

# Progress

Volume 21, Issue 12

December 2023

## Pilgrim Lutheran Church

709 Weston Avenue  
Wausau WI 54403

715.842.4544

pilgrimofwausau@gmail.com  
www.pilgrimofwausau.org

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

#### SUNDAYS

In-Person and  
Zoomed Online

9:00 am

#### THURSDAYS

In-person

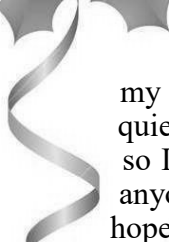
6:30 pm

### Office Hours

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

Friday  
Closed

## GOD MOMENTS



As I lay on the concrete driveway from my fall on my head, legs sprawled across the planters, not knowing how bad this was, I opened my eyes and saw my sparrow friends all lined up on the edge of the roof, all quietly staring down at me. God has always spoken to me through the birds, so I knew His presence was with me. I lay there for some time wondering if anyone would come, and finally I heard what sounded like a leash, giving me hope that a dog-walker was nearing. I was able to raise one arm a bit, and said “please help me” in a low voice, which got the dog staring and barking, which caused the walker to stop. I hoped she would not be a person who didn’t want to get involved, but she stopped, stared, came closer, tied her dog to the tree, and asked if I had a phone she could use. I did. I had brought it to the garage that morning, anticipating a call from one of John’s nurses. She said “I will be calling 911, as there is a lot of blood.” After her call, she asked if there was anyone she could contact. I said my husband is in his chair in the living room. She went in and notified him there was an ambulance coming to take me to Emergency. When she came out she asked if there was anyone else she could contact, and I said if there is a red truck in the street or the driveway, to go to that house and let them know of the occurrence. Later, we found her name was **Dorothy, a retired nurse**. Again, **God sent someone that could handle the messy situation**. (She even made cookies for John.)

A special **THANK YOU** to **everyone** for **your prayers** that healed me. **THANK YOU Eugene Viegut**, the first person I saw, standing in the hospital doorway **holding the Bible**, appearing as a Saint. **THANK YOU Karen Larson** for the little spicy muffins that took the dizziness away, and **your visits**. **THANK YOU** to **All who sent get-well cards** that made me smile. **THANK YOU** to **Rick and Mary Swanson**, visiting, with Mary holding a **prayer shawl** close to her, which she gave to me, the warmth of Pilgrim’s friendship present. **THANK YOU Rick** for **cleaning** the blood from our driveway and the painting tools picked up and put away, and **Mary** for **washing** up the bloody ambulance **blanket**. **THANK YOU** to **Brauley Schneider** for spending the nights to **watch over Grandpa John**. **SPECIAL THANK YOU** to our son, **John**, for handling the work of taking over the **schedules** and **care** of his father John, and all household and outdoor chores, along with our trusted care worker, **Heather Corvino**, for ten days. **THANK YOU** again to **Rick Swanson** for his expertise in finish the pillars and adding the “sprucing up” of my failed job, and not mentioning (but, I did see his eyes looking at) the paint spots on the steps that I had made.

**THANK YOU, PILGRIMS.** You are a Blessing!

Nancy Schneider



December 3rd is the first Sunday in Advent

We wait for the coming of the Lord, two thousand years ago and the arrival yet to occur. What did they expect from the Messiah then and what do we long for today? We travel with holy anticipation to meet the newborn king in the manger as we wait in hope for today.

Some practical ways to prepare for Advent:

- Keep an Advent calendar
- Get or make an Advent wreath
- Set up a nativity scene
- Have an Advent tree



We continue to collect warm mittens, gloves, hats, socks, and scarves for all ages for the Mitten Tree. Please bring your offerings to help our neighbors in need. Your donations will be delivered to local schools and other non-profit organizations.

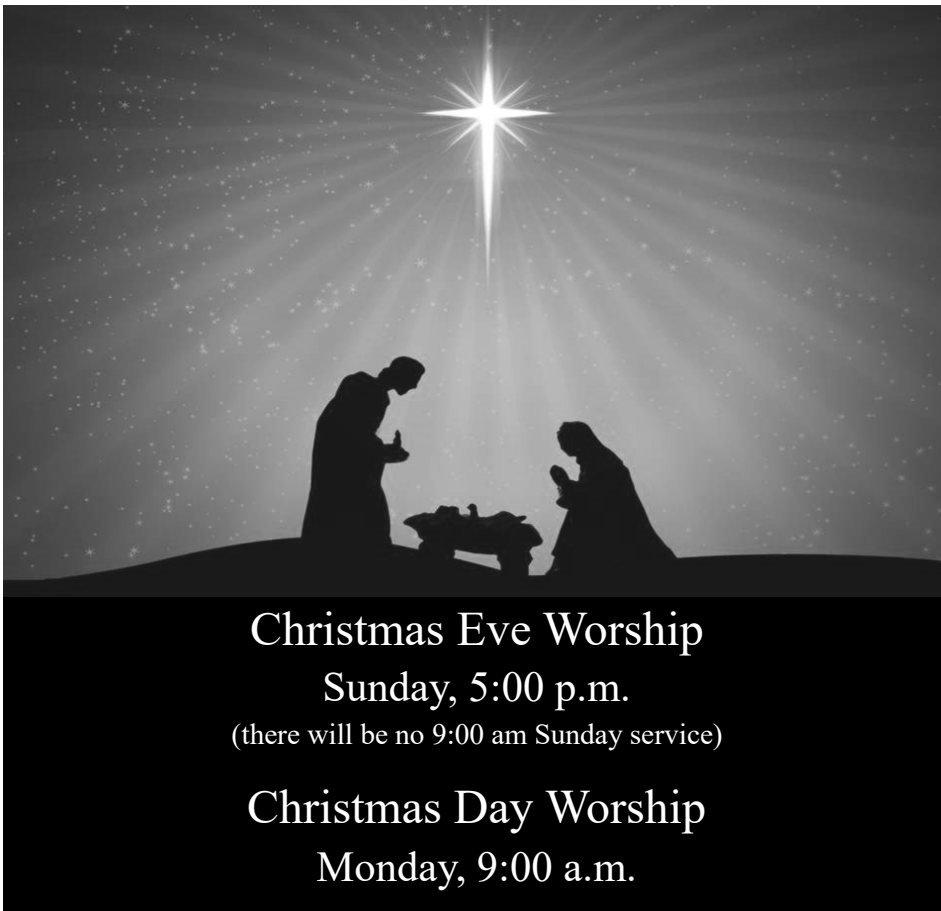
### ITEMS-OF-THE-MONTH

*Blessings That Give Hope*

**December**

**Pancake Mix & Syrup**

**Toothbrushes  
and Toothpaste**



## Christmas Eve Worship

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

(there will be no 9:00 am Sunday service)

## Christmas Day Worship

Monday, 9:00 a.m.

In the recent Pilgrim Christmas tradition, the Christmas morning service has been more contemplative. This year, in addition to our traditional service, we are planning to add an element to enhance thoughtfulness. You are invited, but not required, to participate. We are asking that you bring an item that represents a special gift that you have received during this past year. These items will be placed on the altar and, during the service, you will have an opportunity, if you would like, to speak to your item. If it would be more comfortable for you, nothing needs to be said, but your gift would be acknowledged. Or you can provide a written story and our worship leader will read it on your behalf.

Examples of gifts may be a picture of a new grandchild, maybe a picture of a sunset that was part of a special memory or time with a family member. Or maybe a memento of a particular family gathering that was meaningful. If you are online and would like your story to be read on your behalf, send Fred a note with the item that you are thinking of as well as your story as you would like it to be told. Or, just drop it off at the office. The story will then be read for you during this time of sharing in the service. The intent is to deepen our connections by sharing something personal about ourselves with our fellow worshippers. Again, we are only asking for you to participate, or not, as you are comfortable. Please join us on Christmas morn in this special celebration of Christ's birth!

# Make a joyful noise!

“Music is the second language of my heart.”

~ Mara Arps

(shared with us by Brianna Stromme, lifelong Pilgrim member)

Well, we did it! In just two months of fundraising, we raised enough money to be able to order a new digital piano for Pilgrim. Thank you to all who made donations. We still have a small amount of money to raise so if you are a person who still wants to make a donation, your gift will be welcome.

You can look for our new instrument to arrive in January or February. Even though we were able to order it in November, it takes a while for a special dolly to arrive that will make the piano easily movable.

With our new digital piano, we will “Praise God from whom all blessings flow” with energy and enthusiasm.

While we are waiting for our new instrument to arrive, there is plenty of music going on at Pilgrim. If you love to sing Christmas carols, we have a great offer for you. On December 16, at 2:00 pm, we are gathering at Pilgrim for an informal Christmas carol sing-along.

Then on December 10 we will have our second annual Advent Choral Service at St. Stephen and on December 17 at Pilgrim featuring our choir and including opportunities for the congregation to join in singing several familiar songs.

It is a time for music lovers to celebrate as during Advent we re-learn the story of God’s children moving from loneliness and despair to connection, hope, and trust that we are beloved by God. That is what this season is all about—being able to claim our belovedness. In the words of the theologian Henri Nouwen we can say,

*“I’m not what I do.*

*I’m not what I have.*

*I’m not what people say about me.*

*I am the beloved of God.*

*It’s who I am.*

*No one can take it from me.*

*I don’t have to worry.*

*I don’t have to hurry.*

*I can trust my friend Jesus and share His love with the world.”*

Music is one of the amazing languages that helps us uncover this truth for all of us. Music also helps us share this wonderful truth with the whole world. Thanks be to God!

Delores Kessel



***<sup>1</sup>For everything there is a season  
and a time for every matter under heaven:***

***<sup>2</sup>a time to be born and a time to die;  
a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;***

***<sup>3</sup>a time to kill and a time to heal;  
a time to break down and a time to build up.***

*- Ecclesiastes 3:1-3*

Dear Siblings in Christ,

I remember the beginning of winter in 2014. It was the second week of November. I was attending a retreat for clergy from the six different synods in Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Wisconsin. We were at Saint Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon. Our retreat ended early so that we could all, hopefully, get home before the storm. And storm it did! Over 20+ inches of snow fell. November is a month of change. We move from the colors of autumn to the white snowflakes of winter. We also move to longer nights and cozy blankets. Our outdoor activities move indoors or we bundle up in layers.

God created winter as a time of rest and Sabbath. The trees rest from producing fruit. Animals hibernate or they only do what is necessary. “Plants and animals don’t fight the winter; they don’t pretend it’s not happening and attempt to carry on living the same lives that they lived in the summer. They prepare. They adapt. They perform extraordinary acts of metamorphosis to get them through. Winter is a time of withdrawing from the world, maximizing scant resources, carrying out acts of brutal efficiency and vanishing from sight; but that’s where the transformation occurs. Winter is not the death of the life cycle, but it’s crucible” (Katherine May, “Wintering: The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult Times,” page 14). When we take time to acknowledge and recognize winter as a season of transformation, we see God’s glorious beauty.

For us, winter feels like something to survive - to get through. Winter is our bragging rights of strength and resilience. Winter feels like a season of grief and anxiety. However, for Creation, winter is a time of preparation for the new life of spring. It is a time to notice the beauty, diversity, and uniqueness of God’s world. How many shades of white do you notice? How many different types of ice or snow are there? The warmth of the sun or the bitter coldness of the wind feels different than the other seasons. What else do you notice?

Working toward shared and/or collaborative ministry can feel like a long season of winter. It feels like it is just something we have to get through to survive as the Church. What happens when we shift our perspective to see this season as a time of transformation and preparation for new life? Butterflies and birds migrate this time of year, but they are also making a journey of preparation for new life. As the Church, we believe in dying and new life - death and resurrection. We need both death and resurrection. It’s part of our story as Christians. We also believe that God created the seasons, which includes

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Continued from page 4)*

winter and spring. For the Wausau area ELCA congregations it is a time of winter. A time in which we prepare, adapt, and transform into the new life God is calling us into.

Conversations, both formal and informal, are happening. Wausau area congregations are discussing ways in which they

are wintering during this time of transformation. Are they willing to change their worship time or day? What is their energy level for ministry? What are their expectations of a pastor and other staff? How do they move from a clergy-centered congregation to a ministry-centered congregation? How are members willing to adapt? How does this season

create new life and new ministry? Where is God calling you and the congregation of Pilgrim? What does dying and new life look like? How do we see the beauty in this time of wintering?

Thanks be to God for creating winter!

Andrea Fluegel  
Transition Facilitator

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October 27, 2023

Dear Pilgrim Lutheran Church Council,

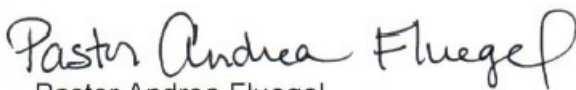
After a time of prayer and discernment with the East Central Synod of Wisconsin (ECSW) staff and Council President Shirley Ecker, I will no longer be the Transition Facilitator for Pilgrim Lutheran Church, effective November 30, 2023.

The agreement between Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Wausau, and Pastor Andrea Fluegel, Transition Facilitator states, "This agreement terminates on the date specified above or upon thirty days written notice from Pilgrim Lutheran Church or the Transition Facilitator, in consultation with the bishop of the synod. All financial obligations between the Transition Facilitator and the congregations will be fulfilled by or on the date of termination."

I have discerned that my skills and gifts are not a good match for Pilgrim Lutheran Church's expectations and needs at this time. The ECSW staff will be working with Shirley Ecker and the Pilgrim Council on helping find a congregational coach to work with Pilgrim during this time of Holy Conversations.

It has been a blessing to get to know the Body of Christ at Pilgrim Lutheran Church.

I will continue to hold you in my prayers.



Pastor Andrea Fluegel  
Transition Facilitator

# Christmas *Sing-a-long*



**Traditional Christmas Carols**  
*—open to all, bring your family & friends—*



Pilgrim Lutheran Church  
709 Weston Avenue, Wausau  
Saturday, December 16th  
2:00 pm, in the sanctuary



*Light refreshments will follow.*



## REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND

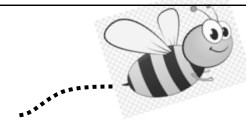
Kathy Boehm  
Kathleen Huebner  
Donald Mattke  
John Schneider  
Stephen Williams

**Reminder**

Quilter  
Christmas Party

Wednesday  
December 13th, 11:00 a.m.  
in the Pilgrim lounge

## Kids Kount



Greater Wausau Christian Service’s “KIDS KOUNT” program, now in its 25th year, provides gifts to children who have a parent in the Marathon County Jail at Christmas. These gifts are purchased through the generosity of many people.

89Q Radio (WCLQ) is again assisting us with promoting a toy drive to collect presents for these children. Although the 89Q listeners have been very generous with their toy donations, there are times when we fall short and must purchase additional toys to meet the need.

We welcome donations to help us purchase additional toys, along with wrapping supplies. If you would like to help, you can donate through our website ([www.gwcservices.org](http://www.gwcservices.org)) or mail a check to: 319 4th Street, Suite 6, Wausau, WI 54403.

To prepare the gifts and deliver them, we need volunteers to make that happen. Participating in these opportunities can be very rewarding. We would be delighted to hear from you if you are interested in either of these activities. Please contact us at 715-842-5635.

Thank you for your support of these worthwhile programs. God’s blessings.



# shout **OUT!**



## Blue Christmas

**A service to honor grief and renew hope.**

All are welcome to gather on the longest night of the year for a Blue Christmas service to honor grief and renew hope. This service will give time and space to remember loved ones, acknowledge and honor grief, remember the gift of hope given through Jesus Christ, and know we are not alone. God and this community of followers walks with us in our grief, as we traverse the season of Christmas that can be quite “blue.”

**Thursday, December 21 at 6 pm**

**Mt Calvary Lutheran Church**

**503 Schmidt Ave, Rothschild, WI 54474**

Hosting Congregations: Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Mt Calvary Lutheran Church, Saint Andrew Lutheran Church, and Saint John Lutheran Church Mosinee

- ☺ To all who donated items for the LSS Conditional Release Clients’ annual Christmas party.
- ☺ To Pastors Bassett and Schwantes for leading a beautiful Service of Gratitude and to the combined choir for soothing our hearts with God’s music
- ☺ To all who helped with this year’s chili supper—cooking, setup and cleanup, serving, greeting, décor, and more.
- ☺ To Betty Walters for the winter bough basket greeting us at the carport entrance.
- ☺ To Dennis Wunsch for bringing to the life the Christmas tree in the sanctuary, installing the wreath and outdoor lighting, the Mitten Tree, and the trees in the lounge.
- ☺ To our visiting pastors—Philip Bogen, Andrea Fluegel, Natalie Bassett, and Karoline Schwantes—for filling us with God’s Spirit and bringing the Word to life.

### **Men’s Monthly Bible Study Breakfast** at Eagle’s Nest

**2nd Thursday of the Month**  
**7:30 a.m.**

The next gathering for food, faith, and fellowship is **December 14th**. Contact Eugene Viegut (715-359-9895) if you are interested in joining.

**Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church Cookie Walk**, 503 Schmidt Ave., Rothschild, Saturday, December 9th, 9:00 - 1:00 am, \$8.00 per pound. Candies and lefse are sold separately.

**St. Agnes Sweet Shoppe**, 6101 Zinser St., Weston, Dec. 9th, 10:00 - 2:00. Fancy cookies and candy by the pound, To-Go lunches of homemade chicken noodle and sausage potato soups, barbecue and turkey sandwiches, homemade pies.

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**November 14th, 2023**  
**Unapproved**

**PRESENT IN PERSON:** President Shirley Ecker, Vice President Jeanette Carlson,

Secretary Jenni Zaitz, Treasurer Charles Freiberg, Eugene Viegut, Terra Ecker, Charlene Buttner, Jim Lenselink, Sue Koerten and Janet Williams.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Shirley Ecker called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and Jenni Zaitz had devotions.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** (Jenni Zaitz) Minutes were reviewed from the October 10, 2023 Regular Council Meeting. A motion was made by Carlson, second by Viegut to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** (Charles Freiberg): Reviewed the current finances. Our revenue is a little ahead of last year. We had a \$600 gain for the month and \$300 year to date. A motion was made by Lenselink, second by Buttner to accept the Treasurers Reports. Motion carried.

**VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT:** (Jeanette Carlson) The Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 16 th at 6:00 P.M.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** (Shirley Ecker) The Nominating Committee has been charged and will consist of Jean Trempe, Jeanne Wunsch, Katie Ecker and Terra Ecker. A secretary will need to be nominated as Jenni Zaitz is completing the first of a three year term. A Building and Grounds Representative will need to be nominated as Eugene Viegut is ending his second term. An Evangelism Representative is also needed due to the position remaining vacant throughout 2023. Charlene Buttner is completing her first term for Church and Society and has agreed to complete another term and Janet Williams is completing her first term for Life and Growth and has agreed to complete another term. The committee will be contacting Jeff Kessel as he will be completing his first term on the Endowment Fund Committee. Jeanette Carlson

is ending her first term as Endowment Fund Secretary and will not be returning due to health issues. Committee reports for the annual meeting will be needed soon. There were only 11 Energy Audits returned and 4 were from council members.

**WORSHIP REPORT:** (Sue Koerten) Tuesday, November 21 st there will be a soup supper at Pilgrim at 5:30 P.M. followed by a combined Thanksgiving service at 6:30 P.M. with St. Stephen. Pastor Natalie Bassett and Pastor Karoline will lead the service and the combined choir will sing. The fundraiser for the digital piano is near it's goal. The total amount needed is \$8,400.00. The Worship Committee recommends that we purchase the Clavinova 905 digital piano which is the newest model. A motion was made by Koerten, Second by Freiberg to purchase the Clavinova 905 digital piano and to use script funds if needed to reach the total price. Motion carried.

Pilgrim Day of Prayer will be Thursday, November 30 from 9:00 A.M. to 6:15 P.M. The worship service will be at 6:30 P.M. The church sanctuary will have soft lighting and contemplative music. Come anytime that works for you and stay as long as you would like. It will be a time to pray for the Pilgrim ministries, local ministries, our community and the world; and to bring to the Lord our personal needs, especially as we enter Advent and prepare for Christmas.

Sunday, December 17 th at 9:00 A.M. will be the Advent Choral Service at Pilgrim. The Worship Team and choir members will be hosting a reception after the service.

Saturday, December 16 at 2:00 P.M. Pilgrim will be hosting a shared Christmas Carol sing along followed by refreshments.

Sunday, December 10 at 9:00 A.M. will be the Advent Choral service at St. Stephen.

Thursday, December 21 at 6:00 P.M. there will be a Blue Christmas Service at Mt. Calvary. Mt. Calvary, Pilgrim, St. Andrew and St. John's in Mosinee will be hosting.

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS:** (Eugene Viegut) The insulation was completed on 11/07/2023. Arthur Lang will do the snow plowing but did not tell Fred the price. Last year it was \$65.00.

**EVANGELISM:** No Report

**BLESSINGS THAT GIVE HOPE:** No report

**CHURCH AND SOCIETY:** (Charlene Buttner) Baby items were donated to the WELCA Biennial Convention in DePere on October 21 st to be given to the Stockbridge/Munsee Health Care Center. We are collecting gift items and gift cards for Christmas gifts for the LSS Conditional Release Program. The complete list is in the November Progress and are needed by November 26 th . These gifts are greatly appreciated. A wish list of items needed for our homeless population is also in the Progress. Items can be dropped off at Pilgrim. We have recently donated hats, gloves, boots and coats. On Sunday, November 26 th a Community Dinner will be held at First Presbyterian Church and Pilgrim members are needed to provide cookies.

Plans are still being made for on-call overnight shelters to help with the current shelter overflow.

**LIFE & GROWTH:** (Janet Williams) The chili supper is planned for Tuesday, November 21st. Supper will be served at 5:30 P.M. The scrip card program is ongoing. We are ordering about every two weeks. Orders can be placed with Fred at the church office or Janet Williams (715)573-3310. It has been taking about five days to receive the cards once the order has been placed. The current balance is about \$7,000.

**STEWARDSHIP:** (Jim Lenselink) No report

**CHILDREN & YOUTH:** Jenni Zaitz will be teaching Sunday School on Sunday, November 19 th following the children's sermon.

Progress articles are due November 22, 2023.

**ADJOURN:** At 7:30 a motion was made by Koerten, second by Terra Ecker to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 6:30 P.M. Shirley Ecker has devotions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jenni Zaitz, Secretary



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

Pam Bannister	12/01	Barb Yeast	12/13
Karen Boller	12/02	Randy Ecker	12/15
Brody James	12/04	Finley Behnke	12/17
Brad Stubbe	12/04	Oliver Behnke	12/17
Jay Schlitz	12/05	Jason Viegut	12/17
Janet Williams	12/05	Kara Larson	12/19
Carol Shaw	12/06	Gary Yeast	12/19
Cathy Gottschalk	12/07	Deborah Glascock	12/20
Jim Lenselink	12/07	Gary Walters	12/20
Maverick Weyer	12/07	Anna Fehlhaber-Poppe	12/21
Annie Landeau	12/08	Mary Swanson	12/25
Lois Christianson	12/09	Savanna Ecker	12/26
Anlyss James	12/10	Lucas Strick	12/26
Ian Koski	12/10	Douglas Pittsley	12/27
Jean Rhyner	12/11	Grant Larson	12/29
Aaron Werth	12/11	Charlie Behnke	12/30
Logan Kislow	12/13		

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER...**

the following members of our  
Pilgrim family on their

**December**

1 Ben Strick	17 Lila Viegut
2 Lucas Strick	18 Betty Walters
3 Manda Strick	19 Gary Walters
4 Brianna Stromme	20 Aaron Werth
5 Nathan Stromme	21 Caden Werth
6 Tammy Stromme	22 Natalie Werth
7 Brad Stubbe	23 Sarah Werth
8 Jeff Stubbe	24 Dana Weyer
9 Rebecca Stubbe	25 Lori Weyer
10 Mary Swanson	26 Maverick Weyer
11 Rick Swanson	27 Brian Widmark
12 David Theis	28 Britta Widmark
13 Jean Trempe	29 Bryce Widmark
14 John Trempe	30 Janet Williams
15 Eugene Viegut	31 Mary Williams
16 Jason Viegut	

**DECEMBER**

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
					1	2
<b>3 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> 7:45 Evangelism Team Meeting 9:00 Worship	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 11:45 Prayer Circle	<b>6</b> 6:30 Choir	<b>7</b> 6:30 Worship	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> 9:00 Worship	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 11:45 Prayer Circle 6:30 Council Mtg.	<b>13</b> 11:00 Busy Bee Quilters' Christmas Party 6:30 Choir	<b>14</b> 7:30 Men's Bible Study at Eagle's Nest 6:30 Worship	<b>15</b> Lay School	<b>16</b> Lay School 2:00 Christmas Carol Singalong
<b>17 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> 9:00 Advent Choral Worship Service 10:15 Reception	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 11:45 Prayer Circle NO GWCS Meeting	<b>20</b> 5:30 Council Mtg. w/ Dara Clifford 6:30 Choir Progress Article Deadline	<b>21</b> 9-1 WRV Conference Mtg. NO Worship	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT CHRISTMAS EVE</b> NO Morning Worship 5:00 Worship	<b>25 CHRISTMAS DAY</b> 9:00 Worship	<b>26</b> 11:45 Prayer Circle	<b>27</b> 6:30 Choir	<b>28</b> NO Worship	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 9:00 Worship						

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION UPDATE

### November 30, 2023

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
\$ 69,782 Balance: 10/26/2023	
\$ 637 Principal Payment	\$98,794      \$97,334
\$ 237 Interest Payment	
\$ 69,145 Balance: 11/30/2023	
	Outstanding Bills
	\$2,653 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](http://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

#### In Their Homes

Kathy Boehm	John Schneider
Donald Mattke	Stephen Williams

### 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... 281**

### 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!

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*A joyous and blessed  
Christmas!*



*...from the Pilgrim staff.*

**Staff**

Ministers  
Music Coordinator  
Choir Director  
Pianists  
Office Manager  
Custodian

All Pilgrims  
Delores Kessel  
Jim Lenselink  
Delores Kessel, Norah Brown  
Fred Patten  
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 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](http://www.pilgrimofwausau.org)

Pilgrim Lutheran Church  
709 Weston Avenue  
Wausau WI 54403  
715.842.4544  
Electronic Service Requested

**Progress**  
December 2023

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Wausau WI 54403  
Permit #596