



JUNE 2024

More Truth and Light

“The service is a reminder that to be a Christian is to be a servant. All ministry in the church is Christ’s ministry.” Book of Worship of the United Church of Christ

In its birth, the Christian church was a small group of like-minded men and women who believed in God’s message of love and grace, and they saw their lives to be a living witness to this goodness. Through his teachings and stories, Jesus communicates over and over again to his disciples, the importance of service, kindness, grace, and unconditional love that God has for all of God’s Creation.

In the early church there were no buildings, preachers, or budgets. There was only a group of men and women who believed in the importance of being servants and doing good for **ALL** God’s people. Paul writes to one of the early Christian communities, **“I became its servant according to God’s commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known...”** *Colossians 1:25*. Paul saw the purpose of his life and the lives of his small congregations to **‘make the word of God fully known...’** to all the world. This was the church’s purpose, its mission, and its ministry.

How do we, today, make God’s Word fully known to others? We make God’s Word fully known when we see our purpose and our ministry as servants to God and one another. We demonstrate this in our actions and in our understanding that everything **WE** do is Christ’s ministry. When we understand this as our call, it changes how we live our lives and what we do with it. If what we are doing is Christ’s ministry, then it stands to reason that we had better be very clear about the Jesus message of love, sacrifice, and servant leadership. When we understand this, we don’t see that our living is about being good so we can go to heaven. No, instead we see that what is important is how we live our lives in the present to make this earthly life even better for **ALL** God’s beloved ones.

All that we do in the name of **‘church’** is a ministry of Christ. This is a high calling, and from time to time we need to affirm those who have answered the call to be **‘servants of the church’** and to **‘make God’s word fully known’** through our choices and our actions. On Sunday, June 30th, we have just such an opportunity as we call out 13 members of this church to journey to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi to **‘make the word of God fully known.’**

Who among us will **‘make the word of God fully known?’** The thirteen people from Pilgrim Faith United Church of Christ who are called as ambassadors of God’s love and grace to Biloxi, Mississippi. They are Emma Healy, Ken and Libby Langevin, Alex Overland, Deb Petkus, Dan Sather, Ken and Daune Sebastian, Gail Siwek, Luke Vitiritti, Mary Weierman, Jimmy & Alyssa Werner. Each one has answered God’s call to communicate through our action and commitment that **ALL** are loved, and we want to show our love and commitment to this community. Together, in big and small ways, we’ll make a difference – Pilgrim Faith U.C.C.-- will make a difference and we’ll have an even deeper understanding of what it means to be a Christian, to represent the message of Jesus Christ in our deeds and actions and we have the privilege and responsibility to make God’s word fully known. The prayers and support of this congregation will be a blessing to us and the work that we are being called to do.

The good work of ministry happens in real time and all of us who claim Jesus as our example and model of faithfulness, are servant leaders doing the work of bringing God’s message of love, grace, inclusion, and gratitude to all the world. This is the meaning of Christian discipleship. Let us affirm our call and join together on **Sunday, June 30th** and affirm the gifts that each of us possess in order that all of us can **‘make the word of God fully known...’** to all the world.

Faithfully,

Pastor Dan Sather



Join us for SPRING CLEANING

On June 15 at 8AM or after.
 Many hands make light work!
 Help us with light cleaning projects.

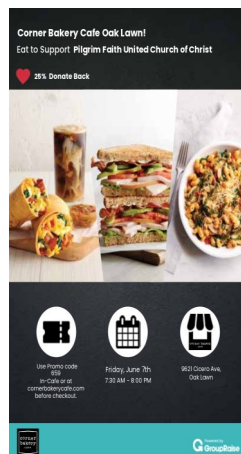


Come for Great Food & Support Our Back Bay Mission Trip!!!

Ready for a mouthwatering meal that supports a great cause? Join us at Corner Bakery Cafe (9621 Cicero Ave) on **Friday, June 7th between 7:30 AM - 8:00 PM** and make a difference! With every order you place, 25% will be donated to Pilgrim Faith United Church of

Christ. 🙌 Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to dine for a purpose! RSVP & details here: <https://grouprai.se/>

[s279563](#) 🌟 🍴



FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS:


Baptisms

GRAHAM DOYLE WERNER, son of Jimmy and Alyssa Werner, grandson of Ken & Libby Langevin
 Baptized April 14, 2024

WYATT JACOB HEALY, son of Dennis & Alexis Healy
 Baptized May 19, 2024

Transfer of Membership

Chuck & Judi Martschinke transferred their membership to St. Matthew's UCC, Wheaton, IL. Our prayers and blessings go with Chuck and Judi as they find strength, comfort, and encouragement in their new spiritual home.



Please let us know *if you would be interested in serving as an usher*, the usher team needs more participants.

Sunday Service Ushers

- June 2 Libby Langevin and Maureen Hutton
- June 9 Mike and Pam Cusack
- June 16 Rick Wank
- June 23 David Faulkner
- June 30 David Faulkner

Please contact Pam Cusack, Worship and Spiritual Life Team at pamlcusack@gmail.com

EVERGREENIA OUTDOOR PICNIC

AND CONCERT at Immanuel United Church of Christ on **Saturday, June 8th!** Immanuel United Church of Christ is inviting the five UCC congregations to picnic prior to a community concert beginning at 5:30 p.m. Members and friends of Pilgrim Faith, Salem UCC, Christ Memorial, and Peace Memorial UCC are invited to join a picnic beginning at 4:30 p.m. The theme for the night is "Summertime" and we'll enjoy a lot of fellowship and some wonderful music. Please bring blankets, or folding chairs, and beverages of your choice. In addition, please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Immanuel UCC will provide hotdogs and hamburgers. Please sign up in the Narthex for the picnic and concert and let us know how many will be attending and what you will bring to the picnic.



Please *let us know if you would be interested in offering a coffee hour.* We are looking for more participants.

Sunday Coffee Hour Hosts

June 9 Libby Langevin and Amanda Sullivan
June 16 Kay Gibson and Charlene Wagner
June 23 David Faulkner
June 30 Carol Burke and Doreen Lopez

Please contact Pam Cusack, Worship and Spiritual Life Team at pamlcusack@gmail.com



Sunday Nursery Helpers

June 9 Libby Langevin and Amanda Sullivan
June 16 Kay Gibson and Charlene Wagner
June 23 David Faulkner
June 30 Carol Burke and Doreen Lopez

Remember Our Homebound

Mary Brehm

Bridgeview
Healthcare Ctr.
8100 S. Harlem Ave.
Bridgeview, IL 60455

Donna Twichell

10032 Harnew Rd.
East
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Doris Seitz

11237 S. Normandy
Worth, IL 60482

Linda Aitken

The Pointe at
Kilpatrick
14230 Kilpatrick
Crestwood, IL. 60418

Barbara Dresdem

5133 W. 79th St.
Burbank, IL 60459

Bob Salveson

6146 S. Karlov Ave.
Chicago, IL 60629



LIMITLESS YOUTH MINISTRY WRAPPING UP ANOTHER GREAT YEAR OF FUN AND SERVICE!

The Limitless Youth have had a lot of fun this year and enjoyed several activities with the youth from Salem U.C.C. The Youth enjoyed a lock-in, retreat, ice skating, bowling and so much more. They helped with Trunk or Treat, planned an Easter Egg Hunt for the community, and sponsored a game night for our Pilgrim Faith family. We're looking forward to another great year in the fall. One of our final events was to spend an afternoon at Feed our Starving Children in Aurora and packed nutritional food for children throughout the world.

We learned that our packages went to Ukraine and Mozambique. The youth were also able to make a financial donation of \$100.00 from their proceeds of their game night.

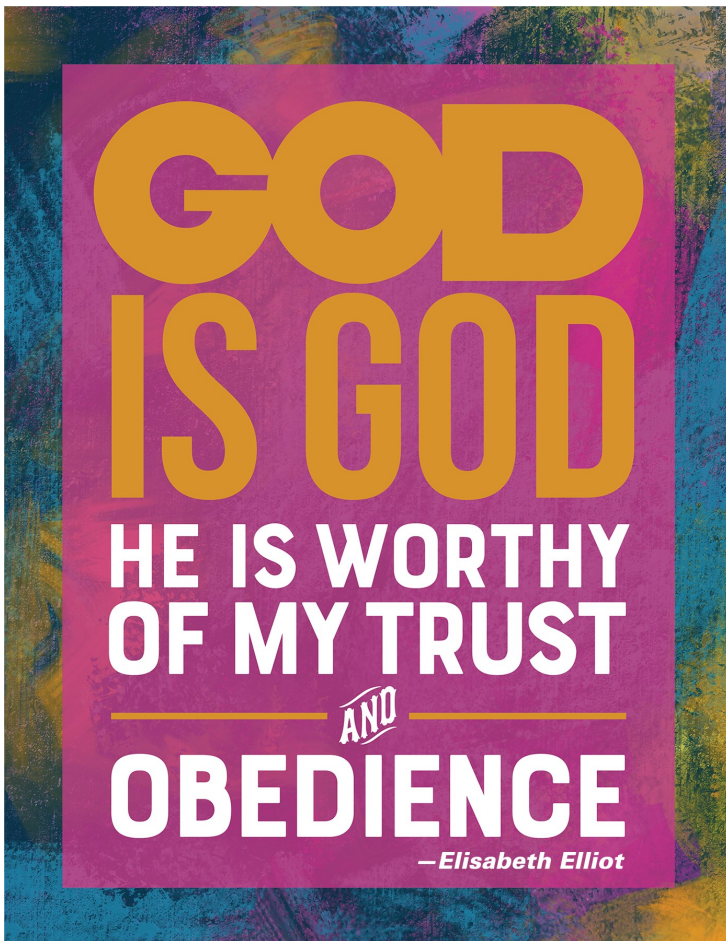


UPDATE ON CONVERSATIONS ABOUT OUR FUTURE

On Sunday, April 28th, the congregation explored various options for our future and prioritized a possible merger as a direction that the congregation would like the Council to pursue. Here is an update on where we are in conversations with Salem and our future. The Council is pursuing all options.

Both the Salem UCC leadership and the Pilgrim Faith leadership have participated in two conversations about the possibility of a merger or some other form of shared ministry. This is an ongoing conversation that we'll be having with the leadership of both congregations over the next year or so.

At our most recent gathering, we appointed three teams to explore three options for our congregations to enjoy together. They are planning a spiritual enrichment experience, a mission opportunity, and a fellowship event for the coming year. The three teams are made up of members from both congregations and they will be meeting this summer to plan opportunities for our congregations to share together. As more information is available, we will make sure that both congregations are informed so that plans can be made to enjoy the experiences together.



DAVID FAULKNER has completed all the requirements to receive his Wood badge through Scouting America. The rank of Wood badge is the equivalent of an Eagle Scout achievement for adults. David has been involved in Scouting America (formerly Boy Scouts of America) for many years. He has been the Charter Representative for Troop #652 and continues to provide leadership in the scouting program at both the local and district level. **On Sunday, June 23rd**, during our fellowship time, we will celebrate with David as he receives his Wood Badge. Please join us for this wonderful recognition of David's hard work and his commitment to the scouting program and our congregation. Join David for this special day!



BACK BAY MISSION NEWS!

OUR MISSION TEAM CONTINUES TO GROW!

How exciting to share with the members of Pilgrim Faith U.C.C. that we currently have 13 members of our congregation joining our mission trip. We welcome Emma Healy and Alex Overland, who will be joining our team. We have also learned that there may be some interest from some members at Salem UCC who would like to join us for the week of July 7th through 13th. On Sunday, June 30th, we will commission our members as short-term missionaries to Back Bay Mission. Many of our members have already given some financial support to our mission team and we express our gratitude and appreciation to all those who donated to the work of our team. We look forward to sharing our experience with our members at a special service in August. We'll keep you updated on the events of that day.

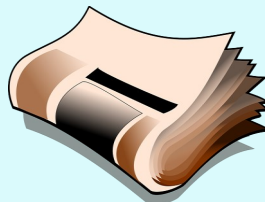
For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with

the glory that is to be revealed to us.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Do you have something to contribute to our monthly newsletter? **The deadline for the May edition is Wednesday, May 29th, 2024.** Please submit any articles or announcements for our monthly newsletter by that date and we will be sure to include it.



HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR MISSION TRIP TO BACK BAY

SUPPORT OUR MISSION TRIP TO BACK BAY!

As we plan for our mission week beginning July 7th through July 13th, we would like to invite you to dinner at The Corner Bakery Cafe on **Friday, June 7th between 7:30 a.m. and 8 p.m.** The Corner Bakery Cafe of our fund-raiser is located at 9621 Cicero Avenue in Oak Lawn. With every order you place, in person or online, 25% will be donated to Pilgrim Faith United Church of Christ. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to dine for a purpose. RSVP & Details can be found at: <https://grouprai.se/s279563>. Thank you for supporting our mission to Back Mission in Biloxi, MS.



YOU CAN GIVE THROUGH OUR BACK BAY QR CODE!

The cost for each volunteer at Back Bay is \$250.00 and that does not include food for the week or travel expenses to Back Bay. As volunteers to Back Bay Mission, we are proud to represent Pilgrim Faith United Church of Christ as we love out loud and as we do our part to create a just world for all God's people. Any financial help that you can provide the mission team is greatly appreciated. We will express our gratitude by planning a cook-out and outdoor worship service in August and our mission team will have an opportunity to share their experience at Back Bay. Thank you for your support and we hope that you enjoy helping us by helping us with our expenses for the week. Thank you for supporting the mission team.

YOUR SUPPORT IS HELPING US HELP OTHERS

JOIN THE CAUSE AND DONATE

Volunteer missionaries from Pilgrim Faith will be traveling to Biloxi, MS in July to participate in housing rehabilitation and help in the client choice food pantry as well as the day center. Your financial support will aid in transportation, meals, and supplies.



MISSION BACK BAY
Pilgrim Faith United Church of Christ



Council Meeting May 22, 2024

Our Vision

WE ARE PILGRIM FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Meeting Start: 6:35pm

- **Present:** Daune, Mary, Chris, Dennis, Kevin, Pastor Dan, Doreen
- **Absent:** Ken

Approval of Council Minutes from April Meeting & Financial Report

- Motion made by Doreen to approve minutes, and seconded by Chris
- **Unanimously approved at 6:45pm**

Continuing Business

1. Treasurer Update-Mary
 - a) Financial Report emailed out
 - b) Will use ACS software to double check the financial report given by Keith
 - c) Will have a \$0.00 due for Electric bill for May and working on gas bill
 - d) Working on combining and reducing phone lines and phone bills
 - e) **Action: Mary will work Keith from Church Training Center on providing updates on monthly financials rather than YTD (year to date)**
2. Update on Food Pantry

Food Pantry is partnering with Jewel to write a grant donation for food donations

3. Update on policies for the church, including *Personnel - dress-code, holidays on/off, paid contracts-Chris and Doreen*
Action: Chris and Doreen will find time to meet as a committee to refine details
- *How to accept ALL contracts -we started a file in the old secretary's office*
 - Mary asking to store a copy of contracts in the financial office
 - This would be staff contracts and other parties
 - Action: Doreen will help compile the various contracts
 - Motion made at 7:16pm to let 2 signers from the Building and Grounds Committee to sign vendor contracts with a copy provided in the office
 - ◆ Motion made by Kevin, seconded by Mary
 - ◆ **Unanimous approval at 7:16pm**
- *How/where to store job descriptions*

Will make a file in the old secretary's office for these
- *Who oversees payment of rentals/shared space*
 - ◆ Daune mentioned we should be paying taxes on the parking spaces
 - ◆ Action: Will ask Ken Langevin about homeowners insurance indicating is parsonage a rental property, updated parsonage lease/contract, file PF **parsonage as a non-charitable entity with Cook County**
 - ◆ Ken Sebastian is looking into an AC inspection for the parsonage, to be determined

New Business

4. Printing costs for PF brochures & permission to print them
 - Discussed printing 1000 flyers for \$459.00 for multiple events
 - Will print flyers in house
 - **Action: Kevin will ask Alyssa make something smaller for the parade-half sheet- based on template**
5. Purchase computer for the finance office and pay to have the system transferred over (Geek Squad or Computer Greeks)
 - **Action: Doreen will ask her connection at Best Buy to see if they can help with buying the computer**
 - Mary will buy the computer from a technology account fund
 - Motion to have a technician to help install the software from the old computer to the new computer
 - * Chris made the motion, and Dennis seconded the motion
 - * **Unanimously approved the motion**
6. Combining Phone accounts for the church- we now have 3.
 - Mary will combine these- update coming soon
7. Reflections on our joint council meeting with Salem
 - a. Felt the meeting was productive and there were assignments
 - b. Contact information with group assignments have been created and sent to Daune
 - c. **Action: Daune will contact Chanelle from CMA to have a conversation about next steps from a merger decision with the Council**
8. Permission to use Undesignated Memorial funds to help pay Mission Trip Expenses
 - a. \$350 fundraised so far
 - b. Corner Bakery Fundraiser to raise money on June 7th
 - c. 3 people have not paid yet for the mission trip
 - d. **Motion to approve payment of \$3500 towards Back Bay Mission Trip**
 - I. Motion made by Kevin at 8:07pm, seconded by Mary
 - II. **Unanimous approval of the motion at 8:07pm**
9. PF Banner
 - a. Action: Dan will purchase the banner through UCC Resources
 - b. Motion to purchase banner made by Daune at 8:09pm, seconded by Kevin
 - I. Unanimous approval of motion at 8:10pm
10. Stewardship Workshop- June 1st
 - a. Peace Memorial from 9:15am-2:30pm

Adjournment: Next Regular Council Meeting June 26, @ 6:30 PM

- **Adjourned at 8:50 pm**



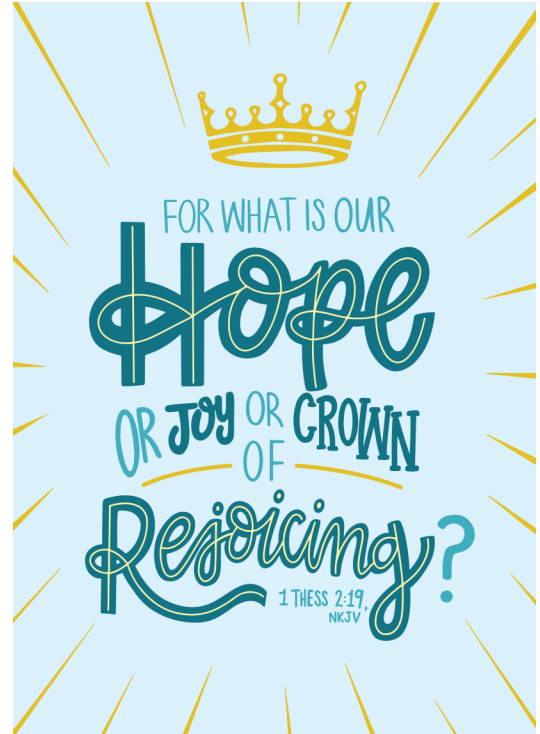


**COME JOIN US IN THE OAK
LAWN PARADE- June 29th, 2024
@ 4:00 PM**

Pilgrim Faith UCC will be participating in the Oak Lawn Independence Day Parade held on June 29th at 4:00 PM (Not on July 4th). This is the first time in several years that we are walking and spreading our message of welcome and love to the community! We hope to have a great turnout to let everyone in Oak Lawn know that we believe in love and justice for ALL people. Maureen Hutton has graciously volunteered to drive her decorated car in the parade. We will carry a rainbow banner and hand out bags of candy with information about what is happening at Pilgrim Faith. Come wearing your rainbow tees, or your patriotic gear, because truly “ALL ARE WELCOME HERE”!

The parade route is approximately 1 mile in length. Staging is at 94th & Cicero Avenue (Northwestern College campus/ Fifth/Third Bank). The parade route starts at 95th St. & 49th Ave and proceeds west to 95th St. and 55th Ct. (Premo’s).

Parking is available at the Village Hall lot at 9446 Raymond Avenue; shuttle service will be provided. Or we can park in our Pilgrim Faith lot and walk back to 49th Ave. More details to follow.



Sunday Concert Series



The Village of Oak Lawn’s Sunday Concert Series is happening now and everyone is invited to attend.

Admission is free and will take place on the Village Green from 6—8 PM. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chairs for seating as well as their own refreshments. Additionally, food is available for purchase from one of our local Boy Scout Troops.

The concert schedule is as follows:

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------|
| June 23 | Los Tamales Jazz Band |
| July 14 | Roundhousers |
| July 21 | Serenity Now! |
| Aug 04 | Cozy and Folks |
| Aug 18 | Strung Out |

From The Ministry of Worship and Spiritual Life

Sunday, June 9th- Graduation Sunday

Come celebrate and recognize our inspiring graduates during worship.

Sunday, June 30th- Commissioning Ceremony

There will be a Commissioning Ceremony for our Back Bay Missionaries.

They will be representing Pilgrim Faith UCC on a mission trip to Biloxi, Mississippi at Back Bay July 7th-13th.

During July 7th-14th Pastor Dan will be gone due to attending the Back Bay mission trip. During that time Kurt Kalas will give a message at worship on Sunday. There will not be an online broadcast and communion these two weekends. Pastor Dan will record and post a reflection message for these days.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!



Pilgrim Faith United Church of Christ are proud of our graduates. Please celebrate with our 2024 graduates!

Eighth Grade

Nicki Hilliard, daughter of Jim and Leece Nicol

Kennedy Hilliard, daughter of Jim and Leece Nicol

High School

Lana Murphy, daughter of Stacy & Jim Murphy and granddaughter of Kenneth & Daune Sebastian

College & University

Colby Stevenson, son of Keith & Cari Stevenson and grandson of Kenneth & Daune Sebastian



From the Desk of Mary Weierman

“Do not remember the former thing, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing: now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” Isaiah 43:18-19

Isaiah (the prophet) talked, or yelled, for the people of God to look towards God's grace. At this time, the Israelites were looking for another David. With fear and concerns, the Israelites started just going through the motions; becoming complacent and losing the feeling of community, justice and making sure the poor were taken care of.

I am still learning the new system of doing things. If you are looking for depressing details that show donations are down, and cost is up - I am sorry, but I will not do that. We need to focus on the good. What is good is that the team is working on lowering the cost of gas, electricity and internet / phone services.

I need to give a shout out to Amanda who has been diligent and industrious with asking “why” and lowered one of the monthly bills. This will take more time, but as we work on this, I will ask for your continued understanding and patience.

May God enlighten you so you can see your unique part of Pilgrim Faith.
Mary Weierman

THANK YOU FOR
supporting the



Here are three ways to support the pantry:

Donate goods or host a food drive

Donations may be dropped of M-F 9am-2pm

Volunteer your time

Please email pffoodpantry.com to volunteer in the pantry!

Make a monetary donation

Scan the QR code, write a check payable to "Pilgrim Faith Food Pantry," or deliver cash donation at the office.



To make an electronic donation:

- 1) Open your smart phone's camera
- 2) Scan the QR code
- 3) Click the link
- 4) Make a donation through PayPal.



 **Pilgrim Faith**
United Church of Christ

Please let us know *if you would be interested in being a "Stand-by Liturgist"*.. Our upcoming liturgists are:

Sunday Liturgy Leaders

June 9 Jimmy Werner

June 16 Rick Wank

June 23 Chris Raap

June 30 Keith Stevenson

Please contact **Pam Cusack**, Worship and Spiritual Life Team at pamcusack@gmail.com

June 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						<p>1</p> <p>Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon</p>
<p>2</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Fundraiser @ Corner Bakery 96th & Cicero 7:30 AM—8 PM</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Immanuel UCC Picnic & Concert 430 PM Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon</p>
<p>9</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service Graduation Sun- day</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Ministry of Wor- ship & Spritual Life 6:30 PM Zoom</p>	<p>13</p> 	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Spring Cleaning 8:00 AM Food Pantry 10:00 AM-Noon</p>
<p>16</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Ministry Team Mtgs.</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon</p>
<p>23</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon</p>
<p>30</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service</p>						



Pilgrim Faith UCC
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Oak Lawn, IL 60453

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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MONDAY

12:00pm AA 2nd Floor

TUESDAY

10:00am Food Pantry
10:00 am AA 2nd Floor

WEDNESDAY

1:00pm Al-Anon
6:00pm Boy Scouts
7:00pm AA 2nd floor

THURSDAY

10:00am AA 2nd Floor

FRIDAY

8:00pm AA 2nd Floor

SATURDAY

10:00am Food Pantry
10:00am AA 2nd Floor

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