



PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

44 CHAPEL ROAD – KENMORE, NY 14217

(716) 875-5485

A Congregation in Mission, Community and Service

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

AUGUST 2019

PASTOR: Rev. Ben Eder

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM

EDITOR: Mary Werth

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY: 9:30 AM

ASSOC. EDITOR:

WORSHIP: 10:00 AM



From the Pastor

Since summer is the season of weddings, I thought I would take this time to review what Jesus says about marriage. His main instruction on marriage is found in Matthew 19:3-12:

³ And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, “Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?” ⁴ He answered, “Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, ⁵ and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? ⁶ So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.” ⁷ They said to him, “Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce and to send her away?” ⁸ He said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. ⁹ And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery.”^[a]

¹⁰ The disciples said to him, “If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry.” ¹¹ But he said to them, “Not everyone can receive this saying, but only those to whom it is given. ¹² For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who is able to receive this receive it.”

From this passage we can deduce several things.

1. God made man “male and female.”
2. In marriage “the two become one flesh.”
3. “What God has joined together, let not man separate.”
4. Divorce is only permitted in the case of adultery or desertion.
5. Some have been called to singleness and do not desire to marry.

This is marriage as the Church has defined it for the past two millennia. Due to man’s “hardness of heart,” sinful human beings continue to redefine what marriage is and also alter the standards for divorce. In some cultures, it is permissible to have more than one wife at the same time: although examples of polygamy are found in the Old Testament, it was not God-pleasing. Jesus brings us back to God’s original intent for marriage by referring to Adam and Eve at creation.

Since marriage is a practice regulated by the state, certain practices concerning marriage and divorce have been altered from God’s original plan (same sex marriage, “no fault” divorce among them). The task set before the disciple of Christ is to remain faithful to God’s original intent regarding marriage, divorce, and singleness. May the LORD keep us faithful in the various estates He has placed us.

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Ben Eder



SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE

AUGUST 2019

DATE →	Aug. 4	Aug. 11	Aug. 18	Aug. 25	
READER	Wes Weirs	Ruth Whitmer	Carolyn Alessi	Abigail Size	
USHERS	Scot LaFalce * Traci LaFalce	Eric Fellner * Gary Smith	Peggy Clark * Tegwanda Alford	Tyrone Bryant * Jim Miller	
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Eric Fellner	George Alessi	Frank Alessi	Jim O'Brien	
NURSERY	Jim & Gabby O'Brien	Carolyn Alessi	Amber Trimmer	Linda Eder	



The Master's works

As a skilled inventor, John Muir was a prized factory employee in Indianapolis. If not for an industrial accident in his 20s, he may have spent his life making things indoors. But after recovering from being temporarily blinded, Muir headed on a 1,000-mile walk to “consider the lilies.” He then began doing that literally, as a botanist.

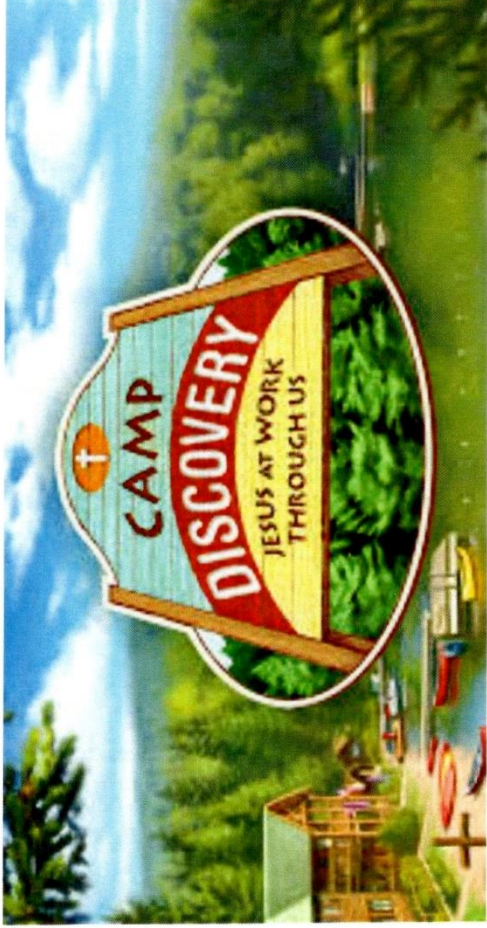
To his résumé, the 19th-century Renaissance man added naturalist, glaciologist, conservationist, founder of the Sierra Club, and Father of National Parks. Yet when Muir was asked what he did, he replied simply, “I study the inventions of God.”



Mike Eder	Aug. 1
Gary Smith	Aug. 11
Jarrold Clark	Aug. 13
Veronica Keef	Aug. 13
Carol Obot	Aug. 22
Adaline Trimmer	Aug. 23
Eric Fellner	Aug. 26
Bob Rigerman	Aug. 28
Hans Heckleman	Aug. 31



Aug. 26 **Tim & Sharon McGuan**



SAVE THE DATE!!

AUGUST 5th-9th

5:30pm –8:00pm

FREE LIGHT MEAL @ 5:30 FOR ANY CHILD ATTENDING!!

Welcome Ages 3 (toilet trained) -12 Year Olds!

6:00 pm – 8:00pm Songs, Storytelling, Crafts, Games & Snack

A SPECIAL EVENT ON FRIDAY for Children Attending

ZOOMOBILE- WORLD SAFARI

CONTACT CAROL OBOT for REGISTRATION DETAILS

716- 873-5303

carolobot1@aol.com

Pilgrim Lutheran Church – 44 Chapel Road – Kenmore NY 14217



ESTHER CIRCLE

On August 12th at 6:30 pm, we will be relaxing along the Niagara River in Niawanda Park near “Mississippi Mudds”. It will be a casual meeting & fellowship. Those who want to carpool, please meet at the church by 6:15 pm. Bring a chair!

The 4th Sunday of the month, the Esther Circle provides refreshments during coffee hour. This year’s collection on these Sundays and at the Pot Faith meals is going to Hananiah Lutheran Church’s Food Pantry. Your continued support is appreciated. Thank You!

REMINDER! Used stamps trimmed with a quarter inch border and old printer ink cartridges can be given to Pat Watkins. The stamps are used for a mission project that provides Bibles to prisoners. The money from the ink cartridges is used for various mission projects. Karen Smith will accept your “mites” (pennies and other change) for LWML mission projects. Sue Holway will collect your Dash’s grocery receipts.

Carol Obot & Sue Holway

VBS ALERT!

There will be an Adult Bible Study 6-8 pm. during VBS week.

The committee is asking for monetary donations towards the purchase of food items for the light meals that will be served. You can designate VBS on an envelope and place it in the offering plate. There will also be a basket at the back of the church.

There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board for Snack Time items. Thank you from the VBS committee!

LWML dates to remember

August 8, 2019: Buffalo Zone Picnic at Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center

September 20 - 22, 2019: LWML Eastern District Retreat at Pioneer Camp and Retreat Center. Speaker: Katie Schuermann Theme: "Listen, Look, Leap" based on Proverbs 3: 5-6
The registration form will be in the Spring LINK

September 28, 2019: Buffalo Zone Fall Event 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Registration \$10 at First Trinity Lutheran Church. Topic: "Equipping Women for Service" Darlene Marcucci-Miller will be our speaker

June 12-14, 2020: Eastern District LWML Convention Syracuse, NY Theme: "Live By Faith" based on 2 Corinthians 5:6-7

**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE
SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER IS AUGUST 25TH.**

WARM UP THOSE VOICES!

LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WHO WOULD LIKE TO JOIN A CHOIR

For anyone interested in singing in the choir, we will have a brief meeting on Saturday evening, September 7th, at 6:15 p.m. and one on Sunday, September 8th, after the service. If you cannot make either of these dates, please contact Ruth Whitmer at 716-803-2677 or email her at ruthwhitmer@gmail.com and let her know of your interest. Choir rehearsals will start the following week.

Ruth will also begin doing a regular segment in the newsletter – Music in the Church.



Date: Sunday August 4th
Time: 1pm - 5pm
Place: DFK Pavilion at Lincoln Park
On the East side of Lincoln Arena



- ✚ Everyone should bring a dish to pass
- ✚ Meat will be provided (hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken breast)
- ✚ We think the pool will be open, but there's a fee to use it.
- ✚ A few games will be provided; there is a frisbee golf course at Lincoln Park, too. (discs supplied for that, people can borrow)

✚ **Some Will Need to Stay to Help Clean Up**

<https://www.tonawanda.ny.us/departments/youth-parks-recreation/town-facilities/dfk-noco-pavilions.html>



The Eager Conversationalist/Spiritual Conversation Curve Workshops

By: [*Jason Broge and Don Everts*](#)

Drawing on Barna Group data contained in the 2018 monograph *Spiritual Conversations in the Digital Age*, Lutheran Hour Ministries is offering two workshops: the first, *Eager Conversationalists*, examines spiritual conversations. It offers insights to help us become more intentional—more *eager*—to engage in spiritual conversations with others. The second, *The Spiritual Conversation Curve*, offers help in getting past conversational hurdles. This is possible when we focus on someone's "spiritual posture," so as not to impose a conversation that's forced or ill-timed.

Intro concept/research

Spiritual Conversations in the Digital Age, a monograph based on Barna Group research, revealed something: people talk less about spiritual matters than they used to. Whatever the reasons for this reluctance, research shows there are ample benefits to including God in our conversations. Two workshops address the data and offer ways for us to be better spiritual conversationalists. Dr. Jason Broge, director of design and development for LHM's Global Ministries, hosts *Eager Conversationalists: A Hopeful Look at What Prepares Christians for Spiritual Conversations*, and Don Everts, manager of content development for LHM, hosts *The Spiritual Conversation Curve: A Practical Tool for Reluctant Witnesses*

Workshop 1

Eager Conversationalists introduces the EAGER Profile Inventory, a self-evaluation tool participants can use to assess their level of willingness to engage in spiritual conversations. Barna data from 25 years ago shows that Christians took more responsibility to share their faith. Not so today as those numbers are in decline. Completing an EAGER Profile Inventory helps believers assess their character traits and spiritual habits which then factor into their willingness to have spiritual conversations. The good news is we can all become more intentional in our outreach and actually *enjoy* sharing Jesus with others when we do.

Workshop 2

The Spiritual Conversation Curve is where the rubber hits the road. "What should I talk about?" "How will I respond to their questions?" "What if I don't know the answer?" These queries are natural. What's important, Everts says, is this: "It helps if we are in some way prepared to lean into those moments." The Spiritual Conversation Curve is crucial here as it lets us assess if the person we're speaking with is unreceptive, receptive, or seeking. We can then gauge our words to *graciously adapt* to their "spiritual posture," keeping our faith discussions open and comfortable.

Starter kit

To encourage your *Spiritual Conversations in the Digital Age* monograph; the two-workshop DVD; a copy of *The Reluctant Witness*; six **Project Connect** booklets—three on Jesus, an illustrated kids' booklet, and one on the Spiritual Conversation Curve and another on communicating digitally; along with a 25-count pack of Spiritual Conversation Curve Cards. You can go to lhm.org/conversations to find out more about this great resource. To order a starter kit for \$37 go to <https://www.lhmgift.org/storefront/>



**American
Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention**



The Out of the Darkness Community Walk is a journey of remembrance, hope, support, and a walk that unites a campus and community – a time to acknowledge the ways in which suicide and mental illness have affected our lives and our loved ones.

Event Details

Walk Date: **09/07/2019**

Walk Location: **Canalside - Buffalo, NY**

Check-in/Registration Time: **8:30 am**

Walk Begins: **10:00 am**

Walk Ends: **1:00 pm**

For more information, please contact:

Contact Name: **Missy Stolfi**

Contact Phone: **585-202-2783**

Contact Email: **mstolfi@afsp.org**

Online registration closes at noon (local time) the Friday before the walk. However, anyone who would like to participate can register in person at the walk from the time check-in begins until the walk starts. Registration is free and open to the public. Walk donations are accepted until December 31st.

When you walk in the Out of the Darkness Walks, you join the effort with hundreds of thousands of people to raise awareness and funds that allow the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) to invest in new research, create educational programs, advocate for public policy, and support survivors of suicide loss.


Thanks to Walkers and Donors like you, AFSP has been able to set a goal to reduce the annual suicide rate 20% by 2025.

Bible Games and Puzzles

Puzzling Proverbs

We have some of the very best Bible games and puzzles. Here's a great example!

N	A	L	W	O	A	K	Y	U	W	T
S	<p>Here's a super fun Bible word game!</p> <p>We've hidden a verse from Proverbs in this shape.</p> <p>To find it, you'll need to start at the correct letter and then read every second letter, going in a clockwise direction.</p> <p>How long will it take you to uncover the wisdom of this proverb?</p>	R								
U		M								
N		A								
O		I								
R		T								
B		P								
U		H								
C		O								
T		A								
U		F								
R		G								
Y		O								
E		E								
T		L								
W	N									
E	I									
S	I	N	D	A	S	E	R	L	E	T

W	A	H	T	O	R	W	E	A	M	L	I	K	N	S
R	<p>Here's another Puzzling Proverb. Follow the same directions as the first puzzle.</p> 	O												
E		W												
C		C												
H		I												
E		A												
S		T												
L		E												
I		H												
K		R												
W		T												
Y		P												
S		H												
T		D												
W		E												
A	O	E	R	B	G	N	E	O	S	L	I	A	W	F

