

Progress

Volume 24, Issue 5

May 2026

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

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Wausau WI 54403

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS

In-Person and
Zoomed Online

9:00 am

THURSDAYS

IN-PERSON
6:30 PM

Office Hours

Monday - Wednesday
8-12 and 1-3

Thursday and Friday
Closed

Pastor's Notes...

from Pastor Karoline Schwantes

Congratulations, the merger is official! Merger has been a major topic of conversation around here lately; and, much discernment, prayer, and hard work has gone into the process. Transition and uncertainty can be hard, but there is also a large sense of excitement and hope as we move together in the future. There are a lot of feelings that will be bubbling up throughout and more time taken to get to know one another and to live into what it means to walk together to celebrate Christ's love!

I wanted to share this prayer that was crafted together by the Transition Team.
Transition Work Group Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

As we explore Walking Together in Christ, We ask:

- To be faithful and responsive to each other.
- To be honest, open, patient, and accepting with grace.
- To allow others to not agree, to avoid being easily offended and to seek clarification on points of difference.
- To avoid personal agendas and to be respectful of opinions.
- To continue to ask questions and to listen first and then speak, speaking only for ourselves.
- And to let GOD and the Holy Spirit Guide us along this path as we walk together in HIS name.

We prayed it together each time we've met as a team and as work groups. It was created by teams of varying people who have now come to see ourselves as a single team. It has helped us stay focused on who God is calling us to be and how we listen to the Holy Spirit. This includes listening deeply to each other and to you. All of these things remain important as we come together as a community of faith, that we continue to pray and discern how the Holy Spirit is leading us. Also, that we continue to listen deeply to one another, how we continue to ask questions and live together in grace.



Pilgrim/St. Stephen Rummage Sale

Thursday, May 14th, 8:00 – 3:00

Friday, May 15th, 8:00 – 3:00

Saturday, May 16th, 8:00 – 1:00

If you have been looking for a new home for those household items, clothes, shoes, books, games, and other treasures that you don't need or have room to store anymore we will take them off your hands. NO ELECTRONICS, PLEASE!

Set up begins on Tuesday, April 21 p.m. Items can be dropped off in the hallway of fellowship hall Mondays thru Saturdays, 9:00 to 3:00. Drop off bake sale items on Wednesday, May 13th. Participate by helping out or come and shop for great bargains. Fill out the form and return it to the church office or put it in the offering plate. Please prayerfully consider helping with the recycling sale. Please prayerfully consider helping with the rummage sale.

- I have items to donate and need someone to pick them up.
- I can help set up and mark items during the week.
- I can pick up items from members' homes.
- I will donate items for the bake sale (sign-up sheet in lounge)
- I will help at the bake sale
- I can make phone calls to remind members
- I can help on the day of the sale (circle each):
 - cashier clean up straighten tables during sale
 - greet shoppers carry purchased items to vehicles.

Name and Phone Number

Members of all ages are welcome. Bring a friend to help or shop. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Shirley Ecker at 715 -301-3372. Thank you.

RETIREMENT NEWS

As many of you may know, Fred Patten, our beloved office manager, will be retiring at the end of May from Pilgrim. In true Pilgrim fashion, we will be celebrating Fred's momentous milestone (along with his 67th birthday!) with a special coffee hour in his honor. The coffee hour celebration will take place after worship on May 17th. Please plan to attend to thank him for his 20 years of service. He will be continuing to use his many talents at St. Stephen as the assistant treasurer. God's blessings to you as you begin the next stage in your life. Just a hint, socializing at breakfast with friends may cause an increase in your waistline! Contact Linda Konkel or Sue Koerten if you have any questions or are willing to help with the coffee hour.

SATURDAY CRAFTERDAY

The next Saturday Crafterday will be Saturday, May 16, at St. Stephen from 9:00 - 4:00. Bring a craft project (scrapbooking, card making, fiber arts, whatever you're working on!) and a snack to share. We meet in the choir/arts room upstairs.

SUMMER SONG MADNESS

Throughout our summer worship services we will be voting to select our Hymn of the Year 2026 in bracket style playoffs. Submit your suggestion for your favorite hymns by May 17. On May 24, Pentecost, we will be launching our brackets and voting will be open each week!

How to submit suggestions: E-mail Pastor Karoline or fill out a Song Nomination Form at church.

Hymns must be in our hymnal (500, 581, 720, 728 will not be eligible).

Info will be coming out in the next newsletter for how to vote. We will launch on Memorial Day Weekend, May 24!

CROSSWAYS CAMP ON LOCATION AT RIB MOUNTAIN

Crossways Camps have been providing amazing outdoor ministry for our congregation and synod for many years. Outdoor ministry has huge impact on the faith of people of all ages. This is the second year that they are offering "Camp on Location," a one-week day camp taking place at Rib Mountain June 22-25. They also have many options for youth, families, and even seniors! Online at crosswayscamps.org, email at info@crosswayscamps.org, or pick up a brochure at church!

Make a joyful noise!

“Even our sadness can be beautiful.”

--Michael Barone (organist from MN on a public radio program about sad music)

This article is not about music. It is about grief. We are in the midst of an enormous change as our congregation merges with the St. Stephen congregation. While most Pilgrims support the merger, there is still a lot of letting go that is happening as we approach July 19, the official date of merger.

I recently was reminded that it is possible to carry sorrow and hope in the same breath. That's what I believe many Pilgrims are doing. The sorrow is about the loss, which is complicated. It includes the loss of the building, which has been the sacred holder of many memories; it includes changes in relationships; it includes loss of the expectation that Pilgrim would always be there; and it includes private losses known only to the individuals affected by them.

At the same time grief gives us more than sorrow. It always does. It works to find hope for the future. It includes the expectation that the merger will strengthen both Pilgrims and the people of St. Stephen as we look forward to all the ways in which we will be “better together.”

I came across a poem by Mary Anne Byrne recently that I believe captures the grief many of us are feeling. I am going to share part of it with you here.

*Grief is far more than sorrow.
Sorrow is the part people recognize,
the part they expect to see.
But beneath it, around it,
braided through every hour,
run currents no single word, least of all 'sadness' can hold.
There is sorrow, profound and true,
but grief is everything
sorrow cannot hold,
memory, yearning, bewilderment,
love refusing to dissolve,
and the quiet, unseen stitching together of a life learning to go on.*

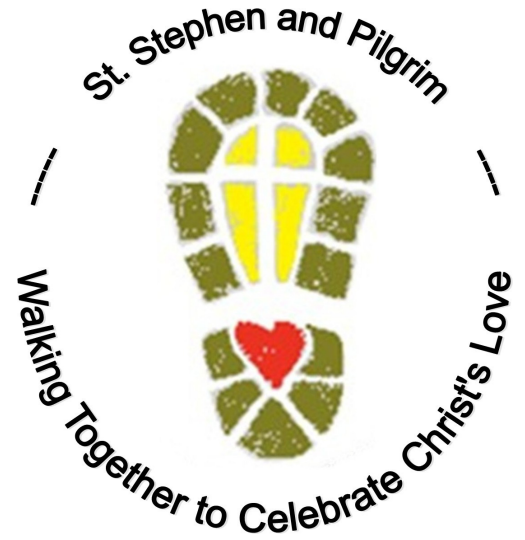
I am asking for patience from all of us as the merger continues. For those who have clearly thought the merger through, are comfortable with it, and as a result, their grief is largely completed, please be patient with those whose grief is fresh and raw as they begin to ponder the significance of the loss in many areas. Those who continue to actively grieve are not asking for the train to go back to the station. They are not standing in the way of the merger. Please do not try to convince them to get caught up to where you are.

For those who are feeling every feeling imaginable about the merger, please be patient with those who are on the fast track. They have done their own grief work and are already “stitching together” a new future.

There is room to allow for the differences in how people grieve. There is grace to acknowledge that grief has its own timetable and is different for each person.

With thanks for the gift of grief, which helps us find
ways to move forward with hope in spite of changes,
Delores Kessel

**April 21, 2026 Minutes
St. Stephen and Pilgrim Transition Team
“Walking Together to Celebrate Christ’s Love.”**



Present at the meeting: Dick Holster, Pr. Karoline Schwantes, Verlyn Oelke, Charlie Freiberg, Frank Koerten, Sarah Lonsdorf, Sue Koerten, and Jim Von Rueden.

An appraisal of the Pilgrim church building has been scheduled.

- Karen Mikalofsky (from Peak Appraisal) is the appraiser.
- Quoted charge will be \$1400-\$1800
- This bill should be sent to St. Stephen.

Sunday, April 26th is merger voting day.

- Pastor Dara will be attending the church service at Pilgrim and staying afterwards.
- The plan is to have the vote completed at Pilgrim.
- Frank will call Dick with the result, then proceed with the voting process at St. Stephen.

Today’s discussion topics included:

- Church envelopes. This will need to be addressed by the Council in the fall. Currently, Pilgrims will continue to use their envelopes until the end of the year.
- SCRIP program. Fred and Cathy Teske have been communicating.
- Walk-through by 2 groups showing interest in Pilgrim’s property.
- Grieving process.
- The utilities will need to continue at Pilgrim through (at least) July, which includes phone and electricity.

Pastor Dara’s request for a merger package.

- She emailed a list of 10-15 items that should be completed before June 8th.
- Fred, Jim, and Verlyn will reply to each of these items and will have this document finished by the next Council meeting (May 12th) so Council members can preview it.

After June 8th, the Council make-up will be completed with (hopefully) the current open positions filled.

Historical information:

- The first time the two transition teams (Pilgrim’s and St. Stephen’s) met was on June 15, 2025, and the choir has been together for 4 years.

Submitted by Sarah Lonsdorf

MINUTES

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

April 26, 2026

The purpose of this special congregational meeting was to vote for Resolution #1 to approve a merger of Pilgrim Lutheran Church with St. Stephen Lutheran Church.

25 members attended in person with 7 members attending via zoom. Total members attending was 32. Pastor Dara Clifford from the Synod office was also in attendance.

President Frank Koerten called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m.

President Koerten thanked former Pilgrim Council President Jean Trempe for all her efforts over the last couple of years to get Pilgrim to this point.

Pastor Dara Clifford from the Synod office spoke to remind us that we were never alone during this three-year process. God, the Synod and other churches in the synod were with Pilgrim on this journey and praying for us and they will continue praying for us as we begin the next steps. She thanked us for our ministry here at Pilgrim.

A prayer was led by Pastor Dara prior to the vote.

President Koerten asked if there were any lingering questions anyone had prior to voting. There were none.

Paper ballots were passed out to the members present with members on zoom voting via a show of hands.

Votes were counted by Charlie Freiberg and Linda Konkel. There were 31 “yes” votes and 1 “no” vote.

Resolution #1 was approved by the Pilgrim Congregation to merge with St. Stephen Lutheran Church.

President Koerten thanked everyone for attending this very important meeting.

Motion by Dolores Kessel and seconded by Jim Lenselink to adjourn. Motion passed.

The meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer led by President Koerten at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Konkel

Pentecost is May 24th

For \$6.00, purchase a red geranium for the church’s celebration of Pentecost on Sunday, May 24th. The plants can be taken home after the worship service or donated for planting on the Pilgrim and St. Stephen church grounds.



Orders and payments are due in the church office by Sunday, May 10th.

Geraniums

Name _____

_____ x \$6.00 = _____

of Plants

Total Cost

In Memory of _____

In Celebration of _____

Number of Plants
to be Picked Up:

Number of Plants
to be Donated:

Doing Outreach Better Together

St. Stephen and Pilgrim congregations will consider resolutions on April 26 to affirm a merger and become one congregation, one church family. The transition team’s work groups have looked at how this merger may shape worship, prayer life, church governance, finances, safety, and more.

The Outreach Transition Work Group identified programs both congregations already support, including ELCA’s annual day of service, “God’s Work. Our Hands.”, and community meals. The rummage and bake sale is another example of outreach. This year, it will be held in Pilgrim’s Fellowship Hall, in conjunction with Southeast-side neighborhood rummage sales.

The work group encouraged communication between members, using email lists and gathering data about existing programs with the goal of “doing better together.” Look for your outreach program leaders to introduce themselves during Sunday announcements and be available for conversation during fellowship.

The Outreach Work Group concluded its work in April. Other work groups continue to explore the merger, such as long- and short-term facilities usage, policies and procedures, and the celebration team.

Contact Nancy at St. Stephen or Fred at Pilgrim to get connected with an outreach program leader.



Weekly Prayer Circle Tuesdays 11:45 a.m.

If you would like to join the group, drop in. If you would like to receive the weekly prayer list, or place a prayer request, contact the office.

Men’s Monthly Bible Study Brunch at Eagle’s Nest

2nd Thursday of the Month
11:00 a.m.

The next gathering for food, faith, and fellowship is May 13. If you are interested in joining, contact Eugene Viegut at (715-359-9895).

Dear Pilgrims:

*Thank you to all who sent cards
and reached out at the death of our son Troy. God bless.*

*The Viegut Family
(Eugene, Lila, Jason, Shylo)*

Parish Updates

DEATHS/FUNERALS
Nancy Joyce Bedessem
October 9, 1936 — April 4, 2026

David Robert Theis
April 2, 1954 — April 18, 2026

“THE VESSEL”

BY L.B.V. CORNWALL, AS QUOTED BY WALT LARIMORE, M.D.

The Master was searching for a vessel to use; on the shelf, there were many— which one would he choose?

“Take me,” cried the gold one, “I’m shiny and bright; I’m of great value, and I do things just right. My beauty and luster will outshine the rest and for Someone like you, Master, gold would be best!”

The Master passed on with no word at all; He looked at the silver urn, narrow and tall. “I’ll serve You, dear Master, I’ll pour out your wine; and I’ll be at Your table whenever You dine. My lines are so graceful, my carvings so true, and silver will always compliment You.”

Unheeding, Master passed on to the brass. It was wide-mouthed and shallow and polished like glass. “Here! Here!” cried the vessel, “I know I will do. Place me on Your table for all men to view.”

“Look at me,” called the goblet of crystal so clear. “My transparency shows my contents so dear. Though fragile am I, I will serve You with pride, and I’m sure I’ll be happy in Your house to abide.

The Master came next to a vessel of wood. Polished and carved, it solidly stood. “You may use me, dear Master,” the wooden bowl said, “but I’d rather You used me for fruit—please, no bread!”

Then the Master looked down and saw a vessel of clay— empty and broken, it helplessly lay. No hope had that vessel that the Master might choose—to mend and cleanse—make it all His to use.

“Ah! This is the vessel I’ve been hoping to find. I will mend it and use it—and make it all Mine! I need not the vessel with pride of itself; not the one so narrow who sits on the shelf. Not the one who is big-mouthed and shallow and loud; not the one that displays its contents so proud. Not the one who thinks he can do all things just right—But this plain earthen vessel, filled with My Power and Might.”

*Then gently He lifted the vessel of clay—mended and cleansed it and filled it that day. Spoke to it kindly—
”There’s work you must do. You pour out to others—and I’ll pour into you!”*

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 16, 2026

Not Yet Approved

This meeting was a combined meeting with the St. Stephen Council. It was determined to have one meeting rather than have a joint meeting and then break off into individual groups. These meeting minutes provide information on the business that Pilgrim council acted on along with information on the actions of the joint council.

PRESENT IN PERSON: Frank Koerten (Vice President), Charlie Freiberg (Treasurer), Linda Konkel (Secretary), Jim Lenselink (Building & Grounds Chair), Charlene Buttner (Church & Society Chair), and Sue Koerten (Worship Chair).

ABSENT: Janet Williams (Life & Growth Chair), Jean Trempe (President).

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: St. Stephen Council President Dick Holster called the meeting of the joint councils to order at 5:33 p.m. Dick led the councils in a devotion.

SECRETARY’S REPORT: (Linda Konkel) Motion by Sue Koerten and seconded by Jim Lenselink to accept the March 10, 2026, meeting minutes. Motion passed.

Pastor Karoline informed the group that a workshop lead by Pastor Dara Clifford from the Synod will take place on August 16, 2026. This workshop format will be like the workshop she did last year and will concentrate on combining ideas and values for the new congregation.

She also touched on the FaithX Project. It is a program to help congregations with evangelism. This group also helps get statistical data for neighborhoods to help congregations find needs that they can meet in their area. It might be something we could do in both Pilgrim and St. Stephen neighborhoods.

Motion by St Stephen Council to

(Continued on page 8)

(416/26 Minutes continued from page 7)

accept Pastor Karoline's report.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

(Charlie Freiberg) Cash in the banks total \$82,177. The Restricted Funds balance is \$12,225. Again, the largest portion of the restricted funds are Blessings that Give Hope. Our long-term debt stands at \$50,262. A reminder that the church real estate is not included on the balance sheet. The year-to-date giving is down about \$2,000 from last year.

Motion by Charlene Buttner and seconded by Sue Koerten to approve the treasurer's report.

In preparation of combining the two congregations' financial information, it was advised to close the script account and savings account and move the funds to the main checking account. Motion by Charlene Buttner and second by Sue Koerten to close the two accounts and place funds in the main checking account. Motion passed.

Jim Von Rueden (St. Stephen Treasurer) along with Charlie Freiberg have revised the St. Stephen 2026 budget to include Pilgrim budgeted income/expenses. The St. Stephen council approved the revised budget as presented.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

(Frank Koerten) Frank read the letter of resignation from Jean Trempe. She has resigned from her position as President of the council as well as her position on the transition team and all other committees at Pilgrim. This resignation is effective immediately due to a life changing event. Motion by Jim Lenselink and seconded by Charlie Freiberg to accept Jean's resignation with thanks for all her hard work during this merger period. Motion passed. We will continue to keep the Trempe family in our thoughts and prayers during this exceedingly difficult time.

A letter of resignation also was received from Fred Patten. He is retiring effective May 31, 2026, from Pilgrim. He would like to continue to volunteer his time on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays as needed until the merger with St. Ste-

phen has been completed. Motion by Charlie Freiberg to accept Fred's resignation with thanks for the many years of service to the Pilgrim congregation. Motion seconded by Charlene Buttner. Motion passed.

The Property Workgroup has given tours of the Pilgrim campus to two different congregations in the Wausau area. Both groups liked what the building had to offer. In both cases it would meet their needs. There was no formal advertisement regarding the sale of the building. Both had just heard about it through the grapevine. They are both aware of the situation and the time it will take to make the many decisions that will need to be made. An appraisal and a feasibility study is in the works of both Pilgrim's and St. Stephen's buildings. The appraisal/study will also help decide if the Pilgrim campus can be used for other purposes by the congregation rather than a sale of the property.

BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT:

(Jim Lenselink) Jim has received three quotes for having the roof in the gathering area redone. The quotes are Home Insulation \$31,800, Kulp's \$40,497 and Durable \$43,000. Decision was made to table this item until it is decided what will happen to the building. There may be other options to finance the roof repair once we know the future of the building.

WORSIHP REPORT: (Sue Koerten) The Lenten, Holy Week and Easter services went very well at all the churches. On Palm Sunday we had a baptism and three children received their first communion.

The offering for the Wausau Free Clinic came to \$853.00. The check will be going out soon. We averaged 15-20 people for lunch each Wednesday. Thank you to all who donated food, helped with set up and Pastor Karoline for leading worship and extra bulletin prep from Fred Patten.

The Celebration Work team is working on the service of leave-taking set for July 19, 2026. After the formal vote on merger, we will be asking members of the congregation what hymns and readings they want at the

final service. A zoom meeting with Pastors Dara Clifford and Paulette Creswell was held this morning to go over the draft of the leave taking service. The celebration committee has had an initial meeting to start working on the Celebration Day events. Lots of volunteers will be needed to work on different projects.

CHURCH & SOCIETY REPORT:

(Charlene Buttner) We are still collecting items for the Care kits. We currently have enough items for eighteen kits.

LIFE & GROWTH REPORT:

(Janet Williams) No report. Sarah Lonsdorf from St. Stephen reported that planning for the rummage sale is progressing. The sale will be held at Pilgrim May 14-16 and again 6-4 to 6-6. St. Stephen is in the process of collecting and marking their items.

TRANSITION TEAM REPORT:

(Frank Koerten) Minutes from the last Transition Team Meeting submitted by Jeff Kessel.

Minutes for 4/7/2026 Meeting of St. Stephen and Pilgrim Transition Team

"Walking Together to Celebrate Christ's Love."

Present at the meeting: Dick Holster, Pr. Karoline Schwantes, Verlyn Oelke, Charlie Freiberg, Pam Hackbart, Frank Koerten, Sarah Lonsdorf, Sue Koerten, Jim Von Rueden, Jeff Kessel.

We read our Transition Prayer in unison.

Minutes for the last Transition Team meeting on 3/17. There were no corrections.

Verlyn asked the team if everyone has reviewed the document titled Summary of March 24th meeting. That meeting of Church officers, transition team leaders, and Pastor Karoline was called by Dick Holster after speaking with the lawyer referred by the Synod. Everyone has reviewed the document and there are no corrections.

Drafts of the resolutions that will be presented to the Pilgrim congregation and the St. Stephen congregation were passed out.

(Continued on page 9)

(4/16/26 Minutes continued from page 8)

- * Some wording changes were made to Pilgrim’s Resolution 1.
- * Resolution 3 on revised Bylaws was eliminated; that will be dealt with in October or so.
- * The mechanics of resolution preparation was discussed.
- * Meeting quorums were discussed.
- * The resolutions will be presented to both councils for approval. It was decided that the councils will be polled electronically today and asked to respond within 24 hours.
- * The congregational meetings to vote on the resolutions are still planned for April 26th. The required 1st notice will be made to the congregations on Sunday, 4/12. The 2nd required second notice to the congregations will be made on Sunday, 4/19.
- * Constitution and Bylaws issues. Verlyn reports that clarifications were obtained in a meeting with Pr. Heintz, the constitution committee chairperson.
- * The Constitutions can be approved in meetings one month apart.
- * Approval of the Bylaws only requires one meeting. One team member wants the new Bylaws approved asap.
- * Use of a Consensus Resolution/ Motion was discussed.
- * The aim is to have the second meeting (to approve the Constitution) in February 2027. Further the Bylaws can be approved at that meeting.
- * Interim governance structure was discussed.
- * The aim is to have the new Bylaws by 4/12. The councils will vote on them the 16th.

As noted in prior minutes a one-day workshop with Pr. Cath is being planned. Pam gave an update on planning. Topics for the workshop include grief, handling change, and

moving forward. Pam asked the team for suggestions on mor topics. One suggestion was “establishing a new blended family.”

Pam announced that she will be the lead person on the Inreach work group because Jean Trempe is cutting back on her transition work. Inreach includes education and visitation.

Dick informs the team that a combined budget is being developed.

Miscellaneous updates.

· There was a discussion of job changes as Fred Patten, Pilgrim’s Office Administrator, moves to a position at St. Stephen.

· Once a merger is complete the Transition Team will be deactivated. Work groups will report to the council.

We continue to aim for the two congregations to meet on April 26th to vote on a merger resolution or resolutions.

Our next meeting: 3:00 PM April 21st at St. Stephen.

We concluded the meeting with the Lord’s Prayer.

Submitted by Jeff Kessel

NEW BUSINESS:

Pentecost is May 26. St. Stephen has decided to continue the Pilgrim practice of providing geraniums for the worship service. Members will have the opportunity to donate geraniums to grace the worship area on that Sunday. After the service, the donated plants will then be planted at both church campuses.

The last “regular” worship service held at Pilgrim will be May 17. Pilgrims will begin weekly worship at St. Stephen after that date. The service of leave taking will take place at Pilgrim on July 19.

The merger vote will take place on April 26. If the two congregations approve the merger, the merger will legally become effective June 8, 2026.

The group discussed plans for Pilgrim’s current Thursday evening service. Many different ideas were brought up by the group. More infor-

mation was needed to decide on the future of this service. Pastor Karoline will check with the current Pilgrims that attend the service regularly and bring back ideas to the next council meeting.

Discussion of the schedule for the monthly newsletters for both congregations was had. Pilgrim’s last newsletter will be for the month of June. The newsletter for the month of July will be the first combined one.

Dick Holster verified to all parties that the merger resolution was approved by both councils so that it can be voted on by the congregations. Due to a time crunch this document needed to be sent to all the council members for review and voted on via e-mail.

Due to the resignation of Jean Trempe as Pilgrim’s council president a motion by Jim Lenselink and seconded by Charlie Freiberg to accept Frank Koerten as president of the Pilgrim’s council. Motion carried.

Dick Holster indicated that St. Stephen would like to oversee coordinating the meal for the leave taking service. This will allow all the Pilgrims to “enjoy” the day without having to worry about planning, cooking, and serving. The council accepted the offer and thanked Dick and the St. Stephen council for the wonderful gift.

Sue Koerten and Linda Konkel informed the councils of some of the ideas that the committee has for that day. The group did offer some extremely helpful suggestions that will be taken back to the planning committee.

Pilgrim newsletter items are due by April 22, 2026.

The next combined council meeting will be May 12 at 5:30 at St. Stephen. Regular council meetings will continue through the summer months.

Motion by the St. Stephen council to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted:
Linda Konkel

FINANCIAL INFORMATION UPDATE

April 30, 2026

A budget is a statement of faith. It is our way of saying this is what we believe God wants us to do. And we trust that God will provide.

Mortgage	Revenue
\$ 50,262 Balance: 03/25/2026	Year-to-Date
\$ 692 Principal Payment	\$25,450
\$ 182 Interest Payment	Outstanding Bills
\$ 49,570 Balance: 04/30/2026	\$920 Total Bills

PARTICIPATE IN THE SCRIP PROGRAM AND SUPPORT PILGRIM

Put your regular household shopping dollars to work by purchasing gift cards at Pilgrim. Scrip-participating retailers sell gift cards to Pilgrim at a discount and you get the full face value of the gift card. Orders are taken periodically. For information, email or call the office at 715-842-4544

THRIVENT CHOICE PROGRAM

We are pleased to announce that Pilgrim Church receives funds through Thrivent Financial's Thrivent Choice program. By directing Choice Dollars, eligible Thrivent members can recommend which nonprofit organizations they feel should receive charitable grant funding from Thrivent. If you are an eligible member, please consider us when directing Choice Dollars. Call 800-847-4836 or visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice.

THOSE PILGRIMS UNABLE TO ATTEND SERVICES

Please remember the following Pilgrims who are not able to attend worship due to personal limitation. If you need their addresses, please contact the church office.

In Care Facilities

Kathleen Huebner.....Mount View
John Schneider North Haven

In Their Homes

Donald Mattke

PRAYER SHAWLS

Do you know someone who needs prayer and a special word of encouragement? Consider extending the love of Jesus through a Circle of Women prayer shawl.

A cabinet in the lounge holds a variety of prayer shawls. Choose one to deliver to a person who needs a special, tangible reminder of God's love and presence. Sign the book to show that you have taken one, and use a prayer request form to add this person to the Prayer Circle list, if that is appropriate.

A wicker basket sits next to the cabinet. If you have extra yarn to donate, you may place it there to be used for other handcrafted shawls. Thank You!

Shawls given to date... 310

CAN'T GET TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY?

**COME WORSHIP
THURSDAYS AT 6:30 PM!**

We gather for worship each week in a simple service of hymns, prayers, Scripture, sermon, and the Lord's Supper. We don't "dress up," and it only lasts 30 – 40 minutes. If your spirit needs food for the journey, please consider joining us. We promise you will be fed!

BIRTHDAYS!

Happy Birthday from your Pilgrim family!

Taylor Lemanski	05/01	Karen Larson	05/18
Ellen Anderson	05/03	Austin Fehlhaber	05/19
Mica Fehlhaber-Poppe	05/03	Patricia Roberts	05/24
Frank Koerten	05/04	Rachel Clemment	05/26
Lindsey Koski	05/05	Terra Ecker	05/28
Connie Brandenburg	05/06	Paul Ziebell	05/28
Manda Strick	05/10	Anna Larsen	05/29
Chris Ecker	05/16	Nathan Stromme	05/31
Donald Mattke	05/17		

On birthdays, we honor our beginnings and remember that in God's eyes, we have a place in this world that no one else has.



REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

the following members of our Pilgrim family on their

May

1 Rick Swanson	17 Mary Williams
2 Jean Trempe	18 Bob Windorski
3 John Trempe	19 Jenna Windorski
4 Eugene Viegut	20 Jill Windorski
5 Jason Viegut	21 Ross Windorski
6 Lila Viegut	22 Keith Woodward
7 Betty Walters	23 Barb Yeast
8 Gary Walters	24 Gary Yeast
9 Aaron Werth	25 Jenni Zaitz
10 Caden Werth	26 Kevin Zaitz
11 Natalie Werth	27 Lauren Zaitz
12 Sarah Werth	28 Lillie Zaitz
13 Dana Weyeer	29 Logan Zaitz
14 Lori Weyer	30 Jack Ziebell
15 Maverick Weyer	31 Paul Ziebell
16 Janet Williams	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:00 Worship; Adalee Moon Baptism	4	5 11:45 Prayer Circle 3:00 Transition Team Meeting	6 9:00 Busy Bees 6:30 Choir Practice	7 6:30 Worship	8	9
10 9:00 Worship	11	12 11:45 Prayer Circle 5:30 Council Mtg.	13 6:30 Choir Practice	14 8-1 Rummage Sale 11:00 Men's Bible Study Brunch at Eagle's Nest 6:30 Worship	15 8-1 Rummage Sale Lay School	16 8-1 Rummage Sale Lay School
17 9:00 Worship	18	19 11:45 Prayer Circle 3:00 Transition Team Meeting 5:30 GWCS Meeting at Pilgrim	20 6:30 Choir Practice	21 6:30 Worship	22	23 Lay School Closing Celebration at Zion Shawano
24 PENTECOST 9:00 Worship	25 MEMORIAL DAY Office Closed	26 11:45 Prayer Circle	27	28 6:30 Worship	29	30
31 9:00 Worship						

**Pilgrim/St. Stephen
Rummage and Bake Sale**
(see page 2)

Geraniums for Pentecost
(see page 5)

Staff

Ministers
Music Coordinator
Choir Director
Pianists
Custodian
Office Manager

All Pilgrims
Delores Kessel
Jim Lenselink
Delores Kessel, Norah Brown
Shelby Brod
Fred Patten

If you wish to give a gift to Pilgrim electronically,
please go to www.pilgrimofwausau.org and click
on the DONATE button on the home page.

Thank you.



Services

Sundays at 9:00 am / Thursdays at 6:30 pm

PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH...

Sharing God's Never-Ending Love with All People through Faith and Service!
www.pilgrimofwausau.org

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709 Weston Avenue
Wausau WI 54403
715.842.4544
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May 2026

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