

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

BROADWAY AT FLOREY

KILGORE, TEXAS



September 2015
“PILGRIMAGE”

Mission Statement: Pilgrim Lutheran Church is to glorify God in proclaiming the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ with Word and deed in our midst, in our community, and throughout the world.

Ground-breaking forgiveness of sins

Dear Members and Friends of Pilgrim Lutheran Church,

As I write this article the end of August, we at Pilgrim Lutheran Church are expecting to break ground for the congregation’s new Parish Hall as part of the Divine Service on Sunday, September 13, 2015. Thanks be to God! And, God grant that we are able to do so! Work on the remodeled old Parish Hall—turned into Church Office, Pastor’s Study, and Conference Room/Library, with refreshed hallway, bathrooms, and kitchen—is all but completed and should be ready for us to move into from the old oil-field building on Sunday, August 30th. Thank you to everyone who has had a part in the remodeling project! Details still need to be worked out for the subsequent removal of the oil-field building after that building is emptied, but its removal is not necessary for the ceremonial groundbreaking, though its removal may well be necessary for serious construction to begin on the new Parish Hall.

Among other things, the rite for the Groundbreaking calls for the pastor, members of the building committee, and members of the congregation consecutively to invoke each of the Blessed Persons of the Holy Trinity while turning over a spadeful of earth. In planning the event, we have talked about whether the ground even will be soft enough for such actions! (I do not think that we want to turn over the earth in advance, but we may have to water or otherwise soften the ground so that we can complete the rite without too much difficulty.)

Although not “breaking ground” but “breaking ice” is a more familiar figure of speech when it comes to relationships between different parties, the upcoming occasion certainly can help us reflect on our relationships to God and to one another. By nature, apart from faith in Jesus Christ, on account of our sinful nature and its resulting sins, we have no relationship with God—as if we were completely frozen out, or as if ground were as hard as the hardest rock (whatever that might be, as internet sources do not agree). But, thanks to Jesus’s death on the cross for our sins and the sins of the whole world, God’s forgiveness of sins given in Word and Sacrament by grace through faith in Jesus Christ breaks that ice or ground. God’s forgiveness of sins is truly ground-breaking for us in our relationship with Him, as God’s forgiveness also ought to be truly ground-breaking in our relationships with one another.

Whether in the form of hurt feelings over some aspect of the building project to date or something else in our lives together as brothers and sisters in Christ, inevitably we all have sinned, are sinning, or will sin against one another. In such cases, we all are reminded that

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Jesus's words could hardly be clearer: If your brother or sister sins against you, go and tell him or her his or her fault between you alone (Matthew 18:15). Contrary to what we might expect, the burden of initiating the conversation is with the person who was sinned against! The other person doing the sinning may or may not even be aware that offense has been given. Yet, if the person doing the sinning is aware of the sin, he or she may try to talk to the person sinned against. Regardless, such conversations are to take place as soon as possible, while the offense is relatively fresh, before grudges are held for a long period of time and other people are brought into the matter. (Anyone so brought into the matter before the private conversation takes place should direct the individual bringing them into the matter to have that private conversation.) If, however, either person is not willing to discuss the matter or ultimately to reconcile (and perhaps under other imaginable complicating circumstances), then others from the congregation, such as the congregation's elders, may need to be brought in (Matthew 18:16). And, if such action does not lead to mutual forgiveness, then, as Jesus teaches, excommunication may be necessary as the final warning and last attempt to bring about repentance (Matthew 18:17).

Repentance, as you may notice I intentionally repeatedly preach, consists of turning in sorrow from the sin, trusting God to forgive the sin for Jesus's sake, and at least wanting to do better than to keep on sinning in that way (or in any other way!). Other fruits of repentance usually can and should follow, though neither God's forgiveness of us nor our forgiveness of one another can be contingent on any such fruits of repentance.

Perfectly forgiving and forgetting sins and offenses such as these may be as difficult as breaking Texas ground after a long hot summer, but with God all things are possible. His forgiveness is that ground-breaking! As we work towards that perfect end, we remember that we are sinner-saints who will not achieve that perfection in this lifetime. Consequences for sin may well remain, and relationships may not return to where they were before, even if the sin has been forgiven and forgotten. Patience is usually needed on the part of all parties concerned, although our Lord's return or His other deliverance from this valley of sorrow can come at any time!

Patience is also needed and appreciated as we move forward with the next phase of our building project, which may or may not be completed in time for such things as our chili supper after the Christmas parade or our meals before our midweek Advent services. Let us pray not only that all the work is done safely and completed in God's way and time but also that during this project and always we brothers and sisters in Christ live with no ice or hard ground between us but only God's forgiveness.

*His and your servant,
Pastor Galler*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

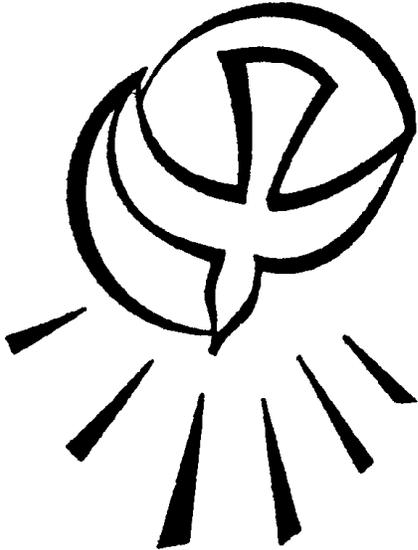
Felicity Gill – September 02
Clay Ellis – September 14
Jeannette Paetznick – September 20
Leland Dean – September 21
Rev. Michael Monterastelli – September 28



September keeps us in Mark and looks to Setting Two

September brings us to the final quarter of the 2014-2015 Church Year, and this year we find it also keeping us in the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark for our Sunday Gospel Readings and beginning our transition to the use of *Lutheran Service Book's* Divine Service, Setting Two, for the 2015-2016 Church Year.

After three weeks of Gospel Readings from St. John's Divinely-inspired account in



August, we did return to St. Mark's account for the last two Sundays of that month, and we remain there for all of September, following the second (B) year of *Lutheran Service Book's* three-year lectionary series. The first two Sundays of September 2015 have what in general are miracle accounts, while the last two Sundays of September 2015 in general center more on Jesus's teaching.

- Fifteenth Sunday (09/06): Jesus opens ears and looses tongues (Mark 7:31-37)
- Sixteenth Sunday (09/13): Jesus drives out demons others cannot (Mark 9:14-29)
- Seventeenth Sunday (09/20): Jesus says the first must be last (Mark 9:30-37)
- Eighteenth Sunday (09/27): Jesus speaks of people for or against Him (Mark 9:38-50)

The *LSB* Sunday Readings are a little different from those of *Lutheran Worship's* Series B, with Mark 8:27-35 having been moved to Lent and Mark 9:14-29 having been added. On your own, you may wish to read the sections of Mark's account that are omitted from the present more or less continuous Sunday readings (though some are included at other times of the year), namely Mark 8:1-9:13 (Mark 7:24-30 was an optional inclusion the bulletin inserts opted not to include).

At its August meeting Pilgrim's Board of Elders decided on a four-year annual rotation of *LSB's* four main Divine Service Settings. We used Setting One in 2013-2014 and Setting Three in 2014-2015, so we are planning on using Setting Two in 2015-2016 and Setting Four in 2016-2017. (Using one Setting for the whole Church Year allows us to experience its variety across the change of seasons.) Settings Two and Four apparently are new to the Pilgrim congregation, though some of us may have previously used them from *LSB* in other places, if we were not already familiar with them as *LW* Divine Service II (Second Setting) and *Hymnal Supplement '98* Divine Service, respectively, though changes were made to each as they came into *LSB*. Setting Two is identical to Setting One in structure and even contains some of the same music, though, in general, the musical settings are different and, by some assessments, perhaps somewhat more-challenging to sing. So, we are learning the Setting gradually over three months.

This month continues the non-festival half of the Church Year, which uses green-colored vestments and paraments to bring to evoke life and growth in the Church.

Everyone is always invited and welcome in person at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, and anyone can read and hear sermons preached at Pilgrim at www.pilgrimlc.org/sermons.

Pastor Jayson S. Galler

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

NO QUILTING BEE Tuesday, September 1st, at 5:00 p.m., despite what is on the calendar, due to storage of quilting supplies.

LWML will meet Tuesday, September 1st, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in either the Conference Room/Library or the Sanctuary.

JUNIOR YOUTH CATECHESIS Saturdays September 5th, 12th, and 19th from 11:00 a.m. to Noon in the Conference Room/Library.

ELDERS Tuesday, September 8th, at 6:00 p.m. (Location and reading assignment TBA.)

SENIOR YOUTH CATECHESIS Thursdays, September 10th, 17th, and 24th and Tuesday, September 29th from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Longview.

TEXAS CONFSSIONAL LUTHERANS FREE CONFERENCE Friday, September 11th, and Saturday, September 12th, at Grace Lutheran Church, Brenham, "Gospel Mission in a Changing Culture" with Rev. Dr. Harold L. Senkbeil from Concordia, Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN.

RALLY DAY Sunday, September 13th, before the Divine Service at 10:45 a.m.

GROUNDBREAKING for the new Parish Hall presently scheduled for Sunday, September 13th, at the conclusion of the Divine Service.

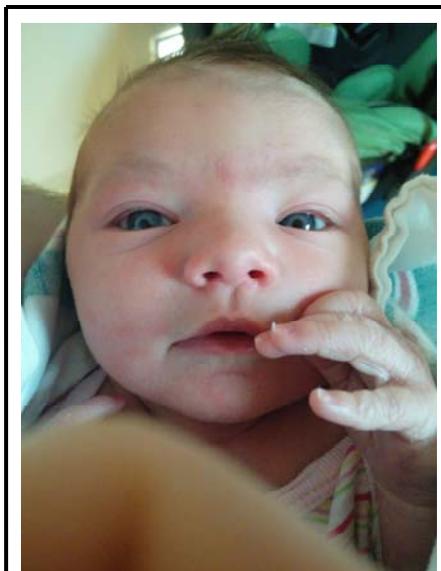
NEWSLETTER ARTICLES for October are due Sunday, September 20th.

CONCORDIA SEMINARY, ST. LOUIS RECRUITER VISIT Wednesday, September 23rd, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler.

LIFE: BE INFORMED TO SPEAK Saturday, September 26th, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church, Tomball, with the Rev. Dr. James Lamb, the Executive Director of Lutherans for Life, and the Rev. Dr. Peter Scaer, from Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN.

LWML ZONE FALL RALLY Saturday, September 26th, at St. John, Athens, "Mission Possible". Watch the bulletin for more details.

ONCE-A-MONTH-SOCIAL GATHERING: Kilgore Rangers football game including a performance from the Rangerettes? Our own youths' sporting or other events? Please contact Tifaney Sampson with your ideas.



Former Pilgrim member Aaron Clubb and his wife Mary welcomed their first child, Catherine Marie, into the world and into the Church through the waters of Holy Baptism on Friday, August 7th, at 7 pounds and 21 inches long. Aaron reports since that they are moving to Denver, where on September 21st he starts a new job with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. *Photo: Aaron Clubb.*



East Texas Zone LWMLers Elaine Navaille and Jerry Anderson paint their crosses at the Zone Summer Retreat Saturday, August 1st, at Bethlehem in Palestine. *Photo: Barbara Wuthrich.*

Pilgrim LWML Society resumes activities

Pilgrim’s LWML Society took the summer months off but will resume its monthly meetings on the **1st of September at 6:00 p.m.** Because of limited working space and the quilting supplies being stored through the remodel, we will NOT have the Quilting Bee at 5:00 (despite what is on the calendar), but we will try to resume quilting in October. Being the first to meet in the newly remodeled conference room will be a treat! We will have a light supper provided, so feel free to arrive early and just visit until everyone else arrives. Pastor Galler will provide a short Bible study from the LWML Quarterly magazine after the

meeting. As PLC has gained new members since last year, we look forward to hearing about their LWML experiences and activities in other societies. **Come share your talents and ideas.**

At the meeting, Jeanna Watts will present an explanation of a **“Secret Sister” program** she has been involved with before, and you could choose to join Secret Sisters and/or LWML at the same time, although opportunities will always be open, if you miss this meeting, so come socialize with your Lutheran sisters, even if you have never been before.

Our East Texas Zone Summer Retreat was recently held in Palestine, and our members Elaine Navaille, Sharon Sampson, and Barbara Wuthrich were able to participate (see the picture above). We had excellent Bible studies presented by Pastor David Appel, entertainment that included a “Sack of Sin” challenge to quickly make up songs or poems, and a funny LWML woman “style show”. We were well fed, challenged by some crafts, and inspired by a “cleaning lady” presentation.

Please put the following upcoming dates on your calendar.

- September 17th at 2:30 p.m. we sponsor a birthday party and entertainment at Arbor Grace (the old Gregg Home); we will need people to provide cakes and to help serve and sing (and again in December).
- September 26th East Texas Zone Fall Rally at St. John in Athens (probably leave Kilgore about 7 a.m. and return before 5:00 p.m.).
- October 4th Probable date for LWML Sunday (we will discuss this at our September 1st meeting).
- October 9th & 10th “Created for Eternity” District Spiritual Rest and Renewal Retreat at Glen Lake Camp, Glen Rose, TX. Registration is \$95 and includes three meals and a bed.

*Serve the Lord with Gladness,
Barbara Wuthrich, Society President*

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

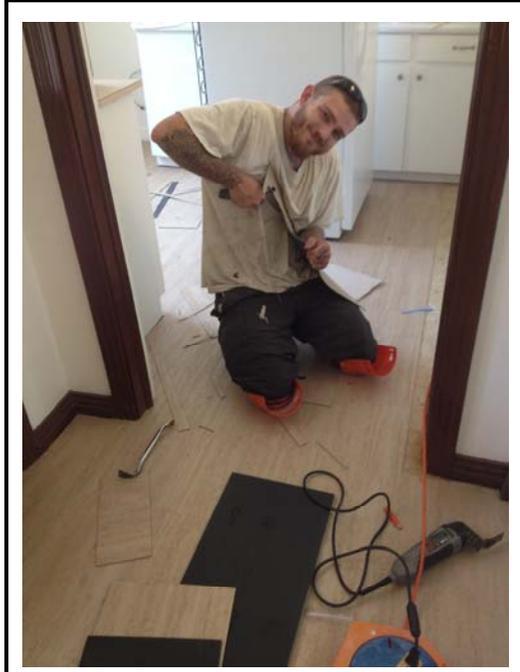
Dan and Beth West – September 20



Missions/Evangelism Committee hard at work

The Missions and Evangelism Committee has been hard at work coordinating a number of efforts to raise the profile of the congregation in our community and help pave the way for God to create faith when and where He chooses to do so.

1. The Evangelism Committee thanks those who helped at the recent LeTourneau and/or East Texas Baptist University Church Fair/Day: Pastor Galler, Sarah Land, Sharon Sampson, the Steven Sampson Family, Tyler Watts, and Barbara Wuthrich. A special thank you goes to the Gages for making it possible to hand out the thumb drives, which really resonated with the students and provided them with a link to our website as well as a very useful tool for class.
2. PLC has a Facebook page. Take a look. Give us a like. Keep up with reminders, find links to sermons, and more. Help us use this as another outreach tool to our own congregation and beyond.
3. The Evangelism Committee wishes for the congregation again to participate in the Fall Market at St. Luke's Methodist Church in downtown Kilgore. We will have a booth and sell homemade breads of all kinds. The event will be Saturday, October 17th. More information with times are on the sign-up sheets in the Narthex and will be in future bulletins. This booth is a large undertaking each year and requires help from MANY PLC members. Please prayerfully consider helping this year in some way. We do not make a huge amount of money, but what we do raise is used by our Committee for future outreach activities, such as the parade float, banners, etc. The main focus is spreading the word. On the bread's tags we include a Scripture verse about Jesus's being the Bread of Life. Additionally, all the children who come by are invited to our church and Sunday School. They always enjoy the free candy, too! Did you know that, despite our congregation being nearly 63 years old, some people in Kilgore do not know that the Pilgrim is here? Let's make sure they know we are here and that Pilgrim is a great place to hear the Word of God!
4. The sign-up sheet for PLC name tags is now in the Narthex. These nametags would be great for the events mentioned above, for our Elders and greeters before and after services with visitors, during Vacation Bible School, etc. Just sign up if you want one.



On August 11, Mark Morgan with Kokenzie Floors worked on putting down the new flooring in the remodeled Parish Hall. *Photo: Barbara Wuthrich.*

Please help with any and all of these items that you can, and continue to pray that God uses us to draw more people to His saving Gospel of the forgiveness of sins by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

*Steven and Angela Sampson
Committee Co-chairs*



Be Informed to Speak about Life

Planned Parenthood videos. Assisted Suicide. Euthanasia. These are topics and issues we are hearing more frequently in the news, at work, and around the kitchen table. How should we

respond to them, engage others, and why? On Saturday, September 26th, two nationally known speakers will attempt to answer those questions and more as part of a free day-long seminar at Zion Lutheran Church, Tomball (a lunch will be provided and a free-will offering gathered). The seminar is entitled “Life: BITS – Be Informed To Speak” and will help you become a more informed about life issues, from conception to the grave, in order to discuss them with your families, friends, and community. Rev. Dr. James Lamb, Executive Director of the National Lutherans for Life organization, and the Rev. Dr. Peter Scaer, Concordia Theological Seminary, are presenting the program. For more information about the seminar and to register (preferably by September 18th), please visit www.ziontomballtx.org or email zionseminars@hotmail.com. And, tell your friends!

Directory Corrections/Additions/Changes

Please mark the following on your directory distributed with the August *Pilgrimage*.

- Tom and Mary Criswell (members): correct email address is tmcriswell@yhoo.com.
- Gwen Heil (member): new address and phone number are Room #221, Carriage Inn, 1400 Katy Flewellen Rd, Katy, TX 77494, 281-392-2800).
- The Watts Family (members): Tyler’s new cell is 903-353-8428 and Jeanna’s new cell is 903-353-8146.
- Julia Williams and Heaven and Aurianna Chiasson: new address and phone number are 626 Turner Street, Kilgore, TX 75662, 903-372-3581.
- Colleen Hooge (friend): should be listed as a communicant member of an LCMS church.
- Larry Reid (new friend): phone number is 713-494-0471.
- Stephanie Smith, Bailey Smith, and Rebecca Halik (new friends): 509 North St., Gladewater, TX 75647, 409-893-5553, txsweetheart2525@yahoo.com.

If your information changes or you know of other changes, please contact the Church Office.

Crockpot Fajitas

1 onion sliced and separated
4 chicken breasts (whole)

1 bell pepper sliced
Fabulosa Quick Fajitas Marinade (or your favorite brand)

Place chicken breasts in bag or container and pour about 1/4 cup of fajitas marinade over them. Place in refrigerator for at least 30 minutes.

Layer onions on bottom of crockpot, then peppers, then chicken breasts. Salt and pepper.

(Do not pour left over marinade over them.)

Cook on low for 4 hours. (Recipe may be doubled but still only cook for 4 hours.)

Angela Sampson

Boards and Committees to prepare budgets and nominations

Board and Committee chairs and members are reminded that at their next meeting they should prepare a proposal for their portion of the congregation’s budget and consider who should be nominated to their Board/Committee.

Volunteer needed for Pilgrim’s Church Office

Another volunteer is needed in the Church Office, doing such things as helping prepare the bulletin and newsletter, keeping some congregational records, generating some correspondence, and the like. If you can help, please see the new coordinators for Office Volunteers from the Board of Elders, Carl Gardner or John Walker.

You can help Kilgore’s “Helping Hands”

A container for your donations is located in Pilgrim’s Narthex. If you want to donate money above and beyond your regular church offering, you can send your check or money order to Helping Hands of Kilgore, PO Box 1576, Kilgore, TX 75662. (Specific items for September were not received before press time.)



Pilgrim’s to-date plate offerings reported

Following a request from Pilgrim’s Board of Elders, Pilgrim’s Financial Secretary reports the following figures for 2015 through August 23rd:

Plate Offerings received:	\$86,855.90
Plate Offerings projected:	\$79,659.00

Your Church Extension Fund investments can help PLC

At any time you may invest your money with the Texas District Lutheran Church Extension Fund, which is loaning Pilgrim the money for the new Parish Hall. Investments payoff for you as listed below, and the money invested can lead to a rebate of the congregation’s interest. For example, investments totaling 10% of the loan will yield an annual interest rebate of 0.10%.



**August
2015**

<u>Investment</u>	<u>Fixed Rate^Δ</u>		<u>Floating Rate^Δ</u>	
	Rate	APY	Rate	APY
One Year Note [◆]	.750%	.75%	0.375%	0.38%
Three Year Note [◆]	1.250%	1.26%	1.250%	1.26%
Five Year Note [◆]	1.750%	1.76%	1.750%	1.76%
Flex Savings			0.500%	0.50%
<u>Accounts For Congregations</u>				
Congregation Savings			1.000%	1.00%
Building Fund Savings			1.750%	1.76%

^Δ Rates subject to change. [◆] Subject to penalty for early withdrawal. Rates reviewed monthly. Texas District Church Extension Fund is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, CEF investments are not SIPC- or FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts. This does not constitute an offer to sell or a request to buy. The offer is made solely by CEF’s Offering Circular.

Texas Church Extension Fund
 1-888-951-1233 www.TexasCEF.org
 www.facebook.com/texascef

1	1 Chr. 29:10-13
	Job 31-33
2	Psalms 86
	Job 34-36
3	Psalms 87
	Job 37-39
4	Psalms 88
	Job 40-42
5	Psalms 89
	Proverbs 1-3
6	Psalms 90
	Proverbs 4-7
7	Psalms 91
	Proverbs 8-10
8	Psalms 92
	Proverbs 11-13
9	Psalms 93
	Proverbs 14-16
10	Psalms 94
	Proverbs 17-19
11	Psalms 95
	Proverbs 20-22
12	Psalms 96
	Proverbs 23-25
13	Psalms 97
	Proverbs 26-28
14	Psalms 98
	Proverbs 29-31
15	Psalms 99
	Ecclesiastes 1-3
16	Psalms 100
	Ecclesiastes 4-6
17	Psalms 101
	Ecclesiastes 7-9
18	Psalms 102
	Ecclesiastes 10-12
19	Psalms 103
	Song of Solomon 1-4
20	Psalms 104
	Song of Solomon 5-8
21	Psalms 105
	Jeremiah 1-3
22	Psalms 106
	Jeremiah 4-6
23	Psalms 107
	Jeremiah 7-9
24	Psalms 108
	Jeremiah 10-12
25	Psalms 109
	Jeremiah 13-15
26	Psalms 110
	Jeremiah 16-18
27	Psalms 111
	Jeremiah 19-22
28	Psalms 112
	Jeremiah 23-25
29	Psalms 113
	Jeremiah 26-28
30	1 Chr. 29:10-13
	Jeremiah 29-3

Reading raises question about child sacrifices

Editors' Note: Before Bible Class on August 16th, a question similar to that below was asked, to which question a better-informed answer follows.

Q: Chronicles lists a number of kings who did not do what was right in God's sight, including apparently sacrificing their children to pagan gods by "passing them through fire" (for example, Ahaz in 2 Chronicles 28:3; confer 2 Kings 16:3). I was thinking back to Abraham's sacrificing Isaac and wondering if there is any connection.

A: The question is certainly an interesting one, especially as I have discovered that apparently in some lines of Jewish thought Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac was more important than in others. In short, the Bible offers no explicit connection that I am aware of. We know from Genesis 22:1 that God set out to "test" Abraham's faith, and we know from the rest of that dramatic narrative that Abraham all but literally carried out the sacrifice (the author of Hebrews 11:17-19 seems to think that in some sense Abraham did carry out the sacrifice, for he says that at least figuratively speaking Abraham received Isaac back from the dead). At least one commentator says Abraham's sacrifice was not inspired by the pagans around him. There are no other faithful figures in the Old Testament who are ever commanded to offer their children as burnt offering to God, though after the Exodus from Egypt firstborn Israelites were in some sense to be given to God and then redeemed back. The same covenant through Moses that commands that redemption of children (for example, Exodus 34:19) forbids the sacrifice of children (for example, Leviticus 18:21; 20:2-5), so, given our view of Holy Scripture, we can at least say that God knew early on that such sacrifices of children would become a problem for Israel, even as the nations around Israel at that time were already making such sacrifices. Bible scholars do not speculate much about the origin of such sacrifices (for example, whether they were a perversion of Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac or, as has been conjectured, an imitation of Job's loss of children followed by their more-numerous replacement—pregnancy may have been seen as an answer to prayers to Molech), and some scholars do not agree whether sacrifices to Molech necessarily resulted in the death of children (or were more like the Israelites' consecration of their firstborn, even later permitting a substitute offering) or even whether Molech was a deity or just a type of sacrifice. Ultimately, of course, Abraham's sacrifice and Isaac's sonly obedience prophetically point forward to God the Father's redemptive gift of His only Son Jesus, Whose death surpasses Isaac's by meriting the forgiveness of the sins of the world so that whoever believes in Him should not perish

but have eternal life (John 3:16). As difficult as it may be for faithful Christians to imagine sacrificing their beloved children, others in our society seem to have little to no problem sacrificing their children by abortion on the "altars" of such things as selfishness.

Remember to be reading the Bible daily and to ask any questions that arise!

Pastor Jayson S. Galler

OCTOBER EVENTS

LWML SUNDAY October 4th.

QUILTING BEE Tuesday, October 6th, at 5:00 p.m.

LWML will meet Tuesday, October 6th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY Wednesdays October 7th and 28th at 7:00 p.m. in either the Conference Room/Library or the Sanctuary (not the 14th and 21st when Pastor will be on vacation).

JUNIOR YOUTH CATECHESIS Saturdays October 3rd, 10th, and 31st from 11:00 a.m. to Noon in the Conference Room/Library (not October 17th or 24th due to Pastor Galler's being on vacation).

ELDERS tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, October 6th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library (Reading assignment TBA).

SENIOR YOUTH CATECHESIS Thursdays October 8th and 29th from 6:00-7:00 p.m. at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Longview (Tuesday, September 29th instead of Thursday October 1st, due to Pastor Galler's being in the Dallas area, and not Thursdays, October 15th and 22nd due to Pastor Galler's being on vacation).

LWML DISTRICT SPIRITUAL REAST AND RENEWAL RETREAT October 9th-10th at Glen Lake Camp, Glen Rose, TX. Various participants on the theme "Created for Eternity". Registration is \$95 and includes three meals and a bed.

KILGORE COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE Saturday, October 10th, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

PUMPKIN PATCH AND FALL MARKET October 17, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. at St. Luke's Methodist Church in Kilgore. Volunteers are also needed before and after those times to set up and take down the booth. See the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

REPORTS FOR VOTERS PACKET due to the Church Office by Sunday, October 18th, to get Packets out two whole Sundays before the November 8th Voters' Meeting.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES for November are due Sunday, October 25th.

MATINS Sunday, October 25th, due to Pastor Galler's vacation (no Communion).

2015 LUTHERANS FOR LIFE NATIONAL CONFERENCE October 30-31 in Petersburg, Kentucky, with the theme "Created, Redeemed, Called, based on Isaiah 43:1. Several nationally known speakers are scheduled. (More information was in the September *Pilgrimage*.)

JOINT REFORMATION DAY MEAL AND SERVICE 4:30 p.m. meal and 5:30 p.m. service at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Longview.

ONCE-A-MONTH-SOCIAL GATHERING: Please contact Tifaney Sampson with your ideas.



Please pray as our congregation has been requested to pray

The following are the petitions requested of our congregation that we usually include in the Prayer of the Church in the Divine Service, as well as encourage our members to make in their own personal prayers. If you are not presently receiving prayer updates by email or phone call and desire to, please let Pastor Galler know (likewise if you are receiving them and wish not to receive them). If you initially made one of the requests below, please regularly keep the congregation updated as to the status of the request. Thank you! –Pastor Galler

CHRISTIANS BEING PERSECUTED WORLDWIDE

OUR PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH:

Hearts and minds open to God's vision and direction for our congregation

Proportionate first-fruit giving from our members

Final processing of our loan from Church Extension Fund's for our new building

THOSE NOT YET INCLUDED IN OR WHO HAVE STRAYED FROM THE FAITH:

Jessa Key (Jerome and Sallye's granddaughter who has not yet been baptized)

Elizabeth & Ava Nicol (Don and Beth's niece and grand-niece)

THOSE WHO ARE STRUGGLING WITH HOMOSEXUALITY

PEACE IN THE WORLD

MEN IN THE SERVICE:

Victor Guinn (Paul Guinn's son, back in the States)

George C. Heil (in New York continuing Navy school)

Brian Holcombe (Carolyn and Wendell Holcombe's son in D.C.)

Ross Land (stationed at Fort Polk in Louisiana)

THOSE IN POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

THANKSGIVING FOR WELL COMPLETION AND INJURED WORKER'S RETURN

THOSE WHO TRAVEL:

Brady Gage

Jerome and Sallye Key

David Navaille

Edgar and Barbara Wuthrich

SHUT-INS:

Bob Abraham (in an Alzheimer Center in Austin)

Leland Dean (in a care facility in Oklahoma)

Harold Engebretson (on hospice care at Brookdale in Henderson)

Gwen Heil (Carriage Inn Assisted Living in Katy)

THOSE WHO NEED HEALING:

Gary Adams (David Navaille's cousin, soon to undergo chemo for liver cancer)

Rev. Dennis Bragdon (ORLC's pastor, radiation for prostate cancer, knee pending)

Ardith Coughlin (ORLC friend of Pilgrim, dementia treatment, cornea concern)

Tom Criswell (various health concerns including hole in macula, follow-up 9/24)

Cliff Dantin (Navailles' friend Brad's father, in assisted living, motivational issues)

Ed Denman (friend of Pastor's parents, chemo for acute leukemia, but colon infection)

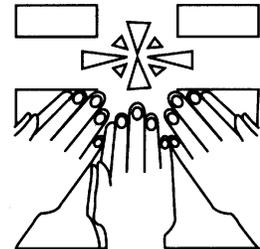
Kimberly Dietz (Shannon's partner's sister, monitoring bone marrow regeneration)

Mark Harrington (Walkers' brother-in-law, aneurism, Myasthenia Gravis, lung spots)

Landon Hawkins (baby known to Watts Family, Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome)

Charlotte Herrell (Sharon Sampson's sister, last chemo for now 8/3, more possible)

Vernell Hooge (Regular visitor Paul Hooge's mother, angioplasty Thursday)



Prayer List continues on next page

Prayer List continued from previous page

Brenda Johnson (Pilgrim visitor, challenges include Stage 3 liver cancer and treatment)
Olin Johnson (Nicols' friend with Parkinsons, continuing to decline in nursing home)
Jerome Key, Jr. (Jerome and Sallye's son, complications from a motorcycle accident)
Laura Key (Jerome's step-mother, continuing to decline in nursing home)
Sallye Key (spiritual strengthening, peace, and joy)
Carl London (Connie Wilburn's coworker, additional testing for new spot on liver)
Marion Madison (Toni Erickson's aunt, recovering from 7/15 knee-replacement)
Herb Michel (relative of Pastor's friends, in and out of hospital with various concerns)
David Navaille (minor surgical procedure scheduled for 8/28)
Don and Beth Nicol (Don's COPD is acting up, Beth has pain in her neck)
Shirley Peters (Mary Clubb's former pastor's wife, upcoming additional eye surgeries)
Mike Powell (David Navaille's friend, hip-replacement-related surgery 7/22)
Charles Ramage (Carolyn Holcombe's brother, awaiting results and treatment options)
Tiffany Rightenour (Dan's friend, at home slowly recovering from motorcycle accident)
Mike West (incoming member Dan's brother, knee surgery 7/14)
Robert Wiles (Betty Miller's nephew, untreatable cancer, still on feeding tube)
James Willey (Remo and Kathy's friend, cancer has spread, radiation begins 8/28)
Frank Winter (Beth West's father, in hospice care in Elk Grove Village, IL)
Wendy Wright (Connie Wilburn's friend, recovering from breast cancer surgery 7/15)

ALL MOTHERS EXPECTING CHILDREN, INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING:

Caroline Koen (our member, expecting her and Emmett's second child 10/15)
Jeanna Watts (our member, expecting her and Tyler's fourth child in March of 2016)

FAMILIES IN CRISIS OR NEED AND ALL FAMILIES

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison and wife Kathy (LCMS president, house fire 7/29)
Myers Family (friends of the Watts, son Jordan convicted of serious charges and jailed)
Raymond Family (Cooper's Scouts friends' family, teenager Paiglynn ran away 4/17)
Thomas Family (Leroy's sons and grandchildren)
West Family (employment concerns)

FUTURE EVENTS TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW

VOTERS' MEETING Sunday, November 8th, likely immediately after the Divine Service in the Sanctuary. (Packets should be available on October 25th.)

THANKSGIVING EVE DIVINE SERVICE Wednesday, November 25th, at 7:00 p.m.

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT Sunday, November 29th. We will begin using *Lutheran Service Book's* Divine Service, Setting Two (with the same structure as *LSB* Setting One and most of the music from *Lutheran Worship* Divine Service II [Second Setting]), with Appointed Psalms, for the whole 2015-2016 Church Year. (Portions will be introduced before Midweek Bible Study and in the Divine Services September through November.)

CIRCUIT #14 RETREAT Saturday, February 6, 2016, "Church and State" with the Rev. Dr. Scott R. Murray, Senior Pastor of Memorial, Houston, and LCMS 4th Vice President, at Bethlehem, Palestine.

Former regular visitor Taylor Hertzler sends his greetings

2 Aug. 2015

my friends at Pilgrim Lutheran Church,

I don't believe that excludes anyone. That being said, greetings! I hope all is going well for y'all down here in East Texas, and apologize that I have not until now made time to write; alas, my summer has been increasingly busy since returning to Pennsylvania. Here's a little of what has been going on:

First, I told many of you about my correspondence with my friend's father who is an attorney. When I finally met with him, he was unable to offer me any work or internship, but said that he would allow me to accompany him any time he had a day in court. This, however, has yet to happen. He had also suggested that I contact the judges at my local Berks County Courthouse. This I did, and have been there several times since to meet those who responded and sit in on court proceedings. I also spent a day back in June shadowing a lawyer that my parents have worked with on real estate transactions. Both of these have been a great deal of fun and most educational, and have confirmed my desire to pursue law. I also have two, for more definite possibilities for internships next summer: one with the aforementioned attorney that I shadowed, one with my neighbor's attorney, whose firm takes three interns each summer.

Regarding work, because I thought I would have an internship I never sought work off the farm. This, however, has worked out well, as I have ended up with three part-time jobs, each of which I can easily take off from when I want to visit the courthouse or shadow someone. Obviously,

I have been working for my Dad on the farm, which occupies most of my time and allows me to hang out with my fifteen-year-old brother and four-year-old cousin. I also do yardwork ~~for~~ twice a week for a lady that my Dad rents ~~the~~ land from, and for whom my Dad rents ~~the~~ her a great employer, and her being an agnostic has made for many valuable conversations. Her late husband was a WWII veteran who initially studied to be an Opera singer before deciding to become



Former LeTourneau student and regular Pilgrim visitor during the 2014-2015 school year Taylor Hertzler shows off his dinner while on a family vacation in Maine this past summer.

Taylor's letter continues from the previous page.

a lawyer, which I find rather eerie. My third job has involved occasionally taking care of a twenty-six-year-old guy who I know through my Mom's work and who was in a crippling car accident ~~about~~ about twelve years ago. In June, my parents and I went to my school for orientation. While there we signed a lease for my apartment and found a possibility for another even cheaper living space should I find two or three friends to share rent with. When registering for classes while there I was given an interesting surprise: somehow between A.P. credits and the way my classes transferred from Jettomeau, I am almost a year ahead with my degree (i.e. almost a junior). I am very much looking forward to beginning classes come August.

I have also had time for slightly less productive fun: my ~~parents~~ parents, younger brother and myself visited my oldest brother and his wife for several days in Maine a few weeks ago. Among other things, he gave us a tour of the Navy ships he is working on (there are two of them now: a stealth destroyer and cruiser). This past week my younger brother and I were in Virginia staying with family. We returned on Friday and after a traffic-laden nightmare I would rather not discuss went to a concert that evening with my friend Feif and cousin Tommy at the Mann Center in Philadelphia. And while attending the wedding of my cousin Brandon yesterday may have been his stated reason for coming north with us, I have little doubt that seeing "Weird Al" Yankovic live on Friday was the highlight of his trip. Again, I hope that all is well in East Texas. I continue to pray for Pilgum and am incredibly grateful for all that you have all done for me. I would like to conclude with some personal notes:

Paul,
I have been trying to get some of my buds to swordfight with me - unsuccessfully so - as I have continued to study fencing and various other techniques. My younger brother, who has forty more pounds of muscle than I, says he doesn't like the bruising side-effects that we always experience when swordfighting. My Dad says he is just afraid; perhaps I am more intimidating than I assume (although I highly doubt it)

Taylor's letter continues from the previous page.

Pastor Jayson
We still send each other text messages, so I'll be lazy and write nothing significant here.

Carl and Tail,
I am curious: there is an avian epidemic sweeping through chicken houses up here in the North (of course raising egg prices). Does that sort of thing affect your emus, or are the two species affected by independent diseases?

Tyler Watts,
I have been discussing the recent Greek financial crisis with several different people, and while it is a shame I also find it incredibly interesting. Do you use this and other current examples in your teaching?

~~Kathy~~
Kathy and Remo,
Will Remo specifically; ~~as I recall there was~~ ~~potential~~ has having your Master's degree led to any opportunities at work.

All others,
I simply have nothing educated to ask or say to you. Again, I pray that God will continue to use you and I will write again some time after school has begun.

Sincerely,
Taylor Hertzler

P.S. Hertzler weddings are actually a lot of fun, although perhaps slightly less humorous than Friday's concert.



The Hertzler Family (minus Taylor's brother Logan who had to work at his camp in Florida) poses for a family picture in Maine. From left are Taylor, his mother Debra, his father Jim, sister-in-law Dianah, and his brothers Jordan and Bradley.

You can keep in touch with Taylor at school, home, cell phone, or email:

#A307
275 Sterling Avenue
Sharon, PA 16146

1933 Hopewell Road
Elverson, PA 19250-8604

484-347-3936

taylor.hertzler@gmail.com

KIDS' PAGE

In Mark 9:30-37, one of September's Gospel Readings, Jesus teaches about children's importance. Can you find in the puzzle given the words from that passage listed below?

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A D S T D F W L E D I S N I K N O W E G
S D Y D N A T S R E D N U E F J G U M L
A T Y I L W A Y F L C U T Y L U H L G M
R N R V J W Q R B H J Y H H U A Y O N W
M R Q J Z G U I Z F Q J R J D A H Y I M
S D U D L A E S I M J P E H J K G E S S
T E U W E L S E Q T L D E O I S J N S I
E E N I S I T E I S L E Y U F A A R U L
A G A H E L I S L A C D T S I L Q U C E
C T M S V E O C L L Y N D E S B J O S N
H V E I I E N A I D I A R F A V R J I T
I A T W E F K L K R F H R F Z I P X D V
N D T L C N N Z D I S C I P L E S L D F
G E X U E D O W N T L N J H H T A E D L
K C L M R T N A V R E S D E N I A M E R
T A E C N O U E O K D G R E A T E S T O
S L A N Y O N E G V T F E L B C C I Q R
R P S J Y V J Q C H I L D A R G U I N G
I X T W E L V E O B W D O R K Y L L A Y
F M O C S Y A D V O M I D S T M B F F X
    
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afraid	discussing	know	rise
all	down	last	servant
anyone	first	left	silent
arguing	Galilee	midst	teaching
arms	greatest	name	three
ask	handed	once	twelve
child	house	placed	understand
days	inside	question	way
death	journey	receives	wish
disciples	kill	remained	



SEPTEMBER 2015

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

www.pilgrimlc.org
903-984-4333

Pastor's Regular Study Hours
 Tuesday 5:00–8:00 PM
 Wednesday–Friday 9:00 AM–Noon
 Saturday Noon–3:00 PM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Communion Assistant – Danny Sampson Acolyte – Matthew Hooge Cleaning Volunteers – The Steven Sampson Family		1 6:00 PM LWML	2 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study Felicity Gill (B)	3 Pastor at North Texas Confessional Lutherans Study Group in Plano	4	5 11:00 AM to Noon Junior Youth Catechesis
6 15 TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service	7	8 2:00-5:00 PM Cleaning Ladies 6:00 PM Elders	9 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	10 6:00-7:00 PM Senior Youth Catechesis at ORLC	11 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">TCL Free Conference in Brenham</div>	12 11:00 AM to Noon Junior Youth Catechesis
13 16 TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service (with Rally Day and Groundbreaking)	14 Clay Ellis (B)	15	16 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	17 Circuit Pastors meet in Corsicana 6:00-7:00 PM Senior Youth Catechesis	18	19 11:00 AM to Noon Junior Youth Catechesis Newsletter articles due tomorrow
20 17 TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service Jeannette Paetznick (B) Dan & Beth West (A)	21 Leland Dean (B)	22	23 4:30-7:30 PM Concordia Seminary recruiter at Trinity, Tyler 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	24 6:00-7:00 PM Senior Youth Catechesis at ORLC	25	26 LWML Fall Rally in Athens Life: BITS at Zion, Tomball
27 18 TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service	28 Rev. Michael Monterastelli (B)	29	30 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study			

Pilgrim Lutheran Church
713 Florey Street
Kilgore, Texas 75662-3503

The Pilgrimage is a monthly newsletter for the members and friends of



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Kilgore, Texas 75662-3503

www.pilgrimlc.org



Rev. Dr. Jayson S. Galler, Pastor

pastor@pilgrimlc.org

903-984-4333

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