



# Pilgrim's Progress Keeping in Touch Issue 15



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

2155 N. Oakland Ave., Decatur, Illinois 62526

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



April 13, 2025

Rev. Brock Abbott  
Rev. Bill Abbott  
Rev. Lucas Abbott

**Staff:**

Kay Tolly, Youth Director  
Beth Abbott, Office Manager  
Judy Tish, Secretary  
Andy Apel, 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.  
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 4/6

General Fund: 32,795.20  
Walther Theological Seminary: 100.00  
Christian Sharing: 820.00  
Altar Flowers/Lilies: 175.00  
Sunday School: 11.00  
Memorials: 40.00  
Misc: 200.00  
CDs: 10.00  
Donuts: 83.00  
Higher Things Youth Conference: 2,000.00  
Total: 36,234.20

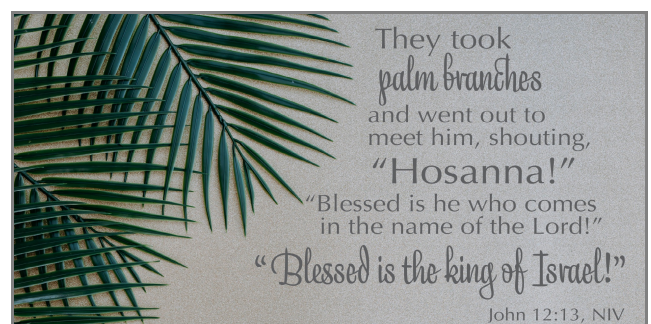
## ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

- 4/13 All-purpose room reserved
- 4/14 4:30 Chancel Choir  
6:00 WTS Board Meeting
- 4/16 ALL Wednesday activities canceled
- 4/17 8:00 Quilters  
7:00 Maundy Thursday Service-Communion
- 4/18 7:00 Good Friday Service-Communion
- 4/20 8:00 & 10:45 **Easter Sunday**-No Communion  
Continental Breakfast after the 8:00 service.  
Bible Class and Sunday School at 9:30.
- 6/9 9:00-12:00 VBS (Monday-Friday)

## ATTENDANCE

- 4/6 Sun 8:00 service: 114  
Sun 10:45 service: 99  
Adult Bible Class: 92  
Sunday School N3-Gr. 12: 14
- 4/9 Wednesday 10:30 Bible Class: 33  
Wednesday Lent 12:00 service: 58  
Wednesday Lent 7:00 service: 32

**MITE OFFERINGS...** ALL Pilgrim members are encouraged to use a mite offering box to collect their coins. Return your mite box at your convenience. **APRIL** mites will go to Braille Workers.



## SERVING THE LORD

**Ushers** 4/20 Sunday **8:00** Tim White; Derek Ames; Mark Ames; Scott Perry; Cory Ritter  
**10:45** Stan Lange; Will Bryan; Craig Goepfinger; Terry Massey; Steve Musgrove; Dave Pressley; Gary Winchester

**Coffee Servers** 4/20 Sunday Cory & Jan Ritter, Celia & Harper

**Financial Counters** 4/20 Sunday Kevin Ripple; Bob Ellis; Drew Gensler; Steve Myrvold

**Greeters** 4/20 Sunday **8:00** Harvey & Ruth Ann Thompson; Smitha Jeyaseelan; Ivan Jayakar  
**10:45** Byron & Nancy Brown

**Trustees** Week of 4/13 Paul Zeck; Harvey Thompson; Byron Brown; Bob Ellis; Doug Lueck; Gene & Linda Wise-Litter control



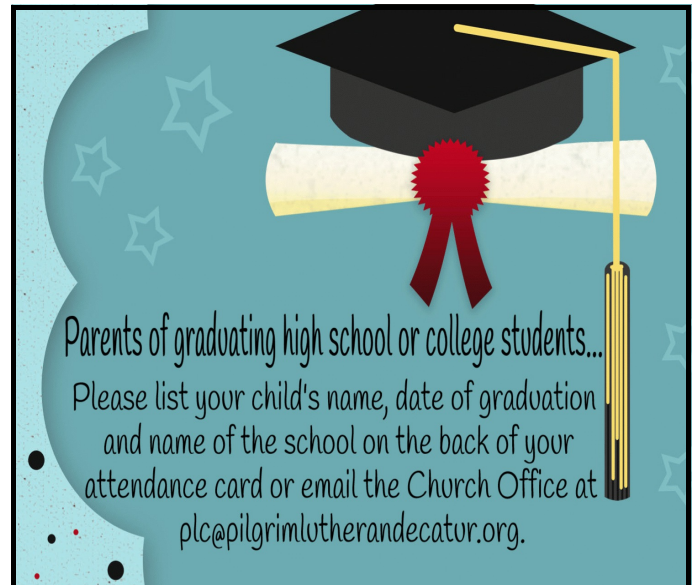
- 4/1 Robin Breeden; Mary Jo Ward
- 4/2 Will Bryan; Warner Gensler
- 4/3 Mike & Kathy O'Bryan (54 years)
- 4/4 Allison Ruwe; Brittany Williams
- 4/5 Chad & Megan Wooters (17 years)
- 4/6 Ellis V. Buth; Mary Ann Driskell; Bryant Taylor; Linda Wise  
Dick & Dona Bailey (52 years)
- 4/8 Byron Brown; Penny McBride; Susan Ruwe  
Kevin & Debbie Ripple (30 years)
- 4/9 Cameron Letterly
- 4/11 Hayden Ater; Jo-Anne Mast
- 4/13 Paulette Browne; Tim Ellison; Paula Scott; Margo Tschetter
- 4/14 Larry Grischow; Emmett Stenger
- 4/15 Dorothy Dittus
- 4/16 Tom Greenwood; Lesa Mills; Lindsey Rotz
- 4/17 Patti Zeck
- 4/19 Allen Kilzer
- 4/20 Jaimie Ford; Gayle Lange; Mike O'Bryan; Brett Stenger
- 4/21 Dana Embrey
- 4/22 Dorothy Price
- 4/23 Dave & Vicki Schroeder (48 years)
- 4/24 Sue Kopetz
- 4/25 Linda Ripple; Catherine Spengler
- 4/26 Jim R. Snow
- 4/29 Warren & Benita Leevy (2 years)
- 4/30 Lynn Block; Gary Schueller; Mary Jo Wrigley

4.13.2025  
LESSON 4



This week, students will study “Called Christian.” Following his conversion, Saul (also called Paul) is introduced by Barnabas to the apostles in Jerusalem. The Church had spread to Antioch, so the leaders in Jerusalem send Barnabas there. He exhorts the people to remain faithful, and he brings Saul from Tarsus to help him minister among the people in Antioch for a whole year. The name *Christian* is first used for the believers in Antioch. The Church in Antioch sends relief to the believers in Judea.

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Jean Mueller is coordinating our Easter Morning Breakfast on April 20 and she is in need of your help with the following:

**6:45-7:45 a.m.**

Set up - 2 helpers

**9:00 a.m.**

Keep trays filled & Clean up  
2 helpers

**Please contact Jean at 217-877-4060  
if you are able to help.  
Thank you!**

## Our youth and parents would appreciate your support...

12 PYC youth and parents are signed up and ready to go to the 2025 HIGHER THINGS CONFERENCE!

July 29-August 1, 2025  
Calvin University  
Grand Rapids, Michigan



## What's this year's theme?

### All Things New

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" (Revelation 21:5)

The one who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Jesus promises that just as He is risen, we will rise. The last great enemy has been destroyed. Everlasting life belongs to all who believe...one day.

But for us, some days, that day feels far away. Like it'll never come... like it's been made for someone other than you.

Dear one, hear the promise for you today, too. "Behold, I am making all things new."...right now. It doesn't just mean that one day, everything will be fixed. It means that things are allowed to be broken today. Nothing can be so damaged that it can't be made new. Nothing broken will stay that way. There is a resurrection of all flesh.

We can look forward with hope, even when everything falls apart around us. The promise isn't held at arm's length. When today is still broken, He who sits on the throne wants you to cling to the promise now. You are already a child of God, and so you are already a child of the resurrection. Call the sin that destroys what it is. Call death the last great enemy. It has already been defeated.

Live a steadfast faith today no matter what things look like because you rest on a yesterday that was made whole on the cross. Realize that God hates the same things you war against too, but he has already won the victory... the victory that makes *All Things New*.

## Why Higher Things conferences?

The mission of Higher Things is to make the Gifts of Christ Jesus known to youth and young adults. Since 2000, Higher Things has held a total of 55 Lutheran youth conferences!

We participate in these conferences because we are convinced that youth need solid teaching and experiences that will nurture a lasting Christian faith. Higher Things believes in challenging youth to learn the pure doctrine of the Christian faith. By teaching them the same message that they already hear at home and at Pilgrim, youth grow in the fullness of the Christian faith as they come to appreciate historic liturgical practice and its unique focus on God's Gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation for us delivered in Word and Sacrament.