



Pilgrims' Progress



The Monthly News of the People of Pilgrim Lutheran Church
Warwick, Rhode Island
October-November 2018

**December's Progress Deadline is
Thursday, December 15**

Please e-mail submissions to
parishasst@pilgrimlutheranri.org
or place in her mailbox in the
church office. Many thanks.

The Progress deadline is the 15th of every month.

OUR STAFF

Minister of Music

Denis Brunelle

Treasurer

Laurie Linden

Financial Secretary

Cindy Cote

Parish Assistant

Laurie Connors

- 2) What are we clearly good at? What ministry activities bring out the best in us and seems to be valued by others?
- 3) What does our community really need right now, and how are we helping to meet these needs?

As we move through this discernment process, we are developing documents that are needed in preparing for the Call Process. We have completed the first of these documents which required us to provide information about membership and financial trends in our congregation over the last three years. This information will be used to develop a customized Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT). This CAT is an important step in the Call Process as it allows the congregation members to individually and confidentially provide information that will provide a measure of satisfaction and energy in the church, identify critical success factors for improving organization culture, uncover potential resources, and discover where members would like to go in the future. The CAT will be available both electronically and in paper format for every member of the congregation to complete. We hope to have the CAT completed by the end of December. Following the receipt of the CAT findings, there are other congregational events that are recommended for further informing our understanding of our mission as a congregation. More about these events will be coming.

The final piece in process before we officially are to begin the Call Process is to complete our Ministry Site Profile. The MSP is a narrative report that we write that reflects the

From the Church Council.....

When Bishop Hazelwood met with the Council, he cautioned us about hoping or thinking that we would be able to make a Call without a great deal of hard work and patience. He was right, we have a lot of work to do but I believe in the strength and faith of our community and know that by working together we will be successful in calling a new Pastor to lead our congregation.

This is a time of discernment. In this process of discernment, the ELCA asks us to consider three things:

- 1) Why do we exist and for whom? What would someone who observes us from the outside conclude about our sense of purpose and mission?

findings from our assessments and discernment process and represents who we are, what we aspire to be, and the kind of leader that our pastor needs to be. This is the tool that will be used to help match us with a pastor whose gifts are a good fit for our current mission needs and priorities.

As we are going through this process, we continue to do all of the things that make us a loving, caring, faithful congregation. The Altar Guild prepares for Worship every week, the Food Pantry provides food and toiletry items to a hundred people a week and shares food with other food pantries, the Eucharistic Ministry provides visits and communion to shut-ins, members of the congregation volunteer to serve in the Sunday School, and Confirmation Class, the Church Council, the Finance Committee, the Worship Music and Arts Committee, the Choir and the Bell Choir provide music for worship, and countless other people clean the church, set up the Fall Festival, provide the Coffee Hour, serve as communion assistants, readers, and ushers and we worship together weekly. For all of these efforts I am truly grateful, but I need to ask you for more.

Many hands, hearts, and minds are needed to successfully move through the Call Process. If you are interested in working with the Council on any of the congregation activities and events during this period of transition, please contact any member of the council. And continue to pray for our congregation, our community, and our world.

-Mary Brinson, Council President



Sunday School

SUNDAY SCHOOL classes are at 9:30 a.m. It's not too late for you to register your children. We're looking forward to a great year!

Pastoral and Eucharistic Care

Reverend Michael Lembke from St. Paul's Lutheran Church will be available to the congregation of Pilgrim Lutheran Church to provide pastoral care in an emergency. An emergency is defined as death or life-threatening illness or injury. The Eucharistic Ministry also continues to be available. This ministry provides visits from trained members of the congregation who provide visits and communion to persons unable to attend church.

For either of these ministries, call the church office and speak with Parish Assistant or leave a message.



The *Fall Festival* will be held on Saturday, November 17th, 9:00-2:00. Please consider helping with the White Elephant, Penny Social, Bake Sale, Book Table, Kitchen, Clothing, Friday Night Set-up, Sunday Clean-up, etc. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please contact Laurie Linden if you have anything for the Penny Social at (401) 529-9284 or lalinden1@gmail.com



Choir News!!!

Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. New members are welcome! If you are interested in joining the choir, please talk to Denis Brunelle.

The **Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service** will be held on Tuesday, November 20, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 111 West Shore Road, Warwick. All are welcome! *Please bring a nonperishable food item for their pantry.*

Confirmation Class Schedule

November 13 – Fellowship with speaker
November 20 – Thanksgiving worship at St. Mark's Episcopal Church at 7:00 p.m.
November 27 – Lesson Six
December 4 - Lesson Seven
December 11 - Lesson Eight
December 18 - Service – Caroling at Matthew XXV
December 25 - Christmas Day, Worship Opportunities



Altar Flower Dedications

What a wonderful way for you to honor your family and loved ones. Your dedication can be in memory of someone or in honor of a birthday, wedding anniversary or another special accomplishment.

For each request, we ask for a \$30 donation, and the flowers will be distributed after the late service each week to those who are ill or to shut-ins. Donation envelopes are available on the table in the Narthex. Once completed, envelopes may be placed in the offering plate or dropped off to the church office.

Please consider supporting the Altar Guild. If you have any questions about flower dedication, please contact Pat Frazier at 941-7656.

Christmas Poinsettias



The Altar Guild is currently accepting contributions for Christmas Poinsettias. 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.

The Christmas 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 16, 2012.

The Congregation Council has set the **worship schedule for Advent and Christmas** for your planning.

The **Church School Pageant** will be held on Sunday, December 9th, at the 9:30 worship hour.

The **Longest Night** will be held on Thursday, December 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the chapel.

On **Christmas Eve**, December 24th, there will be **one worship service at 5:00 p.m.**

Lessons and Carols will be the service on December 30th.

Pilgrim Lutheran Church is a community of the people of God, called to minister to all God's people. We believe that the Gospel is God's gift to all people, to be shared unconditionally, without regard to sexual orientation, gender identity, cultural or ethnic background, physical or mental abilities, socio-economic or family status, gender or age. We welcome all God's children.