

“Tell the Israelites to move on.” The command makes no sense, but there it was. God’s people were to move forward and let God take care of the obstacles. As we move into the 89th year of our existence as a Christian congregation it is easy to see that we face obstacles. But obstacles don’t make this year any different. There have always been budgets to meet, buildings to maintain, a message to proclaim. We can look at the obstacles before us and decide that it will be impossible to move forward. But the same God who parted the sea under Moses’ staff has been with us in the past. He will be with us as we move forward.

It was a dark day on a hill outside of Jerusalem when it looked as if Jesus had to face the final, insurmountable obstacle. He faced it with faith, courage and determination. And the greatest obstacle—death—became his day of victory as well as ours. What obstacles will we face in 2010 that are greater?

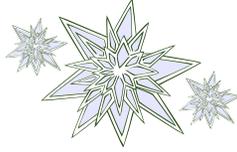
When God talked to Moses about the miracle he was about to do, he made the sea sound like an opportunity rather than an obstacle; an opportunity for God to reveal his power and glory. And so I believe that 2010 will be a year of great opportunity for our congregation. We will, with God’s blessing, continue to preach and teach the good news of Jesus Christ. That message will turn hearts to repentance and faith, and hearts thus moved will want to take on more opportunities. And God will reveal his power and glory in more hearts.

“Tell the Israelites to move on.”

Moses answered the people “Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.”

-Exodus 14:13-14

Tid Bits From our members



The Meaning of the Snowflake

Every new snowflake comes to the earth as a picture of our Savior's birth because they are sent from up above and remind us of god's care and love. Each one is so intricate and small because Christ sees the details of us all, and just as two are never the same the Lord knows and calls us each by name. Snowflakes gently cover the world in white and hide what's unlovely from our sight, showing us how He covers our sin and gives us His grace when we come to Him. So may every snowflake bring Christ to mind and in every bit of white may you find a reason to celebrate anew and a reminder of His love for you.

-Holley Gerth

Take my bad and give me Your good!

I got a visual when I read this - several, actually! And then I wondered - what visual might someone have imprinted of me? (I surely never looked in the mirror when I was getting mad, but someone saw.)

Lord, help me stop guarding my bubble as if I were the center of the universe and "it's all about me!" We are a network - "a jigsaw 3D" - so I want to do my part to shine His love, not indignantly fight for mine.

God's Stars Manage Their Anger

It takes no brains to lose your temper. It is so easy to go off on someone else, even someone you work with or live with, even someone you love. Angry words cut. They destroy love, destroy trust, and destroy joy. Once out, they are like toothpaste – impossible to get back in. They live forever in people's memories and come back to haunt you over and over.

*How do you find your temper again once you've lost it? Here are St. James' words of counsel for tongue use: **"Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires"** (James 1:19-20).*

You can't unspeak angry words. What you as a Christian star can do is acknowledge responsibility for your previous temper outbursts, ask for forgiveness, and grow in the grace of tongue-control. You can rebuke the selfishness in your own heart that thinks that the universe is all about YOU. You can grow in a Christ-like servant mindset that uses ears often and the tongue to build up, not tear down. Start right now – who around you needs a word of kindness from you today?

Celebrations / Congratulations



PLEASE HELP RESTOCK FOOD SHELF

The food shelf is in need of **cereal, fruit, meat, and soup**. Any other food items that are useful to families are greatly appreciated! Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.
Proverbs 22:9



January Birthdays

<i>Kula Roberts</i>	1
<i>Mark Odegard</i>	2
<i>Brian Arndt</i>	3
<i>Franklin Robolzi</i>	4
<i>Aaron Hartzel</i>	5
<i>Sarah Manthe</i>	9
<i>Norma Kettner</i>	10
<i>Phyllis Martin</i>	10
<i>Thomas Kurth</i>	12
<i>Katherine Wasley</i>	13
<i>Geri Geiselhart</i>	14
<i>Zoe Herzig</i>	15
<i>Travis Moy</i>	15
<i>Nicole Minea</i>	17
<i>Barb Schuler</i>	17
<i>Hannah Bandelin</i>	18
<i>Jennifer Hartzell</i>	21
<i>Arthur Wessels</i>	22
<i>Lean Hartzell</i>	25
<i>Lori McGowan</i>	27
<i>Brita Mickevicius</i>	27
<i>Amanda Wasley</i>	27
<i>Sarah Wasley</i>	27
<i>Mary Lindgren</i>	30



Wedding Anniversaries

Duane & Karen Sonnenburg 7

Announcements/Dates to remember

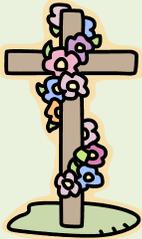


An Invitation to Women

*A marvelous thing happens when small groups meet to study the scriptures. In addition to gaining more insight into God's Word, caring friendships emerge and flourish. The **Women's Bible Study** group is currently studying the Book of John using the People's Bible commentary with lessons prepared by Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod pastors. We meet twice a month from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on the second and fourth Saturday morning in the fireside room at Pilgrim. In January we meet on the 9th and the 23rd. Coffee is always furnished – treats sometimes just appear!*

Ladies, you are invited and encouraged to join us. Come and see why this time in the Word is so precious to those who attend! Call Doris, 612-922-5058 or Betty, 612-823-4885 if you have questions.

ALTAR FLOWERS – 2010



Anyone wishing to reserve your special Sunday to honor a loved one or a special occasion may do so. Certain dates have already been requested, but the following dates are still available. Two arrangements are \$35; one is \$17.50. Checks are payable to Pilgrim Ladies Guild. You may also call Lila Aske @ 952-544-1072 or submit request to church office mail box with my name. Thanks so much for continued support in adding colorful beauty to our church altar.

*Jan. 10 (1)....Jan 17....Jan 24....Jan 31
Feb. 7....Feb 14....Feb 21....Feb 28
March 14....Mar 21....March 28 (1)
April 11.....Apr 18 (1)
May 9...May 16 (1)....May 23....May 30
June 13....June 20....June 27 (1)
July 4 (1)July 18.....July 25 (1)
Aug 1....Aug 8....Aug 15....Aug 22....Aug 29 (1)
Sept 5.....Sept 12....Sept 26
Oct 17....Oct 24....Oct 31
Nov 7.....Nov 14 (1)....Nov. 21.....Nov 28
Dec 5....Dec 12 (1)....Dec 19 (1)*

Announcements/Dates to remember



Epiphany Sunday will be January 10 at Pilgrim. Traditionally, this is the day that commemorates the journey of the Magi who came to visit baby Jesus. The story reveals a God who loves surprises. Think of it: the Savior of the world is born as a homeless child. Surprise! The news is revealed first to unsophisticated shepherds in the fields at night. Surprise! And then, a star tells the magi to travel west and visit the newborn king. Surprise!

During the season of advent our sermons will focus on some Old Testament stories when God made himself known in some surprising ways to some surprised and surprising people. Some of the stories you may have known and loved for years. Others might be a little less familiar. Join us during the Epiphany season and be surprised.

Epiphany 2010: O God Our Help in Ages Past

January 10: Sheba visits Solomon (1 Kings 10:1-9)

January 17: We pause from the series to observe Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. day

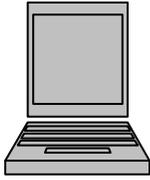
January 24: The Plague of Blood (Exodus 7:14-24)

January 31: Ezra reads the book of the Law (Nehemiah 8:1-3,5,6,8-10)

February 7: Elijah and the widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:7-16)

February 14: The birth of Samson is announced (Judges 13:6-24)

News From Pilgrim Lutheran School



COMPUTER LAB DONATIONS

Dear fellow members and friends of Pilgrim:

You can help by donating your old Laptop computers. We are taking only Laptops at this time. I accept them in any condition or age, whether they work or not. Please attach your name and address to your donations. Just leave the laptops in the church office and I will pick them up. Thanks for your help.

Joe Sorensen

PLEASE JOIN US FOR UPCOMING EVENTS AT PILGRIM LUTHERAN SCHOOL



<i>Away Basketball Games @ Bethany Academy</i>	<i>January 8</i>	<i>5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30</i>
<i>Away Basketball Games @ Mt. Olive, Delano</i>	<i>January 15</i>	<i>5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30</i>
<i>HOME Basketball Games vs King of Grace</i>	<i>January 22</i>	<i>5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30</i>
<i>A Team Tourney @ St. Croix LHS</i>	<i>January 23</i>	
<i>Away Basketball Games @ Good Shepherd</i>	<i>January 29</i>	<i>5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30</i>

News From St. Croix Lutheran High School



Regifting: The gift that keeps on giving!

Did you get a Christmas gift that wasn't exactly right for you? It might be right for us! Rather than standing in long lines to return the gift, stop by St. Croix Lutheran High School and donate that wonderful "not quite right" Christmas present to the St. Croix Annual Auction. The Auction LOVES regifted Christmas gifts.

Basic rules of regifting:

- 1.) Items should be in original packaging.*
- 2.) Items should not be refurbished as these tend to be labeled as such.*
- 3.) Items must be like-new and fully functional.*
- 4.) No fruitcakes please.*

Or, if you enjoy those fantastic post-Christmas sales, pick something up for the St. Croix Annual Auction! Donations are considered a charitable gift for tax purposes and a great way to jump start your charitable giving for 2010!

For more information about the St. Croix auction (including how to donate, volunteer or purchase your tickets) check out the web site at www.StCroixSchools.org/Auction or call 651-455-1521 ext. 105.

See you at the auction!

News From West Lutheran High School

Basketball Teams Victorious in the 2009 Great Western Lutheran Shootout Tournament



The Warrior girls and boys basketball teams left the frozen tundra to compete in the Great Western Lutheran Shootout Tournament hosted by Evergreen Lutheran High School in Des Moines, Washington just outside of Seattle. During the December 10-12 competition, the Warriors battled teams from Evergreen Lutheran High School, Arizona Lutheran Academy, California Lutheran High School, Nebraska Lutheran High School, and Vancouver Christian High School.

The boys team took home their third consecutive GWLS championship by defeating California Lutheran (54-44), Evergreen Lutheran (53-43), and Arizona Lutheran (57-56). The girls team took third place by defeating California Lutheran (64-53), losing to Evergreen Lutheran (34-40), and winning against Nebraska Lutheran (48-26).

Four players were named to the GWLS all-tournament team for their outstanding tournament performances: Michael Lindberg, Blake Molitor, Laura Kolander and Megan Steffel. Lindberg was also named MVP in leading the Warriors to their championship win.

Congratulations to the girls and boys basketball teams for their outstanding performance at the Great Western Lutheran Shootout Tournament!

FAMILY FUN TIME

Winter

Find and circle all of the Winter related words that are hidden in the grid.

The remaining letters spell a Japanese proverb.

L S O S E K A L F W O N S E L C I C I N
L E Y C E K R A I M N D D R A Z Z I L B
A S C A W V K A I O E C I K C A L B R D
B W A R D R O T E S N O W S H O V E L C
W E R F A I T L C W A F I R E P L A C E
O A N P I E L I G E R N H E A D B A N D
N T I S N C P O L S Y E S E T A K S S W
S S V S N M E T H K E A D N D F R N E M
T H A M Y O S F S C K T N N O L O H A R
Y I L L R A W E I O C W O E U W O G S W
E R O S C O R S W S O I I B B G M C O I
S T E W A I T S H L H V T O O S N A N N
N K O P T M O S P O G I A S T G O O N D
D N I W P L T W T O E R N C O E G U L C
S E O I S I O S N W D S R G A R E A P H
E N L T N N L G I F R E E Z E T F L N I
S R I S S G G S M R O N B O O D I K S L
T C F I R E W O O D H A I L S T O O B L
E H S S T N A P I K S C H P A C T I N K

BLACK ICE
BLIZZARD
BOOTS
CARNIVAL
CHRISTMAS
COLD
EGG NOG
FIREPLACE
FIREWOOD
FOG
FREEZE
FROST
GLOVES

HAIL
HEADBAND
HIBERNATION
HOCKEY
HOLIDAYS
ICE FISHING
ICICLES
KNIT CAP
LONG
UNDERWEAR
MITTENS
OLYMPICS
PARKA
SCARF

SEASON
SKATES
SKI DOO
SKI PANTS
SKIING
SLED
SLEET
SLIPPERY
SNOW
CASTLE
SNOW PLOW
SNOW
SHOVEL
SNOW TIRES
SNOWBALL

SNOWBOARD
SNOWFLAKE
SNOWMAN
SNOWSHOES
SOLSTICE
SOUP
STEW
STORM
SWEATSHIRT
TOBOGGAN
VACATION
WIND CHILL
WOOL SOCKS

CHILDRENS FUN TIME



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JANUARY 2010

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Worship Services: 8:30 Traditional 9:45 Fellowship 10:30 Contemporary	4 SCHOOL RESUMES School Committee 5:30	5 Men's Bible Study 6:30-7:30 a.m.	6 Ladies Guild 12:00 Bible Study 6 p.m. Worship 7 p.m. Girl Pioneers	7 Shut-in Visits	8	9 Women's Bible Study 9 a.m.
10 Communion Services: 8:30 Traditional 9:45 Fellowship 10:30 Contemporary	11 Finance Meeting 7 p.m.	12 Men's Bible Study 6:30-7:30 a.m. Council Meeting 7 p.m.	16 Bible Study 6 p.m. Worship 7 p.m.	14 Shut-in Visits	15 NO SCHOOL FOR KINDERGARTEN (Round-up: 9:30-Noon)	16
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24 <i>Croixaliers (Both services)</i> Worship Services: 8:30 Traditional 9:45 Fellowship 10:30 Contemporary	25	26 Men's Bible Study 6:30-7:30 a.m.	16 Bible Study 6 p.m. Worship 7 p.m. Evangelism 7:30	28	29	30
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