



# Pilgrims' Progress



The Monthly News of the People of Pilgrim Lutheran Church  
Warwick, Rhode Island  
November 2014

## OUR STAFF

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The Rev. Dennis Kohl

### Minister of Music

Denis Brunelle

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Elisabeth Remming Vergun

### Webmaster

Bill Dugan

### Treasurer

Bill Brinson

### Financial Secretary

Beth Fish

### Sexton

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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

FROM THE PASTOR	P.	1 & 2
PASTORAL ACTS	P.	2
CHURCH NOTES	P.	3 - 5
NOVEMBER SERVERS	P.	6
NOVEMBER CALENDAR	P.	7

## December *Pilgrims' Progress* Deadline: Saturday, November 15!

Please e-mail submissions to Elisabeth  
at [both parishasst@pilgrimlutheranri.org](mailto:parishasst@pilgrimlutheranri.org)  
and [eremmingvergun@cox.net](mailto:eremmingvergun@cox.net)  
or place in her mailbox in the  
church office. Thanks!

## From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Maybe you remember it too, a service held in the church I grew up in at this time of the year called "Harvest Home". Our church was located in a rural setting, so this was a service to which people brought the vegetables and fruit from their gardens to be shared with one of the church agencies in our area. I remember the front of the church piled high with all sorts of things, even canned goods or dry goods from people who did not have a garden.

It was for us a sign of the end of the year, a reminder of how good God had been through nature and gardens, and how much good we could do as a congregation when we gathered our gifts together.

In November, the church gives thought to end times, to the harvest which God will gather at the end of time. We remember those who have already been gathered into God's presence: loved ones and members of our community who have died over the past year. That will happen on All Saints Sunday, November 2. Once again this year, you will have the opportunity to come forward and light a candle in memory of your loved ones who rest in God's keeping.

On November 16, we will gather together our estimates for giving in 2015. This is an important event in our life as a congregation. It is important not only because it will enable us to make some plans for what we will do in the coming year, but also important as we demonstrate how we are community, bringing our gifts to be used by God, just as we did at the Harvest Home services of my childhood.

But the bottom line on our gifts to God is that they are first of all God's gifts to us. A part of living as a follower of Jesus, a mark of the life-style of Christians is this important fact: all we have, all we

*God's purpose for Pilgrim Lutheran Church is to build our  
relationships with Jesus and to share our gifts with the community.  
Praying always - Serving with joy - Teaching - Proclaiming the Good News - Building community*

are, and all we hope to be some day, are gifts from God.

I know that there is a statue of the "Independent Man" on top of our state house, but the truth is that none of us is independent; we are all interdependent, needing other people to know who we are. That's common wisdom. But learning to see everything as a gift from God is what we call stewardship in the church. Stewardship is not just about money and finances; it is a whole way of life, a new vision of ourselves in connection with other people, the world, and the God who loved us enough to send Jesus as our savior.

On Sunday, November 23, we will celebrate Christ the King. There is a baptism planned for that day by which the body of Christ grows in this world. But that is the day we look to the culmination of all things under the rule of Christ, the one who has redeemed us and bought us back from the powers of death. It is a day of hope and reassurance.

You know as I do that there are lots of people and TV programs and media preachers who want you to look at the end of things as a fearful time, a time to dread, a time of punishment. But in the church of Jesus Christ, the end of things is celebrated as the beginning of new things: new earth, new heavens, new bodies, new people who are the children of God and sisters and brothers with Christ.

That is who you are now. The reason we gather every Sunday is to be reminded of that truth. The world will not teach us this. In the world we learn more of our shortcomings and misunderstandings. But in the church, the Gospel is proclaimed which declares what the world does not understand: no matter what happens, no matter where we wander, no matter what our past has been; God's love is there for every one of us.

Maybe you know someone who needs to hear that, and know that made real in bread and wine. Ask them to come along to hear the plans God has for them, for you, and for the whole of God's creation.

In hope,

*Paster Kohl*

## **Pastoral Acts**

### **Affirmation of Baptism**

Molly Phillips



### **Funerals**



Olga Carmody  
Charles Gates  
Leanne Williams



### **Looking ahead...a request from your Parish Assistant**

With the extreme busyness of the Advent and Christmas seasons soon upon the church office, it would be very helpful **for all those coordinating worship servers, and for all those who have information to include in the January 2015 *Pilgrims' Progress* to submit your material to Elisabeth as early as possible** (ideally, late November or early December.)

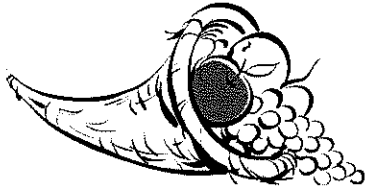
Every year, our goal is to have the January *Progress* available before Christmas, and we can do it with your help—tracking down information around the holidays with people traveling and being otherwise very busy can be a real challenge! Any assistance you are able to give would be very much appreciated, and will make an otherwise crazy time in the church office just that much less hectic. Many thanks!

Your Grateful Parish Assistant,

*Elisabeth*

Please be sure to notify the church office at 401-739-2937 or [parishasst@pilgrimlutheranri.org](mailto:parishasst@pilgrimlutheranri.org) if you have an address/telephone/e-mail change, a membership change, or a change in your family status. Many thanks!

Thanksgiving Worship  
Wednesday, November 26



Once again this year, we will gather as a community to give thanks for all with which God has blessed us.

Please join us for worship on **Wednesday evening, November 26 at 7:00.** Our hosts will be the people of St. Timothy's Roman Catholic Church on Warwick Avenue. We will be joined by some of Warwick's other religious communities, including our friends from Temple Am David and St. Mark's Episcopal Church, as well.

Following the service, we will have a time of fellowship with these people of faith. Mark your calendar now to be part of this important time of thanks, hospitality, and community.



American Parkinson Disease Association

Laurie Linden would like to thank all the supporters and members of Team Pilgrim and Belvin's Buddies!

We raised \$1,730 from this year's Parkinson walk and \$500 from The Rhode Island Chapter of Thrivent, making our grand total raised \$2,230!

Thank you all so much for your support.

PILGRIM CHURCH'S  
FALL FESTIVAL



**Saturday, November 15**  
**9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

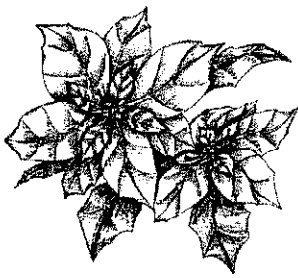
Crafts  
Books  
White Elephant Table  
Lots of food and fun!



*First Holy Communion Classes*

Pastor Kohl will meet with students and families interested in Holy Communion on **Sundays November 2, 9, 16, & 23 following the 9:30 service.** We will welcome the students to receive Holy Communion on the first day of the church's new year, the first Sunday in Advent, November 30 at the 9:30 service.

There is no set grade or age for first communion. At the time a child expresses interest in coming to receive this gift and they have a beginning understanding of forgiveness is the best time to bring your child to classes. There will be a sign-up on the bulletin board. It is important to let us know your child is coming to classes so that materials used will be appropriate to the ages of the student.



## *Christmas Poinsettia Garden*

The Altar Guild will soon be accepting contributions for Pilgrim's Christmas Poinsettia Garden.

If you would like to make a donation in honor of or in memory of a loved one, please fill out an envelope (in clear print), enclose your free will contribution, and place it in the collection plate. You may also send your envelope to the church office to the attention of the Altar Guild.

Christmas Poinsettia envelopes can be found on the table in the narthex. **Please fill out a separate envelope for each dedication.**

These lovely poinsettias will decorate our main sanctuary, the chapel, and other areas of the church building throughout the Christmas season.

*All Christmas Poinsettia envelopes must be received no later than Sunday, December 14, 2014. Many thanks!*

### **Pilgrim Lutheran Church Third Quarter 2014 Financial Update**

The financial picture of the church's General Fund for the first nine months of 2014 ending 9/30/14 are:

Expenses:	\$189,983
Income:	<u>170,116</u>
Shortfall	(\$19,867)

Please consider donating funds to reduce the current deficit.

You may contact Bill Brinson, Treasurer at 401-467-6517 or Pete Mahoney at 401-737-3814 for more information.

## YANKEE CANDLE FUNDRAISER

October 24 - November 9



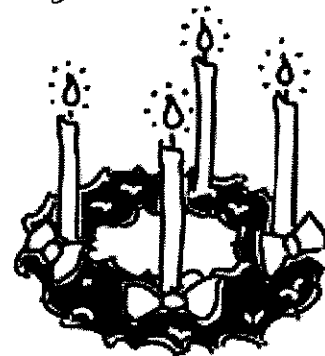
Just in time for Christmas giving!  
Look for the table in the narthex.

**40% of the sales amount  
will go to Pilgrim Church!**

Your payment is due at the time you order. Please make your check payable to Pilgrim Lutheran Church and be sure to indicate **YANKEE CANDLE** in the memo line. Candles will be shipped in two to four weeks and arrive in time for holiday giving.

Orders may also be placed online at [www.yankeecandlefundraising.com](http://www.yankeecandlefundraising.com)  
Enter Group Number 99732314

*Advent begins  
Sunday, November 30*



# One in seven Americans rely on food banks

One in seven Americans (46 million people) rely on food pantries and meal service programs, according to a study by Feeding America, a network of 200 food banks. And 25 percent of military families, 620,000 households, need help putting food on the table.

“It means that people in America have to make trade-offs,” said Bob Aiken, CEO of Feeding America. “They have to pick between buying food for their children or paying for utilities, rent and medicine. ... Hunger exists in literally every county in America. It’s an urban problem, it’s a suburban problem, and it’s a rural problem.”

Linda Patterson, executive director of the Lorton [Va.] Community Action Center, said stereotypes of the people who need help are misleading. “The people who come here are hard workers. They are employed. They are the school bus drivers, the lab techs in doctor’s offices, receptionists, the janitors who clean the floor of your children’s school,” she said. “They just can’t make ends meet because some kind of crisis has hit them.”

The center has seen an 18 percent increase in people who need food assistance since food stamp benefits were cut last November, she said.

The “Hunger in America” study found that of people who use food banks:

- 26 percent are African-American, 20 percent are Hispanic, 43 percent are white and 11 percent are “other”.
- 33 percent of households have at least one family member with diabetes.
- 65 percent of households have a child under 18 or someone 60 or older.

From the November 2014 issue of *The Lutheran* magazine

## FOOD MINISTRY

Pilgrim’s Food Ministry feeds many local families every week.  
Please consider donating toward this important community outreach,  
especially now as the holiday season approaches and needs increase.

Many thanks!

See Karin Kohl with questions or more information about Pilgrim’s Food Ministry.

# SERVING in NOVEMBER 2014

## GREETERS

**November 2** Marion Kullberg  
**November 9** Fred & Laurie Linden  
**November 16** Muriel Linden  
**November 23** TBA  
**November 30** Merrill McElroy

## READERS

**November 2** Joan Eisemann  
**November 9** Pam Himebaugh  
**November 16** Allan Reed  
**November 23** Roy Wagner  
**November 30** Chris Spencer

## ALTAR GUILD

**November 2** Nancy Sulmasy  
Betty Wagner  
**November 9** Mary Brinson  
Pam Himebaugh  
**November 16** Jennifer Cardillo  
Cindy Cote  
**November 23** Nancy Derby  
Virginia Smith  
**November 30** Pat Frazier  
Kitty Johnson  
Maureen Johnson

## ACOLYTES

**November 2** Matt Sangster  
**November 9** Molly Phillips  
**November 16** Andrew McLaughlin  
**November 23** Alex White  
**November 30** Caalifhione Farrell

## COUNTERS

**November 2** Cindy Cote and Beth Fish  
**November 9** Chris Spencer and Beth Fish  
**November 16** Mary Brinson and Beth Fish  
**November 23** Bill Dugan, Marie Grist, and  
Beth Fish  
**November 30** Linda Hughes and Beth Fish

## USHERS

**November 2** Scott Chappelle  
Steve Lessard  
Deb Vilardi  
Renee Woodward  
**November 9** Elaine Belvin  
Lou Cardillo  
Scott Chappelle  
Cindy Cote  
**November 16** Scott Chappelle  
Bonnie Donahue  
Jo-Anne Doyle  
Ron Fish  
**November 23** Elaine Belvin  
Scott Chappelle  
Pam Himebaugh  
Susan Horsch  
**November 30** Scott Chappelle  
Linda Hughes  
Laurie Linden  
Susan Simundson

## ALTAR FLOWERS

**November 2** Gudrun Gengenbach  
**November 9** Verna Confreda  
Millie Johnson  
**November 16** The Belvin Family  
Ron & Beth Fish  
The Strand Family  
**November 23** Verna Confreda  
The Dancause Family  
**November 30** Joan Schappert  
The Wagner Family

## CONFIRMATION DINNERS

### Tuesday Evenings

**November 4** No Class  
**November 11** No Class  
**November 18** The Paiva Family  
**November 25** No Meal - Service/Fellowship

## ASSISTING MINISTERS and COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

*Assisting Ministers and Communion Assistants are needed for the month of November. Sign up on the sheet posted on the office bulletin board if you are able to help. Many thanks!*

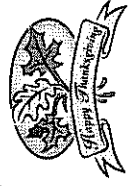



# November 2014

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

1817 Warwick Avenue Warwick, Rhode Island 02889 401-739-2937

[www.pilgrimlutheranri.org](http://www.pilgrimlutheranri.org)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>2 All Saints Sunday</b> 8:00 Holy Communion 9:15 Sunday School 9:30 Holy Communion 10:45 First Communion Class <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends</i>	<b>3</b> 7:00 Bible Study 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>4</b> 10:00 Pastors' Pericope  <i>No Confirmation</i>	<b>5</b> 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1 All Saints Day</b>  <b>8</b>
<b>9 Pentecost 22</b> 8:00 Holy Communion 9:15 Sunday School 9:30 Holy Communion 10:45 First Communion Class	<b>10 Martin Luther's Birthday - 1483</b> 7:00 Bible Study 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>11 VETERANS DAY</b> <b>Bishop's Convocation</b> <b>West Hartford, CT November 10-12</b> 1:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry <i>No Confirmation</i>	<b>12</b> 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	<b>13</b> 10:30 Worship, Music and Arts Meeting	<b>14</b> 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>15 Pilgrim's Progress Deadline</b> 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Fall Festival
<b>16 Pentecost 23</b> Stewardship Sunday 8:00 Holy Communion 9:15 Sunday School 9:30 Holy Communion 10:45 First Communion Class	<b>17</b> 7:00 Bible Study 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>18</b> 10:00 Pastors' Pericope 6:30 Confirmation - Why Are There Four Gospels?	<b>19</b> 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	<b>20</b> 10:00 Toiletry Cupboard 7:00 Congregation Council Meeting	<b>21</b> 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>22</b>
<b>23 Christ the King</b> 8:00 Holy Communion 9:15 Sunday School 9:30 Holy Communion/ Baptism 10:45 First Communion Class	<b>24</b> 7:00 Bible Study 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>25</b> 10:00 Pastors' Pericope 1:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30 Confirmation - Service/Fellowship	<b>26</b> 7:00 Community Thanksgiving Service at St. Timothy's	<b>27</b> 	<b>28 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</b> 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>29</b>
<b>30 Advent 1</b> 8:00 Holy Communion 9:15 Sunday School 9:30 Holy Communion/ First Holy Communion Celebrated	<b>CHURCH OFFICE HOURS</b> Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.			Remember to "Fall Back" on Saturday night, November 1		

PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1817 Warwick Avenue  
Warwick, RI 02889-2238  
Phone: 401-739-2937/Fax: 401-732-0735  
[www.pilgrimlutheranri.org](http://www.pilgrimlutheranri.org)

Dated Material

November 2014



Congregation Council

Marie Grist	Mary Brinson	Cindy Cote	Bill Dugan
Tammy McLaughlin	Linda Hughes	Maureen Johnson	Laurie Linden
	Valerie Parmenter	Susan Simundson	Chris Spencer