



PILGRIM
Congregational
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

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**God
is still
speaking,**

Pilgrim
Congregational
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



VISITORS and GUESTS
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

Welcome to

Pilgrim

Congregational

United Church of Christ

Embodying God's Diversity, Embracing God's Potential

Dear Friend,

Welcome to Pilgrim Congregational Church, United Church of Christ! We are so pleased that you are with us today. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

Pilgrim Church is a diverse group of disciples who follow Jesus and are united by God's amazing love for all. God is still speaking to us as a congregation, and we listen, learn, grow, and reach out in ministry. Our **Mission Statement** expresses our commitment to welcome, justice, Christian education, and personal and social transformation:

As a reflection of God's love and grace, we of Pilgrim Church nurture each other and welcome and affirm all people.

As an expression of our awareness of the Spirit acting within and among us, we of Pilgrim Church seek justice for the larger community.

As a means of personal and social transformation, we of Pilgrim Church engage our children and ourselves in lifelong learning about the life and teachings of Jesus and the history of the Church.

Please know that you are **always welcome** at Pilgrim Congregational Church, United Church of Christ!



Peace,

Rev. Cynthia S. Bumb

"Pastor Cindy"

LOCAL INSTITUTIONS AND AGENCIES AFFILIATED WITH THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Cape Albeon

Care and Counseling

Psychotherapy and Pastoral Counseling

CUE Mid-America Seminaries

Deaconess Foundation

Deaconess Parish Nurse Ministries

Doorways HIV/AIDS Housing

Eden Theological Seminary

Emmaus Homes

Evangelical Children's Home

Festival of Sharing

Interfaith Partnership

Lydia's House

Metro Hope

Neighborhood Houses

Parkside Meadows Retirement Community



WHAT IS THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST?

The United Church of Christ (UCC) came into being in 1957 with the union of two Protestant denominations: the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the Congregational Christian Churches. Each of these was, in turn, the result of a union of two earlier traditions. The characteristics of the UCC can be summarized in part by the key words in the names that formed our union: Congregational, Reformed, Christian, Evangelical.

- The **Congregational Churches** were organized when the Pilgrims of Plymouth Plantation (1620) and the Puritans of the Massachusetts Bay Colony (1629) acknowledged their essential unity in the Cambridge Platform of 1648.
 - **Congregational.** The basic unit of the United Church of Christ is the congregation.
- The **Reformed Church** in the United States traced its beginnings to congregations of German settlers in Pennsylvania founded from 1725 on. Later, its ranks were swelled by Reformed immigrants from Switzerland, Hungary and other countries.
 - **Reformed.** All four denominations arose from the tradition of the Protestant Reformers: We confess the authority of one God, and affirm the primacy of the Scriptures, the doctrine of justification by faith, the priesthood of all believers, and the principle of Christian freedom. We celebrate two sacraments: baptism and Holy Communion.
- The **Christian Churches** sprang up in the late 1700s and early 1800s in reaction to the theological and organizational rigidity of the Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist churches of the time.
 - **Christian.** By our very name, the United Church of Christ, we declare ourselves to be part of the Body of Christ-the Christian church.
- The **Evangelical Synod of North America** traced its beginnings to an association of German Evangelical pastors in Missouri. This association, founded in 1841, reflected the 1817 union of Lutheran and Reformed churches in Germany.
 - **Evangelical.** The primary task of the church is the proclamation of the Gospel or (in Greek) evangel. The Gospel literally means the "Good News" of God's love revealed with power in Jesus Christ.

Over the years, Christians from other traditions have found a home in the UCC, and so have gay and lesbian Christians who have not been welcome in other churches. The United Church of Christ celebrates and continues a broad variety of traditions in its common life.

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



**“Never place a period
where God has placed a comma”
--Gracie Allen**

PILGRIM FACTS

Pilgrim Church was organized as a congregation in 1866 arising from a Sabbath School that existed as early as 1853.

The congregation moved to its present location on Union Boulevard in 1906.

In 1953, the congregation voted to remain in its present location in St. Louis' West End neighborhood and to open membership to all who desired to worship, regardless of race.

Today, Pilgrim works hard to be an “Open Door” church - welcoming people of all backgrounds, cultures, and views.

Embodying God's Diversity, Embracing God's Potential



“The Pilgrim experience provides an opportunity to get to know others across the lines that divide our society. This opportunity goes beyond just shaking hands on Sunday with people who are different. This is a chance to get to the place where we can move from dogmatic and rigid theological views toward greater maturity of thinking.”

--Rev. Ed Heininger, Pilgrim member

Our denominational identity materials state,
“God is still speaking,” and Pilgrims are listening.
Our energies are focused on learning how to live more faithfully amidst a diversity of culture, theology, and approaches to worship.

PILGRIM'S ORGANIZATION

Pilgrim Church Personnel



826 Union Avenue, 63108

Rev. Cindy Bumb Pastor
Tom Adams Music/Choir Director
Jennifer McCann Spivey Director/Christian Education
Lisa Hollingsworth Office Manager
Vernon Billops Head Custodian
Kelly Kallaher Nursery Attendant
Errol Brown Assistant Custodian

Pilgrim's Worship Life and Christian Education

Special Music in Worship	Sunday Morning Worship	Church Choir
Special Joint Services and Community Worship Opportunities	Pastor and People of Pilgrim	Children's Sunday School Children's Time in Worship Youth Group & Youth Confirmation
Bible Study Group	Adult Christian Education (Sunday Morning)	Child care/Nursery during Sunday Worship



Pilgrim Church's Five Ministry Areas are

- Membership Care
- Worship and Music
- Christian Education
- Community Partnerships and Building and Grounds

More opportunities exist with young adult fellowship, woman's association, stewardship, evangelism, soup kitchen ministry, and the various ecumenical, faith-based partnerships within which Pilgrim participates.



In 2006/07, Pilgrim celebrates **very important anniversaries!**

Our Pilgrim congregation is **140** years old.

Our current building is **100** years old.

The United Church of Christ is **50** years old.

Our soup kitchen ministry is **25** years old.