

From the Desk of Pastor John

October
2022

I have always been fond of the word “discombobulated” and over the last few weeks, I’ve had a few days when the word summed up my mental state quite nicely! By definition, one who is discombobulated is confused, disorganized, and frustrated. When one feels discombobulated, everything seems to be out of order, so he or she seems to be all out or sorts and stressed out.

Have you ever felt discombobulated? Have you ever had days when you feel disorganized and out of sorts? On those days did it seem like the simplest tasks were too much for you to handle? When I’m having one of those days, I can’t even seem to find shoes, even though they are on my feet!

The feeling of discombobulation always seems to creep in on days when I have way too much on my plate. There are simply too many tasks that need to be completed, but not enough hours in the day to complete them! I simply don’t have the mental ability to concentrate on everything that needs to be addressed. Even though scientists have said that the average person can concentrate on seven things at once, the brain cannot work at that level of attentiveness for an extended period of time. Eventually it gets distressed and just can’t keep up. That’s when we feel overwhelmed by life. We become confused and disorganized, and then forget things. We become discombobulated!

Before the Israelites crossed the river Jordan into the Promised Land, Moses placed his successor Joshua in charge of leading the Israelites. Talk about an overwhelming task! I can only image what Joshua must have been thinking. I’m sure his mind was swirling with anxiety, doubt, and fear. After all, the magnitude of the task at hand had to be discombobulating! As Moses was conferring upon Joshua the responsibilities of leading the Israelites, he blessed him with these words of comfort:

“It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.” (Deuteronomy 31:8)

Life can be overwhelming. The tasks at hand can be numerous and challenging. We will have days when it seems like life has thrown more at us than we can handle. We will feel mentality incompetent, disoriented and, well...discombobulated. On these days, I encourage you to pause, take a deep breath and remember the promises that come to us from the prophet Moses. God goes before you. He will be with you because God does not forsake. Therefore, do not fear or be dismayed not matter how complicated life seems. Through good times and bad, God is with you and will strengthen you each step of the way.

Praise be to God!

Blessings, Pastor John

 **Pilgrim Church**
 UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

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Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs, 9:30 am - 2:30 pm

Joyful Noise

Learning Center
941-629-4821,
www.joyfulnoisec.org

Senior Pastor:

Rev. John Barnette

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Ken Ewing

Maintenance Technician:

Gene Burnell

Office Administrator:

Cat Foster

Organist:

Cheryl Huber

Pianist:

Maverick Li

Director of Joyful Noise:

Cynthia Poudrette

Sunday School Director:

Jessica Warne

Bell Choir Director:

Russ Whittaker

Music Director

Katy Yoder

*No matter who you are,
or where you are
on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*



Joyful Noise Learning Center is a ministry of Pilgrim Church. We believe childhood is precious. In a world where children are often forced to grow up too soon; we offer a community of gentleness and safety where Christian values of kindness, honesty, and respect of God and others are taught with loving care.

We provide creative learning experiences that are developmentally appropriate and nurture children to thrive intellectually, spiritually, emotionally, socially, artistically and physically. We instill a genuine love of learning while providing a broad, challenging and stimulating education. We promote self-reliance and establish a supportive and nurturing learning environment for students of varied talents and abilities.

We maintain a strong, inclusive, family atmosphere committed to Christian values while honoring the socioeconomic, ethnic and religious diversity within our school community.

- We serve children ages one through 12 years of age, or 5th grade.
- We currently serve 155 families with 180 children enrolled.
- We are a licensed early learning center with the State of Florida with a staff of 30.

- We are a contracted VPK provider. VPK is a state funded pre-kindergarten program that provides 540 instructional hours to children who are four years old on or before September 1st. We serve 66 VPK children each year.
- We are a contracted School Readiness Provider as well. School Readiness is a program that provides financial help for families in need. We currently have 21 school readiness students.
- As a licensed provider all our staff have minimum training requirements and mandatory yearly continuing education.
- Early childhood education is a stressful profession with a high turnover rate, even more so with today's added stressors. Pastor John and I are working in ways to best minister to our Joyful Noise staff so they know they are valued as God's children during these difficult time as well as staff.
- If you'd like to tour our school, we'd be happy to show you around. Just call the school office to schedule a tour: 941-629-4821.

Cynthia Poudrette, Director





Music Notes

Its good to be back at Pilgrim UCC. I've missed all of you and am excited to be back as the Director of Music. We had a great start to the New Year residing in Illinois. I learned a lot and Gabriel grew in maturity and self esteem during his time away as well.

Recently, I made a transition from my role in the education industry into the 55+ Independent Living Community industry and now work full time during the week at Holiday by Atria - Desoto Beach Club as a Sales Manager. It's funny how God works as you look back and see the tapestry of how He provides, sustains and grows us into new areas; sometimes in multiple ways all at once to bring all of the pieces and components at just the right timing as He orchestrates in His will and for His glory.

As we continue planning and developing our vision for Worship Arts, I'd love to hear your ongoing feedback.

My passion is to help grow this ministry into partnerships with other churches; serving in our community to reach the lost for Christ.

We visited other churches during our time in Illinois, but didn't quite find a resting place that fit; I believe it was intended for us to return back to Florida, having Gabriel attending High School here along with Hannah's transition to USF - Tampa. I'm so proud of both of them and see God's handiwork and blessings upon them each new day.



Here's to a wonderful October and gearing up for our Fall/Winter festivities at Pilgrim. ♥

Katy Yoder
Music Ministry Director



Money Matters

The Finances: Your Contributions

In August I talked about your role in growing Pilgrim. This month I present you another challenge.

We build the Church and Joyful Noise budgets based on expected revenues. The Finance Ministry begins preparing next year's budget in September each year. The Church side of that is composed completely of your Tithe. Joyful Noise has revenue coming in from the State and the parents to support its programs.

So, back to the Church. Tithe as your heart dictates. You belong to a Church known for its community involvement and its generosity. You are not just another number at Pilgrim, you are a person

If we are that good in taking care of the needs of our Community and Congregation why are you not inviting your friends and neighbors Pilgrim? Share the good news!!!! Come to a Church that makes a difference in the lives of the people in our communities each and every week.

How we doing right now? January through July, 2022:

Church Revenue:	
Actual \$ 146,858	Budget \$132,175
Church Expense:	
Actual \$ 169,391	Budget \$158,475
Joyful Noise Revenue:	
Actual \$ 758,438	Budget \$ 770,000
Joyful Noise Expense	
Actual \$ 777,835	Budget \$ 730,423

As always your questions are welcome. Please remember that the Finance Ministry and General Council Meetings are open meetings and posted on the monthly schedule. You are always welcome to come by and help us as we manage God's House.

Don Anderson

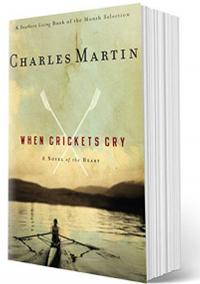
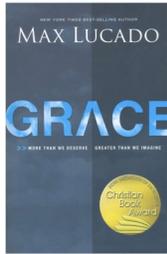


World Communion Sunday, October 2, 2022

Join us for this special day as we celebrate Communion with fellow believers from around the world.

Women's Fellowship

We will meet on October 20 at 10:00 a.m. in the Coffee Room. We will be discussing Jesus Stooped Low to Take Our Place as a continuation of our year-long study of Max Lucado's GRACE: More than we deserve and Greater than we can imagine.



The next Book Club review will be on Thursday, September 29, at 6:00 p.m. at Kings Hwy the Pit Masters BBQ restaurant. We will review WHEN CRICKETS CRY, A novel of the heart by Charles Martin. No RSVP required. We will order our meals off the menu.

Flowers for Food



We are thrilled to announce the Bloomin' 4 Good Program, a program from Winn-Dixie that works to fight hunger in local communities, supported Pilgrim Church Food Pantry in January and July with "Pilgrim Month". With this program, every \$12.99

Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet sold sends a \$1 donation to a hunger organization local to the store in which it was purchased.

Pilgrim United Church of Christ Food Pantry has been selected again to benefit with purchases during the month of October 2022! We will receive a \$1 donation for every \$12.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet sold at: Winn-Dixie located at 2000 Kings Hwy, Port Charlotte. Look for the bouquets with the red circle sticker pictured when buying fresh flowers for your home, friends and neighbors!

Arts & Crafts Festival

Saturday, October 22
10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

We are hosting an art show at Pilgrim Church! You are invited to purchase a space and sell your arts and crafts and baked goods. If you don't have that talent, no worries this is still an event for you... come by and support the artists and pick up some Christmas gifts and grab a hotdog or burger.

Registration forms for a space are available. Register today, spaces are limited!

Trunk or Treat

Pilgrim Church is hosting Trunk or Treat open to all our neighbors on Sunday, October 30 at 4:00 p.m. Trunks will need to be in place by 3:30 p.m. and ready to hand out candy at 4:00 p.m.

Register your vehicle for the trunk or treat in the church office BY October 25. If you need help "dressing" your trunk, we can help!



Character Parade

Mark your calendars for October 31, 9:30 a.m. You are invited to the character parade at Joyful Noise Learning Center. The students will dress in costume and file through the Community Center. We'll have candy for you to pass out. Please come and enjoy some time in the presence of these young students.

Properties Committee

We are prepping for cooler days. If you have interest in being the hands and feet that care for the Pilgrim Church Campus please join Pastor John for a meeting on Tuesday, October 4 at 6:30 in the Coffee Room.



Stewardship Month

Pilgrim Church Remember Your Membership Commitments

Commitment To Jesus Christ

Essential to becoming a Christian is inviting Jesus into our lives, asking Him to forgive our sins, and patterning our lives on His example and commands. After entering this relationship with the Lord, we grow daily in our journey with Him and seek to become fully committed Christ-followers.

Commitment To Spiritual Growth

Becoming mature Christians is achieved through personal Bible reading, prayer and helping others, being involved in a small group or service group and attending worship. We offer several avenues for growth every month, and urge our members to commit to belonging to a group.

Commitment To Attend

We expect members to attend church regularly as they are able. Faithful attendance is important as corporate worship draws us closer to one another and to God. For those unable to attend, our service can be viewed online.

Commitment To Serve

Every person has been given a unique set of gifts and abilities by the Lord. We are called to employ them in reaching out to other Pilgrims and our community. Being involved in the ministry and mission of the church is imperative as we move the Lord's Vision for Pilgrim Church forward.

Commitment To Give

The Bible teaches us to be generous in supporting our Christian mission of spreading the Good News of the Gospel. Some are much more able to tithe the traditional 10% of income than others. By joining Pilgrim we pledge to support the financial needs of our church to the extent that we are able, recognizing that though many are of limited financial resources, they can support the missions of the church through devoted contribution of their time and talents.



2023 Pledge Card



Turn in Sunday, November 6, 2023

Name: _____

Envelope #: _____

I pledge to commit to the spiritual discipline of supporting and serving Pilgrim Church. My 2023 commitment, along with my Prayers, Presence, Service and Talents, will be financial support of Pilgrim Church's ministries:

	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Yearly</u>
Operating	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Missions	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

Please contact me to set up automatic withdrawal (e-giving).

Keep this portion as a reminder for your commitment to Pilgrim Church.

My pledge for Pilgrim Church for 2023 will be:

Prayers Presence Service

Talents Financial Support of:

	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Yearly</u>
Operating	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Missions	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

Some give freely yet grow all the richer; others withhold what is due and only suffer want. - Proverbs 11:24

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you welcomed me" - Matthew 25:35*



As of the newsletter deadline, for 2022 we have served:

1,089 families
2,554 adults
1,161 children

With a weekly average of

39 families
91 adults
41 children

By request of those in need, with support of our dedicated volunteer team and with faith that God will provide through your continued generosity: The Food Pantry is **returning to EVERY** Monday. 10:00 a.m. until 11:20 a.m.

If you are interested in supporting this ministry with your time and talents, please reach out to the church office. Financial support can be left in the giving box or mailed.

Food Pantry Collection List

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

Mark your calendars for the Fall Boy Scout Food Drive on Saturday, November 12. Extra hands are needed to sort the gifts from our neighbors. Sign up to help in the Narthex!

Sunday, November 13, the scouts will present the food offering in worship and following worship the scouts are offering a breakfast for the Pilgrim family, area Veterans and First Responders.

Goal: 80

While financial gifts to the Food Pantry Ministry are always welcomed, we will appreciate your help with donations of these special items for the Thanksgiving Baskets. For these special baskets we are holding a collection of:

October Harvest Shopping List

- ◆ Mashed Potatoes
- ◆ Stuffing Mix
- ◆ Canned Yams
- ◆ Cranberry Sauce
- ◆ Turkey Gravy
- ◆ \$15 Winn Dixie Gift Cards (for clients to purchase meat)

Please donate items no later than October 31st, so we have time to order any items needed to fully complete our baskets.

Thank you!

- Missions Committee



Pilgrim Church understands the gift of gathering around a table with our traditional Thanksgiving meal. We seek to provide a Thanksgiving Dinner to those who will not be able to provide for themselves.

The Thanksgiving Meal Order Form is on the next page. Please share this with anyone you know who may be blessed with a basket. Return the form no later than noon on **Monday, November 7**. We will strive to fulfill each request.

Groceries will be available to be picked up Monday, November 21, from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.



Thanksgiving Meals 2022 Order Form

Our God is a great God and reminds each of us that it is our duty to care for those around us every day. Pilgrim Church understands the gift of gathering around a table with our traditional Thanksgiving meal. We seek to provide a Thanksgiving Dinner to those who will not be able to provide for themselves.

If you or a family you know would benefit from items to prepare a dinner, please complete this form. Return the form no later than noon on **Monday, November 7**. We will strive to fulfill each request.

**Groceries will be available to be picked up on
 Monday, November 21, from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.
 Individual picking up groceries for the family must present ID that matches this form.**

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL PICKING UP MEAL _____

Tear here _____ turn in portion below, save top for reminder

Thanksgiving Meals 2022 Order Form

**Groceries will be available to be picked up on
 Monday, November 21
 from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.**

Individual picking up groceries for the family must present ID that matches this form.

DATE: _____

NAME OF FAMILY _____

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL PICKING UP MEAL _____

of ADULTS IN FAMILY _____ # of CHILDREN IN FAMILY _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE: _____

FOOD PANTRY TEAM USE

PACKED INITIALS: _____

PICKED UP INITIALS: _____

Adult Bible Study

This class led by David and Judi Wilson, meets in the Community Center Library immediately following the 9:00 am worship service. Our study of the three Epistles of John continues in October. Be sure to bring your Bible to class. Also, each lesson stands alone so you can join us any week and join the discussion.

Community News

- Cheryl Huber, our organist, is the keyboard player for the Charlotte County Concert Band. She will be playing for all of the concerts in the Snowbird Season. This large concert band of about 60 members plays standards, showtunes, patriotic music and some interesting pieces you haven't heard before. Concerts are held at Charlotte High School in Punta Gorda. Tickets are on sale now at charlottecountyconcertband.com/beta for the new season. Check it out!
- The Gulf Coast Sirens Chorus, a women's a cappella chorus, singing barbershop style music and are a member of Harmony, Inc. meets Tuesdays at Pilgrim Church in the choir room. These neighbors are inviting Pilgrim women to join them. If you are interested in experiencing what they do or have questions, join these them at 6:30 p.m. using the Choir Room entrance.

Cook Book

Thank you Pilgrim! We have over 150 recipes!

We hope to have the cookbooks available in time for the arts & crafts festival. If anyone is familiar with a binding machine please reach out to the church office and offer your time!

If you have not told the church office but plan on purchasing a cookbook, please let us know so we can be prepared! We are asking for a \$15 donation for each book.

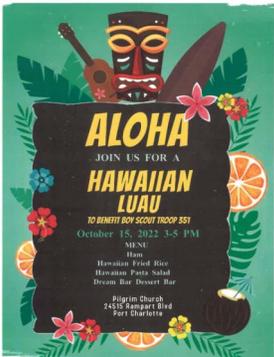
Scouting

Cub Scouts - The pack is growing, we have new scouts every week. The end of this month they will be building their own boats for the Rain Gutter Regatta that will be on Saturday, October 8.

Boy Scouts went on a bike ride on Saturday, September 3. They rode from Lashley Park to the Heritage Military Museum where they got to fly a plane in the simulators. Then had lunch and rode back to Lashley Park.

Monday, September 12, the Boys Scouts had their Meet the Troop event. That is when the Arrow of Light scouts from Cub Scouts (5th graders) get to meet the Troop. They worked on Teamwork exercises and games and a "What's wrong with this campsite".

The Luau Dinner Tickets, October 15, are only \$10. If you are not able to attend that evening and want to support the Boy Scouts you may purchase tickets and donate the meal to someone in need. We work with the Salvation Army to hand out these donated tickets. The church office has tickets available.





Pilgrim Prayer List

- Gloria Kurbanali - homebound
- Gene Rice - stroke
- Joe Beaudreau - health
- Jim Smith - health
- John Hames - PC Rehab
- Louise Timchak - PC Rehab
- Lorraine O'Keefe - cancer
- Sidoney Johnston - homebound
- Ken & Faye Ewing
- Rick McLemore - cancer
- John Krueger - Parkinson's
- Savina Krueger - cancer
- Pat Wheatcroft - cancer
- Michelle Yale
- Bill Wolf - homebound
- Vera Roscoe - Lifecare Rehab
- Sarah Pasierb
- Nancy Burnell - health
- Zander Jones - health
- Rieley Owen - health
- Sarge Glanton - grief
- Tony & Family - financial
- Mike Faber - health
- Jeff Wood - health



October Bible Readings

Read though the Bible in a Year

- 10/1 Obadiah 1:10-21; Jonah; Micah 1-3
- 10/2 Micah 4-7; Nahum 1-2
- 10/3 Nahum 3; Habakkuk; Zephaniah 1:1-13
- 10/4 Zephaniah 1:14-3:20; Haggai; Zechariah 1:1-11
- 10/5 Zechariah 1:12-7:14
- 10/6 Zechariah 8-13
- 10/7 Zechariah 14; Malachi 1-4
- 10/8 Matthew 1-4
- 10/9 Matthew 5-7
- 10/10 Matthew 8:1-10:15
- 10/11 Matthew 10:16-12:21
- 10/12 Matthew 12:22-14:12
- 10/13 Matthew 14:13-17:13
- 10/14 Matthew 17:14-20:34
- 10/15 Matthew 21-22
- 10/16 Matthew 23:1-25:13
- 10/17 Matthew 25:14-26:68
- 10/18 Matthew 26:69-28:20
- 10/19 Mark 1-3
- 10/20 Mark 4-5
- 10/21 Mark 6-7
- 10/22 Mark 8:1-10:12
- 10/23 Mark 10:13-12:12
- 10/24 Mark 12:13-14:11
- 10/25 Mark 14:12-15:47
- 10/26 Mark 16; Luke 1
- 10/27 Luke 2-3
- 10/28 Luke 4:1-6:26
- 10/29 Luke 6:27-8:25
- 10/30 Luke 8:26-10:16
- 10/31 Luke 10:17-12:12



Altar Flowers

Placing flowers on the altar for our worship services is a wonderful way to honor someone you love and appreciate or to remember a departed loved one.

Arranging to place flowers is as simple as a phone call or email to the church office.

Single arrangements cost \$35; while two fresh arrangements the cost is \$50.



October Birthdays

- 1 Susan Anderson
- 4 Savinia Krueger, Debbie Leshar
- 6 Katy Yoder
- 7 Shirley Donohue
- 9 Sidoney Johnston
- 20 Valerie Forge
- 21 Ray Gaddie, Charlene Hall
- 29 Joe Beaudreau, Lorraine O'Keefe, Vickie Rhoer
- 30 Stephen Warne-Emard

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

October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 World Communion Sunday 8:00am Coffee Hour 9:00am Worship 10:15am Wilson Small Group	3 10:00am Food Pantry 6:30pm BSA Troop Meeting 7:00pm AA - Women	4 10:00am Pilgrim Walkers 6:00pm Harmony Inc 6:30pm Property Committee Meeting 7:00pm BSA Pack Meeting	5 10:00am Prayer Partners	6 UCC Annual Conference 10:00am Pilgrim Walkers 10:00am Pilgrim Women Fellowship	7 UCC Annual Conference	8 UCC Annual Conference 9:00am BSA Troop Rain Gutter Regatta
9 8:00am Coffee Hour 9:00am Worship 10:15am Wilson Small Group	10 Food Pantry 10:00am Food Pantry 6:30pm BSA Troop Meeting 7:00pm AA - Women 7:00pm Missions Meeting	11 10:00am Pilgrim Walkers 6:00pm Harmony Inc 7:00pm BSA Pack Meeting	12 10:00am Prayer Partners	13 10:00am Pilgrim Walkers	14	15 3:00pm BSA Troop Luau Fundraiser
16 8:00am Coffee Hour 9:00am Worship 10:15am Wilson Small Group	17 10:00am Food Pantry 6:30pm BSA Troop Meeting 6:30pm Finance Meeting 7:00pm AA - Women	18 10:00am Pilgrim Walkers 6:00pm Harmony Inc 7:00pm BSA Pack Meeting	19 Newsletter Article Deadline 10:00am Prayer Partners	20 9:15am PBJ Sandwich Makers 10:00am Pilgrim Walkers	21	22 10:00am Arts & Crafts Festival
23 8:00am Coffee Hour 9:00am Worship 10:15am Wilson Small Group	24 10:00am Food Pantry 6:30pm BSA Troop Meeting 7:00pm AA - Women	25 10:00am Pilgrim Walkers 6:00pm Harmony Inc 7:00pm BSA Pack Meeting 7:00pm Council Meeting	26 10:00am Prayer Partners	27 10:00am Pilgrim Walkers 6:30pm BSA Committee Meeting	28	29
30 8:00am Coffee Hour 9:00am Worship 10:15am Wilson Small Group 4:00pm Trunk or Treat	31 9:30am Character Parade at Joyful Noise 10:00am Food Pantry 6:30pm BSA Troop Meeting 7:00pm AA - Women					