

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Ministry Staff

Pastor

Rev. Peter J. Leyrer (612) 827-2723

Director

Dr. Scott Gostchock (763) 205-4405

Principal

Mr. Barry Gostchock (651) 207-8387

Webpage

Http://www.pilgrimonline.net



The Monthly Newsletter of Pilgrim Lutheran Church

3901 First Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55409 (612) 825-5375



This year the entire month of March falls inside the church season of Lent. During this forty day period before the celebration of Easter, Christians around the world turn their hearts and minds toward repentance.

On Ash Wednesday we, like members of many other Christian congregations, put a dab of ashes on our foreheads. But real repentance involves more than that. Real repentance takes place in our hearts and shows in our lives. When we repent we confess to our Lord and ask him to help us live for him. Repentance shows, then, when we serve one another, when we help those in need, when we work for justice, forgive those who have wronged us and so on.

When we come to our Lord in repentance, we need not fear. The story of Lent is the story of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for our forgiveness. That forgiveness will never run out—it is new to us each morning. And as we turn ourselves to show repentance in renewed lives, we need not fear that our source of strength will run out. It is God himself who works through us to do good in his name.

This season, take a moment to reflect upon the meaning of repentance in your life. Here are some Scriptures that will offer guidance:

Isaiah 58:5-12

Real repentance is about changed lives, not ceremonies

Psalm 51

David confesses his sin and finds renewed strength to be a witness for his Lord

Micah 6:6-8

God's goodness inspires us in our daily walk

John 3:7-18

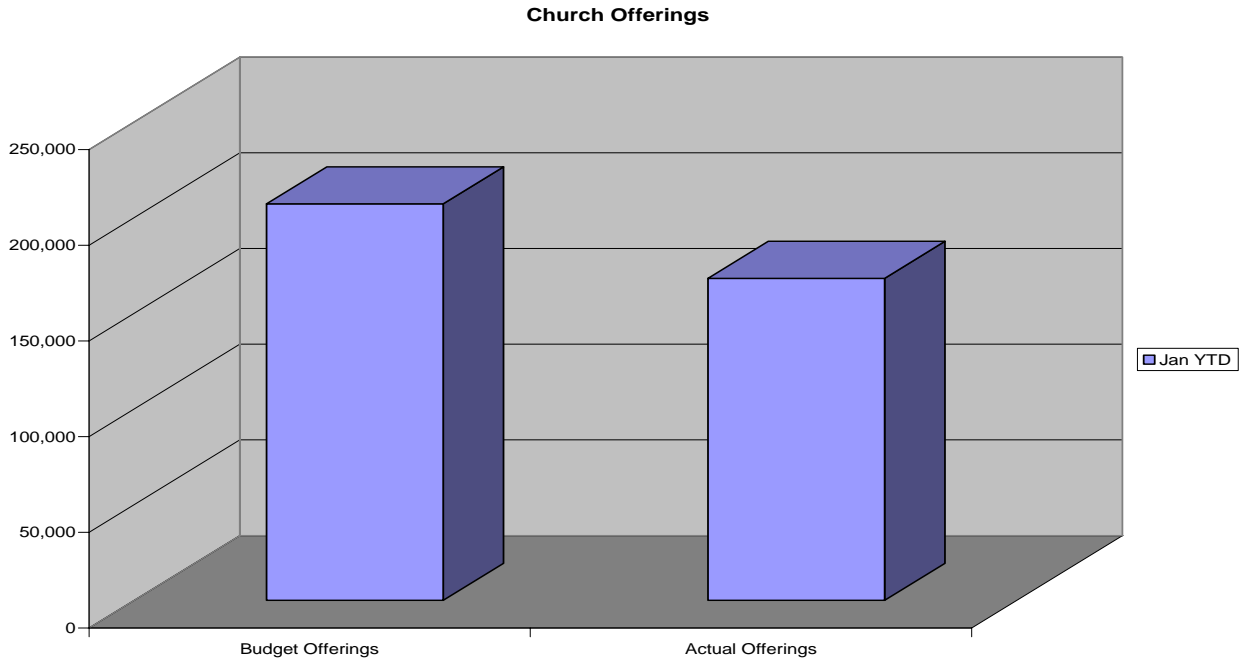
John the Baptist explains what repentance looks like in daily life

May God bless your Lenten journey to the cross!

Peace,
Pastor Pete



Offering Chart



Treasurer's Report

	January Actual	Year to Date Actual
Income	39,051.26	326,474.89
Expenses	52,806.13	363,222.93
Income <i>less</i> Expenses	(13,754.87)	(36,748.04)
Reported last month	18,125.48	(22,993.17)

Treasurer - Michael S. Anderson

Pretzels for Lent

The common pretzel was originally designed for use during Lent. Sometime during the Middle Ages, when Lent was accompanied by strict bans on dairy products and meat, people subsisted largely on breads, pastries, soups and vegetables. *[Just add fruit and that sounds like my normal diet.]*

Bakers in Germany decided to create a food that would even look religious – the pretzel. The crossed arms of a pretzel represent a christian in prayer. Place the palm of each hand on the opposite shoulder, so that your arms cross. That's the shape of a pretzel.



2-21-07

Dear Pilgrim,

The purpose of this note is to let everyone know that I have received a call to be a professor of education at Martin Luther College (MLC) in New Ulm, MN. I received this call on Sunday, February 18. A call is a divinely directed invitation to serve the Lord. This call was not sought by me or courted in any way, shape, or form. Periodically teachers and pastors in the Wisconsin Synod will receive invitations to serve at other congregations throughout the nation and world. A call is extended after a congregation looks over a list of names and qualifications and prays about it asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the choice that they make. After their choice is made they notify the person that was selected, through the power of the Spirit, by phone and mail. Once this has been done the called individual will contemplate the received materials and decide, with much prayer and guidance from the Lord, where he/she can best serve God.

The call to serve as professor of education at MLC includes teaching, student teaching supervision and oversight, and other various leadership responsibilities. MLC is the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod's training school for pastors and teachers.

If anyone has any questions or comments concerning this call please contact me at any time. Please keep my family in your prayers and thoughts as we deliberate this call, asking for the Lord's guidance every step of the way! We will make a decision after much prayer and consideration in the next three weeks or so. Thank you for your time and assistance in this matter. Please remember all comments are welcome and appreciated! May the Lord bless and keep us all always.

Your Friend In Christ,
Scott Gostchock
Director of Christian Development



Celebrations & Conaratuations

March Birthdays

Barbara Laux	1
Erwin Paulson	1
Thomas Nordby	3
Richard Alhberg	5
Jimmie Gaulden	5
Verne Voss	7
Olivia Robinson	8
Andrienne Bruess	12
Nathan Gerdes	12
Rozetta Norman	15
Calvin Huggar, Jr.	16
Robert Nordby	16
Andrew Bandelin	18
Thomas Bonde	20
Quincy Ndekwe	20
Michael DeYoung	22
Jonathan Honerbrink	22
Debra Ndekwe	22
Emily Leyrer	23
Austin Fischer	25
Burnadean Johnson	25
Malinda Seibert	26

Roland Warnke	27
Gertrude Zuhlsdorf	27
Jacob Knutson	28
Arthur "Mac" Robinson	29
Joseph Sorensen	29
Lila Aske	30
Dene Zimmermann	30
Richard Kjornes	31

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. Colossians 3:15,16

March Wedding Anniversaries

Robert & Betty Helmen	5
Michael & Carol Anderson	20

Principal's News

Congratulations are in order, "BIGTIME", to our Pilgrim basketball teams!!

The children took turns entertaining parents, teachers, friends and fans with exciting games all year long and in February finished the regular season in spectacular fashion by winning several championships!!!

The boys B – team finished its second consecutive unbeaten season with a first place trophy in the season ending tournament at West LHS. The girls' B-team also played like champions by getting to the championship game and losing to Christ North St. Paul by one point!! What heartbreak!!! It is the second year in a row that our girls have lost by one in the championship. That game was the only game they lost all year.

The A-team boys also "got the gold", as they defeated Bloomington LES by one point in their championship final game, avenging their only loss of the year. Prospects look bright for next year as there is only one eighth grader on the team and our undefeated 6th graders will be moving up to this team next year. If you have never attended one of our games you are really missing an exciting evening. Watch for the schedules next year and come out and get in on the fun.



It is so nice to have the afternoon Lenten services. The teachers and students can attend these worship services together, a great opportunity to hear God's word and to meet and greet congregation members. Come and join us, everyone is welcome.

See Planning Ahead for upcoming events

School Committee News

School Committee has been going very well this year. I pray that the Lord continues to bless us as we are working together. Currently, we are meeting with several others planning the annual Touché Fleming Tuition Assistance Cottage and Banquet visits set for this April 21st, and 28th. We have planned a great menu, and working on the entertainment. If you know anyone or would like to participate in the program in anyway please feel free to contact myself or any of the other committee members.

Respectfully,

Tina Norman -925-881-6696

School Committee Chairperson

Other member are: Jon Herzig, Boris Huggar, Sharon Fischer, Kathy Vreizeze, Mike Denn, Scott Gostchock, Barry Gostchock, Rena Knutson, Doris Balsaas

Pilgrim's Art Adventurers

This year the 3-8th graders have been busy with our *Art Adventurers*. We have painted a Fauvist Self-Portrait, used Bold colors, and eye catching patterns in an interior/exterior scene. We learned about Chinese scroll drawings and created colorful landscapes with pastels. We studied optical illusions where we designed a grid Illusion and also created an illusion of depth.

Now we are doing photography. Students are learning terms and techniques that are directly related to working as a photographer. All are using a tripod and camera to photograph a special item important to them. Next, we will be learning about symbols. As a result we will look at the familiar symbols on maps, flags, and letters with new eyes.

Please note the weekend of **April 27 & 28th**. There will be having an Art Show in the gym to display our wonderful achievements of the year. It will be up for both the spring Program and the Touche' Fleming Banquet. Please come and admire the artwork and see the fun & educational things our Pilgrim Art Adventurers have done.

Mrs. Elizabeth Robinson
Art Teacher

Pilgrim Ladies Guild

Minutes – February 7, 2007

The Ladies Guild met on Wednesday, February 7, 2007. Our President, Doris Belsaas, opened with prayer. We enjoyed our lunch and cake while we visit with each other.

Pastor Leyrer showed us slides of his recent trip to China. He told us of the wonderful work of the teachers in China. He had a very funny story for us about a side trip he took to another city. The slides showed us how difficult life is in China and how very different their lives are. The Lord is working in wonderful ways in China.

Doris opened the business meeting. Our next meeting will be **March 7th at 11:00**. This is because some ladies like to attend Lenten service at 1PM.

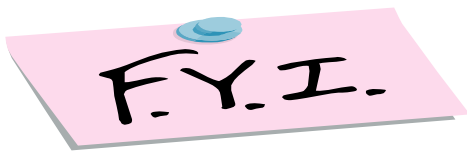
Our servers today were Lue Rogers, Dorothy DeYoung, and Phyllis Martin.

The servers for coffee hour for February are Lue & Norm Rogers, Lorraine & Dick Ahlberg, Mary Jean & Bob Florin, & LaVonne Vrchota.

We sang Happy Birthday to our honorees. They are: Evelyn Cochran, Eldora Danner, Amanda Anderson, Rachel Homan, Violet Lowery, Nettie Fellows, & Sara Homan. Then we sang "As With Gladness Men Of Old"

There will be a benefit concert for Tim Helmen on March 9th at Bloomington Lutheran Church. Pilgrim families are arranging for meals to be brought to the Helmen family.

We have received information that East Fork High School in Arizona will close. However the grade school will stay open.



Evangelism Committee

Committee Notes

January 31, 2007

We discussed developing an Annual Evangelism Calendar of Events. Galen will develop such. Cory introduced committee members to the Pilgrim Proclaimer. We discovered that members aren't aware of this project. We discussed ways to enhance this monthly flyer that goes out to the Pilgrim Neighborhood. Bob Gunderson & Cory Bandelin will work together on this project.

Shari Emde has been looking into a Tract Ministry here at Pilgrim. Committee members will look into seeing what we have in our narthex track board and 39th street entrance track board and evaluate such. Old and outdated materials should be tossed and replaced with new and updated tracks. We'll look at Northwestern Publishing House, Concordia Publishing House and Augsburg/Fortress Press for possible tract ideas. We'll report back to the February meeting. We'll also order some to look at.

We discovered that we have a budget of \$1,500 and will continue with the same for next year's budget.

Sherry Schochenmaier read the secretary's report. It was accepted as read. LaVonne Vrchota read the Treasurer's report. It was accepted as read.

Plants were sent to Ethlyn Uffken and Evelyn Cochran for their 90th birthdays..

The committee reports are as follows:

Belle Plaine: Betty Helmen reports that we can always use more small stuffed animals, small packs of cookies, & knick knacks. We will go to Belle Plaine March 5th. We leave from church at 11:00 AM.

WOW: The national convention will be held the end of June in Michigan. We will have more information on that later.

Catering: Nothing

Flowers: The chart is in the back of the narthex. There are many dates still available.

Food Shelf: Good supply

MLC: The MLC Auxiliary will hold it's meeting at Crown of Life Lutheran Church in St. Paul on March 17th. Bring food items to the next Guild meeting for the food shelf at MLC for the married students.

Telephone: Nothing

Ways & Means: Some Valentine cards are available.

Thrivent: Nothing

Dues: Some not paid.

New business: March Guild @ 11:00.

Please bring your own sandwich as usual.

Dorothy DeYoung & Betty Helmen both bought dish towels.

We voted to give \$50. to the Tim Helmen fund. Betty gave us a report on Tim's illness. Our prayers are with Tim's family.

The meeting was adjourned.

...Committee Notes Con't

Galen mentioned the possibility of having quarterly planning meetings that might last a half hour longer than the regularly monthly one hour meetings. People who are involved in coordinating an evangelism event could attend the monthly meeting prior to the event to let us know how their plans are going. Event coordinators wouldn't have to attend the regular monthly meetings.

Evangelism committee meeting information will be published in the monthly Pilgrim Newsletter.

Cory brought up developing a Prayer Chain. He mentioned he was involved in a successful one at another church.

Galen will look into "Sharing Friends with Jesus" Bible Class materials. Pastor Robinson was going to give him a copy of his paper copy of such.

Glen W. Sommer - Evangelism Chairman

Follow-up – Evangelism Committee Notes

Pilgrim's Evangelism Committee meets Wednesday 2/28/07 in the church library after the Midweek Lenten Service. The meeting will last one hour. Anyone is welcome.

Come with ideas. If one isn't able to commit to a monthly meeting, maybe one might be willing to help out with an evangelism event. We're planning to show "The Passion of the Christ" on Sunday March 25th at 6:30 p.m. at Pilgrim. Anyone interested in helping out for this event should attend. If interested call me at 612-872-8265 or email me at galensommer@aol.com or just show up. Galen W. Sommer, Chairman

This letter was passed along to me last fall by Pauline Jorgenson who lives in the same building as the writer's son, Les and Betty Wied.

Sheri Emde

{It's a wonderful letter of courage and faithfulness to the Lord.}

October 2006

Dear Friends at Pilgrim,

Greetings (via email) from Central Asia. I heard you will be viewing the movie "End of the Spear." If it were only possible it would be great to be with you in person to share some stories and experiences of my time in the jungle with the Wadoni People. Having lived in Shell, Ecuador and served there with Mission Aviation Fellowship I am very familiar with many of the characters represented in the movie. The majority of them, who are still living, I have had the honor to transport in my airplane.

The events surrounding what happened at Palm Beach is indeed a gripping story and becomes even more so after being there, where it all took place. I could tell you of taking refuge in Dayuma's house on a rainy afternoon watching as the stringy fibers of freshly boiled leaves were being separated to be used for weaving, the smoke swirling from the fire pit in their "living room," a few monkey skulls dangling from the rafters along with assorted hunting equipment, a cluster of bananas with a macaw contentedly gnawing away and of course a sleepy dog and monkey napping haphazardly alongside other common place jungle house items.

Some of the most stirring memories come from Dewy and Minkaye, both who were members of the spearing party that took the lives of the missionaries. Whenever the airplane would land at the village, Dewy would drop what he was doing and make the long walk to the airplane. It was very moving to have Dewy point to the sky (as in let's talk to God) and then begin to pray out loud in his native Wadoni language, praying in sincerity and earnest to the same God I had come to know in a very different setting. To me it was a real life example of how God is no respecter of people, language or culture. He desires all to come to Him no matter what they have done.

Minkaye, being around him I got the deep sense of man eternally changed, always very good natured, happy, content and following "God's Carvings." One drizzly late afternoon as I was about to fly Steve Saint back to Shell, I was profoundly moved as the two men stood underneath the wing of the airplane, Minkaye put one hand on the shoulder of Steve Saint and lifted the other heavenward as he prayed prior to our departure for Shell. There truly is a deep family bond between Minkaye and the Saint family!

Finally, Tehmenta, (the son of "George") who was spared from being buried alive with his dying father. As we were in the airplane getting ready to take off from the jungle airstrip, I asked someone to pray for our flight. Steve Saint asked Tehmenta to pray, and translated during the prayer. I was amazed at the spiritual insight revealed in his prayer as he asked God to go before us, acknowledging HIM as the one who could see what would happen, that would arrive safe as the airplane and pilot would be guided by His wisdom and grace.

In closing my hope is that you would feel a part of God's work going on in the jungle (and Central Asia) as You have shared in partnership with the work of Mission Aviation Fellowship. God Bless You!

With much gratitude and in His love, Bruce Wied



LENTEN SACRIFICES

February 21 is Ash Wednesday. Our chancel areas will change, the Hallelujahs will cease, our work load will increase. Lent is one of the most special times of the Church Year. It gives us the privilege of intentionalizing the sacrificial work of our one and only Savior, Jesus.

In response to this wonderful gift of God's grace, as believers we have the privilege of responding to God's goodness with our lives. Romans 12 summarizes it well: *"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship."* As living sacrifices God empowers us to willingly offer our entire selves to him.

I have mentioned it previously – it is worth stating again. Stewardship is our life as Christians. We cannot isolate our financial gifts, or our time gifts, or our talent gifts as our sole sacrifice to our Savior. "I am already serving on the "___" board. That is my gift to God. I don't need to do anything else." Stewardship is the combination of every fiber of our being, joyfully returning to God the best we have to offer in every facet of our lives.

That holds true as individuals and congregations. Be living sacrifices as you serve your families, your employment, and your church. Give your best, not only during Lent, but during our lives. God will give us the strength through his empowering word to *"offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship."*

Pastor Duane C Schmeichel

MN District - Chairman Ministry of Christian Giving Chairman
Redeemer Lutheran Church, WELS
Maple Grove, MN 55369

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Choir which is under the direction of Josh Kramer.

The group is small but no less diminished in the strength and loveliness of the singing.

Thanks to all who have given up their time to provide the congregation with these beautiful sounds.



Upcoming – Pilgrim Events

PILGRIM MIXERS

TIME TO GET READY FOR SPRING!!!

LOOSEN UP YOUR GOLF SWING
JOIN THE PILGRIM MIXER'S
FOR A GAME OF MINIATURE GOLF

18 HOLES
SCHOOL GYM
7:00 PM
SATURDAY, MARCH 10TH

PLEASE BRING APPETIZER,
BEVERAGE AND GOLF CLUBS
IF YOU HAVE THEM,
DESSERT WILL BE PROVIDED.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THIS
POPULAR EVENT

QUESTIONS:
CALL MIKE OR CAROL ANDERSON
612-722-4809

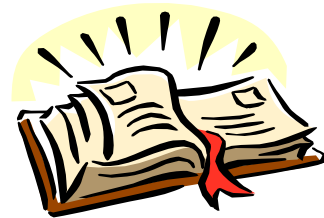
Women's Bible Study Schedule

The 2nd & 4th Saturday
Morning – 9am – 10:30
Fireside Room

March 10 & 24
April 14 & 28
May 12 & 26

We have been a growing diverse group of women. When the group is to large we will break into smaller groups.

Babies are welcome, but be prepared to share the holding.



Planning Ahead {Notices & Opportunities}

. Touche' Banquet

Plan to join us on April 28th for the Fourth Annual Touche' Banquet. This evening is planned as a fundraiser for the Touche Fleming Tuition Assistance Fund. Our support of this fund will help bring opportunities for Christian Education to the children of our church, our school and our community.



Spring Drama

Something to watch for in April is our Spring Drama. This year the children will be performing a play called "Nic at Night", a rousing musical. The date to mark on your calendars is Friday, April 27th. This will also be a "must see" event.

LWMS Rally

Lutheran Womens Missionary Society Spring Rally will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Osceola, Wisconsin on **Sunday April 15, 2007**.

All women at Pilgrim are members and are encouraged to attend.

Lunch will be served following the Program and Business meeting. Nominations are needed for President, Treasurer, Spiritual Growth Woman, and Spiritual Growth Pastor

Maps and Speaker names will be provided closer to the date

A door offering for missions will be taken here at Pilgrim – Sunday March 18, 2007

National LWMS Convention

SAVE THE DATE!! June 21-24, 2007

Convention Theme “ Engraved on His Hands”

“I have engraved you on the palms of my hands. “ Isaiah 49:16

The National Convention will be held in Detroit Marriott Hotel located in the GM Renaissance Center on the banks of the Detroit River (This is a really nice place – to quote from their website – “Marriott beds feature plush, down comforters and an abundance of fluffy pillows”)

Hotel Reservations can be made by calling the hotel group reservations – 1-800-266-9432 or online at www.lms2007.org

Distance to Detroit is 685 miles (about a 13 hour trip by car) Parking is available at the hotel

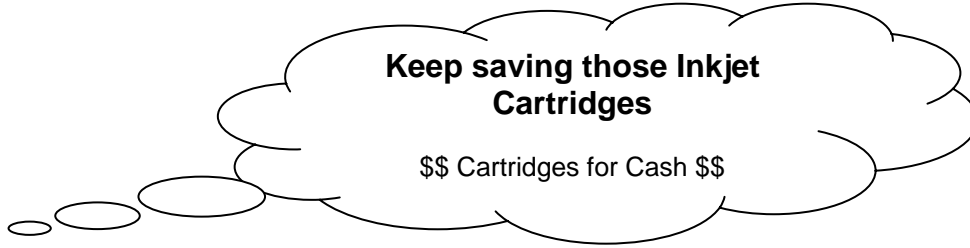
There is group bus planned

Area tours for Thursday are available.

Registration forms and more information which will be placed in the church narthex.

Registration is due by **May 15, 2007**

For more information contact – Eunice Johnson at 612-869-4167



Vacation Bible School – 2007

- The days are **June 26-28**, Tuesday through Thursday night.
- The time will be **5:30-8:30 PM**. We will start with a meal then break off into groups.
- We will have childcare for children under the age of three.
- For children three through fourteen we will be having a puppet show, art projects, physical activity, and a lesson on God's plan for our salvation.
- The adults will be able to attend different sectionals of their choosing.



The sectionals that we have in place so far are as follows:

- + Value of Faith in the Home (Peter Leyrer)
- + Preparing Children for College (Ryan Buch, Bethany College)
- + Parent Involvement Leads to a Successful Student (Scot Goschtock, PHD)
- + Budgeting from a Christian Perspective (Barry Goschtock)
- + Setting Boundries for Your Children (Rhoda Wolle, WLCFS)
- + Marriage Enrichment (Hans Metzser –Youth & Family Minister)

I am hoping to secure more teachers for sectionals. Also, if anyone is willing to donate toward VBS expenses it would be much appreciated.

For questions contact – Mike Homan

Committee Coffee Hour Schedule

Sundays	Odd Month	Even Month
First	Worship	Evangelism
Second	Youth Group	School Board
Third	CCF	Ladies Guild
Fourth	Stewardship Finance	
Fifth	Circle of Christian Friends	CCF



From the New Letter Lady.

I am adding my e-mail address for anyone who wants to send a submission.
The **cut-off date** will be the **the 21st of each month** for the following month.

Let me know a few details:

If you want this to run one time, several times or continuously with some changing dates or other information. This way I can be looking for something.
A contact is appreciated but not necessary.

I assume to right to make spelling or other grammer corrections (I am not textbook at this though).

My E-mail address is – Christine.Bedor@Mckesson.com
Home phone – 612-823-1277 and leave a message.

Our Mission Statement

*In Christian Love we reach out to those who do not know
Jesus Christ and nurture believers through God's Word.*

Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran
Church and School
3901 First Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55409

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