



**RESOLVED** that we thank God for the countless blessings the Lord has poured out on us as individuals, as a congregation and as a school and be it further

**RESOLVED** that we go into the New Year with God-given determination to continue to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ and be it further

**RESOLVED** that we go into the new year confident that the Lord who has blessed us in the past will continue to bless us in the future in accord with his good and gracious will and be it further

**RESOLVED** that we have a truly “Happy New Year”!

May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children.

May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us;

Establish the work of our hands for us—

Yes, establish the work of our hands.

-Psalm 90:16-17

Pastor Pete Leyrer



## Celebrations & Congratulations

### January Birthdays

Kula Roberts	1
Mark Odegard	2
Franklin Robolzi	4
Catherine Eichers	8
Sarah Manthe	9
Norma Kettner	10
Phyllis Martin	10
Thomas Kurth	12
Katherine Wasley	13
Geri Geiselhart	14
Zoe Herzig	15
Travis Moy	15
Nicole Minea	17
Barb Schuler	17
Hannah Bandelin	18
Arthur Wessels	22
Lori McGowan	27
Brita Mickevicius	27

Amanda Wasley	27
Sarah Wasley	27
Mary Lindgren	30

*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.  
Psalm 119:105*

### Wedding Anniversaries

Duane & Karen Sonnenburg  
January 7

## Pilgrim Congregational Meeting Minutes from December 7, 2008

The special congregational call meeting for the purpose of calling an ELA director started at 9:50 a.m. on December 7, 2008.

President Cory Bandelin called the meeting to order.

Pastor Pete offered up a prayer.

There was a call for new members to sign in. Silas McAghon and his family were welcomed to the Pilgrim family. Experiential Learning for ALL (ELA) – 3 year pilot study program – Directors' Call

### Motion:

Pilgrim extends a call for the Director's position for the new 3-year pilot study program of Experiential Learning for ALL (ELA). This call would be extended at a special call meeting on Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> or November 30<sup>th</sup> at Pilgrim. The funding for this 3-year position (salary and health insurance) is to come from outside of the Pilgrim budget through secured grants and future grants, individual donations, consultant and other program fees, and matching funds. All salary and health benefit costs and all program contributions and fees will be handled through an already established ELA account under the auspices of the Twin Cities Chapter of WELS Kingdom Workers.

~~[The \$15,000.00 housing down payment loan will be made available to the Director, pending available funding from Pilgrim. The asked for costs for this program from Pilgrim would be WELS pension \$1,684 per year, continuing education reimbursement per current policy, assistance with moving expenses (if possible), and WELS Teacher's Conference dues and costs each year.]~~

Some program fees and the like may be passed along to families and involved participants in ELA. At the end of the 3-year pilot study, the position and program will be reevaluated.

### Discussion

- Walt Zimmermann: Noted the new model of education this would bring. And that funding has been raised and commitment is there. Noted becoming leaders in education and a model for others
- Cory: Highlighted funding schedule (pg. 4) account is already about \$59,000.000. Pilgrim is \$5000 ahead due to loaning money to WELS kingdom workers account for this program,
- Bob Helmen: Will the foundation be evaluated year by year? Why not the money all up front?
- Cory: Not called out. There will obviously be constant reviews. Funders keep funds in investing
- Doug Kelm: Consider \$15,000 housing loan, Pilgrim is not capable
- John Martin: motion to strike \$15,000 housing and moving expenses.
- Aaron Robinson: Surplus could it be used?
- Bob Florin: Pilgrim is not financially capable
- Pastor Pete, Not Pilgrim accounts. Our participation is to add pension and use services
- **Motion passed to strike bracketed info in motion.**
- Cory: Called attention to call list. Noted biography of Luke Hartzell and 4 other candidates
- Bob Helmen: Motion to strike paper ballot for candidate's unanimous vote for Luke Hartzell.
- Motion seconded and passed at 10:25 am
- Closing prayer by Pastor Pete at 10:26

Submitted by Joe Sorensen with the help of Eric Michaelson.

## Sincerely, silenced

Colleen, a young lady from Massachusetts, has written this poem to an abortion doctor. It is thought provoking and clear to the point.

*Dear abortion doctor, how is your conscience as you walk in the light?*

*Do you hear the cries of the babies who died in the still of the night?*

*Dear abortion doctor, how is your soul? Do you yearn for somebody to fill in the hole?*

*Dear abortion doctor, do you think you're doing what's right? Robbing the most innocent of hearing and sight?*

*Dear abortion doctor, how is your heart? Is it healthy and strong or torn all apart?*

*Dear abortion doctor, how are your hands? Are they life giving and protecting as your profession demands?*

*Dear abortion doctor, how is the pay? Do you have enough money to make the hurt go away?*

*Dear abortion doctor, how is your mind? Do you use the gifts God's given you to sustain humankind?*



*Dear abortion doctor, is there love that you feel or do greed and pride prevent you to heal?*

*Dear abortion doctor, where is your faith? Do you think GOD makes mistakes you are meant to erase?*

*Dear abortion doctor, I said a prayer for you today that you would have a change of heart and let God lead the way?*

*Dear abortion doctor, please consider allowing God's grace to guide you and lead you to a life-giving place.*

*Dear abortion doctor, if you yearn to have peace please make this holocaust finally cease. For it is you with the power and you with the skill to stop what you're doing and follow God's will.*

*Sincerely,  
Silenced*

## Psalm 23

The Lord is my Shepherd = That's Relationship!

I shall not want = That's Supply!

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures = That's Rest!

He leadeth me beside the still waters = That's Refreshment!

He restoreth my soul = That's Healing!

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness = That's Guidance!

For His name sake = That's Purpose!

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death = That's Testing!

I will fear no evil = That's Protection!

For Thou art with me = That's Faithfulness!

Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me = That's Discipline!

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies = That's Hope!

Thou annointest my head with oil = That's Consecration!

My cup runneth over = That's Abundance!

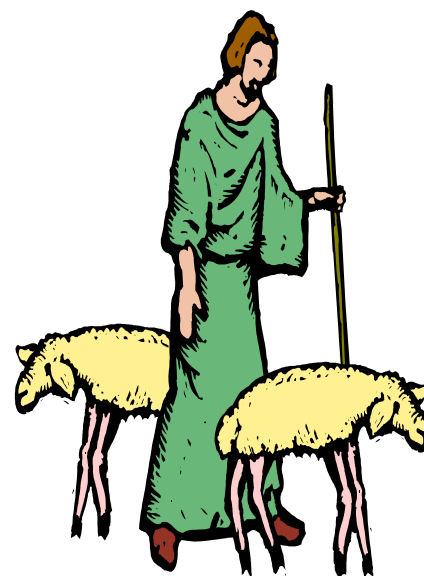
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life = That's Blessing !

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord = That's Security!

Forever = That's Eternity!

Face it, the Lord is crazy about you.

Peace.



## *Christmas in Heaven*

*I see the countless CHRISTMAS TREES around the world below  
with tiny lights like HEAVEN'S STARS reflecting on the snow.*

*The sight is so SPECTACULAR please wipe away that tear  
for I am spending CHRISTMAS WITH JESUS CHRIST this year.*

*I hear the many CHRISTMAS SONGS that people hold so dear  
but the SOUND OF MUSIC can't compare with the CHRISTMAS CHOIR up here.*

*I have no words to tell you of the JOY their voices bring  
for it is beyond description to HEAR THE ANGELS SING.*

*I know HOW MUCH YOU MISS ME, I see the pain inside your heart  
for I am spending CHRISTMAS WITH JESUS CHRIST this year.*

*I can't tell you of the SPLENDOR or the PEACE here in this place  
Can you just imagine CHRISTMAS WITH OUR SAVIOR face to face*

*I'll ask him to LIFT YOUR SPIRIT as I tell him of your love  
so then PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER as you lift your eyes above.*

*Please let your HEARTS BE JOYFUL and let your SPIRIT SING  
for I am spending CHRISTMAS IN HEAVEN and I'm walking WITH THE KING.*

~ by Wanda Bencke  
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## Planning Ahead

### **PILGRIM'S WINTER CARNIVAL MARCH 7, 2009 1 P.M.**

THE PILGRIM PARENT GROUP WILL BE HOSTING A SILENT AUCTION AT THE UPCOMING PILGRIM'S WINTER CARNIVAL AND WE NEED DONATIONS. IF YOU HAVE ITEMS YOU'D LIKE TO DONATE FOR THIS CAUSE, PLEASE CONTACT

Chevon McDade-Davis @  
chevon.mcdade-davis@co.hennepin.mn.us  
CELL: 612-227-9908  
HOME: 612-822-9096

OR  
Stephani LeFlore @  
Stephani LeFlore <sleflor@comcast.net>

**... KEEP A LOOKOUT ON FUTURE COMMUNICATION ON WHAT ELSE WILL BE  
HAPPENING AT THIS EXCITING EVENT**

## Altar Flowers – 2009

Anyone wishing to reserve your special Sunday to beautify our altar and to honor a loved one or a special occasion may do so now. Certain dates have already been requested, and the following dates are still available:

[As of December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008]

January 11(1)    January 18(1)    January 25  
February 1      February 8  
March 1          March 8 (1)    March 15      March 22      March 29 (1)  
April 12  
May 3 (1)      May 24          May 31 (1)  
June 21  
July 19 (1)    July 26 (1)  
August 2        August 9(1)    August 16      August 23  
September 6    September 13    September 27  
October 11     October 18  
November 1    November 8     November 22  
November 26 *Thanksgiving*    November 39  
December 20

Please circle the date you would like to reserve, as well as a second choice, and fill out below:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

2 ARRANGEMENTS - \$35 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 ARRANGEMENT - \$17.50 \_\_\_\_\_

Please put this form in my mailbox in the copy room marked **Altar Flowers Lila Aske** or you can mail this form to me. Please include your check payable to **Pilgrim Ladies Guild** with this form.

I will contact you a month before your date to determine the wording you would like in the bulletin the day your flowers are on the altar.

Thanks so much for your continued support in adding colorful beauty to our Altar.

Lila Aske (952-544-1072)  
1640 Kilmer Avenue  
St. Louis Park, MN 55426

### Newsletter Update

The newsletter will be taken over by Zoe Hertzog in the coming months. We will be meeting with Pastor Pete to discuss newsletter content and purpose. Any suggestions for what you expect to see in the newsletter would be very helpful. The newsletter is put together by volunteers and access to content has not been consistent or always foreseeable.

Note: If we do too much cutting back on mailings, we risk losing the bulk mail status.

And thanks for your patience and support of the efforts to bring this to you each month.

## Congregations respond to Year of Jubilee

Congregations from across the synod have begun submitting Year of Jubilee offerings now that the dates targeted for the main celebration have passed. The Ministry of Christian Giving is marking the first million dollar milestone. To date, congregations and individuals have offered \$1.13 million.



The Ministry of Christian Giving scheduled the main thrust of Year of Jubilee to culminate Dec. 14, and offerings are coming in on a daily basis. Some congregations have chosen to wait to observe the celebration until after the new year begins.

The Year of Jubilee offering was authorized by the 2007 synod convention to reduce or eliminate the synod's \$22.4 million dollar debt and free up as much as \$2.7 million a year in debt payments for other ministry.

For congregations that have not yet participated, [information](#) and [resources](#) are available online. Individuals can also make [gifts online](#). Gifts will be collected through July and then presented to the 2009 synod convention in Saginaw, Mich.

## What's in your New Year's resolutions??

Pastor Pete says he is a Big Picture person. I am somewhat a detail and somewhat of a how will it be done person. Take some time to list out for the year at least ONE HOW for yourself &/or family could approach each resolution. It could be as simple as "each morning I will pray for a school child or church member."

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(Feel free to use additional pieces of paper)

**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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