

# Progress

Volume 19, Issue 2

February 2021

## Pilgrim Lutheran Church

709 Weston Avenue  
Wausau WI 54403

715.842.4544

pilgrimofwausau@gmail.com  
www.pilgrimofwausau.org

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Zoom Online  
Sunday  
9:00 am

### Office Hours

Monday - Thursday  
8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Friday  
8:00 am - 12:00 pm

### Notes from the Pastor...

William Ostrem

We, the church, are approaching the season and time of Lent. Lent is a time when we come filled with emotions both good and bad, we come with our faith and doubts, we come in honesty and vulnerability, and we journey those 40 days towards the cross to lay all these down at God's feet. Lent is a time of forgiveness and hope, but it is also a time of reflection, both individually and as the one Body of Christ. For forgiveness does not require any action from us and we receive it solely by God through Christ alone, but God does ask us to honestly repent, to have the desire to change, and to seek out change for others in this world so they may see and feel God's love in their lives as well.

This past January alone has shown us what this world and humanity is capable of. When, as a society, we lose sight of the care for the community for the sake of our own desires and will. Maybe some of you have been like me and filled with the gambit of emotions from longing to find a sense of stability to acknowledging the difficulty of another month in confusion and grief. Maybe some of you were struck with shock of seeing the very hatred that has instigated division in our communities invade our National Capital building to circumvent the very idealistic princi-

ples this country considers itself to be founded on. And all we could do was to watch and pray that lives would not be lost and that those who were responding could restore justice efficiently and effectively. On the opposite side of emotion, we heard, during the Inauguration, speakers call for acknowledgement of the damage that has been done to our communities and call for change so that communities can be healed again.

As we face the many problems today of injustice, racism, marginalization, and a real medical pandemic, we begin to ask the questions of ourselves, "Where is God in this?" and "Where is my faith in the midst of this?" This year, our church resource of *Sundays and Seasons* offers a Lenten study of *In Community with...*, as the Gospel of Mark highlights the many ways we are called to be in community through our faith and our relationship to God. Did you also know that the Lord's Prayer that we recite weekly calls us into these same places? This year for our Lenten journey, beginning with Ash Wednesday and completing on Easter, we will be looking at the Lord's Prayer and how these shared words of faith challenge us into our many communities

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and call us to be filled with the Holy Spirit as we lift up, support, and accompany all of God’s people and the full Body of Christ. We will journey with the faithful questions of where God is calling us to be and in the trust that God is present to lead us—not just to the places of our own heart’s desire, but God takes us to where we are needed to be so that we may proclaim the Gospel to the communities that we are in.

Mitakuye Oyasmin and Peace,  
Vicar Will Ostrem

# THE SEASON OF LENT AND HOLY WEEK

## Lord’s Prayer

### *In Community*

Prayer is at the very heart of Christian life.

It is through prayer that we communicate with God, and often it is also through prayer that God communicates with us.

Prayer isn't only about speaking but also about listening,  
not only about asking but also about yielding,  
not only meditation but also praise,  
not only a practice but also a mystery,  
not only a devotion but also a ministry.

Therefore, it's not surprising that,  
when Jesus had once finished praying, his disciples said to him,

*“Lord, teach us to pray,  
as John taught his disciples” (Luke 11:2-4).*

– Justo L. Gonzalez

As we live in community with each other, we lift up our hearts to God in prayer for comfort and guidance, and to praise God. As we journey together during this time, please join me during our mid-week services as we engage how this prayer given to us by Jesus Christ remains a cornerstone of our faith—a prayer that challenges us to be moved by the Holy Spirit towards being *In Community* with God and all of God’s creation. Below you find the mid-weekly Lenten focus as we engage community through scripture and the specific Lord’s Prayer petitions.

### STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

The Stewardship Committee extends our heartfelt thanks to our congregation. We have been so blessed by your ongoing support. Thank you to our volunteers who generously give of their talents and time and thank you all for your generous monetary gifts. Though 2020 was a difficult year for all, you gave generously.

We will be sending out pledge cards and Faith Inspirations and Opportunities forms once again this year. There are some new opportunities that you may be interested. Watch your mail that first week of February. We are adding some fun this year. Return your forms by Ash Wednesday, February 17 to be entered in a drawing for Wendy’s or Arby’s gift certificates. Good Luck and God Bless!

### **Ash Wednesday**

February 17<sup>th</sup>

### **In our Baptismal Call We Pray...**

Lesson...Isaiah 58:1-12

Gospel Reading...Matthew 6:1-21

### **Week 1**

February 24<sup>th</sup>

### **In Community with Creation**

*Introduction: “Our Father, who art in heaven”*

*1<sup>st</sup> Petition: “hallowed be thy name”*

Gospel Reading...Mark 4:35-41

### **Week 2**

March 3<sup>rd</sup>

### **In Community with Christ**

*2<sup>nd</sup> Petition: “thy kingdom come”*

Gospel Reading...Mark 10:32-45

(Continued on page 3)

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**Week 3**

March 10<sup>th</sup>

**In Community with those on the Margins**

*3<sup>rd</sup> Petition: "thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."*

Gospel Reading...Mark 5:1-20

**Week 4**

March 17<sup>th</sup>

**In Community with Our Neighbor**

*4<sup>th</sup> Petition: "Give us this day our daily bread"*

Gospel Reading...Mark 2:1-12

**Week 5**

March 24<sup>th</sup>

**In Community with All the Saints**

*5<sup>th</sup> Petition: "and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us"*

Gospel Reading...Mark 9:2-8

**Holy Week**

**Palm Sunday**

March 28<sup>th</sup>

**In Community with Voice**

Readings...Isaiah 50:4-9a, Mark 11:1-11

Lesson...Psalm 31:9-16

Gospel Reading...Mark 14:1-42

**Maundy Thursday**

April 1<sup>st</sup>

**In Community with Sacrament and Service**

*6<sup>th</sup> Petition: "and lead us not into temptation"*

Lesson...Exodus 12:1-4,11-14

Gospel Reading...John 13:1-17,31b-35

**Good Friday**

April 2<sup>nd</sup>

**In Community at the Cross**

*7<sup>th</sup> Petition: "but deliver us from evil."*

Lesson...Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9

Gospel Reading...John 18:1-19:42

**Easter**

April 4<sup>th</sup>

**In Community with God**

*Conclusion: "For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen."*

Lesson...Isaiah 25:6-9

Gospel Reading...John 20:1-18



**ASH  
WEDNESDAY**

February 17, 2021

Drive-In Worship Service  
with Communion

Pilgrim Parking Lot

5:30 p.m.



In addition to the Center for Visual Arts galleries, here in town, with three exhibits on going right now, you can enjoy a rare touch of spring at the Riverfront Gallery in Stevens Point. Running from February 4 through March 14, you will find their signature winter exhibit, "Winter's Garden". This exhibit consists of beautiful artwork created around a floral theme. It's always an attractive exhibit and both warms the spirit and gives comforting thoughts of the coming of spring, perhaps making it well worth the trip. As said before, these galleries are extremely cautious regarding proper protocol regarding the pandemic and a short road trip can be a pleasant release from confinement felt by most of us. Stay safe, be well, God Bless. — Patrick Plunkett

## Make a joyful noise!

What you take into your parishes is pieces of paper with notes on them.  
It's the singers who make it come alive in your communities for you.

—Marty Haugen

This month's column is about making the music come alive in our midst. It happens when people share songs they have come to love, sometimes loudly with energy and enthusiasm, sometimes with quiet joy. You may have specific memories of songs that have touched your heart. You may have general memories of hearing loved hymns sung over and over again until they are written in your heart.

You may be an eager singer. You may be an eager listener. In her early days my mother was an eager singer. As she got older her voice changed so she could no longer reach the high notes. Her hearing changed so she had a harder time singing in tune with the people around her. She told my sisters and me once that she spent a lot of time singing in her mind. She said when she sang in her mind, she always was able to sing all the right notes. She found joy singing in her mind and she found joy in singing with her voice. The music was alive for her.

When people in our congregation listen rather than sing, it doesn't mean that the music is unimportant to them; it may mean they are enjoying it and finding meaning in it by listening to others sing. The words may minister to them and be as alive for them as they would be if they were doing the singing. They hear of God's love for his people. They pray and praise God through the words of songs. They hear the familiar songs of faith over and over.

Thankfully during this time of COVID when it is not yet safe to gather in big groups and to sing together, Pilgrims have had a very dependable small group of people who have been our singers. They have made the music come alive for us by sharing their talent with us. Some of you may have sung along with them while you watched the recorded services. Whether you sang along out loud or sang in your minds, these people have kept the music alive for us.

If you have access to the Internet, I encourage you to listen to Eva Cassidy sing "How Can I Keep From Singing" and I also encourage you to listen to the NYC Virtual Choir and Orchestra sing their version of "How Can I Keep from Singing" arranged by the Podd Brothers. I think your heart will be moved and their versions of this well-known, well-loved song will help keep music alive for you.

Thanks be to God for singers who make music come alive for us!

—Delores Kessel

A SEASON OF  
**HOPE**  
LENT

**PLEASE, WE NEED PERSONAL CARE KITS!**

*OUR WAREHOUSE SHELVES ARE NEARLY EMPTY,  
AND WE CAN'T KEEP UP WITH DEMAND. (LWR)*

This Lent, we're joining Lutheran World Relief in a A SEASON OF HOPE to announce to the world the HOPE of Christ. We will collect personal care kit items to assemble for people around the world. Below are the five items. Towels and nail clippers are most needed; and, combs with a handle are preferred.

**Bath Towels** (light-weight, maximum 52" x 27", dark color recommended)



**Nail Clippers** (metal, attached file optional)



**Combs**  
(PLEASE get this style!)



**Bars of Soap** (4 to 5 oz., any brand, in original wrapping.)



**Toothbrushes** (adult size, in original packaging)



**PILGRIM COMMUNITY**

With COVID-19 hitting our state in 2020, we have had to discontinue in-person services, moving to Zoom and recorded services for the health and safety of our members, Vicar Will, and staff.

The council has been discussing ways to get to know our faith family better during this distanced time. So, each month, a few questions will be put in the Progress (see below) and emailed to members. Spend some time with the questions and send in your response to all or just some of them. The responses will then be shared in the newsletter. The intention is to help us to dig a bit deeper about our beliefs around God and church, to stimulate new ideas, and to then share some of those thoughts with others in our faith family at Pilgrim.

By sharing your responses, we might reinforce some of our own thoughts, or, hopefully, gain some new perspectives and insights.

Please prayerfully consider responding and let's see where the Holy Spirit leads us to go next in this world of change. Please mail your responses to the church or email them to:

(pilgrimofwausau@gmail.com)

**This week's Pilgrim Community questions are...**

1. When, where, and how do you feel closest to God?
2. What kind of project or ministry energizes you?
3. How will you know that your congregation is ready to make deep changes for the sake of God's work?
4. When was a time your congregation was brave or courageous?

(If you do not want your name printed in the newsletter, just let us know.)

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**January 12th, 2021**  
**(Unapproved)**

**PRESENT VIA ZOOM AND IN PERSON:** President Jean Trempe, Treasurer Charles Freiberg, Secretary Shirley Ecker, Jeanne Wunsch, Mollie Augustine, Eugene Viegut, Vicar William Ostrem, Charlene Buttner, Sue Koerten, and Cathy Gottschalk

**GUEST:** Jeff Kessel

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** (Jean Trempe) Trempe called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Shirley Ecker had devotions.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** (Jean Trempe) Trempe reported Annual meeting of the Congregation will be held Sunday, January 31, 2021. Motion by Augustine to hold the annual meeting by Zoom for all members wanting to participate following the worship service at 10:00 a.m. Members participating in the annual meeting will be allowed to vote electronically, second by Ecker. Motion carried. Agenda for the annual meeting was reviewed by council. Motion by Gottschalk to accept agenda, second by Koerten. Motion carried. City of Wausau requested use of Fellowship Hall for 2021 elections. Motion by Gottschalk to accept City of Wausau use of Fellowship Hall to include addendum on COVID safety measures, second by Freiberg. Motion carried. There are several openings for Church Council, these positions include: Secretary, Stewardship, Life & Growth, and Children and Youth. Prayerfully consider joining the Church Council in one of these positions. Progress articles are due January 21, 2021.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** (vacancy) no report

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** (Charlie Freiberg) The Checking Account Register, Statement of Financial Position, and Statement of Activities with Budget Comparison

were reviewed. Motion by Buttner to accept the Treasurer's report, second by Koerten. Motion carried.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** (Shirley Ecker) Minutes were reviewed. Motion by Gottschalk, second by Viegut to accept the minutes of the December 8 meeting. Motion carried.

**VICAR'S REPORT:** (Vicar Will Ostrem) Vicar Will reported he is completing his J-term class on Islam America-The Islamic Faith on January 15, 2021. Continues to meet with the Worship/Task Force committee and recording weekly services. Continues to prepare for teaching his Topic Forum Discussion group later in January. There are currently eight members signed up. Vicar Will is starting his final semester of Seminary in February 2021.

**WORSHIP MISSION TEAM:** (Sue Koerten) Koerten reported the Worship Committee met with the Task Force committee on January 5, 2021. The council will address recommendations on how to proceed for Reopening, Zoom, and Lenten Services. Jeff Kessel stated the current pandemic situation in the US and our county was discussed. Because of record number of new cases of COVID and deaths a motion was made to: **Recommend to the council to suspend in-person worship services at Pilgrim through February 14, 2021, inclusive.** Motion made by Viegut to suspend in-person worship services through February 14, 2021 per advice of the Worship/Task Force committee, second by Wunsch. Motion carried. The Worship/Task Force committee has developed the following plans for Zoom services: 1) an initial letter to the congregation has been drafted. The letter was reviewed by the Church council on January 12, 2021. The revised letter will be sent out to the congregation, 2) a second letter to the congregation with detailed instructions on use of Zoom technology has been drafted. The aim of the letter is to help Pilgrims so that they will be comfortable at services. It will be revised and refined with that in mind, 3) an instructional Zoom

session will be scheduled where Pilgrims can work with Zoom in real time, 4) a dry run service is planned in order to coordinate the functions of the host, vicar, reader/worship assistant, accompanist and singer to help the Sunday services go smoothly. 5) the target date for our first Zoom service is January 24, 2021, 6) in early February we plan to add a coffee hour at the end of each service, 7) every worship service will be recorded with the exception of the greeting session or coffee hour. Only Vicar Will, the reader/worship assistant, the accompanist, the singer and any other participant will be seen on the recording, and 8) the Zoom service recordings will be uploaded to YouTube on Monday for viewing by those unable to watch the Sunday Zoom services on their electronic devices or listen to it on their phones. Lent starts in February. The Worship/Task Force committee was in agreement on notifying the council on the following plans for Lenten services: 1) Pilgrim will have an outdoor Ash Wednesday service on February 17, 2021 with communion, and 2) the remainder of the Lenten services will be reviewed monthly by the joint Worship/Task Force committee with the next meeting being February 9 at 10:30 a.m.

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS TEAM:** (Eugene Viegut) no report.

**CHURCH/SOCIETY MISSION TEAM:** (Charlene Buttner, temporary) Buttner reported donations were made to: Open Door—clothing, personal items, and food, Salvation Army—food. LSS Conditional Release Program—Christmas gifts for 19 people—hats, mittens, personal items, mugs and treats, and gift cards. Pilgrim received a thank you note from the LSS Conditional Release clients for the Christmas gifts. Beginning in January, Gather Magazine is offering a 4 month study on angels.

**LIFE & GROWTH MISSION TEAM:** (Mollie Augustine) no report.

*(Continued on page 7)*

(Minutes continued from page 6)

**STEWARDSHIP MISSION**

**TEAM:** (vacancy) no report.

**CHILDREN & YOUTH MISSION TEAM:** (Cathy Gottschalk)

Gottschalk reported Natalie Werth and Brianna Stromme will attend Confirmation camp. Cost of camp for one week is \$465.00 per camper. There is no early bird discount this year. Discussion held in regards to funds in the Youth account. Motion made by Viegut to pay \$250.00 per camper for registration using funds in the Youth account, second by Buttner. Motion carried.

**EVANGELISM MISSION**

**TEAM:** (Jeanne Wunsch) Wunsch reported a blood drive will be held on Thursday January 21, 2021 from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m.

**BLESSINGS THAT GIVE HOPE:** (Jeanne Wunsch)

Wunsch reported they are looking for help to pack bags February through end of school year. If you are interested please contact Mollie Augustine.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Time and Talent Sheets – discussion held in regards to having members complete time and talent sheets for 2021. Trempe will set up a meeting with Frank Koerten, Eugene Viegut and herself to discuss.

Devotion sign ups – sign up sheet for Church Council devotions for 2021 was completed by council members.

Pilgrim Rummage Sale – discussion was held to hold annual Pilgrim Rummage Sale this year. Council

decided to schedule the tentative rummage sale for Saturday, May 15, 2021, depending on the COVID numbers at that time. A back up-date of Saturday August 21, 2021 was set, with the option of holding the rummage sale outside in the driveway/lawn at church. More information to follow.

**ADJOURN:** Cathy Gottschalk has devotions at the February 9, 2021 Council Meeting. Buttner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m., with the Lord’s Prayer, second by Viegut. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shirley Ecker, Secretary

# February

2021

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1	2	3 6:00 Confirmation Class	4	5	6
	←————— Vicar Will at Prologue —————→					
7 9:00 Worship	8	9 10:30 Task Force/ Worship Team Combined Meeting 6:30 Council Mtg.	10 6:00 Confirmation Class	11	12	13
14 9:00 Worship	15	16	17 ASH WEDNESDAY 5:30 Drive-In Worship	18	19	20
21 9:00 Worship	22	23	24 LENT 6:30 Worship	25	26	27
28 9:00 Worship						



**Happy Birthday from your Pilgrim family!**  
Please contact the church office with any updates.

Nina James	02/04	Adam Fandre	02/13
Jenna Windorski	02/04	Alexander Fandre	02/13
Makayla Ecker	02/05	Gigs Kirsch	02/13
Ruth Schlitz	02/05	Maureen Kislow	02/14
Ann Brooks	02/06	Jack Ziebell	02/15
Alex Larsen	02/06	Easton Augustine	02/16
Richard Boller	02/09	Harry Fehlhaber	02/17
Nathan Fehlhaber	02/09	Bo Fehlhaber	02/19
Britta Widmark	02/10	Ava Kislow	02/28
Dennis Wunsch	02/10	Wesley Schneider	02/28
Michelle Larsen	02/11	Kevin Zaitz	02/28

*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 numbered day of the month

**February**

1 Kayle Kislow	15 Annie Landeau
2 Logan Kislow	16 Cheryl Landeau
3 Michael Kislow	17 Darryl landeau
4 Frank Koerten	18 Marshall Landeau
5 Sue Koerten	19 Sarah Landeau
6 Elaine Kolden	20 Alex Larsen
7 Eric Konkell	21 Anna Larsen
8 Linda Konkell	22 David Larsen
9 Michael Konkell	23 Michelle Larsen
10 Sara Konkell	24 Grant Larson
11 Steven Konkell	25 Gregory Larson
12 Lindsey Koski	26 Kara Larson
13 Kathi Kunze	27 Karen Larson
14 Amanda Landeau	28 Claire Laughlin

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION UPDATE

### January 28, 2021

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		Year-to-Date Revenue Budget vs. Actual	
\$ 90,884	Balance: 12/31/2020	\$9,980	\$8,285
\$ 564	Principal Payment		
\$ 391	Interest Payment		
\$ 90,320	Balance: 01/28/2021		
Outstanding Bills			
		\$1,832 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. Order cards on Sunday from a team member or call the office at 715-842-4544.

### 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

#### In Their Homes

Kathy Boehm      John Schneider  
Donald Mattke      Stephen Williams

### PILGRIM PRAYER CIRCLE

The Pilgrim Prayer Circle meets each Tuesday at 11:45 a.m. Everyone is invited to join either at church or a more convenient personal location. Call the church office for details about participation or to place a prayer request.

### 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](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice).

### 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... 258**

## Lenten Theme

Lord's Prayer & In Community

### Ash Wednesday, Drive-In Worship Service

February 17, 5:30 p.m.

### Lenten Service Project

Collecting Personal Care Kit Items for LWR

#### Staff

Ministers  
Vicar:  
Office Manager/Bookkeeper:  
Choir Director  
Pianists  
Custodian:

All Pilgrims  
William Ostrem  
Fred Patten  
Delores Kessel  
Delores Kessel, Norah Brown  
Dennis Wunsch

If you wish to give a gift to Pilgrim electronically, please go to [www.pilgrimofwausau.org](http://www.pilgrimofwausau.org) and click on the DONATE button on the home page. Thank you.

#### Services

Sundays 9:00 a.m. and Thursdays 6:30 p.m.

#### Education Hour

Ages 3 to Adult, Sundays at 10:15 a.m., September - May



**PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH...**

***Sharing God's Never-Ending Love with All People through Faith and Service!***

**[www.pilgrimofwausau.org](http://www.pilgrimofwausau.org)**

Electronic Service Requested

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