

The Pilgrim Spire

Pilgrim United Church of Christ

130 Broad Boulevard
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

Staff

Pastor

Rev. Kirk W. Bruce

Christian Education Director

Marilyn Freeman

Choir Director

Ryoji Shimpo

Secretary

Amber Parana

Custodian

Peter Paugh

Contact Info

Office phone:
330.928.4847

Office Fax:
330.928.1017

Email:

Rev. Kirk W. Bruce

pilgrimpastor@ameritech.net

Marilyn Freeman

pilgrimce@ameritech.net

Amber Parana

pilgrimoffice@ameritech.net

Visit our website @

www.PilgrimCF.org

for electronic versions of current and previous Spires, calendars, the Pilgrim Constitution, wedding, funeral and facility use policies, history and much more!

The Pilgrim Spire is published twice monthly, on the first and third Wednesday of every month.

If you have something you'd like to share with your fellow Pilgrims, please contact the church office by October 2nd to include your announcement in the next edition of *The Pilgrim Spire*.

We don't want you to miss a single issue! Please contact the office with any address changes, temporary or permanent.

Pastor's Parable:

There is a story told about a young boy who was being bullied by another boy. After the usual exchange of words, the smaller boy stretched out his leg, pointed his toe, drew a line in the sandy soil and dared the bully, "Cross that line."

The bully stepped across the line with his characteristic cocky smirk, but before he could do anything the smaller boy said, "Good, now we are both on the same side."

A concerning trend I see happening in our world is division. I am not suggesting people are doing too much math. I see a world in which people keep trying to divide one from another. If you don't agree with me, then you are my enemy; if you aren't for me, then you are against me.

Interestingly, Jesus said almost the opposite, "If you aren't against me then you are for me." His call was one of union not division.

Why is it people see differences before they see similarities?

There is no greater place than in our own congress with their debate on health care reform. I don't care if you favor a public option or are opposed to it. It doesn't matter if you are Republican or Democratic. Start with the realization we are on the same side of the line. Start with what you share in common.

This gift of a different way to resolve differences is the gift of the church. We are all on the same team. Pilgrim lives this out so well. Let's take it one step further and teach it to the world. Who knows, maybe we can even get a white police officer and an African-American professor to someday have a beer together.

My message is not political, rather it is theological. If we are the body of the Christ, all the members of the body do not have the same function, but they all belong to one body and they must all work together. This is the message of Christ, and it is possible by the power of the Spirit.

See you Sunday as we worship together in the Lord God's name and teach the world a new way to play.

Shalom,

Pastor Kirk

Your Fellow Pilgrims Your Fellow Pilgrims

*Dear Friends at Pilgrim,
What a support you have been to me during this long recovery. Your prayers, visits, cards, telephone calls and delicious food have made me realize how much Christian love can mean. There are too many to name, but I love you all. The flowers from the altar were lovely... Monday, the 21st, I have an appointment with my doctor, and if all is well I will be able to get out again. Hope to see you soon.
With all my love and thanks,
Myrtle*

*My Dear Parishioners:
Your kindness is only outreached by the love of Christ himself! Your kindness and love for your fellow man shows in your acts and deeds. You go beyond mere talk. You act upon the Word of God! You take the command to "Love your neighbor as yourself" to heart. I am at the receiving end of your actions. I have received the Love of God through your generous act to share your bounty with your fellow man. By giving of your food you give of yourselves. And for that I am truly "thankful." May God bless you for your generous act of sharing and the kindness you extend to all your neighbors here at Sutliff I.
Sincerely,
Steve Hendershot
Apt 814, Sutliff I*

*Thank you Pilgrim Family:
We wanted to thank everyone for all their prayers, love and support as we have welcomed Levi into the world. We feel very blessed to have you in our lives! Levi is very lucky to have so many people to care for him so early in life. He is looking forward to meeting everyone!
Thank you for everything,
Amber, Brian & Levi Parana*

- Letters to Pilgrim
- Steeple Lighting
- Prayer Requests

The Steeple lights the sky over Cuyahoga Falls:

In memory of Ruth Schnabel

from

JoAnne Alley

The Steeple continues to light the sky:

In honor of Kris Gill

*who is receiving a Distinguished
Nursing Alumni Award*

from

Marie Peckham

To light the *Pilgrim United Church of Christ Steeple* from dusk to dawn for a week in honor or remembrance of someone or a special event, please sign the sheet in the Social Hall or contact the church office.

Donations to **LIGHT THE STEEPLE** are \$5.

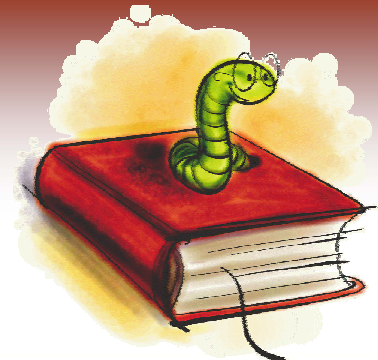
Please keep the following in your **PRAYERS**:
Donald Ellis, recovering from colon cancer surgery; *Caitlin [Dewitt-Kojac] Thomas* gave birth to *Avin Alexander*, 7lb. 9oz, on September 9 in Germany where her husband, *Mike Thomas*, is stationed (Proud grandparents are *Riki & Chris Dewitt-Kojac*); *Rick Miller*, recovering from heart surgery; *Myrtle Glanville*, healing from a leg infection; *The Sarroccos*; all other prayers that have not been given voice.

Note: If you have put someone on the prayer list, please contact the church office at least once a month with updates to keep this list current.

Congratulations
to Pilgrim's own **Kris Gill**,
recipient of a Distinguished
Nursing Alumni Award!

Mark Your Calendar...

Mark Your Calendar...



L.I.G.H.T.

Learning In God's House Together

Wednesday, September 23rd:

EAT & EARN AT DONATOS: Place an order for dine-in or take-out from 5-8pm at Donatos on State Rd. (not applicable for delivery orders) Be sure to mention that you are a *Pilgrim* and Donatos will donate a portion of your purchase to the church. This program will take place the 4th Wednesday of every month at the same place and time.

Saturday, September 26th

Pilgrim is sponsoring a **FLEA MARKET** from 8:30am-1:30pm. Sell your old treasures or come shop for new ones! Check out www.pilgrimcf.org for details.

We are looking for volunteers to participate in **PILGRIM'S YARD BEATIFICATION**. Pilgrims are welcome to gather anytime between 9am-3pm to edge, weed, trim bushes, pull out old shrubs, or complete any other tasks necessary to *beautify* Pilgrim's yard! If you (and/or your yard tools) are available for this endeavor, please contact *Carol Letvin* (330.325.1400).

Sunday, September 27th

Get ready to swing with that wonderful gospel sound as we worship and praise on **GOSPEL SUNDAY!** Christian Education begins at 9:30am followed by worship service at 10:30am.

Sunday, October 4th

MUSIC COMMITTEE will meet following worship service in the Rev. Greene Room.

MARRIED AT PILGRIM: Ceremony at 2pm followed by reception. See *Alice Woodburn* for details.

Sunday, October 25th

See *Shari Schneider* for more information about Pilgrim's **LANTERN TOUR** 5:30-7:30pm.

Sunday, September 27

"God's Classroom" - outside!

Saying "thank you" to God for all good gifts! Everyone is welcome to join us as we take a walk along the river boardwalk. We will look for "thankful" things and stop to offer prayers of thanksgiving - just like the 10th leper who came back to offer thanks for the miracle of healing. (Permission forms needed. See website or CE office.)

(We may flip these two lessons dependent on the weather)

October 4th

"Stages of Faith" Room 24

Jesus loves us no matter what we look like! Healing happens both physically and spiritually. Come! Join the fun as we re-enact the story of the 10 lepers and finish our Stewardship Art display.

Does anyone have a chafing dish that they would be willing to donate to the church? If so, notify the church office or *Marty Sermersheim*, 330-929-1965, martysrn@gmail.com. These are to be used for the funeral service receptions the church may be doing as a fund-raiser in partnership with Clifford Funeral Home.