



Pilgrim Church



July 2019 NEWSLETTER

Pastor Mike's Missive **Perseverance**

"Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that *suffering* produces *endurance*, and endurance produces *character*, and character produces *hope*, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the *Holy Spirit* that has been given to us." -*Romans* 5:1-5

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with *perseverance* the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God." -*Hebrews* 12:1-2

Webster defines Perseverance as: steady persistence in a course of action, a purpose, a state, etc., especially in spite of difficulties, obstacles, or discouragement. In Theology, perseverance is defined as: continuance in a state of grace to the leading to eternal salvation.

- Dogged persistence and dedication can often win out over brilliance and charisma.
- Thomas Edison's definition of genius: 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration.

I have spoken before of the "cheap grace" to which Dietrich Bonhoeffer referred.

Accepting Christ as our savior is the beginning not the end of our faith journey. Becoming a disciple entails taking up the cross. "Walking the Talk." Christian love "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." - *1 Corinthians* 13:7

Few things in life come easily. Our Calvinist, Protestant ethic enshrined hard work as a virtue. Does that mean that once we retire from gainful employment that we can rest on our laurels? Don't think so! It is at that point in our lives when we can devote even more energy and attention to the spiritual dimension of our lives. Devoted Christians never stop growing in their faith and devotion in following "The Way," the original name for the Christian movement.

"But pastor, the mind is willing but the body is weak." Yes, of course. So...may we seniors put our minds to work! Perhaps the greatest service we can perform is to reach out to others: to pray for them, to visit with them—in person, on the phone, via a thoughtful and

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- The lesson of the Tortoise and the Hare: Slow and steady wins the race.

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loving card. I have always believed that the cross, as the symbol of our faith, is not just a symbol of execution and sacrifice but also of the dual nature of our religion:

- The vertical beam, our one-on-one relationship with our triune God;
- The horizontal, our relationship with one another in Christian Love and Fellowship.

We pray privately. We come together communally to worship, to break bread and to take part in Christian mission. Those who say, "I am a spiritual person but don't have much truck with religion—and don't go to church," are missing out on at least half of what our Christian Faith has to offer.

If you have such friends, good people undoubtedly, invite them to come to church with you. We are, after all, an evangelizing religion; and just as Jesus instructed His disciples to baptize and spread the gospel, we--also His disciples--are called upon to do the same.

So...Invite a friend or neighbor. Speak of the warmth and missions of Pilgrim Church. Don't be bashful about articulating your faith and how you think our church helps you to grow in that faith.

Stay well.

God loves you.

Pastor Mike



**Conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.
- Abraham Lincoln "the Gettysburg Address."**

Every year July 4th causes me to give thanks. For me it is a time for reflection of all of the options that our great country offers us. We remain the land of opportunity for the peoples of the world. A place where you can practice your faith without fear of persecution. A place where you can raise your children to reach for the stars. Through all of our efforts and the efforts of our forefathers, many of whom died to protect our freedoms, this country is truly an exceptional place to live and worship.

So fellow Pilgrims, let us give thanks to the Lord above for all of our bounty. Let us never forget those in our own nation and around the world who have not been as fortunate as we. Let us remember them in our prayers.

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. -Galatians 3:38

Don Anderson, Moderator

NEW PHOTO DIRECTORY



Pastor Mike reported the best thing we can do for the incoming pastor is to have a current photo directory.

Lifetouch will be taking pictures August 6-7! Everyone receives a free 8x10 and will have the opportunity to order additional photos. Any photos purchased on August dates will result in a % back to Pilgrim Church! Pictures make great Christmas gifts! Please sign up on Sunday! Fall dates to come for Snowbirds.

Diaconate Ministry

The Diaconate Ministry (Pilgrim Deacons) is mostly a behind the scenes ministry which involves maintaining the Church Sanctuary, as the Altar Guild for the Church, by keeping the pews orderly, preparing the elements for and serving communion, decorating the Sanctuary for holidays, picking up the Altar flowers and delivering them to shut-ins. The Deacons also serve by visiting our Pilgrim shut-ins for a time of fellowship and prayer. This time of fellowship will prove to be a blessing as you get to know each other, talk and pray together.

The Diaconate is also responsible for organizing the Church greeters and ushers. We are in need of both greeters and ushers, especially at our 10:00 am Sunday services. If this is an area where you might like to serve our Pilgrim Family, please contact a member of the Diaconate or Pastor Mike. You do not have to be a member of the Diaconate to perform this service to the Church, but if you wish to join the Diaconate, you can contact a member of the Diaconate or Pastor Mike to find out more information about the duties and responsibilities of the Deacons. Membership is open to any member of Pilgrim Church who is willing to serve our Pilgrim Family.

As Deacons of Pilgrim Church, we are here to serve the congregation of Pilgrim Church and to serve God. I would like to ask any of our Pilgrim family that might feel the call to serve both our Church and God, to consider joining our Pilgrim Deacons Committee.

Hampton Allen Chairman

Pilgrim Deacons Committee

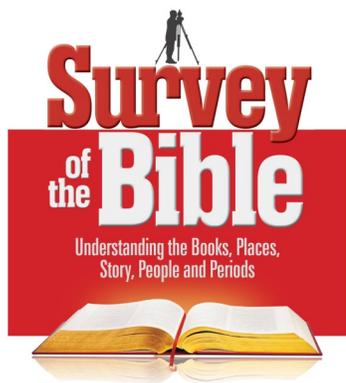


Summer Camp is under way at Joyful Noise! Ms. Megan and the Summer Camp staff have worked really hard changing the way Joyful Noise does Camp. We started the summer with visits from the Fire Department and the Sheriff's Office giving us safety information. A dunk tank was brought in so we could start camp off with a SPLASH. The children took turns dunking Ms. Anna, Ms. Carli and me.

We are looking forward to visiting Peace River Wildlife Center, The Imaginarium, The Shell Factory, Octagon Wildlife Refuge, and the Regal Cinema to name a few field trip locations. Check out our Facebook page for pictures of our summer fun!



Cynthia Poudrette, Director Joyful Noise



Bible Revival Schedule

Friday, July 12

- 6:00 pm Sign-in, simple supper and mixer
- 7:00 pm Organization of the Old Testament; basics and the story
- 8:30 pm Dismiss

Saturday, July 13

- 8:30 am Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 am Opening Sessions
 - Group A – Library – Fruits of the Spirit
Jacque Ross
 - Group B – CR 4- Organization of the New Testament
Dave Wilson
- 9:55 am Rotate Spaces
- 10:00 am Repeat Opening Sessions
 - Group B – Library
 - Group A – Classroom 4
- 10:55 am Snack Break
- 11:00 am Workshops – Choose 1
 - Bible Resources at Your Fingertips
Judy Whittaker and Dionne Jones
 - A Closer Look at the “Spiritual Fruits” Love, Joy, & Peace
Judi Wilson
 - Historical, Biographical and Theological aspects of the New Testament
Pastor Mike Robinson
- 12:00 pm Review and Wrap-Up
- 1:00 pm Dismiss

Sunday, July 14

- 8:00 am Special Worship Service
- 9:00 am Coffee Hour; Small group sign-ups
- 10:00 am Special Worship Service

This is a special invitation to you and your family to join us for an inspiring - educational - fun filled workshop experience for Pilgrim Church friends and family.

The weekend focus will be on The Fruit of the Spirit and the books of the Old and New Testaments

*Bible Survey:
Connect your head, heart, and hands and rekindle your passion for God's Word in this innovative and enjoyable course. Join world-class Bible teacher, Dr. Bruce Wilkinson as he distills the Biblical story-line, timeline, major characters, and movements into mind-easy and memorable segments.*

*Galatians 5:22-23
But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.*

Complete the registration form and drop it off in the offering plate or at the church office.



Registration Form

Bible Revival July 12-13

The weekend focus will be on The Fruit of the Spirit and The books of the Old and New Testaments

July 12, 6:00-8:30 pm with dinner
July 13, 8:30 am-1:00 pm with continental breakfast
Classes for adults, teens and children!
Nursery Available

Please complete this form or register online at <https://bit.ly/2IEJnHN>

Friday & Saturday Friday only Saturday only

Name: _____ Adult Teen

For Registration Confirmation please provide:

email: _____

Or mailing address: _____

Children Attending with you:

Name: _____ Age: _____

2020 VISION

His Mission. Our Focus.

Help us meet our Year 3 Goals Through Prayer, Giving and Service.

Please pray over these projects and consider choosing to step out in faith and participate!

1. Pay Mortgage on Education Building in full
2. Adopt a Joyful Noise Family program
3. Pilgrim Partners program with Joyful Noise teachers
4. Host a Staff Development and Family event for Joyful Noise school



Contact Information

We are updating our database.

We don't want to miss anyone in our records. Please complete and return the form on the last page as soon as possible.



ALL Women of Pilgrim Church are Welcome.

The next Book Club dinner discussion will be a salad supper held at the home of Judi Wilson on Thursday evening, July 25 at 6 pm. The book for discussion is *The Captain's Daughter* by Meg Mitchell Moore. The book explores life-changing choices we make and the consequences we face in their aftermath. Come and join us for a lively discussion.

Thursday, August 15, will be Ladies Summer Game Night in the Pilgrim Community Center. If you are willing to host a table game, call Judi at 941-380-0877. There will be snacks, plenty of fun and friendly competition.

The next regular meeting will be TUESDAY, September 3 at 10 am in the Church Library. We will open the new study of the inspiring faith of Christian men and women who changed the world. The first will be the life story of Florence Nightingale. Following the meeting, we will share lunch at Metro Diner in Port Charlotte.



We will be holding a Town Hall meeting on July 28 in the Community Center 9:15 - 9:45 am or 11:15 - 11:45 am.

We hope this is an opportunity for everyone to gather, ask questions about where we are and where are we going.



Pilgrim Church



In partnership with



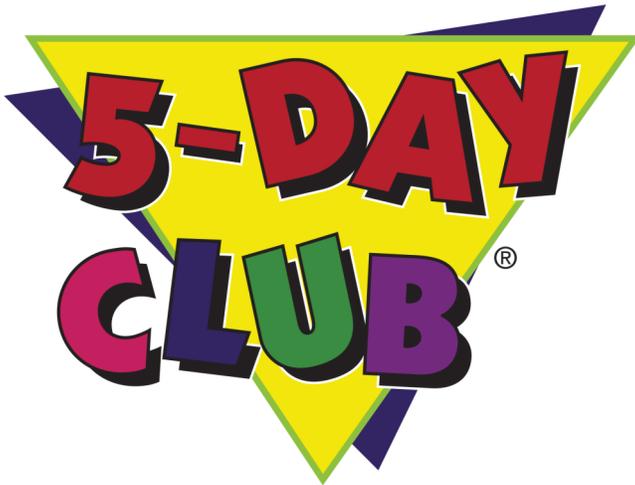
CEF[®]
CHILD EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP[®]
Since 1937 Reaching children worldwide™

Presents

Vacation Bible School

July 22-26, 2019 9:30 am—11:30 am

5-Day Club is an exciting, fun-filled morning for five consecutive days.



It includes: dynamic Bible lessons, creative learning activities, inspiring missionary stories, meaningful songs, life-changing Scripture memorization.

5-Day Club is co-sponsored by Pilgrim Church, and led by CEF, an international, Bible-centered organization, which has been in existence for over 80 years. CEF shares the Gospel with more than 22.9 million children each year.

5-Day Club is open to all boys and girls between the ages of five and twelve, regardless of religious background. Parents are welcome to attend the club with their child.

To register online, go to:

<https://bit.ly/2WRrILf>

We need YOUR help!

If you are able to help, please reach out to Jacque Ross or the church office!

Helper— assist children rotate to assigned activities

Crafts— assist children in craft

Snacks— assist children at snack time

I cannot be present, but am able to donate funds for snacks and props

High School students are encouraged to assist and use the time to help meet community service requirements for graduation.

July Prayer Focus

PILGRIM'S SUMMER DESTINATION is
DISCIPLESHIP

July 7 – Thank God for the PRAYER PRESENCE
of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives

July 14- Thank God for giving us the BIBLE to
study so freely

July 21- Thank God for speaking to us in our
DAILY QUIET TIME.

July 28- Thank God for the ATTITUDE of
SERVICE at Pilgrim Church.



Car Decals

\$5 each. Pick yours up at the Church Office!



Follow our Facebook page
"Pilgrim Church of Port Charlotte".

The new page has the Pilgrim Church anchor
logo as the profile picture.

Pilgrim Church

A congregation of The United
Church of Christ



24515 Rampart Boulevard,
Port Charlotte, FL 33980
941-629-2633

www.pilgrimonline.org
office@pilgrimonline.org

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 am - 2 pm

**"To Help People KNOW Christ
Personally and GROW in Their Faith."**

Worship, Fellowship, Discipleship,
Ministry and Evangelism

Rev. Michael Robinson,

Interim Pastor & Teacher

Rev. Ken Ewing,, Associate Pastor

All Members, Ministers

Russ Whittaker,

Parish Administrator & Bell Choir Director

Darryl Johnson, Choir Director

Mona Johnson, Organist

Patrick & Marilyn Randall,

Worship Leaders

Jessica Warne, Sunday School Director

Cat Foster, Office Administrative Assistant

Joyful Noise School

Cynthia Poudrette, Director of Joyful Noise

941-629-4821

www.joyfulnoiselc.org



All Pastor's messages are online at:

<https://vimeo.com/channels/pilgrimonline>



Finance

We see the drop in collections (post snowbirds) reflected in the financial results. The church is now operating at approximately breakeven through the end of May. There are concerns over what will happen over the next 4-5 months with lower attendance and drops in pledged giving.

There is now an opportunity to make pledge commitments online through the church website. Visit www.pilgrimonline.org and click on "Donate Now". A detailed "How To" will be available soon!

Joyful Noise is experiencing good financial results as enrollments continue at expected rates. We still have Vision2020 pledge commitments of \$260,000 to be made by the end of the program. Our mortgage balance of \$152,329 needs to be paid off. It is hoped that we can do that before we have a new full time pastor. Please consider your pledge commitments for Pilgrim Church.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>May YTD</u>		<u>Annual</u>
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Pledge Offerings	\$91,512	\$100,010	\$225,000
Loose Offerings	\$11,964	\$ 21,220	\$ 37,500
<u>Missions</u>			
Pledges	\$26,944		\$ 54,200
Mission Payouts	\$15,645		\$ 54,200
<u>Mortgage Balance</u>	\$152,329		
<u>Vision2020</u>			
Campaign Pledges	\$769,549		
Total Cash Receipts	<u>\$516,604</u>		
Balance of Pledges due	<u>\$252,945</u>		



July Birthdays

- 1
Carol Aitchison
- 2
Ron Brawley, Paula Gallant
- 4
Janice Mann
- 7
Dr John Hibbert
- 10
Mark Lewis
- 11
Elizabeth Henry
- 12
Gloria Kurbanali, Charles O'donnell
Marguerite Waite
- 13
Todd Radke
- 14
Vera Brawley
- 15
Christle Baker
- 16
Karen Rosser
- 17
William Wolf
- 19
Dennis Tagge
- 21
Daphne Dillon, Nick Nemece, Larry Scott
- 22
Robert Biggs, Kathryn Guerin, Janice Lewis
- 23
Laverne Graham
- 28
Betty Holmes
- 29
Bill Deasey

Pilgrim Church July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00pm AA Meeting - Women	2 10:00am Prayer Group 11:00am Staff Meeting	3 10:00am Al Anon 10:30am EM Bible Study 6:00pm Depression & Grief Support Group 6:00pm Bible Study with Ken Ewing	4 Independence Day - office closed 10:00am Bead Group	5	6 10:00am Praise Team Practice
7 Communion Sunday	8 10:00am Food Pantry 2:30pm Bible Revival Committee Meeting 7:00pm AA Meeting - Women	9 10:00am Prayer Group 11:00am Staff Meeting	10 10:00am Al Anon 6:00pm Depression & Grief Support Group 6:00pm Bible Study with Ken Ewing	11 9:00am Stephen Ministry 10:00am Bead Group	12 6:00pm Bible Revival	13 8:30am Bible Revival 10:00am Praise Team Practice
14	15 6:30pm Finance Meeting 7:00pm AA Meeting - Women	16 10:00am Prayer Group 11:00am Staff Meeting	17 Newsletter Articles Due 10:00am Al Anon 10:30am EM Bible Study 6:00pm Choir Practice 6:00pm Depression & Grief Support Group 6:00pm Bible Study with Ken Ewing	18 10:00am Bead Group 10:30am Sandwich Makers	19 4:30pm Serving Homeless Coalition	20 9:00am Boy Scouts 10:00am Praise Team Practice
21	22 9:00am VBS 10:00am Food Pantry 7:00pm BSA Scout Troop Meeting 7:00pm AA Meeting - Women	23 9:00am VBS 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Council	24 9:00am VBS 10:00am Al Anon 6:00pm Bible Study with Ken Ewing 6:00pm Depression & Grief Support Group	25 9:00am VBS 1:00pm 20/20 Meeting 6:00pm Pilgrim Women Book Club	26 9:00am VBS	27 10:00am Praise Team Practice
28 9:15am Town Hall Meeting 11:00am Town Hall Meeting	29 7:00pm AA Meeting - Women	30 10:00am Prayer Group 11:00am Staff Meeting	31 10:00am Al Anon 10:30am EM Bible Study 6:00pm Bible Study with Ken Ewing 6:00pm Depression & Grief Support Group	Every Sunday: 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:00am Bible Study with Genny Sweetland 9:15am Bible Study with Dave & Judi Wilson 10:00am Contemporary Worship		

This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it. -Psalm 118:24



Pilgrim Church
Database Update 2019

PLEASE PRINT

Head of Household Name

First	Last	Nickname
-------	------	----------

Mailing Address

(please note if you have a secondary address)

Street

City	State	Zip Code
------	-------	----------

Mobile Phone Number

--

Email Address

--

Birthday

--

Marriage Date

--

Church Membership Status

Active

Inactive

Associate

Visitor

Date Joined Pilgrim Church

--

Membership by

Confession of Faith

Baptism

Confirmation

Transfer

Occupation

--

Work Phone

--

Additional Member Name

First	Last	Nickname
-------	------	----------

Family Relation

Spouse

Child

Grandchild

Mobile Phone Number

--

Email Address

--

Birthday

--

Church Membership Status

Active

Inactive

Associate

Visitor

Date Joined Pilgrim Church

--

Membership by

Confession of Faith

Baptism

Confirmation

Transfer

Occupation

--

Work Phone

--

Additional Member Name

First

Last

Nickname

Family Relation

Child

Grandchild

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Transfer

Additional Member Name

First

Last

Nickname

Family Relation

Child

Grandchild

Mobile Phone Number

Email Address

Birthday

Church Membership Status

Active

Inactive

Associate

Visitor

Date Joined Pilgrim Church

Membership by

Confession of Faith

Baptism

Confirmation

Transfer