



## OCTOBER 2022

### More Truth and Light

*"When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on this earth." Genesis 9:16*

It has been several years since Pilgrim Faith United Church of Christ has installed a pastor. On Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, Pilgrim Faith U.C.C., the pastor, and the Chicago Metropolitan Association of the Illinois Conference will Covenant together to recognize the beginning of a pastoral relationship that reaffirms call, mission, ministry, and partnership with one another. This beginning, like so many beginnings in our biblical scriptures begins with a Covenant between one another and especially with God.

Within the Congregational tradition of the United Church of Christ, the notion of Covenant is an important part of our history, and our life together. Within the tradition of the Christian faith, entering any Covenant is always voluntary. We choose to be in community with one another, and we agree to keep one another accountable to God's Covenant and the expectations of the community.

What is Covenant? Sherman, Covenant, Community, and the Spirit defines Covenant this way: *"A covenant is an agreement of mutual obligation, regardless of how asymmetrical: one party promises to do these things, the other party those things. ... Whatever promises and obligations are involved, each party is understood as being accountable in acting to uphold his or her side of the covenant. Each party is an 'agent,' that is, one who has the ability and the responsibility to act."* (Sherman, *Covenant, Community, and the Spirit*, 57) The Service of Installation of a pastor within the United Church of Christ is a Covenant between the pastor, the congregation, and the Association, and that is what we will be doing and reaffirming at our service in November.

During the service the terms of the Covenant are publicly proclaimed by the pastor and supported by the congregation and the Association. The terms are as follows: *"I am willing, and I promise to serve this church faithfully, preaching and teaching the word of God, administering the sacraments, and fulfilling the pastoral office according to the faith and order of the United Church of Christ."* (*The Service of Installation, UCC Book of Worship, page 418*). In the context of the Installation Service, the congregation and the Association will covenant to support the pastor, holding the pastor accountable to the promises made. Likewise, the pastor is called upon to affirm and hold accountable the terms and expectations of the members who have voluntarily joined this community of faith, and have willingly agreed to participate in the mission and ministry of Pilgrim Faith U.C.C.

Indeed, this is a significant day and one that calls upon us to reflect on our commitment to one another, but more importantly, our commitment to God, God's Church, and God's mission in the world. In addition, the Service of Installation calls upon each person to reflect on your own gifts, passions, and commitment to your calling as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Yes, you are installing a pastor, but any Rite or Sacrament of the Church is also an invitation to rekindle your spirit and to re-engage in the work of building up God's Realm. Yes, it's great to install a pastor, but it's even better when each member sees himself or herself as ministers too and those called to build up God's Realm on earth as it is in heaven. Yes, it will be a great day! And, even so, there will be more 'truth and light' to break forth from God's heavenly Word. Come and be a part of this extraordinary day and reaffirm your own calling in the Word of God, the liturgy of the Church, and the promises of the day.

In anticipation of this special day!  
Pastor Dan

## FROM THE MODERATOR -

### **Numbers and Blessings**

*"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" Philippians 4:19 (King James Version)*

This theme is throughout the Bible. God will provide and all we need to do is just.....  
Do you notice that God likes numbers? Maybe God is a mathematician?

God speaks in numbers. Space is balanced to hold itself together. Life on Earth is balanced so humans can live. The numbers God gives to us to work with is not a mistake. It may not be what we would like to see, or want. It is what God gives us to work with.

Think about the Jews leaving Egypt. I am sure that they wanted to get to the land of "milk and honey" within ten days. Ok, there were a lot of people, so maybe six months. I am sure they were not ready for 40 years. But they needed to be lost that long in order to really rely on God and not on human knowledge or reasoning.

Every time humans try to tell God what to do, it does not turn out well. Look at King Saul. At one point of time, God's messenger. Saul had great success following God's instructions. Until King Saul started to believe he had the knowledge and answers. During the war with the Philistines, God left Saul's side and was found in a young boy (a ten year old) David. (Read 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel) Long story short, humans depend on God until their own voice overpowers what God is trying to do and say.

Where are we? I understand that times have changed. At one time, people would sit for a while after service, talking, planning, laughing. Now, most people run to their cars for what? I hear, what about something fun? We are planning a trunk or treat. We are looking at joining other churches to have fun (chili cook off, possibly game night). The biggest problem I see is the lack of people who are now willing to use their talents. Planning and printing "World's Greatest Chili" does not take time. Helping with the trunk and treat will take more, but it is fun. I am personally looking forward to helping out with the music. Yes, I play drums (years ago) and I am willing to step up and play again. I am sure, you all do not want to hear me sing, but at least I am willing to try something that I am sure God is calling me to do.

Have those members who are still unsure listened to God? Is God calling your heart to help? How will you answer God's call? I am sure once you answer God's call, you will be blessed more than the stars in the sky and find your land of "milk and honey" quicker than the Jews. You just need to "Yes"

May God bless you and keep you under His wing of love.  
Mary Weierman

# LIMITLESS YOUTH PLANNING AN ACTIVE YEAR!



Youth, in grades 7 through 12 met in September with so many wonderful ideas that will keep us busy all year. There is something for everyone! We'll be walking with CROP, joining the Trunk or Treat fun, helping in the food pantry, and enjoying such activities as bowling, escape houses, a trip to the zoo, game night, fun with the Youth of Salem UCC, secret Santa during Christmas, plans to help with Feed my Starving Children and so much more. Please watch for an updated calendar of all the events, we'd like to do this year. Please join us for good, Christian fun! We'd love to see all our youth at our events. Please note the flyer and the dates and times of upcoming events for Limitless youth! Friends are always invited to join us!



I recently read the BEST description of what Messy Church is and WHY it is important to ALL ages, from a post written by Dr. Johannah Myers, titled, **“Creating Messy Spaces”**  
***\*Or, I’m tired of having to convince people (adults) why Messy Church...***

We are entering our second year of Messy Church and it still a bit confusing to some of us (adults). What do we mean by messy? Is it simply about making a mess...paint, sand, water, glue, glitter? Well, we do make some messes, but nothing that can't be cleaned up quickly! According to Dr. Myers: **“So why is Messy Church messy? And why do we keep having to convince people the Messy is worth the effort?”**

Have you ever watched a child creating something? Handed them a blank piece of paper and a pencil and watched the creative process flow? It's something special to behold. Blank paper soon becomes a masterpiece of art or a story comes to life. Most children don't hold back while they are creating something new. They aren't afraid to make a mistake. They aren't worried about what color clashes with another color or about staying in the lines. Their stories can often lean into the fantastical rather than the real world. **That space between blank page and finished piece is not linear, it's not neat and tidy. They create with wild abandon. And in this messy space, there is beauty and imagination and wonder and mystery. It's gloriously messy and beautiful.**

Somewhere within the crafts and the games, the paint, the scissors, and the occasional bursts of glitter, Messy Church offers this kind of space – the space between blank page and masterpiece – where we can all explore and create, getting our hands into God's great story...”.

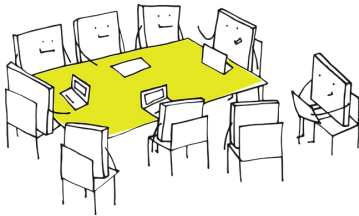
**PLEASE JOIN MESSY CHURCH on OCT. 9<sup>th</sup> as we explore God's story!**

## INSTALLATION SERVICE PLANNED!

The Pastoral Search Committee has set the day of Pastor Dan's Installation Service to Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. It is tentatively set for 2 p.m. in the afternoon.

Please mark your calendars and join us for this day of celebration. The Search Committee is looking for others who would like to help plan the events of the day. If you are interested in helping with this service, please be in touch with Chris Raap. Watch for more details as we get closer to the day!

## FUTURE MINISTRY TEAM MEETINGS



As we continue to work with the new structure of our congregation, the Council has set aside the third Sunday of each month for the All-Ministry Team Meetings. The meetings will take place after worship on the third Sunday for the teams, however, it may be that each of the teams have decided upon other times to meet that is more convenient for the team members. If you are interested in a team, please be in touch with the Convenors/Coordinators of the team to make sure that you are included in the next meeting. The Convenors/Coordinators of each ministry team is listed below. The next All Ministry Team Meeting will be Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, following worship and the Ministry of Worship and Spiritual Life will meet by Zoom on Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>.

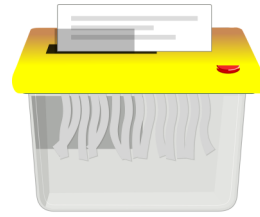
*Ministry of Worship and Spiritual Life, Pam Cusack/Libby Langevin*

*Ministry of Building and Grounds, Jacque Lopez*

*Ministry of Christian Formation and Mission, Dennis Healy*

*Ministry of Stewardship and Finance, Maureen Hutton*

## SHREDDING EVENT



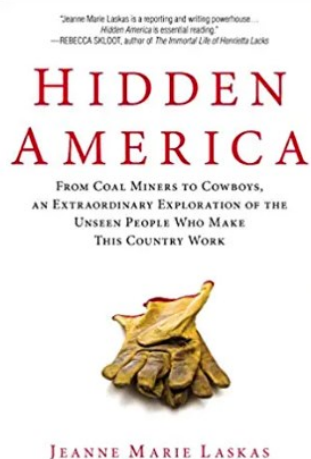
Mark your calendars for October 15th when we will be holding a shredding event here at Pilgrim Faith UCC. The event will take place from 10 AM - 12 PM. Get rid of all those old documents and papers that you no longer need or want. We do ask that each attendee donate a non-perishable food item(s) for our food pantry.

**\*\*Note:** There is a limit of two boxes of items to be shredded.

**SPECIAL MEMORIAL SUNDAY SET for Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>** during our morning worship. On this special Sunday, we will remember those who have passed from this life and now rest eternally with the God and the Saints of all times. Please join us at 10 a.m. and remember with us those whom we have loved and those whom we have known who have died. Each family who has lost a loved one in the past year, will be invited to light a candle and roses will be available to the families of members. If you have a loved one that you would like to include in this special service, please let Pastor Dan know by Sunday October 23<sup>rd</sup> so that they can be included in the Memorial Service. Please give to Pastor Dan, their full names, their birthdate, and their death date. We will remember only the members and friends who have died since November 2021.



## Book Club October 2022



We cancelled the Sept. Pilgrim Faith Book Club meeting since no one had read the book. We are rescheduling reading "Hidden America: From Coal Miners to Cowboys" by Jeanne Marie Laskas. We will meet Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7 PM. Watch FB and emails to see if it will be in person or Zoom.

Chris Raap

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING JOINT CONGREGATIONAL EVENTS:



November 20, Special service at the intersection of faith and healing, Pilgrim Faith UCC, 7 p.m.

December 21, Blue Christmas Worship Service, Immanuel UCC, Evergreen Park, 7 p.m.

December, TBA Christmas Caroling and Christmas Party (watch for details in the future)

January 18 through 25<sup>th</sup>, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (watch for detail in the future)

## URGENT NEED FOR NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS FOR PILGRIM FAITH FOOD PANTRY!



As the summer winds down and there is less produce from the gardens, there is an urgent need for basic food items for the Pilgrim Faith Food Pantry. The Food Pantry serves about 20-25 clients each week, and each family gets at least one bag of basic food items when visiting the pantry. The cost of the basic food item bag runs between \$35 to \$40 per bag and the need is great. While you are shopping, please consider purchasing some basic staples for the food pantry and drop them off Monday through Friday before 2 p.m. each day, or you can bring them on Saturday morning between 9:30 a.m. and Noon. If you are worshipping with us on Sunday, please feel free to bring your donations to worship with you and leave in the Narthex and we'll see that the food pantry receives your contributions. If you would like to sponsor a Pilgrim Faith Food Pantry Staple Bag, the pantry would be most appreciative of your kindness. Please make sure that your checks are clearly marked for Pilgrim Faith Food Pantry. Thank you for your assistance. Your gifts ensure that no person goes to bed hungry!

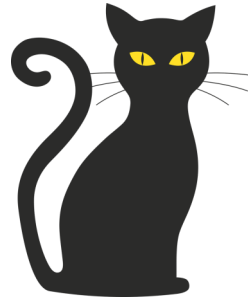
### Pilgrim Faith Food Pantry Staple Bag, Value \$40.00

Spaghetti, pasta sauce, Rice-a-Roni, Pudding/Jell-O Mix, Instant Mashed potatoes, Past/rice sides (Lipton, Knorr, etc.), Ramen Noodles, Instant Oatmeal, beans (black, kidney, etc.), Chili, Beef stew/Pork and Beans, peas, green beans, fruit, mixed veggies, one can meals (ie, Chef Bo-ar-dee), and soup.

## *Fun at Messy Church!*



## TRUNK OR TREAT



Trunk or Treat is coming to Pilgrim Faith United Church of Christ. On Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, Pilgrim Faith UCC will be haunted with children and families seeking treats and goodies! The event will take

place in our parking lot from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. this year! We are looking for members and friends to come with decorated Halloween cars and dressed for a night of fun! If you would like to bring your decorated car, please sign up at the church's website:

[www.pilgrimfaith.org](http://www.pilgrimfaith.org), or you can sign up on Sunday morning in the Narthex!

This is a great opportunity for Pilgrim Faith to reach out to our community and we hope that you will join us. Please come, join the fun, and let your neighbors and friends know that we're looking forward to little ghosts and goblins. Yard signs are available for pick-up, and we would especially like to invite our mem-



## MEMBERSHIP EXPLORATION CLASSES BEGINNING!

Beginning Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Pastor Dan will be leading a Membership Exploration Class! The classes will be Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and the 25<sup>th</sup>! We will receive new members into our fellowship on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>! If you or someone you know has been attending, in person or virtually, and would like to consider membership, please let Pastor Dan know by Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. Please feel free to contact Pastor Dan if you have any questions.



**THANK YOU** for your support of South-west Suburban CROP Hunger Walk 2022! I am writing this before we walk on October 2, 2022, but even if you didn't get to donate before that date, you still have the chance to help fight hunger, One Step at a Time! You can still donate:

### ONLINE-

[https://  
events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/team/  
pilgrim-faith-ucc](https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/team/pilgrim-faith-ucc)

### CASH or

### CHECK- made out to CWS/CROP

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL  
SUPPORT- and remem-  
ber- 25% goes to our local  
pantries!



## PILGRIM FAITH FOOD PANTRY LOOKING AHEAD!

The food pantry will once again like to provide turkeys and Thanksgiving sides for our friends on Thanksgiving Day! If you would like to make a financial contribution to this mission, please send your donation to Pilgrim Faith Food Pantry! Give-away day will happen on Saturday, November 19th! Your kindness at this time of year is especially appreciated! Thank you for your support!



## Events at Oak Lawn Public Library

Join us on Sunday, Oct. 16th at 1 PM in the lower-level meeting rooms of the Library as Mariachi Estrellas de Chicago proudly showcase the best parts of Chicago culture with music in both English and Spanish. For more information, please call 708-422-4990, visit [www.olpl.org](http://www.olpl.org), or use the LibChat feature on the website.

Wear your Halloween costume to the Library on Sunday, Oct. 23rd from 11 AM—2 PM and participate in activities to discover all the treats spread out around the Library! While Supplies last. For more information, please call 708-422-4990, visit [www.olpl.org](http://www.olpl.org), or use the LibChat feature on the website.



Dear Pilgrim Faith Members:

As part of the temporary approval of the new Constitution, a Review Committee was established to receive comments and suggestions for changes throughout the year. The Committee consisted of Peggy and Chuck Martin, Chris Raap and Roger Dykstra (appointed by the Church Council.) With the departure of the Martins, two more volunteers have stepped forward to help with the revisions. They are: Diane Millar and Tom Aitken – both members of the Constitution Committee at one time or another. We will be meeting most Thursdays at 7 p.m. at the Church. Please join us if you would like to share your thoughts and ideas. If you can't make the meeting, ask Candace for a digital copy of the Constitution and Policies and Procedures, make your changes (in red) accordingly and email it back to Candace at: [Office@PilgrimFaith.org](mailto:Office@PilgrimFaith.org). She will see that we get it.

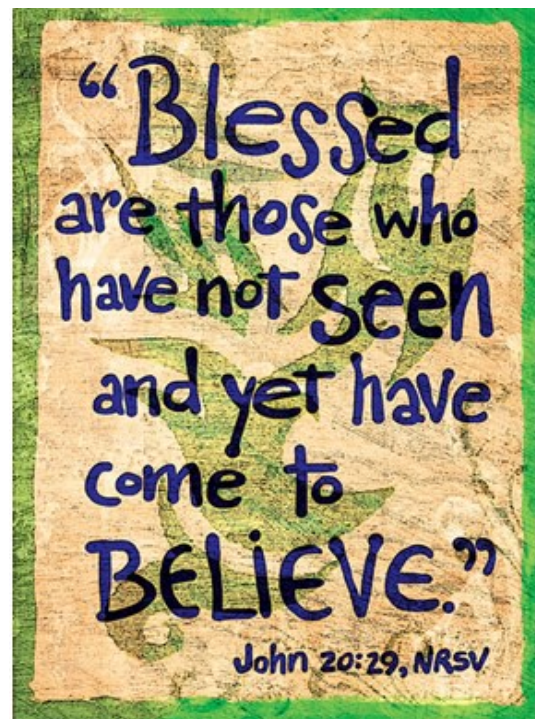
For those of you still wondering why we needed a new Constitution: the old Constitution was written in 1957 and amended in 1996 for a Church of several hundred members. Based on our recent review, it was detailed, complex and full of Committees and Boards, etc. With specified Board / Committee membership numbers, the requirements of the old Constitution were much more than we could possibly hope to fulfill today. The new Constitution Committee spent a lot of time (over nearly two years) assessing the needs of our current and yes, smaller church. They deserve our Thanks for a job well done.

So, let's review what we think are the strengths of the new Constitution. First it eliminates the duality of responsibility and authority between the Church Council and the Board of Trustees. As required by Illinois law, the Church Council now also functions as the Board of Trustees. (From all accounts this seems to be working well.) The second strength is that Ministries (and Committees) are now completely voluntary: no appointment or approval necessary. So, if you're interested in any particular group or have a good idea you want to develop – just join in.

Time is short. So, if you walk up to one of us after Church on Sunday, we will be happy to listen, but please be specific with your suggested changes: write it out or put it in an email. The Committee intends to publish our recommendations as soon as possible for review by all the members. We will probably need some Q&A sessions in early January. Thank for your interest and help.

## THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

**THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION TO BE CELEBRATED** on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. Four young people will participate in the Rite of Confirmation during our morning worship. For the last year, these young people have studied the scripture, explored theology, reflected upon the meaning of discipleship, learned about the United Church of Christ, various denominations, and religious traditions, and are now prepared to affirm their baptismal vows. Please join us during our morning worship as we celebrate the Rite of Confirmation. A reception celebrating the accomplishment of our young people will take place in Colonial Hall after worship. Join us!





# A Service of Healing: Experiencing God's Healing in the Broken Places



Pilgrim Faith United Church of Christ will join with Christ Memorial, Blue Island, Immanuel UCC, Evergreen Park, and Salem UCC, Oak Lawn to offer a special service of healing and wholeness. The service will begin in the darkness around a fire and together we will move into the sanctuary for brief worship service featuring Seven Healing Stations. This special service will take place at Pilgrim Faith UCC on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7 p.m. This will be a moving service that will be experiential, inspiring, reflective,

and will feature special music and lyrics composed by the Monks of Taizé, France. Please join us for an evening of healing. Immediately following the service, there will be a fellowship time in Colonial Hall. At the beginning of the busy holiday season, this is wonderful way to begin. Please join us!

## Remember Our Homebound

**Mary Brehm**  
Bridgeview  
Healthcare Ctr.  
8100 S. Harlem Ave.  
Bridgeview, IL 60455

**Ruth Hook**  
Aperion Care  
9401 S. Ridgeland  
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

**Grace Pluhar**  
8824 S. 55th Ct.  
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

**Linda Aitken**  
The Pointe at Kilpatrick  
14230 Kilpatrick  
Crestwood, IL. 60418

**Darlene Wank**  
10942 S. Oak Ave  
Chicago Ridge, IL  
60415

**Mildred House**  
Clarendale of Mokena  
#2221  
21536 S. Wolf Rd.  
Mokena, IL 60448

**Donna Twichell**  
10032 Harnew Rd.  
East  
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

**Marlene Anderson**  
9525 S. Parkside  
Oak Lawn, IL. 60453

**Bob Salvesson**  
6146 S. Karlov Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60629



# Church Receipts as of August 31, 2022

	Month of AUGUST 2022		As of AUGUST 31, 2022	
	MONTH Actual	MONTH Budget	Year-To-Date Actual	Year-To-Date Budget
<b>Receipts</b>				
Pledges & Non-Pledged Giving	\$ 5,723.00	\$ 4,521.66	\$ 64,679.09	\$ 57,824.64
Total Receipts (all sources)	\$ 7,254.58	\$ 5,831.66	\$ 81,555.70	\$ 73,874.47
<b>Disbursements</b>				
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 14,616.73	\$ 10,898.67	\$ 84,347.61	\$ 85,867.36
Expenses	\$ 8,576.53	\$ 3,854.55	\$ 60,987.35	\$ 52,284.57
Total Disbursements (all expenses)	\$ 23,193.26	\$ 15,153.22	\$ 146,769.48	\$ 141,251.93
<b>Net Total</b>	\$ (15,938.68)	\$ (9,321.56)	\$ (65,213.78)	\$ (67,377.46)

Please remember to use Amazon Smile when ordering to benefit Pilgrim Faith Church.

If you want a list of all checks written for the month, send request to [finances@pilgrimfaith.org](mailto:finances@pilgrimfaith.org).



## FALL FESTIVAL AT SALEM UCC!

Pilgrim Faith, Immanuel, Evergreen Park, and Christ Memorial, Blue Island will join for an evening of fun at the Fall Festival at Salem UCC. Fall Festival will happen on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 4 p.m. and there is so much fun to enjoy! There will be hayrides, games, karaoke, dancing, and a chili cook-off. There will be a first-place prize of \$50.00 for the best Chili. So, get out your famous Chili recipe and plan on competing in the Chili cook-off, and even if you don't want to participate in the cook-off, come and join the fun. We are asking that non-perishable and canned goods be donated to the event for the Pilgrim Faith Food Pantry! Come and join the fun!



# OCTOBER 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>  <b>Food Pantry</b> 10:00 AM- Noon
<b>2</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Food Pantry</b> 10:00 AM- Noon	<b>5</b> 	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  <b>Food Pantry</b> 10:00 AM- Noon
<b>9</b> <b>10:00AM</b> Worship  <b>11:30AM</b> Messy Church	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>Food Pantry</b> 10:00 AM- Noon	<b>12</b> <b>Worship &amp; Spiritual Life</b> <b>Zoom Mtg.</b> 7 PM	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  <b>Food Pantry</b> 10:00 AM- Noon
<b>16</b> <b>10:00AM</b> Worship  <b>5-6:30 PM</b> Limitless Youth Mtg.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Food Pantry</b> 10:00 AM- Noon	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  <b>Food Pantry</b> 10:00 AM- Noon
<b>23</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship  <b>7:00 PM</b> Book Club Location TBA	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Food Pantry</b> 10:00 AM- Noon	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  <b>Food Pantry</b> 10:00 AM- Noon
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <b>Halloween</b>  					





Pilgrim Faith UCC  
9411 S. 51<sup>st</sup> Ave.  
Oak Lawn, IL 60453

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Permit No.7

## 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**

10:00am AA 2nd floor  
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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### **Amazon Smile**

Shop on AMAZON Smile and select Pilgrim Faith UCC as your charity of choice. For each transaction you make, AMAZON donates a percentage back to Pilgrim Faith. Donate to Pilgrim Faith every time you shop!

