



# Pilgrim's Progress Keeping in Touch Issue 14



**Pilgrim Lutheran Church**

2155 N. Oakland Ave., Decatur, Illinois 62526

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



**April 5, 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](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 3.29

General Fund: 16,058.00  
Christian Sharing: 40.00  
Altar Flowers: 180.00  
Sunday School: 6.00  
Donuts: 60.00  
Higher Things Youth Conference: 200.00  
Total: 16,544.00

### ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

- 4/6 6:30 Elders' Meeting
- 4/8 10:30 Bible Class  
12:00 Wednesday Worship  
4:15-6 Midweek Grades 1-6  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation
- 4/9 8:00 Quilters
- 5/16 5:00 Pilgrim's 75th Anniversary Dinner
- 6/8 9:00-12:00 VBS (Monday-Friday)

### ATTENDANCE

- 3/29 Sunday 8:00 service: 100
- Sunday 10:45 service: 102
- Adult Bible Class: 85
- Sunday School N3-Gr. 12: 4

**MITE OFFERINGS...**ALL Pilgrim members are encouraged to use a mite offering box to collect their coins. **APRIL** mites will go to Walther Theological Seminary.



Christ the Lord  
is *Risen* Today

## SERVING THE LORD

**Communion Assistants** 4/12 Sunday 8:00 Tom Greenwood **10:45** Don Mast

**Ushers** 4/12 Sunday 8:00 Tim White; Derek Ames; Mark Ames; Ted Lyons; Scott Perry; Cory Ritter **10:45** Stan Lange; Will Bryan; Craig Goepfing; Steve Musgrove; Dave Pressley; Gary Winchester

**Coffee Servers** 4/8 Wed Office Staff 4/12 Sunday Paul & Patti Zeck

**Financial Counters** 4/12 Sunday Kevin Ripple; Bob Ellis; John Mickler; Steve Myrvold

**Greeters** 4/12 Sunday 8:00 Jim & Linda Snow **10:45** Jane Martin; Dana Embry

**Communion Set Up & Clean Up** 4/12 Sunday Ted & Linda Sue Workman; Jane Martin; Nancy Quandt; Carrie Thompson

**Trustees** Week of 4/5 Don Mast; Cory Ritter; Eric Mast; Ted Workman; Greg Luka; Gene & Linda Wise-Litter control



- 4/1 Robin Breeden; Mary Jo Ward  
4/2 Will Bryan; Warner Gensler  
4/3 Hannah Thomas  
Mike & Kathy O'Bryan (55 years)  
4/4 Brittany Ater; Allison Ruwe  
4/5 Chad & Megan Wooters (18 years)  
4/6 Ellis V. Buth; Mary Ann Driskell; Bryant Taylor; Linda Wise  
Dick & Dona Bailey (53 years)  
4/8 Byron Brown; Penny McBride; Susan Ruwe  
Kevin & Debbie Ripple (31 years)  
4/9 Cameron Letterly; Nicole O'Brien  
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; 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 (49 years)  
4/24 Sue Kopetz  
4/25 Linda Ripple; Catherine Spengler  
4/26 Jim R. Snow  
4/29 Warren & Benita Leevy (3 years)  
4/30 Lynn Block; Gary Schueller; Mary Jo Wrigley

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

4.5.2026  
Unit 3, Lesson 3

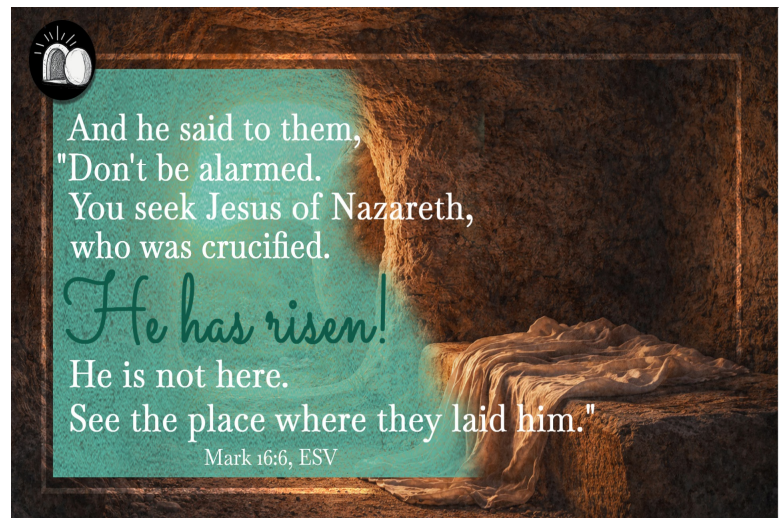
This week's Bible lesson is "A Shepherd Loves." Jesus calls Himself the Good Shepherd as He promises to lead and guide His sheep. Jesus willingly laid down His life for His sheep, even those who often ignore the voice of the Shepherd. His flock includes "other sheep" (John 10:16), Gentiles not descended from Abraham. David's familiar Twenty-third Psalm describes the work of our Good Shepherd. Discuss, "When do we often hear Psalm 23 spoken?"



Free items to anyone who has a need, or knows someone with a need:

- Twin-sized, power adjustable bed with wireless remote; includes a Beautyrest mattress
- Karmon Healthcare aluminum ultra light wheelchair; easy to fold and put in car.
- 2 folding walkers
- Adjustable quad cane

If interested, see or contact Mark Ames at 217-521-2591.





## 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

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!



# 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!**