

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

BROADWAY AT FLOREY

KILGORE, TEXAS



THE PILGRIMAGE

October 2016

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.

Confession and Absolution may not be what you think

Dear Members and Friends of Pilgrim Lutheran Church,

For many people what comes to mind when they hear someone mention “going to confession” is something like the stereotypical version Hollywood give us in movies and on TV. A person goes into a booth, or otherwise sits down next to a Roman Catholic priest, and begins, “Forgive me, Father, for I have sinned; it has been __ (however long) __ since my last confession, and since then I have __ (insert every single sin here) __.” Indeed, the Roman Catholic church “requires” each member at least once a year to confess all the sins the member has committed since his or her previous confession, and then the priest prescribes penance that the member must do in order to make satisfaction for his or her sins, at least giving the appearance that Jesus’s death on the cross was not enough.

The Small Catechism’s teaching about Confession and Absolution, which we all should know and which we regularly review during our time of Catechesis before our Sunday Divine Services, makes clear obvious differences between the Roman Catholic and Lutheran understandings. Lutherans expect the faithful voluntarily to confess only the sins that they know and feel in their hearts and to do so for the sake of absolution. For us, absolution is “forgiveness from the pastor as from God Himself”, which is “as valid and certain even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself”.

Not only are there stark differences between the Roman Catholic and Lutheran understandings of confession and absolution, but over time the terms “confession” and “absolution” have come to be used in different ways, not always with the same precision and meanings. For example, in the Large Catechism, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther writes about three kinds of confession: (1) an individual’s confessing to a pastor for the sake of absolution; (2) an individual’s confessing to God alone; and (3) an individual’s confessing to a neighbor (family member, brother or sister in Christ, etc.) sins committed against him or her, for the sake of being reconciled with that person before asking God for His forgiveness. Dr. Luther writes that the second and third kind are included in the Lord’s Prayer’s “forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us” and that the Lord’s Prayer has “a twofold absolution”: sins to God and neighbor are forgiven as we forgive our neighbor and are reconciled with him or her. Note that in neither the second nor the third kind is either God or the neighbor technically

Article continues on following page.

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speaking absolution, however, as in the first kind. And, Dr. Luther says the word of absolution God speaks through the pastor in the first kind is what makes that whole process at all worthwhile.

To be sure, then, there are at least in some uses the three kinds of confession the Large Catechism describes, and those three kinds may be distinguished even further by one or more of the following modifiers related to confession:

- **public** for the record and in the presence of others or **private** behind the seal of the confessional and only to a father-confessor
- **general** without naming specific sins or **particular** naming sins that trouble one most
- **corporate** by a group together or **individual** by one person alone

The first kind of confession Dr. Luther mentioned in the Large Catechism is a private, general and perhaps also particular, individual confession. The Large Catechism's second kind could be a public or private, general or particular, and corporate or individual confession (when we pray the Lord's Prayer together it is public, general, and corporate). The Large Catechism's third kind could be a public or private, general and/or particular, and individual confession. The confession we make together before the Divine Service on Sundays is a public, general, corporate confession. We might also envision a public, particular, individual confession as part of reinstating an at one time excommunicated member.

Similarly, what some people call "absolution" might be distinguished by one or more of the same modifiers given above but now related to "absolution":

- **public** for the record in the presence of others or **private** behind the seal of the confessional where only the two are gathered (Matthew 18:20; Smalcald Articles III:iv)
- **general** forgiving all sins, those confessed either in general or in particular, or **particular** especially applying God's forgiveness to particular sins confessed
- **corporate** to a group together or **individual** to one person

Less obviously to many of us, however, are other notable distinctions between what might be thought of as different types of "absolution".

- **optative** expressing a wish or desire for forgiveness and **precative** (related to prayer) are forms of "absolution" addressed to God in prayer (see, for example, the left column of Divine Service, Setting Four, on *Lutheran Service Book* 203)
- **deprecative** seeks avert God's disapproval of sins and, though addressed to the penitent, also seems more like a prayer
- **declarative** apparently dates to the turn of the first millennium and understood that God had already forgiven the contrite penitent's sin (another declarative form that is not technically "absolution" declares grace, not necessarily the forgiveness of sins that just may have been confessed; see the right columns of Settings One, Two, Three, and Five on *LSB* 151, 167, 184-185, 213-214)
- **indicative-operative** or **effective** is said to have become prominent in the 1300s, and reportedly Luther's thought it was best suited to the Gospel because it was the most positive and comforting, by its words actually forgiving the sins of the one receiving them in faith

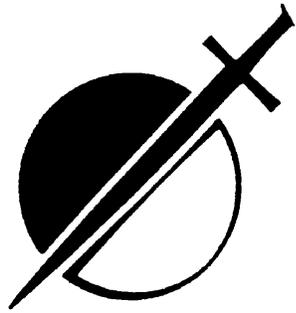
The kind of absolution Luther in the Large Catechism (not to mention the rest of the Lutheran Confessions) envisions arguably is a private, general or possibly particular, individual absolution (see *LSB* 292-293). What we currently are using on Sunday morning is more of a public, general,

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One of October 2016's Gospel Readings teaches persistence

Most if not all of us probably have prayed for something repeatedly, waiting, more or less patiently, for God to answer in His way and time. We may know that God certainly grants our prayers for spiritual blessings but not always our prayers for material blessings, regardless of how much we and possibly even others pray. Still, we are to persist in prayer and not lose heart, as one of the Gospel Readings we hear in October 2016 teaches.

In Luke 18:1-8, Jesus tells a parable, St. Luke says, to that exact effect: that we should always pray and not lose heart. The parable is variously called the Parable of the Unrighteous Judge or the Parable of the Persistent Widow, after its two central figures. The widow persists in asking the judge for justice against her adversary and eventually gets it. Jesus says our righteous God, not with long delay but speedily, will give justice to His elect who cry to Him day and night, but Jesus also asks whether the Son of Man, when He comes, will find faith on the earth. The passage as a whole does not mean that we can badger God into doing or giving whatever we want but rather that we should persist in prayer and belief, specifically about the righteous judgment of the Last Day, no matter how bleak things get, and, Jesus suggests, they will get so bleak that few may persist until Jesus comes to give them justice. Of course, to the extent that any do persist and receive justice, they do so only on account of God's mercy and grace for the sake of Jesus Christ: His righteous life and death and resurrection give us the righteousness we need by grace through faith.



The following are all of the Sundays after Pentecost in October of 2016 and their Gospel Readings (appointed by *Lutheran Service Book's* three-year lectionary series C).

- Twentieth Sunday (10/02): Jesus teaches about tempting and forgiving (Luke 17:1-10)
- Twenty-first Sunday (10/09): Jesus cleanses ten lepers (Luke 17:11-19)
- Twenty-second Sunday (10/16): Jesus tells of a persistent widow (Luke 18:1-8)
- Twenty-third Sunday (10/23): Jesus teaches of worship and justification (Luke 18:9-17)
- Twenty-fourth Sunday (10/30): Jesus seeks and saves the lost (Luke 19:1-10)

You might wish to read on your own those sections of St. Luke's Gospel account skipped in our Lectionary series and so which we do not hear in the Divine Services: Luke 17:20-37 tells of the coming of God's Kingdom and Luke 18:18-43 tells of a rich ruler asking Jesus what he must do to inherit eternal life, of Jesus's foretelling His death and resurrection a third time, and of Jesus's healing a blind beggar who called out to Him for mercy. Both of those passages are certainly worthy of our individual reading and reflection.

October 2016 offers us one non-Sunday opportunity to hear God's Word together. Pilgrim will host a Reformation Vespers joint service with Our Redeemer Lutheran Church of Longview on Monday, October 31, at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Galler will conduct the Vespers service, including the reading of John 8:31-36, and Rev. Bragdon of ORLC will preach the sermon. All are invited and welcome to enjoy both the service and the refreshments afterwards.

Remember that you may read and hear the sermons at Pilgrim from the Sundays after Pentecost and from every season of the Church Year online at www.pilgrimlc.org/sermons. And, if you have any questions about the sermons or feedback on them, I invite and welcome your sharing them with me, whatever way is best for you.

Pastor Galler

Article continues from page 2.

corporate “absolution” (although *LSB* 290-291 calls for a public, general, individual absolution). We might also envision a public, general or particular, individual absolution as part of reinstating an at one time excommunicated member.

The Lutheran Confessions as a whole think of “absolution” in a technical sense of a pastor’s applying the Gospel of God’s forgiveness to—in fact, forgiving the sins of—an individual whose confession the pastor has heard and whose state of contrition and faith he has at least had the opportunity to examine before absolving. What genuine Lutherans think of as confession and absolution, either the second or third sacrament (depending on whether you list Absolution between Baptism and Communion or after Communion) is neither the Roman Catholic stereotype nor what we have before our Divine Service on Sundays but a private, general and perhaps also particular, individual confession for the sake of a private, general or possibly particular—and most likely indicative-operative—individual absolution.

Of course, such confession and absolution is not strictly necessary prior to each and every time an individual would receive the Sacrament of the Altar, for it is not the absolution that makes one worthy and well-prepared to receive the Sacrament but faith in God’s Words connected to the Sacrament. God, Dr. Luther says in the Smalcald Articles (III:iv), “is surpassingly rich in His grace” offering us forgiveness through preaching, Holy Baptism, the power of the keys (individual Holy Absolution), and the Sacrament of the Altar. In some ways, all offer the same thing, and each could be said to make the others redundant, but Christians do not content themselves with only receiving forgiveness in one or two or even three ways.

Those who hold God’s Word and Sacraments sacred and gladly hear and receive them do not despise any one of the four ways God gives forgiveness. Although later Lutherans (and even Dr. Luther himself later) might have differed, Dr. Luther in the Large Catechism would not compel anyone to come to make private confession in order to receive individual absolution but expected people’s own consciences to impel them to it and for people to compel their pastors to so individually absolve them. And, Dr. Luther did make clear that, if people did not come, then he would not consider them to be Christians or to be eligible for the Sacrament. When he urges us to go to confession and absolution, he says, he is simply urging us to be Christians.

*His and your servant,
Pastor Galler*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1 – Maxwell Koen
- 6 – Barbara Wuthrich
- 7 – Sarah Land
- 8 – George C. Heil
- 9-Beth Nicol
- 13 – Sarah Paulina Key
- 15 – Jeanna Watts
- 19 – Elaine Navaille
- 20 – Shannon Gage
- 22 – Sam Morton
- 25 – David Smith
- 28 – Mark Watts
- 30 – Tyler Watts



1	Jonah 2:2-9 Jer. 32-34
2	Ps. 114 Jer. 35-37
3	Ps. 115 Jer. 38-40
4	Ps. 116 Jer. 41-43
5	Ps. 117 Jer. 44-47
6	Ps. 118 Jer. 48-50
7	Ps. 119:1-8 Jer. 51-52
8	Ps. 119:9-16 Lam. 1-2
9	Ps. 119:17-24 Lam. 3-5
10	Ps. 119:25-32 Ezekiel 1-3
11	Ps. 119:33-40 Ezekiel 4-6
12	Ps. 119:41-48 Ezekiel 7-9
13	Ps. 119:49-56 Ezekiel 10-12
14	Ps. 119:57-64 Ezekiel 13-15
15	Ps. 119:65-72 Ezekiel 16-18
16	Ps. 119:73-80 Ezekiel 19-21
17	Ps. 119:81-88 Ezekiel 22-24
18	Ps. 119:89-96 Ezekiel 25-27
19	Ps. 119:97-104 Ezekiel 28-30
20	Ps. 119:105-112 Ezekiel 31-33
21	Ps. 119:113-120 Ezekiel 34-36
22	Ps. 119:121-128 Ezekiel 37-39
23	Ps. 119:129-136 Ezekiel 40-42
24	Ps. 119:137-144 Ezekiel 43-45
25	Ps. 119:145-152 Ezekiel 46-48
26	Ps. 119:153-160 Daniel 1-3
27	Ps. 119:161-168 Daniel 4-6
28	Ps. 119:169-176 Daniel 7-9
29	Ps. 120 Daniel 10-12
30	Ps. 121 Hosea 1-4
31	Jonah 2:2-9 Hosea 5-7

Daily Bible reader asks about Song of Solomon

As we have been encouraging people to read the Bible Daily according to the plan distributed at left and in larger-print listings available in the Narthex, I have been encouraged by people’s actually doing the reading and participating in what at least has the potential to be a congregation-wide discussion of the Daily Bible Reading by asking questions. The following question relates to last month’s reading of Song of Solomon (also known as “Song of Songs” or “Canticles”).

Q: Is there any applicable value to Song of Solomon? I’ve often heard that it’s supposed to be an allegory of Christ’s love for us, but that doesn’t seem right.

A: What you have heard is more or less right. As I noted on the webpage introducing it (<http://www.graceelgin.org/resources/lectionary/idx-so.asp>), Song of Solomon is usually taken as a way of emphasizing God’s love for His people (collectively), giving us an Old Testament picture of the Church as the Bride of Christ (see Ephesians 5:22-33 for a relevant New Testament passage), while in the process also endorsing all the beauty of marital love. That is the one-sentence version, but back in 2003 Christopher W. Mitchell wrote a 1300-page commentary on Song of Solomon for the Concordia Commentary series, which is still being completed through Concordia Publishing House. The first nearly 550 pages of Mitchell’s commentary deals with introductory matters before he goes through the text of the book itself, and the first introductory matter he addresses is Song of Solomon’s relevance for the Church today. In that section’s thirteen pages, Mitchell rightly refers to John 5:39 and Luke 24:27 and says that Song of Solomon testifies to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, but he also notes its proclamation of the law, especially in our world today rife with sexual practices such as sexual relationships outside of marriage and among those of the same birth gender. Mitchell says Song of Solomon “has an urgently needed message that remedies the present decay of the visible church through the forgiving and restoring power of the Gospel” (12). And Mitchell says the book does so predominantly through what he calls “enticements of the Gospel”, portrayals of the blissful pleasures to be experienced fully in eternity.

I welcome your questions about the Daily Bible Reading, in person or by phone, email, or text and regardless of what passage you are asking about. And, we do recommend everyone follows the schedule at left, which calls for reading a psalm (or other little song) and a few chapters of a book each day and gets us through the whole Bible in one year. There are resources available to help you read and meditate on your Reading, such as past issues of the *Pilgrimage* and <http://www.pilgrimlc.org/daily-bible-reading>. Our being in God’s Word by such daily Bible reading gives His Holy Spirit greater opportunities to work in us and so ultimately to grant us

spiritual growth, up as individuals, together as a congregation, and out into the world.

Pastor Galler

OCTOBER EVENTS

LWML EAST TEXAS ZONE RALLY is Saturday, October 1st, 2016, at Faith Lutheran Church in Corsicana, with the theme of “Do not be anxious about anything ...” based on Philippians 4:6. See the flyer on the LWML bulletin board; it is not too late to still attend.

LWML SUNDAY will be observed and officers installed Sunday, October 2nd.

VOTERS’ PACKET DEADLINE is October 2nd, and all officers and board and committee chairs, including the budget and nominating committees, are asked to submit their reports so that the complete Packet can be available October 9th and 16th before the October 23rd Meeting.

JUNIOR YOUTH CATECHESIS is currently scheduled for Tuesday October 4th at 4:00 p.m. and Saturdays October 8th, 22nd, and 29th at 11 a.m. (Pastor will be at the LWML Zone Rally on 1st and on vacation the 15th). All sessions are held in Pastor’s study.

ELDERS will meet Tuesday, October 4th (different week than usual) at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library. (Reading assignment SA III:i, pp.270-271.)

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY will be held Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library, except October 12th, when Pastor Galler will be on vacation. We continue our study of Salvation History as our Story. All are welcome to join us at any time.

TRUSTEES will meet Sunday, October 9th, after the Divine Service in the Conference Room/Library.

LWML QUILTING will be Tuesday, October 11th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library. All women are invited to join in the simple sewing, with lots of happy chatter. We may order dinner in and will not otherwise meet this month.

PUMPKIN PATCH CRAFT SHOW is Saturday, October 15th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We need lots of bread bakers and smiling volunteers to staff the booth!

THIRTEENTH QUARTERLY KILGORE COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE is Saturday, October 22nd, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Carter BloodCare bus at Pilgrm. All are needed to help with publicity, host, and donate.

QUARTERLY VOTERS’ MEETING will be held Sunday, October 23rd, immediately following the Divine Service. Officers for next year will be elected, and the congregation’s budget approved (see the Voters’ Packet out October 9th and 16th), so all voting members are encouraged to attend.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES for the November edition of the *Pilgrimage* are due Sunday, October 23rd. Please submit your contributions for *your* newsletter by that time.

THIRD ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM: “Religion and Politics in the 2016 Election: What to Expect in a Religiously Diverse Society” will be the theme Sunday, October 30th, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. at this third annual community event our congregation co-sponsors. This year again the Symposium will be in the Devall Student Center Ballroom on the Kilgore College campus. Pastor Galler is again on the panel, and we will need volunteers to help host.

REFORMATION DAY VESPERS JOINT SERVICE will be held at Pilgrim on Monday, October 31st, at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Bragdon from Our Redeemer, Longview, will be the guest preacher. We will serve simple refreshments after the service in our Conference Room/Library.

Recent photos capture Pilgrim fun

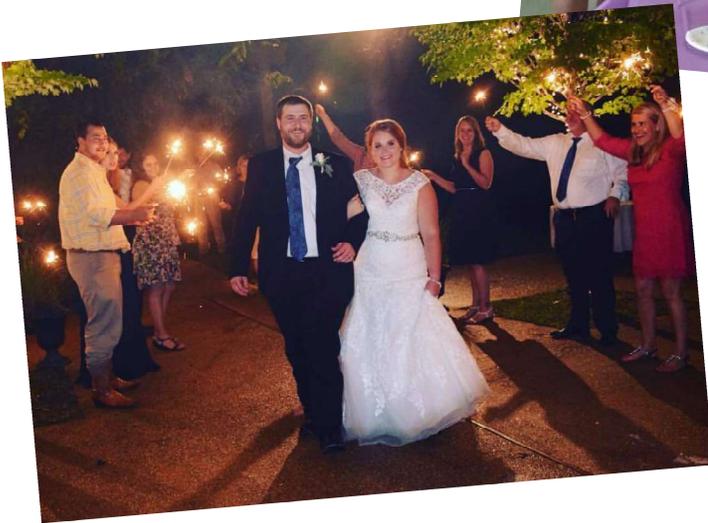
(Right) On September 15th Pilgrim's LWML Society threw a birthday party for the residents of the Arbor Grace Nursing Home in Kilgore, including God's Word and prayer and piano favorites. From left are Sharon Sampson, Carolyn Holcombe, Barbara Wuthrich, Elaine Navaille, Jeanette Paetznick, and Pastor Galler.

Photo: Arbor Grace staff member.



(Left) Former Pilgrim member Maggie Land was married to Matthew Herndon on July 30th in Aberdeen, Mississippi, by her Baptismal sponsor and uncle on her mother's side, the Rev. Thomas Olson. Be sure to notice the bride's proud parents Spencer and Sarah Land on the far right.

Photo: Andrew and Shoshana Herndon.



After Rally Day activities at Pilgrim on September 18th, people moved to Harris Park for lunch and more. (Above right, clockwise) Cooper Sampson, Anna Hooge, Coleen Hooge, Ian West, Matthew Hooge, and Luke Land barely sat still long enough to eat the fried chicken provided by the Board of Education and the side dishes everyone brought and shared. (Above left) Children at heart, Beth West paints Sarah Land's hand. Behind them others make balloon animals and visit. *Photos Beth West and Angela Sampson.*

September sees progress on Pilgrim's buildings

(Right) Our Redeemer Lutheran, Longview, member Bruce Guillory and his crew from Birdog Plumbing worked for days in September replacing old sewer lines, placing and connecting pipes for the new Parish Hall with Sunday School Classrooms, and reconnecting the cold water and drain to the old kitchen.

(Below) A crew from the Insulation Division of American Services out of Longview one day in September blew insulation into the attics of Pilgrim's Sanctuary and Office Area, which immediately seemed to provide some relief to the air-conditioning units.

Photos: Barbara Wuthrich.



(Below) A crew from A.J. Concrete out of Tyler early in the morning on September 19th at long last poured the slab for the new Parish Hall with Sunday School Classrooms. God provided good weather for the concrete to set, and now members eager for the project's completion are anxiously awaiting the construction of the building's superstructure.

Photo: J. Galler.



Religion and Politics in the 2016 Election: What to Expect in a Religiously Diverse Society

Sunday, October 30

3:00-5:00 p.m.

Devall Student Center Ballroom



Only days before the hotly contested 2016 presidential contest, in which candidates have religious leaders lined up behind them, a Third Annual Symposium in Kilgore, sponsored in part by Pilgrim and featuring Pastor Galler, will take up the topic “Religion and Politics in the 2016 Election: What to Expect in a Religiously Diverse Society”. Everyone is welcome to attend the free event, Sunday, October 30, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. (one hour earlier than previous years) in the Devall Student Center Ballroom on the campus of Kilgore College (1116 Broadway Boulevard, between Nolen and Elder Streets, in Kilgore, Texas), and volunteers to work the event are needed.

Kilgore College government instructor Jeff Stanglin, J.D., will give an opening presentation and then, after a short break with refreshments, three local pastors will respond briefly to his presentation before the four panelists field questions from the audience. If last year’s Symposium, with nearly 150 in attendance, is any indication, discussion will be lively and engaging!



Stanglin

Stanglin earned his undergraduate degree in political science from Abilene Christian University and his graduate degree in law from the Thomas Cooley Law School at Western Michigan University, where he specialized in constitutional law and civil rights. Before coming to Kilgore College in 2012, Stanglin taught at Wharton County Junior College and in the Dallas Community College system.

The pastors scheduled for the panel are those of the sponsoring churches: Rev. Darwood Galaway of St. Luke’s United Methodist Church, Rev. Dr. Jayson S. Galler of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, and Dr. Glenn Young of First Baptist Church. The event will be moderated by Terry Booker of Kilgore College.

This 2016 Symposium is the third in a series connected to the anniversary of the October 31, 1517, Reformation. The first was “One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism” in 2014, and the second was “At the Intersection of Church and State” in 2015. The purpose of the Symposia is to seek a deeper understanding of one another in our various church communities. Through the mutual sharing of knowledge and ideas, organizers believe that the Holy Spirit will draw people closer to that union that Christ desires for all (John 17:21-23).

The graphic at the top of this page was composed by Carla Adsit.

February 4th Circuit Retreat to discuss end of earthly life

The 2017 Texas District Circuit #14 Retreat will be held February 4, 2017, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Palestine, and will feature The Rev. Dr. Robert Wiese of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, with a theme of end of earthly-life issues. The theme is particularly timely, as the so-called “euthanasia” or “physician-assisted suicide” movement is on the move in five states of our country and around the world. People often think that what others do does not affect them, but Dr. Wiese says that is not the case. The registration charge for the all-day retreat has not been set but always includes a delightful lunch served by the Bethlehem LWML Society and ample refreshments at morning and afternoon breaks. Mark February 4th on your calendar and plan now to attend the Retreat.

Pilgrim’s to-date financial figures reported

Following a request from Pilgrim’s Board of Elders, the following figures are reported for the period from January 1st through September 18th:

Undesignated Plate Offerings received:	\$98,798.98
Undesignated Plate Offerings projected:	\$102,548.85 (for deficit budget)
Accrued expenses:	\$88,241.94
Projected expenses per budget:	\$110,827.62 (38/52 of the total for the year)

*Tyler Watts
Treasurer*

The time is always right to invest with CEF

Our investing additional monies at any time will help Pilgrim in the future, help other congregations in our District, and pay back for us right away. At last report (July 20, 2016), Pilgrim had \$96,268 of supporting investments with the Texas District Church Extension Fund, which represents about 31% of our expected loan and would merit the congregation a 0.25% rebate on its interest when its loan enters into repayment. Congregational CEF Representative Sarah Land is always available to answer your questions and give you more information.



September
2016

Investment	Fixed Rate ⁽²⁾		Floating Rate ⁽²⁾	
	Rate	APY	Rate	APY
One Year Note ⁽¹⁾	1.250%	1.26%	0.750%	0.75%
Three Year Note ⁽¹⁾	1.750%	1.76%	1.250%	1.26%
Five Year Note ⁽¹⁾	2.000%	2.02%	1.500%	1.51%
Flex Savings			0.500%	0.50%
<u>Accounts For Congregations</u>				
Congregation Savings			1.000%	1.00%
Building Fund Savings			2.000%	2.02%

⁽¹⁾ Subject to penalty for early withdrawal. ⁽²⁾ Rates subject to change. 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

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 do so, please let Pastor Galler know (likewise let Pastor Galler know if you are receiving them and wish not to receive them). If you initially made one of the requests below, please regularly keep Pastor Galler updated as to the status of the request so that he can update the congregation. Thank you! (The Latin in the graphic at left means, "Have mercy on me".)

CHRISTIANS BEING PERSECUTED WORLDWIDE LCMS, DISTRICT, AND CIRCUIT, PASTORS AND PEOPLE

Vacancies at Our Savior, Centerville; First, Lufkin; and Redeemer, Nacogdoches.
Our member Rev. Michael Monterastelli, serving elsewhere as needed

OUR PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH:

Budgeting and Nominating processes
Faithful stewardship of God's gifts
Safe and speedy construction of the new Parish Hall

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

FOR AN END TO THE EVILS OF ABORTION

LOUISIANA FLOOD VICTIMS

PEACE IN THE WORLD

MEN IN THE SERVICE:

Victor Guinn (Paul Guinn's son, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton)
George C. Heil (at sea for months and unable to communicate)
Brian Holcombe (Carolyn Holcombe's son stationed in Washington, D.C.)

THOSE IN POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

Sam Morton (Longview Fire Department)

THOSE WHO TRAVEL:

Brady Gage
Paul Guinn
Kathy Hudson
Arlene Kuehn
David Navaille
Edgar and Barbara Wuthrich

SHUT-INS:

Bob Abraham (in an Alzheimer Center in Austin)
Gwen Heil (Carriage Inn Assisted Living in Katy)

THOSE WHO NEED HEALING:

Steve Atchinson (Betty Miller's grandson, arm amputated after work accident)
Moselle Barton (Connie Wilburn's friend, suffering from lung cancer)
Kay Crouch (Danny Sampson's shirt-tail relative, slow recovery from recent surgery)
Sherry Harris (Beth Nicol's friend, changing chemotherapy to find one that works)
Landon Hawkins (baby known to Watts Family, Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome)
Kristen Heil (gall-bladder surgery scheduled for September 28th)

Prayer List continues on following page.

Prayer List continues from preceding page.

Don Herrell (Sharon Sampson's brother-in-law letting his cancer run its course)
Lita Holstein (Beth West's great aunt suffering from breast cancer)
Louise Hotard (Elaine Navaille's friend's mother, hospitalized with several concerns)
Kathy Jennings (Remo and Kathy's friend, making progress against her cancer)
Andrew Kaufmann (teenage son of Pastor's classmate and friend, ongoing treatment)
Laura Key (Jerome's step-mother, continuing to decline in nursing home)
Sallye Key (doing better but still recovering from car accident 3/29)
Carl London (Connie Wilburn's coworker, cancer has returned)
Rev. Joe Mashburn (Pastor at Faith, Corsicana, recovering from kneecap surgery 9/16)
David McKeown (Remo and Kathy's Australia friend waiting for a kidney transplant)
Tommy McPherson (home in Pennsylvania, surgery on back and trachea pending)
Herb Michel (relative of Pastor's friends, healing at home but with behavioral concerns)
Betty Miller (our member, suffering from more pain than usual and other issues)
Elaine Navaille (recovering from trigger-finger surgery 9/8)
Beth Nicol (back procedure 7/1)
Don Nicol (chemo and radiation for lung cancer began 8/22)
Pat Olson (Wilburns' friend, sixth round of cancer)
Larry Reif (our member, at the Shreveport VA hospital, treatment continues)
David Smith (our member, multiple health issues continue)
Vincent Vernon (Walkers' brother-in-law, diagnosed with cancer but no treatment)
Rev. Harold Wageman (former PLC pastor, at Henderson Rehab)
Pat Welch (Beth Nicol's friend, suffering from Parkinson's, now in a wheelchair)
Carter Wilbanks (shirt-tail acquaintance of the Sampsons, now recovering at home)
Robert Wiles (Betty Miller's nephew, untreatable cancer, remains on a feeding tube)
Van Willey (Remo and Kathy's friend, in ICU with fluid build-up, also finding cancer)

EXPECTANT MOTHERS

Brittany Manglam (Jeanna Watts's best friend, previous miscarriages)

FAMILIES IN CRISIS OR NEED AND ALL FAMILIES

Erickson Family (new college graduate Tiffani continues to seek employment)
Heil Family (Julia and her daughters, George C's and family, and Bryn and Christine)
Maskey Family (Remo's sister and brother-in-law experiencing marital difficulties)
Smith Family (various needs extended throughout Kansas, Texas, and Alabama)
Thomas Family (Leroy's sons and grandchildren)
Watts Family (seeking God's guidance)
Wilbanks Family (shirt-tail acquaintances of the Sampsons, car-accident aftermath)



BLESSED ANNIVERSARY!

14 – Vicki and John Walker

*Gracious Heavenly Father, we thank You for the blessings of married life.
We rejoice with John and Vicki as they observe their wedding anniversary.
Bless them in the years to come so that they may remain faithful You and devoted to
each other. By Your presence gladden each day that You graciously grant them;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.*

NOVEMBER EVENTS

JUNIOR YOUTH CATECHESIS is currently scheduled for Saturdays November 5th, 12th, and 19th at 11 a.m. in Pastor's Study (not November 26th because of the Thanksgiving holiday).

LWML QUILTING will be Tuesday, November 1st at 5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library. All women are invited to join in the simple sewing, with lots of happy chatter.

LWML MEETING will be Tuesday, November 1st, at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library for a light supper, meeting, and Bible study.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY will be held Wednesdays November 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 30th at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library, when we will continue our study of Salvation History as our Story. All are welcome to join us at any time. (Class will not meet on November 23rd due to the Thanksgiving Eve Divine Service).

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH REATREAT: Faith Lutheran Church in Plano is sponsoring a Higher Things retreat for 5th to 8th graders November 4-5 focusing on Confession and Absolution. The cost is \$45 per person, and those registering before October 28th will receive a retreat t-shirt. See Pastor Galler for more information.

EAST TEXAS PIPE ORGAN FESTIVAL will be Sunday, November 6th through Thursday the 11th. The annual event includes a number of events at churches in Kilgore, Longview, and Shreveport. The opening concert, for example, is Sunday, November 6, at 8:00 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church in Kilgore. Please contact Barbara Wuthrich if you plan to go, and we could make it a group Once-A-Month-Social Gathering.

ELDERS will meet Tuesday, November 8th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library. (Reading assignment to be announced.)

FIVE CENTURIES OF LUTHERAN SACRED MUSIC CONFERENCE at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Plano November 13-15th. Our congregation has paid the group registration rate, and all are welcome to attend. Please see Pastor Galler for more information.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES for the December edition of the *Pilgrimage* are due Sunday, November 20th. Please submit your contributions for *your* newsletter by that time.

THANKSGIVING EVE DIVINE SERVICE Wednesday, November 23rd, at 7:00 p.m.

FLOAT DECORATING: (tentative date) Saturday, November 26th, at Remo Gualtieri and Kathy Hudson's home at 201 Norris Rd. in Kilgore. Come help us prepare our congregation's float for the annual Kilgore Christmas parade (expected to be Tuesday, November 29th). The Chamber of Commerce had not given the Mission and Evangelism Committee any information as the newsletter went to print for October.

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT Sunday, November 27th. We will begin using *Lutheran Service Book's* Divine Service, Setting Four, for which all the music will have been introduced by then.

KILGORE CHRISTMAS PARADE: expected to be Tuesday, November 29th. (watch bulletin for more information).

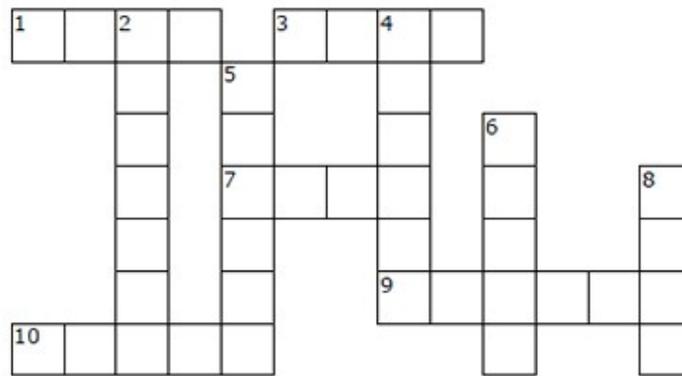
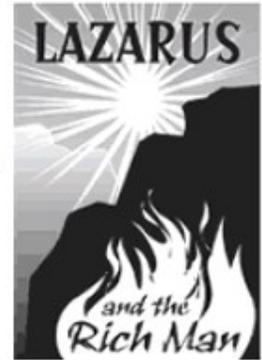
ONCE-A-MONTH-SOCIAL GATHERING: Please contact Barbara Wuthrich with your ideas for November (the December gathering will be the congregation's annual Christmas Party, usually scheduled for the first Sunday in December and for which a host family is needed).

KIDS' PAGE

The Rich Man and Lazarus

"But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony.'" Luke 16:25 (NIV)

This puzzle is based on Luke 16:19-31 (NIV)



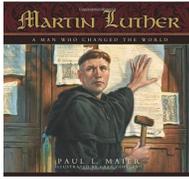
ACROSS

1. Having a lot of money or valuable possessions
3. To tell someone of possible danger or harm
7. An opening in a wall or fence for entrance or exit
9. The fleshy part in the mouth that is used in tasting
10. A clear, colorless, odorless, and tasteless liquid essential for most plant and animal life

DOWN

2. To soothe someone in a time of pain or suffering
4. To change your behavior because you are sorry for what you have done
5. A poor person who lives by asking others for money or food
6. Extreme physical or mental pain or suffering
8. Stopped living

warn	died	comfort	water	gate
agony	rich	tongue	beggar	repent



OCTOBER 2016

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 – Carl Gardner Acolyte – Benjamin Morton Cleaning Volunteers – Your name here ???						1 7-4 LWML Fall Rally Voters' Packet Deadline tomorrow Maxwell Koen (B)
2 20 TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service (LWML Sunday)	3	4 4:00 PM Junior Youth Catechesis/ 6:00 PM Elders	5 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	6 Pastor at Plano Study Group Barbara Wuthrich (B)	7 Sarah Land (B)	8 10:00 AM Willows 11 AM Catechesis George C. Heil (B)
9 21 ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service Trustees meet after the Divine Service Beth Nicol (B)	10 1:00-6:00 PM Cleaning Ladies	11 5:00-7:00 PM Quilting	12	13 Sarah Key (B)	14 M/M John Walker(A)	15 10-3 Pumpkin Patch Craft Show Jeanna Watts (B)
Pastor Galler on vacation (an elder will answer the church phone and contact the pastor on call as needed)						
16 22 ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST(G) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service 7 PM Lutheran Hymn Festival in Dallas	17 <div style="background-color: #cccccc; text-align: center; padding: 2px;"> Pastor Galler on vacation </div>	18	19 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study Elaine Navaille (B)	20 Shannon Gage (B)	21	22 9-2 Blood Drive 11 AM Catechesis <i>Pilgrimage</i> articles due tomorrow Sam Morton (B)
23 23 RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service Quarterly Voters' Meeting	24	25 David Smith (B)	26 Noon Pastor speaks at Rotary 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	27	28 Mark Watts (B)	29 11 AM Junior Youth Catechesis
30 24 TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service 3-5 p.m. Symposium Tyler Watts (B)	31 REFORMATION DAY (R) 7:00 PM Joint Vespers (followed by refreshments)					

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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Pastor Galler and Barbara Wuthrich are the editors of **The Pilgrimage**. Barbara Wuthrich also assists with producing and distributing editions. Everyone is welcome to contribute articles at any time. All copyright holders of excerpted or reproduced materials are hereby acknowledged, and such materials are used in good faith under fair use provisions.