



Pilgrim's Progress Keeping in Touch Issue 27



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

2155 N. Oakland Ave., Decatur, Illinois 62526

“Where the Bible is the inspired, inerrant Word of God”



July 7, 2024

Rev. Brock Abbott
Rev. Bill Abbott

Staff:

Kay Tolly, Youth Director
Beth Abbott, Jenn Killion, Office Managers
Judy Tish, Secretary
Lucas Abbott, Custodian

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websites:

www.pilgrimlutherandecatur.org
www.unitedlutheranmission.org
www.waltherseminary.org

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Sanctuary is reserved from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Fridays.

Newsletter Deadline: Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.

OUR RESPONSE TO CALVARY- 6/30

General Fund: 10,051.00
Christian Sharing: 50.00
Sunday School: 1.00
Memorials: 240.00
Loose: 80.00
CDs: 6.00
Personal Purchase by Member: 334.90
Donuts: 90.00
Total: 10,852.90

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

7/10 12:00 Wednesday Worship
7/11 8:00 Quilters
7/12 10:00 Bible Investigation Class

MITE OFFERINGS... ALL Pilgrim members are encouraged to use a mite offering box to collect their coins. Return your mite box at your convenience. **JULY** mites will go to Lutheran World Relief. Thank you!

ATTENDANCE

6/30 Sun 8:00 service: 99
Sun 10:45 service: 88
Adult Bible Class: 107
Sunday School N3-Gr. 12: 12
7/3 Wednesday 12:00 service: 42



We need to add a couple more volunteers to our Substitute Organist Service (SOS) team. If you would be willing to be part of the team, please let me know. We can get together for training and you will have the opportunity to sit with one of the other team members to observe how it's done during a service. Thank you!

~Kay Tolly

SERVING THE LORD

Communion Assistant/Acolyte Sunday 7/14

8:00 Allen Kilzer **10:45** Greg Collingwood

Ushers 7/14 Sunday 8:00 Joe Marsaglia; Paul Giesler; Bruce Gifford; Loren Hiser; Dave Schroeder; Chad Wooters **10:45** Don Mast; Eric Mast; John Mickler; Jim M. Snow; Jim R. Snow; Mark Thompson

Coffee Servers 7/14 Sunday Paul & Patti Zeck

Financial Counters 7/14 Sunday John Mickler; Ellis V. Buth; Dain Friend; Paul Zeck

Communion Set-Up/Clean-Up 7/14 Sunday Ted & Linda Sue Workman; Jane Martin; Nancy Quandt; Carrie Thompson

Greeters 7/14 Sunday 8:00 Allen, Kathy & Parker Kilzer **10:45** Steve & Bev Myrvold

Trustees Week of 7/7 Don Mast; Cory Ritter; Eric Mast; Jim Snow; Paul Phillips; Ted Workman; Gene & Linda Wise-Litter control



Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 7/1 Julie Pangrac
7/2 Caebrian Lee
Andrew & Mackenzie Mills (13 years)
7/3 Dave Schroeder
7/4 Kris Mattingly
7/7 Pete & Sue Williams (61 years)
7/10 Steve & Bev Myrvold (59 years)
7/11 Kaye Beals
7/12 Robert & Sue Black (50 years)
7/13 Brock Abbott; Ryder Saul; Ben Tschetter
Larry & Nancy Wolf (39 years)
7/14 Amy Cassell; Emily Stenger; Brandon Williams
Brad & Leslie Roberts (45 years)
7/15 Doug Lueck
Mark & Carrie Thompson (7 years)
7/18 Mindy Whisnant
Robert & Robin Breeden (32 years)
7/20 Brandilyn Wegmann
7/21 Charles Duncan; Orson Hoffman; Amy Robinson; Linda Snow
7/22 Bill Abbott; Angee Baker

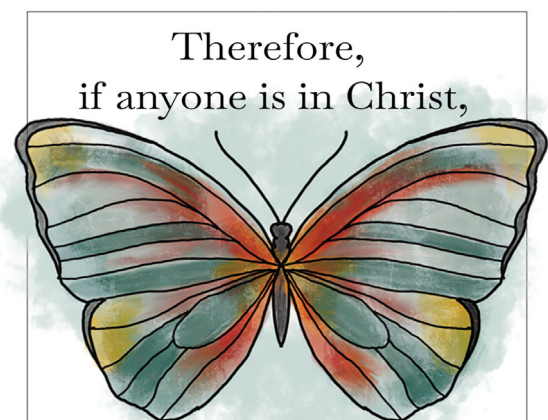
- 7/24 Gloria Beckett; Greg Luka
7/25 Nelda McCoy; Rachel Wisner
Mark & Jo Ames (26 years)
Drew & Andi Gensler (15 years)
7/27 Sharon Carlson; Katelynn Jacobs
Byron & Nancy Brown (50 years)
7/28 Michele Collingwood
7/29 Adam Gensler
BJ & Lindsey Rotz (18 years)
7/30 Blaine Burns; Heather Norris
7/31 Nancy Jacobs; Joe Scott
Brad & Amber Saul (20 years)

7.7.2024 Lesson 2



Today, we see God choose an aged couple, Abraham and Sarah, from whom He would raise up a new nation through a child of promise. We will watch God call on Abraham to offer his beloved son as an offering, through which He will teach us many important things about the coming sacrifice of His own beloved Son, Jesus Christ, on the cross.

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Therefore,
if anyone is in Christ,
he is a new creation.
The old has passed away;
behold, the new has come.
2 Corinthians 5:17



Who Am I

2024 HIGHER THINGS CONFERENCE

“Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands.”
Isaiah 49:16a

To the Congregation and Church Council:

Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to participate in this great conference and to learn about the faith! ~Josh Bryan

This was an amazing trip to be able to come to a great campus right on Lake Michigan and share this experience with people sharing our faith. ~Emett Stenger

Thank you for supporting our trip to Higher Things. It's an incredible experience for both the youth and the chaperones, and we are incredibly grateful to have an opportunity to further our faith. ~Will Bryan

Higher Things is such a wonderful educational and spiritual experience for our youth and adults. I appreciate the opportunity to attend and am grateful to be part of this supportive congregation. ~Jennifer Bryan

I feel so privileged to have been included in this trip! It was an amazing experience. The services were moving and uplifting with so many voices raised in praise! The classes were very informative. I feel my faith has been enriched by this experience. Thank you so much! Love in Christ! ~Amanda Block

This was an amazing opportunity and I am grateful for the support to be able to be a part of this experience and to have this unique occasion to learn and grow in the faith. Thank you! ~Brett Stenger

Thank you so very much for always supporting our youth in so many ways. We are truly blessed at Pilgrim for such a supportive congregation, Church Council, and Pastors. This once-a-year Higher Things Youth Conference Conference experience only reinforces what we learn each week from our Pastors and Sunday School teachers. It's amazing to worship the same as we do each week and learn the shorter services in our hymnal. We have an opening and closing Divine Service. We have Matins, Vespers, and Evening Prayer plus Compline if you can stay up late enough each day. We get to experience all the glorious hymns and liturgy with over 1,000 voices lifting their worship and praise to our Savior. Then there's Plenary sessions and the many break-a-way sessions where we get to choose from many, many topics, which are all confessional Lutheran teaching. There is no fluff in what our youth experience as far as learning God's Word. Everything is designed to reinforce what is taught at our local congregations for their walk with Christ in this wicked world. The amazing thing that I witness each year is how much these young people really love and crave our way of Lutheran worship and it's wonderful for our youth to experience it with like-minded young people.

Of course, there's LOTS of fun activities included every evening and they make friends from all over the US too. Those of us that attended are all looking forward to more of our youth attending next year. Parents, you will never regret the choice to send your young person to one of these conferences. I pray that more will sign up once we find out the dates for ALL THINGS NEW 2025! In Christ, Kay Tolly

THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone who volunteered to help in this year's VBS, DIGGING INTO THE APOSTLES' CREED which was a HIGHER THINGS VBS. THANK YOU teachers, helpers, Pastor Bill for the opening, registration/attendance, crafts, kitchen, music, the "digs" and all of you that supplied snacks and cookies. There would be no VBS without all of you. The children and youth (24 visitors) had a great time and learned about the Apostles' Creed. In learning about the Apostles' Creed they learned about the Triune God.

Which persons of the Trinity are shown in the Bible story (Matthew 3:13-17)

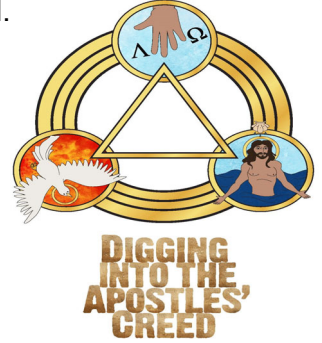
All three persons of the Trinity are shown at Jesus' Baptism.

What do we learn about the work of each person?

The first person, the Father, is the Creator.

The second person, the Son (Jesus), is the Redeemer.

The third person, the Holy Spirit, is the Sanctifier.



The Apostles' Creed shows us the Gospel. What is the Gospel? What is the Law?

The Gospel reveals what God has done and continues to do for our salvation. This good news tells us that God forgives our sins and gives us heaven and salvation through His Son, Jesus. The Law tells us what God commands and forbids. It also guides our lives, shows us our sins, and keeps our sins from getting out of control.

What is a creed?

The word "creed" comes from the Latin word "credo," which means "I believe." A creed is a statement of faith that summarizes what a person or group believes, teaches, and confesses.

What form did the Holy Spirit take?

The Holy Spirit is shown as a dove.

What does the Holy Spirit give us in Baptism?

The Holy Spirit gives us faith and forgiveness of sins in our Baptism.

What do we need to receive before we can know the second person - or Jesus Christ?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:3. To know Christ, we need faith. This faith is given to us by the Holy Spirit through Baptism.

Why was Jesus baptized?

Jesus was baptized to fulfill all righteousness by standing in our place, receiving what sinners deserved, and pointing forward to his death and resurrection in place of sinners.

What did the Holy Spirit's presence indicate?

The Holy Spirit was present to indicate that Jesus is the Messiah, the One anointed by God to save the world from sin.

Read Romans 6:3. Jesus not only redeems us through His life. When we are redeemed in Baptism, what else are we baptized into?

Jesus fulfills in life and death. When we are baptized into Christ, we are baptized into His death.

How is the work of the Trinity united and not separate from each other?

The Father creates through the Son, the Word, by the Holy Spirit, hovering over the waters. The Father sends the Son to redeem us and anoints Him with the Holy Spirit. The Son speaks what He hears from the Father. The Holy Spirit sanctifies us by uniting us to the person of Jesus through whom we come to the Father.

Is any person of the Trinity more important than another?

No. There are three persons in the Trinity, but there is one God and all persons are equal.