

“Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an overflowing stream” (Amos 5:24)

Dear friends:

Throughout this past month we have focused on the land of Sudan, and in particular the crisis in the far western region called Darfur. Many of you have generously responded to our relief appeal, and many others have taken action through such advocacy group as www.savedarfur.org. Thank you for your compassionate response.

The word **justice** is found nearly a hundred times in the scriptures. In the biblical tradition this word is used to convey God’s hope for humanity. The implication is that God has special regard for those who suffer poverty, oppression and various inequities. As disciples of Jesus we are called to defend the poor and reach out to the marginalized, not only in the far corners of the world, but in our country and in our community.

Recently I have become interested in discovering how our common calling to a ministry of “justice” might find some regional relevance. As you know the levels of poverty, violence and racial divide in Milwaukee are deep. Though less severe, the surrounding suburbs also face some tough issues, such as: affordable housing, school referendums, drug & alcohol concerns and cultural “insulation” which breeds fear of diversity and invites forms of bigotry.

In my quest to delve a little deeper into regional concerns, I came across an organization just emerging, and, over the course of ten months now find myself on the leadership team. **Greater Milwaukee Sponsors** (our temporary name) is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit, four-county organization that will address local “justice” issues with power from the public arena and action for the common good.

Put simply, 80 to 100 churches and non-profits will join together to develop strength and solidarity across cultural and racial divides. Already I am inspired by my relationship with African American, Hispanic and Asian leaders.

Currently the organization has hired a lead organizer named Mark Fraley, and has enough funding to reach toward a founding convention in the spring of 2008. One of the “building block” steps is to cultivate within each potential member church a little leadership team, which will

(continued)

hold a few “listening sessions” in order to raise issues that such an organization could address.

A few of our members are planning to participate in some evening “leadership institutes” which will explore how such grass roots organizing can effectively create change. If you would like to learn more about this opportunity, please call or e-mail me.

Blessings,



Lenten Suppers and *Lenten Meal* Services

5:45 Gathering ≈ 6:00 Dinner ≈ 7:00 Worship

Again this year Pilgrim is participating in a pulpit exchange on Wednesday evenings (following supper in Kalweit Hall). Dinner will be served at 6:00. The church teams will provide meals and donations will be taken with proceeds going toward *One Great Hour of Sharing*.

Our Worship theme is **“The Beatitudes”** taken from Matthew 5.

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|-----------------|------|---|
| Feb 28 | 6:00 | Lasagna hosted by Outreach and Staff Relations Teams |
| | 7:00 | Worship led by Rev. Michael Matheny, <i>“Blessed are Those Who Mourn.”</i> |
| March 7 | 6:00 | Sloppy Joe’s hosted by Missions & ACE Teams |
| | 7:00 | Worship led by Rev. Jane Terry, <i>“Blessed are the Merciful”</i> |
| March 14 | 6:00 | Guests of St. Peter’s UCC in Saukville |
| | 7:00 | Worship led by Rev. Franz Rigert, <i>“Blessed are the Meek”</i> |
| March 21 | 6:00 | Brats & Burgers hosted by the Church Council and Finance Team |
| | 7:00 | Worship led by Rev. Carol Maher, <i>“Blessed are Those Who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness”</i> |
| March 28 | 6:00 | Chili hosted by Children’s Ministry and Property & Grounds Team |
| | 7:00 | Worship led by Rev. John Tshudy, <i>“Blessed are the Poor in Spirit”</i> |

Peanut Butter & Jelly available at all suppers.

Please Note: As is our annual tradition, we either host (or are guests) with St. Peter’s UCC, Saukville. **This year they host us on March 14th.**



Easter Flowers

Flowers are the symbol of new life and resurrection. We are again offering lilies, tulips and daffodils for our celebration of Easter. You are invited to donate an "Easter Flower." Cost for the daffodils, tulips and hyacinths are \$8.50. Cost for the Easter lilies are: single - \$8.50; double - \$20.00. You are welcome to take your flower home after the 10:30 service!

___ Tulip ___ Daffodil ___ Hyacinth ___ Lily \$8.50 ___ Lily \$20.00
(please check one)

Person or Family donating: _____

In Honor or Memory of whom *(please circle one)*:

Relationship to You: _____

Please return to the Church office by **Friday, March 30th**
with a check payable to Pilgrim Church.



Holy Week Schedule

- April 1** Palm Sunday, distribution of Palms, 8:00 & 10:30
- April 5** Maundy Thursday Communion Worship, 7:00pm
- April 6** Good Friday, Service of the cross, 7:00pm
- April 8** Easter Sunday
 - Sunrise Matins – a brief Communion Liturgy, 6:30-7:00am
 - Breakfast, 7:00 – 8 :00am
 - Easter Worship, 8:00am
 - Breakfast, 9:00 – 10:15am
 - Easter Worship, 10:30am



Confirmation Classes during Lent

Just a reminder that in lieu of confirmation classes, 7th & 8th graders are required to attend weekly Lent Services. Services beginning at 7:00 p.m. We will resume regular classes on Wednesday, April 18th at 6:30 p.m.

March Youth Corps Event - Saturday, March 10th

Community Service Project with *Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County*. We will be helping a handful of elderly in their homes with household yard work and chores, while enjoying their company. Watch the Youth Corps board for details of the time of day. Confirmands don't forget your required 4 hours of community service. March and May will be the last two months to meet your requirements. See or contact Jen Schulz for details.

Easter Breakfast Fundraiser



The Youth Corps will be holding their Annual Easter Breakfast Fundraiser on **Easter Sunday, April 8th**. Breakfast will be served 7a.m-8 a.m. and 9a.m.-10a.m. We will need both parents and youth volunteers for both breakfasts on Sunday and for set-up on Saturday. We'd like each student to bring 2 dozen servings of bakery (muffins, coffee cake, pastries) to donate to the breakfast. Please plan to be at church on **Saturday, April 7th at 9:30** to begin set-up. On Easter Sunday, April 8th, parents and youth will need to be at church bright and early...6:00 a.m....for the 7:00 a.m. serving. Watch the Youth Corps board for additional details and sign-ups. Please see or contact Jen Schulz with questions.

Rock N' Roll Back to School



7th-12th Graders, grab your roller skates (rent them for \$1), invite your friends and head to Ozaukee Skateland in Cedarburg for one last Hurrah before heading back to school after Spring Break!!! Christian Rock Music Skate - Sunday, April 15th, 4:00-6:00 p.m. \$4 Admission - Sign up on the Youth Corps bulletin board. Please see or contact Jen Schulz with questions.

Youth Mission Trip Parent-Youth Information Meeting

An informational meeting will be held for all interested 8th-12th grade parents and youth on **Sunday, April 22nd** from 9:45-10:15 in the Narthex. We will be heading to Shannondale, Missouri, July 14-22. Please see or contact Jen Schulz with questions.



News

The nursery will be staffed during the Lenten services, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday for ages infant through kindergarden.

During the following Lenten services we invite children ages 4k thorough 4th grade to stay downstairs following the meal to help with the Easter decorations. The dates are, **February 28th, March 7th and March 21st.**

Thank you to all who supported our Valentines fundraiser!! We raised over \$300.00 for our camp kids!! Your support is so important and appreciated!!

Children's Bell Choir Forming

We integrated the bells into the regular choir program prior to Christmas and we hope to do that again next year. We are, however, forming a separate Children's Bell Choir for Easter. The Bell Choir will be targeted for 3rd - 5th Grade students. We will rehearse each Sunday in March and the beginning of April from 10:15 a.m. until roughly 10:40 a.m. We plan to play on Easter Sunday at the 10:30 service only. Easter is April 8. There is also a possibility that the Bell Choir will play on May 6 for the Spring Music Program. Please call Heidi Jenkins at 377-7436 or e-mail heidigjenkins@sbcglobal.net if your child wishes to participate.



ACE NEWS

MISSIONS

FUNSETTERS

Funsetter's will see the Wisconsin Singers on Friday, **March 2nd** at the Cedarburg Performing Arts Center. Dinner will be at the Coffee Pot at 5:15. There are still tickets left for this dynamic show! Call Rochelle McInerney at 375-7275 if you're interested in attending.

TEXAS HOLD EM'

Do you like to play cards? ACE is sponsoring a Texas Hold 'em tournament on **Friday, March 30th** at 7:00 pm. Play until you're out of chips! First and second place winners will receive a **Home Depot** gift certificate and there will be something "special" for the first person out. A donation of \$5.00 per person is requested. Proceeds will go toward funding future ACE and small group activities. Bring your friends and join us for some fun and fellowship!



SENIOR COFFEE

Our next senior coffee will be Thursday, **March 15th** at 10:00 am in the Narthex. The topic for discussion will be, "What is the best vacation you've ever taken? If you could go anywhere, where would you go?" Senior coffees will take place each month on the third Thursday of the month. We hope you can join us!

MEN'S BREAKFAST SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 17 – "Treasures from the Attic; 1860s Era"

The civil war ended 141 years ago. It is still a period that continues to live in written story and collectibles that are displayed in museums, as well as in the homes of a few civil war buffs. Ron Wildasin will talk about a collection of items that he has accumulated over the past 30 years. Hear brief stories of civil war governors from North Carolina and Pennsylvania, and Henry Wise (pre-civil war governor of Virginia, who was in office during the capture of abolitionist John Brown). Learn about GAR medals given to soldiers following the war, and some family history of a surgeon of the 48th PA, and a private of the 205th PA regiments. *Sign-up is posted.*

Saturday, April 14 – Fire Department Operations

Dave Harvey (Grafton Fire Dept. Chief) will talk about operations of our local volunteer fire company.

Darfur Mission Project

Thank you to all who made the people of Darfur a priority in February. We have raised over \$2000 thus far! Even more importantly, people of our congregation have become more aware of the plight of the Darfurians and many have taken steps to become involved in change. Donations will be accepted through March 4th when our monies will be forwarded to Church World Service. If you have further questions about Darfur, please contact Rochelle McInerney at 375-7275.



OGHS -- Who is My Neighbor?

We all try to watch out for our neighbors and lend a hand when it is needed. But what about our "neighbors" in other towns, or in another countries? Have you ever wished you could make a bigger difference in the world? Have you wished you could provide food, water and medical help to refugees, give poverty-stricken children the opportunity to attend school, or teach job skills to someone maimed by a landmine? Each of us has the power to make the world a better place, and it is easier than you might think.

'*Who is My Neighbor?*' is this year's One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) theme. One Great Hour of Sharing is an inter-denominational effort to raise funds to help those who are most in need throughout our global community. This annual offering is the UCC's largest mission effort, raising over \$3 million in 2005. Last year, we raised nearly \$4,000 at Pilgrim Church alone.

We will kick off our OGHS campaign this year on **Sunday, March 11** and will collect through Easter. You can contribute by using the envelopes in the pews. Please prayerfully consider making a donation to this fund.

OUTREACH NEWS

Newcomer Gathering - March 4

We will be hosting a Newcomer Luncheon on **Sunday, March 4** for those interested in learning more about membership at Pilgrim. Lunch will be served and children are welcome (childcare will be available following the meal). We should be finished by 1:30 p.m. Please call the church office at 377-2640 to RSVP so that we can plan for food accordingly.



Refreshments

Treat Donors Needed!

There are still several un-sponsored treat Sundays. If you would like to donate treat items for the coffee and refreshment hour on Sunday mornings, please see the sign-up sheet posted.

KITCHEN NEWS

Please take the time to date all items that are stored in the refrigerators both upstairs and down. Also if you notice that we are running low of any kitchen supplies, please either contact me directly, or make a note on the refrigerator board so that we don't "run out."



We have started a wish list, if you are interestedwe are looking for 12 new/slightly loved bread baskets (they don't have to be matching) that can be put directly on the tables during meals, water pitchers, and sets of stainless steel dinner ware. If you have any questions or interests please give me a hoot.

Thanks,
Kathy Ellenbecker, 375-7445



ATTENTION WOMEN OF PILGRIM

Our next women's luncheon will be a fun-filled event held here at church. There will be food, conversation, games and prizes! It will be a great chance to meet and get to know other women of Pilgrim. The luncheon will be held on **April 22nd** - mark your calendars today!

Pilgrim thanks ...

... Lyle Fries, who is constructing some display racks for our confirmation pictures in the downstairs hallway.

In our prayers ...

- ... Kirk Torian, recovering from surgery to remove some cancerous spots.
- ... Marilynn Martin, who anticipates more chemotherapy and is regaining sight in her eye.
- ... Paul Kasberger, recovering from a heart procedure.
- ... Lisa Gallo, on bed rest and hoping not to deliver for at least another month.
- ... Chad Schlenvogt, recovering from rotator cuff surgery.
- ... Alice Eickstedt, now convalescing at Cedar Springs following a mild stroke. Hopes are that she will be returning home soon.
- ... Kathy Ellenbecker, recovering from surgery on her left elbow and right wrist.
- ... Sean Leatherman, who had a tonsillectomy.
- ... Jean Eakin, who spent a short time in the hospital with the flu.
- ... Geoff Nauth, recovering from sinus surgery.
- ... Mike Fischer, who is on medical leave from work due to a neck injury. He's awaiting surgery.
- ... Bonnie Orten's mom, Erna, who is quite ill.

Our prayers of sympathy are extended to ...

- ... friends of Terry Tumanic, who died in February. Our care is particularly extended to Pat Tumanic.
- ... Delores Poulos, whose brother, Ralph, died.
- ... the Bauereis and Hansen families, who are grieving the death of their friend and neighbor, Kevin, who died in a snowmobile accident.

Congratulations and God's blessings to ...

- ... John TeStrake, who turned 70!
- ... Sophie Eckstein, our oldest member and Jimmy Faase's Mom, who turned 103 on February 23rd.
- ... Don Deetjen & Linda Strelow, who were married at Pilgrim on February 17th.
- ... Jesse & Julie Langer, whose daughter, Ashlyn Rose was born on February 17th. Ashlyn was a healthy 8 lbs. 12 oz. and joins brother, Ben, in the family.

A HUGE THANK YOU to those who contributed and supported the Annual Youth Corps Spaghetti Dinner and Talent-Less Show. It was a GREAT success! All proceeds will be benefiting those 8th-12th graders going on the Youth Mission Trip to Shannondale, Missouri in July.

Easter Breakfast



Youth Corps Annual Easter Breakfast and Raffle

Easter Sunday, April 8th

7:00-8:00 a.m. and 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Menu to include:

Scrambled eggs, Sausage links, Pancakes and
toppings,
Pastries and Beverages

Adults \$5.00 Children 12 & Under \$3.00

To help defray the cost of food, we are asking for "Breakfast Sponsors". Four levels of sponsorship will be available (details to follow). Sponsors can provide the funds necessary to purchase certain items for the breakfast and raffle. No need to grocery shop! Just sign up as a sponsor and supply your funds by **Friday, April 6th** to the church office or through the offering by designating it as "Easter Breakfast Sponsor". Watch the bulletin board for Sponsorship sign-ups.



Lawn/Garden Art Needed for Fundraiser

Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County, of which our church is a sponsoring member, are looking for craftspeople, woodworkers, artists, potters, etc. to make and decorate lawn/garden art such as:

- Bird Houses/Feeders
- Painted flower pots
- Decorated chairs
- Decorated benches
- Animal sculptures
- Decorated stepping stones
- Any other Garden art or Specialty auction items
- Etc.

The deadline for donating items is April 10, 2007. These items will be auctioned at the Interfaith Caregiver's Spring Tea and Auction Fundraiser to be held at "The Bog" clubhouse on April 22, 2007, 2-4pm (Auction viewing 1:30pm). All proceeds will benefit Interfaith Caregivers of Ozaukee County and the programs they sponsor to serve over 500 older adults and persons with disabilities in our county.

If you would like to donate an item, want more details or for tickets to attend "The Tea," please call Interfaith Caregivers at 262-284-7130.



TACKLING THE TOUGH STUFF

"Was it God's Plan that Jesus Should Die?"



Study time

The "Atonement" doctrine in Christianity refers to the forgiving/pardoning of sin through the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, which made possible reconciliation between God and humanity. For centuries this has been the dominant way of understanding Jesus' death and resurrection. *Are you interested in exploring this topic! Do you ever wonder if there are other ways to understand the Christ Event!*

Pastor Franz will host "Tackling the Tough Stuff" on this subject **Sunday, March 25th** from 6:30-8:00pm in the Narthex. There will be a brief presentation to help clarify various theories of atonement. Then we'll share ideas around discussion questions. A sign-up is posted in the Narthex.

COUNCIL PAYS DOWN ADDITIONAL \$10,000 ON LOAN

At the February Council Meeting, the team decided to pay down an additional \$10,000 on our principal balance, above and beyond our monthly principal contribution. While this \$10,000 may seem incidental (for a mortgage through the life of our loan) it will save over \$700 per year in interest through the life of our loan.

More importantly, we hope to be able to make additional capital payments at least once a year, and we'll be exploring ways to do this over the coming months.

To all the Wonderful People of Pilgrim UCC,

What a week you all had. Thank you so very much for all of your hard work. All the demo work, the dry wall, electrical, plumbing, painting. You have made such a difference in people's lives down here on the Gulf Coast. I know each and everyone of you had a life changing experience, and you need to go home and tell those around you. That's how this work will continue. From Biloxi to Gulfport the people from Pilgrim UCC have been a great help in the recovery. God bless you all.

Thanks for the crock pot and the delicious lunch, sandwiches, etc. John and I took it to the street and found those less fortunate to give them to.

Blessings, Pam & John

Church Council Highlights
February 13, 2007

Treasurer's Report: Leslie presented the Treasurer's report. Revenue from January was \$38,627. Expenses for the month were \$27,777. The General Money Market fund contains \$25,000.00. It was decided to take \$10,000.00 from that fund and pay off a portion of principal. Warner made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Deb seconded the motion and it was passed.

Pastor's Report:

- Franz has joined a group titled Greater Milwaukee Sponsors that contains 80 churches from Milwaukee County, Ozaukee County, Waukesha County, and Washington County. This group focuses on lobbying on regional "justice" issues.
- Franz asked the Council to okay the purchase of a Boom Box, Karaoke Machine, Digital Camera, and a Power Pont Projector. These purchases will come out of the memorial fund and was approved by Council.
- Franz stated that the ACE Team is looking for a few new members.
- Franz brought up the subject of Church Council Liaisons to the various committees and whether they were still needed because staff was doing a lot of the liaison duties. It was decided to continue the Council liaisons and have Council pay more attention to those duties.

New Business:

- There was a brief discussion about the Lenten meal that Council will host. Plans will be finalized at the March Meeting.
- There was discussion regarding the major goals for Council for the upcoming year. Out of that discussion several things were decided.
 1. Create and define a new vision for Council.
 - a. Franz, Eric and Rick will work on this and report back to Council.
 2. Revisit the Mortgage.
 - a. Kristi and Leslie will work on this.
 3. Address the Endowment Fund.
 - a. Ted and Leslie will meet with Vern Overbye regarding Endowments.
 4. Memorial Wall.
 - a. Warner will work with The Woman's Journey on the Memorial Wall.
 5. Improve assimilation of new members.
 - a. Deb and Tom will work on ways to do this.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is March 13th.

TAX TIPS

Tax Time Looms – April 15th

The length of time anyone needs to keep their records for IRS purposes is 7 years. Following is the basic list of records from the IRS – Keep all Basic Records:

- Income
Form(s) W-2
Form(s) 1099
Bank Statements
Brokerage statements
Forms K-1
- Expenses
Sales Slips
Invoices
Receipts
Canceled checks or other proofs of payment.
- Home
Closing statements
Purchase & sales invoices
Proof of payment
Insurance Records
Form 2119 (if you sold a home before 1998)
- Investments
Brokerage statements
Mutual fund statements
Form(s) 1099
Form(s) 2439

Specific tax information visit the IRS Website: www.irs.gov.

Jan Svoboda



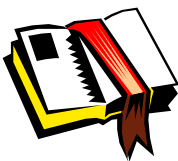
SCRIPTURE READERS FOR MARCH

8:00

4 Mary Beuscher
11 Al Pfeiffer
18 Candy Shoop
25 Jean Weber

10:30

4 Joel Schowalter
11 Chris Kline
18 Rick Flood
25 -----



MARCH SUNDAY TREATS

4 Heidi Peters & Lori Stern
11 Julie Jozwowski & Lisa Holtlander
18 ----- & -----
25 Linda Yopps & Diane Nauta



For: John Ferris

By: Marian K. Torian
Barry & Rachel Gutridge
Philip & Susan Willman
John B. Ferris
Michael & Heidi Jenkins
Richard & Susan Porter

Margaret Getzin
Stephen & Melanie Gilbert
Edwin & Carol Proctor
Gordon & Jean Weber
Vern & Dorothy Overbye

ADDRESS CHANGES

Sandy Dowske
15209 N. 181st Drive
Surprise, AZ 85388



Flowers and Bulletins for March

Flowers

4 Deloris Schneider
11 Randy & Stacy McMahon
18 Barbara Lewis
24 Tony & Ginger Duckert

Bulletins

4 Glen & Karen Maihofer
11 Glen & Karen Maihofer
18 Glen & Karen Maihofer
24 Glen & Karen Maihofer

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



FINANCE REPORT

	<u>January</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Cash Balance – Beg. Of Period	\$ 49,034	\$ 49,034
Cash Receipts	38,627	38,627
Cash Disbursements	(27,777)	(27,777)
Loan Payments	<u>(521)</u>	<u>(521)</u>
Cash Balance – January 31, 2006	\$ 59,363	\$ 59,363

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
Chris Boon – 8:30 – 1:00 Tuesday
Office Phone 262-377-2640 – FAX 262-377-4187
e-mail – pilgrimucc@sbcglobal.net
WEB Page – www.pilgrimuccgrafton.org

Please submit April articles by March 19th.