



## JUNE 2023

### More Truth and Light

*“We live inside the images we hold of the world.”*

Maturana & Varela

One of the early church pastors in the tradition of the Congregational church, John Robinson, spoke words of encouragement to his departing congregation who were seeking more truth and light in the new world. John Robinson understood that the voyage being undertaken by his small congregation required not only fortitude in human endeavor but also an attitude of pilgrim spirit on their journey for more light and truth in this new world that would one day become our home. Such is our time at Pilgrim Faith U.C.C. The Holy Spirit is guiding us to more light and new truth, and as Robinson said to his congregation long ago, ***“I am verily persuaded that the Lord hath more light and truth yet to break forth out of His [sic] Holy Word.”***

Last month I shared with you the principles and guidelines of conversations being planned to use as a format we call World Café. World Café is an opportunity for all voices to be heard on important issues facing Pilgrim Faith UCC at this time. We believe that the Holy Spirit is calling us to examine the images we hold of our world, especially within the context of Pilgrim Faith UCC. World Café is designed to hear from all who are pilgrims on a journey for ‘more truth and light’ in our time. We believe that many of the same concerns raised by leaders within the congregation are concerns that our membership may also have. More importantly, we believe that ‘more truth and light’ will come from the collective wisdom of the people who have found strength, comfort, nurture, and support at Pilgrim Faith UCC.

I posted above a quote from the psychologists and scholars, Humberto Maturana and Francisco Varela who published an article entitled, *“The Tree of Knowledge.”* In their work they pointed out that

there are no certainties in this world and that the best way forward in this world is to be active and involved participants in the world that is ours to experience and create. The quote makes the point that the only world that is real is the one we create for ourselves. This puts us firmly in a position to imagine and create our destiny, our future life together. This is what World Café will be doing and everyone who has experienced or called Pilgrim Faith U.C.C. their spiritual home, believes in its future in whatever new form it takes, and would like to participate in our future life together are invited to join us for five conversations that matter. Please review the dates of our upcoming World Café conversations and plan to be a part of our conversations. Although registrations are not required, we encourage you to register for each session by calling the church office, or registering through our website, [www.pilgrimfaith.org](http://www.pilgrimfaith.org).

### WORLD CAFÉ CONVERSATION DATES & CONVERSATION TOPICS:

**June 25:** Thriving and what this means for Pilgrim Faith UCC today.

**July 16:** Values, mission, and ministry of Pilgrim Faith UCC today.

**July 23:** How we communicate and treat one another in our life together.

**September 24:** Ministry models that could assist us in fulfilling our mission.

**October 1:** How can we best use our property to fulfill our mission?

I, like John Robinson ***“...am persuaded that the Lord hath more light and truth yet to break forth out of God’s Holy Word.”*** I also believe and am persuaded that the best answers and our very best future will come from you and all those who choose to participate in these important conversations.

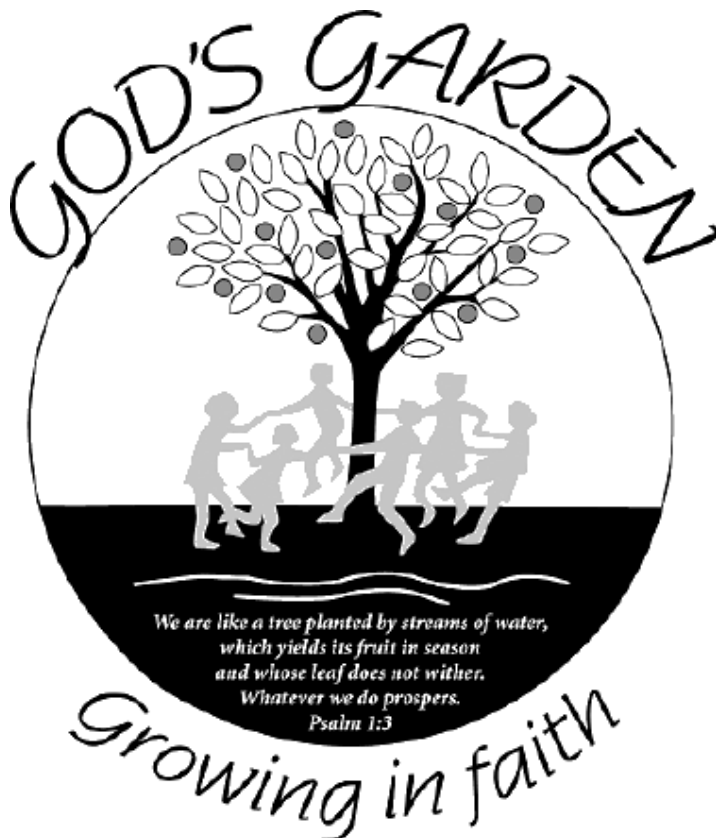
Looking forward to our talks,

*Pastor Daniel Sather*

## CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

There will be a Memorial Service for **KAY HARRIS** on Saturday, June 24 at 11 a.m. The service will be held in the sanctuary of Pilgrim Faith United Church of Christ. All who remember Kay Harris are invited to join the family in the celebration of her life.

There will be a Memorial Service for **RUTH HOOK** on Saturday, July 8 at 11 a.m. The service will be held in the sanctuary of Pilgrim Faith United Church of Christ with a light luncheon to follow. All who remember Ruth Hook are invited to join the family in the celebration of her life.



## CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES:



The members and friends of Pilgrim Faith United Church of Christ are proud of the accomplishments of our young people. As they complete one journey to begin another, we offer our words of support and encouragement, and wish them all the best as they continue to grow in spirit, faith, and wisdom. God bless the class of 2023!

### Eighth Grade Graduates:

- Emma Healy, Oak Lawn Hometown Middle School
- Tobey Lubberda, St. Cletus Catholic School, La Grange
- Landon Seitz, Independence Jr. High, Palos Heights

### High school Graduates:

- Ivory Castillo, will be attending Moraine Community College, Psychology & Social Work
- Emily Cook, will be attending Western Michigan University, Music
- Molly McGinnis, will be attending the University of Arizona
- Avery Stevenson, will be attending Elmhurst University, Art
- Skylar Stevenson, will be attending Elmhurst University, Art

### College or University:

- Grace Byrd Cook, University of Maryland, Masters in Public Health
- Rachel Costello, Southern Illinois University, Masters in Hospital Administration

## FOOD PANTRY SEEKS TREASURER

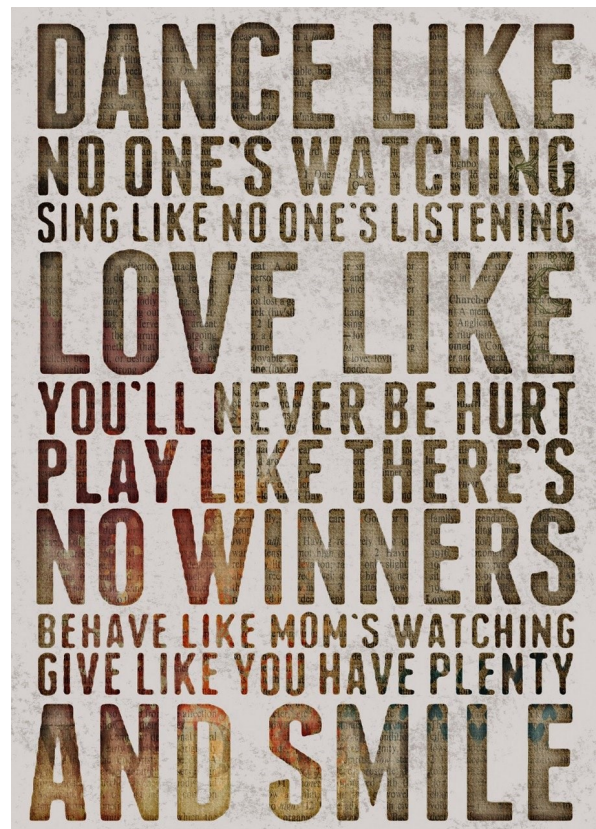


Anybody good with numbers? The Pilgrim Faith Food Pantry is seeking a new treasurer. We meet roughly once a month.

Duties, in addition to attending meetings, are as follows:

- Make deposits and follow up with receipts of expenses.
- Reconcile accounts every couple of weeks.
- Pay any bills and invoices.
- Completes and sends annual report to secretary of state and attorney general.
- Helps with writing thank-you notes for donations.

If you are interested, please contact the food pantry at [pffoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:pffoodpantry@gmail.com).



### Remember Our Homebound

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

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

**Doris Seitz**  
11237 S. Normandy  
Worth, IL 60482

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

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

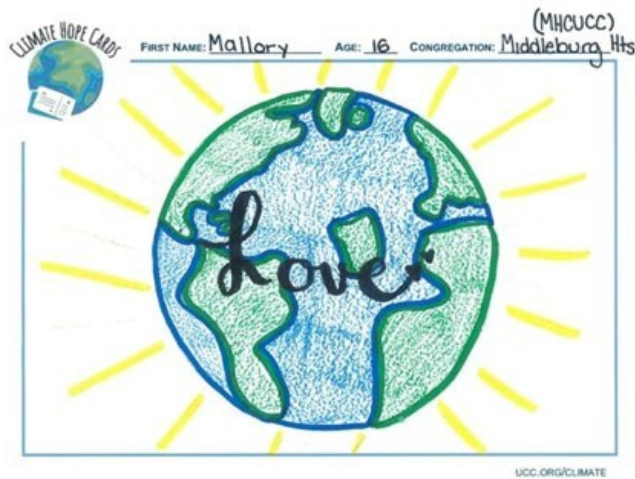
**Linda Aitken**  
The Pointe at  
Kilpatrick  
14230 Kilpatrick  
Crestwood, IL. 60418

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



## CLIMATE HOPE CARDS- A POST CARD CAMPAIGN

The United Church of Christ Climate Hope Cards campaign is an ambitious and exciting project rooted in the UCC's decades long work for climate and environmental justice. In this critical moment, every person and organization has a choice to make. Should we stay silent as the most vulnerable people living today face real and worsening climate and environmental justice crises? Should we stand by while a livable future hangs in the balance for our children and children's children? Or should we look to the prophetic examples fighting for justice? Already, the UCC passed General Synod resolutions about climate change, pollution, and caring for Creation. In that spirit, we are glad you are joining us in this latest push for greater justice in our world!



The climate and environmental crises are massive and action on every level is required to turn things around. That's why we are calling on individuals, congregations, cities and towns, states, and especially the federal government to finally act as if we are in a crisis. We need strong action from the EPA and the White House. President Biden and his administration need to know that climate justice is a priority—that's where we come in! UCC children and youth from across the country have already sent in artwork expressing their feelings about environmental justice, the climate crisis, and protecting the Earth. Winning artwork has been printed on Climate Hope Card postcards. Now it's up to us to collect thousands of postcards for delivery to the EPA and the White House!

UCC congregations will collect thousands of postcards (printed with the winning art) to urge the Environmental Protection Agency to update Federal pollution rules. These strengthened protections would save thousands of lives, address societal inequalities, and put the United States on a path to meet its climate goals.

We find ourselves in the midst of ongoing climate and environmental justice crises. The future sometimes seems uncertain and even frightening. Yet as people of faith, we are called to heed prophetic voices and fight for a livable planet.

It is in action that hope is found. As the Israelites confronted the challenges of their time, the prophet Jeremiah passed along God's message: Your labor is not in vain. There is hope for your future (Jeremiah 31:17).

### What does this mean for Pilgrim Faith?

The Ministry team of Spiritual Formation and Mission and ANYONE who wants to help on this important mission, will be asking for your help! It is simple- just fill out a Climate Hope Postcard with your information and give it back to us! Then, at the end of the summer all the postcards will be delivered to the Environmental Protection Agency and the White House. Your information will only be used to allow you to connect directly with the EPA to make a personal plea for improved rules that govern our environment. The need is HUGE and we can help by letting our government know how many people really care to make a difference!

### Will you help?

Thanks from the Ministry of Spiritual Formation & Mission!

## LIMITLESS YOUTH NEWS! WE HAD A GREAT YEAR!

The picnic at Wolfe Wildlife Gazebo will conclude our program year with Limitless Youth! What a wonderful, fun, and enjoyable year we have had. We walked with CROP in the Fall and on a cold Saturday in November we volunteered at the Food Pantry and walked the neighborhood collecting non-perishable goods from our neighbors to donate to the Pilgrim Faith Food Pantry. We enjoyed bowling with the youth from Salem UCC and had a great Christmas party in December. We worked our way through escape rooms, led a spirited and energetic worship service in February, planned a community Easter Egg Hunt that was enjoyed by more than 100 children in community. We wrapped up our year with a wonderful mission with Feed My Starving Children in Aurora. What a great year! We will look forward to another wonderful year in September where we are hoping to do more with the youth from Salem U.C.C., Immanuel U.C.C., and Christ Memorial U.C.C. as well as some of the other great things we were able to do this year! In addition, we are hoping to take as many youth and adults who are willing to participate in a Mission Trip to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi! In September, we'll get back together and we hope that anyone in the seventh grade and older will be able to join us. Please look for details of our first meeting as we are getting closer to the month of September.

## A GREAT SERVICE PROJECT WITH FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN!



On a Saturday in May, 10 youth and adults enjoyed an afternoon packing bags of nutrition for hungry children in our world. Limitless Youth helped to pack

151 meals for 32,616 hungry people. This would feed 89 children for a full year! In addition to packing meals for hungry children, Limitless Youth also raised money with our successful March game night to donate \$100.00 to the mission of Feed My Hungry Children! This was a great mission for Limitless youth, and everyone felt so good that through our efforts, our labor, our gift, and our energy will feed so many children! What a great day! Next year, we hope that we can make yet another impact on the youth in our community and around the world! We hope that you will want to join us!



## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Do you have something to contribute to our monthly newsletter? The deadline for the July edition is Wednesday, June 28th, 2023. Please submit any articles or announcements for our monthly newsletter by that date and we will be sure to include it.



**PILGRIM FAITH UCC  
RECEIPTS - DISBURSEMENTS**

	Month of APRIL 2023		As of APRIL 30, 2023	
	MONTH Actual	MONTH Budget	YEAR-TO-DATE Actual	YEAR-TO-DATE Budget
<b>Receipts</b>				
Pledges & Non-Pledged Giving	\$ 4,999.65	\$ 12,706.28	\$ 22,457.19	\$ 28,052.90
Total Receipts (all sources)	\$ 10,023.07	\$ 16,060.26	\$ 33,926.51	\$ 38,183.85
<b>Disbursements</b>				
Salaries & Benefits	9871. 71	\$ 11,220.83	\$ 47,146.13	\$ 45,220.31
Expenses	\$ 6,286.71	\$ 4,632.74	\$ 40,272.77	\$ 38,005.21
Total Disbursements (all expenses)	\$ 16,378.42	\$ 16,261.90	\$ 88,607.44	\$ 84,858.84
<b>Net Total</b>	\$ (6,355.35)	\$ (201.64)	\$ (54,680.93)	\$ (46,674.99)

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





## Salsa Dance Night

Oak Lawn Public Library will be hosting a Salsa Dance Night on Friday, June 28th, 2023. A beginner class starts at 6:30 PM and open dance starts at 7:30 PM. Dancer Victor Monroy from Latin Rhythms dance studio will be teaching the beginner class. The open dance session is being offered for all skill levels. Due to the energetic nature of salsa dancing— attendees are cautioned to participate at their own risk.



# June 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon
						
4 10:00 AM Worship	5	6 Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon	7	8	9	10 Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon
						
11 10:00AM Outdoor Wor- ship	12	13 Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon	14	15	16	17 Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon
						
18 10:00 AM Worship	19 JUNETEENTH	20 Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon	21	22	23	24 Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon  Kay Harris Memorial 11:00 AM
25 10:00 AM Worship	26	27 Food Pantry 10:00 AM- Noon	28	29	30	
11:30–1:30 PM World Cafe						



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

Non-Profit  
PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Oak Lawn, IL  
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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