



APRIL 28, 2016

VOLUME 64, NO. 4

# PILGRIM NEWS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

Welcome, May! What a full and exciting season as we continue the self-examination and discernment of the New Beginnings process, welcome snowbirds home with Reunion Sunday, celebrate baptisms and receive new members, honor our music staff and volunteers, engage in Pilgrim's Annual Meeting, and prepare for the children's musical production, "Malice in the Palace." Our life together is rich, indeed. We are, in many ways, in a season of "New Beginnings":

This is the actual name of the **discernment process** underway in seven small groups, with 81 participants and facilitators, which will result in a clear direction forward for Pilgrim Church. The clarity and increased personal investment of this process will carry energize you as you flesh out and implement a fresh mission. Pray for this work, for insight, openness to one another, attentiveness to the Spirit's leading, for the powerful pairing of imaginative faith with honest realism.

It is the start of a new Pilgrim year with the **Annual Meeting** on Wednesday, May 25. Expect some fascinating, hopeful words from the Stewardship folks, a progress report on the discernment process and from the Search Committee, and a guest appearance by our children. See page 2 for information and how to RSVP.

The **Search Committee's** work is all about a new beginning with new pastoral leadership. Its task is also one of discerning of God's guidance. They, too, are grateful for your prayers.

The comment has come from various quarters that the life of Pilgrim has taken a discernible shift in the last three years or so. **Some long-tended seeds have begun to grow**, resulting in more families and children deeply involved in worship, music, and service and mission; more natural welcome of guests; a growing sense of community on Sunday mornings and in shared ventures.

*Every sign of vitality and faithfulness to a life-changing, world-transforming Gospel comes as gift, a sign of God's grace and power active in this faith community. "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth," Paul told the church in Corinth (1 Cor. 3:6).*

*Yet a key marker of a vital, faithful church is the strength of its servant-leadership – its planters and waterers, its Pauls' and Apollos'. Perhaps you have been asked to serve in a particular role in this new season unfolding. Even if no one has asked you, I am now asking you: Consider your abilities, experiences, and passions; what do you have to offer to tend the growth of hope, energy, and life-giving mission? All may not be called to leadership, yet all are equipped and called to service. Please don't wait to be contacted; let us explore with you what you might do, to tend Pilgrim's New Beginning season. Please contact me, or any Council member!*

Jennifer Amy-Dressler

**CALL TO OUR ANNUAL MEETING WEDNESDAY,  
MAY 25TH**

The annual meeting will be Wednesday, May 25th. There will be a social time followed by a meal and then the agenda for the meeting will include election of Ministry Committees and Council members and volunteer commitments for the 2015-2016 program year.

A wine and cheese social will begin at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6:00 pm, catered by Valintini's, and the meeting will begin at 6:30. There is a freewill offering for dinner suggested at \$10.00 each. Rachael will be

holding a Musical Rehearsal at 6:00 pm and youth will be able to have a meal.

**ANNUAL MEETING**



To RSVP, please call the church office at 218-724-8503 or email at [office@pilgrimduluth.org](mailto:office@pilgrimduluth.org).



The third workshop on ensuring civility in our community and understanding how each of us can make a difference will be *What Hurt Was How You Said It*-May 9

This will be held at Pilgrim. This is an initiative of the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation. For questions or to register, please call 218-726-0232 or email [info@dsacommunityforundation.com](mailto:info@dsacommunityforundation.com).

**PILGRIM CHURCH STAFF**

- Jennifer Amy-Dressler, Pastor
- Mary Sopoci, Business Manager
- Jim Brower, Administrative Assistant
- Rachael Kresha, Director of Music
- Bret Amundson, Director of Choral Music
- Sophie Hillmeyer, Children and Family Ministries Coordinator
- Annika Nielsen, Childcare Assistant

**GRADUATES!**

We are assembling a list of students who will be graduating this spring. If you are soon to be a grad or you know of someone who is graduating this spring, please call the church office at 724-8503 or email at [office@pilgrimduluth.org](mailto:office@pilgrimduluth.org).

Pilgrim graduates will be honored during the worship service. We want to include high school, college, and technical school graduates and persons receiving advanced degrees. Thanks!



**FINAL "ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING" NUMBERS**

Thanks to the contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing, we collected \$1,205.67. Or, as our youth learned, that's equivalent to approximately 803 pounds of pennies! We should feel proud Pilgrim is supporting this interdenominational program. Again, your participation is very much appreciated.

The Social Justice Ministry

**SEARCH COMMITTEE NEWS**

The Search Committee has conducted four Skype interviews with the probability of two more. At the completion of those interviews we expect to make a decision as to which candidates we will ask to come to Duluth for a more extensive interview. We are hoping to have identified our best candidate shortly thereafter. Please pray for our wisdom and discernment.

Steve Cushing

**PACT TV REGULAR BROADCAST**

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

- May 4 and 5-"Wise Whys" by the Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler from February 28, 2016
- May 11 and 12-"Little Brother" by the Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler from March 6, 2016
- March 18 and 19- "Big Brother" by the Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler from March 13, 2016
- May 25 and 26-"From Anticipation to Abandonment" by the Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler from March 20, 2016
- June 1 and 2-"Now You See Him, Now You Don't" by the Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler from April 3, 2016

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**May 1**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

“Not As You Expected”

(John 5:1-9; Acts 16:9-12)

Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler

Worship with Holy Communion and Sunday School

11:00 am Coffee Hour

**May 8**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

“Ascending”

(Acts 1:1-11)

Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler

Worship and Sunday School

11:00 am Coffee Hour

**May 15**

**Pentecost Sunday**

**Reunion Sunday**

**Music Appreciation Sunday**

“Embers and Infernos”

(Acts 2:1-21; John 14:8-17)

Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler

Worship and Sunday School

11:00 am Coffee Hour

**May 22**

**Trinity Sunday**

**Sacrament of Baptism**

**Reception of New Members**

“A Matter of Perspective”

(Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5)

Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler

Worship and Sunday School

11:00 am Coffee Hour

**May 29**

**Second Sunday After Pentecost**

“Here I Stand”

(I Kings 18:20-39; Galatians 1:1-12)

Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler

Worship and Sunday School

11:00 am Coffee Hour

**PENTECOST SUNDAY  
REUNION SUNDAY  
CHOIR APPRECIATION  
MAY 15**

Worship with us on Sunday, May 15th, and enjoy this opportunity to reconnect with each other after a long, cold spring. Stay for coffee following worship— this will be our opportunity to thank the choirs and music staff for their faithful and amazing service to Pilgrim this past program year. Mingle with the choir during this time of fellowship and thank our singers and ringers, Bret and Rachael. If you are among the snowbirds who have just returned from a winter away, we'd like to welcome you back. If health has kept you away, we hope you'll be able to be here, even if it requires some extra assistance from us. Please let us know if we can give you a ride to church, help you get into the building, or whatever. If you've just been busy, or gotten out of the habit of coming to Pilgrim, use this Sunday as the excuse to come back! We'd love to see you!

Pilgrim Membership and Growth Ministry Committee

Pentecost-type events continue on **May 22** as we welcome six **new members** into Pilgrim Church and **baptize two children including** Lyra Beaster into the Christian faith. Please plan to be present to join in covenant with these special people!

**FASHION SHOW FUNDRAISER  
FOR ROBBIE'S CLOSET**

**11:00 am May 7**

**PLAN TO ATTEND!**

Once again, St. Mark AME will hold a fashion show at Pilgrim Church to raise funds for Robbie's Closet, which provided good used clothing at an affordable price. Join in solidarity with our sister church to help support this vital ministry in the Hillside.



**PARISH PERSONALS**

**Congratulations to Rick Ball and Mary Vanderwerp** on the marriage of their son, **Emmerson** to Hayley Thomas. The wedding was Saturday, April 23 in the Twin Cities.

**PILGRIM POSTS**

To the members of the church,  
Thank you for your vote of confidence in the transformative power Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light is building within faith communities. We are honored to have your partnership in this sacred work to build a better world.  
Your generous donation of \$250 catalyzes our capacity to host climate conversations in congregations like yours across the state.

Julie Nerbonne, Executive Director

Dear Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler and members of Pilgrim Congregational Church,  
Thank you for your commitment to United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. Donors like you who support the Annual Fund are United's bedrock. Thank you for believing in United and its important role as a progressive, Christian, ecumenical seminary. On behalf of all the students we serve at United, thank you again for your generous support.

Rev. Kathleen Remund, Director of Church Relations.

Dear Jennifer,  
Thank you for your congregational gift to the CHUM Food Shelf!  
Last year, the CHUM Food Shelf provided 5 day food packages to 2,304 unique households or 6.5% of all Duluth households. We served 6,028 people and 35% of them were children. Gifts like yours, received during March, provide 45% of the annual operating expenses of our Food Shelf and help increase the incentive support we receive in March from Minnesota Foodshare March Campaign, a program of the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches. Your support of CHUM and the Food Shelf, in all ways—time, treasures, talent and good will—makes our work possible.

Lee Stuart, Executive Director

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
JUNE 13 TO 17**

**VBS will meet 9am – Noon, Monday – Friday. 4 year olds to kids entering 5th grade**

Pilgrim are invited to **Vacation Bible School** at Peace Church.. Forms are in Salter Hall. Cost: \$20 per child if you register early (\$50 max per family), or \$25 per child if you register on the first day of VBS (\$60 max per family). Scholarships are available.

We are so lucky to live near the beautiful, clean waters of Lake Superior. Many children and families are not so lucky. Our theme for this year is *Water All Around the World*. We will be learning about the ways in which access to clean water (or lack of access!) affects the lives of children in many parts of the world. We'll also learn about the ministry of *Living Waters for the World*, the water purification project that is providing safe water for many people in places where the water supplies are contaminated. Each day, we will look at a Bible story that tells of God's use of water, and hear stories of children in other countries who struggle to have clean water each day.

We are being proactive and looking for Volunteers early! Are willing to help lead a station for one or two days, or even the whole week? Stations will include: Arts and Crafts, Snacks, and Games. Let Jackie Falk (218.310.3908) or Karen Sheldon ([karencsheldon@gmail.com](mailto:karencsheldon@gmail.com) 952.567.1079) know if you are interested in being involved.

**Donation Slips are available in Salter Hall!** Donating to VBS is so helpful in keeping the costs down! Please take a donation slip. We appreciate all different kinds of support.

**Youth Leaders needed!**

We need your energy, positive attitude, experience, and enthusiasm to help make VBS extraordinary for the kids participating. As Shepherd Guides you will lead our younger kids to each of their stations and make sure everyone is safe. Your participation can be SO memorable for both you and the younger kids, busy shaping their faith.

**Adult Leaders Needed!**

We are looking for adults to team-lead VBS activity stations. Volunteer for one morning session or all.

- Crafts Leader for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.
- Games Leader for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.
- A Snack Helper for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.
- Two Preschool leaders.

The kids are great and enjoy having you help them learn. Please let Karen or Jackie know if you can help.



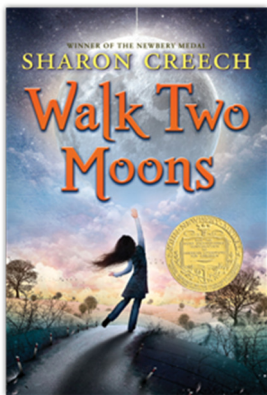
**MUSICAL STUFF:**

**Sewing Party:**

Time to dust off those machines, and sharpen your scissors! Help sew, cut out, and iron some costumes for the musical on **Friday, May 13th from 5:30-7:30pm** at Pilgrim Congregational Church. It would be a good old fashioned sewing party. Bring machines, favorite fabric scissors, and a needle and thread! We can have refreshments, cheese and crackers, and desserts by the ironing boards.

**WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP**

The **May 16th** title is **Walk Two Moons** by Sharon Creech. Jenny Ballew will facilitate. We begin at 6:00 pm in the church Parlor. Our June 20th meeting will feature **The Truth According to Us** by Annie Barrows. Please volunteer to be the facilitator.



**Softball season** is almost here. If you would like to participate in the Pilgrim Turkey's YMCA league, please contact David Braun at [dbraun1980@gmail.com](mailto:dbraun1980@gmail.com) or at 218-269-0412.



**MAY DATES FOR PILGRIM**

May 15-Reunion Sunday  
May 25-Annual Meeting

**ALL MINISTRY NIGHT**

**Tuesday, May 10**

**Due to New Beginnings, some committees will be convening their business electronically. Please check with your committee.**

**CHUM CORNER**

**Saturday April 30**

Our Savior's Lutheran Church will host their 2nd Annual Downton Abbey Fundraiser at 4831 Grand Avenue. Proceeds from the Silent Auction will be contributed to CHUM.

For more information contact **Jen Conboy**.

**Sunday, May 1**

Temple Israel of Duluth, 1602 East 2nd Street, is hosting a traditional Jewish lunch and a silent auction to benefit the Gloria Dei Restoration Fund, from 12 noon to 2 PM. Suggested donation is \$10, \$25 for families. Parking is available on the street and in the parking lot at the side of the building.

**Saturday, May 14**

National Letter Carriers STAMP OUT HUNGER Food Drive Leave your non perishable food items in a bag by your mailbox by 9 AM. Volunteers still needed.

**Monday, May 23**

CHUM Volunteer Appreciation Lunch will be held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church at 4831 Grand Avenue, Duluth, from 11:30 AM to 1 PM. We will have music, prize drawings, and it is a RETIREMENT gathering for Meg Kearns!

Please RSVP to **Courtney** at 740-2497.

**Monday, May 23**

CHUM Spring Assembly will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Duluth, 835 West College Street.

6:30 - 7 PM: Fellowship and 7 - 8:30 PM Program Please join us for a night of facilitated discussion that will help to plan the future path of CHUM. GrayHall LLP Consultants will lead the CHUM Community through a strategic planning process that will map out the future of our organization. In the past, similar planning processes have helped us identify and achieve visions such as the opening of the Steve O'Neil Apartments!

**Tuesday, June 7**

New Wine presents **Children of Eden**, a musical presentation to be hosted at St. Benedict's Catholic Church, 1419 St. Benedict St., at 7 PM. Based on the story of Genesis, the age-old conflict of parents and children takes the stage. Children of Eden is a joyous and inspirational musical about parents, children, and faith.

**CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS**

**Eat out for United Campus Ministry on Tuesday, May 17!** It's simple: Just head over to Erbert & Gerbert's (the one located at 1350 W. Arrowhead Road in the Kenwood Shopping Plaza) anytime between 1 - 6 pm on Tues. May 17 and buy a sandwich or two. There will be a box there to put in your receipt. Erbs & Gerbs will donate 20% of all sales back to UCM! Please help us spread the word.

Also, looking ahead, please save your "junk" for our annual 50 cent Sale in late September. This fundraiser helps college kids furnish their dorm rooms and apartments at a price they can afford! Items can be dropped off at Hope United Methodist Church. We take everything except for clothing. Thanks!

Blessings, *Cynthia*

**GLORIA DEI FUNDRAISER**

Please join us on Sunday, May 1st, noon to 2 pm for an **Interfaith Rebuilding Fundraiser for Gloria Dei** Lutheran Church, to be held at Temple Israel, 1602 East Second Street, Duluth. Parking is available behind the building and on nearby streets.

The event will include a traditional Jewish lunch and a silent auction. There is a suggested \$10 donation per person, \$25 donation for families.

As they hope to rebuild and plan for the future, it will come with a cost. For further information, please contact Temple Israel, 218-724-8857.

Here is a simple sentence you can add to your will to include Pilgrim. "After all my bills are paid, I want 20% of my estate to go to Pilgrim." Your gift will make a difference.

**WORLD LABYRINTH DAY**

Saturday, May 7—12:30 pm

Forest Hill Cemetery Labyrinth-2516 Woodland Ave. Guides will be Charles Walters, creator of this labyrinth and Gary Boelhower, coauthor of Mountain 10: Climbing the Labyrinth Within.

"Democracy takes thought, time, commitment and caring."

- Charles Gibson,  
TV Anchorman

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

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS DRIVE SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2016**



The 24th Annual National Association of Letter Carriers "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive will be held on Saturday, May 14. This drive provides local food shelves with food to feed our neighbors throughout the spring and into the summer.

**You can help** make this a successful food drive in two important ways: 1. Put your donated foods in a bag by your mail box by 9 AM on May 14th. 2. By **VOLUNTEERING**. We are seeking 12 teams to collect food with the letter carriers. Volunteer teams need a roomy vehicle, a driver and a walker. This is a great family or youth group volunteer opportunity! Contact CHUM to sign up!

**DULUTH MONARCH FESTIVAL SATURDAY MAY 21**



at Coppertop Church 12noon—4pm, All ages welcome Wear your butterfly wings, antennae, or monarch colors. Learn how to help the monarch butterfly population! ! There will be fun activities for kids (children must be accompanied by an adult.)

**CHUM RHUBARB FESTIVAL**

**June 25, 2016**

**9:00 am—4:00 pm**

**11th Avenue East and London Road, Duluth**



**MARCH 31 – APRIL 28**

Sunday, May 1	9:30 am	0-4 Children's Music Time
	10:00 am	Worship with Holy Communion and Sunday School
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:00 am	Musical Rehearsal
	11:00 am	3 New Beginnings Groups
	11:30 am	Musical Rehearsal
	12:00 pm	Lunch for Youth
Tuesday, May 3	7:30 am	Men's Fellowship Group
	6:30 pm	Leadership Team
Wednesday, May 4	6:00 pm	Bellissimo Rehearsal
	7:15 pm	Pilgrim Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, May 5	6:00 pm	Musical Rehearsal
Friday, May 6	6:00 pm	Musical Rehearsal
Sunday, May 8	8:30 am	Bellissimo Rehearsal
	9:15 am	Pilgrim Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Worship and Sunday School
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:00 am	Musical Rehearsal
	11:00 am	3 New Beginnings Groups
	11:30 am	Musical Rehearsal
	12:00 pm	Lunch for Youth
Monday, May 9		Annual Reports Due
Tuesday, May 10		All Ministry Night
Wednesday, May 11	10:30 am	Pilgrim Women's Group
	3:00 pm	Communications Ministry
	7:15 pm	Pilgrim Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, May 12	6:00 pm	Musical Rehearsal
Friday May 13	5:30 pm	Costuming for Musical
	6:00 pm	Musical Rehearsal
Sunday, May 15	9:00 am	Youth Rehearsal
	9:15 am	Pilgrim Choir Rehearsal
	9:30 am	Youth Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Worship and Sunday School
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:00 am	Musical Rehearsal
	11:00 am	3 New Beginnings Groups
	11:30 am	Music Rehearsal
	12:00 pm	Lunch for Youth
Monday, May 16	6:00 pm	Women's Book Group
Tuesday, May 17	7:00 pm	BeFriends
Thursday, May 19	6:00 pm	Musical Rehearsal
Friday, May 20	6:00 pm	Musical Rehearsal
Sunday, May 22	9:30 am	Youth & Pilgrim Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Worship and Sunday School
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:00 am	Musical Rehearsal
	11:00 am	New Beginnings Small Group
	11:30 am	Musical Rehearsal
	12:00 pm	Lunch for Youth
Monday, May 23		Newsletter Deadline
	8:30 am	Cooking at Damiano's
Tuesday, May 24	6:00 pm	Church Council
Wed., May 25	5:30 pm	Annual Meeting

**SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS**

**May 1-Ushers**

Tammy Hensley, Gene and Jane Shull

**Greeters/Coffee**

John and Cindy Fochs

**Readers**

Triss Harwood

**Counters**

Greg Gilbert and Steve Cushing

**May 8-Ushers**

Tammy Hensley

**Greeters/Coffee**

Marge Fraser and Brooke Hanlon

**Readers**

Nan Hillmeyer

**Counters**

Steve Grindy and Steve Cushing

**May 15-Ushers**

Marge Fraser, Kerry Hanlon and Betsy Fochs-Hanlon

**Greeters/Coffee**

Greg and Cary Gilbert

**Reader**

**Counters**

Denny Falk and Mardi bagley

**May 22-Ushers**

Marge Fraser and Clyde and Julie Johnson

**Greeters/Coffee**

Bob and Lois Heller

**Reader**

Julie Johnson

**Counters**

Mardi Bagley and Steve Grindy

**May 29-Ushers**

Marge Fraser and Jane and Gene Shull

**Greeters/Coffee**

Steve and Cindy Grindy

**Reader**

Kane Tewes

**Counters**

Jack Setterlund and Greg Gilbert

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

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

**2310 East Fourth Street  
Duluth, MN 55812-1430**

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Office hours are 9-4, Monday through Friday. You can reach us at:

office@pilgrimduluth.org 218-724-8503 or www.pilgrimduluth.org

**Upcoming Events**

- May 1 Worship, Communion and Sunday School
- May 3 Men's Fellowship Breakfast Leadership Team
- May 7 St. Mark AME Fashion Show
- May 8 Worship and Sunday School
- May 10 All Ministry Night
- May 11 Women's Fellowship Group
- May 16 Women's Book Group
- May 17 BeFrienders
- May 22 Worship and Sunday School
- May 23 Cooking At Damiano's Newsletter Deadline
- May 24 Church Council
- May 25 Annual Meeting
- May 26 Newsletter Assembly



**pilgrim CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

A UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST