

Pilgrim Lutheran Church



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The Monthly Newsletter of Pilgrim Lutheran Church

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Emancipation

"The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer."

So begins General Order #3, read to the people of Texas on June 19, 1865 by Major General Gordon Granger of the Union Army. On January 1, 1863 the Emancipation Proclamation had legally freed all slaves in the United States. But the order was not enforced in Texas until General Grant surrendered and Granger landed in Galveston.

It's a bitter irony that for two and a half years black slaves in Texas remained the property of white owners, even after slavery had been officially abolished. Today we celebrate June 19th as Juneteenth Day in memory of the moment when this last group of slaves heard the good news of emancipation. The website Juneteenth.com puts it this way:

On Juneteenth we come together young and old to listen, to learn and to refresh the drive to achieve. It is a day where we all take one step closer together - to better utilize the energy wasted on racism. Juneteenth is a day that we pray for peace and liberty for all.

As Christians we are committed to the love of all people, whatever their race or national background. Let us, therefore, ask God to remove prejudice and arrogance from our hearts.

And let us remember another bitter irony. When Jesus said "It is finished" (John 19:30) from the cross, he proclaimed that the price for our eternal freedom had been paid. Because he offered himself, we are free to inherit eternal life.

But like the slaves who hadn't heard about emancipation, there are millions in this world who have not heard the good news. They still live in bondage to sin and guilt, and in fear of God's wrath. Those who have not

heard the news live in places like China and Somalia and Ethiopia—and maybe they also live on the other side of your backyard fence. Have they seen the difference that freedom makes in your life? Have they heard your testimony?

'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' How, then can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? - Romans 10:13-14

Pastor Pete Leyrer

Treasurer's Report

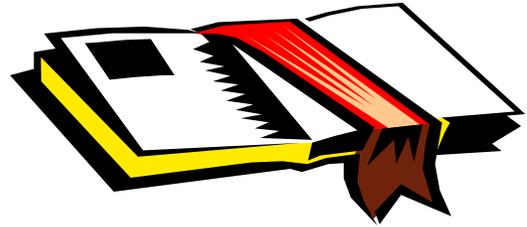
	April 08	Year to Date
Income	86,140.80	611,303.66
Expenses	<u>63,438.56</u>	<u>643,373.86</u>
Income less	22,302.24	-32,070.20

Treasurer - Michael Anderson

Ask the Pastor

On the first Sunday of June, I'll be answering some of the "ask the pastor" questions that I've received through Pilgrim's website. I hope to continue doing a few questions on the first Sunday of every month. I don't know why, but many questions that had been submitted through the site didn't get to me when they were first written. I apologize for this glitch, but now I have quite a backlog of interesting questions to address.

Keep those questions coming!



Liana Leyrer, Olivia Leyrer, Hannah Bandelin, and Mrs. Tammy Leyrer, the leader of the ST.Croix Mission Trip to Taiwan, want to express their deep gratitude to the members of Pilgrim who donated gifts of money at the Special Coffee Hour, to help with the costs of the trip. Our Pilgrim family has been wonderful in their support, interest, and prayers.

Touché Fleming: A Star Student to Remember for a Cause to Support

A huge thank you to all those who planned and executed the splendid Touché Fleming Banquet on Saturday, May 3. Stars were everywhere: on the tables, the menus, the aprons of students who waited tables, the stage..... and guests literally "dined under the stars." We are grateful that our school turns out real star students who can and do wait tables with humility, efficiency and courtesy. We are grateful that those gifted with talent entertained us with a star filled program. We applaud Kingdom Workers for supporting our outreach in this all star urban community. But wait! Aren't we all stars under Christ?

Please come to this exciting gathering next year to cheer on and support tuition assistance in our Christ filled school for stars. All glory to God!

Bob and Betty Helmen

A letter to all

Dear Pilgrim Congregation,

I write this letter in sincere thanksgiving to God through our Lord Jesus Christ because you upheld me in prayer during my stay at the hospital. I want to give a special thanks to the precious people who contributed to the needs of my family in the following ways:

- † To anyone who ever prayed for & with me or the family; thanks be to God for your concern and compassion.
- † To anyone who ever helped in the hands on care of the children, in any way for any amount of time; thanks be to God for your tender touch.
- † To anyone who ever contributed financially with gifts or offerings; may God richly bless you in continued grace.
- † To anyone who ever spoke a word of encouragement, to edify or to bless us, especially my mother, who has dedicated her life to the work of the church both personally and professionally. I personally thank you for encouraging her.

Finally, though I am poor in the world I am rich in Christi and I am rich in God's people so that even in trial I have seen God's tender mercies. Thank you all so much for you care. It is truly the little things that make all the difference. So let us continue in this brotherly love and bring Christ to the nations.

In Christian Love
Kirsi M Fischer



Celebrations & Congratulations

Teach me O Lord, to follow your decrees: then I will keep them to the end. Give me understanding, and I will keep your law and obey it with all my heart. Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight .Psalm 119:33-35

June Birthdays

Siaffah Kiazolu	1
Zion Fahey	2
Williameta Jallah	2
Clarence Heldt	3
Ake'la Johnson	5
Elizabeth Laudolff	5
Michael Dieter	7
Grace Ribolzi	7
Geraldine Michael	8
Darlene Moy	11
JoAnn Owens	11
Karma Huggar	13
Susan Noonan	13
Duane Sonnenburg	13
LaVonne Vrchota	14
Julianne Johnson	16
Alyson Sroga	16
Carol Johnson	18
Darrell Miller	19
Christine Bonde	20

Jonathan Hudrlik	21
Allen Geiselhart	22
Betty Wied	22
Ralph Kiecker	23
Lynn Burmeister	25
Sandra Puterbaugh	25
Amanda Neumann	26
Cory Bandelin	27
Thomas Odegard	27
Arnold Fick	28
Sarai Gostchock	28
Christian Ndekwe	30

June Wedding Anniversaries

Jeffrey & Donna Ditzel	June 4
Aaron & Elisabeth Robinson	June 10
Joshua & Rebecca Kramer	June 17
Robert & Laurie Gunderson	June 20

Ladies Guild

The May Guild meeting was most enjoyable with our lunch and meeting first. This gave us time for Pastor Leyrer to give us the report of his trip to China. He had a number of slides that were wonderful. Many ladies asked questions about the area and the teachers who are serving with Friends of China. Our June meeting will be June 4 at 12:00 Noon. It will be a Pot Luck.
Sherry

PILGRIM PROCLAIMER POTLUCK SUNDAY JUNE 29, 2008

After our 10:30 Service join us in celebrating the distribution of the Pilgrim Proclaimer. We will recognize those who have been distributing such the past two years as well as encourage others to hop on board the bandwagon of doing the same. We'll hear stories about how such is going. In addition we'll establish follow-up training and equipping to key off of our long range outreach goal. Eric will set up a time to train people for Law & Gospel presentations in order to follow-up with knocking on people's doors to present such by 8/1/08.

SATURDAY MORNING BIKE RIDE CHANGES

Due to the lack of participation so far we'll move back the time from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on the third Saturdays of the month. In addition, we'll meet at the new Free Wheel Bike Shop along the Midtown Greenway at the Midtown Commons (the Old Sears Building). The bike shop is located in the trench just north of the Old Sears Building along the Midtown Greenway. This meeting location maybe a more central location since many of our members lives east of Interstate 35 W

See you on Saturday June 21st at 10:00 a.m. For information contact Galen Sommer at either 612-872-8265 or galensommer@aol.com



Pilgrim Worship Committee

MISSION STATEMENT:

*IN CHRISTIAN LOVE WE REACH OUT TO THOSE
WHO DO NOT KNOW JESUS
CHRIST AND NURTURE BELIEVERS THROUGH
GOD'S WORD.*

May 26, 2008 Meeting Summary

Those in attendance were: Joe Sorensen, Josh and Becky Kramer, Susan Noonan, Mike Denn, Lori Heilman and Tam Bandelin.

Discussion points

- Pastor Pete presented the idea of having a sermon series on Marriage sometime over the season of Pentecost, possibly followed by a weekend retreat. The committee felt that one or the other would be fine although more people could benefit if the topic were covered during Sunday sermons.
- The committee was surprised at the amount of Ask the Pastor questions that were submitted. Pete is encouraged to go ahead with the plan to have the Ask the Pastor questions answered on the first Sunday of each month.
- Greater effort will be made to promote various musical groups at Pilgrim. This includes choir,
- Praise Hymn, outside groups, talent within the congregation, etc.

- The topic of service length was briefly discussed. It was suggested that some of the problem could be alleviated if the first service started on time. The idea of omitting the children's sermon during the first service did not meet with overwhelming support. Also the communion liturgy as it stands does not lend itself to an abbreviated service. The
- be placed in the bulletin or on power point to demonstrate the procedure. It was felt that 3 people would be needed to implement this format. Also the purchase of additional communion ware was mentioned. An idea for shortening the service was that during time the children are making their way to the children's sermon the congregation could be singing the first verse of a hymn and singing the last verse when the children go back to their seats.
- Matt Helmen will be handling the sound for the outdoor services this summer.
- The Johnson family has asked to be included in providing the music for our Sunday worship experiences.
- There is a need for 2 additional music stands. Tam will investigate price and quality.

Next regularly scheduled worship committee meeting is scheduled for June 4, 2008 at 5:45 pm

Many thanks to all of you who have contributed for the lovely floral displays that Michael creates.

There are some dates available in coming months if anyone wishes to participate. Specifically these are the following dates available during next few months.

June 22.....August 3 and 10....Sept 7 -- 14 -- and 28.

You may give me a call @ 952-544-1072....or send a noteor put a request in my box near church office.

Cost is \$17.50 each or two for \$35.



Pilgrim Rummage Sale

Thursday June 12 – Saturday June 14th

Thursday & Friday	9am - 6pm
Saturday	9am – 2pm

This year's sales will go to help the following areas:

- Cheer Leading clinic to be held sometime in August
- Circle of Christian Friends
- Pilgrim School Athletics Department

Rummage Sale help needed!

We are looking for help for this year's **Rummage Sale** to be held on June 12th-14th, Help is needed on the following days.

Monday June 9th , anytime after 5:30 p.m. - We need a few strong men to help move tables into the gym and set up cloths racks.

Tuesday & Wednesday June 10th & 11th – Starting at 9:00 a.m. - Help with sorting donations and putting them out onto the tables.

Thursday June 12th & Friday June 13th - Help at check out table (hours are 9:00 - 6:00)

June 14th, - Help at Check out table (time 9:00 - 2:00)

June 14th, Clean up after sale (2:00 - Until we are done)

If you are able to help please get in touch with Zoe Herzig @ 763-360-6150

Donations for the rummage sale may be dropped off anytime between **May 30th - June 9th**, and placed in the hallway between the boy's and girl's bathroom in the school building.

(Please no early drop offs while school is still in session)



Items that WILL NOT be excepted are:

Microwaves
Computers
Computer Monitors

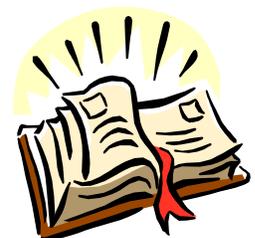
All other items MUST be in working order, clean and otherwise in good condition.

Women's Bible Study

All women of Pilgrim are welcome as well as any guest you want to bring that would like to get to know Jesus Christ as their Savior. Please consider this an invitation to you and friends you bring.

If you have questions, please call Doris, 612-922-5058 or Betty, 612-823-4885.

2nd and 4th Saturday Morning
Fireside room at Pilgrim
See you there!



BoxTops for Education

When you buy Campbells, Kemps, or General Mills products save the specially marked labels, caps, or UPC codes. Turn them in and Pilgrim benefits greatly.

You Web people go online to find a lot of additional opportunities to participate in the program. The Box Tops Marketplace allows you to earn cash for your school when you shop online. Start at the Box Tops Marketplace at <http://www.boxtops4education.com> Click on the link to one of your favorite online stores. You'll be automatically sent to that store's web site. Shop as you normally would and a portion of your qualifying purchase is donated to your school.

Bits and Tips

The Sunday School teacher asked, "Now Johnny, tell me, do you say prayers before eating at your house?" "No, Ma'm," he replied, "We don't have to. My mom is a good cook!"

If you learn to laugh in spite of the circumstances that surround you, you will enrich yourself, enrich others, and more than that, you will last!

The Strange Ways of God

Some things my Father sends me,
I cannot understand
Some things that He allows me,
Seem strange as from His hand.
The frequent wounds and bruises,
That brings inward pain,
Seem naught to me but losses
Without the trace of gain.
No Gain? Ah, I'd forgotten
My Father's faithful Word,
That all things work for blessings
To them that love the Lord.
So now I take the "strange things"
That He is pleased to send,
As blessings, shaped and tempered
By His own loving hand

And God Said No

I asked God to take away my pride, and God said NO. He said it was not for Him to take away, but for me to give up.

I asked God for patient, and God said NO. He said that patient is a by-product of tribulation. It isn't granted, it's earned.

I asked God to give me happiness, and God said NO. He said He gives blessings, happiness is up to me.

I asked God to spare me pain, and God Said NO. He said suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to Him.

I asked God to make my spirit grow, and God said NO. He said I must grow on my own, but He will prune me to make me fruitful.

I asked God if He loved me, and God said YES. He gave me His only Son who died for me, and I will be in Heaven someday because of His gift of faith in me.

I asked God to help me love others as much as He loves me.

And God said, '*Ah, finally you have the idea.*'



April 28, 2008

Dear sisters and brothers in Jesus, our living and ascended Savior!

What a joy it was to spend some time with you and to visit Pilgrim Lutheran School! My wife and I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to meet faculty and students, to watch and learn, and to get a glimpse of the Gospel ministry conducted in your midst. We saw engaged students, clear lesson objectives posted, appropriate methods in place, and classrooms managed with love and respect. But more importantly, we saw the work of the Holy Spirit! Wherever the Word of God is proclaimed the Holy Spirit is unleashed to touch hearts with the good news of Jesus as Savior. That love of Jesus was evident and encouraging, spoken not only by pastor and teachers, but also by the students. We experienced it firsthand sitting at the lunch table with a group of students.

Our Savior makes a wonderful promise to you. *Remain in me, and I will remain in you. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.* (John 15, *passim*) You have the Savior's presence since you teach and proclaim the Word. You have his promise that much fruit will be produced that demonstrates to the community that you are the Lord's disciples! It was a joy to have such fruits of faith demonstrated to us.

Thank you once again for your Christian friendship and warm welcome. Colette and I now have faces and places in our mind when we pray that "your kingdom come" at Pilgrim Lutheran.

May our Ascended Lord Jesus continue to extend his hand of gospel blessing upon you.

Cordially, in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Colette B. Zarling
Rev. Mark G. Zarling, president of Martin Luther College

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. (If you haven't visited this site, there is beautiful music playing while you navigate around.) Just write up, hand in, or E-mail any items to Christine Bedor – newsletter@pilgrimonline.net

And thanks 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**

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Minneapolis, Minnesota 55409

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