

PILGRIM NEWS & NOTES

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MIDWEST PILGRIM HOLINESS CHURCH

JUNE 1, 2017

Memories of Pilgrim Camp



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Memories of Pilgrim Camp . . . A Walk Down Memory Lane

By Dan Plemmons

The year 1982 will be forever etched in my mind. Our parents had been in evangelistic work, and they were praying about their next step in ministry. Just one year earlier, Dad had preached a camp meeting with Rev. Wayne States, who told us about the Midwest Pilgrim Holiness Church. To my knowledge, up until that time, I never even knew it existed! Mom & Dad decided to come to camp the next year, not knowing how this conference would impact our family!

We'd been associated with other groups, but were never so warmly received as we were with the Pilgrims! From the moment we stepped onto the Muncie grounds, people welcomed us with open arms! I gave my life to Christ the next year, and became a member of the Decatur, Illinois, Pilgrim Holiness Church. I have now been a member of this conference for the past 34 years.

I realize that many who are reading this have been "Pilgrims" since our early days on the Illiana grounds. Others like me, can remember when Pilgrim Camp was held on the Central Yearly Meeting of the Friends property in Muncie, Indiana, and later moving to Mockingbird Hill in Anderson, Indiana. Yet there are those (especially the younger ones) that can only trace their roots back to Marion, Indiana, or where we presently gather in Frankfort, Indiana!

Whatever your history . . . we trust you will make plans to join us in Frankfort THIS MONTH for PILGRIM CAMP! We look forward to the wonderful ministry of our Evangelistic team. It takes money and hard work to make Pilgrim Camp Meeting happen. Just as we all recollect the joys of past camp meetings, it's important to remember as well that we are also making wonderful memories for the next generation.

This issue has been dedicated to "Memories of Pilgrim Camp." May your heart be warmed by the scenes of days gone by. I hope that as you peruse this issue, you will take on a renewed love for the conference that has invested so much into all of us!



Pictured above is a group of Midwest Pilgrims who journeyed to Pilgrim Camp in Albany, NY for a Joint Conference.

CAMP MEETING

ILLINOIS DISTRICT OF THE
PILGRIM HOLINESS CHURCH
AUGUST 5-14, 1960
at
CAMP GROUNDS
CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS

1/2 Mile South of University
* * *

FOREIGN MISSIONARY DAY
Thursday, Aug. 11, 2:30 p. m.
* * *

Youth Camp -- Aug. 4-5

THREE SERVICES DAILY
10:30 a. m., 2:30 p. m.,
7:30 p. m.
* * *

DISTRICT CONFERENCE
August 15th

REASONABLE RATES — BRING BEDDING
Breakfast, .35 — Dinner & Supper, .50 Each
\$10.00 for Entire Camp
* * *

REV. WILLIAM E. HALL
District Superintendent
* * *

Singers
MR. AND MRS. MARVIN JR. PAVEY
Louisville, Kentucky

Evangelists

REV. J. WESLEY ADCOCK
Frankfort, Indiana

REV. MAXEY WALTON
Frankfort, Indiana

Great 10 Day Spiritual Feast--PRAY--COM



James Southerland with Andrew Whitney in our early days.

A "Pre-Merger" Announcement of when there was a Pilgrim Camp held in Charleston, IL.



The Conference Council of the mid 1970's when we met at Illiana for Pilgrim Camp.



Saints enjoying the freedom of the Spirit at Pilgrim Camp in Muncie, Indiana.



What a wonderful thing it was to finally have a place of our own in Anderson, Indiana.



We thank God for every one who had a part in the purchase of these grounds. What wonderful memories!



It was always a blessing to see the "Pilgrim Band" march around the tabernacle in praise!



The Victory Trio invested greatly into the lives of so many Pilgrim youth! We thank God for them!





Ordination service for the Zeiglers and the Lines.



Great memories of our days in Marion, Indiana



We honored the Grays in 2003 for their years of service to the Midwest Pilgrim Conference.



Rev. Mark Arnett sang beautifully at the retirement service for Bro. & Sis. Gray.



We thank Connie Hilligoss for her many years of service as Camp Organist.



Rev. Max & Laura Masters, with Daughter, Ellen Beal . . . Wonderful saints of God!



Larry D. Thomas

1942 - 2017

"He was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost, and of faith." - Acts 11:24a

By Dan Plemmons

Larry D. Thomas, 75, of Westfield, Indiana, went to his eternal home on Tuesday, May 9, 2017. He was born to the late Carl and Garnetta (Mallett) Thomas in Washington, Indiana.

Larry graduated in 1960 from Epsom High School. He served in the National Guard for three years. Larry married his Sweetheart, LaDonna Lemon, on June 9, 1967. He passed away one month to the day from their fiftieth wedding anniversary. Larry worked for McCord Corporation in Washington, Indiana from 1960 to 1974. He and LaDonna traveled in song evangelistic work from 1974 to 2016. Larry was Public Relations Director at Union Bible College in Westfield from 1989 to 1997. He also worked with Thomas Carpets until July 2016.

Survivors include the love of his life, LaDonna J. (Lemon) Thomas; and two daughters, Julie (Chris) Cravens of Arlington, Ohio and Joy (Craig) Line of Petersburg, Indiana. Larry was the proud grandpa of Meagan, Christopher, Ryan, and Luke Cravens; and Michael (Sarah), Matthew, Amanda, Andrew, Moriah, Abigail, and MaKayla Line. Also surviving are brothers, Carl James, Terry (Becky), and Henry (Ramona); and a sister, Sharon (Terry) Theroff. He was preceded in death by his sister-in-law, Carl's wife, Linda Thomas. (Quoted from obituary)

The Midwest Pilgrim Conference extends our profound sympathies to the entire Thomas family as they mourn the passing of a man who was larger than life in so many ways. He was loved all across the nation where he, his wife, LaDonna, and their two daughters, Julie and Joy, served in revivals and camp meetings.

His distinctive voice, his masterful song leading, and his genuine spirit will be greatly missed across the Holiness Movement where they so faithfully served. His passing also greatly affects the church that he and LaDonna so faithfully attended, the Noblesville Pilgrim Holiness Church.

Larry and LaDonna were scheduled to serve as our song evangelists for the 2017 Pilgrim Family Camp, but the Heavenly Father thought it best to take him to Heaven to be a member of the Heavenly choir!

Their good friends, Jerald and Becky Glick sang the following song at the celebration service:

Just think of stepping on shore, and finding it Heaven

Of taking a hand, and finding it God's

Of breathing new air, and finding it celestial

Of waking up in Glory, and finding it . . . HOME!



News from around the Conference

News articles on this page have been submitted by various Pilgrim Churches. We reserve the right to edit the submissions as necessary to fit space requirements. E-mail all news to: pauldplemmons@yahoo.com

Noblesville, IN - (By Amber Fish)

Greetings from Noblesville Pilgrim Holiness Church! If you have followed PNN for a while now, you probably know about the fellowship hall project which our church has been undergoing. Although it is not complete, the cement floor has been poured and we were able to have our first small fellowship gathering after church on Sunday night, May 28th. What a blessing to be able to have a place to call our own, where we can meet together and enjoy the fellowship of God's people. There is work still to be done, but God has brought the project this far, and we praise him for that!

In other news, Denisa Stetler led in a mission service, also Sunday night, May 28th. Pledges were taken for the upcoming year. She placed our goal at \$17,000 for this year. Within a short period of time through taking pledges, our church pledged over \$19,000. To God be the glory! Camp is quickly approaching. May each of us be praying for God's outpouring on our services there.

Lima, OH - (By Don Nichols)

Lima PHC has been a very busy place these last couple of months. We were blessed with the ministry of the Stephen Cassady family during our spring revival. The singing and preaching were blessed of God and souls found help around the altar. They ministered in school chapels as well, positively influencing young lives.

Steel siding was installed on some of our church and school exterior walls, enhancing the appearance of the building.

Greg and Stephanie Burley took a group of students to the ACE Regional Student Convention held on the campus of Adrian College, in Adrian, MI. Our students placed in many categories, winning first place in a number of them. We are thankful for the effort the students put into their entries.

The Nichols hosted a class trip for six students for a week in Branson, MO. Pilgrim Christian School just completed its 34th school year. We honored Marea Pouzar, our elementary teacher, for 20 years of dedicated service to the school. Rev. Dan Plemmons gave a tremendous challenge to the graduates in the commencement address. Following the commencement/awards program, a lovely reception was held in the School Commons.

Brenda Hunter graduated cum laude from God's Bible School and College with a bachelor's degree in Church and Family Ministry. She has been assisting in our pre-school and kindergarten and we congratulate her on this accomplishment.

We have seen several new faces in the services from time to time for which we are thankful.



A Woman's Perspective

By Stephanie Burley

Maximizing Summer Learning Opportunities

"If I were a teacher, my favorite season would be summer," my youngest daughter said with a mischievous grin. Ah, she's a smart one. For every ten students who are excited for the last day of school, there is at least one teacher who is even more excited!

Statistics say that approximately 90% of students attend a school that runs on a 10-month schedule, meaning the vast majority of children are soon beginning an 8-10 week vacation. Although there may be negatives associated with a sizeable break in the academic calendar, summer is a golden opportunity for children to have unique and fun learning experiences.

As a parent and a teacher, I feel strongly that children should not only retain what they have learned the previous year, but that they should increase their knowledge base over the summer. The methods won't be the same as when they are in school, and that's a good thing. Each child has a preferred learning style, and a variation may help those who typically have a greater struggle with traditional class work.

Let's look at some practical ways to engage children in learning while they are away from the classroom:

Reading – For some children, reading comes naturally, and they devour every book available. For others, there is a real struggle. Without minimizing the frustration some experience, let me be straightforward on this topic. Every child needs to read aloud to his parent or other caring adult in a non-threatening environment. This allows for growth, but it also holds the child accountable. Each summer, my daughter's teacher offers a summer reading incentive. All reading material counts toward the incentive, and as their hours accumulate, they earn scoops of ice cream and toppings to be shared with their classmates at the start of the following school year. If your child's teacher doesn't do an incentive, maybe you can set up one for the children in your house. Encourage readers to read to younger siblings. Be creative and have fun with it! If you are a Sunday School teacher, bus captain, or youth leader, consider setting up a summer reading challenge with the kids in your group. And if you're a parent that struggles with a reluctant reader, don't give up! Start small. Choose books with themes that engage your child. Don't expect your child to love the books you love. You know your child better than anyone else, so think about their interests and work from them.

Math – With a little creativity, this can be every child's most fun summer subject. When teaching math in the classroom, I find that the greatest struggle comes from students forgetting basic math skills. Summer can be part of the cure for that problem! Save your sale fliers from the grocery store (a couple of weeks worth), and have your children build some meals (either real or imagined) from the ad. Have them write out the menu, and then make a grocery list, complete with prices for the quantities they will need. From the ad, teach them how to compare units and have them report to you when they have found a "deal." You can give them a list of staple ingredients with average prices, and have them build on that. Make the task more complex for older learners. Give them a food budget, and help them make it work. To accumulate math time for their summer math challenge, my daughters saved milk jugs, egg cartons, cereal boxes, etc., and labeled them with prices. In their room, they set up a "store," and they would take turns acting as cashier (with a cheap toy cash register), while

the other was the shopper. This turned into hours of fun, and didn't cost me a dime. Older children will obviously have a more advanced experience, but they should be challenged, as well. Many teenagers today are completely unemployed during the summer months, and that creates a huge vacuum in their learning experience. There are hundreds of ideas for math practice, but the central focus for summer math needs to be an enjoyable opportunity for learning.

Geography/History – If you're like me, you don't have either the finances or the available vacation time to show your group many of the great sites and beautiful spaces on this magnificent planet. But that doesn't mean we should ignore them. Pique your child's interest in a location, then gather materials for him to research age-appropriate facts regarding its history. If you or a friend has a AAA membership, pick up some maps to use in your adventure. Enjoy guiding the children through the discovery of this location, and the fun facts that accompany it. This can take several days, or happen over the course of a few weeks, depending on the amount of detail you create. As a finale, each child could write and present a report on their chosen location, and then the family could watch a documentary or special interest film on the subject. Maybe you don't have children, but you work with children at church. Your group could choose a specific mission field or important Biblical landmark, and follow the same template.

Science – With the information you know regarding the interests of your child, develop a few easy activities that will hook their attention. Maybe they like to be in the garage tearing things apart and attempting to put them back together. Or maybe they prefer to dig in the mud and collect bugs. Some might even like to stay in the kitchen and experiment with different ingredients. All of these provide opportunities for learning, and should be encouraged, guided, and nurtured.

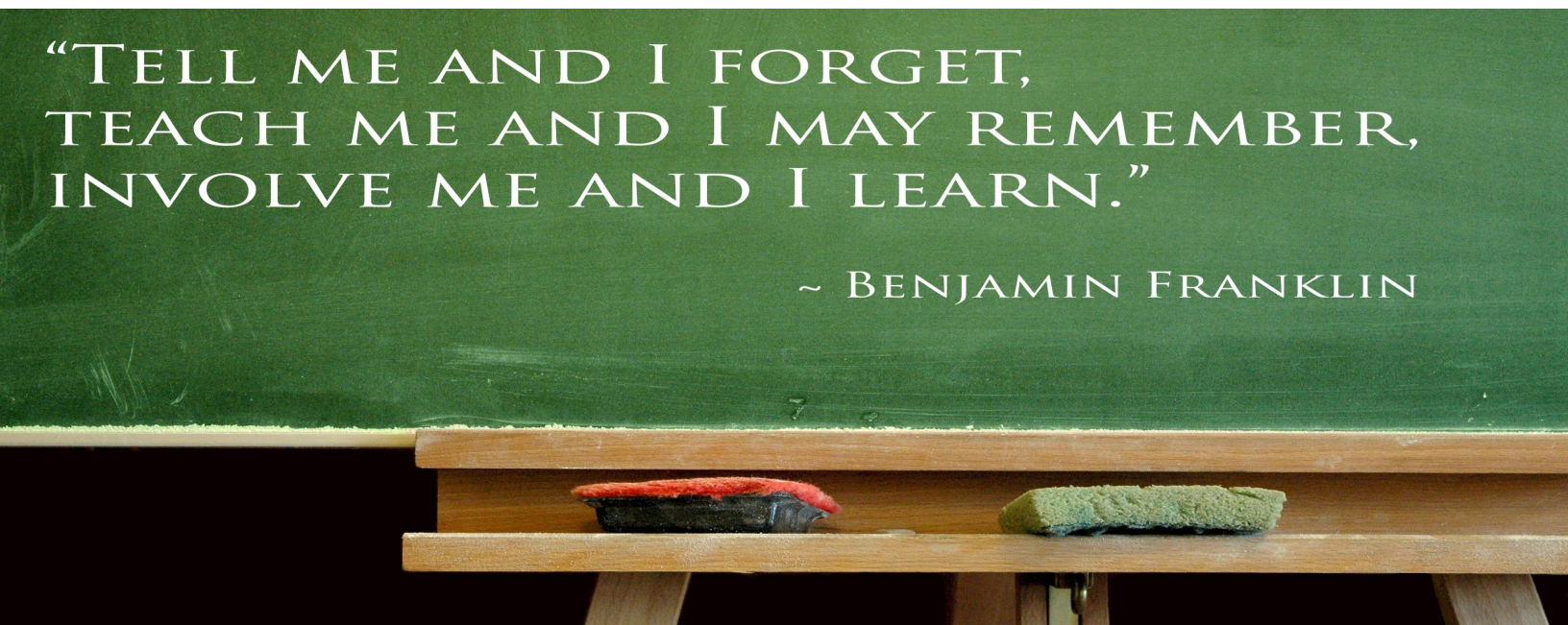
As we make our way through these short summer months, most of all don't forget to live in the moment. If your children are young, it can be easy to think you have "forever" to enjoy them. As many of us know, that isn't the case. Wherever you go, whatever you do, be present. Interact with your group. Initiate conversation, then listen.

The great temptation for many parents today is to allow their children to be entertained by media or devices rather than interacting with them. If you are shopping, engage them in the process. If you are traveling, be sure they are alert and aware of the beauty and wonder around them.

If you are involved in the mundane routines of home, look for ways to make those routines more fun and unusual. A stimulating summer will likely result in a productive school year, and I trust you will be blessed with both.

“TELL ME AND I FORGET,
TEACH ME AND I MAY REMEMBER,
INVOLVE ME AND I LEARN.”

~ BENJAMIN FRANKLIN





teen**TOPICS**

insight from teens, for teens

This month's article is written by Evan Burley. Evan is from Lima, OH, and just finished his Junior year of high school. He is active in his local church, and wants God's will for his life.

Tips For A Productive Summer

By Evan Burley

Summer is here! For teenagers, summer may mean staying up later at night, sleeping in, hanging out with friends, and being able to escape the stresses that school may bring. But if you are looking to have a productive yet fun summer, here are three ways to accomplish that goal.

Summer is about having fun. It is a time when you can experience and do things you wouldn't have time for during the long school year. If you are like me, you take advantage of this time to enjoy your personal hobbies. Some of mine are: going to youth camp, fishing, playing sports, swimming, spending time with my family, and just having a great time. Your hobbies may be different, but you should take time to enjoy and develop them. Summer is also a great time to take a class (check with the library, YMCA, or local craft stores for ideas), or learn a new skill. You may be able to turn a hobby into a trade by spending some of your summer practicing and developing it.

Another way to have a productive summer is to work hard. One thing we should always try to do is to lighten the work load at our house. If we have parents who work long days, it is always good to help them out by cleaning up after ourselves and doing our best to keep things tidy. It will make things a whole lot easier for our parents and will make our home a happier place. Getting a job is also a great way to be productive. It can help us set goals and accomplish them while being able to earn a wage. It can help us learn to communicate with people and follow through on our responsibilities. Not every part of every job is fun, but if we can conquer the parts we struggle with, it will develop a discipline we will need throughout our lives.

The most important part of having a productive summer is using it to draw closer to God. Every day we need to spend time reading Scripture and praying. Another way to draw closer to Him is to get involved in church activities. This may include Vacation Bible School, youth groups, or even summer missions trips. As we do these things, we can give to others and others can strengthen us, as well.

Summer will be gone before we know it, but if we choose to be productive, we will look back knowing we used this summer to its fullest potential!



PASTOR TO PASTOR

Ministering to those who minister to others

By Rev. John Zeigler

Camp Meeting . . . Here I Come!

It's been said that we are a camp meeting people. We have it flowing through our veins. Many of us love to pack up our family and go to camp. Often, our love for camp meeting can be traced to our childhood. We established friendships at camp meeting. We drove spiritual stakes at camp meeting. We just simply had fun at camp meeting. Maybe our parents prioritized camp meeting high on the list so it wasn't even an option. We just went to camp without any debate or questions.

As pastors, we quite often view camp meeting as a spiritual oasis. The fellowship that takes place during the services, in the dining hall, around the concessions stand or during a few moments of leisure time, is quite often refreshing to the heart. The preaching of God's Word restores much needed spiritual strength and resources. The times of praising and praying together meet inner needs that are quite often masked and hidden.

Really, it might be hidden so well that we don't even realize the need ourselves until it is met and upon reflection it's realized how much it was needed and enjoyed. (That can also be said about **Minister's and Wives Retreat** in October and **Ministerial Convention** in May.) Many of us don't take off both Sundays though. Some don't take time away from their pulpits for camp at all. I would dare to say that those who don't make camp a priority are not realizing how spiritually deficient one can become or has become just simply due to life happening. Life . . . it involves ministry which can drain; it involves difficulties, battles, conflicts, disappointments, and Murphy's Law!

I'm thinking about Peter and John in Acts 4. They had experienced life in a way most of us haven't had to, but the underlying truth is that when they had opportunity, they went back to their "company", shared their dilemma, had prayer together and *"The place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness."*

Paul speaks to us in Ephesians 5 concerning the necessity of "...being filled"! Someone might say they find spiritual renewal/refilling with their church people on the Lord's Day. I sincerely hope that is reality for them.

Some, who don't have camp meeting as a priority, when they do come, only go home with criticism and reflection that it was a waste of their time. As if church services are a waste of one's time. Could it be that the spiritual deficiency isn't even realized? I often wonder if the statement made about Samson could also be made about us sometimes.... "wist not that the Lord was departed." I know that some will object to the comparison but I'm not using the comparison to draw attention to the whole of the story. Only that in the midst of life and ministry there is a draining that goes on and it's quite possible that we aren't even aware of it until the refilling takes place.

Then I think about the short camp (Pilgrim Youth Camp) that is attached to the front end of family camp for us. Priorities are really visible for this part of camp. Most often there is great sacrifice made by staff members and some teenagers as well. It begs the question....What is so important about Pilgrim Youth Camp? The

simple answer is: It's important, yea vital, to provide a place where teenagers can come together for their spiritual awakening, renewal, and even a call to service and ministry!!! You might think you provide an enormous amount of spiritual emphasis, godly atmosphere, wholesome activities, and biblical worldview so that your teens don't need anything beyond the walls of your church or home. I would suggest looking into youth camp anyway. The outside influences of a young person's life have increased since I was a kid. I'm not suggesting we need 'hot house' teens. What I am saying is that our teens need interaction with other teens in a controlled environment where there is a strong emphasis on their spiritual condition and where biblical direction is provided for them.

Pastors, we hold influential roles in their lives to encourage them to attend youth camp. Someone might say, "Well, I never went to youth camp when I was a teen and I've turned out fine!" I didn't go to youth camp as a teen either. As a matter of fact, I didn't make youth camp a priority until I became a pastor 22 years ago. I have seen the value in youth camp every year since I first started. I saw the value of youth camp as representative of a college going to multiple youth camps during a summer of traveling. I also see the value of the pastor being at youth camp with their teens simply to show support and encouragement. Oh, don't worry, I'll put you to work too and it does take a lot of work.

Yes, Pilgrim Youth Camp and Pilgrim Family Camp are only days away! It goes without saying, but when the time comes, my truck and van followed by the vehicles of two of my children will be pointed north heading to Frankfort for camp! Why? Because we have Pilgrim Camp Meeting flowing through our veins. We will be looking forward to seeing you there as well with anticipation of experiencing again the filling of His Spirit as we have a Divine Encounter!!!

A Note of Thanks:

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers that you sent for Larry's funeral. They were deeply appreciated.

I am missing Larry so much, but know that he is rejoicing in Heaven with a brand new body that is free of pain! God is helping me to take one day at a time. Keep praying for me.

Love you all,
LaDonna Thomas



Rev. John Zeigler lives in Shoals, Indiana, where he has served as Pastor of Weisbach Community Church for the past 10 years.

He is married to Leanne, and they have 3 children, Janae, Jonathan (married to Amberly), and Caleb.

They have been in full-time ministry for 22 years.



An Estate Planning Seminar

We are now involved and implementing Estate Planning Seminars which can be very beneficial to you.

We hope you will make plans to attend these sessions and be informed as to how you can best manage the resources that God has placed at your disposal.

Wise stewardship of what GOD has given to us includes proper planning related to our estate. . . Details to consider include personal/financial related matters including some of the following decisions:

- An individual to serve as a Power of Attorney to handle my house and assets should I become incapacitated.
- An individual to handle my medical consultation/decisions should I be in a position where that is needed.
- Living will considerations need to be addressed while we are of sound mind and good health.
- Due diligence can reduce or possibly eliminate cost of probate.
- Although it is estimated that only 30% of adults have a properly executed will, your state of residence has a plan to distribute your assets if you haven't prepared one. That plan won't include ministries important to you.
- Those who have been faithful to execute a will, need to make sure they review and update as needed as life changes occur.
- What ministries do you believe in and support? If you faithfully contribute to effective ministries, it is appropriate to include those ministries in the distribution of your estate.
- Appropriate planning can reduce or eliminate exposure to various taxes such as income, estate, capital gains or gift tax.
- Appropriate and updated planning may also increase the family peace that can sometimes be threatened if there is uncertainty about disposition of assets.
- GOD may use your bequest to provide needed resources for ministry growth or improvement.
- You may want to prayerfully consider taking the time and initiative to plan your estate strategically to reduce tax exposure and include your Pilgrim Holiness ministries in that plan to include: Camp Grounds and Planning; Missions Expansion and Ministry related Student Scholarships.

Tentatively the Seminars are planned for Wednesday, June 21st, and Friday, the 23rd, or Saturday the 24th in the afternoon at Camp. Times can be set for free half hour private consultations. Specific details will follow in communications to the churches.

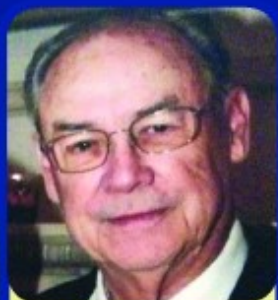


welcome to the 51st

CAMP MEETING

of THE PILGRIM HOLINESS CHURCH, INC.

JUNE 16-25, 2017



EVANGELIST
DR. NOEL SCOTT



EVANGELIST
REV. HARRY PLANK



CONFERENCE PRESIDENT
REV. DONALD NICHOLS



YOUTH DIRECTOR
REV. JOHN ZEIGLER



MUSICIANS
KEITH AND SHARON WAGGONER



CHILDREN'S WORKER
SARAH ROBERTS

EDUCATION AND EXAMINING — JUNE 17 • 8:00 AM

ANNUAL CONFERENCE — JUNE 19-21 • 12:30 PM

held at **Frankfort Camp Ministries** 1058 Freeman St. • Frankfort, IN.



About Pilgrim News & Notes

Pilgrim News & Notes is the official publication of the Midwest Pilgrim Holiness Church, and is published bi-monthly.

The main goal of *Pilgrim News & Notes* is to be an encouragement to our readers, as well as a source of information to those with connections or interests in our Conference.

All submissions are welcome, however, we reserve the right to edit as necessary to fit design and space needs. Not all submissions will be published.

Please email all submissions to the editor via the contact info below:

pauldplemmons@yahoo.com

Conference Info:

Conference President, Rev. Don Nichols

Conference Vice President, Rev. Mark Arnett

Conference Secretary, Rev. Tim Forsee

Conference Treasurer, Rev. Bryan Line

Conference Missionary Representative, Dr. Craig Dahler

Conference Youth Director, Rev. John Zeigler

ATTENTION PILGRIM CHURCH NEWS REPORTERS . . .

We would love to be able to report on the happenings in and around your church, but we need to hear from YOU!

Email your report to: pauldplemmons@yahoo.com