

Pilgrim's Progress November 9, 2018 - Vol. 59 No. 9

What's happening

Upcoming Events at Pilgrim

This year's LICA Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will be held at Hancock Church on **Tuesday, November 20 at 7:30 pm**. If you would like to attend or are able to give someone a ride, please let Diane/Karen know.

Also, Pilgrim's Intergenerational Thanksgiving Service will be held on **Sunday, Nov. 25 10:30 am**. If you would like to be a part of the service by doing a reading or helping out with props, etc., please let Diane/Karen know.

Yes, we need to start thinking about Advent! Would you or your family be interested in lighting one of the candles of the Advent Wreath? If so (yes, you guessed it) please let Diane or Karen know which of the five Sundays in December you might be able to do it and we will try and work our magic to accommodate all. This is a really meaningful way to participate in the season.

This year we will once again light the beautiful luminarias along the walkways of Pilgrim. If you would like to help, please let us know. We need people to make the luminarias, set them out before the service on Christmas Eve (around 3 pm), and then we would need additional folks who could help collect them following the service (around 5:30 pm).

If you would like to participate in this year's Christmas Pageant, please let Karen know. If so, think about if you would like a speaking role, a non-speaking role, or if would like to help with lighting, props, etc. There is something to do for everyone!





News of Pilgrims and Prayers Requests

- Continued prayers for all of the victims and their families of the recent shooting in Thousand Oaks, CA.
- Prayers for healing for Karen Gale as she learned this week that she has shingles.
- We ask that you hold the Moffitt-Clark family in your prayers as their dear friend Kathy faces a difficult cancer diagnosis.
- Continued prayers for the Morrison family following the death of Kevin's mother, Jill.
- Prayers for Anita Bradley and she heals from a recent fall.
- Please keep Dexter Whittinghill and Warren Johnson in your prayers as they both recover from recent health issues.
- We share news that Eleanor Smith is doing well and truly enjoys having visitors and all of the treats that she receives!

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A Note from Devin

Dear Pilgrims and Friends,

These days, it might often feel a challenge to talk to children about current events given the rapid increase in gun violence and mass shootings. In recent weeks, I have been challenged by the work of engaging these subjects with young family members and friends. I wanted to share an article with you all that might be helpful to you all and has helped me navigate discussions with our children and youth. This article allows me to think age by age rather than blanket ideas for all ages with important summary goals for each age group.

These discussions are hard for me because, as I navigate my own thoughts and fears, I must remain in a spirit of hope with young people. That is my role and yours, too, in your life and in the life of this church. I share this knowing that, as you navigate similar conversations, you might find yourself needing support to remain in that spirit, too. I am happy to be a sounding board and prayer partner as you prepare for these conversations as a parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle, mentor, friend, teacher or any other relationship you may have with a young person. For now, please find this article and bookmark it for future use, too:

[Age by Age Guide](#)

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with questions or concerns.

Peace and Blessings,
Devin

Adult Education Opportunity

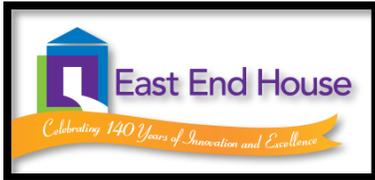
On **November 18th from 12:00-1:00**, Devin will lead an engaging workshop on the Humanity and Divinity of Jesus. Have you ever been curious about what it means to believe in Jesus' divinity as Christ? What about Jesus as a human like us? How does this inform our faith as a church and as individuals? We will explore these questions together!

Children's Choir Is Back!



Elena (Snow) will rehearse with children following services on November 11 and November 18 in preparation for the November 25 intergenerational service. All are welcome.

Thanksgiving Basket Donations



Reminder to bring food for Thanksgiving Baskets by **Sunday, November 11th** (Veterans Day). You can put it in the boxes in the coat room, and we will get it to East End House! East End House will make up baskets and distribute the baskets to those in need.

The most needed items are:

- Stuffing (box)
- Gravy (can)
- Mashed Potatoes (box)
- Cranberry Sauce (can)
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Baby food and formula



You may also contribute money for turkeys. Write a check made out to Pilgrim Church with "Turkeys" on the memo line. Put it in the plate or get it to the church by **Wednesday, November 14th**.

Greening the Church--Dec. 1st 9am Coffee and Donuts provided!

Come prepare the sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season. Put up the tree, hang the greens, have a cup of coffee and help make Pilgrim a beautiful place to celebrate the holy season of Advent.

Pilgrim Church Christmas Party--Dec. 16th

What do you get when you add a bunch of Pilgrims, great food, and a roster of carols--a great Christmas party! Come celebrate Christmas with the congregation. We will eat, sing and be merry. The lunch will be held downstairs in Fellowship Hall right after worship on Dec. 16th.



Vigil Held at Temple Emunah on November 1



Lexington residents gathered at Temple Emunah on Nov. 1 to commemorate the 11 people murdered in a shooting at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue on Oct. 27. The event was sponsored by the Lexington Interfaith Clergy Association. Attendees were offered a list of action steps to help move forward from the attack.



This is a group photo of the members of the Lexington Interfaith Clergy Association who all helped to organize the vigil.



KID'S PARTY FOR PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

December 8th, 2018
6:00-8:00

Pilgrim Congregational Church
55 Coolidge Avenue, Lexington

Drop your kids off for a party with fun and dinner served while parents get the night out to enjoy some free time and free childcare.

ALL ARE WELCOME
RSVP to Devin.Shmueli@PilgrimCongregational.org



PILGRIM
Congregational Church

Church School Schedule for Fall and Early Winter

	Younger kids	Junior Youth
Nov. 11	Ministry of Jesus (Parable of the Sower)	Sermon reflection
Nov. 18	Ministry of Jesus (Parable of the Good Samaritan)	Women of the Bible
Nov. 25	Intergenerational Thanksgiving	Intergenerational Thanksgiving
Dec. 2	Life of Jesus (Birth of Jesus)	In worship
Dec. 9	Life of Jesus (Jesus at Age 12)	Sermon reflection
Dec. 16	Life of Jesus (Jesus is the Light)	Women of the Bible
Dec. 23	Life of Jesus (Jesus' Baptism)	Social Justice
Dec. 30	Intergenerational Hymn Sing	Intergenerational Worship

Sign Up to Volunteer at Pilgrim!

To sign up to be a liturgist, greeter, coffee hour host or to volunteer with Pilgrim's Children's Church, please click [HERE](#). Thank you!

Click [HERE](#) to access the Pilgrim Church Calendar.



Recent Sermons

Please feel free to watch or read recent sermons on our website. [HERE](#) is the link to the most recent sermon.

News from the Lexington Interfaith Garden

Here is a summary from garden coordinator Amy Swanson: "We could not have accomplished as much in this community-wide project without Carla Fortmann's leadership and generous donation of time, energy and space. Additionally, we've had a great bunch of volunteers this season. This was particularly demonstrated with the hearty folks who came and worked during that last nor'easter that reigned (or rained!) on the last scheduled day at the Garden. It was miserable out, but they came anyway. (You can see the smiles in the attached photo!)"

According to Mark Sandeen, we finished the year having harvested and donated 1,901 pounds, the 2nd best season in our 9 years of operations. (In 2015, we topped it with 2,015 lbs). That brings our 9 year total to 14,001 lbs, or just over 7 tons."

Here at Pilgrim, our thanks go to these hearty volunteers: **Son-Mey Chiu, Sandy Gardiner and Eric, Ruth Hickox Litchfield, Bei Hopkins, Mary Mackie, and Christina Sym.** Without you Pilgrim could not take part in this special town-wide project.



Just a reminder that the Church Office will be closed on **Monday, November 12** in observance of Veterans Day.



UCC STILLSPEAKING DAILY DEVOTIONAL

No More Strategies

By: Quinn Caldwell

November 5, 2018

Naomi sends Ruth out to glean in the fields, and in a move that women everywhere will recognize, strategizes about how to protect her from being "bothered."

Continue reading [HERE](#)