



TAC Update.....Teens are coming every Saturday and having a great time playing video games, pool, basketball and especially Dodge ball. They are always begging for Dodge ball, they even let the volunteers play, mostly because we are slow moving targets and bigger than the average Junior High Teen. When volunteers play Dodge ball, it brings out

the little kid in us.

Recently TAC had Athlete's in Action come visit Pilgrim Church, AIA is a Ministry made up of Athlete's who follow Jesus Christ as their Savior, they are at many other University's around the United States. Our Athlete's came from Michigan State University, two Football Players, one Female Rower, one Ex-UCLA Female Basketball player and one Ex-Rutgers Gymnast. That night TAC had close to 90 teens at Pilgrim Church, part way through the night we had the teens go into Pilgrim's Sanctuary, to hear what the Athlete's from MSU had to say to the teens of our Community. What a message, you can be a big time athlete at a Division 1 University Sport and find that you need Christ in your life and that is the most important thing, not fame but Christ first in

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TAC Cont'd...

their lives. After the message from the AIA Athlete's they went into the Gym and played volleyball with the Teens, a great time had by all. Praise God, God was definitely in the House that night.

Last Saturday we had John Barrett a Pastor from Texas come and speak to the TAC teens, John is at Pilgrim for our CPR Revival for four days and wanted to see what happened in Pilgrim's Teen Activity Center. We stopped the teens for a few minutes and John talked to the teens about the worst sin they could commit, the sin of not giving your very best, and giving your best includes having Christ as their Savior. It was a great chat John had with the teens, with about 64 teens being there to here the message.

TAC has been going very well, we have added some new video games, and the teens are always full of energy, though we have had enough volunteers to man the TAC on Saturday nights, we are always looking for more adults to help out at the TAC. If you are interested in doing this Ministry and interacting with the teens of our Community, to make a difference in the life of a teen, please contact Stuart Hazle at 989-224-4260 for more information or to sign up as a volunteer. Thanks, Stuart



The following notes were written from two people whose lives were affected by Pilgrim's Samaritan Fund.

****I want to thank you so very much for helping me with my rent in this time of my need. I am so grateful and appreciative for your help. You are truly a blessing to me and I thank you very much. May God continue to be a blessing to you always.**

Sincerely,

Renee

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Thank You Cont'd...

**Thank you so much for helping out our resident, Jami! May you be richly blessed.

Knollview Apts. Resident Manager,
Vickie Mack

* * *

**On behalf of all the seniors at the Senior Center in St. Johns, thank you for your donation of \$337.75 from your Christmas Offering. It will be deposited into our general fund to help defray the cost of utilities and other expenses during the winter months. Your continued support and concern for the Center and the mature adults in our community is greatly appreciated.

Joanne Sullivan, Director

**Jerry & Nancy Myers would like to finally thank all of our wonderful church family that remembered us on our 50th Anniversary. It was a great party and we were so happy to see so many of our friends there. We received so many cards I think the post office will be able to go without raising the price of stamps a long time. Again, thanks to all who remembered us, we had a great time and appreciate all the years God has given us, and all of you.
.....God bless, Nancy and Jerry

**On behalf of the St. Johns Ministerial Association thank you for your financial donation towards the ministry of the St. Johns Ministerial Association. These funds will be of great assistance in helping meet the basic needs of individuals of families in our community such as: rental, mortgage and utilities assistance; gasoline for getting to work, groceries and other Association community events and projects.
God bless you and thank you again for your generous contribution.

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Thank You Cont'd...

**A huge thank you to all the young adults who were able to help out with the Valentine Banquet. You were an awesome help. I especially want to thank two (older young adults) Ruthann Dunigan and Deb Ruthruff for all there help.

**Thanks to all who helped make super bowl subs. Thanks also to all those who bought subs. We collected \$700.00 to send to Haiti. Go Saints! ...Shirley Rennells

Ways to Communicate with Us

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Candy Pierson, Secretary
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Pastor Ken Bremer
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Relational Ministries Coord. ~
Vicky Bremer
vicbremer@mutualdata.com

Music ~
Shirley Rennells
pilgrimcworship@mutualdata.com

Sound Booth ~
pilgrimcoundbooth@mutualdata.com

Food Bank Just a reminder that we have a Drop off Box in the entryway of the Church. March is donate "Personal Items" month. The Food Bank needs items such as laundry soap, bar soap, shavers, deodorant, shampoo, toilet paper, feminine hygiene items, etc. in addition to food. Thank you for your contribution.

→ **A Community Mental Health Breakfast Event**will be held on Friday, March 19th, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. at the Lansing Center. The event is free and open to the public. The keynote speakers will be Keri Bowers & Taylor Cross. Featuring “NORMAL PEOPLE SCARE ME”. Taylor Cross commands the stage with humor, vulnerability, and true-life experiences that keep audiences entertained as they learn about autism in an entirely new way. Questions? Call Judy Hazle at 517-346-8238 or e-mail her at hazle@ceicmh.org.

→ **Video Team needs volunteers** . . . If you like to use a computer and want to serve God at Pilgrim Church . . . read on. We are in need of a couple more people to run the computer (video on the screen) during worship on Sunday mornings. You need to have basic computer skills, be willing to serve once a month at both worship services and be at least 16 years old. Contact Betsy Rennells (224-8131) if God is opening this door of service to you.

Check at the Welcome Center for an order sheet for lilies which will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday. Plants are \$8 a piece and will be placed on the Altar for both services April 4th. Your checks for the plants and the order forms listing how you would like the lilies listed in the bulletin are due in the church office no later than Palm Sunday. If you don't make it to church to pick up a form, call the church office and we'll take care of filling the form out for you.



Sign up for Lilies
TODAY!!!

Dear Church Family:

Our family is participating in the Give A Day, Get A Day program sponsored by Disney. In exchange for our charitable work with a local organization we will be able to spend a day at one of Disney's theme parks when we travel to Florida for spring break. We have been matched up with the Good Wins Volunteer Group at St. Johns High School. We have been asked to assist them in collecting the following items: empty ink cartridges, used eye glasses, old cell phones, jeans for homeless teens, and tennis shoes (both new and used). All of our collected items will then be distributed to the various organizations that distribute them to people in need. We have until March 12th to collect as many items as we can. We will then be giving a day of service to the volunteer club to get all of the items that we, and other families like ourselves, have collected sorted, boxed up and passed on to the proper organizations for distribution. We are asking you for your help in making this collection as successful as we possibly can. We have placed some brightly colored and polka dotted boxes in the coat room. Each one is labeled according to the items that we are collecting. Now is the perfect time to start your spring cleaning. Clean your drawers out and help someone in need all at the same time!!!! We are very excited about this opportunity and hope you can help us out. Thanks so much for your help. Now...Let's Get Cleaning!!!!!!

In Christ's Love,
Steve, Patty, Megan, and Alex Baxter

Redeemer Golf League.... It's time to think spring and think golf! The league will be playing at Highland Hills Gold Club on Tuesdays, with tee times starting at 6:00 p.m. The league is scheduled to begin May 11 and run for 12 weeks. The cost is \$147. For all those who are interested in participating in the Redeemer United Methodist Church Golf League-on a team or as a substitute please call Dave Babian at 669-8129 or 881-1761 for more information.

Church DVD Collection is Growing....

We have several new DVD's available on the shelf for your viewing pleasure. A couple of comedies recently added to our collection are

Ken Davis Live! **Under the Influence**

Ken Davis & Bob Stromberg: **Together Again** (for the first time) – taped at the BlueGate Theater in Shipshewanna, IN

Wedlocked: A Comedy for Better or Worse with John Branyan

Jeff Allen: **My Heart, My Comedy**

We also have several very good serious movies such as

Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story featuring Cuba Gooding, Jr. About a renowned brain surgeon who overcame obstacles to change the course of medicine forever.

Saving Sarah Cain: The story of a sister who lives in New York and end up raising her sister's children who are Amish. This movie was recently on the Hallmark movie channel.

Faith like Potatoes: based on an inspiring true story.

No Greater Love: "a compelling story that powerfully reminds us that love is always the right choice."

If you would like to check out a DVD or video stop by during office hours Monday thru Friday, 8am - 1pm, Wednesday evenings 6:30pm - 8pm or call Candy Pierson in the office and arrange for pickup at a time convenient for you.



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 28th, the children ages 2 thru 6th grade are invited to carry in palms at the beginning of the Worship services. Children carrying palms into the 8:30am service should meet in the gym at 8:20am for instructions and palms. Children carrying palms into the 10:45am service should meet in the gym at 10:35am for instructions, to get palms and line up.



Thursday, April 1st at 6:15pm. We will begin in the Sanctuary & dismiss to the fellowship hall for a special meal featuring beef and barley stew, fruits, cheese, and whole wheat bread. A service will be held in the Sanctuary following the meal. The night will include communion. No sign-up required to attend. A nursery will be provided. A freewill offering will be taken to defray expenses of the meal. Everyone welcome. There is a sign-up sheet for whole wheat bread and for help in the Narthex on the table.

April 2nd there will be a **Community Good Friday Service** at First Congregational Church in St. Johns, 7pm.



The service is sponsored by the St. Johns Ministerial Association and led by the clergy and lay people of several area churches. An offering is collected for St. Johns Ministerial Association ministries.

Our Easter Sunday plans for Sunrise service are still in the works. We will celebrate the resurrection at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. with lively worship services. Before you share Easter dinner with your family, bring the whole family to Pilgrim and worship the risen Savior with us.



Celebrating a

March Birthdays

- 1 Diane Juhas
- 2 Paul Williams
- 3 Flo Benson
- Jason Hallead
- Pam Williams
- 4 Molly McElroy
- 5 Cheryl Crum
- 6 Alex Baxter
- 7 Marietta Mohnke
- 9 Dean Harper
- 10 Roberta Pennock
- 11 Gary Conklin
- Derek Dubendorf
- 15 Sam Suchek
- Alexandra Morris
- Lesley McCowan
- 16 Kevin Keller
- 18 Mason Keller
- Joel Haviland
- 19 Derek Pierson
- 20 Krista Lehner
- 21 Richard Chipchase
- Beth Wenburg
- 22 Jean Schultz
- Cassi Hallenbeck
- 23 Rachel Swanchara

- 25 Elise Williams
- 29 Howard Williams
- 31 Bill McElroy (Jr.)
- Jean Lublow



March Anniversaries

- 14 ... Bill & Sally McElroy
- 15 ... Pete & Mary Stevens
- 27 ... Ned & Sarah Niemi
- 28 .. Gregg & Audry Madar
- 30 Richard & Beth
Chipchase



Caravan Kids corner
Featuring.....Searcher Girls!

The Searcher Girls are in the first or second grade and are led by Joan Green, Betty Lamb and their awesome helper is Macy Fleischer. There are usually 6-8 giggly girls that come every week to sing, learn and do special things together. They have been learning many ways to serve and love God through their many activities and lessons this year. The girls have studied the Bible, learned how God made them special, and have been learning the power of prayer. Other badges they have earned are ones such as recycling, cooking, and from their participation in missions. Recently they enjoyed a pajama party with pillows, blankets, music, snacks and a fun time to bring friends. When asking Mrs. Green if they could stay overnight for the PJ party, the answer was “no” as we know how much sleep they would **not** have gotten on a school night! We praise God for the loving, wonderful leaders that give their time and energy to this work of God. They love the Lord and the girls and we are thankful for their time and energy to this work of God. They love the Lord and the girls and we are thankful for their wonderful influence as Christians that they are. Continue to keep these leaders and gals in your prayers as they learn and grow in the knowledge and love of the Lord. God is at work and we thank you for your mighty prayers for these precious kids and leaders.



We are excited about another awesome week of **VBS** coming this summer. What a great ministry and an all around fun time for the adults and kids. Please mark your calendar for June 14-18, 2010. Be watching for more information from Roberta.

Who is that sitting over there? What is their name? I need a name tag! These are questions both regular attendees and visitors ask. Why do we wear name tags anyway? Because they are a way to make people feel like they belong and to break down some barriers. They eliminate the awkwardness of seeing someone you spoke to just last week and forgetting their name.

Our name tags are placed on a wooden tower in the lobby. Each week you wear your name tag and after the service return it to the tower for next week. They are available to all. You may be a member, regular attendees and a newcomer who has been here 3 weeks. There is a sign up sheet at the Welcome Center. Check the tower the following Sunday for your name tags. They are in alphabetical order. For those who already have name tags, please wear them when possible. It is so helpful. I hear it several times, who is that couple, who is that family.

Here are a few *fun* reasons to wear a name tag:

- A name tag is cheaper than a tattoo.
- You will be more approachable if you wear a name tag.
- Even if you forget a name, you can still read it!
- A name tag makes it easier to introduce you to someone.
- Name tags are NOT about you. They're about everyone in the world except you.
- Everyone likes to hear their name!

We are family. We are the family of God.

Vicky Bremer, Relationship Ministries Coordinator,
vicbremer@mutualdata.com



Praise, honor and glory to our God and His son Jesus Christ... What a wonderful time we had during our revival with Brother John. The Holy Spirit was ALIVE and moving with grandeur February 13-17 at Pilgrim UMC. Let it be our prayer that the lessons we learned will be put to ACTION in the coming months ahead and the Holy Spirit will embolden us to carry out the truths of the scriptures as we go

forward to claim lost for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

A special Thank You to all of those who worked behind the scenes to make our revival a special time for us. Pam Williams was our prayer coordinator for the 24 hr. prayer vigil and the 6 weeks of evening prayer meetings that led up to the revival. It was a special time for all those who attended.

Carolyn Delevan was the Publicity & Promotion coordinator. She worked very diligently and did an outstanding job getting in contact with newspapers, radio stations, getting posters ready for the church and community, the inserts for the bulletin, mailings to churches in and around the community, and the great idea she had with the Forget-Me-Not seed packets that were handed out on Sunday.

Beth Wenburg was the B-L-T's - Childrens coordinator. She recruited the coaches and helpers for the time that Brother John spent with the kids teaching them scriptures and songs to share with us during the services. Great job kids!! Did you notice the big smile on Beth's face while she was standing up front with the kids doing the motions and actions with the kids? I think she was enjoying the kids time as much as the kids.

Cheryl Crum and Tammy Cordes were in charge of the Youth. Brother John meet with them during their Sunday School time. As I passed by the room it looked like Brother John had a captive audience with every eye centered on him and the youth were taking in all that he had to say.

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Lois Fonger recruited the greeters that welcomed us at the door. Al Egres coordinated the ushers for the special duties of handing out the fliers that everyone received telling of the times and the order for the revival services and the seed packets and other things that ushers do behind the scenes that we don't know about. Penny O'Boyle coordinated the nursery which was no small order. She did a wonderful job with all the kids that were there.

Vicky Bremer is the Follow-up coordinator. She will be making contact with all the visitors and all those who made a decision or commitment during the revival. If you feel that God is calling you to do visitation to new visitors contact Vicky. I'm sure she will be happy to train you and get up started.

Deb Ruthruff was in charge of recruiting kitchen helpers and the meals before each evening event. Helen Squiers was also instrumental in providing meals on Monday and Tuesday.

Shirley Rennells coordinated the music. Thank you Praise Team for your outstanding music and the joy that you give to others through your music. Also to the others that provided special music. Roberta Pennock did a great job incorporating Caravan into our Wednesday service so the kids got to join us in corporate worship. Kathleen McElroy organized the fellowship time after the worship services for all of us to enjoy.

Did everyone see the tractor with the plow sitting by the church? This was there to remind us of the theme for our revival. Give Eric Harger a hand warmer if you have any extras around the house. He used all of his keeping warm driving the tractor to the church when the wind chills were below zero. Thank Eric!

A special Thank You to Ryan Wenburg, Vicky Bremer, Gary Zehr, and Terri Harger for sharing your testimonies with us. They were all inspiring and shows us that we all have a testimony for how God has worked in our lives. Hopefully we will

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be able to hear more people share their testimonies in Sunday services.

Thank you to all that worked behind the scenes. There are many who worked on the various committees that are listed above. The revival services would not have been the meaningful event that it was without your participation.

Last, but not least, thank you to Pastor Ken for his guidance during the planning of this event and to all the prayer warriors who bathed the revival in prayer, be they near or in the warmth of their winter homes.

May God richly bless Pilgrim UMC and guide us in the work that He has called us to do.

Love in Christ,
Chris Cornell



Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Isaiah 55:6

But if from there you seek the Lord your God, you will find him if you look for him with all your heart and with all your soul. Deuteronomy 4:29

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always. Psalm 105:3-4

Blessed are they who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart.

Psalm 119:2

I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands.

Psalm 119:10

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Matthew 6:33

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 11:6

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Pastor Cont'd...

A quick look in the Bible and it is evident that seeking God is an important part of the Christian life. The prophet Isaiah gives the exhortation "*Seek the Lord while he may be found*". Scripture then goes on to tell us how we are to seek the Lord. We are to seek him first and foremost, whole-heartedly, joyfully, earnestly and consistently.

There are basically two ways that you and I can make positive improvements in our lives. One is giving up those practices or things that are not healthy for us physically, mentally or spiritually. The second way to improve our lives is to start adding healthy practices to our lives. We often think of the season of Lent as a time of "giving up". But, this is the perfect time to be "adding to".

As we journey toward the cross during this season of Lent let's be proactive as the scripture directs us. Let's seek the Lord together! Seeking the Lord is our privilege and our responsibility. By taking steps in the direction of the Savior we can be certain to encounter him along our journey. Look for God-sightings where you see the hand of the Lord at work. Search for God in the scriptures, in your devotions and your prayers. Expect to find God in Sunday morning worship and in your Seeking Him small groups.

I am convinced that as we "add to" our spiritual journey that there will be some "giving up" that happens too. As we seek God more intentionally we will give up fear, anxiety, worry, pride, anger, past hurts, bad attitudes and more.

The Bible says that those who seek the Lord will find him (Deuteronomy 4:29). It also says that the journey will be blessed (Psalm 119:2). In addition to that, Hebrews 11:6 says he will reward those who earnestly seek him. In summary: we are promised we will find who we are looking for, that we will be blessed along the way and that there are rewards for those doing the seeking. What a great journey to embark upon! Don't miss the opportunity for a renewing experience on the road to the cross.

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Ken