



Pilgrim Church

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



I have always had an appreciation for pottery. Even though I have collected many different pieces, there is one particular piece in my collection that I am quite fond of. It is a beautiful, two-toned pitcher with a braided handle. I have it displayed on the top of one of my bookcases in my office at the church.

At first glance, it's easy to see that it is a very well-made piece. However, when you take a closer look, you can see just how much time and energy was put into making it. You can see the very subtle ripples created as the potter's hand slowly, and carefully guided the clay into the desired shape. The braided handle is a testament to the thought and ingenuity put into the design of the pitcher. And if you look at the seamless attachment points where the potter connected the handle to the piece you can see the potter's attention to detail.

Looking at piece of art, it's hard to imagine that it was once a formless lump of clay sitting on a potter's wheel. Only the potter knows how many times the clay spun off balance or thinned and collapsed in on itself as he started to mold the clay. Each time that

happened, the potter would then have to start the shaping and molding process all over again. Eventually, after spending much time at the wheel sculpting and remolding the clay, everything fell into place and a pitcher sat where there was once only a

lump of shapeless clay. Then the potter glazed and fired the piece, producing the final product which is truly a work of art.

When looking at the pitcher, one can see the amount of love and dedication the potter put into making it. If a potter is willing to put in that much time, love, and dedication towards a simple piece of pottery, just imagine how much more our Heavenly Father, the Divine Potter, is willing to put into us!

In Isaiah 64:8 we read, "*Yet, O Lord, You are our Father; we are the clay, and You are our potter; we are all the work of Your hand.*" Each of us is a work in progress, just like a lump of clay being worked on a potter's wheel. God is always at work molding us and shaping us. When we fall and crack, run askew, crumble, or wear ourselves too thin and tear apart, God is there with his gentle, loving hands ready to repair and remold us into the beautiful creation he desires us to be. As much love, and dedication a potter has for his creations, it still does not compare to the love and dedication that our Heavenly Father has for us, His most precious creation. Praise be to God!

Blessings, Pastor John



*The pitcher was created by Cale and Christy Williams of Triple C Pottery in Eagle Springs, North Carolina.



Season of Lent

Lenten Small Group Study

Wednesdays, February 24-March 31 with Pastor John! It's not too late to join the Noon or 6:30 p.m. session of Forgiveness: A Lenten Study by Marjorie Thompson. Combining biblical examples with real-life situations in six engaging sessions, this study encourages you to deepen your grasp and practice of the spiritual discipline of forgiveness.

Palm Sunday, March 28

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship

Maundy Thursday, April 1

6:30 p.m. Worship

Good Friday, April 2

6:30 p.m. Worship

Easter Sunday, April 4

8:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship



Spring Cleaning

Just in time for Holy Week, let's spread through out the church campus and freshen up our first impressions! Saturday, March 27, Noon—3:00 p.m. If you need more flexibility we have some jobs that could be done on Thursday, March 25 from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Check in with Pastor John to choose your preferred activity! Masks are required indoors.

Some projects on our list:

- Murphy oil soap wooden doors
- Vacuum pew racks and pews seats
- Clean ceiling corners and behind exit signs for cob webs
- Spot Carpet cleaning
- Dust flowers and other décor
- Landscaping -trim bushes
- Pull weeds around the Sanctuary
- Clean around Memorial Garden



Altar Flowers

If you would like to place flowers on the altar, please call the church office. Save your special 2021 dates now. A single arrangement will cost \$35, a double arrangement is \$50.

“Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples.” - 1 Chronicles 16:24



From the Moderator

Be the Church

Protect the Environment. *Care for the poor.* FORGIVE OFTEN. Reject racism. **Fight for the powerless.** Share earthly and spiritual resources. *Embrace diversity.* Enjoy this Life. **Love God.**

(United Church of Christ)

Everyone has the right to find (or not to find) their own path to HIM.

For me:

Be the Church! Be Our Church! Be Pilgrim!

Share your expertise. Help one another! Do something to make just your corner of the World a better place. Speak out against injustice, unfairness and meanness. Offer a neighbor a helping hand. Engage the Community. Listen to someone with whom you disagree. Extend a hand to someone you don't know. Serve!

Walk in HIS Footsteps. Jesus did not intend this to be easy!

"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins." - 1 Peter 4:8

Don Anderson, Moderator



Easter Lilies and Hyacinths are available this year for \$8.00. You may indicate a purchase in memory of, honor of or to the Glory of God.

Easter flowers may be picked up after the Easter Sunday Service.

Return this form with payment to the Church office or in the offering plate by *March 15.*

Presented From Name

Total Number of Plants : ____

1. Dedicated to

- In Memory of
- In Honor of
- To the Glory of God

- Deliver to Shut-In
- Will pick up

- Lily
- Hyacinth

2. Dedicated to

- In Memory of
- In Honor of
- To the Glory of God

- Deliver to Shut-In
- Will pick up

- Lily
- Hyacinth



Habitat for Humanity Apostles Build

The Apostle Build 2021 with Habitat for Humanity and partner family is under way. Pilgrim Church's participation will be painting the interior of the home on Saturday, March 6.

The house is located at 27116 Partin Drive, Harbor Heights. Our partner family is a single father with one child.

We are asked to arrive at the job site at 8:50 am for devotions and safety briefing. Painting is from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm, with water breaks and lunch provided at Noon. We will be required to wear a mask. All equipment will be provided; however, if you wish to bring your own paint brush please do so.

Please join us in painting the Apostle Build 2021 house on Saturday, March 6. A beautiful T-shirt in royal blue in your size will be provided for you. Please sign the sign up sheet in the Narthex including phone number and T shirt size.

Looking forward to working with you, Habitat, and our partner family! Any questions contact Pastor Ken at 941-613-3787.



Joyful Noise has been seeing extra love all around us. We celebrated Valentine's Day with parties and home-made cards for our loved ones.



We received extra love from Pilgrim Women's Fellowship who gave all the Joyful Noise staff thoughtful Valentine's Day cards and gift cards. A huge thank you to the ladies!

We also want to say thank you to the Pilgrim Congregation for taking our prayer dolls and praying for our children.

We recently completed both the VPK Monitor and the School Readiness Monitor with the Early Learning Coalition. These are done every year to ensure we are following all guidelines and learning standards. These monitors usually take place in person, however this year they were conducted through Zoom. I am very happy to report Joyful Noise passed our monitors with flying colors.



Remember that St Patrick's Day began as a celebration of Saint Patrick bringing the gospel to Ireland. Take some time to read and study these scriptures focused on the Great Commission!

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all

things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." - Matthew 28:19-20

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." - Acts 1:8



Pilgrim Prayer List

Gloria Kurbanali
 Louise Timchak
 Bill Wolf
 Joe Beaudreau
 Carol Glanton
 John Hames
 Sidney Johnston
 Howard Meader
 Zander Jones
 Louise Wright
 Robert Garofola
 Gene Rice
 Jim Wright
 Enzo Raia
 Savina Krueger
 John Krueger

Samantha Tagge
 Jim Smith
 Dan Merriman
 Cindy Guilfoyle & Paris
 Doug Terry
 family of Roger Warburton
 Betsy Field
 Kathy Wagner
 Lurlyne Murray
 Suzie Blauvelt
 Sgt. Michael Cote
 Sandy Wheatcroft
 Cat Foster
 Phil Brown
 Larry Stewart



Pilgrim Women's Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship will meet on Thursday, March 4 at 10:00 a.m. in the Coffee Room off the Sanctuary. Church protocols for wearing masks and social distancing will be followed. The program will feature a biography on Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat who assisted in the relocation of Jews during World War II. This has been a continuing series on Christians who changed the world.

ALL women of Pilgrim Church are welcome to attend this monthly study time. All you need to do is show up! For any questions you can contact Judi Wilson at 941-380-0877.



Eagle Scout Project

Troop 351, Life Scout TJ Graves is preparing his Eagle Scout Project this Spring. His goal is to prepare at least 20 duffel bags/backpacks filled with 3 sets of clothes, shoes, toiletries and gear to be shared with homeless veterans in Charlotte County. Donations are appreciated! There is a collection box for clothes, toiletries and basic camping gear such as: flashlights, headlamps, water bottles duffel bags and backpacks in the Narthex. The collection ends April 18.

TJ is a 14 years old, 7th grader at Charlotte Middle School. He has been in scouting for 6 years.



World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer takes place internationally on the first Friday of March every year. The 2021 theme, "Build on a Strong Foundation," is inspired by Matthew 7:24-27.

In Jesus' story, the wisdom of the builder of the house comes from hearing and acting on the word of God, which is a word of love. This is the foundation on which we are called to build our homes, our nations, and the world. A call of faith to be earnestly considered when responding to the commitment: "What is the house that you would build?"

Let us walk in faith and prayerful action! World Day of Prayer 2021 is Friday, March 5, take a moment to listen to God and pray for strong foundations for your home, nation and world.



Food Pantry

We are open every Monday , 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Servers and food items as well as financial donations are always needed and very welcomed.

If you think you would like to help bag groceries with fellow Pilgrims on a rotating basis, stop by the pantry in the Sanctuary at 9:30 on a Monday and try it out! Don't forget your mask!

Our Food Pantry list:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| canned soup | dry pasta (assorted) |
| saltine crackers | mac n cheese |
| beef stew | mashed potatoes |
| canned pasta | canned potatoes |
| canned tomatoes | rice & dry beans |
| canned green beans | dry cereal & grits |
| canned pork n beans | oatmeal |
| canned carrots | pancake mix |
| canned corn | syrup |
| canned mix veggies | peanut butter |
| assorted canned beans | jelly |
| canned peas | snacks |
| canned fruit | canned tuna |
| ramen noodles | toilet paper |
| spaghetti sauce | paper towels |

February in Pictures at Pilgrim Church



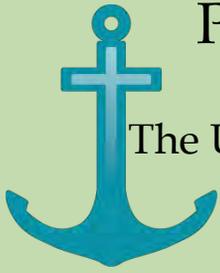
Pew Hymnals and Bibles are back! Drive Thru Ashes had 90 minutes of continuous cars from throughout the community! Altar Flowers. Guest Organist Cheryl Huber practicing! We remember the Last Supper.



Prayer Group

Prayer Meeting is every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. We are meeting by phone conference, so pick a comfortable seat and dial 941-258-2597.

We continue to pray for new members to join our group.



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. John Barnette, Senior Pastor
Rev. Ken Ewing, Associate Pastor
All Members, Ministers
Russ Whittaker, Administrator & Bell Choir Director
Patrick & Marilyn Randall, Worship Leaders
Jessica Warne, Sunday School Director
Cat Foster, Office Administrator
Gene Burnell, Maintenance Technician

Joyful Noise Learning Center
941-629-4821, www.joyfulnoiselc.org
Cynthia Poudrette, Director of Joyful Noise

Find us on 

Follow our Facebook Page, “Pilgrim Church of Port Charlotte” and be part of our online community during the week.

View our worship services at

- Our Facebook page
- Our Vimeo Page:
<https://vimeo.com/channels/pilgrimonline>
- Our website: www.pilgrimonline.org



March Birthdays

2

Nancy Swen

4

Janice Cahn

7

Phyllis Stanley

8

Bob Stephenson

9

Nancy Beaver, Cat Foster
Niles Stoudt, David Wilson

10

Robert Emard

11

Jonna Dean, Cheryl Gerry, Jacque Ross

12

Nereid Maxey

13

Denise Diluv

14

Sharon Bergstresser

18

Dan Donohue, Samantha Tagge

19

Larry Provencal

24

Sylvia Mallay

27

Margie Dingee

29

Susan Littrell

30

Marty Donovan, Karen McKenney

Did we miss a birthday?
Please call or email the office,
so we may update the records.



Pilgrim Church March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 10:00am Food Pantry 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop Meeting	2 10:00am Prayer Group 7:00pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting	3 12:00pm Lenten Bible Study 6:30pm Lenten Bible Study	4 10:00am Pilgrim Women Fellowship 6:00pm JN Board Meeting 6:00pm Rhode Island Club	5 World Day of Prayer	6 Cub Scout Pinewood Derby 9:00am Praise Band Practice
7 3rd Sunday in Lent 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:15am Wilson Small Group 10:00am Contemporary Worship	8 10:00am Food Pantry 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop Meeting 7:00pm Missions Meeting	9 10:00am Prayer Group 7:00pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:00pm Boy Scout PLC	10 12:00pm Lenten Bible Study 6:30pm Lenten Bible Study	11	12	13 9:00am Praise Band Practice
14 4th Sunday in Lent Daylight Savings Time begins 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:15am Wilson Small Group 10:00am Contemporary Worship	15 Easter Flower deadline 10:00am Food Pantry 6:30pm Finance Meeting	16 10:00am Prayer Group	17 Newsletter Article Deadline St Patrick's Day 12:00pm Lenten Bible Study 6:30pm Lenten Bible Study	18 10:30am PBJ Sandwich Makers	19 4:15pm Serving at The Homeless Coalition	20 9:00am Praise Band Practice
21 5th Sunday in Lent 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:15am Wilson Small Group 10:00am Contemporary Worship	22 10:00am Food Pantry 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop Meeting	23 10:00am Prayer Group 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting	24 12:00pm Lenten Bible Study 6:30pm Lenten Bible Study	25 9:00am Spring Cleaning 6:30pm Boy Scout Committee Meeting	26	27 9:00am Praise Band Practice 12:00pm Spring Cleaning
28 6th Sunday in Lent 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:15am Wilson Small Group 10:00am Contemporary Worship	29 10:00am Food Pantry 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop Meeting	30 10:00am Prayer Group 7:00pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting	31 12:00pm Lenten Bible Study 6:30pm Lenten Bible Study	<p style="text-align: center;">“Why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.” Matthew 6:28-29</p>		

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Matthew 6:28-29