

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”

October 2023

Rev. John Arthur Nunes, Ph.D

Pilgrim Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
(310) 829-4113

www.pilgrimlutheranchurch.org
amenmail@aol.com



October Worship Schedule at Pilgrim

Sunday Worship Service Schedule in October

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 Class. We have a special guest list of speakers scheduled in October during Bible Class.

October Guest Speakers: Adult Bible Class, Please join us! Sunday at 9-9:45

October 8, 2023

David Sumida, who teaches science at Pacifica Christian High School.

October 22, 2023

Trey Dimsdale, the Executive Director of the Center for Religion, Culture

October 29, 2023

Talitha Phillips, CEO of Claris Health, serving Santa Monica and the LA's Westside with issues of pregnancy, sexual health, and mental health.

Part of our Strategic Planning that was adopted earlier this year was to establish a program called Every Member Visit. (EMV). This was planned to once again connect our Pilgrim family with each other. We planned two luncheons after our worship services for members to re-connect with each other. The first one was held September 24th and was well attended. The next one is on October 15th. If you are unable to attend one of these EMV luncheons, we can set up a time to establish an in person home visit with you, or an in-person visit with you at another location.



“Till Death Do Us Part”

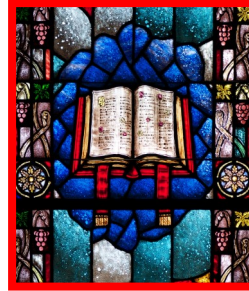
On September 9, 2023 Pilgrim held a lovely funeral service for Jürgen, a long time friend of Dietmar.

When Jürgen and Marianne were married, they lit a special candle during their wedding ceremony. That candle had never been lit again, until the funeral service for Jürgen. Marianne brought that special candle to Pilgrim and lit it during the funeral service for Jürgen.

This was an emotional event and we thank Marianne for her thoughtfulness in sharing this memory with us.

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 October
October 1 Matthew 21:23–27 (28–32)
October 8 Matthew 21:33–46
October 15 Matthew 22:1–14
October 22 Matthew 22:15–22
October 29 John 8:31–36



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES For Pilgrim

- 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**

Reformation Sunday is on October 29th.

We will be honored to have Mike Gibson, President of the Pacific Southwest District of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod join us. He will preach the sermon and we will report to him and to our congregation on our STRATEGIC PRIORITIES progress. We will also mention other events Pilgrim and Pacifica have jointly held.



On October 23, 2022, Pilgrim Lutheran Church held the Divine Service Installation Event for Rev. John Arthur Nunes, Ph.D and his lovely, talented wife Monique. Pastor Nunes has been aggressively working to lead and direct Pilgrim on their path to greater connect with the Santa Monica/Los Angeles community. We thank Pastor Nunes and Monique for their leadership at Pilgrim.



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

October 1 †Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

October 8 †Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

October 15 †Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

October 15 Every Member Visit Luncheon

October 22 †Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

October 29 †Reformation Sunday Observed Worship Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

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 October fellowship schedule is:

October 1, Chloe, October 8, Lana, October 15-Church Luncheon, October 22, Carolyn, October 29, Reformation Sunday event.

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

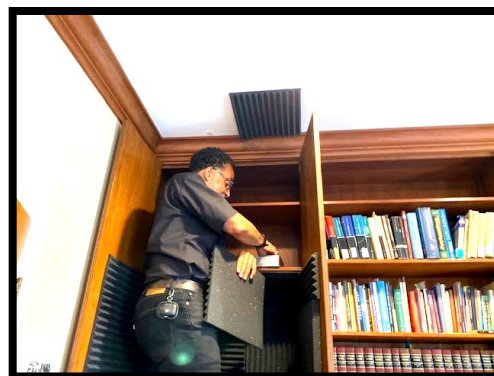
LCMS Websites

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: Nov 5, 2023 and Dec 31, 2023. His 2024 schedule is: February 25, 2024, May 5, 2024 and July 21, 2024.



We now have a small “recording studio” where Pastor Nunes can broadcast his Lutheran Hour Sermons. (He can also record Podcasts and other media) In this photo, he is working on setting up his studio and installing the acoustic foam equipment. Recording in Santa Monica will save Pastor time and he will not need to travel to the St. Louis studio as often.

Praise the Lord for Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays in October

Lyndonia S.	October 12
Susan Z.	October 13
Sylvia H.	October 15
Stephen K.	October 16
Michael A.	October 23
Joshua N.	October 23
Allen G.	October 26
Chris M.	October 30
Reformation	October 31



“News from Pastor Nunes”

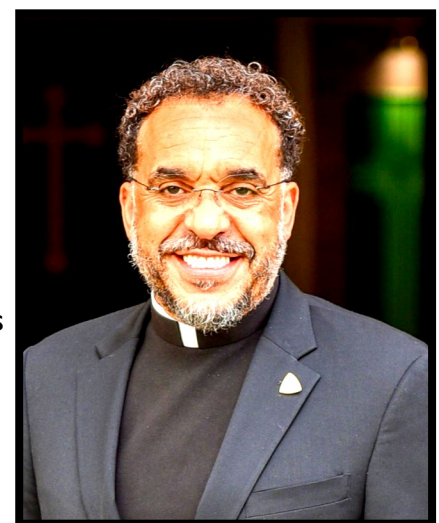
A Cutting-Edge Connection: 1517 and 2023

I remain in awe of Martin Luther’s German Reformation. Besides the bold re-assertion of the primacy of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, there are two features which I believe have implications for how we translate that Good News at Pilgrim.

First, Luther embraced technology in service of his mission. He used the cutting-edge innovation of the Gutenberg printing press to promote the mass production of the Bible and hymns. This widespread proliferation of Christian resources contributed to the success of this movement among the masses.

Second, rather than speaking in Latin or in incomprehensible church language, Luther advocated for a down-to-earth communication of the faith. In learning how to speak effectively, leaders should, in his words, “ask the mother in the home, the children on the street, the common person in the market about this. We must be guided by their tongue, the manner of their speech, and do our translating accordingly” (Martin Luther, *An Open Letter on Translating*, September 15, 1530).

Our use of technology at Pilgrim and our insistence of making the Gospel message accessible is consistent with the tradition of Martin Luther. Screens in worship, social media online, upgrading our website, making our Divine Service available on-line. This is aligned with our Reformation heritage of communicating as joyfully, vividly, and widely as possible the saving love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Or, as Pilgrim’s first strategic priority puts it, that we are “Connected meaningfully in worship.”



In Our Prayers. . . .

Prayers of Intercession

Brad, Enteritis
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
Roger H. —Hepatitis C
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
Lamar, needs housing
Natalie-Restoration
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
Linda with Alzheimer's

Prayers for Those Fighting Cancer

Corby, Bob's wife, cancer
Valerie—cancer
Jackson, lymphoma, friend of
Kimshelley & Joe
Valerie in Chicago
Bob's cousin Doug, pancre-
atic cancer.
Ramona's niece Harri-
ett and Harriett's' hus-
band 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
Arminda, kidney cancer
Continued Prayers
Protection for Police Of-
ficers & Firefighters
Protection for our troops
Jews for Jesus Ministry
The ill and lonely
Persecuted Christians
Andrew S. in military

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



Please plan to attend this special event!

**PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH & THE PACIFICA CENTER
FOR PHILOSOPHY/THEOLOGY**

Are pleased to invite you to participate in our guest speaking series seeking to challenge the assumptions of the broader Los Angeles community. We seek to bring together what is fragmented and being torn apart by setting the table for important conversations undergirded with intellectual charity.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2023

6:30 - 9:00 PM

PACIFICA CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL & PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH
[1730 WILSHIRE BLVD, SANTA MONICA 90403](#)

6:30 PM - Drinks & Small Bites

7:15 PM - Lecture & Panel

8:30 - Conversation & Fellowship

Frederich Nietzsche and the Decline of Christian Culture

Keynote Lecture - Mr. Trey Dimsdale

Moderator - Father Alex Earl

Panel Guests - Rev. John Arthur Nunes, Ph.D, Dr. Rachael Nyabadza, Mr. Jeff Ennis

The most helpful and productive critique always comes from the critic who knows well the subject of his critiques. As the son and grandson of Lutheran pastors, Friedrich Nietzsche came to be an ardent and voracious critic of Christianity after having once been firmly within the tradition, so it should come as no surprise that Nietzsche can be a helpful and productive non-Christian interlocutor whose work can illuminate blind spots for those so deeply immersed in the Christian world. In a fractured age and with the practice of the Christian faith in steep decline, engagement with Nietzsche's observations about Christianity and Christians themselves might help us understand the polarization and decline we are now experiencing.

THE SHAFTESBURY SEMINAR

To complement the evening festivities, Mr. Dimsdale and Pacifica faculty will lead a select group of upper-classmen through a one-day honors seminar, focusing on the concept of Christianity as a "culture-creator" in relation to the functioning of democratic institutions, the place of elections, cultivating religious practice, and (re-)examining ongoing societal division.

"It is the hardest thing in the world to be a good thinker without being a good self-examiner."

– Anthony Ashley Cooper, 7th Earl of Shaftesbury

Palisades Lutheran invites you to their Saturday October 14th "Oktoberfest." Address: 15515 Sunset Blvd. Pacific Palisades, CA 90272 Time: 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Call for reservations and ticket prices. Includes food, games and fun. (310) 459-2358. www.plc.cc Flyers are in Pilgrim's Narthex.

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



Kathy's granddaughter with her very own horse, Larry.



Monique singing, and additional photos from Jürgen's funeral service and luncheon afterwards.



John Arthur Nunes: Senior, Junior (JJ), and John the Third (JT), thanking God for a life faithfully lived.

Rev. John Arthur Nunes, PhD with his son John Junior and grandson John the Third. Below, Pastor and Dietmar are moving a pew to make room for a 3rd Sanctuary screen.



Diane from Star News, with Pastor Nunes.

