

Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas! I hope the spirit of joy finds your heart in the coming days of Christmastide.

Our family will travel to Charleston, South Carolina after Christmas for a visit with Trinn's sister and family. George Schowalter will cover my urgent pastoral care needs and I'll return to the office January 2nd.

Safe travels to you and your family.

Peace & Joy!

Regular Schedules Resume

Sunday, January 7th (Communion)

8:00 & 10:30 Worship (nursery)

1st-6th Graders -9:00

Adult Choir & Classes -9:15

Nursery 8 - 11:30

Preschool (2 yr-K) classes - follow
Children's Time during the 10:30 service

Confirmation Returns

Wednesday, January 3rd - 6:30-8:00

“Season Of Epiphany”
Begins January 6th



After the 12 days of Christmas, we move into the Church season called Epiphany. Epiphany signifies a transition from the birth of Jesus to the manifestation of Christ in our lives. Epiphany day (January 6th) marks the adoration of the Magi who visited the Christ child in Bethlehem so many years ago. Throughout the season of Epiphany, we will study the teachings of Jesus and the calling of his disciples as we seek to deepen our faith journey by allowing the light of Christ to shine in us.

**ATTENTION CHAIRPERSONS AND DEACONS!
ANNUAL REPORTS DUE**

Annual Reports for year 2006 will be due in the church office **Monday, January 8th**. Committee chair people are asked to provide a summary of 2006 accomplishments and an outline of goals for 2007. Annual Reports will be available in January. Thanks!

2007 Envelopes and 2006 Offerings

Please pick up your new stewardship envelopes next time you are at church. They are expensive to mail, so if you can drop a friend's off – that would be helpful too!

The Finance team appreciates your efforts to submit 2006 offerings before December 31st, but will credit all gifts with 2006 postmarks to your 2006 statement. Thanks for your generous support of our ministries.

LEADERSHIP RETREAT

Your Church Council, Committee Chairpersons and Deacons will participate in an overnight Leadership Retreat **January 19-20** at Pilgrim Center at Green Lake.

Our goal is to affirm our congregation's core values, share strategies for effective leadership and set vision for 2007. We plan to depart on the **Friday, January 19 at 5:30**. Donation of \$25 each requested.



Men's Breakfast – January 13th

Tom Monroe is a Senior Project Leader for Frank Mayer & Associates, in Grafton. He will talk to our group about the advertising business, and how building product displays is an important part of business marketing today. We will have an opportunity to visit their location right here in Grafton, following a very sumptuous breakfast at church. The breakfast is **Saturday, January 13, 2007 at 7:30am**. There is a sign-up sheet on the board in the Narthex.

February 10th -- "Galapagos - The Enchanted Islands" (Ron Wildasin) In September, the Wildasin's spent a week exploring the Galapagos Islands. After visiting nine islands, following in the tracks of Charles Darwin, hiking rugged lava rock land, snorkeling with various sea animals, photographing abundant wild life on landscapes that will remind you of the moon, they returned (exhausted) to civilization in Wisconsin. Hear the story -- See the power point photos.

Adult Study Group Continues with "People of Purpose"

On Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM, the Adult Study Group will continue its reflection & study of people from the New Testament. Please join the group in the lower conference room. In the coming weeks we will discuss the following people:

- Jesus Christ
- Zechariah and Elizabeth
- Jairus
- Caiaphas



Adult Study

Pilgrim Book Discussion

Any interested adult is invited to gather on **Sunday, January 14th** at 7:00 pm to discuss the book *"My Sister's Keeper"* by Jodi Picoult. This novel is sure to lead to some interesting ethical discussions and is also a real page-turner and a fairly quick read. *"My Sister's Keeper"* is readily available through our local public libraries.

Rather than scheduling an ongoing monthly book club, as was done last year, we are going to try occasionally offering discussion nights for a specified book. Anyone is welcome to attend any or all discussions!



News

REGULAR SCHEDULE RESUMES ON JANUARY 7TH!

1st through 4th grade: 9:00 to 10:15

Parents should pick up their children in the music room.

Voyagers: 9:00 to 10:15

Coffeehouse: 9:15 to 10:15

4 yr-K: 10:45 to 11:30

2 and 3 year old: 10:45 to 11:30

*Children's nametags are available in the Narthex before class;
Parents should pick up their children following class.*

We're looking forward to a great 2nd semester! Hope to see you there!

NEEDED: BABY FOOD JARS

We need about 20 baby food jars for a craft project for one of our Sunday School classes. If you have some empty jars at home please consider dropping them off in the box outside the church office. Thanks!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

The Confirmation Classes will be on Retreat at Pilgrim Center (Green Lake) January 12th – 13th. Gather at the church at 4:00pm.



YOUTH CORPS

Youth Corps Cookie Bake

A sincere thank you to all those that donated cookies, bought cookies and helped bake cookies for the Youth Corps Annual Cookie Bake. All proceeds will be benefiting this summer's Youth Mission Trip.

Guest Preachers

Sunday, December 31st – 9:00am

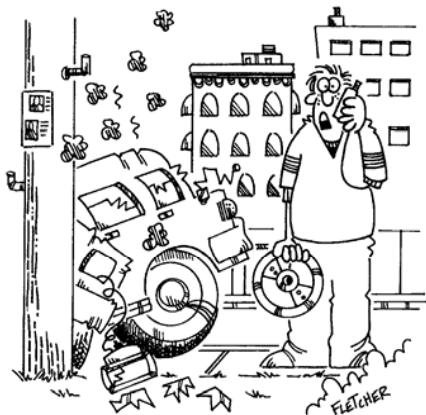
Mark Schowalter, son of Joyce & George and pastor at 1st Congregational UCC in Genoa City will offer the message, with his father co-officiating. Mark will also provide music for the day!

Sunday, January 28th – 8:00 & 10:30am

We've arranged for another father/son duo on the last Sunday of January. Rev. Max Rigert will offer the message with his son co-officiating!

EQ and Leadership in the Church

Your minister will be on Study Leave the week of January 22-26 at the Mundelein Seminary in Illinois. The course will focus on "emotional intelligence" and raising one's leadership and effectiveness in the local church.



HELLO PASTOR, THIS IS BILLY JAMESON.
IF YOU HAVEN'T DECIDED ON A SERMON TOPIC
FOR THIS SUNDAY, I'D LIKE TO SUGGEST
"THE IMPORTANCE OF FORGIVENESS IN THE PARENTING PROCESS."

Mission News



Pens for Haiti -- George Schowalter will be going to Haiti with *Ventures in People* on January 14th. We are asking for the congregation to donate pens for him to take with him. The pens can be any type and can be new or used as long as they write! This is a simple item for us to donate but something that is appreciated by the Haitian people as they focus attention on education. Donations can be placed in the box in the Narthex and will be accepted until Sunday, January 7th.

Adult Mission Trip

A team of volunteers will be leaving January 27th for Biloxi, Mississippi where they will assist with hurricane relief. They will be working through the UCC organization **Back Bay Mission** which provides services to the impoverished in Biloxi and the Back Bay area in areas such as education, health care, nutrition, counseling and domestic violence. Their work has become even more vital in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. They have been especially key in the area of housing restoration in which they sponsor work groups such as ours from around the country to restore the homes of those unable to afford doing it on their own. As members of our church donate their time to support disaster recovery, we ask that you consider donating funds to support the relief effort. Donations can be placed in the empty envelopes in the pews and marked with "Back Bay Mission" or checks can be written to Pilgrim UCC and "Back Bay Mission" written in the memo line.

Darfur

Beginning in late January, we will turn our mission focus to the plight of the people of the Darfur region of Sudan. The violence sponsored by the Sudanese government and perpetrated by its Janjaweed militias has cost the lives of over 400,000 people and displaced more than 2.5 million men, women, and children who are residing in camps in Darfur and Chad. Those displaced rely on Humanitarian Aid Agencies which are finding it increasingly difficult to provide necessary assistance. We will be asking the congregation to support this effort through monetary donations beginning January 28th. Look for more details in the bulletin and the missions bulletin board as we get closer to this date. To learn more about the situation in Darfur and to find other ways you can help, go to www.savedarfur.org.

Thank you

(Missions – continued)

Thank you for your generous donations to our holiday mission projects, **Meta House** and the **Mitten/hat tree**. Thank you to Mary Beuscher and Kathy Ellenbecker for coordinating these projects. Donations will be accepted until December 25th for the mitten tree and December 31st for Meta House.

St. Ben's Meal Program

- St. Ben's community meal program has been feeding the needy since 1966. They began in a small facility at the Casa Maria House. In 1970, due to lack of space, the program was moved to its current location at 9th and State.
- 85 sponsor groups prepare, transport and serve meals on a monthly basis. Many of these groups have generously donated their time and talents since 1970. On a daily basis 10-15 volunteers serve beverages, work in the kitchen, serve food on the line and help with clean up.
- This community meal is served six nights a week, Sunday to Friday, from 5:15 to 6:30. In 2005, 290 meals were served to 106,943 people for an average of 369 per day.
- Our church provided desserts on the first Friday of each month to the program and we sign up to volunteer our time one night every other month. If you have the time and would like to lend a hand check out the bulletin board for information or see coordinator Pam Holloway.

Outreach News

Flavored Coffee Donations Welcome!

We wanted to offer a special thank you to Connie & Wayne Ver Velde for their generous coffee donation! We have a nice supply for next year! If anyone is interested in donating flavored coffee grounds or other items (such as cider, whipped cream, cocoa, etc.), please see Kathy Ellenbecker. Also, a new treat list for 2007 is now posted. Thank you to all our volunteers who donated delicious treats this past year. Thanks also to Kathy Ellenbecker, Karen Reiter, Ronna Dibb and Sue Willman (our "Goody Gals"!) for faithfully maintaining the kitchenette area and refreshments



Name Tags are Now In

All Pilgrim name tags should now be in and hanging on the wooden holder. We had tags printed for all members and regularly attending friends. A special thanks to Donald Deetjen and Dave Liss for their work on the project. Don't forget to wear your name tag to worship on Sundays so that we can continue spreading Pilgrim friendship and familiarity.

ACE News (Activities - Community - Entertainment)

Questionnaires

There's still time to return your ACE questionnaires. We are very interested in the types of activities you would like to see at church. There were questionnaires in Decembers PP and there are extras on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please complete by January 1st and place in the ACE "mailbox" you see in the Narthex.

B-I-N-G-O

Bingo night will be **Friday night January 26th**. There will be a potluck dinner at 6:00 and BINGO will start at 7:00. The cost will be \$5.00 per person. Watch for a sign-up on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Join us for the fun!!

Women's Brunch

Join other women of Pilgrim for some fellowship!!

What: Brunch at Galioto's Vintage Grill in Cedarburg
(1221 Wauwatosa Rd)

When: Sunday, January 21st

Time: Depart from church: 11:30 (after 2nd service)
Brunch: 12:00

Cost: \$11.95 per person (to be paid at the restaurant)

Many Thanks !!

Thanks to all who caroled on December 10th - we had a wonderful turnout!! You provided a special holiday gift to those who were visited. Thanks also to those who baked cookies and to Kathy Ellenbecker who provided a delicious lunch for the carolers.



Pilgrim thanks ...

- ... Connie & Duffy VerVelde, for stocking up our coffee supply ... a very generous gift.
- ... Heidi Jenkins, for her creative energy and enthusiasm in writing and directing the Children's Christmas program, "Tellin' the Story of Jesus."
- ... Ellen Knier, for coordinating the Women's Advent by Candlelight, "The Blessings of Christmas." It was a blessing for all who attended.
- ... Robb & Kim Mappes, for procuring a large laser printer (from Robb's company) for our office use.

In our prayers ...

- ... Mac Faber, recovering from a heart procedure.
- ... Arlene Schlenvogt, recovering from carpal tunnel surgery.
- ... Dolores Poulos, recovering after a short stay at the hospital.
- ... Paul Kasberger, recovering from hernia surgery.
- ... Dave Weimer, undergoing tests.
- ... Shannon Gurka, undergoing tests.
- ... Jon Rieter, recovering from injuries sustained in the Falk explosion.
- ... Geri Freeman, recovering from cataract surgery.
- ... Laura Bloedorn, anticipating surgery on December 21st.
- ... Al Richards, recovering from a heart procedure.
- ... Valerie Goldberg, recovering from a tonsillectomy.
- ... Alex Ackerat, recovering from pneumonia.
- ... John Ferris, being treated for an infection.
- ... Terry Tumanic, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.
- ... Marilynn Martin, anticipating a break from treatment.
- ... Little Lucy Godejohn, having adenoids and tonsils removed on Dec. 28th.
- ... Mike Fischer, undergoing treatment for a back injury.
- ... Little Matthew Sauer, undergoing eye tests.
- ... Additionally, we are mindful of Ronna Dibb's dad, Chris Boon's mom, Marilyn Gallagher's mom, Stephenie Streiff-Process' cousin Stuart, Mike McInerney's father, Captain Shane (son of Ellen & Larry Jackson) in Iraq.

Our prayers of sympathy are extended to ...

- ... Sandy (Dave) Wegner, whose father, Bob, died.
- ... Char Peterson, whose dear friend, Linda, died.
- ... Kurt (Sally) Eick, whose sister-in-law, Jane, died.
- ... Dennis (Pat) Grabow, whose sister, Jill, died.
- ... Rachel Barry) Gutridge, whose sister, Phyllis, died.
- ... Kent (Dixie) Johnson, whose brother, Skip, died. He was also uncle to Mary Johnson, Nikki Pfaff and Todd Johnson.
- ... Ron (Donna) Van Ryzin, whose brother, Doug, died.

Congratulations and God's blessing to ...

- ... Beth & Ben Nelson, who celebrate the birth of their first child, Gunnar Gene, born December 6, weighing 6 lbs. 15 oz and measuring 19 ¼ inches.
- ... Vincent Carl Moede, son of Erin & Shawn, and brother of Elsa and Claire, baptized on December 10th.
- ... Katie Karnish, who graduated from UW-Madison with a major in history and a minor in European culture, She will pursue a Master's Degree.
- ... Ellen Fisher, who completed a Master in Business Administration.
- ... Paul Kasberger, who turns 80 on January 18th.



Dear Pilgrim Family

We would like to thank all our friends at Pilgrim for their concern, their prayers and cards during the illness and at the death of Rachel's sister, Phyllis Nickel. It was greatly appreciated and it helps.

Barry & Rachel Gutridge

Dear Franz & Pilgrim,

Several weeks ago Pilgrim gave Ellen and I a very special gift. It has always been very hard to ask for help. Now I have been trying to think of a very special way to say thank you. Although I have tried to put it in different ways, it never seems right. It always comes down to one simple way. I want to THANK YOU and Pilgrim from the bottom of my heart.

Mike Fischer

Dear Pilgrim Family,

Thank you for all your prayers, cards, phone calls, yummy food and numerous acts of kindness during these recent months of chemotherapy. The decision to continue treatment is often difficult to make. Your continuous support and encouragement are blessings. God's light shines through YOU!

Marilynn and Richard Martin

Dear Pastor Franz and Pilgrim Carolers,

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" just how special my Pilgrim friends and family are once again. A multitude of adults and children blessed me with numerous beautiful carols at my home and left me with a delicious tray of cookies. How fortunate I am to be so honored. To each of you, a very joy-filled Christmas and happy and healthy New Year.

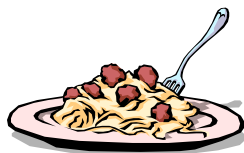
With Love and Thanksgiving to all.

Marilynn Martin

Dear Pilgrim Family

We would like to express our thanks to everyone for their prayers for Jane during her fight with cancer. We would also like to thank you for the many cards sent after her passing. It means a lot to us knowing we have a caring family at Pilgrim.

Hugs to all, Kurt, Sally & Emily Eick



Youth Corp Annual Talentless Show
and Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday, February 11, 2007

Dinner at 5:00 p.m.

Show at 6:00 p.m.

\$7.00 Adults \$5.00 Kids under 12

Students (7th -12th grade) are required to
participate
in some form to benefit from funds raised!

Parents will be needed to help with
both dinner and the show -
See the Youth Corp Bulletin Board
in the near future for additional info!

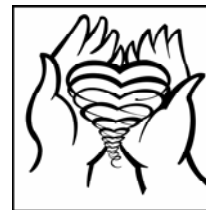
See Jeff Holmes (375-4391) or
Jenifer Schulz (375-0287) with Questions.

Faith Drive 2007
A Great Success!



As of December 20th, we have received 213 pledges totaling \$282,502. Our goal was to pledge \$280,000 toward our \$300,000 budget.

Thanks to all for a terrific response!



Christmas Program Thanks

- ♥ Randy Schulz for helping with the sound system equipment
- ♥ Laury Hackett for making 18 elf costumes
- ♥ Tiffany Gates for creating the awesome backdrops
- ♥ Sue Steckel & Kris Hunt for helping with props and sets
- ♥ Tracey Van Ryzin and Ellen Knier for handling logistics
- ♥ Kyle Dittmann for creating the beautiful, edible Christmas tree prop
- ♥ Voyager teachers, Mike Pfeiffer and Colette Gergens, for three months of hard work
- ♥ John Reiter for his sound system assistance

And last but not least; children and families, Children's

Ministry Committee, staff and teachers who helped make this year's program wonderful!

Aprons

I don't think our kids know what an apron is.

The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, but along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids.

And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove.

Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls.

In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that "old-time apron" that served so many purposes.

REMEMBER:

Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool. Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw.

SCRIPTURE READERS FOR JANUARY

Dear Pilgrim Church,

Thank you very much for the bear. I like it very much! I feel a lot better after my surgery. Thank you Owen Godejohn for bringing the bear over! Thank you everybody for the bear!

Love,

Valerie Goldberg

P.S. Also thank you for everybody who sent cards and  prayers for me!



8:00

7 Al Pfeiffer
14 Mary Beuscher
21 Al Pfeiffer
28 Candy Shoop

10:30

7 Donna Van Ryzin
14 Rick Flood
21 OPEN
28 OPEN

JANUARY SUNDAY TREATS

7 Candy Shoop
14 OPEN
21 OPEN
28 OPEN



For: Elda Wegner

By: Pat Tumanic

For: Linda Ross

By: Mark & Charlyn Peterson

HYMNAL DEDICATIONS



We have recently received a dedication in memory of Kathryn T. VerVelde from Wayne and Constance VerVelde. Ten hymnals were also dedicated in memory of Judith Rust-Deetjen from Donald Deetjen.

Flowers and Bulletins for January

Flowers

7 ---

Bulletins

7 ---

