



APRIL 30, 2015

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PILGRIM NEWS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

As I write, the yellow and pink “sticky notes” of April 26’s **Telling Our Story** event are being read, arranged, categorized, and recorded so the Transition Team can more easily review their content. Those who participated in this historical review and reflection left with a genuine sense of gratitude for the gifts of Pilgrim’s past and insight into what the journey has meant. I was touched and impressed with the reflections offered at the end of the session. Thank you to all who shared memories and perspectives, and to all who assisted with the event, especially Denny Falk who led us through the History Mural.

The next phase of this project is happening in May. Once again, we need to hear from you, this time in a small group setting. These sessions, called **Pathfinding**, will be opportunities for Pilgrims to get to know each other better, as well as to share your views on the church’s present life and its possible future.

Pathfinding sessions will be held during **Second Hour (11:20-12:30) on May 10 and May 31**, and also on **Thursday evening, May 21, 6:00-7:00 p.m.** Because these are more intimate conversations, we ask you to sign up for a session, limited to twelve participants in a single group. We expect to offer at least two groups during each session, and will offer more sessions if needed.

The Transition Team and I will read through all the responses we receive in these events, bringing to bear the insights of scripture and of the church vitality and renewal movement. Our purpose will be to help clarify Pilgrim’s core values and identity at this time, its gifts and its challenges, a sense of future direction that is more Spirit-led than “majority-ruled,” and to suggest next steps that can be helpful to the church, the Council, and the Search Committee. This process is the primary means to attend to the interim dynamics of heritage (engaging the past), mission / identity (what stays, what is let go, what is rising new), and future (where you intend to go next to live out your integrity and mission). When the report is completed, you will know!

And about the interim season dynamic of leadership: I am greatly impressed with the gifts of so many individual Pilgrim members! I do not doubt that this extends to every single person regardless of age, level of participation or any other factor! Biblical imagery makes it clear that every single person has a role to play. As new leaders are being sought for various roles in your shared life, I encourage you to consider: What can I offer for the work of Jesus Christ through Pilgrim Church? Can I recommit to the roles I have now? Am I called to serve in a new way, with different skills? Where do the church’s needs and my abilities match up, and can I accept that place with joy?

If God needs something done, I firmly believe that God calls someone to that task. All I ask is that you are listening for what it is that you are called to do.

Two last items: One, **thank you for wearing your nametag!** Not only does it help me, it tells visitors and guests that you expect and welcome them. And two, mark your calendar for **Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 27** (more on that inside)!

See you Sundays!

REUNION SUNDAY MAY 3

Worship with us on Sunday, May 3rd, and enjoy this opportunity to reconnect with each other after a long, cold spring. Stay for brunch following worship— we’ll make time for conversation and catching up.

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

P.S. If you are willing to help with hospitality, rides, or kitchen duties, please let us know through the office!



“PATHFINDING”

To clearly discern where Pilgrim will go in its future with a new pastor, we turn to the wisdom of the whole community of faith. Please join in a Pathfinding conversation to offer your perspective and insights:

Sunday, May 3 – 2nd Hour

Thursday, May 24 – 6-7 p.m.

Sunday, May 31 – 2nd Hour

Sign-up sheets in the narthex (or call the church office any-time) will help limit group size; multiple groups will be offered each time. There is no significance in the color of the paper, blue or green, merely to differentiate between the two groups. In contrast to the “Telling Our Story” event, these conversations will focus upon the present and future of Pilgrim Church.



STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING

**Pentecost Sunday
May 24**

Each day, visions and dreams are created in the hearts of many in the United Church of Christ. Through the Strengthen the Church offering, they can become a reality. As God calls our congregations to be church in new ways, your gift will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches, and develop spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Because of this offering, many more will hear the good news that “God is still speaking.”

Stillspeaking: It's the shorter form of "God is still speaking," a campaign by the United Church of Christ to remind us that God still has a lot more to say. Since 2004, Stillspeaking has worked with thousands of UCC churches and individuals across the country to extend an extravagant welcome to all—because no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

Envelopes will be mailed with the next newsletter or are available in the church office.

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.

Pilgrim graduates will be honored during the worship service in May 31 and their names will be listed in the bulletin that morning. We want to include high school, college, and technical school graduates and persons receiving advanced degrees. Thanks!



CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING MAY 27TH

The annual meeting will be Wednesday, May 27th. There will be a social hour 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 time will begin at 5:30 pm, and dinner at 6:00 pm and the meeting will begin at 6:30

KITCHEN NEEDS LIST

There is a clipboard in both the upstairs and main kitchen with a list of items that are used in the kitchens. If you notice we are low on an item, please circle the item and drop it at the church office. If you see a need for something not on the list, please let us know.



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.

May 5 and 6 Passion Sunday from March 29, 2015

May 13 and 14 Easter Sunday from April 5, 2015

May 20 and 21 “It’s Cosmic” by the Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler from April 19, 2015

May 27 and 28 “Black Sheep and Good Shepherds” by the Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler from April 26, 2015

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

May 3

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Reunion Sunday

Baptism of Thomas Michael Benson

Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler

10:00 am Worship with Holy Communion and
Sunday School

“Gathered In”

(I John 4:7-21; Acts 8:26-40; John 15:1-8)

11:00 am Coffee in Fellowship Hall

11:20 pm Reunion Luncheon

Childcare available 9:00-1:00 pm

May 10

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler

10:00 am Worship and Sunday School

“Children, Servants, Friends”

(I John 5:1-6; Acts 10:44-48; John 15:9-17)

11:00 am Coffee Hour

2nd Hour-Small Group Discussion

Childcare available 9:00-1:00 pm

May 17

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Choirs Appreciation Sunday

Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler

10:00 am Worship and Sunday School

“Gifts of the Celts”

(selections from John’s gospel)

11:00 am Coffee Hour

11:20 am Discussions regarding the Sanctuary

Childcare available 9:00-1:00 pm

May 24

Pentecost Sunday

Strengthen the Church Offering

Rev. Jennifer Amy-Dressler

10:00 am Worship and Sunday School

“Breath of Life”

(Ezekiel 37:1-14; Romans 8:22 Kitchen Needs-
27; Acts 2:1-21)

11:00 am Coffee Hour

Childcare available 9:00-12:00 pm

WORSHIP NOTES

After much discussion with Music Director Rachael Kresha, I have put forth a challenge for our worship time. Rachael’s postlude often stir in us a deepened sense of worship, whether reflective, soaring, or otherwise moving. Its purpose is to draw our worship time to a conclusion and send us out refreshed and recommitted. If you feel moved to respond with gratitude, we ask you to offer a verbal “Alleluia” or “Amen,” and to refrain from applause. It’s not that applause in worship is wrong; rather, it often indicates appreciation for performance. Rachael is clear that her postlude is offered not as a performance, but as worship. Together, we ask that you receive it as such, and give the glory to God.

Jennifer

CHOIR APPRECIATION

The Coffee Hour on May 17 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. There will be cake!

2ND HOUR MAY 17

Members of the Building and Finance Committee and the teams working on renovating the sanctuary and on enhancing our church grounds invite interested Pilgrims to meet with us after worship on May 17. This meeting will address three topics: 1) a policy on the use of legacy funds (e.g., Pilgrim Fund, 2nd Century Fund), 2) ideas for the renovation of the sanctuary (e.g., flooring, audio/visual enhancements), and 3) ideas for enhancing the church grounds. Please join us and share your ideas.

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
Aine Miller, Childcare Assistant

THANK YOU

Dear Rachael, Bret and Pastor Jennifer,
 Thank you for so graciously hosting the Treble Choir of the Northfield Youth Choirs at your beautiful Pilgrim Congregational Church! Rachael, please pass along our heartfelt thanks to your dad (what a great guy!) and the other members of the Godly Gourmet for the perfect, delicious lunch for very hungry boys and girls and the team of adults with them! We felt so welcomed. How lucky we were to get to see and play the Jaeckel organ, and admire the Tiffany windows! We are deeply grateful

Liz and the boys and girls of the NYC Treble Choir

On April 24, 1965 we were married in the church by Rev. Halfaker. In my younger years the church played an important role in my life-baptism, confirmation and the cub and boy scouts (Troup 8, marriage, role on the

UPDATE FROM THE WORSHIP & ARTS MINISTRY

To simplify the recruiting and scheduling of volunteers to assist with Sunday worship, and to encourage wider participation, we are excited to implement the following ideas beginning in May:

Ushers: During the coming summer season, a head usher will be scheduled as usual, but additional ushers will be called for at opening announcements, to assist with offering collection or other special duties. Or if you're an early arriver, you may help to distribute bulletins.

Communion Service: Except for services designed specifically for pew communion, we will be serving by intinction on Communion Sundays. (The congregation comes forward to receive communion by dipping bread into a common cup. Communion is brought to those in pews for whom this is a hardship.) This engages our whole bodies in the sacrament as we move, allows for personal blessings by the servers. It also reduces preparation and clean-up time, and reduces the number of servers needed.

Children: Children are full participants in our shared life. We encourage children to volunteer as readers, ushers, and communion server! Please contact the church office – and offer to usher on summer Sundays when you arrive!

These changes will be especially helpful for all during the summer months when weekend plans are often in flux. Thank you for trying new things with us! If you are willing and able to participate as an usher, reader, or server during summer or other seasons, please let us know.

Trustees (I signed the contract for the new organ), baptism and confirmation for our kids. Lots of success to you in the future.

Jack and Sandy Sellwood

PARISH PERSONALS

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers those who have ongoing health concerns.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

On Monday, May 18 the book group will meet at 6:30 in the parlor to discuss a book that is hard to put down: The River Of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey by Candice Millard.

"At once an incredible adventure narrative and a penetrating biographical portrait, The River of Doubt is the true story of Theodore Roosevelt's harrowing exploration of one of the most dangerous rivers on earth." Camping in the BWCA will appear to be simple compared to this true story!

Jenny will lead the discussion and Avon will provide treats. Join us for a lively discussion whether you have had a chance to read the book or not. **Please RSVP to Joan so that Avon can prepare accordingly.** Joan 728-4986



Spring Assembly

May 21, 6:30 PM to 8 PM

This year's Spring Assembly will be held at
Temple Israel

1602 East 2nd Street, Duluth
Social at 6:30 PM

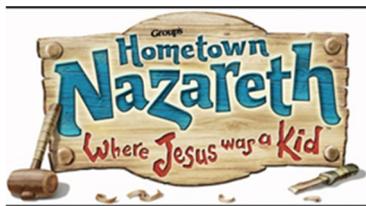
Meeting and Speaker **7 to 8 PM**

Rabbi Alan Shavit-Lonstein will speak on PLANTING BEYOND OURSELVES: An Ancient System of Growing a Caring Community.

Join us as we explore Jewish text relating to the Sabbatical Year and discuss how its lesson can inform many faith communities in their pursuit of social justice.

Rabbi Alan Shavit-Lonstein is originally from South Africa, and immigrated with his family to the United States as a young child. He enjoys running, and has completed several marathons, in addition, he is an avid SciFi fan. He and his wife Becky are blessed with three children, Noah, Naveh and Naomi.

For two years, Rabbi Shavit-Lonstein was rabbi of the Tri-City Jewish Center, in the Quad Cities of Illinois and Iowa. He was a rabbi at the Temple of Aaron from 2002 to 2014. He currently teaches around the Twin Cities, striving to make Jewish learning accessible to people of all ages and backgrounds.



VBS JUNE 15-19

Monday – Friday, 9am – Noon 4 year olds to kids entering 5th grade VBS will be held at Peace Church in collaboration with Pilgrim Church.

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 available.

Everyone knows what it's like to hear your mom tell stories from your childhood. Can you imagine the kinds of stories Mary could tell about Jesus? This year, we're going to back in time to Nazareth to hear stories about Jesus' childhood from the best source of all...his mom, Mary! If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact the church office.

Registration forms are in Salter Hall

BE THE MATCH

Bone Marrow Transplant Registry Fundraiser

Interim pastor Jennifer Amy-Dressler will be participating in a 5k in Minneapolis on May 16 to raise funds for Be The Match. You are invited to support her in one of the following ways: Persons ages 18-44 may join the registry; you could save someone's life with a bone marrow donation. Learn more at bethematch.org.

Learn more about Jennifer's commitment to Be The Match and make an online contribution: http://www.bethematchfoundation.org/site/TR/WalkRun/Foundation?px=3032383&pg=personal&fr_id=3414

See her information on the narthex bulletin board, including last year's finish line photo; hand-deliver a check made out to Be The Match by May 14.

CLIMATE MINNESOTA: LOCAL STORIES, COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS

May 18,
6:15 PM RESOURCE FAIR
6:45 pm - 9:15 PM CONVENING
Duluth Depot
506 West Michigan Street,
Duluth, MN 55802
With special guests:
Mark Seeley, Climatologist
Mayor Don Ness

This is a free public convening in Duluth on May 18th. The goal of the local convening is to connect community members to the issue of climate change by discussing local impacts, climate change stories, and community-based solutions. We want to get as many community members as we can involved, so that there is commitment from throughout the community.

Individuals are more than welcome to attend on their own, however if people are interested in being further involved, we're also looking for community groups who could attend the convening as a Climate Action Team. Please contact the church office if you would like to put a team together.

GOLD FEVER

A hard-hitting documentary about the destructive and exploitative impacts of transnational mining. Gold, an obsession of men and nations; a symbol of wealth and power. But for Diodora, Gregoria, Crisanta and the people living near the Marlin Mine in Guatemala's highlands, gold represents oppression, intimidation, pollution and even murder. With the rising price of gold, the mine's owner, Goldcorp, posts record profits, while these courageous women live in resistance to the threat to their ancestral lands in the face of grave consequences.

Gold fever is the winner of the Rigoberta Menchú Grand Prix at the 2013 Montreal First Peoples Festival.

May 2nd, Saturday, 7 pm, at Peace Church UCC, 1111 N. 11th Ave E, Duluth

UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRIES

Greetings from UCM! We are wrapping up this school year with Finals Week care packages for students. Thanks to everyone who contributed to make those packages possible! Going forward into the future, Campus Ministry needs your help. Do you, or do you know someone, who has fundraising expertise they would be willing to share with the campus ministry board? We are continuing effort to keep UCM alive at UMD, we are in great need of guidance in the area of fundraising. If you can help in any way, please contact Cynthia Coffin-Langdon, the campus minister at ucmduluth@gmail.com.

A couple other reminders: We are looking for board members who have a passion for ministry in higher education and a willingness to fundraise for this important ministry. Again, contact Cynthia if you are interested. Lastly, **Save your stuff to help Save UCM!** We will be holding our 3rd annual 50 cent sale in late September and are looking for people to donate your stuff that you want to get rid of. We take anything except for clothing. The purpose is to be able to sell nice stuff to college students and other community members who can't usually afford it; and at the same time make some money for UCM. Please keep us in mind as you do your spring cleaning!

Blessings!
Cynthia Coffin-Langdon, United Campus Minister
ucmduluth@gmail.com 218-260-3114

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS FOOD DRIVE ON SATURDAY, MAY 9,

is seeking volunteers. We are looking for 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 Meg at megk-earns@chumduluth.org to sign up!

The 11th Annual **CHUM Rhubarb Festival** is now being planned. The following volunteer coordinating positions still need to be filled:

1. [Sustainability Coordinator](#)
2. [Activities Coordinator](#)



If you are interested in helping make the event a success by being a coordinator, please contact **Mary** or call the CHUM office (720-6521) to discuss your interests. It will be rewarding!

FASHION SHOW

Please join us for the 2nd ANNUAL SPIRIT OF SUMMER FASHION SHOW AND SALAD LUNCHEON Sponsored by Robbie's Closet of St. Mark AME Church At Pilgrim Congregational Church Saturday May 2nd, 2015 11:00am Donation \$10.00 12yrs and older.

CHUM DATES TO SAVE

May 2 - Downton Abby High Tea to benefit CHUM 1-3 PM at Our Saviors Lutheran. Advanced tickets available.

May 9 - Letter Carriers Food Drive Volunteers are needed all day.

May 21- CHUM Spring Assembly at [Temple Israel](#). 6:30 - 8 PM Speaker [Rabbi Shavit-Lonstein](#)

June 27 - CHUM Rhubarb Festival!

“Do what you can where you are with what you have.”
- Theodore Roosevelt

www.instituteforcivility.org

HIGHLIGHTS MAY 1—MAY 30

Friday, May 1	6:00 pm	Musical Rehearsal
Saturday, May 2	12:00 pm	St Mark AME Fashion Show
Sunday, May 3	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Worship and Sunday School
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall
	11:20 am	Reunion Sunday Luncheon
Tuesday, May 5	6:30 pm	Leadership Team
Wednesday, May 6	6:00 pm	Bellissimo Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Youth at Peace
	7:15 pm	Pilgrim Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, May 7	6:00 pm	Musical Rehearsal
Friday, May 8	6:00 pm	Musical Rehearsal
Saturday, May 9	9:00 am	Women's Retreat
Sunday, May 10	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Worship and Sunday School
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour
	11:20 am	2nd Hour-Small Groups "Pathfinders"
Tuesday, May 12		All Ministry Night
Wednesday, May 13	6:00 pm	Bellissimo Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Youth at Peace
Thursday, May 14	6:00 pm	Musical Rehearsal
Friday, May 15	6:00 pm	Musical Rehearsal
Sunday, May 17	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Worship and Sunday School
	11:00 am	Coffee Hour/ Choirs Appreciation
	11:20 am	2nd Hour-Sanctuary Renovations Discussion
Monday, May 18		Newsletter Deadline
Tuesday, May 19	7:00 pm	BeFriends
Wed., May 20	6:00 pm	Bellissimo Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Youth at Peace
	7:15 pm	Pilgrim Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, May 21	1:00 pm	Newsletter Assembly
	6:00 pm	Musical Rehearsal
Friday, May 21	6:00 pm	Musical Rehearsal
Thursday, April 30	1:00 pm	Newsletter Assembly
	6:00 pm	Musical Rehearsal

Next Newsletter Deadline is Monday, June 21

ALL MINISTRY NIGHT

May 12

Check the time of your Ministry meeting.

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

May 3-Ushers

Charles Walters and Gene and Jane Shull

Greeters/Coffee

Carri Hoagland

Reader

Tucker Hanlon

Counters

Steve Grindy and Jack Setterlund

May 10-Ushers

Charles Walters and Stacey Achterhoff

Greeters/Coffee

Tucker Hanlon and Denny Falk

Reader

Joseph Grant

Counters

Mardi Bagley and Jack Setterlund

May 17-Ushers

Charles Walters and Bob Hensley

Greeters/Coffee

Bobbi and Len Edwards

Reader

Tammy Hensley

Counters

Denny Falk and Steve Grindy

May 24-Ushers

Jack Kemp and Jenny Jensen and children

Greeters/Coffee

Paula and Don Bjoralt

Reader

Denny Falk and Miret Grant

Counters

Mardi Bagley and Steve Cushing

May 31-Ushers

Jack Kemp, Tucker Hanlon and Andrew Streitz

Greeters/Coffee

Stacey Achterhoff and Jenny Ballew

Reader

Gene Shull

Counters

Denny Falk 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

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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 3 Reunion Sunday-Worship and :Holy
Communion
- May 9 Women's Retreat
Letter Carriers Food Drive
- May 10 Worship and Sunday School
Pathfinding Groups
- May 12 All Ministry Night
- May 17 Worship and Sunday School
Choir Appreciation
- May 18 Newsletter Deadline
- May 21 CHUM Spring Assembly
- May 24 Pentecost Sunday-Worship and Sunday
School
- May 25 Memorial Day-Office closed
- May 27 Annual Meeting



pilgrim CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

A UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST