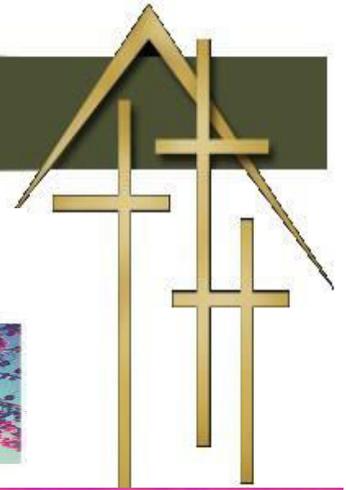




Pilgrim's Progress

2017

MARCH



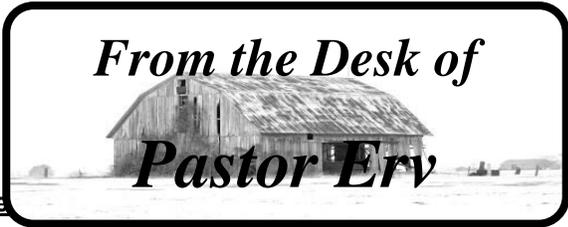
THIS LENT
REPENT

Confess your sin!
Fast and abstain!
Overcome selfishness!
Give joyfully!
Pray with love!
Come back to Jesus!





Give your Name to the LORD.



Cell Phone- (313) 539-4400
Church Office- (989) 893-7224
Email- ehutter@sbcglobal.net

What Is Lent?

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return. The pastor speaks these words as he marks your forehead with a cross of black ashes. Lent is a time to reflect deeply on the nature of sin and the reality of death, but most importantly Lent is a time to reflect deeply on the cross. Ash Wednesday (2/10) marks the beginning of the forty-day season of Lent, a journey that culminates in three holy days: Maundy-Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. Lent is a call to repentance, an invitation to reorder your life, and a time to focus on the events that led to the crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord. Above all, Lent is time to meditate on the great cost that your Lord has paid for you and for your salvation.

Preparing For Lent

Let's start at the very ... end. This year, give yourself and your family the gift of the Triduum (the three holy days). Take out your household calendar and mark the dates for Maundy Thursday (4/13), Good Friday (4/14), and Easter (4/16). Mark these days as church days and make plans for you and your family to attend services. To the extent possible, prepare for these days in advance: take time off from work, get tasks and chores done ahead of time, consider taking the Monday (4/17) after Easter off from work as well. You'll want some time to recover! Once you've finished your preparations for the Triduum, make plans to attend the midweek Lenten services at 1pm Wednesday afternoons or at 7pm on Wednesday evenings: 3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29, and 4/5. Mark your calendar. These six services are the heart of the Lenten season. I will be preaching a special sermon series called Letters to the 7 Churches of Revelation and the services are intentionally kept shorter

(usually forty-five minutes or so) for the sake of families with children. At 5:30 each of these Wednesday there is a Lenten Supper, so you can eat here at church and then worship. Gathering together as a Family to hear our Father's word is the most essential part of Lent.

The Lenten Journey

Lent is a journey from Ash Wednesday to Easter. Though we journey together, your mileage will vary. Some will journey through Lent without much thought, without much effort, with little risked and little gained. Others will embrace the journey, challenge themselves, and in the end, find themselves renewed and changed. Decide ahead of time how you would like your journey to go. Take the time to prepare and plan. There is no better opportunity to re-order your life, make a new start, or deepen the good habits you've already begun.

The Christian Disciplines

ALMSGIVING Jesus said: When you do your charitable deeds ... (Matthew 6:1-4). Lent is an opportunity to assess (and perhaps reevaluate) how you give of your time, your money, your talents and your labor. Do you support the church as you should, so that the Gospel may continue to be preached to you and your family as well as to those in our community who need to hear it? What opportunities for charity have you encountered recently? Jesus gives us some ideas Himself (Matthew 25:31-46). The opportunities are almost limitless! So, here's the real challenge: pick one or two and use Lent as your opportunity to get started.

PRAYER Jesus said: When you pray ... (Matthew 6:5-13). Make time to speak with

your heavenly Father. Actually, schedule it. Write down a specific time. Have in mind a specific place. Commit to 10 minutes in the morning and 10 minutes in the evening. When you speak to God, speak out loud. Begin by praying the Ten Commandments, the Apostle's Creed, and the Lord's Prayer. As an added bonus: by the time Lent is over you'll have these memorized. After praying God's Word, simply speak back to Him. Confess if you need to confess; ask for forgiveness, grace, and wisdom; pray for others, name names, identify needs. He tenderly invites you to speak with Him as a dear child to a dear Father.

FASTING Jesus said: When you fast ... (Matthew 6:16-18). This Lent, some will choose to fast from Facebook, or TV, or some other enjoyable activity, in order that they might have more time to read Scripture and pray. For the most part, however, fasting has to do with food. New to fasting? Consider cutting out snacks. Use the confrontations with your mouth and stomach to lead you to prayer and reflection. The practice of fasting has much to teach us about the habits of our flesh: thoughtless consumption, taking abundance for granted, not giving thanks to God. Ultimately, fasting draws us into Jesus' own experience in the desert, and into His words of truth: Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God (Matthew 4:4).

Prepare, repent, and celebrate Lent!

In HIS Service
Pastor Erv
Pastor Erv

FEBRUARY VOTERS MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and was opened with Devotion and prayer led by Pastor Hutter. The minutes, financial secretary's report and treasurer's reports were accepted as presented. OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business. ELDER'S REPORT: A request was approved for a new member. Discussion was held as to whether the hymnals should be kept in the pews or if they should be removed since all the hymns are now printed in the worship folders. A request was made that they be left in the pew racks. Bill Cataline requested that the hymn boards be reinstalled. Re> welcoming visitors: A suggestion was made that Pastor could mention at the beginning of the service that if we had visitors they should introduce themselves to an Elder after the service and they would receive a welcome gift.

Each family would receive one of our church cookbooks, and each member of the family would also receive a wooden cross and a small card with information about Pilgrim. Lenten services have been scheduled. The roster of Elders and their contact information has been posted on the bulletin board. TRUSTEE'S REPORT: The trustees are systematically checking all the lighting in the building and making repairs or replacing lights as needed. A plumber must be called to install a valve on the furnace to prevent backflow. BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Sunday school materials have been ordered for the next quarter. Two people have volunteered to assist with Sunday school. A Sunday school open house is being planned. A job description has been prepared for the position of director for the preschool. People are needed to spearhead planning

and execution of the Easter Egg Hunt and Vacation Bible School. Ruth Manke would like to have more speakers for senior events. PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor is still working on forming a men's network and would welcome suggestions for possible outings and events that might be of interest to men. NEW BUSINESS: The Lenten dinners have been scheduled. March 1st—Ash Wednesday—Elders; March 8th—Trustees; March 15th—Keenagers; March 22nd—Women's Guild; March 29th—Board of Ed; and April 5th—Officers. The Mom to Mom sale will be held March 18th. Volunteers are needed for set up on the 16th. A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and carried. The meeting was closed with prayer led by Pastor Hutter at 7:54 p.m.

PILGRIMS SERVING IN MARCH

Elders:

Sat – Ryan Morley Sun – Aaron Sofian
Mid – 1st Mark Anthony 8th – Dan Johnson
15th – Ryan Morley 22nd – Paul Pett
29th – Aaron Sofian

Altar Guild: Dolores Mast & Alice Kryszak

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS MARCH 17th

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT – Enrollment is now open for the 2017-2018 Preschool Program. The following classes are being offered: Four Day - 4-year-old class - \$110 and a Three Day - 3-year-old class - \$90. A \$25 enrollment fee (non-refundable) and the first month's tuition are needed to hold your child's place in class. Be sure to reserve your spot soon! Call the church office, 893-7224 for more information.



MOM-TO-MOM SALE

– During our Mom-to-Mom sale on March 18th we are also holding a bake sale. We are asking for donations of cookies, bars, cupcakes, candy, fudge, and brownies. They would be greatly appreciated. Baked goods can be brought in on Friday, March 17th from noon to 8 p.m. or on Saturday morning before 9 a.m. We will need several volunteers to help with set-up on Thursday evening, March 16th at 7 p.m. and for takedown and cleanup on Saturday after 2 p.m. Please call the church office, 893-7224, if you would be able to help out.

TIME CHANGE – In observation of the 2:00 a.m. time switch on Sunday, March 12th set your clocks **AHEAD** one hour before going to bed on Saturday night, March 11th. The time change takes place the second Sunday in March.

ATTENDANCE & CONTRIBUTIONS

<u>SAT</u>	<u>SUN</u>	<u>H.C.</u>	<u>GEN FUND</u>	<u>IMP FUND</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>+ OR -</u>
1/28=38	1/29=36	60	\$ 1,555.00	70.00	1,625.00	- 1181
2/04=22	2/05=59	58	2,516.36	35.00	2,541.36	- 264
2/11=46	2/12=36		2,154.00		2,154.00	- 652
2/18=30	2/19=63	75	<u>2,142.00</u>	<u>75.00</u>	<u>2,213.00</u>	<u>- 589</u>
			\$ 8,367.36	180.00	\$ 8,547.36	- 2686

SPECIAL GIFTS: Adopt-a-Student, \$25.00; Mom-to-Mom Sale, \$250.00; Tai Chi, \$32.00; Acolyte Gowns, \$5.00; Mahlborg Mission, \$20.00; Security System, 450.00

OUR STEWARDSHIP TO THE LORD AND TO PILGRIM

PILGRIM'S 2017 BUDGET	-	\$145,900.00
BUDGET THROUGH FEBRUARY 19 th	-	19,640.39
CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH FEBRUARY 19 th	-	17,570.91
CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER BUDGET NEEDS	-	2,069.48

PASTORAL ACT: Affirmation of Faith: Received by Affirmation of Faith – Karrie McKee.



Lent Schedule 2017

“Letters to the Seven Churches of Revelation”

<u>Service</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Text</u>	<u>Sermon Title</u>
Ash Wednesday	Mar. 1	Revelation 2:1-7	Letter to Ephesus
Invocavit Wednesday	Mar. 8	Revelation 2:8-11	Letter to Smyrna
Reminiscere Wednesday	Mar. 15	Revelation 2:12-17	Letter to Pergamum
Oculi Wednesday	Mar. 22	Revelation 2:18-29	Letter to Thyatira
Laetare Wednesday	Mar. 29	Revelation 3:1-6	Letter to Sardis
Judica Wednesday	Apr. 5	Revelation 3:7-13	Letter to Philadelphia
Maundy Thursday	Apr. 13	Revelation 3:14-22	Letter to Laodicea
Good Friday	Apr. 14	2 Corinthians 5:14-21	A New Creation

Ash Wednesday and all Lenten Wednesday Services at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm
Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services at 7:00 pm
Vigil of Easter Service—Saturday, April 15 at 7:00 pm
Easter Service—Sunday, April 16 at 10:30 am

ASH WEDNESDAY & MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES – We will observe the season of Lent with Worship Services here at Pilgrim on Wednesdays at 1:00 and 7:00 p.m. The Lenten theme is “Letters to the Seven Churches of Revelation.” There will be no communion served at the Midweek Lenten Services. Pilgrim is offering Lenten Supper each Wednesday before the 7:00 p.m. Worship Service. Different boards will be serving from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. A freewill donation will be taken. We will try to print each week’s menu in the Sunday bulletin, if possible. Please come and join us for supper on Wednesdays!

EASTER FLOWERS – We are getting our flowers from Begick’s Nursery. You may order flowers for the altar area at Easter time. Please call the church office with your order, 893-7224 by Monday, April 3rd. The prices are as follows:

Easter Lilies	\$11.00	Hybrid Lilies	\$12.50
Daffodils	11.50	Tulips	11.50
Mums	12.75	Hydrangea	20.00
Hyacinth	11.50	Azalea	20.00
Reiger Begonia	6.75	Gerbera Daisy	6.75

I will call in the order that afternoon. If you order after that they will do their best to accommodate add-ons.

WOMEN'S GUILD – March is designated as LWML month. We will be collecting our mites and have an LWML devotion on March 9th at 7:00 p.m. The hostess is Mary Setzer. All women of Pilgrim are welcome and invited to come!



Stewardship

A Way of Life

Perhaps you noticed in our recent weekly financial statements that we are about \$5,000 behind our projected budgetary needs as of the end of February. The leaders of the congregation are looking at ways of cutting spending in order to get closer to our weekly income, but unfortunately most of our financial outlays have been toward fixed costs (heating, electric, salaries & benefits), rather than discretionary costs. In other words, we need to not only find ways to cut corners but we must also bring in more money through our collection plate, money that is freely given by people like you to do God’s work in this place. Please consider making your donation even during the weeks that you are unable to attend church services. We are also exploring ways to make automatic donations through your bank account, for those who might find this easier. It’s not about the money! It’s about doing God’s work. It’s about supporting this mission for God’s Kingdom called Pilgrim. If you have concerns or ideas, please share them with the leadership or the pastor. We all need to work together on this, and your input is very important to our mission.



BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – March 2017 Newsletter

Board of Christian Education meetings took place on Wednesday, January 25 and February 1.

Sunday School:

- Materials have been ordered for the March, April, and May quarter.
- Two (2) age groupings are continuing.
- Currently, Katie Hutter and Canton Wagner have agreed to help on selected Sundays.
- Additional outreach will continue to involve youth of the congregation to assist with Sunday School and Christian Education

- Bibles will be purchased to present to Avery Johnson and Tracy Johnson in May.
- A Sunday School Open House will take place on Sunday, May 21, from 9 AM – 10 AM during our regular Sunday School time, as well as from 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM to showcase the Sunday School program and provide Early Registration for September 10, 2017, through May 20, 2018.

Pre-School: Four-year-old graduation is Tuesday, May 23, Last day of preschool is Wednesday, May 24. Job Description for the Director position has been written. Applications are available for the 2017-2018 school year.

Bible Classes: Two (2) Bible classes are taking place: 9 AM – 10 AM Sunday mornings & 6:30 PM – 8 PM Wednesday evenings – weeks vary (Postponed during Lent)

Additional Education Topics for Seniors - Ruth Manke is continuing to spearhead the project of gathering information on special topics of interest. Please communicate any interests to Ruth.

Easter Egg Hunt & VBS: have been integral parts of our youth ministry for many years. We are looking for people like you to assist in making these programs successful for 2017. The Easter Egg Hunt is usually conducted on the Saturday before Palm Sunday, and we have people to help get you going. We specifically need someone or a group of someones to run the event on that day (or the date could be flexible if needed). We have not yet set the dates for Vacation Bible School. Whoever is willing to be in charge of VBS can set those dates. For more information or to volunteer, please contact any member of the Board of Education or call the church office at 893-7224.

Once again, we are collecting used **Christmas cards**. Please bring them to the church office or set them on the shelf in the hallway.

Are you a **Thrivent Member eligible to direct Choice Dollars?** According to Thrivent Financial most of our members eligible to direct Choice Dollars have NOT done so. If you are not certain about being eligible please call 800-847-4836 or go to thrivent.com, log in and check what you might do. If you have choice dollars to direct they can go to either Pilgrim Lutheran Church or Pilgrim Lutheran Preschool. They expire at the end of March and will be directed elsewhere. Thanks for taking the time to make a difference!

We are collecting **manufacturer's coupons** for military families. A box has been placed by the Food Pantry and Soap boxes in the hallway. Please do not cut them out, just bring the whole coupon flyer that comes in your newspaper.



Donations needed! We are still raising money to pay for the roof repairs made last summer. The cost was \$860. We've raised \$420 thus far, so we still need \$440. Anything that you can do to help would be appreciated. Thank you for your consideration.

A BIG Thank You for your donations for the new office computer. We have received enough donations to cover the cost. It is really appreciated!

Valley Lutheran High School is hosting an antique show on March 11th from 9 am to 4 pm. Admission is \$4 and you can get two appraisals between 10 and 2. There will be door prizes and free appraisals. Lunch will be available as well as baked goods.

You Are Invited! – Come to the first musical being presented by the Great Lakes Bay Middle Schools. **Disney's "Beauty and the Beast Jr."** will be offered at St. John Amelith, 1664 Amelith road, Bay City, on Friday, March 10th and Saturday, March 11th at 7 pm. Students from Holy Cross - Saginaw, Peace - Saginaw, Immanuel - Bay City, St. Peter – Hemlock, Trinity Monitor – Bay City, St. John – Midland, St. John Amelith – Bay City, and Valley Lutheran High School – Saginaw, will treat you to a fabulous show. Tickets are now available through the office at 686-0176 or email at office@amelith.org.

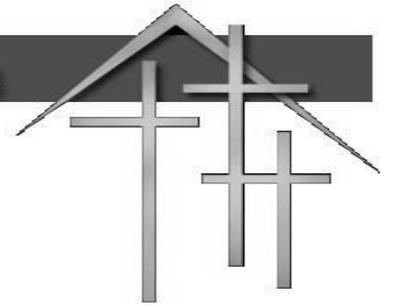


Pilgrim Lutheran Church

march 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Ash Wednesday 1 ⁰⁰ -Ash Wed. Comm 5 ³⁰ - Lenten Supper 6:30 - Choir 7-Ash Wed. Comm	2	3	4 7 ⁰⁰ -Holy Communion
5 Lent 1 9 ⁰⁰ - Bible Class Sunday School 10 ³⁰ - Holy Communion 11 ³⁰ - Confirmation	6	7 9:30 - Quilting	8 1 ⁰⁰ -Lent Service Prayer Network – e-mail or phone in 5 ³⁰ - Lenten Supper 6:30 - Choir 7 ⁰⁰ -Lent Service	9 6:30 - Women's Guild Bring your LWML mite boxes	10	11 7 ⁰⁰ -Worship Spring ahead Set your clocks an hour ahead before you go to bed tonight. Daylight-saving time starts tomorrow. 
12 Lent 2 9 ⁰⁰ - Bible Class Sunday School 10 ³⁰ - Worship 11 ³⁰ - Confirmation 6 ³⁰ -Elders	13 6 ⁶⁰ - Trustees 7- Voter's	14 9:30 – Quilting	15 1 ⁰⁰ -Lent Service 5 ³⁰ - Lenten Supper 6:30 Choir 7 ⁰⁰ -Lent Service	16 10 ⁰⁰ - Pineview 11 ⁰⁰ - Keenagers Set up for Mom to Mom Sale	17	18 Mom-to-Mom, 9 ⁰⁰ -2 ⁰⁰ 7 ⁰⁰ -Holy Communion
19 Lent 3 9 ⁰⁰ - Bible Class Sunday School 10 ³⁰ - Holy Communion 11 ³⁰ - Confirmation	20	21 9 ⁰⁰ Bay City Circuit Winkel-Pastor's Meeting	22 1 ⁰⁰ -Lent Service 5 ³⁰ - Lenten Supper 6:30 - Choir 7 ⁰⁰ -Lent Service	23	24	25 7 ⁰⁰ -Worship
FOOD PANTRY WEEK						
26 Lent 4 9 ⁰⁰ - Bible Class Sunday School 10 ³⁰ - Worship 11 ³⁰ - Confirmation	27	28 9:30 – Quilting	29 1 ⁰⁰ -Lent Service 5 ³⁰ - Lenten Suppe 6:30 - Choir 7 ⁰⁰ -Lent Service	30	31	



march 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Janelle Braeutigam Arlene Tuck	3 Sally Pavlick	4 Alex Schaub
5 Nelson Niederer	6	7 Heaven D'Archangel	8 Miranda Badour Eric Niederer	9 Kim Mielens	10 Angela Schwartz	11
12	13 William Gust	14 Alex Painter Mabel Pett	15 Andrew Oginsky	16	17	18
19	20 James Mallory Eric Morley	21 Dakota Fritz	22	23 Eric Richmond	24 Owen Lyons	25
26 Evan Sofian	27 Alice Kryszak	28 Mark Anthony Shirley Barber Ella Zook	29 Bonnie Badour Vera Niemi	30 Kylie Ramirez	31 Shae Bromberg Sara Julian	