area.



Use simple ingredients and your imagination to bake these fluffy, cloud-like treats.

What you need:

- 3 egg whites
- ½ tsp. vanilla extract
- Mixer
- 1 Tbsp. cornstarch
- Parchment paper

What you do:

1. Preheat oven to 300°. In a mixing bowl, combine egg whites and vanilla. Mix at medium speed until frothy.
2. While whisking, gradually add sugar and cornstarch. Keep whisking at high speed until stiff peaks form.
3. Spoon mixture onto a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Create fun shapes.
4. Bake 20 minutes. Cool and enjoy!



Creator of the stars

The stars and sky testify to God’s amazing power and creativity.

Directions: Use the clues and Bible passages to fill in the blanks. Then transfer the circled letters (in order) to the spaces below to complete a verse of praise.

God determines this and calls each star by name. (Psalm 147:4)

○ _ _ _ _ _

The heavens are the work of God’s what? (Psalm 8:3)

_ _ _ _ ○ _ _ _ _

What does God bring out one by one? (Isaiah 40:26)

_ _ ○ _ _

God made two great lights to do this. (Genesis 1:16)

○ _ _ _ ○ _ _ _

God promised Abraham this would be like the stars. (Genesis 15:5)

_ _ _ _ _ ○ _ _ _ _ _

The sun, moon and stars have this. (1 Corinthians 15:41)

_ _ _ ○ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ○ _

The lights in the sky serve as what? (Genesis 1:14)

_ _ _ _ _ ○ _ _

The heave__s declare the __lory __f __od;
the ski__s __roc__aim the wo__k of his ha__ds.

PSALM 19:1, NIV

Answer: number, fingers, hoar, govern, offspring, splendor, signs; The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Psalm 19:1, NIV

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER IS AUGUST 24TH.