Pilgrim Lutheran Church and School Monthly Newsletter

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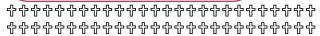
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Celebrating the Impossible

This month at Pilgrim we'll celebrate a couple of impossible events. April 5 is Palm Sunday and it will also be confirmation day for six of our young people. On that day, those boys and girls do the impossible: they will confess faith in Jesus as their Savior and pledge their lives to him. Impossible, I say, because by our own reason and strength we can't come to faith in Christ. It's the miraculous power of the Holy Spirit working in their hearts that has brought them to this important day, and that enables them to make this confession.

As most observant churchgoers know, there's plenty of evidence to back up my claim that these young men and women are doing the impossible. Following a trend that is nearly as old as the church itself, young people often wander away from their congregations during their teens and young adulthood. Some of them come back, and some don't. Please consider it your privilege this year to worship with us on Palm Sunday and encourage these young people. Only the Lord knows what struggles they'll face in the coming years. There's encouragement waiting for you that day, too.



We'll have "confirmation events" in both the 8:30 and 10:30 services. In the early service we'll listen to them answer a question that they've been assigned. In the late service they will speak the confirmation blessing verses that they have chosen for one another. We'll perform the rite of confirmation and listen to their promises in the late service.

The other celebration of the impossible this April is Easter Sunday, the 12th. Of course, the first impossible—the faith of our young people—depends upon the second. Easter is the festival of the resurrection of our Lord, the good news that our Savior Jesus lives and reigns forever. Because he lives, our faith is not in vain. Because he lives, his life is at work in our young people, and the lives of all believers. With each breath we take, every prayer that we offer, every act of kindness we perform, we confess that Christ is alive in and among us. Impossible! But let's not let impossibility keep us from celebrating the good news in worship and life.

In that day they will say,

"Surely this is our God; we trusted in him and he saved us.

This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

--Isaiah 25:9

Pastor Pete Leyrer



Celebrations & Congratulations

For the Lord God is a sun and shield, the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. Psalm 84:11

Aprıl Bırthdays	
Abram Johnson	1
Jon Voss	2
Anita Kurth	3
Justin McGowan	3
Ryanna Owens	3
Christopher Wasley	4
Geraldine Belanger	5
Steve Cambrice	5
Janice Kiecker	6
Linda Munson	8
Anne Aune	9
Viola Jensen	9
Ethel Goplen	12
Arleen Swanson	12
Marilyn Anderson	13
Robert Helmen	14
Aaron Robinson	15
Esther Robinson	15
Walter Zimmermann	15
Randall Danner	16
Agatha Ledin	16
Michael Noonan	16
Theresa Wolter	16
Dedra Huggar	17
Deja Huggar	17
Cory Huggar	18
Benjamin Anderson	19
Caitlin Bandelin	19

Dominique Huggar	19
Blanche Odegard	19
Rodney Owens 19	
Connie Wasley	19
Robert Gunderson	20
Galen Sommer20	
George Cattle	21
Elaine Weber	21
Timothy Holmgren	22
Mia Puterbaugh	22
Martha Miller	23
Yeane Kiazolu	25
Christen Sorensen	25
Connie Bonde	26
Rose Hoppenrath	26
Shirley Scroggins	26
Allen Geiselhart	27
Lois Knutson	27
Michael Anderson	28
Cynthia Sroga	28
LuVerne Jacobson	29
Leilla Penke	29
Adam Heilman	30



April Wedding Anniversaries

Thomas & Anita Kurth - April 1 Darrell & Karla Sampson - April 22 Herbert & Eunice Johnson - April 23

Recipe for a meaningful Easter

By Jim Galewski a retired Opinion page editor of the Winona Daily News

Easter is a religious holiday that offers common elements of Jewish faith and Christianity. The Passover is common in both faiths, the Jewish and Christian followers mark Passover as a significant tradition.

The Passover was the celebration Jesus and his apostles were celebrating at the Last Supper.

As another Easter passes, the following recipe is a much more modern tradition that you can introduce to your children to give them a sense of the importance of this Christian holiday.

It's good to begin traditions in young families. More times than not, traditions get lost or not remembered. This recipe and family activity adds to the wonder and appreciation of our Christian faith.

I offered the recipe before. I know how impressionable young people can be, and this recipe and activity can plant an appreciation of the Easter holiday. Consider starting this tradition in your Christian home. It doesn't have to replace hiding Easter baskets, but it can add an important focus of why we celebrate Easter.

Easter story cookies

To be made the evening before Easter.

You will need:

- 1 cup whole pecans
- 1 tsp. vinegar
- 3 egg whites
- Pinch salt
- 1 cup sugar
- Zipper baggie
- Wooden spoon
- **■** *Tape*
- Bible

Preheat oven to 300 degrees – this is important – don't wait until you're half done with the recipe!

Place pecans in zipper baggie and let children beat them with the wooden spoon to break into small pieces.

Explain that after Jesus was arrested, He was beaten by the Roman soldiers.

• Read John 19:1-3.

Let each child smell the vinegar. Put 1 tsp. vinegar into mixing bowl. Explain that when Jesus was thirsty on the cross, He was given vinegar to drink.

• Read John 19:28-30

Add egg whites to vinegar. Eggs represent life. Explain that Jesus gave his life to give us life

■ John 10:10-11

Sprinkle a little salt into each child's hand. Let them taste it and brush the rest into the bowl. Explain that this represents the salty tears shed by Jesus' followers, and the bitterness of our own sin.

Read Luke 23:27

So far, the ingredients are not very appetizing. Add 1 cup sugar. Explain that the sweetest part of the story is that Jesus died because He loves us. He wants us to know and belong to Him.

Read Psalm 34:8 and John 3:16

Beat with a mixer on high speed for 12 to 15 minutes, until stiff peaks are formed. Explain that the color white represents the purity of God's eyes of those whose sins have been cleansed by Jesus.

Read Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-3

Fold in broken nuts. Drop by teaspoons onto wax paper covered cookie sheet. Explain that each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus' body was laid.

• Read Matthew 27:57-60
Put the cookie sheet in the oven, Close the door and turn the oven OFF.

Give each child a piece of tape and seal the oven door. Explain that Jesus' tomb was sealed.

- Read Matthew 27:65-66 GO TO BED! Explain that they may feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven overnight. Jesus' followers were in despair when the tomb was sealed.
- Read John 16:20 and 22 On Easter morning, open the oven and give everyone a cookie. Notice the cracked surface and take a bite. The cookies are hollow! On the first Easter, Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty.
 - Read Matthew 28:1-9

Announcements / Thank you notes



Big thank you to all who visited me while in the hospital. A special thanks to Pastor Pete for all the prayers and visits. Thanks for all the cards and prayers that I received. Special thanks to the Thursday bible class for having it a at the Walker Rehab Center

Red Herzig

Telephone Equipment at no cost

Do you wish it was easier to hear callers clearly, to hear the phone ring, to dial or hold the phone, or to have your voice understood on the telephone? You may be eligible to receive the telephone equipment you need <u>Free of charge</u> From the State of Minnesota's Telephone Equipment Distribution Program. You are already paying for this service through a telephone surcharge on your phone bill. For more information call 1-800-657-3663(TTY callers 1-888-206-6555) or visit our web site at www.tedprogram.org

Blood Drive

Attention Blood Donors !!!

April 4, 2009 is the last day you can donate blood if you are planning to

donate for the Pilgrim Blood Drive on May 30, 2009. Red Cross states that donors can give blood once every 56 days up to 6 times a year.

If you have any questions or you would like to make an appointment, please call 612-861-6182.

Laurie Sorensen Blood Drive Coordinator

May 30, 2009

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. We also accept walk-ins

Camp Croix Needs New Hymnals

If you or your church would like to help us out with the purchase, please contact:

Ryan Conlon at ryanconlon78@msn.com or Pastor DeVries at pastordevries@centerytel.net

I would also love to hear your stories about Camp Croix. Please send feedback, memories, and stories to ryanconlon78@msn.com. Thank you!

Ryan Conlon, Camp Croix

Camp Croix 2009 Summer Camp Dates

Camp Croix Retreat Weekend August 21 – 23

For more information about Camp Croix Bible Camp, please contact Ryan Conlon at <u>ryanconlon78@msn.com</u> or Walt Zimmerman at <u>waltzimm@comcast.net</u>

Camp Croix Clean up Weekend Spring Clean Up Weekends April 25-26 and May 2-3

Spring Cleaning—Raking Leaves—General Repair

Painting—Special Projects—Roofing—Fun—Fellowship

If you have questions, contact:

Tom Hosek Cell: 651-472-3788
 Henry Hoeft Cell: 651-278-3339

> Tim Stelter Cell: 715-294-4116



BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Are you one who uses a Bible on a regular basis--by regular I mean where you pick up your own Bible and use it for a set period of time on a daily or other regular schedule? Since this is the revelation of our God and provides the source of food for our souls, it seems obvious that we would want to have regular and steady helpings of the Bible for our spiritual health and growth.

Perhaps we need a nudge to get started. One such nudge is the Pilgrim Bible studies which occur several times a week. Wednesday's at 6:30 p.m. we have the choice of Pete or Scott. Thursday's at 7 a.m. we have the men's group led by Walt in the church library. A group of men are also meeting on Thursday mornings at 8 a.m. at Curran's Restaurant on Nicollet Avenue, led by Bob Helmen and others. The women of the church meet on the second and fourth Saturday's of the month at 9 a.m., with Doris Belsaas and Betty Helmen leading. Sunday mornings a Family Bible Class is being held at 9 a.m. in the Fireside Room, with rotating leaders including Scott, Walt, Mark, Galen and others. And, we have two weeks left of the "Financial Stress" Bible Study on Sunday evenings at 7 p.m., led by Walt and Dale Mueller.

We see a core group of faithful Bible students at each of these sessions, but there are many absent faces. If you do not have a regular time to read and study God's Word on your own, you are encouraged to pick one of the options and join it as a New Year's resolution! I can guarantee that you will be blessed! Promise from God in Isaiah 26:3:

You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!

Now is the time to resolve to begin, increase, or continue your personal study of God's Word. If you would benefit from being with a group, please join one of those listed above. How do you join? By showing up with (or without) your Bible. Pretty simple. Pretty helpful. Pretty important. Blessings, Walt

Rummage Sale



A rummage sale is once again being planned for sometime in June. If you have items you wish to donate start putting them aside. Please $\underline{DO\ NOT}$ drop anything off at the Church or school until June 1^{st} as we do not have any place to store things. All items should be clean, and in good working order.

Items that will not be accepted are:

- Microwaves
- Computers/Monitors

Watch for more information on volunteer opportunities in next months' news letter. Direct any questions you may have now to Zoe Herzig @763-360-6150

Pilgrim Church Small Group



Last month Dale Mueller and Walt Zimmermann introduced the idea of starting small groups for the benefit of Pilgrim friends and members. On March 14 a short meeting was held at Pilgrim for interested persons to "flesh out" the ideas that were mentioned last month. The summary of those thoughts follows. As you read about what the small groups might be like, are you curious? Perhaps excited? Would you like to help with the planning to try these small groups in the fall? Please e-mail us with your interest and ideas.

Definition

A small group will consist of 8 to 12 persons, operating autonomously, under the Pilgrim Church umbrella, dedicated to bible study, fellowship and service to the church and/or community.

Overall Group Goals

- 1. To grow in Christ.
- 2. To develop a close knit group of friends.
- 3. To be responsible and accountable to one-another.
- 4. To focus on Christ centered activities which keep members engaged in
 - a. the group
 - b. the community
 - c. and at Pilgrim Church
- 5. To follow comfortable guidelines
 - a. Each group will determine its own mission, objectives, and goals based upon the interests, needs, desires and gifts of the group.
 - b. Each group will determine frequency of meetings (minimum monthly meetings).
 - c. Each group will determine its' own leader. This person will be the liaison to the Pastor.
 - d. Groups are encouraged to set up rotating hosts for each meeting.
 - e. Each group will periodically invite the Pastor's input.

Suggestions:

Each group should have regular bible studies, frequent fellowship and several community service activities, or a combination, during a meeting throughout the course of one year. Group leaders should work with the Pastor to choose and prepare bible study topics.

Groups may choose their own meeting locations (group member home, church, parks)

Each group may, as part of a meeting, discuss a book, a worthwhile article, the WELS Connection, the Pilgrim monthly newsletter, the Pilgrim Proclaimer or articles in Forward in Christ for individual and group benefit and for activity/project ideas.

Groups may volunteer for social service groups: i.e. help provide housing (Habitat for Humanity, Thrivent Builds, etc); help feed the homeless (Mary's Place, Union Gospel Mission, etc); help visit or provide needed services (lawn care, housecleaning, etc to shut-ins; help visit the sick and infirm (hospitals, long-term care facilities); assist with youth group mentoring (Urban Ventures, Big Brother/Big Sister, Pioneers, Pilgrim Pacers athletics, etc), or any other worthy group service. Activities may include outings, attendance at games, picnics, parties, movies, hiking, games, etc.

TOUR INVITATION TO LUTHERLAND/OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY

Pastor James Humann, teacher at Evergreen Lutheran High School, invites you to join him June 24, 2010 on a tour to Lutherland, including the world-famous Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany. The visit to the Lands of Luther includes Eisenach, where Luther was born and where he died; Erfurt, where he attended the University; the Wartburg Castle, where he took refuge after the Diet of Worms; Wittenberg, where he taught in the University; and Augsburg, where the Augsburg Confession was written. Other cities in Germany include Berlin, Dresden, Leipzig, Nuremberg, and Munich.

The highlight of the tour is the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany. This all-day-long play about the life of Christ from Palm Sunday to Easter has been presented ever ten years for over 370 years, in keeping with a promise the people of Oberammergau made to God in 1633. This will be Pastor Humann's fifth viewing of the Passion Play.

Space is limited due to a limited supply of tickets to the Passion Play. For more information concerning price, itinerary, and reservations, please call Pastor Humann at 253-839-9055 or email him at JHumann383@aol.com.

In Christ, Pastor James Humann



Pilgrim Lutheran Free Cycle

This is a new section that is being added to our news letter. If you are in need of something or have something you would like to give away but cannot wait for our annual rummage sale, why not have it posted here? All Items posted must be clean and in working order. If you have something to offer or are looking for something drop a note in the News Letter box that is located in the back of the church. Items should not be dropped off at the Church or School. They must be picked up at the member's house or other arrangements made. If you have any questions please let me know.

Lords Blessings Zoe Herzig

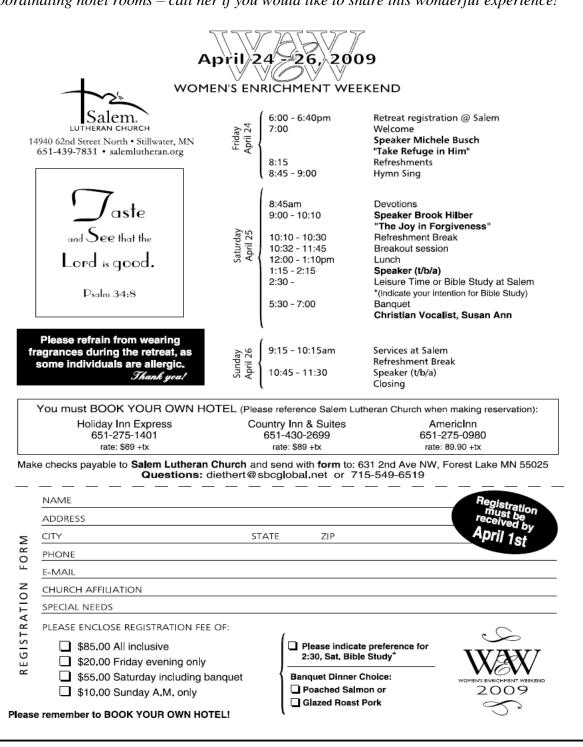
Wanted

Carolyn Johnson is still in need of a standard refrigerator. If you know of anybody or you yourself are replacing your old one please contact the church office.

**The promise of the Resurrection was not written in books alone but in every bud of springtime **

Stillwater - A Great Place to Retreat to in April

Ten women from Pilgrim attended the Women's Enrichment Weekend at Salem Lutheran Church in Stillwater in April 2008 and came back spiritually refreshed. The theme "Taste and See that the Lord is Good" is meant to attract you to God's Word as food for the soul and body. Sharing hotel rooms cuts the cost for the two nights in the hotel and Salem chefs furnish gourmet meals (except Friday supper.) Women of all ages are encouraged to attend this Enrichment Weekend. If you can't attend the whole weekend, consider attending just the Saturday session and car pools could be established. Those attending last year were Judy F., Karen S., Christine B., Sheri E., Mabel E., Jodi N., Sherry S., Peg H., Shirley M., and Betty H. Jodi Nelson (612-861-1260) is coordinating hotel rooms — call her if you would like to share this wonderful experience!



Pilgrim Lutheran School News



Congratulations !!!

Pilgrim Pacers A Team Boys 2009 Minnesota State Lutheran Basketball Champions

2008-09 was a great season for Pilgrim. After winning the St. Croix, New Ulm and Concordia Tournaments, Pilgrim went on to win 4th place in the L.B.A.A. National Tournament at Valparaiso University.

The fans at Pilgrim want to thank the players, parents and coaches of our Pilgrim Pacers for all their hard work in making this a banner year for Pilgrim Church and School. Also for once again representing us with some of the most gripping action and Christian sportsmanship we have come to expect from such fine young men. We are all very proud of you.

West Lutheran High School News



Spring Musical

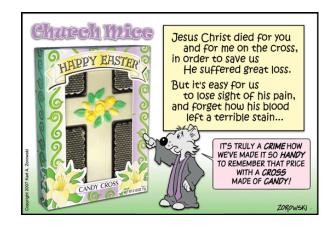
The West Lutheran High School Players are proud to present "The Sound of Music" by Rodgers and Hammerstein. Performances are:

- Friday April 24th, and Saturday April 25th.at 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday April 26th, at 2:00 pm.

Tickets can be purchased at the door. Ticket prices are \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students and seniors.



"I made stain glass windows with my new water colors. Don't they look like the ones at church?"





St. Croix Lutheran High School News

Join in St. Croix's newest fundraiser!

This IS NOT your typical fundraising event. We are not going to ask for money! We are not going to ask anyone to buy anything!

Instead we are going to help you get rid of some old unused or unwanted items. All of these items will be SOLD or

RECYCLED with the profits benefiting St. Croix's "Annual Fund." Simply donate ANY and ALL new or used items on

the list below. IT'S EASY!

BOOKS

Just to name a few: text books, vocational books, kid's books, audio books, self help, religious, best sellers and antique

books. Any genre, hard or soft covers.

DVD's

Literally any kind of DVD, no matter how obscure you think it is.

CD's

Any type of music, pop, rock, hip-hop, country, or classical – new or old!

VIDEO GAMES

All types of games, whether for a console or the PC.

VHS TAPES

These old tapes are surprisingly valuable!

SOFTWARE TITLES

Whether a computer game or any other type of software title, they are all potentially valuable. Regardless of the shape or condition, they are all good. (The only exceptions are items with mold or mildew.)Remember to ask your friends, neighbors, relatives, co-workers, and business associates to donate these items too! Drop off box's are located here at Pilgrim in the Fellowship hall back by the food shelf.

April upcoming events

- Open House Sunday, April 5, 2009 2:30-4:30 pm
- Lenten & Easter Concert, St. Croix Chapel. Sunday, April 5, 3pm and 7pm,
- Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for Annual Fund, April 5th, 4:30-6:00 pm Commons
- Flapjack Fundraiser at Applebee's Neighborhood Grill and Bar, 1753 South Robert Street, West St. Paul, on Saturday, April 4 from 8-10am.
- Spring Play "Because Their Hearts Were Pure" or "The Secret of the Mine" by Morland Cary. Friday, April 24, and Saturday, April 25, at 7 pm, St. Croix Auditorium Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$4 for students K-12 and seniors, \$3 for PreK. No reservations are needed; tickets are available at the door.

International Festival Thursday, April 16, 4-6:30 pm

SCL's international students will conduct the second annual International Festival on Thursday, April 16, beginning at 4 pm in the Commons.

Students, parents and friends are invited to attend the Festival and visit the booths hosted by students from China/Hong Kong/Taiwan, Germany, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, and Vietnam.

Pick up your "passport" and browse the booths, tasting special foods, participating in activities, music, and cultural displays.

Enjoy the tastes, sights, and sounds of other countries as the students share their home cultures with the SCL family.

Family Fun time



Family Fun Time

Find the Easter words listed at the bottom in the word search puzzle grid. The words can be forwards or backwards, vertical, horizontal, or diagonal. Circle each letter separately in the Easter word search puzzle, but keep in mind that letters may be used in more than one word. When the free printable Easter word search puzzle is complete, read the remaining letters left to right, top to bottom, to learn an interesting Easter fact.

Easter Word Search Puzzle

H	0	N	\mathbf{E}	A	S	T	\mathbf{E}	R	\mathbf{W}	\mathbf{E}	S	C	T	C
C	E	L	E	B	R	A	T	I	O	N	N	N	E	R
R	A	L	E	B	R	Y	\mathbf{A}	T	\mathbf{E}	T	U	H	\mathbf{E}	U
A	S	R	E	S	U	A	R	R	\mathbf{E}	H	B	C	L	C
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I	E	0	N	B	O	I	F	G	J	N	S	L	N	F
E	R	E	S	U	R	R	\mathbf{E}	C	T	I	0	N	G	I
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A	U	R	I	N	\mathbf{S}	D	T	N	\mathbf{E}	P	C	T	\mathbf{E}	I
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APRIL EASTER SUNDAY
BASKET EGG HUNT
BUNNY GOOD FRIDAY
CANDLES HOLIDAY
CELEBRATION HOT CROSS BUNS
CHOCOLATE LILY

CHRISTIAN LONG WEEKEND

CHURCH MARCH

CHURCH MARCH

COLORED EGGS RESURRECTION

CRUCIFIXION SPRING



Got News??

I am always looking for contents for this newsletter. Pilgrim has such an amazing website thanks to Joe Sorensen that it is easy to forget how nice it is to sit down and read a newsletter. Plus many of us are limited or have no access to the Internet. Just write up, hand in, or E-mail any items to Zoe Herzig — Zherzig @yahoo.com

Thank you for your patience and support of my efforts to bring this to you each month.

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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