

PARISH VISITOR
July 2023



Church News

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*

Pilgrim Office Hours

Church office Thursday & Fridays, 9am-3pm

Pastor's Office Hours Thursday, 3-6pm

PILGRIM LUTHERAN VOLUNTEERS July 2023

USHERS Carol Thompson

LECTORS

02

09

16

23

30

COFFEE SERVERS

02 Marlene Dahlberg & Carol Thompson

09 Chris Byerly

16 John & Diane Utley

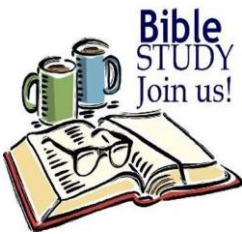
23 Kerrie Erickson

30 Nate & Christina White

ALTAR COMMITTEE

Diane Utley

Jeanne Young



Tuesday Morning Adult Bible Study meets **10am at Pilgrim in July**. 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**

COME JOIN US - FREE SOUP

TUESDAY - JULY 11 - from 4-6



**Frederic Community Center
109 Elm Street W**

(Small yellow building behind Frederic Grocery; used to be Senior Center)

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

Siren Chamber of Commerce

...your destination for festivals & fun

July 4th in Siren

Monday July 3rd
Siren Street Dance

Free Admission 8pm-12am on Main St
Featuring Tim Baxter & The Mustang

Tuesday July 4th
43rd Annual Freedom 5 5K Race

8am Start on Main St
Preregistration only this year; Register at
visitsiren.com/events

Siren Bed Races:

9:45am Start on Main St
Register at sirenwbedraces@gmail.com;
or 9:00am Day of Race;
9:25am Best Bed Judging

Mini Parade for Kids:

Starts After Bed Races on Main St

Grand Parade:

11:30am on Main St
2023 Theme: Thank you Volunteers!

Siren Community Band Concert
8pm Crooked Lake Park Bandshell

Siren Lions Fireworks: Dusk at Crooked Lake

Visitsiren.com 715-349-8399



4th of July

Bethany's Brat/Hot Dog Fundraiser Returns!

Stop by and cool down in the Bethany Front Parking Lot
Water/
Bathrooms/AC



During Siren's 4th of July Celebrations

Bethany Lutheran Church
Growing Together In Faith
Office+ 715-349-5280
Contact: Charlie Albrecht
Heart of Siren, Across from Holiday

Visitation Ministry

INFO MEETING ON STARTING A VISITATION
PROGRAM

SUNDAY JULY 9

**FOLLOWING WORSHIP
(11:45AM) IN BETHANY
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

WED. JULY 12

**FOLLOWING PILGRIM PICNIC
AT TRADITIONS 1:15PM
PILGRIM SANCTUARY**

**LEARN HOW TO "TAKE
CHURCH" TO THOSE WHO
CAN'T GO TO CHURCH.**



WWW.BPLUTHERAN.COM

**We are searching for people to volunteer this summer at
Luther Point Bible Camp!**

**We 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 our website! www.LutherPoint.org**

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

Dear Church Family,
It's time for a new directory! This one will be a Parish Family Directory and it will not be complete without you! Bethany and Pilgrim will have their own section complete in one book!

Picture day at Pilgrim is Thursday- July 27th, 2:00-8:00pm.

We have two ways to schedule your appointment:

You may sign-up on Sunday morning on the schedule sheet OR

Sign-up online: www.ucdir.com

Church Code: wi285

Password: photo

This will bring up the remaining time slots available- simply fill in your information and you'll be all set by picture day!

More information will be available through handouts on Sunday mornings- we hope to hear from you! Any questions may be directed to a committee member.

Directory Committee
Carol Thompson
Shannon Ayd
Rhoda Jensen



Recap of Food Distribution for July

We had a total of 618 families. Children- 512 Adults- 678

Seniors- 474

Grand total of 1664 persons

25,473 Pounds



Pastor's Message

Growing Together in Faith: *What Does This Mean?*



The Parish's motto is "Growing Together in Faith." Orianna Bowe, daughter of Pilgrim, graciously offered her talents and gifted the parish with a branding kit. The three pictures below are part of the branding kit.

Here is the symbolism of our logo:

→Centered around the cross (biblically known as "The Tree") are two separate branches---one represents Pilgrim and the other Bethany. Like marriage they are intertwined yet remain intact in and of themselves.

→The branches are growing up The Tree/Cross. It is as if the tree itself won't survive without the cross to cling to.

→The leaves represent New Life, consistently growing and changing yet rooted in the Cross. The tree eventually will reach its climax with golden, colorful leaves and prepare for its winter sleep.

Since ancient times, humanity has compared the trees' seasonal changes with the circle of life. Que *Lion King* music here..... It didn't take long for the Church to do the same with the liturgical cycle.



Bethany & Pilgrim
Lutheran Parish



Bethany Lutheran
Church

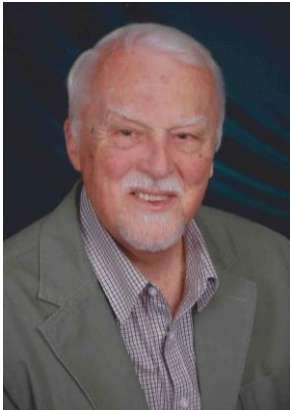


Pilgrim Lutheran
Church

The Tree in....

Nature	Human Life	Liturgical Year (Church Calendar)
Dormant in winter	Either the beginning <u>or</u> the end of life.	Advent
Spring awakening New buds	Youth (“still green”)	EASTER, Resurrection, New Life, New Creation!
Mature/full bloom	Adulthood	Ordinary Time
Beautiful changing leaves/Fall	Elderhood	September-November (Ordinary Time con’t...) but more of a focus on the end times, All Saints Day, Reformation, etc.
Returning to sleep <i>I like to imagine a stump with one little leaf---like Tree of Jesse</i>	Dying	Advent (start of the new year/start from the beginning of Jesus’ story...his lineage (Jesse Tree). There is little hope that the chopped down tree will grow again).
Evergreens/Holly, etc.	Any time hope is needed	BUT THEN....Christmas! The tree is still alive because of Jesus! Even in the midst of barrenness and death, God comes and makes new life.

Our Brother & Special Friend Bill Turk will be missed & we are all lucky to have known such a good guy!



At this year's NWSWI Synod Assembly in Rice Lake, Bishop Laurie presented a slide show "A Holy Fork in the Road," a process designed to help small and struggling churches. The slides provide questions smaller churches can use as they determine where they are and what God is calling them to do in the future. The process asks churches to look at three main topics- their Spiritual Energy, their Mission Energy and their Financial Energy.

After some discussion about the Bishop's tools, it became clear that it fits well with the work council began in April on the 7-Standing Committees and the function of each according to our church Bylaws. We were happy to see other Pilgrim members attending this meeting. They helped us identify what Pilgrim is doing well, what needs our attention, what is our church population, and are we supplying the needs for all ages, and are we fulfilling our mission?

As the council talked about possible new committees and changes to our Bylaws, it became clear that to create a committee structure that fit our church now, and in the future, we needed to know what that future looked like. So, the council put the committee discussion on hold and began using the tools Bishop Laurie provided in her "Holy Fork in the Road" presentation. The council will be looking at one of the three areas in the process each month. This month's focus is on our Spiritual Energy.

We want to invite you to join us in this process. Below are some key slides from the presentation.

Please keep in mind the scripture reading from Matthew 28: 7-8. "When you come to a fork in the road remember Jesus has gone on ahead of you..."

The Synod has determined that an average worship attendance of 20 or less is a critical point for a congregation. Although we may not be at the 20 or less in attendance per Sunday, we are close to that.



NW Synod of Wisconsin 196 Congregations

**68 Average Worship Attendance
20s or less.**

**34% of the ELCA congregations
in the NWSWI are worship in
the 20s or less.**

This next slide shows the normal life cycle of a congregation. Many churches in our Synod have had past periods of growth and stability and are now in decline. The question becomes do they have the Spiritual, Mission, and Financial Energy to move through the red and green circles to redefine or redevelop their church. Another KEY point of this slide is the word **Finished** does not mean the congregation has *failed*, but rather they have *completed* the work and mission God has set for them. Some things to think about:

- Where do you feel we are on the life cycle?
- What would it take to move to renewal and growth? Stability?
- Do we have the energy to do it?

The Bishop's program has a number of questions to help determine our Spiritual Energy,

How many active members do you have between the ages of 35-64? We have an average of 16 members attending worship service between the ages of 35-64, and an average of 24 attending being over 64.

The council felt this was OK but did see attendance trending to more members over 64.

How many members are active in Ministry beyond worship? Our education piece, the SPARK program, has 3 families; confirmation with 9; We have an active Bible study with an average of 6 members attending and an average number of 10 attending PLCW with many of the same working a funeral;

Again the council felt this was currently fine (average to low energy level) but worried whether with our aging congregation would we be able to maintain this level of activity.

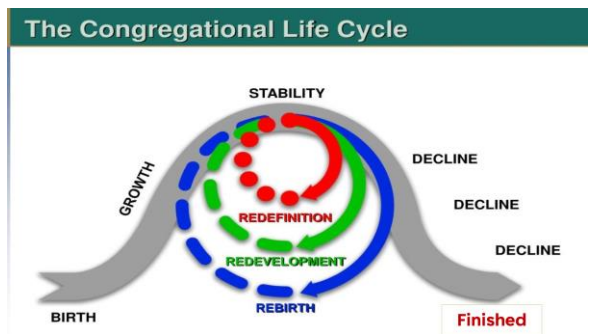
Does your congregation have a full council? Is it difficult to find members to join council? How many members have served more than two terms on council? We currently do not have a full council. No one could remember the last time someone volunteered to be on council without being asked.

It's clear that it is difficult to find members to serve on the council, and many of our council serve more than 2 terms.

The final question asked- does our congregation have enough spiritual energy for ministry for the next 1 year, 3 years, 5 years?

The council thought 3 years with the same members doing most of the work.

The council has committed to lead this work in a way that proclaims the good news of Jesus...this takes energy from all of us! Please share any thoughts you have on these questions and the process itself with the council.



Blessings to all~ Rhoda- Council Pres. & Marty- Council Member



THANK YOU Teri Swanberg for machine quilting the two quilts that were given to the graduates Chase and Cory during worship on Graduation Sunday, May 14. The women quilters of the church made the quilts special for each graduate and Teri did her beautiful and simple design of long arm quilting on each quilt. We are thankful for her kind donation.

*Our
church family
is a circle of strength
and love. With every new
connection, the circle grows.
Every joy shared adds love.
Every crisis faced together
makes the circle
stronger.*

PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES June 19, 2023

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

Call to Order: President Rhoda Jensen at 6 pm

Opening Devotions: Led by Pastor Emily

Approval of Agenda: **Consensus to approve agenda** with two added items: employee direct deposit and west basement door.

Public Comment: None

Secretary's Report: **M/C (Kerrie/Chris) to approve May 15 minutes.**

Treasurer's Report: June 2023 fund breakdown

Checking		Savings	
General	\$26,558.35	Memorial	\$ 3,961.31
Memorial	\$ 4,243.96	Money Market	\$10,914.79
Youth Gathering	\$ 456.36	TOTAL	\$14,876.10
TOTAL	\$31,258.67		
Debit Card	\$ 3,497.05	FUND TOTALS	\$49,631.82
TOTAL	\$ 3,497.05	Endowment Fund Balance -	\$12,064.77

It was noted that we have been having a difficult time using the debit card, so the account will be closed, and funds put back into the general fund until a new credit card is received.

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

Pastor's Report: Pastor Emily will email her report to the council. Upcoming dates: June 28 meeting at Bethany for families interested in sending their kids to the 2024 Youth Gathering in New Orleans; and July 12 Pilgrim visitation class.

Old Business

Family Days parade: No volunteers stepped forward to be in the parade this year. This was part of the energy-assessment discussion for the Holy Fork in the Road presentation. Consensus to start planning earlier in the year for the event.

Lakeland internet: Digging for connection has begun, estimated completion within a month.

Parish directory: Pilgrim members are asked to sign up to have their pictures taken Thursday, July 27 at Pilgrim, or they can also go to Bethany July 28-29. More information in the July newsletter.

Parish board meeting: Parish directory was discussed; there is interest in reinvigorating a praise band that would play once a month at both churches; discussion of creating a finance committee to work with parish funds.

New Business

T-shirts: Discussion of ordering/selling t-shirts with only new Pilgrim logo or Bethany-Pilgrim parish logo. Suggestion to sell as a parish fundraiser for 2024 Youth Gathering. Pastor Emily will present options to Bethany council as well and report back to Pilgrim.

Direct deposit: M/C (Kerrie/Chris) to establish direct deposit payment for the church secretary position.

West entrance door: People are having problems opening the west entrance door; Rhoda will contact the Property committee.

Holy Fork in the Road, phase one: Rhoda and Marty led council in the first discussion of the “Holy Fork in the Road: from Worry to Wonder” presentation which was shown at the Spring Synod Assembly. This conversation is meant for the entire congregation as we continue throughout the year, with more information in monthly newsletters.

Meeting adjourned at with the Lord's Prayer. **Next meeting - July 17, 2023 at 6 pm**

Respectfully submitted – Chris Byerly for Carol Thompson



 **Bethany & Pilgrim**
Lutheran Parish

ALL Are Welcome to a Wild Party!

Following worship on Sunday, July 23, folks are invited to a day of fun & fellowship! All Ages. We have a tent rented 1pm to close (6pm) Please bring something to pass (food, sunblock, cooler, etc.).

Wild Mountain
TAYLORS FALLS RECREATION

Sunday, July 23

Come when you can, leave when you must!

Carpool can be arranged. PLEASE RSVP with Pastor Emily/church offices. Cost: Freewill offering for \$29 Superday Ticket.



**Pastor with
Genevieve Ayd- Great
Smiles Ladies!!! We
LOVE This**



Carol Thompson & Phil Zuniga-enjoying a Coconut in the beautiful Hawaiian sun!



THANK YOU, Marlene Dahlberg, for hosting the "Sister Church Salad Luncheon" at your lovely cabin in the woods on Wednesday, June 14. We had 24 people in attendance, lots of good food, lots of laughter and never a dull or quiet moment. Thank you, ladies, for providing the delicious food and we even had some leftovers!! Good people, good food, good conversation - what more could you ask for? Blessings to all.





SALAD LUNCHEON AT THE CABIN --On Wednesday, June 14, the women and a man of the church gathered at Marlene's cabin for a delicious salad luncheon. The guests of honor were the women from Grace Lutheran at West Sweden. The final count was 24 people. Good food, good people, good conversation - a good time was had by all!





2023 Falun Church Softball League Schedule

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Calvary Covenant | 4. Siren Bethany |
| 2. Adventure Church | 5. Webster Baptist/Nazarene |
| 3. Crosswalk | 6. West Sweden/Trade Lake |

		away home			ump
Week 1	June 1	7pm	2	3	1
	Thurs	8pm	1	2	3
	June 2	7pm	6	4	5
	Fri	8pm	5	6	4
Week 2	June 8	7pm	3	6	1
	Thurs	8pm	1	3	6
	June 9	7pm	5	4	2
	Fri	8pm	4	2	5
Week 3	June 15	7pm	1	4	6
	Thurs	8pm	6	1	4
	June 16	7pm	5	2	3
	Fri	8pm	3	5	2
Week 4	June 22	7pm	No Games		
	Thurs	8pm	bye 1 and 5		
	June 23	7pm	3	4	2
	Fri	8pm	2	6	3

		away home			ump
Week 5	June 29	7pm	4	6	2
	Thurs	8pm	2	4	6
	June 30	7pm	1	5	3
	Fri	8pm	3	1	5
Week 6	July 6	7pm	5	3	4
	Thurs	8pm	4	5	3
	July 7	7pm	2	1	6
	Fri	8pm	6	2	1
Week 7	July 13	7pm	3	2	4
	Thurs	8pm	4	3	2
	July 14	7pm	1	6	5
	Fri	8pm	6	5	1
Week 8	July 20	7pm	2	5	1
	Thurs	8pm	4	1	5
		9pm	6	3	4
	July 21	7pm	Tourney Round 1		
	Fri	8pm			

Games are Not Timed
Game is Over If:
After 3 innings a team is up 20 runs.
After 5 innings a team is up 15 runs.
After 6 innings a team is up 10 runs.

WARNING!
Teams **not** providing umps as scheduled will be penalized 5 runs in their next game.

NOTE: Players can only play for one team during the tournament. Please field the team that represents the team you fielded during the season. No new players may play during the tournament.

TOURNAMENT:
First Round
Friday July 21
Bottom 4 teams at 7pm and 8 pm

Final 4
Thurs July 27 or Thurs Aug 3
(Games will be at 6pm, 7pm, and 8pm)

2023 June-July

Falun Baseball
Field on Range
Line Rd.
Call Rick
715-529-0037



Bethany & Pilgrim
Lutheran Parish

bplutheran.com

Growing Together In Faith



SOME JULY DATES TO NOTE!

- 4th Brat Stand at Bethany 9:30-12:30
Bethany 4th of July Parade 11:30
- 9th Outdoor Service at Pilgrim 8:30am
- 11th Pilgrim Hosts FREE SOUP 4-6pm @ Sr/Comm Ctr in Frederic
- 12TH PLCW Hosts Picnic at Traditions in Frederic NOON
- Visitation Ministry Meeting 1:15pm @Pilgrim
- Christian Ed Meeting @Pilgrim 6:30pm
- 13th-15th PASTOR EMILY VACATION
- 17th Council Meeting 6pm
- 23RD Wild Mountain Trip-Leave Pilgrim at 12:10pm, Wild Mtn at 1pm, pick up time TBD
- 27th Parish Picture Day @Pilgrim 2-8pm

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

507 Wisconsin Avenue

PO Box 127

Frederic, WI 54837

Phone: 715-327-8012

Email: pilgrimlutheranfrederic@gmail.com

bplutheran.com

On Facebook at Pilgrim Church

Check us out and "Like" us!

The Parish Visitor

July 2023