



PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

44 CHAPEL ROAD – KENMORE, NY 14217

(716) 875-5485

A Congregation in Mission, Community and Service

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

MAY 2018

PASTOR: Rev. Ben Eder

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM

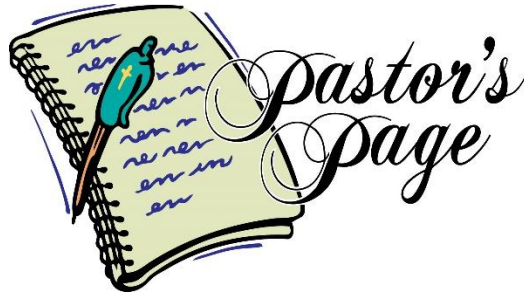
EDITOR: Mary Werth

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY: 9:30 AM

ASSOC. EDITOR:

WORSHIP: 10:00 AM





Thursday, May 10th, is Ascension Day; although many (perhaps most) Lutheran churches no longer observe it with a separate worship service, it is an important development in the life and ministry of Christ.

Forty days after his resurrection from the dead, Jesus ascended into heaven: in doing so he returned to the realm from which he first came. The ascension of Jesus was not merely spiritual but included his entire person and being.

If Jesus had not ascended into heaven, then where would he be today? Since he did not stay dead but rose again from the dead, we would not be looking for a body that is buried somewhere on earth. If he had not ascended into heaven, then the Holy Spirit would not have come in his place.

While the ascension of Jesus implies that Jesus “went away,” in truth he is with us now and for all time, for he promises, “Lo, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Being true God and perfect Man, Jesus is omnipresent (which means he is “present everywhere”). Thanks to the coming of the Holy Spirit ten days after Jesus’ ascension, Jesus is now made available to all who call on him.

In addition, Lutherans believe and confess that Jesus is truly present among us in the elements of bread and wine of his Holy Supper for our forgiveness. When the Words of Institution are spoken over the bread and wine on the altar, Jesus is truly present “in, with, and under” the elements of bread and wine for the forgiveness of all who receive this Sacrament in genuine repentance and faith. This is a truth that most other Christians deny: Zwingli and then Calvin (of the Reformed Church) taught that since Jesus is now in heaven, how could his body also be in the bread and wine? Luther countered that when Jesus said “Take, eat, this is my body,” we are to take him at his word: all things are possible with God.

In the meantime, let us take to heart Jesus’ parting words to the Church before he ascended: *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”* – Matthew 28:18-20

Jesus’ parting words are known as Jesus’ “Great Commission” to the Church. These are not empty words but backed up with the promise and authority of Jesus. Let us go forth in confidence, under Jesus’ directive and in his power, that others may hear of him, believe, and be saved.

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Ben Eder



SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE

MAY 2018

DATE ➡	May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27	
READER	Karen Smith	Eric Fellner	Tim McGuan	Carolyn Alessi	
USHERS	Eric Fellner * Gary Smith	Tegwanda Alford * Peggy Clark	Tyrone Bryant * Jim Miller	Mike Weurch * Dianne Weurch	
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Jim O'Brien	Gary Smith	Eric Fellner	George Alessi	
NURSERY	Linda Eder	Ruth & Gaby O'Brien	Peggy Clark	Carol Obot	
ACOLYTE	Lily Hinterberger	Seth Keef	An usher	Philip Hinterberger	



Pentecost petals

The Pantheon, dedicated in 126 A.D. as the home of ancient Roman gods, is now a Catholic basilica. In a tradition dating back to the seventh century, on Pentecost Sunday thousands of rose petals are dropped through the roof's opening onto worshipers below. The red petals symbolize the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus' disciples, as well as the blood Jesus shed on the cross.

To accomplish this "rose rain," five firefighters climb to the roof after mass. While the choir sings the ancient hymn *Veni Creator Spiritus* ("Come Creator Spirit"), firefighters empty seven bags of petals through the building's 27-foot-wide oculus, or eye in the sky.



BLESSINGS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY

Carolyn Alessi	May 8
Tyrone Bryant	May 9
Mark Eder	May 18
Peggy Clark	May 29
Gail Rodgers	May 30



Anniversaries this Month

May 11	Rob & Carol Gross
May 17	Frank & Carolyn Alessi



*** IF YOUR BIRTHDAY AND/OR ANNIVERSARY IS NOT LISTED, PLEASE LET ME KNOW SO I
CAN ADD YOU TO MY LIST. THANK YOU – MARY WERTH ***



As Pilgrim's LHM Ambassador, I receive an Ambassador e-newsletter with various items of interest. I will be sharing some of these items with you beginning with this month's newsletter. – Mary Werth

PRAYER WARRIORS: LHM is a global family of believers. Together, we are united in mission and ministry. This page gives you a space to pray for members of the LHM family and share your own prayer requests. When you sign up to be an LHM Prayer Warrior, we will send you a **FREE** digital resource named Prayer: When You Don't Know What To Say that explores why and how we should pray – www.lhm.org/prayer.



ADDRESS UPDATES

Harvey Caldow
Sunrise of Jacksonville
4870 Belfort Rd., Apt. 319
Jacksonville, FL 32256

Harriet Kirsch
Schofield Rehabilitation & Residence
3333 Elmwood Ave.
Kenmore, NY 14217



Thanks, Mom!

At his graduation, a young man tasked with giving a speech began reading from some notes. "I want to talk about my mother and the wonderful influence she had on my life," he said. "She's a shining example of parenthood, and I love her more than words can ever do justice."

The graduate then paused, appeared to struggle a moment and looked up at the audience with a mischievous smile. "It's really hard to read my mom's handwriting," he said.



ESTHER CIRCLE

At our meeting on April 9th, Lee Anne Soto from the Northtown Pregnancy Center in Kenmore was our guest speaker. We learned that it is a Christian-based organization. It is non-profit and relies on donations for funding. They offer women alternatives to abortion. The Center is looking for volunteers and donations. If you are interested in helping this organization, the phone number is 716-800-2309.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!

May 20th – Pot Faith Luncheon

June 16th – Annual Baked Goods Sale

August 18th – Rummage Sale.

Our next meeting is on Monday, May 14th, at 6:30 p.m. at the church.

From Karen Smith: “This is my third year as president of the Esther Circle. It has been a pleasure to serve in this capacity, but I have decided that this will be my last year. So, we are looking for someone to take over the reins starting in September. Ladies, please prayerfully consider taking this position. If you are interested, contact any member of the Esther Circle. If the Esther Circle is to continue, we will need a leader. Will it be you?”



COMMUNITY DINNER

The next Community Dinner will be on Friday, May 4th, from 5 to 7 p.m. The menu is spaghetti and meat sauce with sausage, salad, bread and butter and assorted desserts and beverages. This dinner is sponsored in part by the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.

P.A.L.s MEETING

The P.A.L.s (Pilgrim Active Laymen) will meet on Saturday, May 19th, at 9:00 a.m. at the Olympic Restaurant at Military Road and Sheridan Drive. All men are welcome to join us.



**SPREAD THE TIDINGS!
SPREAD THE WORD!**

Spread the Tidings!
Spread the Word!
Jesus is alive and well;
He's erased all sin and sorrow
He has walked the floors of hell.

Jesus opened heaven's portals
We can take Him at His Word;
Spread the Tidings of our Savior
He has saved us by the Sword.

He has helped us in our conflicts
He has set the prisoner free.
Spread the Tidings!
Spread the Word!
He is all in all to me.

Halleluiah!
Thine the glory!
Praise His name of power divine;
He has welcomed us to heaven --
O, such bliss we now enshrine!

Jesus opened heaven's gateway
Bless His name and spread the Word;
We've been rescued from all darkness
Thank You, Savior! Praise the LORD!

5/20/2006 -- Doris V. Neumann



You are invited to attend Vacation Bible School 2018 from 6:00 PM to 8:15 PM, Monday, July 9th through Friday, July 13th!! This year's VBS Theme is *Splash Canyon: God's Promise On Life's Wild Ride*.

Pilgrim's VBS offers a preschool program for children four and five and a grade school program for children to 12 years. We are also asking all our preteen members and teens to come and help, assisting and sharing their faith with the young children. Registration sheets will be in the church narthex and the next church newsletter.

Adults can join in many ways:

- + assisting our five-day staff for one, two, or up to five days*
- + attending the special VBS adult bible class, led by Pastor Ben*
- + donating supplies that will be listed on the church bulletin board*
- + donating to our \$100 VBS Madagascar Mission Goal: raising money to buy Bible-based books for the churches in Madagascar*

So, what is the program??

Here are some of the wonderful BIBLE promises we will be sharing:

God said, "I will be with you." Exodus 3:12

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall NOT overwhelm you." Isaiah 43:2

And . . . this is the promise that He made to us - eternal life. 1 John 2:25

I do not know about you, but those verses are a comfort to me in today's world. So, I am looking forward to sharing those verses, and the accompanying stories, with all the grade school age kids, teen helpers and adult leaders that come to the VBS Storytelling Center.

Our Bible school will be a beautiful and joyful place! Not just because of the creative and beautiful decorations, the delicious snacks and the exciting crafts and games; but because together we will gather around God's Holy Word and sing His praises!

Our stories this year tell of the faith journeys of Moses, Joshua, Naaman, Paul and Jesus' baptism. They are stories that build faith and trust in Jesus, our Lord and Savior.

So, again, we invite you all. Please put this special week on your calendar now. Please pray for our VBS team and all the people who will be attending. And prayerfully consider registering your children and grandchildren, attending yourself and bringing a guest to celebrate *Splash Canyon: God's Promise On Life's Wild Ride!*

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

44 Chapel Road – Kenmore NY 14217

716-875-5485

July 9th to July 13th @ 6pm – 8:15pm

2018 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION (One form per child, please)

*Student First Name: _____

*Student Last Name: _____

Nickname: _____

Age: _____

Gender: Male Female

Grade just finished: _____

Home Church (if applicable): _____

Allergies: _____

Medical Issues or Special Needs: _____

Place my child in the same group as (child's name): _____

*Parent Name (first and last): _____

*Address: _____

*City: _____

*State: _____

*Zip: _____

*Email: _____

*Home Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Other Phone Number: _____

Emergency Contact (first and last name): _____

Emergency Phone: _____

Alternate Pickup (first and last name): _____

Alternate Pickup Phone: _____

General Information: _____

Medical Release: I give my permission for the VBS staff to administer basic first aid to my child (named above) in the event of an injury. I understand that the VBS staff will contact emergency services in the event of a significant injury and all expenses for such emergency services will be paid by me.

Photo Release: I hereby grant the above named church permission to copyright and use photographs/videos taken at VBS of the minor designated above in any manner or form for any purpose lawful at any time. I waive any right that I may have to inspect or approve the finished product or written copy, that may be used in conjunction therewith, or the use to which it may be applied.

Parent Signature

Date



WNY Veterans Housing Coalition, Inc. (WNYVHC) was founded in 1987 to provide housing for homeless Veterans and Veterans with special needs. Since then the organization has expanded its focus by developing and managing residential housing for low income persons, severely disabled, homeless, and other persons who have special needs. Our main focus has been and always will be Veterans first.

The agency currently manages four apartment complexes consisting of 100 units in the City of Buffalo. It provides housing, case management and program services to individuals who might otherwise face homelessness.

What separates us from other property development and management organizations is the Continuum of Care component that provides case management services. Through a variety of supportive services offered to tenants, the focus is on homeless prevention and referrals to agencies that can meet their needs. WNYVHC is at the forefront of setting a national trend in providing special needs housing for Veterans while addressing the complex factors and issues facing Veterans today.

Celebrating our 30th year in 2017, WNYVHC has assisted well over 20,000 Veterans with housing, case management, homeless prevention, employment and referrals.

In 1996, WNY Veterans Housing Coalition, Inc. was nationally recognized as a recipient of the prestigious "All American City Civic Empowerment Award" for its ability and reputation for implementing specialized and unique veteran and non-veteran special needs housing initiatives and partnerships commensurate with its Mission.

In May 2000, the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, in Washington, D.C., presented a special recognition award for demonstrated leadership within the homeless provider network.

WNYVHC's long term goal is to continue to aggressively search for new ways to improve housing and the quality of life for those who served when their country called and to assist other communities and organizations in addressing the needs of these special populations. Visit our website to learn more: www.wnyvhc.org.

HEART LIGHT

This Mother's Day, make a bright gift for someone special in your life.

Mom, you're the light of my life!



What you need:

- Scissors
- Cardstock
- Tape
- Mason jar
- Primer paint
- Acrylic paint (3 colors)
- Paintbrushes
- Battery-operated tea light
- Paper and pen
- Hole punch
- Twine

What you do:

1. Cut out two cardstock hearts and tape them to the jar sides, near the bottom.
2. Paint the entire jar with primer paint. Let dry.
3. Paint splotches of acrylic paint over the primer. Let dry. Remove the heart shapes.
4. Place the tea light in the jar.
5. Write a note that says, "Mom, you're the light of my life!" Punch a hole in one corner of the note, thread twine through the hole and tie the note around the jar's neck.



WORTHY OF RESPECT

On Mother's Day, we celebrate our moms and everything they do for us. How does God tell us to treat our moms?



Directions: Using the key below, fill in the blanks to complete Deuteronomy 5:16, NIV.

A	C	D	M	N	O
E	F	G	P	R	S
H	I	L	T	U	Y

" _____ your _____
 and your _____,
 the _____ your _____ has
 _____."
 _____ 5:16, NIV

Answer: "Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you." Deuteronomy 5:16, NIV

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE
JUNE NEWSLETTER IS MAY 27TH.