

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



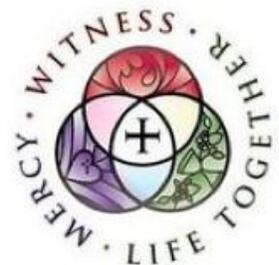
**Called by the Holy Spirit,
we are an intergenerational community of
worship and service
that invites the people
of Santa Monica and beyond
to flourish in the love of Jesus Christ
through Word and Sacraments.**

“Pilgrim’s Progress”

July 2025



Pilgrim Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
(310) 829-4113
www.pilgrimsm.org



July Calendar at a Glance

Sunday Worship Service Schedule in July

9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class, meets in the Discovery Conference Room.

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

July 6 † Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, Divine Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

July 13 † Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, Divine Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

July 20 † Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, Divine Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

July 27 † Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, Divine Service at 10 a.m. / Holy Communion

Santa Monica's Friday, July 4th Parade

Come in your Red, White and Blue! The 2025 Santa Monica Fourth of July parade will take place on **Friday, July 4th, at 9:30 a.m.** The parade will start at Pico Boulevard and Main Street, traveling south on Main Street and turning right onto Marine Street, ending at Barnard Way. The official grandstand will be in front of the Ocean Park Library. It is always fun to watch the children participate in this parade, as well as our SMPD and SMFD!



As we celebrate the 4th of July, we need to remember our brave military and our wonderful God, who has made our lives here in the USA possible. The hymn, "God Bless Our Native Land" mentions our forming one family, one brotherhood, not just in our beloved USA, but world wide. Many have sacrificed for us and our Lord Jesus gave His life for us. In return, we must give to those who cannot help themselves, and give our offerings to our Lord Jesus.

Scripture states in Mark 3:24-25 "If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand."



Pet Blessing August 23rd. We are planning a Pet Blessing in our parking lot August 23rd. If the parking lot is still under construction, we will meet in the courtyard. We will keep you updated on the pet blessings.

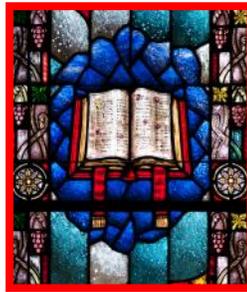
Sunday Gospel Readings for July 2025

July 6 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 13 Luke 10:25-37

July 20 Luke 10:38-42

July 27 Luke 11:1-13



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

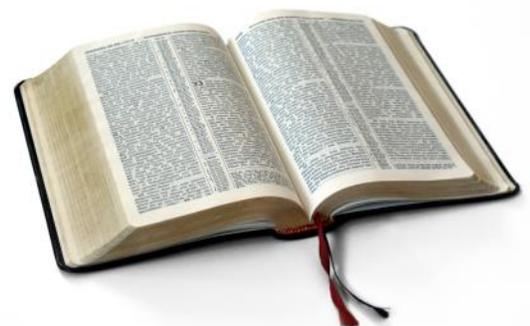
Message from Pilgrim President John Pinero:

Independence Day, God, Country & Duty

The Bible virtues that align closely with both patriotism and duty to God and country. In Romans 13:1, we are called to respect governing authorities, recognizing them as established by God. At the same time, Micah 6:8 reminds us that our highest calling is to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God. These virtues guide Christian citizenship—living with gratitude for our nation while standing firmly rooted in God's truth.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) Youth Gathering, is a Christian event that brings together thousands to worship, serve, and grow in their faith. As it often falls near Independence Day, it provides a meaningful opportunity to reflect on the blessings of freedom and the responsibilities that come with it.

As we all gather to be strengthened in our identity in Christ, we are encouraged to be faithful citizens, honoring both God and country with courage, humility, and service. On this Independence Day, we celebrate the freedom we enjoy as Americans while reaffirming our ultimate allegiance to the Lord who sets all people truly free.



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 Zabelle 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.

Fellowship Schedule:

July 6—Mat (meetings) July 13– Lana July 20—Mary July 27—Barbara

- ◆ **From Mat Mulligan: Every first Sunday of the month, shortly after Divine Service, men and women will enjoy a more intimate fellowship in separate groups. This will encourage more vulnerability and focused support for one another as we move toward creating more smaller groups. Lunch will be provided. Our first meeting was a huge success!**

STEWARDSHIP...a Way of LIFE!



Time Temple(body/health) Talent Treasures Trust Theology Testimony

What is STEWARDSHIP? **The 7 areas of LIFE MANAGEMENT**

They are all GIFTS which God has bestowed on us to manage well!

TIME Minutes, hours, months, years: Are we honoring God with these?

TEMPLE Our BODY is His temple: Do we care for it’s health, sleep, etc?

TALENT Our gifts/talents: Are we using them in enhancing His Kingdom?

TREASURES Our assets: Are we giving back what is only His anyway?

TRUST Guidance/control: Are we allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us?

THEOLOGY Understanding truth: Living, learning, sharing God’s WORD?

TESTIMONY Who we are: Are we sharing our FAITH story with others?

Ask the Lord to show you how you can better serve Him, our Church, and others as a better STEWARD of all He has provided in your life. AMEN

Praise the Lord for Birthdays and Anniversaries

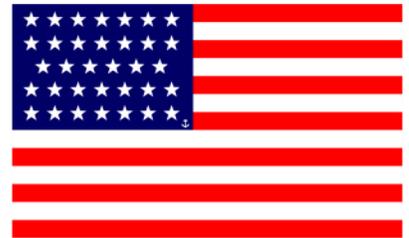
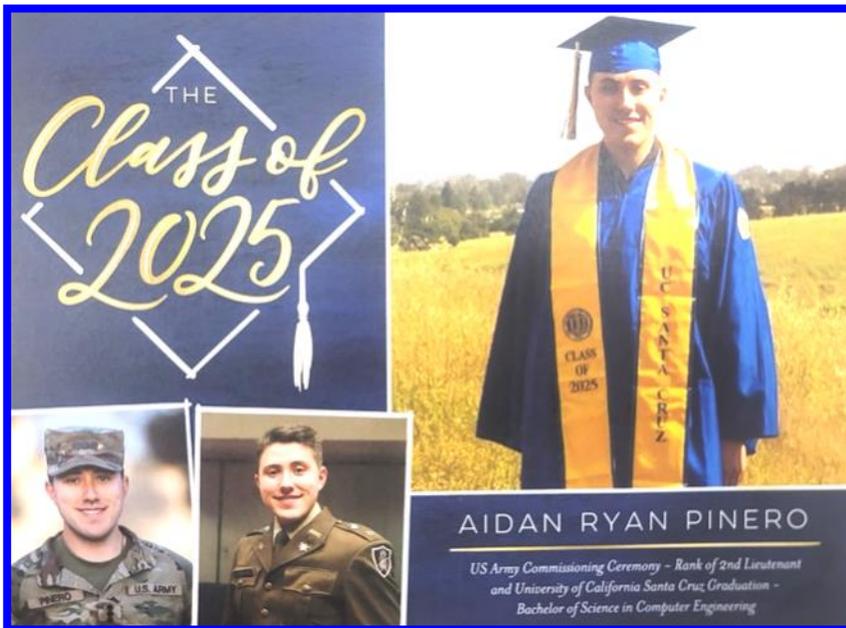
Birthdays in July

- Henry S. July 8
- Beth S. July 14
- Greg B July 23
- Natalie July 29
- Gian R. July 29

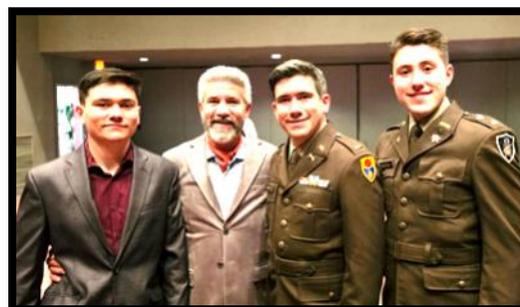


Hubert & Sylvia's Wedding Anniversary July 21st

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



Congratulations to Aidan Pinero on his graduation from UC Santa Cruz. And congratulations on his ROTC US Army Commissioning Ceremony, Rank of 2nd Lieutenant. His brother Ian was Commissioned May 2025.



In Our Prayers....

Prayers of Intercession

For Tim
For Allen
For Dr. Winge's patients
For Rev. RZ Meyer & Carrie
Aydan, health issues
For Fran, with Parkinson's disease
Mark F. seriously ill
For those with Dystonia
For Merne P.
For Hoda
For Harriet
For Randy—breathing issues
Mark C.—Lungs
Medical personnel, first responders
Hilda's husband Jim, seriously ill
Tiffany's mother and family
Jim K, myasthenia gravis & cancer
Mary's mother Jean
Pastor G. health and eyesight
Frank, ALS
Annie, Cystic Fibrosis
Greater Evangelism
Marriage difficulties
Unemployment
Lamar, found housing!
Zackary, needs housing
Mary Ann's health
Kathy H's sister Alice—MS
For Missionaries
Laurie's mother
Abused children
Peace on Earth toward all people!

Prayers for Those Fighting Cancer

Corby, cancer
Valerie—cancer
Ramona's niece Harriett
JoAnna, breast cancer
Myrna, Bob's stepmom
George D. Bladder cancer
Cezanne, intestinal cancer
Carole, stomach
Steve H.
Susan S.
Ken B.
Hilda's husband Jim
Ivan P.
Dana A.
Zack
Charles (prostate)
Rich Z.
Greg W.
Paul
Jill
Paul
Arminda, kidney cancer
Continued Prayers
Protection for Police Of-
ficers & Firefighters
Protection for our troops
Jews for Jesus Ministry
The ill and lonely
Persecuted Christians

Prayers of Praise & Thanks

For the Birth 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, via our Pastor Upchurch and our volunteers, we may bring unbelievers to Jesus Christ. For those who are already believers, we ask that they continue to support Pilgrim and Pastor Upchurch and increase in-person participation here at Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Santa Monica, CA.

In Jesus Name, Amen



Congratulations to Lindsay Fertig-Johnson on her recent Seminary graduation from Wartburg Seminary. Lindsay creates our Sunday bulletins and does other technical work for Pilgrim. She works in the Chicago area and sends her work to Pilgrim. Her work is beautiful and she is an inspiration to Pilgrim. She is now on a Call list to serve as an ELCA Pastor.



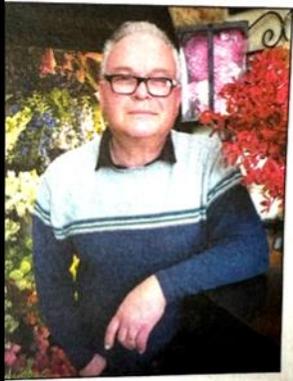
For the past several weeks, Pilgrim's parking lot has been closed. On Sunday, we can park at no charge, in the "Rite Aid" lot. Pacifica is creating a more enjoyable space for the students and on June 11th they had a huge Sycamore tree planted. All the cement has been removed, and Pacifica has plans to expand the grounds into a beautiful park like setting. The work will continue for several weeks. When the work is completed, Pilgrim will have several parking spots available on Sunday mornings. Pacifica is an excellent Christian school and will soon rent additional space in a large office building on Wilshire to accommodate offices and some students.



Community Leader Award.

Do You Recognize This Neighborhood Celebrity?

(Answer on Page 11)



Abe Yashar, from Ann’s Flowers, has been Pilgrim’s florist for many years. He is featured in the June Santa Monica Star as the monthly “Neighborhood Celebrity.” Copies of the June Star are in the Narthex.

Beautiful photo taken from Santa Monica / UCLA Hospital parking lot by Dr. Goldie Winge. Look closely and you will see Pilgrim against the Santa Monica Mountains and blue sky! Thank you Goldie!

