

# Pilgrim Lutheran

## Ministry Staff

### **Pastor**

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

### **Director**

Dr. Scott Gostchock (763) 205-4405

### **Principal**

Mr. Barry Gostchock (651) 207-8387

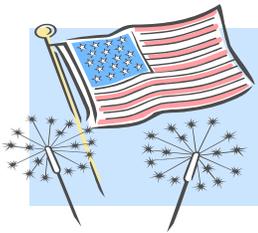
### **Webpage**

Http:\www. pilgrimonline.net



## The Monthly Newsletter of Pilgrim Lutheran Church

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



## *Freedom*



This year once again we'll celebrate the Fourth of July with parades and hot dogs and fireworks. It's a great holiday. Of course, what makes it truly great is the idea behind it, an idea worth celebrating: freedom. We Americans love our freedom and through the years have shown that we are willing to defend it. We believe that freedom is the way that people should live.

Like all the good things that we embrace, the concept of freedom comes to us from God. The empty promises of sin may provide us with happiness for a time, but in the end they only enslave us. God saw the problem before we did and sent his Son to set us free. The notion that freedom comes at a high price also comes from God—the price paid for our freedom was the death of Jesus Christ on the cross. In him we are free. We have become heirs of the eternal life and live in that confidence every day.

Freedom can be abused. We know that as Americans, and we're angered when we hear of people who look at freedom as an excuse to take advantage of others or live irresponsibly.

Our freedom in Christ can be abused as well. He did not set us free from slavery to sin so that we could continue in sin. He did not set us free from hatred so that we can live in grudges against our brothers and sisters in the faith. He did not spare us from God's angry judgment so that we can sit in arrogant judgment of our neighbors. Some of our neighbors may not yet know the freedom that comes through faith in Jesus Christ. The gospel that has set us free has been given us so that we can offer to them the same comfort that we have, not so that we can consider ourselves "holier" than they.

Minneapolis is becoming one of the most ethnically diverse cities in North America, boasting the largest Hmong, Somali, Oromo and Tibetan populations on the continent. Many other groups are immigrating here in great numbers. All told over 500,000 internationals live in this area speaking 140 different languages. (www.lausanne.org 2005)

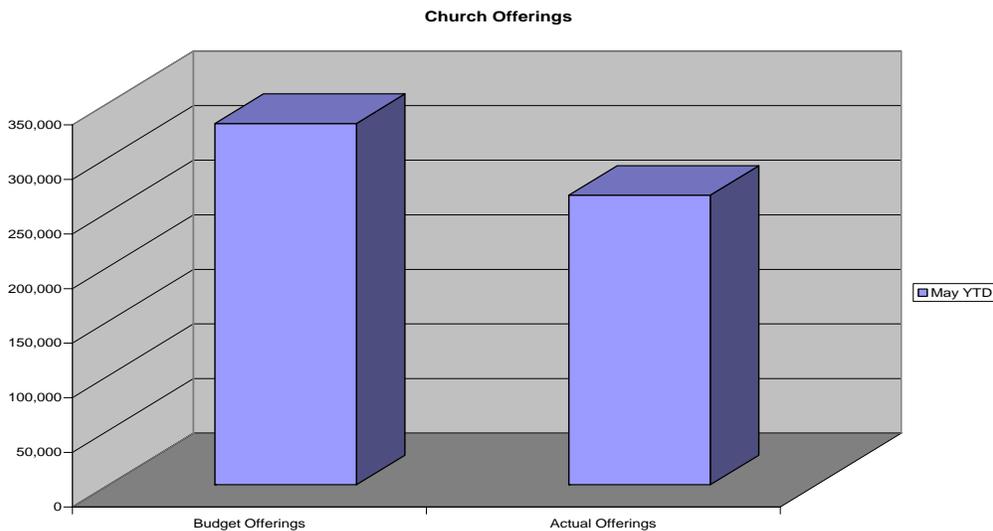
As Americans we're proud to say that they come to our shores for freedom. As Christians, let us also recognize the opportunity this great host represents. Many of your new neighbors do not yet know of the freedom that you have in Jesus Christ. Their customs and language may seem strange to us. But their basic need for reconciliation with God is the same. They need Jesus. In him is real freedom.

“You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.”

Galatians 5:13-15

*Pastor Pete Leyrer*

## Treasurer's Report



	May 07	Year to Date
Income	33,986.24	499,203.86
Expenses	50,030.58	586,142.72
Income less Expenses	----- (16,044.34)	----- ( 86,938.86)

Treasurer - Michael Anderson



## Celebrations & Congratulations

*For in Him we live and move and have our being. Acts 17:28*

### July Birthdays

Herbert Johnson	2
Thomas Geiselhart	3
Shannon Gostchock	4
Harlan Johnson	5
Harriet Heldt	6
Bethel Ehlenfeldt	7
Melissa Kerber	7
Kathy Vrieze	7
Richard Brust	9
Ross Edwardson	9
Lauren Loescher	9
Chuck Nelson	10
Christine Bedor	11
James Friton	11
Bernice Jorgensen	11
Stanley Wasley	11
Allison Loescher	14
Douglas Johnson	15
Rachel Ndekwe	15
Jane Neumann	15
Doris Belsaas	16

Virgil Engelke	16
Jacqueline Bonde	17
Karen Sonnenburg	17
Isabelle Lecy	19
Lorraine Ahlberg	21
Matthew Tucker, Jr.	22
Loretta Tucker	25
Lorraine Schanzenbach	26
Temple Fischer	27
Jennifer Kjornes	27
Dolores Polivany	27
Rick Puterbaugh	27
Norm Rogers	27
Elaine Noethe	28
Trisa Fischer	30
Andrew Leyrer	31

July birth stone: Ruby  
July flower: Larkspur

### July Wedding Anniversaries

James & Lucille Flavin	July 9
Cory & Tammy Bandelin	July 24

## Thank You, Thank You

Thank you to all the donors, those who were deferred and the volunteers who helped make the June Blood Drive a success.

Our final total was 31 units with 56 donors signed up. Three of those were first time donors! Our next Blood Drive is **Saturday, November 3, 2007**. So mark your calendars. Thanks again to all of those who support this worthy cause.

**Laurie Sorensen, Drive Coordinator**  
And the American Red Cross



*Dear Pilgrim Friends,*

Our son Tim lived his life to the glory of God and he died still giving glory to God. For this we are grateful and confident that we will see him in heaven. He has a head start on us, but eventually we will join him and catch up. Pilgrim is our family and we felt the love and strength from the prayers you offered for Tim and for the rest of the family.

Many of you connected with Tim and Lori's witness through the CarePages on the internet and have said that your faith was strengthened by reading of their faith journey. This is what Tim prayed for when he was struck with cancer – that his illness could be used to glorify God. We feel confident that not only was faith strengthened for some but also that some came to Christ because of Tim and Lori's witness. We praise God for this. We know that many of you dear friends were praying for us. Be convinced that those prayers generated strength from Jesus that was felt by the whole family. We never doubted God's love and we never doubted the love of those dear to us at Pilgrim either. *Thank you!*

*Bob, Betty, Matt and the entire Helmen Family*



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### **A Testimony to Christ by Tim Helmen**

"This note was written by Tim on April 13th, 2006, before his cancer diagnosis:

I'm in the hospital with a fever and infection. Not nearly comfortable, but nowhere near excruciating pain. Everything seems to be under control: a few days of IV antibiotics at least, possibly a surgery. It doesn't seem that this should be life-threatening, but who can say?

If I should not survive this, I hope these words will speak for me after I have passed "up."

If that happens, know this: I am with my Lord, Jesus Christ. I am far from a perfect man. There is no need to list the full extent of my depravity, for words could not do it justice. But I place my full and complete confidence in Jesus of Nazareth. His suffering and death on the cross have paid the entire price for me and for you.

And this is important--do not miss this: He was dead and on the third day came back to life. This sealed the deal. He is exactly who he claimed to be--the Holy Son of God. My hope is only with Him and God has proclaimed His work for me more than sufficient. His resurrection was witnessed and attested to by people who **went to their deaths** proclaiming nothing else.

If you are reading this at my funeral, talk to the pastors. Talk to my beloved wife, Lori. Talk to my parents, who are an amazing gift of God to me and many others. Talk to my dear, dear children, Elaina Roxann and Caleb Andrew. What they have to say are not simply nice, positive thoughts. They are about eternity and history made theirs and made mine.

These words are for everyone--my family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, the Theatrix community and fellow musicians: I will live because Jesus lives. **The work is done.** And the work is done for **you** as well.

Jesus' love and forgiveness are for you, no matter what you've done, no matter where you've come from. He has won for you the very same hope with which I write these words; the very same hope I am enjoying in eternal reality as you read these words. Believe it. Trust it. Live in it. Die in it. And then I will see you a little later. I'll have some new songs I'd love to have you sing with me. **All glory to Jesus!**



May 29, 2007

**WALKING TOGETHER IN THE LORD**

- <sup>1</sup> How good and pleasant it is  
when brothers live together in unity!
- <sup>2</sup> It is like precious oil poured on the head,  
running down on the beard,  
running down on Aaron's beard,  
down upon the collar of his robes.
- <sup>3</sup> It is as if the dew of Hermon  
were falling on Mount Zion.  
For there the LORD bestows his blessing,  
even life forevermore. Psalm 133:1-3

Perhaps you have already celebrated your "Walking Together" Sunday with your congregation. I hope you take the opportunity to do so if you have not already. The joy of walking together in the Lord's work is something we need to always keep in the forefront of our minds and hearts. As we celebrate another year of God's grace to our worker training system, and send another group of workers into God's harvest field, we thank the Lord for his blessings to us. We are still able to send men and women to proclaim the good news of Jesus in our congregations and schools.

Blessings will continue as God continues to open our hearts to actively keep the ministry of our Synod before our congregations. We are not one congregation, or a circuit of congregations, or a conference, or even a district – God has blessed us with a Synod, committed to the preaching and teaching of God's pure Gospel. With our continued prayers and offerings, that ministry will continue. God bless your individual ministries and your "intentionalizing" of the ministries of our Synod.

**Pastor Duane C Schmeichel**

MN District MCG Chairman

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## Planning Ahead

### **Retirement Party for Karen Sonnenburg**

Date: **June 29, 2007**

Time: 5:00 pm

Place: The Homan Residence

10004 Stevens Ave South

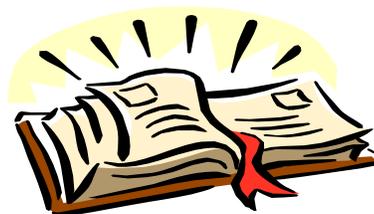
Bloomington, MN 55420

Hot dogs, hamburgers, and drinks will be provided.

Please bring a dish to pass and a lawn chair if you have one.

If you have any questions please call Mike or Sarah Homan @ 952-888-4394

**Women's Bible Study**  
**Schedule**  
**The 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday**  
Morning – 9 am – 10:30 am  
Fireside Room



July - 14 & 28  
August – 11 & 25

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

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**Camp Croix Retreat**  
**2007 August 17-19**

Camp songs, Fellowship, Canoe adventures, roaming  
Photographer, and MORE..



**Have You Made Your Vacation Plans?**

If you were offered blue sky with the chance of eagles sailing between clouds, a sandy beach with clear water to wade in, a calm lake just made for a canoe ride and God's presence touching your heart—would you take it? Okay! Grab the opportunity to spend a weekend at Camp Croix, the "Camp Beneath the Cross" with the Pilgrim community. The dates are Friday, August 17 through Sunday, August 19. The food is fabulous (although you may have to help with the cooking or clean up) and the price is right.

Contact Darrell Sampson, 612-724-7551 and reserve your cabin or room in the lodge (two luxury bathrooms in the lodge.)

**GET READY !!!**

**National Night Out** is coming up in August.

Tuesday 8/7/07

Look for more info online or in the church bulletin



## A Summer Recipe

### **Orange Chicken**

3 shallots, finely chopped (who uses these things? I leave them out)  
1 cup fresh orange juice  
3 tablespoons lemon juice  
2 tablespoons grated fresh ginger  
2 tablespoons Dijon mustard  
2 garlic cloves, minced  
4 chicken breasts, skin removed or boneless – about 2 pounds

Mix all ingredients together and pour over chicken. Cover and marinate overnight or at least a couple of hours.

Bake in 350 oven for 35-40 minutes (if bone in chicken is used)

You can also grill - I made extra marinade and basted the chicken

#### **Sauce:**

½ cup orange juice

2 tablespoons lemon juice

½ cup beef or chicken stock

Combine in sauce pan and bring to boil. Reduce to about 1/3. pour over chicken and serve.

From The Women's Health Cookbook

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  
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Minneapolis, Minnesota 55409

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