



Pilgrim Church



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

May 2026

PENTECOST
Acts 2:1–4; John 14:25–27

Ewing's Doings

In the Gospel of John, Jesus tells His disciples that although He is leaving to return to the Father, He will not leave them alone. The Holy Spirit will be the Comforter and Guide that Jesus promised. This promise was fulfilled at Pentecost.

Pentecost is known as the Christian festival celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit, this day is often called the Birthday of the Church. It takes place fifty days after Easter, as recorded in Acts 2:1–4: The apostles and other followers of Jesus were gathered together, most likely to celebrate Shavuot, the Feast of Weeks. This feast, instituted through Moses, marked the end of the harvest and offered thanks to God for His abundant blessings (Deuteronomy 16:9).

As one of the major Jewish celebrations, people from all over gathered in Jerusalem. Luke tells us in Acts that the apostles and followers of Jesus were together in one place, perhaps a large home, or more likely the temple, known as the House of God.

As they gathered, suddenly a sound like the rush of a mighty wind came from heaven and filled the entire house. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared and rested on each of them. They began to speak in different languages as the Holy Spirit enabled them, and all were able to understand one another. The presence of the Holy Spirit was revealed in the tongues of fire, symbolizing boldness and conviction in proclaiming God's truth.

With the gift of the Holy Spirit comes understanding and a calling to share the Good News as Jesus instructed (Acts 1:8).

After receiving the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit, the apostles immediately went out and preached Jesus' message to everyone, marking the beginning of the Christian Church's mission in the world.

Take time to reflect on this day, and find a way to show gratitude for the gift of grace that comes to us through the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Happy Birthday, Church! Amen.

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Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

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

Celebrating Pilgrims

Nation Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 7

May Birthdays

- 3 Robert Emard
- 5 Gary Cooper
- 6 Vasa O'Leary
Judy Whittaker
- 7 Fred Ripley
Gerry Ahlgrim
- 9 Judy Prier
- 22 Karen Ahlgrim
- 30 Nancy Hoffman

May Anniversaries

- 2 Gary & Sharon Cooper
- 3 Gerry & Karen Ahlgrim
- 4 Mike & Joyce Faber
- 13 Ken & Vickie Rhoe

Did we miss your special date? Please contact the church office—by phone or email—so we can update our records. We'll be glad to make sure your special day is included!

The Sanctuary side doors will be open Thursday, May 2, 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. for a time of prayer. Come as you are able. Prayer guides will be available.

The 2026 National Day of Prayer Theme

Glorify God Among the Nations
- Seeking Him in All Generations

The 2026 National Day of Prayer Verse

"Tell of His glory among the nations, His wonderful deeds among all the peoples." 1 Chronicles 16:24

Heavenly Father, In this 250th year of America's independence from an earthly king, we come to You, King of Kings, to give You all glory, honor, and praise. In faith, we declare our dependence and dedication to You, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, for You alone are our Creator and Salvation. We come humbly to confess our sins and receive Your forgiveness. Today, in the presence of God and one another, we gather to pray, to celebrate, and to rededicate ourselves to You personally and in covenant as "One Nation Under God," to love You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, to love our neighbor as You have loved us, pray fervently, and tell of Your glory and goodness to all peoples as we abide in You and Your Word abides in our hearts now, and forevermore. Amen!

Prayer List

- Hurricane Recovery & Rebuild
- Caregivers - peace & strength
- Pastor Search
- Pilgrim Church & Leaders
- Beverly Weber - hospice
- Savina Krueger - cancer
- John Krueger - health
- Marge Trayner - dementia
- Ben Littrell - military service
- Cat Foster - glaucoma pressure
- Sherri Turner - grief
- Char Semon - grief
- Don Hollenbeck - hospital
- Nathaniel Box - military service
- Delys Children - salvation
- Judi - Lesa Sealy friend
- Lorraine McBride - cancer
- Doug Terry - cancer
- Joyce Faber - health
- Carter & Karsyn - peace and healing
- Teal Paen - heart transplant
- Pat Smith - strength
- Cherry Gillner - stroke recovery
- Pat Wheatcroft - cancer
- Peace & Hope
- Nate Ahlgrim family and friends - sympathies
- Bob Mendillo - health
- Bunny Thinoutot - vision
- Jean Skemp - health
- Laine Nipper - health
- Kay Conway - health
- Wade Reyburn
- Petra Conn - health

Recycle Ink Cartridges – Support Pilgrim Church!

Do you have used cartridges at home or work? Bring them in! We collect them and make a monthly delivery to Staples.

Pilgrim Church can recycle up to 20 used ink or toner cartridges each month through Staples and receive \$2 in recycling rewards per cartridge. These rewards help offset our office supply costs.

Thank you for supporting our efforts to save money and care for the environment!

Altar Flowers

Sponsor Altar Flowers for an upcoming Service! Sponsoring altar flowers is a beautiful way to:

- Remember someone special
- Celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or milestone
- Give thanks or mark a meaningful moment

To reserve your date, simply leave a note on the registration slip or contact the office. Secure your special date today. Each arrangement is \$30.

Property & Grounds

The property and grounds team is dedicated to providing a safe and welcoming environment for our church and school campus staff and visitors.

This is a summary of our accomplishments for the past month:

Church

- Installed an electrical outlet in the kitchenette cabinet for a refrigerator and connected the refrigerator
- Installed room dividers separating the church coffee room from the sanctuary
- Installed the faucet and drain in the church kitchenette
- Moved the large refrigerator from the back storage area into the coffee room and cleaned the condenser
- Began removing tile to the main entrance to the church
- Fabricated a chair moving dolly for moving the new chairs for the church sanctuary
- Started the installation of the faucets in the men and women's bathrooms
- Unloaded and placed chairs in the Sanctuary

School/Community Center

- Picked up and installed a pallet of sod around the new tricycle racetrack to prevent erosion and tripping hazards.
- Completed maintenance on the two 6 passenger buggies for Joyful Noise youngest students
- Provide seasonal maintenance (fertilizer and weeding) to the Joyful Noise planting in front of the school sign
- Installed privacy signs in the school parking area

Pilgrims at work on Chair Delivery Day



Learn & Grow

What Happened to the Twelve Disciples?

After the ascension of Jesus (Acts 1:9–11), the apostles were commissioned to carry the gospel “to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8). The Book of Acts follows some of their work, especially Peter and John, and then focuses on Paul. For the rest, we rely on early church tradition. Together, these accounts show remarkable faithfulness.

Peter

A central leader in the early church, Peter preached at Pentecost (Acts 2) and helped establish the church in Jerusalem. He later ministered in places like Antioch and is traditionally associated with Rome. Jesus foretold Peter’s martyrdom (John 21:18–19). Early tradition records that Peter was crucified in Rome under Emperor Nero, reportedly upside down.

James (son of Zebedee)

The brother of John, James was the first of the Twelve to be martyred. Scripture records that he was executed by King Herod Agrippa I (Acts 12:1–2).

John

The brother of James, John was a leader in the early church and later lived in Ephesus. He is traditionally credited with writing the Gospel of John, three epistles, and Revelation. He was exiled to the island of Patmos “because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus” (Revelation 1:9). Tradition holds that he was the only apostle to die of natural causes.

Andrew

Peter’s brother Andrew is said to have preached in regions north of the Black Sea and into Greece. Tradition holds that he was crucified on an X-shaped cross in Patras.

Philip

Philip is associated with ministry in Asia Minor. According to tradition, he preached in Phrygia and was martyred in Hierapolis.

Bartholomew

Often identified as Nathanael (John 1:45–49), Bartholomew is said to have taken the gospel to Armenia, possibly India. Tradition says he was martyred, by being flayed and then beheaded.

Matthew (the tax collector)

Also known as Levi (Matthew 9:9), Matthew authored the Gospel bearing his name. Tradition places his ministry in Ethiopia or Persia. Accounts of his death vary, but many say he was martyred.

Thomas

Known for his initial resurrection doubt (John 20:24–29), Thomas later made a bold confession of faith. Tradition strongly associates him with mission work in India. Thomas is believed to have been martyred there, pierced by spears.

James (son of Alphaeus)

Sometimes called “James the Less,” is recorded in the lists of the apostles. Tradition suggests he ministered in Syria or Persia and was martyred.

Thaddaeus

Also called Jude (Luke 6:16; Acts 1:13), he is linked by tradition with ministry in Edessa (modern-day Turkey) and surrounding regions. He is believed to have been martyred, possibly in Persia.

Simon (the Zealot)

Very little is known from Scripture beyond his name (Luke 6:15; Acts 1:13). Tradition places his missionary work in Persia or possibly North Africa. He is believed to have been martyred.

Judas Iscariot

The disciple who betrayed Jesus, died before the ascension (Matthew 27:3–5; Acts 1:18).

Matthias

In Acts 1:21–26, the remaining apostles sought the Lord’s guidance to restore their number. Matthias was chosen. He had been among Jesus’ followers from the beginning of His ministry through the resurrection, making him a firsthand witness to Christ’s work. Although Scripture does not record his later ministry in detail, early church tradition holds that Matthias faithfully preached the gospel in Judea and possibly in regions such as Cappadocia or near the Caspian Sea. Traditions affirm that Matthias was martyred for his faith, remaining steadfast in the same apostolic mission entrusted to the original Twelve.

While the Bible gives detailed accounts for only a few of the apostles, the consistent testimony of early Christian tradition is that most of them suffered and died for their faith. Their lives reflect the truth of Jesus’ words: “You will be My witnesses...to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

From Jerusalem to Rome, from Africa to India, the apostles carried the gospel across the known world: planting the seeds of the global Church we are part of today.

As their story continues through us, how is God calling you to share the gospel in your own corner of the world?

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Every Sunday 8:00am Choir Rehearsal 9:00am Children's Worship 9:00am Worship					1 9:00am TOPS	2
3 10:15am Adult Bible Study	4	5 12:00pm Care Group 2:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	6	7 <u>National Day of Prayer</u> 8:00am - 2:00pm Sanctuary Open for Prayer 12:00pm Bulletin Team 7:00pm NA	8 9:00am TOPS	9
10 <u>Mother's Day</u>	11 6:30pm Missions Meeting	12 12:00pm Care Group 6:30pm Council Rebuild Meeting	13	14 12:00pm Bulletin Team 7:00pm NA	15 9:00am TOPS	16
17 10:15am Adult Bible Study	18 Ministry Reports due for Council Meeting	19 12:00pm Care Group 2:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30pm Finance Committee Meeting	20 Newsletter Article Deadline	21 9:30am Bulletin Team 7:00pm NA	22 9:00am TOPS	23
24 <u>Pentecost</u> 8:00am Fellowship Breakfast	25 <u>Memorial Day</u> Office Closed	26 12:00pm Care Group 6:30pm Council Meeting	27	28 9:15am PBJ Sandwich Makers 10:00am Pilgrim Women 12:00pm Bulletin Team 7:00pm NA	29 9:00am TOPS	30
31 10:15am Adult Bible Study	Tell of His glory among the nations, His wonderful deeds among all the peoples. 1 Chronicles 16:24					