

*As we venture into the seasons of gratitude and glad tidings I thought you might enjoy this poem. These words are often incorrectly attributed to Mother Theresa, though she was quite aware of "ANYWAY" since it hung on the wall of her convent in Calcutta. 'Tis the season to love and give unconditionally!*

## ANYWAY

*People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered;*

*Forgive them anyway.*

*If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives;*

*Be kind anyway.*

*If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;*

*Succeed anyway.*

*If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;*

*Be honest and frank anyway.*

*What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;*

*Be happy anyway.*

*The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;*

*Do good things anyway.*

*Give the world the best you have and it will never be enough;*

*Give the world the best you have anyway.*

*You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God;*

*It has never been between you and them anyway.*

*Peace and goodwill!*

## Advent Devotionals

*Enhance your spiritual journey this season with daily Advent readings. This year's readings revisit many of the memorable characters used by God in the fulfillment of the wondrous plan of humankind's redemption. Advent devotional books entitled "Advent Profiles" by John Gugel are available on the table outside the office. They are a gift to you with the hope that the devotions and prayers will bring joy and meaning to your life.*



## Advent and Christmas Schedule

### 1st Sunday of Advent - November 27

*"Watch, Wait, Hope" - Isaiah 64:1-9 - Lighting the Candle of Hope*

### 2nd Sunday of Advent - December 4th

*"Comfort, Strength" - Isaiah 40:1-11 - Lighting the Candle of Peace*

### 3rd Sunday of Advent - December 11th

*"Rejoice" - Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 - Lighting the Candle of Joy*

### 4th Sunday of Advent - December 18th

*"God's Purpose" - Luke 1:26-28 - Lighting the Candle of Love*

*Children's Christmas Program - "The Invitation" - 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.*

## -Christmas Eve Services-

### Children's Candlelight Service - 5pm

*This service will include the Christmas scriptures, favorite carols, a children's story, a blessing of children, and the singing of "Silent Night" by candlelight.*

### Traditional Candlelight Service - 10pm

*This service will include the Christmas narrative from Luke and Matthew, lots of carols, a Christmas message, prayers and the singing of "Silent Night" by candlelight.*



### Christmas Day

*Sunday, December 25 - One service only at 9:00am*

### New Year's Day

*Sunday, January 1, 2006 - One service only at 9:00am*

## Pilgrim Women's Advent by Candlelight

*Join us on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> as the women of Pilgrim gather at 6:30 to share desserts and conversation, followed by a worship service at 7:00. There will be beautiful music, candlelight, and a holiday message. Please invite a female friend or family member and come share this evening with your friends. Childcare is provided.*

## Christmas Poinsettias

This Christmas Eve our Sanctuary will be adorned with the beauty of many red & white poinsettias. You are invited to donate either a \$8.00 (6-1/2" pot, 5-6 blooms) or \$15 (7-1/2" pot, 10+ blooms) by filling out the form below. **Please indicate a red or white poinsettia by circling your choice.** Poinsettias may be given in honor of living friends and relatives or in memory of loved ones who have gone on to eternal life. **We must have your order by Sunday, November 27th.** In addition, we request that you pick up your poinsettia sometime following the 10pm Christmas Eve service so that all may enjoy the collective beauty of the flowers that evening. There will also be a service Christmas morning and you may pick up your flowers after the 9am service. *You may also leave your flowers through the New Year!*

\_\_\_\_\_ would like to provide:  
(Your Name)

**Circle choices:** (\$8.00 or \$15); (red or white) in (memory or honor) of:

Relationship to You: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Please place in offering plate or turn in to church office.)**

**FINANCE: YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS**

Financial statements were sent out recently in the Thanksgiving letter. We appreciate your family's efforts in fulfilling your 2005 pledge. If you have questions regarding your recorded contributions, please call Ed Proctor at 377-7606.

**The Finance Team requests that all year-end contributions be mailed or brought to Church before December 31<sup>st</sup>. All checks with a 2005 postmark will be credited to this year's statement. Thanks for your generous support of our ministries.**

**MISSION NEWS**



**International Children's Missions**

Just a reminder that we will be collecting hygiene products as our Christmas mission project. The kits will be distributed to the many street children living in Kabul – orphans and abandoned children who are ill, hungry, homeless, and sometimes dying in the streets.

Suggested items include:

- |                                     |                                 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Toothpaste</b>                   | <b>Bars of soap</b>             |
| <b>Toothbrush</b>                   | <b>Dental floss</b>             |
| <b>Small bottles of hand lotion</b> | <b>Lip balm</b>                 |
| <b>Small washcloths</b>             | <b>Small comb or brush</b>      |
| <b>Cardboard emery boards</b>       | <b>Small bottles of shampoo</b> |

In addition, assistance will be welcomed to sort items, assemble kits, and pack items for shipping. Cash donations to cover the cost for the items and/or shipping is most welcome too. Please deposit items in the large gold box in the Narthex.

Thank you again for making a difference in the lives of children,  
*Sandy Destrampe, International Children's Missions*

**Stamps for the Sisters**

Save your used postage stamps! The Order of St. Francis (OSF) Sisters collect used postage stamps. The money that the sisters receive helps the retirement fund for the Sisters. Here is how you can help: Cut stamps from your letters OR bring the entire envelope. You can place stamps or envelopes in the box marked "Stamps for the Sisters" which will be located by the Missions bulletin board through the middle of January. We can help recycle AND contribute to the Sisters. Thank you for helping with this project. *Contact Mary Beuscher if you have questions.*

**2005 CROP Walk total exceeds \$14,000!**

We have raised more than \$14,000 for CROP Walk. Thank you to all who participated! Community United Methodist Church in Cedarburg will be hosting next year's walk.

**Neighbors In Need**

Thank you to all who donated to Neighbors In Need. NIN raises money through the UCC for anti-poverty programs in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. If you would still like to donate, please mark your check memo "NIN" or use a NIN pew envelope. Thanks to Michelle Pedersen for coordinating the project.

**ACTIVITIES – COMMUNITY – ENTERTAINMENT NEWS**

### **Hanging of the Greens & Chili Dinner**

We will be hosting our annual chili dinner and Hanging of the Greens on **Wednesday, November 30** at 6:00 p.m. A sign up is posted. Please join us as we enjoy a delicious meal and deck our halls together!

### **Caroling We Go – December 15 at 6:30 p.m.**

A sign up is posted for Christmas caroling. All ages are welcome. We'll visit some very special Pilgrim members & friends. Bakers are also needed!

### **Fun Setters**

**What:** *Memories Dinner Theater – “An Unexpected Gift”*  
Dinner at 6:00 Show at 8:00

**Cost:** \$24.50 per person

**When:** **Friday, December 9**

**Time:** Meet at church at 5 p.m. or at the theater

### **Pilgrim Bowling League Christmas Party**

Bring a treat to share on Saturday, December 10!

### **Bingo – January 27. . . . Mark your calendars!**

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE NEWS

### **Pilgrim Prayer Circle**

We are beginning a Prayer Circle at Pilgrim. We are seeking volunteers to devote time throughout each week to pray for Pilgrim members, their families, friends and other prayer needs. If you are interested in this wonderful opportunity to enhance your prayer life, please see the sign up board posted in the Narthex.

### **Hope Ministers**

Pilgrim is beginning a new and exciting ministry opportunity. **Hope Ministers** will be Pilgrim volunteers trained to listen, support and offer strength and compassion to members dealing with crisis situations. Training sessions will be January 8 and 15 (both required). Please contact Heidi Jenkins or Pastor Franz if you would like to learn more.

### **Thanksgiving Cards – A Huge Success!**

Thank you to so many of you who filled out and passed along Thanksgiving cards to those who have displayed exceptional ministry among us. The basket containing 60 cards was empty on the first day! Fortunately, A.C.E Chairperson Peggy Mayer quickly made more.



## Church School News

### Wanted

Joyful Noise is in need of empty Quaker Oats containers (round kind) or 5 qt ice-cream pails to make drums out of for an upcoming song they will be sharing with the congregation. Containers can be left in the music room or the staff office. Thank You!

Coming Soon ...



“Jesus – Death Destroyer”

A Children’s Midweek Lenten Program

More Details Next Month

## UPCOMING CHURCH SCHOOL DATES

**Sunday, December 11, 9:00 – 10:20 a.m. –**

Christmas Program rehearsal for 1<sup>st</sup> graders – Voyagers

**Saturday, December 17, 9:00 – 10:15 a.m. –**

Full Dress Rehearsal for 1<sup>st</sup> graders – Voyagers. Sunbeams may attend if they wish

**Sunday, December 18, 8:15 am –**

All 1<sup>st</sup> graders – Voyagers should be at church by this time so that they can get into costume for the Christmas Program.

**Sunday, December 18, 10:20 a.m. –**

Sunbeams should arrive at this time so that they can change into costume for the Christmas Program.



Pilgrim's Church School  
Children and Voyagers

Present

*"The Invitation"*

*During the 8:00 a.m. and  
10:30 a.m. worship services on  
Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>*

## PCY NEWS

### CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

On **Saturday, December 10th**, the PCY group will be meeting in the kitchen at church to prepare cookies for the annual Cookie Sale Fund Raiser. Youth should plan to arrive at 9:00 am and should bring at least 3 dozen baked cookies of any type or variety. During the course of the morning further baking will take place, lots of Christmas cut-out cookies will be decorated, and cookies will be plated and wrapped for sale. Family members who would also like to volunteer during our Saturday morning work session will be welcome!

On **Sunday morning, December 11th** youth should gather at church at 9:00 am to prepare to sell the cookies between services and after the 10:30 service.

All proceeds from this sale go to support the youth mission trip which will take place next summer. Participation in this fund raiser (in some form) is mandatory for all youth planning to participate in the trip. If you have any questions or suggestions, please call Kris Sauer at (262)894-9551.

### CEDAR GARDENS VISIT

As a holiday service project the youth in PCY have decided to visit Cedar Gardens Assisted Living Center in Cedarburg on **Sunday, December 11th**. Youth should gather at the church at 6:00 and will return at approximately 7:30.

### **OFFICIAL NOTICE!!!**

#### **Annual Congregational Meeting**

**Sunday, December 11 , 9:15 in Kalweit Hall**

(Children's rehearsal will take place in Sanctuary)

- 1) Discuss and vote on 2006 budget
- 2) Present and vote on all ministry nominations for 2006
- 3) Other business

**Please note this year this year we are consolidating the December "Budget Meeting" with the February Annual Meeting. Annual Reports will be available in January as usual.**

### *Pilgrim Thanks ...*

- ... Margi Groth, for her generous donation toward a new stainless steel front railing. We're hoping to have it installed by Christmas.
- ... Jeff Baken, for installing a light in the chair lift.

### *In Our Prayers ...*

- ... Mike (Martha) Harth, undergoing tests.
- ... Betty Ferris, who hopes to move home with John at Cedar Gardens very soon.
- ... Linda Schafer, who was hospitalized with heart arrhythmia, but is doing very well.
- ... Sophie Eckstein (our oldest member at 101), was hospitalized for a few days and looks terrific!
- ... Florence Hammen, who still knits a great hat!
- ... Marilynn Martin, who continues treatment but is also assisting at the Magic of Learning Preschool (at Pilgrim) Tuesdays and Thursdays!
- ... Mary Lou Fries, who fell and is recovering from injuries.
- ... Dorothy Schroeder, who is also recovering from a fall in her home.
- ... Paul Kanios, who continues his treatments.

### *Our Prayers of Sympathy are Extended to ...*

- ... Karen Miller, whose nephew's mother was tragically killed.
- ... Jerry Wessel and Carol Trad, upon the death of their uncle.
- ... Russ Selbo, whose dear friend, Naomi, died.
- ... Earl Klippel, and the Bloedorn families, following the death of Shirley. A memorial service was held at Pilgrim on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Shirley was 76 years old and joined Pilgrim the year after our charter in 1960.
- ... Tabby & Dave Meier, following the death of Tabby's grandfather.
- ... Karen Meier, Dave Meier & Kris Sauer, whose brother-law/uncle died.
- ... the Gallagher family, upon the death of Jack's mom.

### *Congratulations and God's Blessings to ...*

- ... Jonathan Dwight Koch and Greta Lorraine Koch, children of Phil & Amanda, who were baptized on November 13<sup>th</sup>.
- ... Seth Jay Process, son of Shannon & Stephenie Streif-Process and brother of Sydney, who will be baptized, November 20<sup>th</sup>.
- ... to our expecting moms: Sarah Holmes, Tabby Meier, Stacy McMahan, Melissa Francek, Julie Jozwowski, Janet Kunz, Kris Sauer, Patti Kornetski, and ... stay tuned!

### *"Heartfelt" Thanks*

*I want to say thanks to all for your cards, care, concern, prayers and well wishes upon my recent brief hospitalization. Special thanks to Pastor Franz who came down to St. Francis Hospital to send me off with prayer.*

*George Schowalter*

### *Thank You*

*We would like to thank all of the people from our Pilgrim Family for the many thoughts, prayers, cards, monetary gifts to Pilgrim's Memorial Fund, and most of all ... the outpouring of Love and Support at such a difficult time. We feel very blessed to have so many friends! You truly are our "unsung angels."*

*With heartfelt appreciation –*

*Earl Klippel*

*Ken & Sharon Klippel,*

*Henry & Laura Bloedorn, Tracy & Sons*

### *Scripture Readers*

*We are finishing 2005 with very capable scripture readers. I appreciate all the women and men who signed on. Now 2006 is coming up fast. A new sign up sheet is already posted.*

*Thank you for your service in this important part of our worship.*

*Sincerely,*

*Barbara Lewis*

### **PARENTING BY HEART**

The "Parenting by Heart" class still has two sessions left to come....One on **Sunday, Dec. 4th** and one on **Sunday, Dec. 11th**. Please join us in the conference room from 9:15 to 10:15 to view a video and share in the discussion afterwards. *All are welcome, even if you couldn't make it to the first two sessions*

### **Pilgrim's 2005 Mission Offering – WOW!**

One Great Hour of Sharing	\$3,338
Tsunami Relief	3,314
Blanket Fund	896
Quilts for Afghanistan	475
Honduras Mission	1,525
Hurricane Relief	4,869
Habitat For Humanity	1,695
Interfaith Caregivers	500
Crop Walk (Pilgrim's share)	3,838
Earthquake Relief	<u>100</u>
	\$20,550

## Thanks to Pilgrim's "Quiet" Workers

As 2005 draws to a close we want to give a big THANK YOU to those "unsung heroes" who have worked this past year to help Pilgrim operate efficiently: **Ruth Patterson**, who faithfully schedules our "friendly greeters"; **Phil Willman**, who schedules the ushers (*we can't forget all those who usher each week*); our **Finance Committee** who count the offerings each week; **Kathy Ellenbecker**, who sets up for coffee hour on Sunday mornings; **John TeStrake**, who takes care of our electrical problems; **Ed & Carol Proctor**, who are always there to help for mailings & **Carol** sending greeting cards as needed; **Barry & Rachel Gutridge** who keep the name tags in order; **Phyllis TeStrake** for bundling and sending the used toner and ink cartridges; **Steve Schafer** for maintaining the pew racks; **Sue & John Meinicke**, for their computer trouble-shooting and **Sue** for our great web-page; **Larry Metcalf**, our "fix-it" man for little maintenance jobs around Pilgrim; **Jean Eakin**, **Carol Trad**, **Ruth Reas**, **Pat Tumanic**, **Warner & Linda Schafer**, **Proctors**, for assembling the monthly newsletter; **Peggy Mayer**, for making the banners and the leaves for Pilgrim's many baptisms; **Jimmy Faase**, **Kit Faase** & **Jan Svoboda**, for decorating the Chancel for various Holidays; **Donna Van Ryzin**, for keeping our kitchen equipped; **those who work at the Welcome table**; **men who cut the lawn** in the summer and **plow** in the winter. When you see any of these people, thank them for a job well done. *If we have missed anyone that you see helping in any way, give them a thank you, too.* Without willing workers Pilgrim would not be the wonderful, friendly church that it is.

### Thanks for the Joy

*We on Pilgrim's staff have had a wonderful year. We want you to know that the work with which you entrust us brings us joy and lots of satisfaction. We feel the Spirit's presence in our midst and celebrate the energy and enthusiasm of our congregation. Thank you for the opportunity to use our gifts to the glory of God and the work of our ministries.*

*Happy Thanksgiving and a Blessed and Joyful Christmas Season!*

*Franz, Heidi, Mary, Kathy & Paul, Diane, John, Tracey, Mary Lou, Pam, Ellen, Linda and Leslie*



**RUNNING LATE?????  
STILL TIME TO CATCH UP!**

There are **12** months left to complete your Capital Campaign pledge! Many **THANKS** to those of you who have completed or are working at fulfilling your pledge to the building fund! It is not too late to run and catch up on your commitment. A commitment to the bank was made dependent on all pledges so it is important that we receive the amounts pledged. If you have any questions about your commitment, please call Linda Schafer, 377-6522.

### Fifth Annual Christmas Cookie Sale December 11th between Services

On **Sunday, December 11th** the Pilgrim Church Youth (PCY) will be selling plates of freshly baked Christmas cookies!!! The sale will be in the Narthex between services and following the 10:30 service and will cost \$6.00 a baker's dozen. All proceeds will go to the summer mission trip. If any of the "bakers" in our church would like to donate cookies to this event, please bring them to church Friday, December 9th or the morning of Saturday, December 10th. *Your help would be appreciated!*





**Attention All Seniors Living Alone**

*You are Cordially Invited To*

*A Christmas Dinner with Friends  
Tuesday, December 13 at 5:30 p.m.  
Pilgrim Church – Kalweit Hall*

Karen Maihofer, a Pilgrim member who is a gourmet chef and teaches Creative Cuisine cooking classes weekly at church, is hosting a special holiday dinner party. A Christmas Dinner with Friends is designed to give our members over 50 who live alone the opportunity to share in the Christmas spirit. We will have a delicious dinner, door prizes, entertainment, surprises and more! The dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 13. Karen and her elves are planning the following menu:

Appetizers:

Three-layer Cheese, Guacamole & Crab Salsa Christmas Wreath  
Sauerkraut & Cheese Spread Holiday "Tree"  
Stuffed BLT Cherry Tomatoes  
A Holiday Punch

Dinner:

Chicken & Broccoli Cheese Gratin with Crunchy Topping  
Dilled Lemon Rice  
Spinach Salad with Strawberries, Pecans & Raspberry Dressing  
Sweet Potato Spice Muffins  
Cran-raspberry Sauce in Pineapple "Turkey"

Dessert:

Chocolate Mint Truffle Pie  
14" High Chocolate Covered Strawberry Tree  
Coffee or Tea

*There is no charge for this event.* It will surely be a wonderful dinner and a lot of holiday fun, so please do come! You can make your reservation by calling the church office at 377-2640 or sign up on the bulletin board at church. If you are unable to drive to church, please let us know. We will see that you get transportation.

**The deadline for reservations is Thursday, December 8.**

Bill Called the meeting to order and Bob led us in a worship moment.

**Treasurer's Report:** Revenues were \$33,377.70 and expenses were \$24,729.44. Several quarterly insurance premiums were paid. Interest and a principle payment on the loan to Ozaukee Bank were also paid.

**Pastor's Report:**

Franz has had conversation with Geoff Nauth about securing a permanent loan. Council would like to see at least a 10-year option. Franz will talk more with Geoff. Council will be working on a new plan after the Capital Campaign ends next year. Pilgrim currently has 505 members. This past year 49 people were taken in and 29 were released. A letter of inactivity will be sent to seven people. Since John Reiter will be playing all Sundays, his pay has been adjusted accordingly. The Leadership Retreat will be January 13-14. Those attending will be asked for a \$25.00 donation to off-set the cost. Council has decided to go ahead with the replacement of the railing in the front of the church.

**Old Business:**

Randy received a good return of pledges. He will contact council members to do follow-up calls to those who have not returned their pledge cards.

**Landscaping Team:** This team needs a budget line. Council decided this will come out of maintenance.

**Annual Meeting:** The meeting will be on December 11, 2005 between services and will be held in Fellowship Hall due to children's dress rehearsal for the Christmas program. The meeting will include nominations, the budget and introduction to the future Capital Campaign plan.

**Next Meeting:** December 13, 2005, 7pm at Linda Eakins' home.

**Worship Moment:** Warner Schafer

**2005 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN**

As of November 17, we have received 173 pledges for a total of \$191,149. We anticipate approximately 35-40 more pledges. Please drop your pledge off (or mail it) if you have not yet done so. *Thanks for your support.*

**SCRIPTURE READERS FOR DECEMBER**

<b>8:00</b>		<b>10:30</b>	
4	Al Pfeiffer	4	Chris Kline
11	Ed Proctor	11	Fred Yopps
18	Jean Weber	18	Eric Pedersen
25	Al Pfeiffer (one service only)		

**DECEMBER SUNDAY TREATS**

- 4 Noelle Charpentier / Destrampes
- 11 Amy Leidel / Karen Maihofer
- 18 Rose Wessel / Michele Pedersen
- 25 Christmas



*Memorial Gifts*

- |                             |                                    |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>For:</b> Elroy Wessel    | <b>From:</b> Mike & Carol Trad     |
| <b>For:</b> Ron Groth       | <b>From:</b> Marji Groth           |
| <b>For:</b> Viola G. Eggert | <b>From:</b> Roger & Sylvia Miller |
|                             | <b>For:</b> Shirley Klippel        |
|                             | <b>From:</b>                       |
| Jack & Judy Klaerig         | Helen Rude                         |
| Ron & Lenora Walejko        | George Zakde                       |
| Edgar Klippel               | Mike & Heidi Jenkins               |
| Willard & Diane Lang        | Marv & Peg Klippel                 |
| Jim & Janet Spencer         | Candy Shoop                        |
| Kris & Mike Mullens         | William & Ruth Reas                |
| Willie & Judy Steinert      | Jimmy's Family Restaurant          |

*Thanks to the Men's Breakfast Group*

*The Men's Breakfast Group has recently purchased a tool chest for Property and Grounds and a new electric grill for use in the kitchen. Thank you, men!*

**Flowers and Bulletins for December**

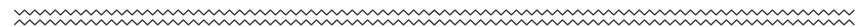
<b><u>Flowers</u></b>		<b><u>Bulletins</u></b>	
4	Randy & Deb Neu	4	Roy & Peggy Oakes
11	Poinsettias	11	Marge Larson
18	Poinsettias	18	Randy & Jen Schulz
25	Poinsettias	25	-----

**Please call the office to indicate what you would like printed in the bulletin**



**FINANCIAL REPORT**

<b><u>General Fund</u></b>	<b><u>October</u></b>	<b><u>Year-to-Date</u></b>
Cash Balance - Begin. of Period	\$ 23,377	\$ 45,042
General Fund Cash Receipts	23,749	208,926
Building Fund Cash Receipts	8,738	98,914
Cash Disbursements	(24,584)	(236,603)
Loan Payments	<u>(7,000)</u>	<u>(92,000)</u>
Cash Balance - Oct. 31, 2005	\$ 24,279	\$ 24,279



**OFFICE HOURS**

- Franz Rigert - 8:30 - 5:00 Tuesday - Friday
- Saturday mornings and Evenings by appointment
- Diane Weber - 8:30 -12:00 Tuesday-Friday
- Heidi Jenkins - 9:00 -12:30 Tuesday & Thursday
- Ellen Knier - 9:30-1:30 Tuesday & Friday
- Office Phone 377-2640 - FAX 377-4187
- e-mail -- pilgrim ucc@sbcglobal.net
- WEB page - www.pilgrimuccgrafton.org

**Please submit January articles by December 19<sup>th</sup>**