

**PARISH VISITOR**  
**May 2023**



**Pilgrim Lutheran Church**  
**Frederic, Wisconsin**

*Pilgrim Lutheran Church is a family of God,  
centered in Christ, inviting all people to journey  
with us in faith, hope, and love.”*

*We worship Sunday mornings at 8:30  
Find our services online at [bplutheran.com](http://bplutheran.com)*

**Pilgrim Office Hours**

**Church office Thursday & Fridays, 9am-3pm**

**Pastor's Office Hours Thursday, 3-6pm**

**PILGRIM LUTHERAN VOLUNTEERS** May 2023

**USHERS** Jackie Kurkowski

**LECTORS**

- 07 Jackie Kurkowski
- 14 Lisa Jensen
- 21 Kerrie Erickson
- 28 Phil Zuniga

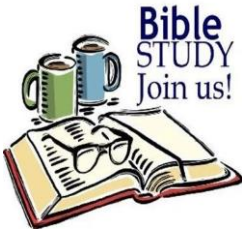
**COFFEE SERVERS**

- 07 Gilbert & Janice Berg
- 14 Graduation Sunday
- 21 Eileen Wikstrom & Elvira Schmidt
- 28 Ruth Ann Thiel & Carol Thompson

**ALTAR COMMITTEE**

Karen Swanberg  
McKenzie Dahl

**FAITH CIRCLE** Meets Wed, May 17 at 2pm



**Tuesday Morning Adult Bible Study** meets **10am at Pilgrim in May**. All are welcome to join us for discussion of the Scripture readings for the coming Sunday.

**We have a new email address! Please use  
[pilgrimplutheranfrederic@gmail.com](mailto:pilgrimplutheranfrederic@gmail.com)**

# Confirmation

Confirmation Resumes & will be held at Pilgrim for the month of May 6:30-7:45



## **Camp Work Day** May 6 & 13

We need your help getting Luther Point ready for our summer campers! Come and join us on May 6 and 13 from 9-2 as we get our camper cabins ready, prep the dining hall, put in docks (if the ice is off!), clean up branches from the heavy snow and more!



Come by yourself or bring a group of people!

**COME JOIN US**

**FREE SOUP**

**MONDAY - MAY 1 - from 11-1**



**Frederic Community Center  
109 Elm Street W**

(Small tan building behind Frederic Grocery; as Senior Center)

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**Sponsored by Pilgrim Lutheran Church of Frederic  
Carol Thompson 715-371-0580 or Karen Swanberg 715-491-2700**



**Jesus is the reason for the season! Easter 2023**

## Pastor Message-May 2023

Alleluia! Christ is risen! + He is risen indeed, Alleluia!!

Holy Week and Easter Sunday were absolutely marvelous! The earth shook in our parish as we sang praises to God. Streamers and confetti bombs; flags out front to draw attention;\* opened tombs with butterflies flying out; choirs from both churches; flowers galore; heavenly sanctuaries; kids and youth helping in every service, and both churches served superb breakfasts. Frederic and Siren have heard our Easter Proclamation and between the two churches around 200 people came to worship the Resurrected Lord!

Yet within our celebrations we have had some dark moments—Clarence Johnson’s untimely death, my sister’s car accident, more-than-usual hospitalizations, and Brianna Dahlberg’s (8) death. In her funeral I will have the congregation say “Alleluia! Chris is risen!” and explain the significance of having Brianna’s Celebration of Life in Easter. How can we say “Alleluia!” when we are mourning? I worry about the perception non-church goers will have---are we being irreverent or making light of the situation? Are we just covering the tragedy with a band-aid to make people feel better? Of course, you and other faithful members understand the beauty of pairing Easter with a funeral---that is why funerals often have Easter/baptismal themes. You know that when we say “Alleluia!”, perhaps even especially in the face of death, we are saying that God has conquered death and made us co-inheritors with Jesus. We know we will be reunited in Paradise with all the saints. For this reason, I am encouraging the family to think about this hymn we will sing on Easter 4:

1 The strife is o'er, the battle done; the victory of life is won; the song of triumph has begun. Alleluia!

2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions has dispersed. Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia!

3 The three sad days are quickly sped; he rises glorious from the dead. All glory to our risen Head. Alleluia!

God bless you all and have a happy, happy Easter! Rejoice and sing, for Christ is risen indeed!  
Love, Pastor Emily

\*Easter is the biggest holiday in the Christian calendar. Then why does Christmas seem to get all the glory? I have been thinking of Christmas equivalents for Easter: flags where the nativity was; flowers/trees where Christmas trees were (witnessing the transformation of the Cross from dying, ugly tree to The Tree of Life!). If you have any ideas for next year, please share.



## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

The PLC Women Mission in Action needs your help to provide items for those less fortunate than us. We

are inviting you to help us collect materials to put together three types of Lutheran World Relief kits: Personal Care Kits, School Kits, and Baby Care Kits. **During May and June, we will collect materials for School Kits (list of materials below). Make this a family project and place your materials in the container at the back of the church.**

**SCHOOL KITS** For children whose lives have been disrupted by war or other disasters. Receiving a school kit is a sign that someone far away cares. Adults in literacy classes appreciate the supplies needed to learn to read and write.

Include the following items in each school kit:

- 4 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper approx. 8"x10-1/2", no loose-leaf paper
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- 1 blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- 5 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- One eraser approximately 2½" long
- 5 ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 1 sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approx. 14"x17" with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks); recommended fabrics include heavy cotton, canvas, denim, and twill. **Do not add other items that are not listed.** All items should be new and in good condition.





# HYMN FESTIVAL: God Has Called Us

May 5, 2023, 7:30pm

St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Bloomington, MN

From National Lutheran Choir's website: <https://nlca.com/hymn-festival-2023> If you are interested, please talk to Pastor.



## **Frederic High School Baccalaureate Service on Wednesday, May 17**

**You are cordially invited to attend the nondenominational Baccalaureate Service on Wednesday, May 17, at 7:00 PM in the Frederic High School Performance Center as we honor the accomplishments of the Frederic High School Class of 2023 graduates.**

**The purpose of the Baccalaureate Service is to celebrate graduates' academic achievements and to encourage them as they head into the next chapter of their life. The service is a**

**time of celebration, reflection, and anticipation. For many graduates, it's the highlight of their graduation experience.**

**The Baccalaureate Service will include music, a short word of inspiration and challenge from one of the local pastors, and a blessing for the graduates as they take the next step in their lives. Refreshments will be served following the service.**

The Baccalaureate Service is hosted by the Frederic Ministerial Association, which includes Crosswalk Community Church, Grace Lutheran Church of West Sweden, Pilgrim Lutheran Church, St. Dominics Catholic Church, St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Trade Lake Baptist Church, and Zion Lutheran Church of Trade Lake.

## ***Living Lutheran* magazine will print its final issue in December 2023**

Today we are announcing that *Living Lutheran* magazine will print its final issue in December 2023. Also, the magazine will print six issues in this final year. The Churchwide Organization will not stop telling stories of this church when the printing of the magazine ends. This year, we will begin transitioning *Living Lutheran* to a full online storytelling engine featuring new ways of reaching people, providing a more economical and far-reaching approach for us to engage with a broader audience. You will start to see us employing these ways throughout the year, with videos, audio stories, podcasts, live events, and more. This transition will also include a more robust social media presence and more opportunities for user-generated content with the potential for greater engagement with Lutherans and non-Lutherans alike.

The ELCA and its predecessor church bodies have been printing periodicals since 1831, when *The Lutheran Observer* first started. Spreading the gospel and sharing the stories of our church have always been at the foundation of who we are as Christians and Lutherans. And while we will no longer print a magazine each month, the sharing and spreading of the good news continues every day. As many of you probably know, the cost of printing a magazine—including paper, ink and postage prices—has steadily increased, especially during the pandemic, making it difficult to financially support a print edition. Being good stewards of the generous support given to the church is of the utmost importance to our team.

By focusing on creating more online content and new channels for distribution, we will have more flexibility and options for how we tell the stories of this church. Storytelling will still be at the core of this work. For the immediate future, we encourage you to sign up for *Living Lutheran's* e-digest, a weekly email that highlights the top five most read stories on [LivingLutheran.org](http://LivingLutheran.org). You can sign up here.

We give thanks for *Living Lutheran* and all the staff who have worked on the magazine over the years. The world is ever evolving, and that includes how we digest and engage with content of all kinds. We are excited about the opportunities ahead and hope you will join us in celebrating such a wonderful ministry of this church, giving thanks for the magazine and the many ways it has reached the hearts and homes of people across this church. And we hope you join us in praying for what's ahead and asking for God's guidance and support in all we do.

In Christ, Elizabeth Eaton (ELCA Presiding Bishop)

The logo for Living Lutheran features the word "Living" in a light blue, sans-serif font above the word "Lutheran" in a darker blue, sans-serif font. A stylized yellow and orange cross is positioned to the left of the "L" in "Lutheran".





**Students gathering in the back of the church with Pastor Emily on Palm Sunday, April 2.**

# PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES-April 15, 2023

**Present:** Pastor Emily, Chris Byerly, Brandon Dahl, Marty Davis, Rhoda Jensen, Carol Thompson. **Absent:** Bryn Anderson, Bruce Bengtson and Kerrie Erickson.

**Call to Order:** President Rhoda at 11:10 am - a quorum was declared

**Opening Devotions:** Led by Pastor Emily

**Approval of Agenda:** Add D & E under New Business - Approved

**Public Comment:** None

**Secretary's Report:** M/C (Chris/Marty) to approve March 20, 2023 minutes.

<b>Treasurer's Report: <u>Checking</u></b>		<b><u>Savings</u></b>	
General	\$25,432.06	Memorial	\$ 3,948.90
Memorial	\$ 4,243.96	Money Market	\$10,902.37
Youth Gathering	\$ 294.63	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,851.27</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$29,970.65</b>		

<u>Debit Card</u>	\$3,497.05		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,497.05</b>	<b><u>FUND TOTALS</u></b>	<b>\$48,318.97</b>

## **Endowment Fund Balance - \$12,118.73 (4-12-23)**

M/C (Marty/Brandon) to accept treasurer's report.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor talked about how the Lenten services and Holy Week went.

- Frederic Ministerial will meet at Pilgrim during the coming week at Pilgrim. .
- M/C (Carol/Chris) to accept Pastor's report.

## **New Business**

- a) Parish Yearbook - Discussion about Bethany looking at putting together a yearbook of the two parishes complete with pictures, more information to come.
- b) BYLAWS gathering - 10 people attended. The group spent two hours with good discussions and conversations about what our church does well and what we need to improve on, etc. Chris B. will type up a summary of the Post It notes and at a future meeting

we will go over the compiled information and to make plans of what to do next.

c) E and O clause in insurance - Rhoda is waiting for a phone call - review next month.

d) Chris B. presented information from "The Laker" and the "Sentinel" publications of taking out a joint parish ad for the summer. M/C (Marty/Brandon) to proceed with the ads.

e) Clean up for church - Wednesday, May 10 at 5:30-sandwiches provided-bring rakes, etc.

### **Old Business**

a) Church Internet - Brandon presented information and costs from Lakeland. The church will have WIFI upstairs and downstairs and it was agreed to move forward ASAP.

b) Executive board signing at Bremer - Chris is still working on signatures.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting - Monday, May 15, at 6 pm

Respectfully submitted --- Carol Thompson



Luther Point is searching for people to volunteer this summer at Luther Point Bible Camp! They need volunteers in the

Kitchen, with Camp Connect, Volunteer Nurses, Afternoon Activities and Games, Landscaping and More!

Please help support this important summer ministry with your time and your talents. More information can be found on their website! [www.LutherPoint.org](http://www.LutherPoint.org)

## Recap of Food Distribution for April



We had a total of 599 families.

Children- 511, Adults- 637, Seniors- 452

**Grand total of 1600 persons, 21338 Pounds**

***A note from Debbie:*** Last month I took a list of the items we handed out in our boxes to a local grocery store and I priced out each item, the box of food totaled \$[134.50](#). We paid from St. Croix Valley Food Bank \$5.09. That is amazing stats!! One last thing, please when you come to volunteer, please do not park in the front of the building, You can park alongside the building, and you can park in the back on Wednesdays and possibly over by the gas station or once it warms up at Wayne's on Thursdays.

Thanks everyone for all your hard work, you are all amazing!!!  
Debbie



# National Day of Prayer



**Thursday May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Alone we can  
do so little;  
together we can  
do so much.

## **AND SO THE WORK BEGINS - REVIEW OF STANDING COMMITTEES MEETING**

Did you know that Pilgrim has a church constitution, bylaws and continuing resolutions that are the foundation of what we do and how we do it? The documents are being reviewed in 2023, and we decided to focus first on the seven

standing committees listed in our church directory – groups such as Worship & Music and Christian Education & Youth that select worship hymns, set communion practices, or choose confirmation curriculum. Council members and interested church members met April 15 to begin to look at each committee's current status and duties in comparison to the existing bylaws. The goal is to develop functional committees that will be responsible for a range of ongoing and projected services that support the mission of Pilgrim Lutheran Church.

The meeting asked for comments to a series of questions, and we had a lively discussion. What would YOUR answers be to the following questions?

1. IF PILGRIM HAS A LARGE BANNER OUTSIDE THE CHURCH, WHAT SHOULD THE BANNER SAY?
2. WHAT ARE WE GOOD AT?
3. WHAT DO WE NEED TO WORK AT?
4. WHOM ARE WE CURRENTLY SERVING WELL?
5. WHOM DO WE NEED TO SERVE BETTER?

The information was gathered and will be discussed at the May 15 council meeting and a course of action will be set for reviewing each committee by those Pilgrim members who are interested. This process will stretch over the summer, but we are committed to getting it done.

The meeting ended with Pastor Emily's statement: **"We have everything we need. Our God is not a small god."** This should be our mantra going forward!

If you would like a copy of the April 15 meeting notes, complete with comments, or if you would like a copy of Pilgrim's bylaws, please contact the church office. Notes compiled by Chris Byerly.

**Signs**

- Severe depression, anxiety, grief
- Plans to harm self or others
- Is in emotional/psychiatric crisis
- Needs other emergency mental health services

**Remind yourself:**  
**You are never alone!**  
**There is help.**

## **Mental Health Resources**

If you or someone you know is experiencing an emergency mental health crisis, call the crisis line at **888-552-6642**. Both phone and face-to-face mental health assessments are available.

For Burnett & Polk Counties.



# 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

including **MYLE** **the tAble**  
Young Adult Gathering

**Announcing ELCA Youth Gathering July 2024 in New Orleans! The theme is based on Psalm 139 <sup>14</sup> *I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.***

**“Our host city, New Orleans,** has always been its true, authentic self. Our theme, “Created to Be,” highlights the arts, music and soul of this beautiful, vibrant and resilient city. New Orleans was built to host and be a city where all God’s children come together.

We plan to dive deeper into justice, mental health and anti-racism conversations throughout the Gathering. These are hard conversations, but our church desperately needs to have them. We also hope to foster relationships and be a sanctuary for one another. We are saint and sinner simultaneously, and we need forgiveness when we aren’t or can’t be brave, authentic, free, disruptive disciples. To incorporate our pre-events —**the Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE) and the tAble (those who are disabled)** - into the overall Gathering more intentionally, we are excited that both events will share the “Created to Be” theme. **A brand-new Young Adult Gathering,** to take place concurrent with the ELCA Youth Gathering, will share the theme as well.” *From the Youth Gathering website, [elca.org/YouthGathering](http://elca.org/YouthGathering)*

**Keep your eyes open for an informational meeting. The rough estimate per kid (8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> gr.) is \$2,500. Our noisy offering has been/will continue to go to the Youth Gathering funds.**



# Designer Purse Bingo

Saturday, May 6th

Das Lach Haus Lounge & Event Center  
1788 Elm Street, Cumberland, WI 54829

## Limited Seating



single packets  
available or  
purchase a table of 4 for \$160 or  
a table of 8 for \$320.

To reserve your spot,  
pre purchase your BINGO packets at  
Milltown Fire Department  
(129 Elder Street, Milltown, WI)  
from 10-2 pm on Saturday, April 29th  
If seats are still available, we will pre-sell  
Friday, May 5th from 1-6 pm at the  
Das Lach Haus  
(1788 Elm Street,  
Cumberland, WI)

# \$40

Package includes 10 regular  
Bingo Games &  
one- 50/50 game

Does not include additional raffle tickets or lunch.

**cash or check only**

additional raffle tickets sold throughout  
the day of the event



Lunch options available for \$10  
Either Italian Special or  
Pulled Pork Special

Doors open at  
10:30 a.m.

Saturday.

First game begins  
at noon



This fundraiser is brought to you  
by Community Referral Agency,  
an outreach and emergency  
shelter serving survivors of  
domestic & sexual violence  
& their families



***Nondenominational program offering practical information and biblical teaching for recovering from divorce or separation. Bethany, March 20-June 22***



**DIVORCED?  
SEPARATED?**  
WE CAN HELP

**DIVORCE Care**

FIND HELP  
DISCOVER HOPE  
EXPERIENCE HEALING

WEEKLY DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP

Spring of 2023:  
March 20 thru June 22  
No Memorial Day meeting on May 29

Monday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m.  
Bethany Lutheran Church  
24096 1st Avenue, Siren WI

Questions? Tracy (218)780-0212 or [Kuku.0912@hotmail.com](mailto:Kuku.0912@hotmail.com)

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**PLCW NEWS...**(Pilgrim Lutheran Church Women) I bring you greetings from the women of the church; "Ordinary Women Serving an Extraordinary God."

**OPENING PRAYER** - Almighty, all-knowing, all-compassionate God, you know us through and through. From our head to our toes, from our unspoken thoughts to our hidden actions, you know us completely. We thank you for giving us your words of life as a good path for our lives. When we go astray, please pick us up again, redirect us and give us a fresh start, that we might be a blessing in our homes, community, workplace and church. In Jesus Christ, our Savior's name we trust and pray. Amen (taken from our April lesson in the "Gather" magazine)

**MAY 1, Mon from 11 to 1** - FREE SOUP at Frederic Senior Center now the Community Center. This is a new "Mission Outreach Program" that PLCW has been working on for some time. The public is invited but we encourage Pilgrim people to come and provide fellowship for this event. Get to know your neighbor!

**MAY 3, Wed** at 9:30 - Quilters to meet in the kitchen. All women are invited to come help with this special mission project and bring a friend or relative to help out or to share in the camaraderie. Call Karen S. 715-327-8150 to confirm.

**MAY 10, Wed** at 11:30 - Gather at the church and carpool to Logger's Bar & Grill in St. Croix Falls for lunch and fellowship. Bring a friend. All women welcome!

**MAY 14, Sun** - Mother's Day and Graduation Sunday celebrated during 8:30 worship. The two graduates we are celebrating are Chase Jensen and Cory Popham.

**MAY 17, Wed** - Faith Circle Bible Study meets at 2 pm at Karen Swanberg's and the group will lead the study. - Session One : **Promised Salvation Now-Jesus Brings Wellness** by Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen - Of all the gospel writers, John is uniquely concerned about the effectiveness of Jesus' immediate presence. One clue is how regular use of the word "now," a tiny but powerful word which appears more here than the other gospels combined. Together, we'll note a few instances of the "Now," and delve into John's observations about the way John focuses not so much on the "hereafter," but more on sharing the difference that Jesus makes in people's lives, straight away.

**MAY 29, Mon - MEMORIAL DAY**

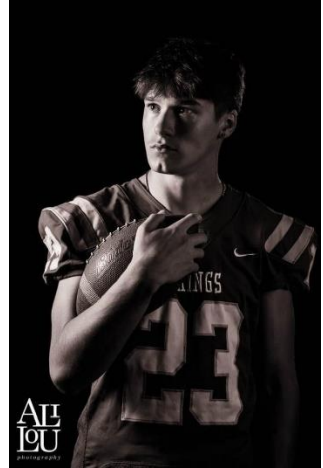
**2023 Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering Planning has begun!** The Twelfth Triennial Convention/Gathering is scheduled for September 19-21, 2023 in Phoenix, AZ. The Convention will be held at the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown. Registration to the "**Just Love Gathering**" is open. This special in-person gathering is an opportunity to live out the message that the Rev. Angela Khabeb left us with in Minneapolis in 2017 and virtually in 2021. "Christianity is not comfortable. If you are comfortable in Jesus, you are doing it wrong." Go to their website for more information.

<https://www.womenoftheelca.org/twelfth-triennial-convention>

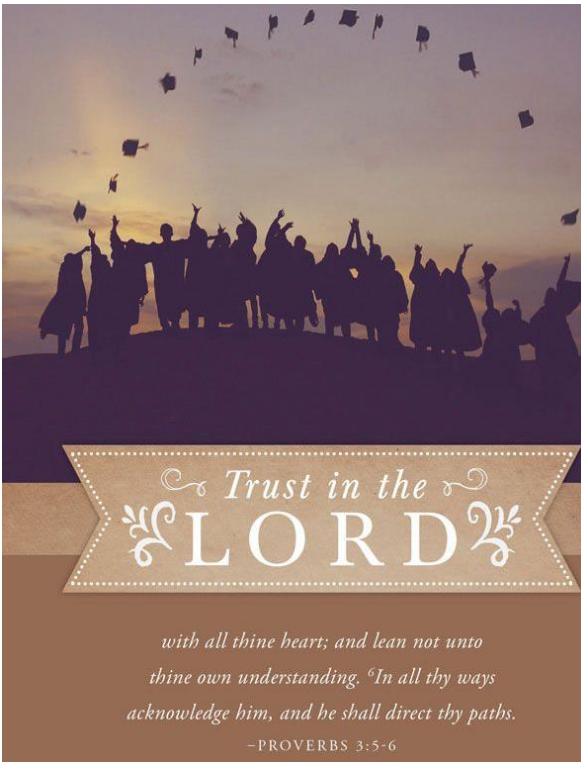
**BLESSINGS TO ALL - Carol**

Thompson...[jcthompson1943@gmail.com](mailto:jcthompson1943@gmail.com) or 715-371-0580(cell)

**CONGRATS TO OUR 2 SENIORS: CHASE JENSEN & CORY POPHAM-WE'RE SO PROUD OF YOU!**



Both boys are attending Chippewa Valley Technical College in Eau Claire in the fall. Cory for Electrical Maintenance and Chase for IT - Software Developer.



## **Pilgrim Lutheran Church**

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Email: [pilgrimlutheranfrederic@gmail.com](mailto:pilgrimlutheranfrederic@gmail.com)

**bplutheran.com**

On Facebook at Pilgrim Church

Check us out and "Like" us!

***The Parish Visitor***  
***May 2023***