

Pilgrim Lutheran Church
1730 Wilshire Blvd.
Santa Monica, California 90403



**Called by the Holy Spirit,
we are an intergenerational community of
worship and service
that invites the people
of Santa Monica and beyond
to flourish in the love of Jesus Christ
through Word and Sacraments.**

“Pilgrim’s Progress”

June 2024



Pilgrim Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
(310) 829-4113
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June Calendar at a Glance

Sunday Worship Service Schedule in May

8:30 a.m. Bible Class:

10:00 a. m. Divine Service: Indoors and on Facebook and Pilgrim's website.

June 2 † Second Sunday after Pentecost, Divine Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

June 9 † Third Sunday after Pentecost, Divine Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

June 14 Flag Day

June 16 † Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, Divine Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

June 16 Father's Day

June 19 Juneteenth National Independence Day, Federal Holiday

June 20 Summer Begins

June 23 † Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, Divine Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

June 24 Nativity of St. John the Baptist

June 29 Armed Forces Day

June 30 † Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, Divine Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

June 30 "Gifts With Your Elder" after the service.

Thank you Jane for scheduling our after worship fellowship:

June Fellowship Schedule:

June 2, Jane and Beverly G. June 9, Lana, June 16, Chloe, June 23 Mary C. June 30, Carolyn

Due to the Resignation of Pastor Nunes, we will not have a Vicar this year. We wish Joshua Steele many blessings as he continues his Seminary studies, and his new Vicar Assignment.



Rev. John Arthur Nunes, PhD, has accepted a position as President of California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, California. Fortunately, Cal Lutheran is not far from Santa Monica and we hope and pray they will return to visit us. We wish them many blessings on this career change. Please read the thoughtful message from Pastor Nunes on page 4.

We will keep you updated on our search for a pastor to replace our much loved Pastor Nunes and Monique.

May 26, 2024 Rev, Dominc Rivkin preached.

June 2, 2024 Rev. Seth Moorman will preach

June 9, 2024 Rev. Dominic Rivkin and Seminary Student/ Elder Joseph Perling will preach.

Sunday Gospel Readings for June 2024

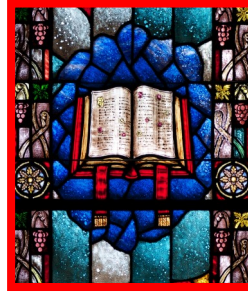
June 2, 2024 Mark 2:23-3:6

June 9, 2024 Mark 3:20-35

June 16, 2024 Mark 4:26-34

June 23, 2024 Mark 4:35-41

June 30, 2024 Mark 5:21-43



STRATEGIC PILLARS For PILGRIM

1. Connected Meaningfully in Worship
2. Connected in Spiritual Formation through Intergenerational Christian Education
3. Connected Sustainably to our Future through our Gifts and Resources
4. Connected in Witness and Service to our Neighborhood (including digital connection)
5. Connected in Partnership with Pacifica Christian High School
6. Connected in Care with One Another

Juneteenth Federal Holiday is on June 19th.

Juneteenth commemorates June 19, 1865, when Union soldiers brought the news of freedom to enslaved Black people in Galveston, Texas—more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was issued. It's the first new Federal Holiday since Martin Luther King Jr. Day was created in 1983. (Juneteenth was signed into law in 2021.)



Pearl Roennau:

Born November 6, 1926 ~ Called to Glory May 4, 2024

Pearl Roennau's Celebration of Life: Was Held Saturday, May 25, 2024 at 10 a.m.

We want to thank Mat Mulligan for the beautiful manner in which he presented the live video during the "Celebration of Life" Memorial Service for long time member Pearl Roennau. We heard from members who watched the ceremony on-line and received many compliments. Pearl's great-nephew, Rev. David Solum did the Homily and he was a delightful young pastor with a lot of love and inspiration. We also want to thank Carolyn, Bonnie, and Barbara and all who helped set up the food that family donated, and those who helped clean up afterwards. The family requests if you wish to make a charitable donation in Pearl's name, you may send it to Pilgrim.



Joseph Perling,
Debbie Darland and
Rev. David Solum.
Debbie was the soloist.



For all of you who would like to help Pilgrim successfully meet our 6th Strategic Priority—CONNECTED IN CARE WITH ONE ANOTHER, we invite you to join a new group we are calling “THE CARE CREW.” Your task would be to keep our members who are homebound or dealing with health issues in our hearts and minds. Please contact Carolyn B. or Bonnie if you are interested in joining CARE CREW. We recently started this and our Care Crew has been reaching out to those who cannot attend Pilgrim in person and to those who need extra help.

Message from Pastor Nunes:

“What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?” (Psalm 116:12)

In *The Bounty*, his first book after winning the Nobel Prize in Literature, Derek Walcott offers a poetic way to say what’s unsayable. How do we give thanks for that which comes from God? It’s larger than life, encompassing all that we are and ever hope to be, packed with grace. Lava-like God’s goodness and mercy overflows bloodred and hot—but not to harm, to heal and to forgive.

Walcott’s verb of choice to describe this bounty of God is *to shudder*.

Shudder implies trembling with awe. It suggests an encounter with something that is larger than oneself. We shudder when we come face-to-face with the sacred. The kindness and generosity I have experienced at Pilgrim, in the words of the African American spiritual, “causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.” Because this love—all love worth living for or dying for—comes from the cross of Jesus Christ crucified.

In a time that was far too short, this was my experience with you. I shudder with thanksgiving at your commitment to worship the Holy Trinity, your drive to walk in the ways of the Spirit, your yearning to study God’s Word, your hunger to eat and drink of Jesus’ body and blood. I shudder the way you strive to love one another in Santa Monica and beyond.

Please continue to invite people to receive Jesus and to be baptized into his family of faith.

Shudderingly,

John



Pilgrim members blessing Pastor Nunes and Monique on May 19, 2024. Asking the Lord to bless them as they begin their career as Interim President at California Lutheran University.



Praise the Lord for Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays in June

Hannah H. June 3

Hubert H. June 6

Mark K. June 18

Arlene S. June 15

Steve R. June 15

Amy B. June 25

Kimshelley & Joe's Anniversary is in June!

Sara and Mat's Anniversary is June 11th.

Let the church office know when your Birthday or Anniversary is!



“News Regarding Pastor Nunes”

California Lutheran University Announces Leadership Transition

President Lori Varlotta to step down May 31; Dr. John Nunes to serve as interim president.

By Cal Lutheran News May 21, 2024

Dr. John Nunes

The California Lutheran University Board of Regents announced today that President Lori Varlotta will step down from her role effective May 31, 2024. Dr. John Nunes, most recently pastor at Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Santa Monica, Ca., and former president of Concordia College New York, will serve as interim president for a two-year term beginning on June 1, 2024. “On behalf of my Board of Regents colleagues, I extend sincere thanks to President Varlotta for her service, which leaves the university well positioned as we seek new leadership,” said Board of Regents Chair Ann Boynton. “The future holds many challenges for higher education, and thanks to President Varlotta’s work, Cal Lutheran is already moving to address several of them. During Rev. Dr. Nunes’ tenure, we will continue to build on the university’s strengths.”

Varlotta was appointed president in September 2020 and successfully steered the university through the COVID-19 pandemic, leading efforts to bring Cal Lutheran students back to campus and to face-to-face learning ahead of many other California institutions. She made difficult but necessary changes to mitigate a potential financial crisis; implemented changes to align shared governance structures with university bylaws; and designed a Talent, Culture and Diversity division.

Nunes has served since 2020 on the Academic Leaders Task Force on Campus Free Expression at the Bipartisan Policy Center. The Task Force’s recommendations about how to foster a campus culture of robust intellectual exchange during the current period of national polarization have been adopted by many universities, both public and private.

Nunes is a senior fellow at the Center for Religion, Culture and Democracy and was ordained as a Lutheran minister in 1991. He was also president and CEO of Lutheran World Relief and held an endowed professorship at Valparaiso University. He is the author of five books and numerous articles, and holds degrees from Concordia College, Ann Arbor (BA), Concordia Seminary in St. Catharines, Ontario (M.Div.), and the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (ThM and PhD). He and his wife, Monique, are the parents of six children and 13 grandchildren.

“God is up to great things at California Lutheran University,” said Nunes. “In a world of digitized anonymity, Cal Lutheran represents a personalized community of learning on a beautiful campus where every person matters. I see this opportunity as vocationally aligned with my gifts and I am honored to serve Cal Lutheran by helping to galvanize a uniquely talented team of regents, faculty and staff in educating students for a global society.”

“We look forward to welcoming Dr. Nunes and his family to the California Lutheran community,” said Boynton. “His experience as a scholar, pastor, and leader makes him a natural choice for this interim role, and his embrace of the values that guide Cal Lutheran will serve him well as he works with the board to move the university forward over the next two years.”

Dr. Nunes’ appointment comes with the [support of the Region 1 bishops](#) and [Region 2 bishops](#) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.



In Our Prayers. . . .

For Pastor Nunes & Monique on their new Cal Lutheran career.
Pam with Parkinson's disease.
Mothers & Babies
For Pearl's Family
Brad, Enteritis
Mark F. seriously ill
Goldie, for peace
Ralph W. for peace
For those with Dystonia
For James, Speech Apraxia
For Randy—breathing issues
Mark C.—Lungs
Roger H. —Hepatitis C
Medical personnel, first responders
Hilda's mother Berjik, Health
Tiffany's mother and family
Social Justice, End of Racism
Grace, Dystonia
Edith A. shoulder
Jim K, myasthenia gravis & cancer
Neven, heart procedure
Corine, health
Julia A. fibromyalgia, arthritis
Cyndy for heart issues
Mary's mother
Pastor G. health and eyesight
Frank, ALS
Annie, Cystic Fibrosis
Greater Evangelism
Marriage difficulties
Unemployment
Lamar, needs housing
Natalie-Restoration
Mary Ann's health
Sharon C. -Healing
Kathy H's sister Alice—MS
For Missionaries
Laurie's mother
Abused children
Linda with Alzheimer's
Peace on Earth toward all people!

Prayers for Those Fighting Cancer

Corby, cancer
Valerie—cancer
Jackson, lymphoma, friend of Kimshelley & Joe
Valerie in Chicago
Ramona's niece Harriett and Harriett's' husband Dan, both fighting cancer
JoAnna, breast cancer
Russel-pancreatic cancer
Myrna, Bob's stepmom
Susan M.
Rudolph A.
George D. Bladder cancer
Cezanne, intestinal cancer
Carole, stomach
Cindy C.
Monique Y.
Steve H.
Susan S.
Ken B.
Hilda's husband Jim
Ivan P.
Dana A.
Kay T.
Kim
Zack
Charles (prostate)
Rich Z.
Greg W.
Paul
Jill
Paul
Arminda, kidney cancer
Continued Prayers
Protection for Police Officers & Firefighters
Protection for our troops
Jews for Jesus Ministry
The ill and lonely
Persecuted Christians
Andrew S. in military

Prayers of Praise & Thanks

For the Resurrection of Jesus!
For our Wonderful Country!
For Pilgrim's Wonderful Volunteers!

Dear Heavenly Father,

We ask that you hear and honor our prayers, as we pray for healing for those who are sick, for comfort for those who are dying and for happiness for those who have been healed and are living successful lives. We know you hear our prayers, and you are in control, not us. We thank you for your beautiful planet, your beautiful trees, flowers, oceans, rivers, mountains and animals. We thank you for your wonderful diverse planet of many countries, many cultures, and many variations in their climate. We thank you for our wonderful USA and we ask that you bless and protect us, guide us and lead us. For those who do not have a personal relationship with Jesus, we ask that through your work here at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, we may bring unbelievers to Jesus Christ. For those who are already believers, we ask that they continue to support Pilgrim and increase in-person participation here at Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Santa Monica, CA.

In Jesus Name, Amen



Stewardship A Way of Life! GIFTS that you have been GIVEN!

“All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills” 1 Cor. 12:11

If only I had gifts like other people! If I had what they had, I know that I would be a much better steward of the Gospel. It would make logical sense that if we had more to steward, there would be more stewardship. But know that this is actually the devil talking! He has been getting human beings to think that God is holding out on them since the Garden of Eden! What a liar! When we listen to him, we too buy into the lie that we don't have the gifts we need.

You have the simple gifts which the Lord wills you to have. We may not have the gifts we WANT, but we most certainly have the gifts we NEED! After all, they are His gifts. He gives them freely. Jesus is one of those gifts. Your life is a gift. All that you use to support this body and life are gifts! All you use to support the Gospel of Jesus Christ are those gifts! His gifts used for the sake of our neighbor for the glory of God! One Spirit. One Church. Varied gifts all coming together to do amazing things for the world. Using our God given individual GIFTS!

If you think you don't have gifts, consider the timeless hymn, “Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying”...

**“Let none hear you idly saying,
“There is nothing I can do,’
While the multitudes are dying,
And the Master calls for you.
Take the task He gives you gladly,
Let His work your pleasure be;
Answer quickly when He calls you,
‘Here am I, send me, send me!’”**

PRAYER

Father in Heaven, You give every one of us unique and varied gifts. These gifts are to be used for your kingdom. Grant me the grace today to confess that I have the gifts You desire me to have for the sake of my neighbor and extension of the kingdom of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Lead me by faith to say, “Here am I, send me,” to use those gifts! And to be thankful for your gifts! Amen.

YOU'RE INVITED! ...all Pilgrim members & friends!

SUNDAY JUNE 30th after the service

Lunch with your ELDER...bring nothing. Just come!

Inside if cold.....OR OUTSIDE IF NICE WEATHER



