



Pilgrim's Progress Keeping in Touch Issue 16



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

2155 N. Oakland Ave., Decatur, Illinois 62526

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



April 19, 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 4/12

General Fund: 13,540.67

Walther Theological Seminary: 100.00

Altar Flowers: 50.00

Sunday School: 10.00

Loose: 60.00

Donuts: 44.00

Higher Things Youth Conference: 750.00

Total: 14,554.67

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

- 4/19 Parents of 8th Grade Confirmands, please pick up robes in the library.
- 4/20 6:30 Council Meeting
- 4/21 6:00 WTS Board Meeting
- 4/22 12:00 Wednesday Worship
4:15-6:00 8th Grade Confirmation
Confirmation Pictures
- 4/23 8:00 Quilters
- 4/24 7:00 8th Grade Confirmation Questioning
Reception Following
- 4/26 10:45 Service - Jr. Confirmation
- 5/16 5:00 Pilgrim's 75th Anniversary Dinner
- 6/8 9:00-12:00 VBS (Monday-Friday)

ATTENDANCE

- 4/12 Sunday 8:00 service: 108
Sunday 10:45 service: 95
Adult Bible Class: 94
Sunday School N3-Gr. 12: 12
- 4/15 Wednesday 10:30 Bible Class: 30
Wednesday 12:00 service: 52

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 4/26 Sunday

8:00 Tom Greenwood **10:45** Mark Thompson

Ushers 4/26 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 4/26 Sunday Paul & Patti Zeck

Financial Counters 4/26 Sunday Mark Ames; John Crowe; Tim Ellison; Paul Giesler

Greeters 4/26 Sunday 8:00 Lani Mierek; Dave & Vicki Schroeder **10:45** Mark & Carrie Thompson

Communion Set Up & Clean Up 4/26 Sunday

Steve & Jennifer Gensler; Jane Martin; Sarah Marsaglia; Carrie Thompson

Trustees Week of 4/19 Larry Wolf; Pete Williams; Brad Roberts; Gene & Linda Wise-Litter control



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

4.19. 2026
Unit 3, Lesson 5

This week's lesson is "A Crushing Truth." The events of Christ's crucifixion unfold in a series of brutal and bloody vignettes: questioned before Pilate, mocked and abused by the Roman guard, nailed to the cross. Jesus hangs between life and death—abandoned by His Father—yielding up His life at the moment He chooses. Multiple witnesses see where Christ is laid in a borrowed tomb. Discuss how you can remember the crucifixion of Christ.



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.

PLC 75th Anniversary

Monday, April 20
8:00 - 11:00 am

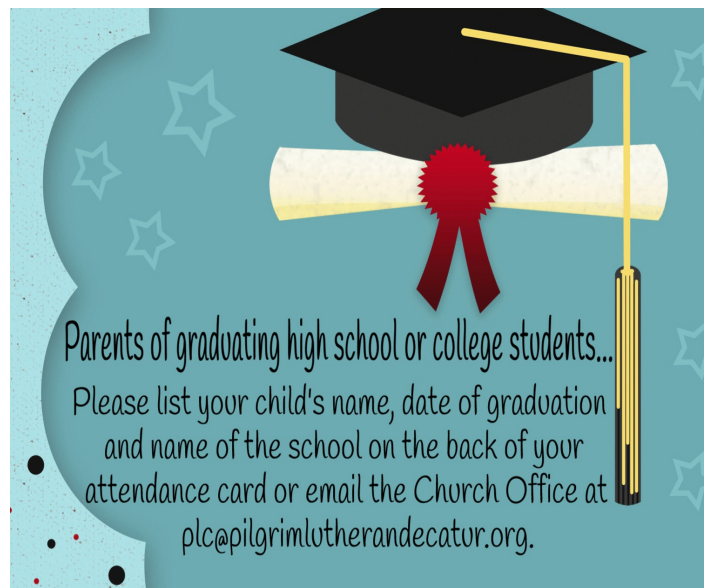
Meeting

Please join us to help identify and organize PLC pictures for our anniversary celebration. We'll meet in the all-purpose room.

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. If you happen to find it in your closet, please return it to the coat rack.

Thank you!



Parents of graduating high school or college students...

Please list your child's name, date of graduation and name of the school on the back of your attendance card or email the Church Office at plc@pilgrimlutherandecatur.org.



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.

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.

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!



By popular demand, here is Jean Mueller's recipe for **TOFFEE COFFEE CAKE**

- ½ cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- ½ cup sugar
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3 chocolate English toffee candy bars (1.4 ounces each)
(I used English toffee bits with chocolate coating, approx ½ cup)
- ¼ cup chopped pecans



In a mixing bowl, blend butter, sugars and flour; set aside ½ cup. To the remaining butter mixture, add buttermilk, egg, baking soda and vanilla; mix well. Pour into a greased 13-in. x 9-in. x 2-in. baking pan. Combine chopped candy and pecans with the reserved butter mixture; sprinkle over coffee cake. Bake at 350 degrees for 30-35 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack. Yield: 12-16 servings.

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!

**Mark your calendar for VBS
Ages 4 - 8th grade (in Fall)**



**Join us for an exciting under-the-sea adventure!
Students will dive deep as we discover the meaning
behind each of the Ten Commandments and learn how
they are good gifts from God.**

**While we fall short of keeping God's commandments,
Jesus has fulfilled them for us!
Come learn how we are saved by His grace
and guided by His Word.**

SCAN TO REGISTER



**Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 2155 N. Oakland Ave., Decatur, IL
217-877-2444**

“Diving Into the 10 Commandments”

2026 VBS T-Shirt Orders

Place orders by **Sunday, May 17, 2026**

VBS T-shirts will be available for anyone who would like one.
T-shirts will be available free of charge to visitors during VBS.

If you can pay for the shirts, the cost is listed below.

If you are unable, we will cover the cost. If anyone would like to make a donation to help offset the cost, please designate “t-shirt” on your check and give to the office or Kay Tolly.

DO NOT PUT T-SHIRT MONEY IN THE OFFERING BOX.

Please place your order by Sunday, May 17. You may place your order by signing up on the easel in the narthex, by calling 877-2444 or by emailing me at kt2155@gmail.com

We need to know the size (Youth or Adult)
and quantity of each size.

T-shirts will be close to this color.

Youth S - Adult XL = \$15

XXL = \$18

