

Pilgrim Alumni Association News

Keeping you a part of the Pilgrim Community.

Dear Pilgrim Alum:

Welcome to the first issue of Pilgrim Alumni Association News. We are off to a great fall at Pilgrim Lutheran School! We have a healthy enrollment of 183 students and welcomed our new 7/8th grade teacher, Mrs. Debra Fanning. When you have time, please explore all that is going on at Pilgrim on our recently upgraded website at www.pilgrimchurchandschool.org.

NEW...we will be featuring a PILGRIM ALUM PROFILE in each issue of this newsletter. We would love to hear what you are up to and where you are now. Please submit your profile (150 words maximum) and photo (if you wish!) to Nancy Liljedahl at n.liljedahl@comcast.net. This is also a great way to re-introduce yourself to the Pilgrim Community.

We also ask you to help us to continue to build our Alumni Association by asking any other alums that you know of to register on the Pilgrim website at <http://www.pilgrimchurchandschool.org/school/pilgrimalumni.php4>.

Thanks for remaining a part of our thriving Pilgrim Community!

Best regards,

Nancy Liljedahl & Jule Uddfolk
Pilgrim Alumni Association Coordinators

Want to pitch in?

If you would like to **help fund the many efforts and needs at Pilgrim school**, here are some suggested ways that you can help:

- Donate to the **repair of the Tower Room**, which unfortunately was severely damaged from leakage during the September storm. We have not been able to conduct key classes in this space since the beginning of the school year.
- Help fund Pilgrim's new **science equipment needs**, such as microscopes and lab equipment, as we continue to create our science lab in the annex room.
- Help fund the **Tuition Assistance Program**, which helps those families who cannot afford tuition.

We will soon have a **"Wish List"** on the Pilgrim website that will make it easy to donate to the area closest to your heart.

Or, if you would like to **volunteer at Pilgrim school**, let us know where your interest lies and we'll gladly help bring you back into the fold.

Pilgrim Alum Profile: Mike Martinez, Class of 1976

Mike Martinez graduated from Pilgrim in 1976. He attended the University of Illinois where he earned degrees in English Literature and Speech Communication. He is now the Managing Editor for Pioneer Press Newspapers in Algonquin, supervising six reporters. He was past president of the Barrington Breakfast Rotary Club and was one of 60 editors selected to participate in a Nieman Foundation seminar for Narrative Editing at Harvard.

Mike has fond memories of Pilgrim and mentioned a group of great classmates from Kindergarten to eighth grade including: David Polvi, Joe Schwinger, Beth Jukich and Heidi Jesswein. Also honorable mention goes to some outstanding teachers, most notably, Vicci Jackle and Dave Maring! Mike had wonderful experiences playing flag football, basketball, singing in the choir and playing 16-inch softball for the Wildcats.

Mike reflects, "It was a wonderful place to go to school and it gave me the fundamentals to succeed as I went forward."

Mike can be reached at home in Schaumburg, IL at 847-301-7587 or email him at martinezillini@yahoo.com.

If you would like your profile in a future issue, contact Nancy Liljedahl at n.liljedahl@comcast.net.

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HOLD THE DATE

PILGRIM SCHOOL & CHURCH AUCTION

We hope to see you at this year's Pilgrim School & Church Auction and Dinner which will take place on Saturday, March 7 at D.A.N.K. Haus, Chicago's German-American Cultural Center in Lincoln Square. This event is always a lot of fun and we hear that they are working on a very creative theme for this year. More information to come in the next issue!

