



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 12, 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 4/5

General Fund: 45,205.67

Walther Theological Seminary: 100.00

Christian Sharing: 825.00

Altar Flowers: 150.00

Sunday School: 1.00

CDs: 1.00

Donuts: 167.00

Higher Things Youth Conference: 2,100.00

Total: 48,549.67

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

- 4/15 10:30 Bible Class (Last Class)
- 12:00 Wednesday Worship-Communion
- 4:15-6 Midweek Grades 1-6 (Last Class)
- 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation
(Last class for 7th grade only)
- 4/16 8:00 Quilters
- 5/16 5:00 Pilgrim's 75th Anniversary Dinner
- 6/8 9:00-12:00 VBS (Monday-Friday)

ATTENDANCE

- 4/2 Maundy Thursday 7:00 Service: 107
- 4/3 Good Friday 7:00 Service: 184
- 4/5 Sunday 8:00 service: 178
- Sunday 10:45 service: 118
- Adult Bible Class: 91
- Sunday School N3-Gr. 12: 12
- 4/8 Wednesday 10:30 Bible Class: 34
- Wednesday 12:00 service: 49

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.



SERVING THE LORD

Communion Assistants 4/15 Wed Allen Kilzer

4/19 Sunday **8:00** Alan Ruwe **10:45** Greg Collingwood

Ushers 4/19 Sunday **8:00** Tim White; Derek Ames; Mark Ames; Ted Lyons; Scott Perry; Cory Ritter

10:45 Stan Lange; Will Bryan; Craig Goepfinger; Steve Musgrove; Dave Pressley; Gary Winchester
Coffee Servers 4/15 Wed Office Staff 4/19 Sunday Doug & Vicky Lueck

Financial Counters 4/19 Sunday Rich Lanier; Rick Leach; Steve Musgrove; Gary Schueller

Greeters 4/19 Sunday **8:00** Loren & Melinda Hiser **10:45** Mark & Carrie Thompson

Communion Set Up & Clean Up 4/19 Sunday Stacey Apel; Don & Jo-Anne Mast; Carrie Thompson; Jane Martin

Trustees Week of 4/12 Larry Wolf; Pete Williams; Brad Roberts; 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

4.122026
Unit 3, Lesson 4

In this week's lesson, "A Tree View," students learn about Zacchaeus, a wealthy tax collector, who anxiously awaits the arrival of Jesus. Short of stature, Zacchaeus climbs a tree to see the Savior. Despite criticism, Jesus invites Himself to the tax collector's home. Motivated by Christ's compassion, Zacchaeus confesses his sin and promises to make restitution. Families could discuss, "How does Jesus motivate you to make a difference in your world?"



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.

Please Check Your Closets

A member is missing a women's black coat with a hood, size medium, that may have accidentally been taken home. There is a black coat with a hood on the coat rack in a different size that could be yours. Please bring the coat back to exchange if you find it! Thank you!



PYC 2026 Higher Things Conference Support Needed!

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!

- 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.



Dear Pilgrim Family,
How thankful Larry and I are for all of you. Being at Barnes the last few months has been very difficult. All of your phone calls, cards, prayers and food brought over the last several months are precious to us. They have all helped sustain us. We are so very grateful for the Lord, our pastors and your support. Through all of this, I have never lost hope. What a wonderful Pilgrim family we have. Thank you all!

Angee Baker

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!