

Pilgrim Lutheran Church
1730 Wilshire Blvd.
Santa Monica, California 90403



This new “Pilgrim Logo” has been created with reference to Pilgrim’s “Rose Window” that is found on the wall in the Sanctuary, over the entrance to the Narthex.

“Pilgrim’s Progress”

August 2023

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Pilgrim Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
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August Worship Schedule at Pilgrim

Sunday Worship Service Schedule in August

9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class, meets in the Discovery Conference Room.

9:30 a.m. Arrangements can be made to have a short Sunday School Lesson at 9:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m. Worship Service Indoors and on Facebook and Pilgrim's website.

Sunday Morning Bible Class at 9:00 a.m.

Please be sure to attend our Sunday morning Bible Class at 9 a.m. in our Conference Room.

Rev. John Arthur Nunes, Ph.D teaches the Bible Classes.

From Barbara P.

We will be starting another ALPHA course soon. So now is the time to join us!

ALPHA INFORMATIONAL DINNER

All are invited to explore the ALPHA Course at a free dinner on Sunday August 6th, in the Pilgrim Courtyard at 6 pm. After dinner we will have a short introduction to "What is Alpha" and an opportunity to sign-up. Bring your friends who are interested in getting answers to their many questions and see if this is their possible avenue to answers.

This next course will be held at Pilgrim, weekly on Thursday evening. We will start with a little informal time while we enjoy a dessert together. After a short friendship time, we'll watch an Alpha video each week and then break into groups to discuss the ideas presented. The videos explore various topics on the 'Meaning of Life'. Discussion allows total freedom to share, or not, and the opportunity to ask any questions you might have. Alpha groups are breeding grounds for new acquaintances and often times-new friends. We hope this interests you and that you will join in!

The timing of events each evening:

Thursday evenings Come, dessert served 6:00 pm

Program & Video 6:30

Discussion 7:00

Evening ends by 8:15

Thursdays 8/10,8/17,8/24,8/31,9/7,9/14,9/21,9/28,10/5,10/12— 10 weeks.

Weekend Retreat time: Saturday, Sept. 23rd—save the date!

Parking available in the church parking lot...child care not yet available...possible Teen/Youth ALPHA

It is easy...fun...meet new folks...enriching...ASK ANYTHING...no judgement...COME JOIN US!

RSVP...by email to alphasantamonica@pilgrimlutheranchurch.org or call the church office for Barbara's phone number.

We want to thank Barbara Phinizy for her tireless work with implementing the well known and world wide Alpha Course. This is another way we can connect with our Pilgrim community.

Pilgrim's Mission Statement is: "Called by the Holy Spirit, we are an intergenerational community of worship and service that invites the people of Santa Monica and beyond to flourish in the love of Jesus Christ through Word and Sacraments."

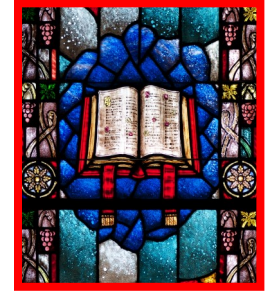
Sunday Gospel Readings for August

August 6 Matthew 14:13–21

August 13 Matthew 14:22–33

August 20 Matthew 15:21–28

August 27 Matthew 16:13–20



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES For Pilgrim (Progress Report, see below.)

- 1. Connected Meaningfully in Worship**
- 2. Connected in Spiritual Formation through Intergenerational Christian Education**
- 3. Connected Sustainably to our Future through our Gifts and Resources**
- 4. Connected in Witness and Service to our Neighborhood (including digital connection)**
- 5. Connected in Partnership with Pacifica Christian High School**
- 6. Connected in Care with One Another**

We want to thank Pastor Nunes for his tireless work and encouragement regarding his "Strategic Planning" priorities for Pilgrim. We have been making a lot of progress on his suggestions and ideas for Pilgrim. We are scheduling volunteer opportunities again, to help greet people as they come into the Sanctuary, to help with Altar Guild setting up Holy Communion, and doing Fellowship serving coffee and cookies or light refreshments. We will also begin using ushers during the worship services. We discontinued these volunteer opportunities during the Covid Pandemic, due to the government lockdown. Sign up sheets are available in the Narthex.

Pilgrim's connecting to the public with social media: large screens etc.

The one good thing the Covid lockdown did for Pilgrim, was to immediately encourage us to develop a manner in which to connect with our members and those outside our geographic location. Within a few weeks, Mat M. and Allen G. began filming our worship services with an iPhone and posting them on Facebook and our website. We then became more sophisticated and purchased a professional camera, and Mat began developing a filming technique where he could do live filming and perform music at the same time. We are now planning to install two large TV screens inside our sanctuary, to further enhance our in-person and online capabilities. Scripture and music lyrics will be shown on the screens, therefore eliminating the need to "look down" to read the Scriptures from our bulletins, hymn books and Bibles. We will continue to print and hand out our Sunday bulletins, to take home for reference, etc. We also have plans to update our website, to enhance the ability to connect with our members and the public. We will keep you updated on these plans. A professional graphic artist created a "Pilgrim Logo" to give Pilgrim's publicity a new look. (See Pastor Nunes' essay on this.)

August Calendar at a Glance (Worship Services are in person and on FB and our website.)

- August 4** Alpha team training, 3:00—4:00 pm, Conference room
August 6 †Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion
August 6 Alpha Informational dinner in courtyard at 6 p.m.
August 10 Alpha course meeting, in-person, 6:00—8:15 pm at Pilgrim
August 13 †Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion
August 15 St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord
August 17 Alpha course meeting, in-person, 6:00—8:15 pm at Pilgrim
August 20 †Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion
August 24 Alpha course meeting, in-person, 6:00—8:15 pm at Pilgrim
August 26 Blessing of the Pets in parking lot., 9a.m.—12 Noon
August 27 †Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion
August 31 Alpha course meeting, in-person, 6:00—8:15 pm at Pilgrim

We have resumed hosting our after worship service fellowship hour! We want to thank Jane S. and Sue P. for getting this started. With a receipt, Pilgrim will reimburse you for the expenses you incur. As of now, our August fellowship schedule is:

(August 6th~ Jane and Sue) (August 13th ~ Chloe) (August 20th~ Beverly) and
(August 27th, Barbara.)

Thank you to those of you who have been using Pilgrim's on-line giving app via a company called Push-Pay. The company does a lot of work with Christian Churches.

LCMS Websites

Keep current on the activities and events of our Pacific South District (PSD) Missouri Synod by going to their website at www.psdnews@psd-lcms.org. You can get a weekly newsletter and stay up to date. You may also check out the Synod's website at www.lcms.org. Good Lutherans stay informed!

LUTHERAN HOUR RADIO

The Lutheran Hour was first broadcast Oct. 2, 1930 and continues on the air today, making it the world's oldest continually broadcast Christ-centered radio program. To listen: go to LHM podcasts: <https://www.lhm.org/podcasts/> For 24/7, go to: <https://www.lhm.org/>. **Pilgrim's Rev. John Arthur Nunes, Ph.D.**, can be heard on the Lutheran Hour. His remaining 2023 schedule to preach is: August 27, 2023, Nov 5, 2023 and Dec 31, 2023. His 2024 schedule is: February 25, 2024, May 5, 2024 and July 21, 2024

Prayer Requests Prayer Box in Narthex: You may leave confidential, or non-confidential Prayer Requests in the locked Prayer Box in the Narthex. Pastor Nunes is the only person who will open the Prayer box. You may call the Church office with your request or you may send an email to amenmail@aol.com



Praise the Lord for Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays in August

Corby N.	August 1
Gaye K.	August 6
Julia A.	August 8
Jeffrey W.	August 21
Michael H.	August 26
Katrina C.	August 25
Annika H.	August 27
Peter S.	August 28
Ritch H.	August 28
Evelyn Lily	August 28



Anniversaries in August

Bob and Corby's 44th Wedding Anniversary!

Pastor Albrecht and Edith's 63rd Wedding Anniversary is August 21st!

“News from Pastor Nunes” NEW LOGO, NEW PRIORITIES

One of my mentors in life and ministry once put it like this: “**The renewal of evangelism requires a passion and preparedness to go out in the name of Jesus in order to encounter people in their maddening diversities, with profound respect for the questions they are carrying on the way to their Lord.**” (Richard John Neuhaus, 1985.) What does this quote have to do with our new logo and our six new strategic priorities? My deep prayer for us is that these will spark renewal at Pilgrim Lutheran Church. More than a beautiful design, more than words on a page, but action.

Evangelism is the kind of action we need: speaking and living the saving news of God in Jesus Christ—letting our good words and good works be heard and seen by family members, friends, coworkers, and neighbors. And, by doing so “with profound respect” for them so that they are drawn to our God, as our mission statement says, “to flourish in the love of Jesus Christ.”

Yes, Los Angeles can be a maddeningly diverse community—so many different kinds of humans. Further, the majority of people who live in Pilgrim’s neighborhood are unchurched. Is this not a prime opportunity for evangelism!

This logo captures this, a harmonious circle of life amid diversity. Many different parts functioning together as a unified whole. It’s based on our rose window, on the west end of the church, above the entrance doors. We are made one by the Holy Spirit working through Word and Sacraments.

At the center of our logo stands what is at the center of everything we do and everything we are as a congregation: **the cross of Jesus Christ**. Trace the many open pathways for people on their pilgrimage to Christ, representing “the questions they are carrying on the way to their Lord.”

Finally, note the colors of our liturgical year.

blue/violet: Advent, Lent, seasons of hope and repentance

red: Pentecost, martyrs, Reformation, symbolizing fire and commemoration

white/gold: Christmas, Easter, saints’ days, symbolizing joy

green: ordinary time, Sundays after Pentecost, season of growth



In Our Prayers. . . .

Prayers of Intercession

Erin and baby Freya
Mark F. seriously ill
Goldie, for peace
Ralph W. for peace
For those with Dystonia
For James, Speech Apraxia
For Randy—breathing issues
Mark C.—Lungs
Family of Evelyn L. in her recent passing.
Passing of Bruce, Bob's father.
Family of Elizabeth M. in her recent. Passing
Claudia as she has knee surgery
Medical personnel, first responders
Hilda's mother Berjik, Health
Tiffany's mother and family
Social Justice, End of Racism
Dave K. brain shunt
Kathy, heart and shoulder
Grace, Dystonia
Edith A. shoulder
Pearl R. Stroke recovery
Jim K, myasthenia gravis & cancer
Neven, heart procedure
Corine, health
Julia A. fibromyalgia, arthritis
Cyndy for heart issues
Mary's mother
Pastor G. health and eyesight
Frank, ALS
Annie, Cystic Fibrosis
Greater Evangelism
Marriage difficulties
Unemployment
Corby-health issues
Lamar, needs housing
Natalie-Restoration
Chloe
Alex B. for recovery
Mary Ann's health
Sharon C. -Healing
Kathy H's sister Alice—MS
For Missionaries
Laurie's mother
Abused children
Steve G. tumors

Prayers for Those Fighting Cancer

Valerie—cancer
Jackson, lymphoma, friend of Kimshelley & Joe
Valerie in Chicago
Bob's cousin Doug, pancreatic cancer.
Ramona's niece Harriett and Harriett's' husband Dan, both fighting cancer
JoAnna, breast cancer
Arthur N.-cancer
Russel-pancreatic cancer
Myrna, Bob's stepmom
Susan M.
Rudolph A.
George D. Bladder cancer
Cezanne, intestinal cancer
Carole, stomach
Cindy C.
Monique Y.
Steve H.
Susan S.
Ken B.
Hilda's husband Jim
Ivan P.
Dana A.
Kay T.
Kim
Zack
Bob's Aunt
Charles (prostate)
Rich Z.
Greg W.
Paul
Jill
Paul
Marc F. Bladder
Tammy F, lung cancer
Arminda, kidney cancer
Continued Prayers
Protection for Police Officers & Firefighters
Protection for our troops
Jews for Jesus Ministry
The ill and lonely
Persecuted Christians

Prayers of Praise & Thanks

For the Birth of Jesus!
For our Wonderful Country!
For Pilgrim's Wonderful Volunteers!

Dear Heavenly Father,

We ask that you hear and honor our prayers, as we pray for healing for those who are sick, for comfort for those who are dying and for happiness for those who have been healed and are living successful lives. We know you hear our prayers, and you are in control, not us. We thank you for your beautiful planet, your beautiful trees, flowers, oceans, rivers, mountains and animals. We thank you for your wonderful diverse planet of many countries, many cultures, and many variations in their climate. We thank you for our wonderful USA and we ask that you bless and protect us, guide us and lead us. For those who do not have a personal relationship with Jesus, we ask that through your work here at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, via our Pastor Nunes and our volunteers, we may bring unbelievers to Jesus Christ. For those who are already believers, we ask that they continue to support Pilgrim and Pastor Nunes and increase in-person participation here at Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Santa Monica, CA.

In Jesus Name, Amen



A Funeral for long- time member Evelyn L. will be held at Pilgrim on Saturday, September 16th at 3 pm. Those of us who have been long time Pilgrim members have fond feelings for Evelyn and her “dry” sense of humor!



This photo of Pastor Nunes and Monique was taken at Decker Canyon, Malibu, July 2023. Pastor Nunes captioned this photo “A sunburst of blessing at sunset.”

It also reminds us of the Benediction: “The Lord make His face shine upon you...”

(This photo was not photo-shopped.)

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **People: Amen.**



Blessing of the Pets August 26th

We are once again planning to do a “Blessing of the Pets” on Saturday morning, August 26th. This event will be held in our “Pilgrim Park,” between 9 a.m. —12 Noon. Invite your friends and neighbors! Dogs must be on a leash and cats, rabbits etc. need to be in a carry-case cage. We did this for the first time last August and it was a huge success. We met many neighbors and got to know their dogs by name. The dogs seem to remember us and stop for petting and attention. We hope our neighbors and friends will again join us, and perhaps consider joining us for Sunday Worship Services. Let us know if you can help us with this fun event. We need volunteers!





Pastor Nunes and Pilgrim members acknowledging our on-line viewers! We plan to do this weekly to thank those who watch our live on-line services.

Below: Mat M. measuring for the large TV screens we will soon install in our Sanctuary.



Pastor Nunes with his granddaughter, Faith Ann, at Camp Arcadia!

