



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

SEPTEMBER 2023

PASTOR: Rev. Chris Wicher (Interim)

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM

EDITOR: Mary Werth

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY: 9:30 AM

ASSOC. EDITOR:

WORSHIP: 10:00 AM

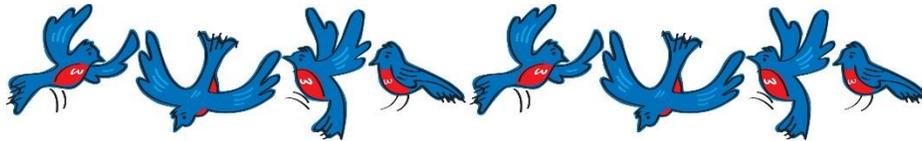




SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 2023

| WEEKEND OF | Sep. 2/3 | Sep. 9/10 | Sep. 16/17 | Sep. 23/24 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| READER (Sat/Sun) | Rhonda Mohr / Dianne Wuerch | Rhonda Mohr / Tyrone Bryant | Doreen Griebel / Mary Werth | Rhonda Mohr / Kathy Farkas |
| USHER | Mike Wuerch | George Alessi | Jim Miller | Melody Keef |
| COMMUNION ASSISTANT (Sat/Sun) | Rod Mohr / Mike Wuerch | Dan Griebel / Jim Hartz | Dave Porter / Tyrone Bryant | Rod Mohr / Eric Fellner |



Back-to-school humor

- Summer is over. Time to officially remember what day of the week it is!
- “Labor Day is a glorious holiday because your child will be going back to school the next day. It would have been called Independence Day, but that name was already taken.” (Bill Dodds)
- Receiving new textbooks, one student to another:
“Psst. How do you turn this thing on?”
- Parent: “What did you learn today?” Kindergartner:
“Not enough. I have to go back tomorrow.”

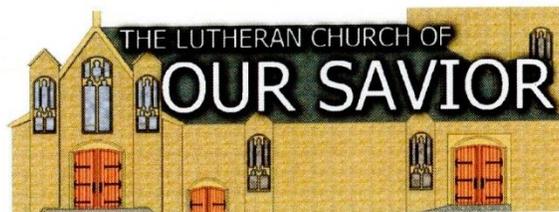


2023 SUNDAY COUNTERS SCHEDULE

Monthly Rotation

| | SEPTEMBER |
|--------------|----------------|
| LEAD COUNTER | Carolyn Alessi |
| COUNTER | Ruth Whitmer |
| COUNTER | Kathy Kornacki |
| | |

**We still need a few more congregational members to help count offerings after Sunday Service on rotating schedule.
If you feel the calling to do so, please contact
Carolyn Alessi, Dianne or Mike Wuerch.**



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.



| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Aubrey Trimmer | Sept. 4 |
| Lee Fellner | Sept. 13 |
| Cheryl Miller | Sept. 16 |

(If you would like your birthday and/or wedding anniversary in the newsletter, please contact Mary Werth by phone at 716-534-6922 or email: madragon99@yahoo.com. Thank you.)



If you want to purchase a floral arrangement for a certain Sunday, please sign up on the flower sheet in the back of church. Please sign up at least a week in advance and indicate the reason for the flowers so Amber can order them and put it in the bulletin. The arrangements now cost \$35, due to the florist's increased costs. Payment can be put in the offering plate. If you use your regular envelope or a pew envelope, please indicate the amount given for flowers. Thank you.



ESTHER CIRCLE

Our meeting is Monday, September 11th, at 12:30 p.m. AT CHURCH. Pastor Wicher, our interim pastor, will be at the meeting to discuss LWML Sunday, October 1st. All women of Pilgrim and Nazareth are welcome to attend.

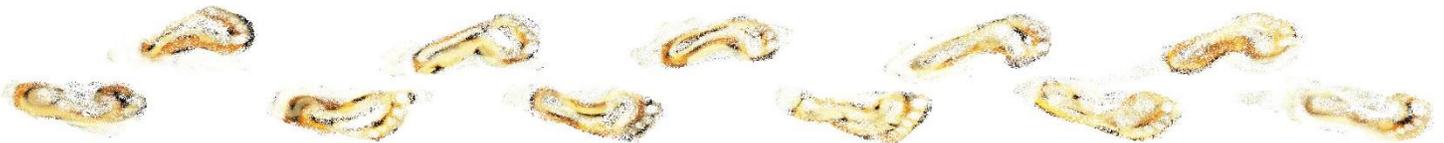
The Book & Bake Sale was a great success! Thank you to all who contributed items and to those who helped in the event.

REMINDER! Mites can be given to Karen Smith, Dash's receipts to Sue Holway, used printer cartridges to Pat Watkins and cancelled postage stamps cut with a 1/2-inch border to Sharon McGuan. Thank you for your continued support for these ongoing mission outreach projects.

Please support our ongoing fundraiser, the Terri Lynn Nuts & Candies sale. You can order online anytime. Information is posted on the board in the narthex. These make great gifts and baking creations.

We welcome Pastor Chris Wicher and his wife, Bev as our interim pastor. We pray for our church during this time of transition and search for a new Shepherd for Pilgrim. Fall is the season of colorful change! The Lord will give us guidance through this change and new season. God Bless!

Carol Obot & Sue Holway



PASTOR CHRIS WICHER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

PHONE: 716-951-0222
E-MAIL: chriscwicher@gmail.com

Esther Circle Meeting

Monday, September 11
12:30pm Fellowship Hall

Pastor Chris Wicher will be discussing
LWML Lutheran Women in Mission Sunday



ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED

FAVORITE RECIPES TO BAKE, CREATE, AND ENJOY

Terri Lynn's Signature nuts, snack mixes, and chocolates are delicious on their own; but they also make great ingredients for your homemade, tasty creations. Check out their recipes online and share them.

<https://www.terri Lynn.com/resources/recipes/pecan-rock-cookies>



PECAN ROCK COOKIES
USING
FANCY PECAN PIECES



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. Please help us support them. Thank you!

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

<https://pilgrimsthercircle.terri Lynn.com>



TERRI LYNN RECIPES

These classic cookies showcase our [Fancy Pecan Pieces](#). (And since we have teenagers in our test kitchen, we tossed in a few chocolate chips.) The result? You won't be able to eat just one!

PECAN ROCK COOKIES

INGREDIENTS

- 2/3 stick Butter (softened)
- 2/3 cup Sugar
- 1 Egg (beaten)
- 1 1/3 cup Flour (sifted)
- 2 tbsp Water
- 1 pinch Salt
- 1 tsp Allspice
- 1 tsp Cinnamon
- 1 tsp Nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp Baking Soda
- 1 cup Chopped dates
- 2 cups Terri Lynn Fancy Pecan Pieces
- 1 cup Chocolate Chips

DIRECTIONS

- Cream sugar and butter.
- Add eggs.
- Blend in flour. Add water.
- Blend in spices and baking soda
- Add chopped pecans, dates and chocolate chips.
- Spoon batter onto a well-greased cookie sheet.
- Bake in a preheated oven 350 degrees till golden brown, about 12-15 mins.



Members of Pilgrim:

A member of Redeemer Lutheran Church (Sharon McGuan's father's church) is asking for used glasses to take on an Eye Clinic Missionary Trip to the Dominican Republic this December. The doctors match the prescription of your used glasses to the prescription needs of the people coming to the clinic.

If you have used eyeglasses and would like to donate them, please leave them in the box on the table in back of the sanctuary labeled "Eyeglasses for Dominican Republic". Sharon and Tim McGuan will deliver the glasses to Ohio near the end of October. Thank you for any support you can give to this ministry.

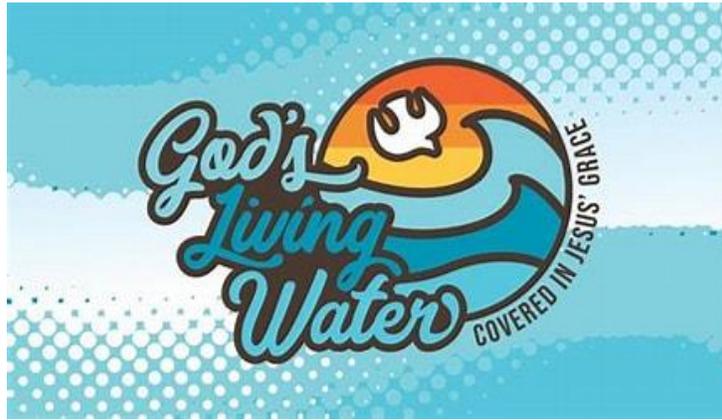


Prayer warriors

After tragedies, natural disasters and terrorism, people now commonly turn to social media to request prayers. Although it can feel "jarring" to see "so many references to the divine in spaces normally reserved for vacation photos," writes journalist Eleanor Barkhorn, it's a modern-day version of the New Testament's reminders to pray constantly and in all circumstances.

Over the years, churches have encouraged members to pray through letters, phone chains, prayer breakfasts and prayer groups. "With that context in mind," Barkhorn writes, "Facebook shouldn't cheapen prayer any more than the Postal Service or the telephone does."

Russell Moore of the Southern Baptist Convention says, "Asking for prayer via Twitter or Facebook is no different than calling someone and saying, 'We should really pray for this.' ... Social media can be a tremendous force for good in alerting people to things they can be praying about right away."



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

**** Starting on September 10th, 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!



SAVE THE DATES

LWML EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!



**LWML Fall Event
Saturday, October 7, 2023**

9:00am to Noon

**St. Paul Lutheran Church
3487 N. Boston Road
Eden, NY 14057**



Ann Werk will be the speaker.

**The hands-on project will be tying blankets and making “Visual faith seed packets”
which will all be given to Jericho Ministry in Buffalo, NY.**

RSVP Please by October 2, 2023

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!
I’LL MISS YOU IF YOU’RE NOT THERE!!!**

God be with you always!





2023–2025 Mission Grants

1. Orphan Grain Train Servant Center — Orphan Grain Train, U.S. \$100,000
2. A Healing Space for At-Risk Children — Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, ND \$100,000
3. Serving God's Children with Special Needs — Journeys Lutheran School, Milwaukee, WI \$100,000
4. Fortifying Faith in Those with Vision Impairment — Lutheran Braille Workers \$100,000
5. Disaster Response Team — Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler, TX \$50,000
6. Mobile Kitchen — Forged by Fire Services, Gulf Coast Region, U.S. \$85,000
7. Upheld by God's Hand, Mental Health Outreach — LCMS Life Ministry \$96,500
8. Expanding Gospel Proclamation Worldwide — Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO \$100,000
9. Equipping Young Leaders — LCMS Youth Ministry \$50,000
10. Set Apart To Serve — LCMS Office of Pastoral Education \$100,000
11. Lutheran Women in Mission Finish the Job — Ministry in Mission, Haiti \$85,000
12. Sharing Christ Crucified with High School Youth — Lutheran High School of Greater New Orleans, LA \$35,000
13. Water and the Word — Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya \$80,000
14. Enhancement of Deaf Ministry and Outreach — Ephphatha Lutheran Mission Society, U.S. \$47,000
15. Feeding Haitian Children Through Gospel and Meals — Trinity HOPE \$58,082

16. Care for Street Children of Western Kenya — Capstone Ministries \$50,000
17. Nurturing Faith for the Aging — Lutheran Ministries Media (Worship Anew) \$100,000
18. Zoe's Home Support — Zoe's Home, Trinity Lutheran Church, Clinton, MO \$75,000
19. Tanzania Children's Homes — Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, Africa \$74,500
20. Sharing Christ with Women and Children in Kazakhstan — Lutheran Hour Ministries \$100,000
21. Healthy Together: Healthy Workers, Healthy Church — Lutheran Family Services, U.S. \$106,000
22. Expanding Gospel Outreach to Hispanics in U.S. — Lutheran Hour Ministries \$100,000
23. A Legacy of Love for Special Needs Children — Lutheran Special Education Ministries, U.S. \$100,000
24. God's Word for Central and South American Missions — Lutheran Heritage Foundation \$100,000
25. Bringing God's Word to India — India Bible Translation Project \$100,000
26. Life Connection Events and Kits — Lutherans for Life \$70,000
27. Siouxland Lutheran Hispanic Ministry — Hope Lutheran, South Sioux City, NE \$50,000
28. Growing Our Place: Care for Special Needs Students — Our Place After School Care, Inc., NE \$20,000
29. Repairs for St. Paul's Lutheran School — St. Paul Lutheran School, Cullman, AL \$50,000
30. Showering Love on the Least of These — Mercy Holistic Ministry, CA \$100,000
31. PARTIAL Breaking Generational Poverty in Detroit — Camp Restore Detroit, MI \$58,988.62



MAKING GOD'S LOVE VISIBLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

With recurring political turmoil, social instability, and high unemployment rates among the challenges faced each day, people throughout the Middle East and North Africa search for hope and peace for their lives that are often filled with emptiness. Desperate for hope, they question the best path forward for themselves, their families, and their countries.

In much of the region, personal interaction involving religion can violate the law or risk peoples' safety. Written materials entail tight government restrictions. Moreover, because illiteracy is particularly high in many countries, much of the population turns to social media videos and satellite television broadcasts as primary sources of information. Individuals can visit digital platforms or tune in to programs from the privacy of their homes without fear of backlash.

Over the past several years, LHM has partnered with SAT-7 to produce satellite TV programming that shines the light of Christ into dozens of countries throughout the Middle East and North Africa. Many viewers watching these broadcasts hear about Christ for the first time or have incorrect knowledge about Christianity. This partnership continues to flourish as we near the completion of a third season of New Light, a weekly, 55-minute talk show where three co-hosts engage the audience and introduce a topic for the program. Going live for the first time this season has enabled real-time viewer interaction by bringing more voices and variety to the program. Other new features to capture the attention of viewers include a segment with youth guests in the studio, outdoor interviews, a spiritual message, and pre-recorded inspirational success stories. Plans are now underway for a fourth season.

Many viewers reach out to the SAT-7 audience relations team through social media following the broadcasts seeking more information about what they heard and how it can fill the emptiness in their lives. "Most of the time, I don't know what feelings are supposed to come out," shared one viewer of the program. "I am also afraid to lose my feelings in fear of being broken, so I keep guarding them inside me. In talking with your team, I learned more about God's love and how His love can fill every need and void I have. God's Word is truly real, and the first steps are prayer and getting close to God. Thank you for talking this through with me. I am now seeing change in my life."

In addition to reaching people through satellite television broadcasts, LHM has also encountered tremendous success sharing God's love with people in this region through four social media platforms. In the past year, LHM messages have reached tens of millions of people, and nearly 1.5 million from throughout the region have responded by subscribing to LHM pages. LHM staff has had conversations with tens of thousands of these individuals where they shared the message of God's hope and love for their lives.

Two recent stories illustrate not only the incredible reach of ministry through paid social media advertisements, but the tremendous power the Holy Spirit has to transform lives. Samia is a 19-year-old woman from Algeria, while 3,000 miles to the east is Aaron, a 29-year-old man living in war-torn Yemen. Both were reached by the same LHM social media post that contained a short video message called Facing Your Fears.

Both grew up following the majority faith in their region but had nagging doubts and questions. Samia was abused when she was young and had found her religious texts lacked love and compassion. Aaron was seeing war and suffering all around him and was in pain from living in fear. Both yearned to know the unconditional love of our God.

Over time, LHM staff and volunteers were able to share the Gospel with Samia and assure her that through Jesus, God shows His limitless love and grace towards us. After several days, she asked LHM staff to help her become Christian. After praying and repenting of her sins, she felt moved by the Holy Spirit to accept the gift of faith. She said, "I am crying! Is this normal?" She is now reading the Gospel of John. Please pray that her faith continues to be strengthened.

With Aaron, LHM staff shared how faith in God strengthens us and His eternal plan for our salvation gives us hope, comfort, and peace to work through any earthly trial. In time, Aaron asked, "How can I change my perspective about God?" LHM staff members shared that our perspective comes through our knowledge of, and relationship with, Christ. Aaron was not yet convinced. He said that only God [the Father] can forgive sins. Our staff taught him more about Jesus, sharing testimonies about redemption that comes only through Christ. At last, Aaron confessed he wished to know Christ. LHM staff prayed with him as he was called to faith through the power of God's Word. The LHM team continues to nurture him as he now lives in confidence as a child of God.

Armor of God Word Search

D R O W S R B C J P E A C E S
 B R E A S T P L A T E N E H T
 S N O I T A T P M E T O L T A
 B A T T L E S S P C W I B U N
 B R L S T H P N E P O T I R D
 B E O H H I E T S R H A B T F
 B G G M R O O L R A A V L P X
 W I O I R R E P M Y D L S S K
 F G T A P A H S G E W A W X E
 D L E I H S W E A R T S I J D

ARMOR
 BATTLE
 BELT
 BIBLE
 BREASTPLATE
 FIGHT
 HELMET
 PEACE
 PRAYER

PROTECT
 SALVATION
 SPIRIT
 SHIELD
 SHOES
 STAND
 SWORD
 TEMPTATIONS
 TRUTH
 WEAR

