



Pilgrim's Progress Keeping in Touch Issue 11



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

2155 N. Oakland Ave., Decatur, Illinois 62526

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



March 15, 2026

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

websites:

www.pilgrimlutherandecatur.org

www.unitedlutheranmission.org

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 3/8

General Fund: 15,085.67

Christian Sharing: 740.00

Altar Flowers: 60.00

Sunday School: 5.00

Misc: 121.05

Donuts: 70.00

Total: 16,081.72

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

- 3/16 4:30 Chancel Choir
6:30 Council Meeting
- 3/17 6:00 WTS Board Meeting
- 3/18 10:30 Bible Class
12:00 Lent Wednesday Worship-Communion
4:15-6 Midweek Grades 1-6
7th & 8th Grade Confirmation
7:00 Lent Wednesday Worship-Communion
- 3/19 8:00 Quilters
4:30 Handbell Choir
- 3/22 12:30 PKC/PYC Bowling
- 5/16 5:00 Pilgrim's 75th Anniversary Dinner
- 6/8 9:00-12:00 VBS (Monday-Friday)

ATTENDANCE

- 3/8 Sunday 8:00 service: 100
Sunday 10:45 service: 99
Adult Bible Class: 85
Sunday School N3-Gr. 12: 14
- 3/11 Wednesday 10:30 Bible Class: 30
Wednesday 12:00 service: 52
Wednesday 7:00 service: 22

MITE OFFERINGS...ALL Pilgrim members are encouraged to use a mite offering box to collect their coins. **MARCH** mites will go to Braille Workers.



SERVING THE LORD

Communion Assistants 3/18 Lent Wed

12:00 Gary Quandt 7:00 Don Mast

3/22 Sunday 8:00 Allen Kilzer **10:45** Doug Ward

Ushers 3/18 Lent Wed **12:00** Joe Marsaglia's

Team **7:00** Don Mast's Team 3/22 Sunday

8:00 Grant Abbott; 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; Mattias

Wegmann

Communion Set up & Clean Up 3/22 Sunday

Steve & Jennifer Gensler; Jane Martin; Sarah

Marsaglia; Carrie Thompson

Coffee Servers 3/18 Wed Church Staff

3/22 Sunday Harvey & Ruth Ann Thompson;

Smitha Jeyaseelan & Ivan Jayakar

Financial Counters 3/22 Sunday Rich Lanier;

Rick Leach; Steve Musgrove; Gary Schueller

Greeters 3/22 Sunday 8:00 Jean Mueller; Linda M.

Workman **10:45** Ted & Theresa Lyons

Trustees Week of 3/15 Harvey Thompson; Byron

Brown; Bob Ellis; Doug Lueck; Gene & Linda

Wise-Litter control



- 3/1 Rebekah Christoffersen
Kay & Duane Beals (12 years)
- 3/3 Jewel Barr
- 3/4 Kiersten Hill
- 3/5 Nancy Brown; Rita Perry
Jim & Susie Peck (33 years)
Ted & Linda Sue Workman (60 years)
- 3/6 Janie Lewis; Carrie Snow
- 3/8 Nicole Carlen; Matt Christoffersen;
Carrie Thompson
- 3/10 Ivan Jayakar; Joshua Scott
- 3/11 Christine Massey
Adam & Rachel Gensler (9 years)
- 3/12 Janice Dittus; Bev Winchester
- 3/13 Barbara Oyler
- 3/14 Nathan Ripple
- 3/15 Harper Ritter

- 3/19 Katie Buth; Victor James Buth
- 3/20 Scott Carter
Gary & Mary Ann Driskell (56 years)
- 3/21 Gary & Teresa Schueller (17 years)
- 3/22 Gabi Wegmann
- 3/23 Alan Ruwe
- 3/24 Barbara Buesking
- 3/25 Courtney Jacobs; Mark Luka; Doug Taylor
- 3/27 Chuck & Lavona McKinney (71 years)
- 3/28 Jo Ames
- 3/29 Zack Luka
- 3/31 Terry Massey
Kenny & Linda Ripple (59 years)



PKC & PYC will be collecting spare change to support New Life Pregnancy Center through their "Change for Life" campaign.

You may pick up your bottle to fill at home or drop your change in the large plastic bottle provided.

The table with the bottles is located at the red door area.

Bottles must be returned by March 15.

Every coin helps support life and families in our community. Thank you for partnering with our children and youth in this meaningful project to support life.

"For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made... In your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me." ~Psalm 139:13-16

SUNDAY SCHOOL

3.15.2026

Unit 2, Lesson 14

"Ephphatha . . . be opened" (Mark 7:34), Jesus says to a deaf man as He places His fingers in the man's ears and touches his tongue in this week's lesson, "A Hearing Aide." The man's ears open and his tongue releases, but Jesus warns the crowd not to tell anyone. The good news cannot be contained, however, and those who witness the miracle share the story. Discuss, "How can we share the Good News with our friends and family?"



**PYC 2026
Higher Things Conference
Support Needed!**

WHY Higher Things conferences are held:

- Christ-Centered Focus: The core mission is to make the Gifts of Christ Jesus known to youth, highlighting that salvation and forgiveness are won by Jesus and delivered through His Word.
- Solid Lutheran Teaching: Conferences focus on teaching the "pure doctrine" of the Christian faith, helping youth understand what they believe and why, rather than focusing solely on entertainment.
- Liturgical Worship: Worship at these events follows the historic, liturgical tradition of the Church (e.g., Matins, Vespers, Divine Service), providing consistency and reverence that connects youth to their home congregations.
- "Dare to be Lutheran": The events encourage youth to embrace their Lutheran heritage and identity, offering a space to engage with the faith on university campuses and other confessional Lutheran youth.
- Fellowship and Fun: While focused on faith, the conferences include recreational activities, providing a healthy, fun, and safe environment for youth to connect with peers who share similar beliefs.

We do not do any fundraising at Pilgrim, so if you would like to help offset the cost with a free-will donation above and beyond your tithe, it would be greatly appreciated.

If you would like to contribute, please get in touch with Kay Tolly or mark your check "Higher Things" in the memo.

We are so happy that we have 17 attending this year!

The cost is \$580 per student, and chaperone costs are higher due to lodging, plus transportation expenses.

If you would like to help support our youth and offset the cost, donations are greatly appreciated.

Thank you for helping our teens grow in Christ and in His Word!



PKC/PYC

BOWLING PARTY

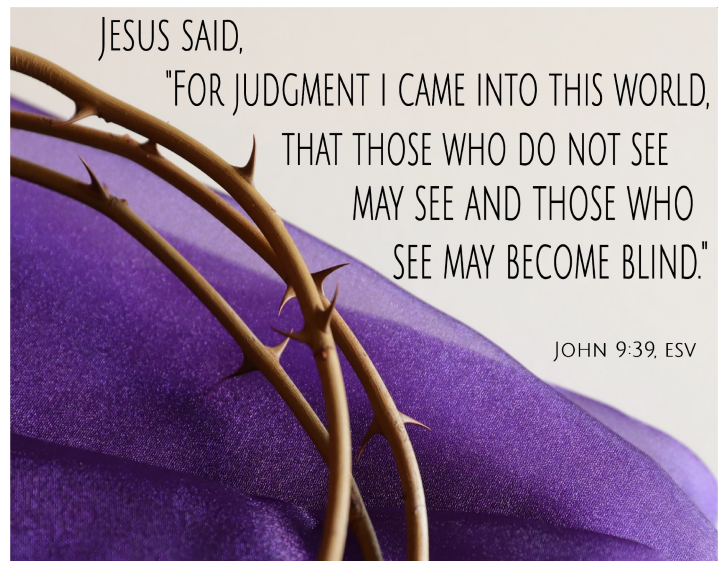
Get ready for an afternoon of strikes, spares, fun and food (pizza and soda).

SUNDAY

🕒 **MARCH 22, 12:30PM**

📍 **VICTORY LANES
2870 N. Jasper St.**

**SIGN UP
BY
MARCH 15**



JESUS SAID,
"FOR JUDGMENT I CAME INTO THIS WORLD,
THAT THOSE WHO DO NOT SEE
MAY SEE AND THOSE WHO
SEE MAY BECOME BLIND."

JOHN 9:39, ESV

75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Pilgrim Lutheran Church



SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026

5:00 P.M.

Decatur Conference Center

4191 W. Rt. 36

Buffet Dinner choices:

Grilled Chicken Breast or Pork Fillet

Vegetable Medley, Green Beans, Corn, or Baked Beans

Roasted Potato, Mashed Potato, or Mac & Cheese

Salad & Rolls

Iced Tea, Lemonade, Coffee, Water

Cake

Wine & Beer available at a cash bar

We will be sharing memories, showing photos, and enjoying fellowship together. There is no cost for this celebration. There is a tote by the red doors to deposit memories, photos, or stories to share. Be sure to write your name on them so we can return them to you. If you have any questions, please contact Linda M. Workman or Kathy Kilzer.

Please sign up before May 4, 2026!

Pilgrim Lutheran Church Memory Page

75 Years Serving Our Lord, Jesus Christ

Our church has been blessed over these 75 years with so many faithful members serving in many different capacities. We have had the opportunity to talk with a few members about memories they have and it's been wonderful.

We are asking our members to take a little time to jot down some memories about the people and activities we've had over the years. If you could help us with that, we will get all the information together and share it at our 75th Anniversary Celebration Saturday, May 16, 2026.

There will be a "Pilgrim Lutheran Church Memory Box" placed by the Red Doors where you can place your shared memories. If you have pictures or videos, that would be even better! **We do ask that you put your name on your memory page and/or your pictures so we can return them to you when we finish our compilation.** Place them in an envelope and put them in the box.

All memories/pictures need to be placed in the box by April 12, 2026 so we have time to get the presentation put together!

If you have any questions, please ask Kathy Kilzer or Linda Workman.

Thank you so much for sharing your "Church Family Memories". We have listed below some of the activities to help you get those memories going!

Pilgrim Lutheran Ladies Guild

Children and Youth

VBS
Rally Day
PYC/PKC
Walther League
Youth House
Boy Scout Troup
Children's Church w/Pastor Munch
Christmas Programs
Plays

Sports

Basketball teams
Softball teams (Guys and Girls)

Choirs and Directors over the years

Chancel
Youth Choir
Children's Choir
Bell Choir
Music for Sunday School Children

Let's Eat!

Mother/Daughter Banquet
Men's Banquet
Wednesday Night Suppers
Easter Breakfast
Reformation Dinners
Ladies Guild Breakfasts/Luncheons

Guilds

Ladies Guild:
Chancel
Braille
Funerals
Hospitality
Kitchen
Library
Mission
Nursery
Prayer
Sunshine
Wedding
Programs
Quilt Guild

Organ/Organists

History of Organs – Ron YaDeau
Organists

Combined Churches

Forums
Ascension
Real Life Worship
Synodical Convention in Spfld

Miscellaneous

Exercise Group
Couples Group
Just a Bunch of Moms
Clothing Room
Time Capsule

Pastors and Staff

Pastors
DCE's
Vicars
Secretaries
Custodians

Place your memory page and any pictures in the "Pilgrim Lutheran Church Memory Box" by April 12, 2026! Thank you!