



JANUARY 29, 2015

VOLUME 63, NO. 1

# PILGRIM NEWS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

## INTERIM MINISTER SELECTED

Last fall the Council appointed Steve Cushing, Diane Desotelle and Nate Stumme as the Search Committee for an interim pastor to serve during our time of transition. They were charged with developing a prioritized list of what skills Pilgrim needed for in an interim minister. They created a very enticing ad that was sent out by UCC conference nationally. They also put an ad in a UCC recommended website. The desired skill set they compiled for the selection process included: The ability to run a church day to day; A skill set to reach out to "core groups" especially the younger members; Experience in providing guidance in our search for a full time minister; Support Christian Education; Facilitation skills that help us recognize the importance of tradition as well as the excitement for change; and A calm demeanor.

Three outstanding individuals were interviewed. It was a difficult decision, but one candidate stood out as the person who they thought could best fulfill the challenge. The Interim Search Committee presented their recommendation to Council on December 30, 2014. The Council moved to accept the recommendation and extend an invitation to the candidate. Steve Grindy, Karl Beaster and Steve Cushing were appointed to negotiate the call with the candidate and work out the contractual details.

I am very pleased to announce that Reverend Jennifer Amy-Dressler has accepted the offer to be our Interim Minister for Pilgrim Congregational UCC Church. Reverend Amy-Dressler has served as associate minister for two congregations and worked for the Indiana-Kentucky Conference UCC with Youth, Youth Adult, and Outdoor Ministries. She has served in interim ministry for three churches, with the most recent two in Minnesota. She graduated from Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio, and completed her Master of Divinity at Earlham School of Religion, a Quaker institution in Richmond, Indiana.

Reverend Amy-Dressler grew up in Ohio in the United Methodist Church (UMC). Her father is an ordained UMC minister and served in higher education as a professor of religion and philosophy. Her mother was an RN and later became a special education teacher.

Jennifer and her spouse Dee have been married 31 years, and have called Minnesota home since 2007. Their children, Noah and Grace, are both students at Minnesota State in Fergus Falls. They also share their home with a gregarious Newfoundland/Labrador mix named Ronnie.

Reverend Amy-Dressler will start on Monday, February 9.

On behalf of the Council and Pilgrim, I would like to thank Steve, Diane and Nate for their excellent work and dedication in the interim search process.

## NEXT STEPS...

Now that we have an interim minister in place, we are ready to begin the next phase of the search for a permanent Minister. Over the next few months, the Council will work with the congregation to select members for our Search Committee (Committee). We will be looking for seven to nine individuals to serve on the Committee, representing the diversity of our congregation. The names of the individuals recommended by the Council will be presented to the congregation for approval.

Once the Committee is in place, they will begin the search process. We will continue to update you on the progress, but we do anticipate that this process will take a minimum of twelve months.

Charlotte Taylor, Moderator

**NOBLE REDS, A WINE EDUCATION FUNDRAISER**

Friday, February 13, 2015  
 6-6:30 settle in and nibble  
 6:30-9 wine tasting and education  
 Salter Hall  
 \$40 per participant, class is limited to 18 participants



Call or email Stacey Achterhoff to reserve a spot, 428-9708 or

[Mrs.Delicious.Duluth@gmail.com](mailto:Mrs.Delicious.Duluth@gmail.com)

Proceeds go directly to Pilgrim's service learning trip to Guatemala.

**VISITING OUR ELDERLY PILGRIMS**

Jean Jacobson will be out of town for the month of February. While she is gone she notes that Pilgrims with the time and inclination to visit GERTRUDE JACOBSON at Diamond Willow Lester Park would be especially welcome and appreciated.

Visit Earl Austin once every two months and deliver a DVD of the recent service. Contact the church office.

**PACT TV REGULAR BROADCAST**

Pilgrim's regular broadcasts on Channel 180 are Wednesdays, 3:30-4:30 pm and Thursdays, 7:00-8:00 am. and 8:30-9:30 pm.

February 4 and 5 "What If We Weren't Afraid" by the Rev. Charlotte Frantz from November 16, 2014

February 11 and 12 "Giving Thanks for Having Come" by the Rev. Charlotte Frantz from November 23, 2014

February 18 and 19 "Being Kingdom People in a Changing World" by the Rev. Karen Schuder from January 11, 2015

February 25 and 26 "Here I Am" by the Rev. Paul Van Antwerp from January 18, 2015

March 4 and 5 "Grace-Full Changes" by the Rev. Karen Schuder from January 25, 2015

**MARY BRAIN BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

Mary Brain will turn 100 on Tuesday, February 3. You are invited to a birthday celebration on Sunday, February 8, hosted by Mary's nieces, at Mount Royal Pines III, third floor common room. The celebration will begin 12:30 pm, with cake and refreshments. Please stop by and wish Mary a very Happy Birthday.



**2015 CROP WALK**

**Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> the Duluth Crop Walk, Ski, Sled and Snowshoe event!** Registration begins at for 1:30 p.m. at Bagley Nature Center on the UMD campus right off of St. Marie St. The trail is about 1 mile long and you can walk, or bring your skis or snowshoes! There is a sliding hill for kids to bring their sleds as well. We will have a few snowshoes on hand for people try out. There will also be an indoor option through the campus for those who would like to walk inside. We will have an outdoor fire to warm up and roast marshmallows. Cookies & hot chocolate for everyone.

With the event we will raise money and awareness for those who do not have enough to eat around the world and right here in Duluth. It is an event for every age, and pledge forms will be available in your church office. Hope to see you all at the 2015 CROP WALK!



**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**February 1**

**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

Guest Preacher the Rev. Dr. Karen Schuder  
10:00 am Worship and Sunday School  
11:00 am Coffee Hour  
Childcare available 9:00—12:00 pm

**February 8**

**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

Guest Preacher  
10:00 am Worship and Sunday School  
11:00 am Coffee Hour  
Childcare available 9:00—12:00 pm

**February 15**

**Transfiguration**

Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler  
10:00 am Worship and Sunday School  
11:00 am Coffee Hour  
2nd Hour-Meet and Greet Rev. Amy-Dressler  
Childcare available 9:00—12:30 pm

**February 18**

**Ash Wednesday**

6:00 pm Soup and bread meal  
7:00 pm Worship

**February 22**

**First Sunday in Lent**

Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler  
10:00 am Worship and Sunday School  
11:00 am Coffee Hour  
Childcare available 9:00—12:00 pm

**March 1**

**Second Sunday in Lent**

Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler  
Worship with Holy communion and Sunday  
School  
11:00 am Coffee Hour  
Childcare available 9:00-12:00 pm

**MEET AND GREET**

Please plan to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour on Sunday, February 15, for an opportunity to greet and get to know Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler on her first Sunday at Pilgrim. This will be a great chance to talk with her in an informal, cozy setting.

**LENTEN SERIES**

We will again have a Lenten book group beginning Sunday, February 22. There will be three groups offered on Sundays; one before service led by Stacey Achterhoff and Joseph Grant, and two following service, led by Reverend Amy-Dressler and Charlotte Taylor. We will finalize the book this week and will announce the title next Sunday. Sign-up sheets will be available in Salter Hall beginning February 1.

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18. Join other Pilgrims for a light supper and meditative service that includes the imposition of ashes. Ashes remind us that we are human, made of earth's dust, beloved and cherished by God, forgiven and redeemed by Jesus, and filled with a renewed spirit. A soup and bread supper will be available beginning at 6:00. The service is at 7:00.

**VOLUNTEER TO BE A SUNDAY  
SCHOOL TEACHER!**

We are in need of volunteers willing to teach our youngest Pilgrims! Teachers are needed for both March (March 1, 8, 15, 22) and April (March 29, April 12, 19, 26) for both the youngest class (ages 4 -1st grade) and the middle class (2nd-3rd grade). Team teaching is also an option if you prefer to pair up with another adult and teach both classes at the same time! All curriculum is available with lots of fun ideas for the classes! Please contact Katie Hanlon at 341-6181 or hanlonkatie@hotmail.com if you are able to help teach!

**PARISH POSTS**

Dear Friends at Pilgrim,  
 Thank you for making January 4th a day of celebration and laughter. You have been so much a part and focus of my life, I'm sure this transition into a new life will give me some difficulty! I will miss you and all the seasons we've shared. But thank you for helping bring my ministry with and among you to a memorable close. May God continue to bless you.

Charlotte

Dear Rachael and Pilgrim Congregation,  
 I received the DVD of the Christmas pageant from December 21, 2014. It was a wonderful video! Being able to enjoy it a second time was such a gift! The Pilgrim Videography committee does a marvelous job of capturing the service. You are blessed to have a team of such talent.

Rachael, the program was an absolute delight! What a pleasure to share in the fruits of your musical labors at Pilgrim! Thank you.

Sincerely, Robin Johnson

Pilgrim Congregational Church,  
 This month we are celebrating the opening of the Steve O'Neil Apartments! This has been made possible because of the commitment by our community to those in need of shelter.

Thank you for your gifts of \$1,145.00 from you Gift Tree and another \$337.50 congregational gift.

Lee Stuart, Executive Director,  
 CHUM

Dear Friends at Pilgrim,  
 Today the congregation of the Duluth Congregational Church held you in our prayers as you say goodbye to Charlotte, your pastor for many years. We prayed that God will be with you as you step forward into a new time with new leadership.

Duluth Congregational Church

Dear Pilgrim Congregational Church,  
 Thank you for your gift of \$87.50 in support of Life House programs and essential services for at-risk and homeless kids in Duluth, Minnesota. On behalf of all at Life House, thank you for your support towards these kids.

Maude Dornfeld, Life House Executive Director

**PARISH PERSONALS**

**Denny Falk** is recovering from shoulder surgery.

**Earl Austin** has returned home after rehabilitation at Lakeshore Lutheran.

**Robert Rhode and Kitty Van Evera** were at St. Luke's.

**Rev. Fred Lund** was hospitalized last week.

**WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP**

Here is the selection for the next month. We meet in the parlor at 6:30 and you are welcome to attend even if you have not read the selection.

Join in the discussion on February 23 The Moonflower Vine by Jetta Carlton (Karen facilitator, Joan treats).

*"For a few months after its publication in December 1962, Carleton's novel, The Moonflower Vine, was one of the flowers of the literary world. It spent four months on the New York Times bestseller list, alongside Raise High the Roof Beam, Carpenters by J. D. Salinger and John Updike's The Centaur. A main selection of two major book clubs, it was published in eight other countries and appeared as a Reader's Digest Condensed Book, a sure sign of mid-twentieth-century literary success." Riverfront Times*

Why did this novel become obscure and why is it making a resurgence with book groups over 50 years later? Let's read and find out!

March 16 The Lighthouse Road by Peter Geye, A MN author (Julie facilitator, Michelle treats)

April 20 Ordinary Grace by William Kruger (Mary Jo facilitator, Lois treats)

Questions? Contact Joan at 728-4986

**GUATEMALAN FIESTA!**

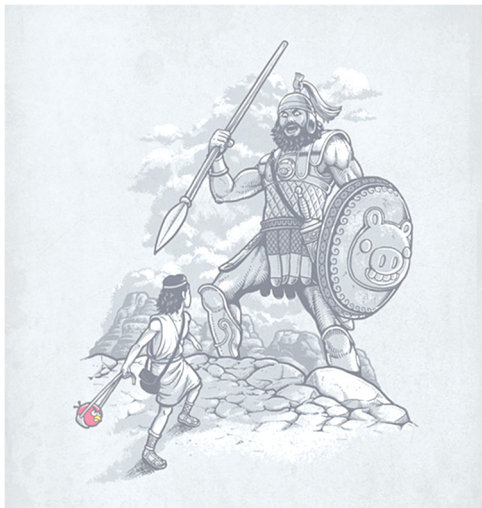
Pilgrim Church's 2015 Common Hope Vision Team will be traveling to Antigua, Guatemala June 7-14th. Please join us for a fun and delicious fundraiser Sunday March 22 following worship. Duluth East High School Spanish Club will be helping us with fun, games and maybe some salsa dancing! We will enjoy food prepared using Guatemalan recipes. For more info or questions, please contact Nan Hillmeyer. [Nhillmeyer@charter.net](mailto:Nhillmeyer@charter.net) 218-390-4215.

**SPRING MUSICAL AUDITIONS!**

Sunday, Feb 1st and  
February 8th from 11:30-12:00

For Sunday school youth who are interested in singing solos and speaking roles in our Musical, "The Rock Slinger and His Greatest Hit!" A Story of David and Goliath. The Auditions will be held after our music time! The signup sheet is in Salter Hall.

The Musical will be on Sunday, June 7th during the worship service. Weekday rehearsals for youth with speaking parts and solos will be begin on April 16th after the spring break! We rehearse every Thursday and Friday from 6:00-7:15 pm.



**CHRISTMAS FUND RESULTS**

Each Christmas season Pilgrim joins the UCC in collecting the Christmas Fund. Thank you for your generous donation of \$791.00 to the Fund.

**WINTER INTERGENERATIONAL IDEAS NEEDED**

We are looking for suggestions or ideas for our Pilgrim Intergenerational events for this year! In the past we have had gatherings at Hartley, attended baseball games, picnics, etc. We are looking to you, Pilgrims, for ideas on what you want to see happen this year! Ideas for all season activities are welcome. We are especially eager to hear about any ideas for the upcoming winter/spring months. Help us plan our year! Contact any of the following Christian Education Members with your ideas: Katie Hanlon, Chris Harwood, John Jensen, David Braun.



**CHUM NEEDS**

**For Those Who Are Homeless**

Warm water-proof hats and gloves, warm winter socks, hand warmers, sewing kits, blankets, bath towels, and wash cloths, wallets, and solar lights. Also, help to pay co-pays/cost of medication – please make checks out to "CHUM Fund"

**For Those Who are Hungry**

Peanut butter, tuna, whole chickens, canned peaches, pears, and pineapple, canned stew, hash, chili, creamed chicken soup and Spaghettios

**For Households**

Two-gallon cleaning buckets filled with cleaning supplies: dish soap, all purpose kitchen and bathroom cleansers, window cleaner, floor mop, broom, dustpan, oil soap for wood floors. Cookware sets and baking sheets; dinnerware (plates and bowls are needed most); manual can openers, new vacuum cleaners, laundry items (sturdy laundry baskets/bags, laundry detergent, bleach, dryer sheets); grocery and gas cards

**For Personal Hygiene**

Baby and children's soap, shampoo, lotion, diapers (sizes 3,4 and 5) and wipes; Family-sized shampoo, hair conditioner, bath soap, lotion, toothpaste & toothbrushes; Men's underwear in all sizes; women's underwear, sizes 5, 6, and 7; White crew socks for adult men and women; cough drops, reading glasses, Denture adhesive and cleaning tablets; Feminine hygiene products

**UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS**

Greetings from United Campus Ministry! Students are back in town and geared up for Spring semester. We are looking ahead to Monday Dollar Dinners, Interfaith panel, Ash Wednesday ecumenical service, CROP Walk, One Billion Rising, Cribbage nights, brown bag lunches and more.

We have several opportunities for you and UCM to work together. We are looking for groups to cook and serve meals on Monday nights at 5:00 p.m. Thank you to Hope UMC, 1<sup>st</sup> UMC, and Pilgrim for providing a meal last semester. The students love it! We are also looking for new board members! We meet once a month for an hour and other events as they come up. We are especially looking for someone willing to be treasurer. We thank Craig Kvale for all his work as treasurer on the board for many years! And Lastly, the CROP Walk is coming up! More info to come next month, but save the date, Sunday, March 8th at 2:00 p.m. We will again be sponsoring this event at UMD's Bagley Nature Center. We will ski, snowshoe, sled, and walk the trails to raise money and awareness of hunger issues in our world and right here in Duluth, MN. This is a great community and campus event to work together! We value your support and give thanks for all our supporting congregations and the important work you do in the community.

Please contact me for more info!

Cynthia Coffin-Langdon  
United Campus Minister  
[ucmduluth@gmail.com](mailto:ucmduluth@gmail.com)

**PILGRIM CHURCH STAFF**

Mary Sopoci, Business Manager  
Jim Brower, Administrative Assistant  
Rachael Kresha, Director of Music  
Bret Amundson, Director of Choral Music  
Aine Miller, Childcare Assistant

“You must be the change you wish to see in the world.”

- Mohandas Gandhi

[www.instituteforcivility.org](http://www.instituteforcivility.org)

**PUPPY FOSTER FAMILIES NEEDED!**

**Can Do Canines Prison Puppy Foster Program.** Would you like to help train service dogs? Too busy to have a dog, but want to have a puppy around one or two days a week when it fits your schedule?

Can Do Canines wants you! Can Do Canines coordinates the training of assistance dogs for people with physical disabilities. The dogs are given free of charge to people with disabilities who need them to stay safe and independent. Prison inmates train the puppies, but it is also crucial that the puppies at a young age learn good house manners and get exposed to social situations.

Can Do Canines is looking for people who are willing to take “service dogs in training” to their homes on weekends. Dogs are 9-11 months old. If you are interested in providing a foster home, contact John Pegg at 218-348-3048. You can also learn more about the program on the Can Do Canines web site at <http://can-do-canines.org/>.

**CHUM ANNUAL MEETING**

Tuesday, February 24

6:30 pm Fellowship

7:00 pm Program

Speaker:

Mark Holman,

Senior Interim Pastor

First Lutheran Church

1100 East Superior Street

Business Meeting Includes voting on New Members of the Board of Directors

**JRLC DAY ON THE HILL**

**March 10**

JRLC's Day on the Hill is our annual policy briefing and lobby day. Participants are briefed on the JRLC issues that are being debated and voted on at our State Capitol. Clergy and lay people from across the state attend Day on the Hill to show our interfaith commitment to social justice and to participate in the lawmaking process.

**ALL MINISTRY NIGHT**

**February 10**

**Check the time of your Ministry meeting.**

**HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 26**

Sunday, Feb. 1	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Worship with Holy Communion and Sunday School
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:30 am	Spring Musical Auditions
Tuesday, Feb. 3	6:30 pm	Leadership Team
Wednesday, Feb. 4	6:00 pm	Bellissimo Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Youth at Peace
	7:15 pm	Pilgrim Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, Feb. 5	6:00 pm	Joyful Noise
Friday, Feb. 6	1:00 pm	Clark Dohm Memorial Service
Sunday, Feb. 8	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Worship and Sunday School
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:30 am	Spring Musical Auditions
Tuesday, Feb. 10		All Ministry Night
Wednesday, Feb. 11	6:00 pm	Bellissimo Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Youth at Peace
	7:15 pm	Pilgrim Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, Feb. 12	6:00 pm	Joyful Noise
		Office Closed
Sunday, Feb. 15	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Worship and Sunday School
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour and Meet and Greet Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler
Monday, Feb. 16		President's Day
		Office Closed
Tuesday, Feb. 17	7:00 pm	BeFriends
Wed., Feb. 18	6:00 pm	Soup Supper
	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service
Sunday, Feb. 22	9:15 am	Pilgrim Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Worship and Sunday School
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
Monday, Feb. 23		Newsletter Deadline
	8:30 am	Cooking at Damiano's
	6:30 pm	Women's Book Group
Tuesday, Feb. 24	6:00 pm	Church Council
Wed., Feb. 25	6:00 pm	Bellissimo Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Youth at Peace
	7:15 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, Feb. 26	1:00 pm	Newsletter Assembly
	6:00 pm	Joyful Noise

**SUNDAY  
VOLUNTEERS**

**February 1-Ushers**

Carri Hoagland, Bob and Tammy  
Hensley, Avon Power

**Greeters/Coffee**

Martin and Melanie Grune

**Lay Reader**

Gene Shull

**Counters**

Jack Setterlund and Mardi Bagley

**February 8-Ushers**

Carri Hoagland and Charles Walters

**Greeters/Coffee**

Anita Stech and Cindy Grindy

**Lay Reader**

Tucker Hanlon

**Counters**

Greg Gilbert and Steve Grindy

**February 15-Ushers**

Carri Hoagland and Jenny Jensen

**Greeters/Coffee**

Gene and Jane Shull

**Lay Reader**

Patty Polasky

**Counters**

Steve Grindy and Mardi Bagley

**February 22-Ushers**

Carri Hoagland and Josie Olson

**Greeters/Coffee**

Don and Paula Bjoralt

**Lay Reader**

Denny Falk

**Counters**

Denny Falk and Mardi Bagley

Please arrive at church between 9:15 and 9:30 to allow enough time to get ready for worship. Thank you!

**Next Newsletter Deadline is Monday, February 23**

**pilgrim CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
A UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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**Inside This Issue**

- Page 1 New Interim Minister  
Next Steps**
- Page 2 Events and News**
- Page 3 Worship Plans and  
Sunday Events**
- Page 4 Posts and Personals**
- Page 5 Pilgrim Events**
- Page 6 Community News**
- Page 7 Calendar**

Office hours are 9-4, Monday  
through Friday. You can reach us  
at:  
[pilgrimdlh@msn.com](mailto:pilgrimdlh@msn.com) 218-724-8503  
or [www.pilgrimduluth.org](http://www.pilgrimduluth.org)

**Upcoming Events**

- February 1 Worship with Holy Communion and  
Sunday School**
- February 8 Worship and Sunday School**
- February 10 All Ministry Night**
- February 15 Worship and Sunday School  
Meet and greet the Rev. Jennifer  
Amy-Dressler**
- February 16 President's Day**
- February 18 Ash Wednesday**
- February 22 Worship and Sunday School**
- February 23 Newsletter Deadline  
Women's Book Group**
- February 24 Church Council**
- March 1 Worship with Holy Communion and  
Sunday School**



**pilgrim CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

A UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST