



# Pilgrim's Progress Keeping in Touch Issue 1



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

2155 N. Oakland Ave., Decatur, Illinois 62526

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



January 5, 2025

Rev. Brock Abbott  
Rev. Bill Abbott

**Staff:**

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

**Church Office:** 217-877-2444

**e-mail:** [plc@pilgrimlutherandecatur.org](mailto:plc@pilgrimlutherandecatur.org)

**websites:**

[www.pilgrimlutherandecatur.org](http://www.pilgrimlutherandecatur.org)

[www.unitedlutheranmission.org](http://www.unitedlutheranmission.org)

[www.waltherseminary.org](http://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 12/29**

General Fund: 33,067.26  
Christian Sharing: 350.00  
Poinsettias: 25.00  
Sunday School: 11.00  
Memorials: 100.00  
Misc: 2,486.25  
CDs: 13.00  
Angel Tree: 422.00  
Donuts: 57.00  
Total: 36,531.51

**ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**

1/8 10:30 Bible Class  
12:00 Wednesday Worship  
4:15-6:00 Midweek Grades 1-6  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation  
1/9 8:00 Quilters

**ATTENDANCE**

12/29 Sun 8:00 service: 103  
Sun 10:45 service: 97  
Adult Bible Class: 93  
12/29 Sunday School N3-Gr. 12: 11  
12/31 New Year's Eve 7:00 service: 79

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



## SERVING THE LORD

### **Communion Assistant/Acolyte** 1/12 Sunday

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

**Ushers** 1/12 Sunday **8:00** Don Mast; Eric Mast; John Mickler; Jim M. Snow; Jim R. Snow; Ron Kelm **10:45** Joe Marsaglia; Grant Abbott; Paul Giesler; Bruce Gifford; Loren Hiser; Dave Schroeder; Chad Wooters

**Coffee Servers** 1/8 Wed Ron Kelm 1/12 Sunday Doug & Vicky Lueck

**Financial Counters** 1/12 Sunday Mark Ames; John Crowe; Tim Ellison; Paul Giesler

**Communion Set-Up/Clean-Up** 1/12 Sunday Ted & Linda Sue Workman; Jane Martin; Nancy Quandt; Carrie Thompson

**Greeters** 1/12 Sunday **8:00** Larry & Angee Baker **10:45** Steve & Bev Myrvold

## JANUARY Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1/1 Greg Collingwood  
Ron & Carolyn Wagner (43 years)
- 1/3 Mark Ames; Wendy Bickes;  
Phyllis Kunzeman; Zofia Wegmann
- 1/6 Coline Ganley
- 1/7 Debbie Hoffman
- 1/10 Tara Martin
- 1/11 Erin Ripple; Karen Svendsen
- 1/13 Diane Jones; Darlene Lear
- 1/15 Makenna Haksasila
- 1/16 Blake Luka; Glenda Sinnard
- 1/17 Suzanne Heinkel
- 1/20 Celia Ritter; John Wainwright
- 1/22 Steve Gensler; Tim Laesch; Rita Wise
- 1/23 Jane Martin
- 1/24 Pat Abbott; Ellis Buth
- 1/25 Cathy Anderson; Bob Ellis; Shirley  
McMillen; Brad Saul
- 1/26 Jared Potrafka
- 1/27 Don Mast
- 1/28 Mila Coers
- 1/30 Nora Kinney; Jordan Letterly; River  
Lofland; Pete Williams

## 1.5.2025 LESSON 4



Jesus performs an amazing miracle in "A Resurrection Sign." Mary and Martha's brother, Lazarus, falls seriously ill. When word of his illness comes to Jesus, He delays two days, assuring His disciples the disease would not lead to death but to God's glory. Despite death threats, Jesus reassures the disciples when deciding to return to Judea. They set out for Bethany, arriving four days after Lazarus is placed in the tomb. Jesus tells Martha that He is the resurrection and the life, as she boldly confesses, "I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God" (John 11:27). Deeply moved by their grief, Jesus calls Lazarus back to life.

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### WE ARE ADOPTING AN ALL-CONGREGATION TEXTING/EMAIL COMMUNICATION SERVICE

- Closing & cancellation notifications, eliminating the need for individual phone calls
- Important updates
- Reminders and communication for specific groups
- Easy to sign up
- Sign up to receive texts or emails or both
- Your information is private
- No spam
- Unsubscribe at any time
- If you don't text or email NOTIFY us and you will still receive a phone call from the office
- There is no charge for this service but your carrier message and data rates may apply.

Help us to communicate important information to you by signing up NOW!

**TEXT**  
to this number  
**84576**  
the letters  
**PLC**  
and you will receive a welcome notification  
OR Sign up at  
pilgrimlutheranchurch1.  
flocknote.com

Please contact Kay Tolly if you need assistance or have questions.



**HIGHLIGHTS**

12 Nights Lodging  
 12 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 7 Dinners  
 Luxury Motorcoach by Timi's Tours  
 Travel Insurance Included (may be additional  
 Cost for certain pre-existing conditions)  
 Gratuities for Guides and Bus Driver Included  
 Hotel Luggage Handling where available  
 Great Platte River Road Archway  
 Golden Spike Tower  
 National Museum of Military Vehicles  
 Craig Thomas Discovery Center  
 Grand Teton National Park with Guide  
 Grand Teton Snake River Float Trip with Dinner  
 Jackson Hole  
 Yellowstone National Park with Guide

Badlands National Park  
 Grizzly Discovery Center  
 Buffalo Bill Center of the Wests  
 Free Time in Downtown Cody, WY  
 Old Train Town  
 The Cody Cattle Company Dinner/Show  
 Cody Night Rodeo  
 Black Hill Touring with Guide  
 Mt. Rushmore  
 Custer State Park  
 Buffalo Safari Jeep Tour  
 Crazy Horse Memorial  
 Tatanks: Story of the Bison  
 Free Time in Deadwood, SD  
 Trial of Jack McCall  
 Wall Drug & Corn Palace

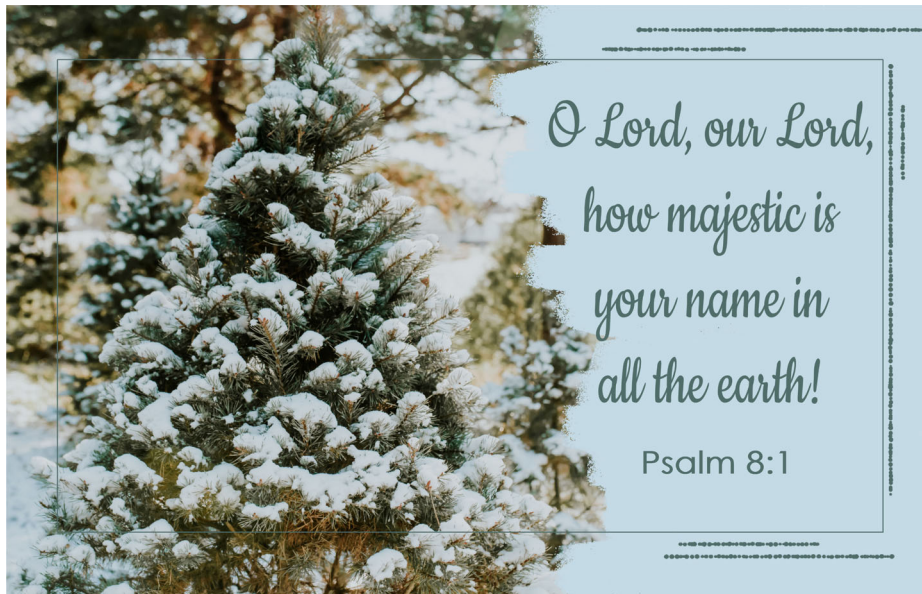
Double Occupancy \$4860.00 per person\*\*Triple Occupancy \$4309.00 per person.

\*\*Quad Occupancy \$2890.00 per person\*\*Single Occupancy \$7250.00 per person

A deposit of \$1000.00 per person is required to hold your spot. Payments must be made on time and in keeping with the payment plan.

\*\*Payments Per Person 1/2 balance due January 15, 2025\*\*1/2 balance (Final payment) due March 15, 2025

Contact Kay Tolly at 217-358-4401/ 217-877-2444 or email at [kt2155@gmail.com](mailto:kt2155@gmail.com) for the itinerary and registration form. There's complete brochures on the tract rack where the sermons are.



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*Where the Bible is the inspired, inerrant Word of God*

The Church Council at Pilgrim Lutheran Church is seeking a qualified candidate for the position of church custodian. This is a non-exempt position supervised by the senior Pastor and reporting to the Church Council.

Requirements for the successful candidate are:

- High School diploma or equivalent
- Prior custodial or janitorial experience preferred, but not required
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Strong attention to detail
- Good communication skills (friendly/non-confrontational)
- Ability to frequently lift and move heavy objects (up to 50 lbs.)
- Flexibility to work as needed for special events such as funerals, weddings, etc.
- Ability to adapt
- Ability to handle a continuing cycle of mess to clean
- Basic mathematics

Working conditions:

- The Church Custodian will work primarily indoors, but may be required to work outdoors for events, activities, or to assist with snow and ice abatement.
- The position will require working with cleaning chemicals and other potentially hazardous materials.

Working hours:

- Regular hours
  - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday
  - 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Friday
- The Custodian is required to be onsite minimally for 28 hours and may take a 20-minute lunch break Monday through Thursday.
- No other breaks will be allowed during onsite hours
- If the custodian must come back, the minimum for “call in pay” will be two hours pay. For example, if you must come back to work for an hour, you receive two hours of pay. If you come back and work for three hours, you will receive three hours of pay. Hours will be reported to the senior Pastor via email, with an explanation of the hours over 28 per week. “Odd” hours may occur on Saturday and Sundays due to funerals, weddings, congregational events, etc. You will need to be flexible enough to come in after these events and redo any cleaning necessary. There are times when it will be necessary for the custodian to come early in the morning or in the evening.

Compensation Package:

- \$19/hour
- If work exceeds 40 hours per week, overtime will be paid at \$28.50/hour.

- Paid leave: 1 hour paid leave for every 40 hours worked up to 40 hours for a 12-month period. (Taken at a minimum of two-hour increments)
  - The custodian may front load paid leave at a pro rata amount consistent with the employee's work schedule.
  - Paid leave can be carried over from one year to the next.
  - Unused leave hours are not payable upon separation from the church
- Custodian will get paid mileage for use their personal vehicle for church business at the current government mileage rate.
- Social Security and Medicare taxes will apply
- The custodian will have access to the church's 401 (k) plan with no match or contribution by the church. All contributions to this plan will be by the custodian.
- The following holidays are granted with pay:
  - New Year's Day
  - Memorial Day
  - 4<sup>th</sup> of July
  - Labor Day
  - Thanksgiving Day
  - Christmas Day
- There will be a background check
- There is a 6-month probationary period.
- This position is subject to an annual performance review and possible compensation adjustments

Job Description includes the following but not limited to:

- Assist all volunteer members working in the church and accommodate them whenever possible. Assist all staff and pastors as needed.
- Custodian will be required to go through initial training and as needed.
- Clean and sanitize restrooms after church events and due to everyday usage.
- Clean, dust, and wipe furniture; sweep, mop, or vacuum floors/steps, buff hard surface floors, spot clean carpet; empty/clean wastebaskets and trash containers; replace light bulbs; refill restroom dispensers. (We currently use R. D. McMillan to strip and re wax floors and shampoo carpets.)
- Order/Stock Janitorial supplies and maintain supplies as needed throughout the church from R. D. McMillan. Purchase wine, milk, supplies at Sam's, and other necessary items as needed for worship services, office, kitchen, and special events, such as Rally Day.
- Set up for services, meetings, classrooms, conferences, events, funerals, weddings, Seminary, etc. This includes the moving of furniture, usually tables and chairs. In the case of weddings, the wedding party is to pay \$150 to the custodian for his/her work. The custodian will be working with funeral directors and will be exposed to the dead and must be sensitive to grieving families.
- Help manage storage in the church. The Custodian should know where items are in church and sheds.
- Clean walls and equipment as needed; use ladders when required. We call in an electrical service to change bulbs in Sanctuary and All-purpose room. However, bugs accumulate in the lower dish of Sanctuary lights and need to be cleaned.
- Lock and unlock building; secure building when facilities are not in use checking for unlocked doors and windows, turning off lights and coffee pots, making sure that fire doors are properly closed, reporting any unauthorized occupants, and reporting to church if the alarm system is triggered. The custodian is on the alarm system call list and can be contacted in the middle of the night or other non-business hours to come to the church facility.
- Follow instructions regarding the use of chemicals and supplies. Use as directed. The custodian must be able to follow material safety data sheets (MSDS).
- The custodian is responsible for maintaining MSDS.

- Perform cleaning and related activities such as removing snow or debris from sidewalks and stairs in areas within sixteen feet of the buildings using hand-operated tools or small power equipment. This may require an additional hour before church on Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, or special services such as when there is snow. When there is ice, apply ice melt and shovel where necessary for staff and pastors to enter the office door.
- Move furniture, books, equipment, supplies and tools on an incidental basis.
- Wash accessible interior and exterior windows. Clean blinds. Launder cleaning rags and dust mops.
- Remove bugs in the facility as needed, clean windowsills weekly, check for cobwebs in all areas, and remove grime, spots, and stains where possible using proper chemicals. Dust and wax pews as needed.
- Direct outside maintenance workers and do minor maintenance such as assembling pieces of furniture, hanging pictures, adjusting clocks, replacing batteries, removing and installing replaceable ceiling tiles, etc.
- Reports and responds to emergency calls for custodial assistance such as a bathroom overflow, spills, leaks, etc.
- The custodian will isolate areas in the church for deep cleaning and careful examination weekly and will recommend improvements for the facility.
- Dust and vacuum offices once a week and remove trash daily from offices. The custodian does not have access to the inside of cabinets, filing cabinets, or computers of staff and pastors. There are some drawers and cabinets in which the custodian will have access to in the main office. These will be pointed out by the office manager.
- The “business” of the church is to remain confidential. If the custodian is caught reading material in offices, listening outside of the door, or rummaging through files and cabinets, he/she may be immediately terminated.

Employment will begin Monday, February 10, 2025.

Interested parties should apply via an application found online ([www.pilgrimlutherandecatur.org](http://www.pilgrimlutherandecatur.org)) or at the church office. Please submit applications to the church office.

Questions may be directed to:

Pastor Brock Abbott 217-877-2444

John Mickler 217-433-0627

Allen Kilzer 217-855-2316

December 5, 2024