

# Pilgrim Lutheran Church

BROADWAY AT FLOREY

KILGORE, TEXAS



May 2017

*THE PILGRIMAGE*

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*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.*

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## School may break or end, but study of God's Word does not

Dear Members and Friends of Pilgrim Lutheran Church,

Congratulations go to Pilgrim's two high-school seniors graduating this spring: Jasmine Landry and Grace Morton! They are completing one phase of their lives and "commencing" another. We thank God for His being present with them thus far and pray His continued guidance and direction with them whatever way they go next.

Indeed, university and college semesters are ending as I write these words, and other school years will not be long behind them. We do not have to be in school ourselves to be affected by the school-year mindset, as having children, grandchildren, or others we know *in* school *one* day and *out of* school the *next* day can change all of our routines.

Growing up in a family with two educators for parents (one at the university level and the other at the elementary-school level), my sister and I were "spoiled" by their longer times off of their work when we were also out of school over Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter, and especially Summer breaks. Particularly our Summer breaks from the usual routines of school/work (and our using those breaks to take month-long annual trips together) were quite enjoyable, but we almost always found faithful LCMS congregations to attend wherever we were on Sundays that we were away. There is certainly no break from our need for and so also reception of God's forgiveness in Word and Sacrament!

Sometimes people think of Confirmation in the Church as a sort of "graduation", as if, once one is confirmed, then one does not need to attend Sunday School any longer, perhaps, regardless of one's age, never making the transition to Adult Bible Class. Nothing could be further from the truth! School may break or end, but study of God's Word does not! Catechesis, instruction in the Christian faith, should be cradle to grave, or, as I like to put it, womb to tomb. The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther, who authored the *Small Catechism* that is one of our Lutheran confessional writings to which we all subscribe as members of Pilgrim, reportedly said that even he himself could not ever finish learning the *Small Catechism* that he wrote. So there is no surprise that even pastors with advanced degrees seek out regular opportunities to continue their education, as I expect to do again this coming summer.

The historical origins of Sunday School are anything but Lutheran, although over time most Lutheran congregations implemented Sunday School programs of one kind or another. We at Pilgrim have more than two dozen "children" of arguably Sunday-School age, but we

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nevertheless struggle to have more than a handful of them present and learning on any given Sunday, despite the fact that there are always faithful teachers present and prepared to teach (for which faithfulness and preparation we thank them and their substitutes!).

Are you and your children, if any, regularly in Adult Bible Class and Sunday School on Sunday mornings? If not, *why* not? Our attitudes and actions in these regards ultimately reflect our regard for God's Word and for God Himself. If we fear and love Him rightly, we will hold His Word sacred and gladly hear and learn it. Non-use of His Word, on the other hand, indicates that we despise His Word and do not rightly fear and love Him.

An occasional weekend away or work conflicts may keep us out of class once in a while, to be sure, but, generally speaking, one's being absent more than being present suggests something is wrong with one's regard for God's Word. Ultimately, that is why we come to Sunday School and Adult Bible Class, not because there are fun activities, great teachers, or good refreshments (all of which there may or may not be) but because we hold holy God's Word as the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16) and so want to learn from it. Whatever concerns we might have about specific topics or who is or is not present in the various classes should not keep us from them. The longer classes, much more than the briefer sermons, in our time certainly have become the primary opportunities for detailed exposition of God's Word. And, we should want pastors, who are best-trained and called to teach God's Word, to teach us and as many of our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ as possible.

Where there are legitimate Sunday morning excuses, we adults can avail ourselves of Midweek Bible Study, and, if in rare legitimate cases that also is not possible, we can at least listen to the Sunday Class and/or Midweek Study online, thanks to our volunteers who faithfully post audio files and handouts (for which faithfulness we thank them!). And, we all have opportunities to be in God's Word on our own schedule with the Daily Bible Reading plan being recommended, for which study helps and other resources are also available, especially online.

Sunday as a day of rest has most to do with giving God the opportunity to work in us by means of His Word and Sacraments. Similarly at least our term, if not also our time, for "recreation" has most to do with the "re-creation" that God also accomplishes through those same means of Grace. School year or not, may God always so move us to set apart time for Him to so work in us through our study of His Word!

*His and your servant,  
Pastor Galler*

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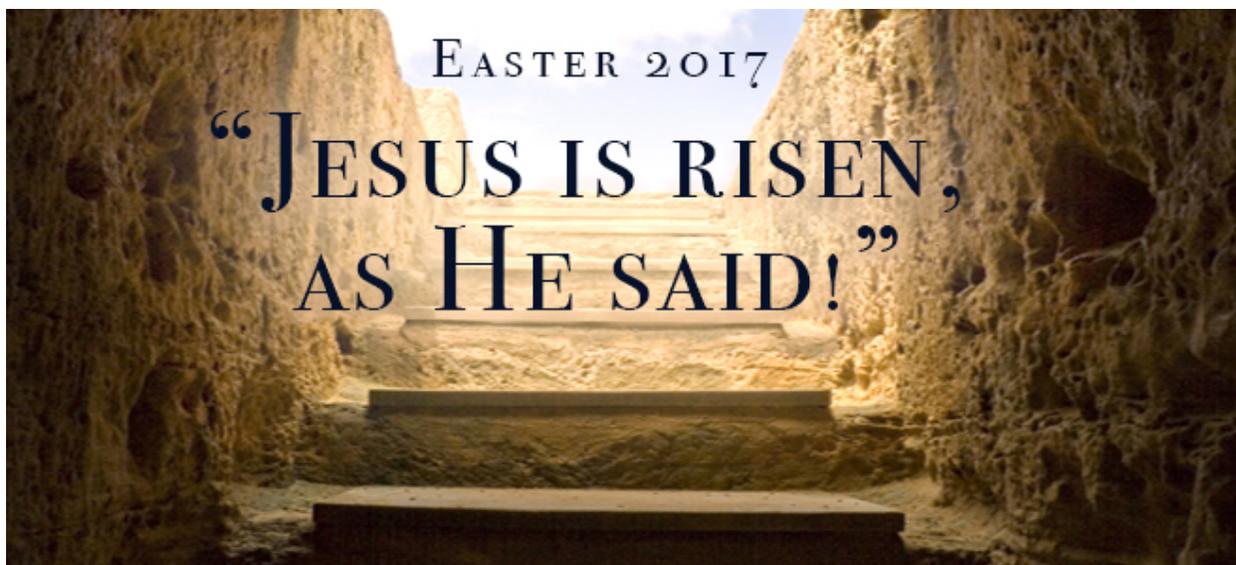
## *HAPPY BIRTHDAYS!*

05 – Pastor Galler  
19 – Steven Sampson  
20 – Edgar Wuthrich



## *BLESSED ANNIVERSARY*

13 – Tom and Mary Criswell  
23 – Tyler and Jeanna Watts



When Mary Magdalene and the other women went to Jesus's tomb early the first day of the week after His crucifixion, an angel (a messenger of God whose appearance was like lightning and his clothing as white as snow) told them not to be afraid and that Jesus was not there, for He had risen, as He previously had said He would (Matthew 28:1-6). Indeed, Jesus had previously foretold His crucifixion and resurrection at least two times (Matthew 16:21; 17:22-23). That Jesus's prophecy came true as He said shows at least that He is a true prophet (Deuteronomy 18:22), but in Jesus's case His Word and teaching's being true also means so much more: that He is the Son of God (Romans 1:4), that God the Father accepted His sacrifice for the sins of the world (Romans 4:25; 5:10), and that all people will also arise, although only believers will rise to eternal life with Jesus (John 11:25-26; 14:19; 1 Corinthians 15:20). No wonder Jesus's resurrection holds such an important, central role in the Christian faith!

Although Easter Day is past, the Easter season continues for a total of 50 days and so all through May 2017 and even a few weekdays into June. Throughout the Easter season and always, you are invited to Pilgrim Lutheran Church in order to hear the Good News of Jesus's resurrection and your own resurrection from God's messenger here (whose appearance is not like lightning but who is also clothed in white). The events of the Resurrection of Our Lord are more obviously the focus of the Gospel Readings on Easter day and less obviously the rest of the season. The following are the Sundays of Easter in 2017 and their Gospel Readings (appointed by *Lutheran Service Book's* three-year lectionary series A).

- Fourth Sunday (05/07): Jesus the Good Shepherd gives abundant life (John 10:1-10)
- Fifth Sunday (05/14): Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:1-14)
- Sixth Sunday (05/21): Jesus asks the Father to send the Spirit (John 14:15-21)
- Seventh Sunday (05/28): Jesus prays for His disciples to be one (John 17:1-11)

Pilgrim will also offer Divine Services on Thursday, May 25th, at 7:00 p.m., marking the Ascension of Our Lord (the appointed Gospel Reading is Luke 24:44-53), and on Wednesday May 31st at 7:00 p.m., marking the Visitation, a principal feast of Christ (the appointed Gospel Reading is Luke 1:39-45).

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All are welcome in person to any of our services! You may read and hear the sermons at Pilgrim not only from the Season of Easter but also from every other season of the Church Year online at [www.pilgrimlc.org/sermons](http://www.pilgrimlc.org/sermons).

The banner graphic at the top of page 3 was composed by Carla Adsit using part of an uncredited image found at [http://news.salvationarmy.org.uk/sites/default/files/shutterstock\\_83038393.jpg](http://news.salvationarmy.org.uk/sites/default/files/shutterstock_83038393.jpg)

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## MAY EVENTS

**TEXAS DISTRICT THEOLOGICAL CONVOCATION:** The Board of Elders has decided Pastor Galler should attend the Annual Texas District Theological Convocation, Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, through Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, in Austin, titled “True Concord: Scripture, Confessions, and the Body of Christ”, presented by Rev. Dr. Robert Kolb of the St. Louis Seminary and Rev. Dr. Roland Ziegler of the Ft. Wayne Seminary. Pastor will be leaving Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, after the Divine Service and expects to be back in his Study on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> (due to the North Texas Confessional Lutherans Study Group’s meeting in Plano on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>).



**QUILTING BEE** will be held on Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library.

**LWML** will meet Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library for a meal, short business meeting, and Bible study.

**MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY** will not be held Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, because Pastor will be out of town, but will meet on Wednesdays, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. (not on the 31<sup>st</sup> due to the Divine Service for the Visitation).

**LWML EAST TEXAS ZONE WORKSHOP** will be held Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, in Gun Barrel City. from 9:30 a.m. to 2:35 p.m., with the theme “Faith, Hope, and Love”. All ladies are welcome to join the members of Pilgrim’s Society in attending (Pastor Galler will be conducting the Bible Study on 1 Corinthians 13). The plan presently is to leave from Pilgrim at 7:30 a.m.

**ELDERS** will meet on Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library (reading assignment Smalcald Articles II:v, p.278).

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES** for June are due Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. Please submit your contributions for your newsletter by that time, either by email to [secretary@pilgrimlc.org](mailto:secretary@pilgrimlc.org) or by placing a paper copy on the secretary’s desk.

**ASCENSION DAY DIVINE SERVICE** is Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.

**VISITATION DIVINE SERVICE** is Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.

**SECRET SISTERS’ REVEAL SALAD LUNCH** will take place after the Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, Divine Service, in the Conference/Library or the new Parish Hall. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to enjoy this time of “sisterhood”. More details will follow in future bulletins.

**ONCE-A-MONTH-SOCIAL GATHERING:** Give your ideas to Barbara Wuthrich. Once the new building is done, we could at least have a game night in it!

1	1 Sam. 2:1-10 Titus, Philemon
2	Psalm 121 Hebrews 1-4
3	Psalm 122 Hebrews 5-7
4	Psalm 123 Hebrews 8-10
5	Psalm 124 Heb. 11-13
6	Psalm 125 James 1-3
7	Psalm 126 James 4-5
8	Psalm 127 1 Peter 1-2
9	Psalm 128 1 Peter 3-5
10	Psalm 129 2 Peter
11	Psalm 130 1 John 1-3
12	Psalm 131 1 John 4-5
13	Psalm 132 2 John, 3 John, Jude
14	Psalm 133 John 1-2
15	Psalm 134 John 3-4
16	Psalm 135 John 5-6
17	Psalm 136 John 7-8
18	Psalm 137 John 9-10
19	Psalm 138 John 11-12
20	Psalm 139 John 13-14
21	Psalm 140 John 15-16
22	Psalm 141 John 17-18
23	Psalm 142 John 19
24	Psalm 143 John 20-21
25	Psalm 144 Acts 1-2
26	Psalm 145 Acts 3-4
27	Psalm 146 Acts 5-6
28	Psalm 147 Acts 7-8
29	Psalm 148 Acts 9-10
30	Psalm 149 Acts 11-12
31	1 Samuel 2:1-10 Acts 13-14

## Recent Bible Reading leads to two new Q&A

We continue to encourage everyone to be in God's Word on a daily basis, for example reading a psalm and several chapters of a book each day as scheduled by the Daily Lectionary from *Lutheran Worship* (pp.295-299), the May portion of which is reproduced at left and in larger-print pages available in the Narthex. The following two questions came to me in March as the April newsletter was going to print; I am privileged and pleased to provide the following answers in this May edition of the *Pilgrimage*.

**Q: I really liked Luke 1, but I was just confused about a few things in the chapter. For example, was the foretelling of John's and Jesus's births (Luke 1:5-25, 26-38) done by God through an angel to their parents? Also, I'm not sure about the purpose of Mary's and Zechariah's songs (Luke 1:46-55, 67-79): are they just the celebration of the births of children in song?**

A: I am glad that you liked Luke 1, as it is a rich chapter, full of unique content that the Holy Spirit not only inspired for us through St. Luke but also preserved for us to have still today. The announcements of John's and Jesus's births and the sung responses to them are similar but also different, as, for example, the miraculous natures of the births themselves are also different by degree. Yes, the angel Gabriel (Luke 1:19, 26) announces God's message to John's father Zechariah and to Jesus's mother Mary about the upcoming miraculous births, and Zechariah presumably tells John's mother Elizabeth, just as Mary probably also told Joseph, although Joseph also got Divine confirmation of Jesus's paternity via an angel in a dream (Matthew 1:20). But, note that while Zechariah and Elizabeth conceived John in a normal way (Luke 1:24), Gabriel's announcement is usually understood to coincide with Mary's conceiving, so that the March 25th date of the Annunciation is taken as the date of Jesus's conception, resulting in the nine-months-later date of His birth on December 25th. In reverse order of the birth announcements and births, Mary's song praising God in part for His conceiving Jesus in her comes upon her visit to Elizabeth (we will observe the Feast of that Visitation this month with a 7:00 p.m. Divine Service on May 31), and Zechariah's song praising God in part for the birth of John comes after John was born. Yes, to some extent both songs do celebrate the births of the children in song, but they both also prophesy about not only the child to be born (and in John's case to the child!), but also more importantly they prophesy about the broader salvation that God is accomplishing in part through the work of the children. Note that both songs are similar to Old Testament psalms, even as they become the first two hymns or spiritual songs of the New Testament, which, unlike other songs parents may have sung about their children, the Holy Spirit has preserved for us and the Church has continued to sing to this day (see *Lutheran*

*Service Book* 231-232, 238-240, 933-935, 936).

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**Q: When I read Psalm 13, I didn't understand the questions being asked. The Lord will never forget us or hide from us, so maybe that's not what the Psalm is saying. Also, the Psalm ends with "I will sing to the Lord, because He has dealt bountifully with me," which I agree with. I constantly get Christian songs stuck in my head, and then I smile and thank Him for all He has done. Right now I keep having this song verse repeat, "I could sing of Your love forever." I know Mercy Me and Hillsong have both done versions of the song with that title, and, when I hear it, I am reminded how full of God's love I am and how much more happy I am.**

A: Psalm 13 begins with an anguished complaint, as if the suffering psalmist does not think the Lord will ever remember him or soon graciously turn His face to him, but, after its appeal to God to deliver the psalmist from death, Psalm 13 ends with the psalmist's confident faith expressing itself in a vow to praise the Lord. When we are oppressed as the psalmist clearly was, those initial questions can flow from our lips, too, but, by God's Word and Sacraments, our appeals for deliverance are also answered, and we are also moved from complaint to praise. Thank you for mentioning that song and those artists, as I was not previously familiar with them and so found them online. To be sure, there is a lot of music out there, and some of it serves Christians better than others, whether we are together as the Church in the Divine Service or on our own individually. As Lutherans, of course, we remember that the initiative for our salvation is all God's, and our response to His love, specifically His love in Christ Jesus our Lord, is praise. In fact, we not only "could" sing of His love forever, but, in the eternity of heaven, we who repent and believe "will" sing of His love forever!

What are your questions about the Bible? Email, text, call, or ask me them in person. I am more than happy eventually to answer them in the same fashion and share the questions anonymously and my answers in this forum. As He promises to do, God truly blesses us as we are in His Word!

*Pastor Galler*

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## Directory additions, changes, and corrections

The following information should be added, changed, or corrected in your copy of the February 22, 2017, Pilgrim Directory.

Jim and Holly Treadway  
SB32 Lake Cherokee, Tatum, TX 75691-3589  
Jim: 903-235-3267 Holly: 903-399-0066  
[jatreadway@gmail.com](mailto:jatreadway@gmail.com) [greytbiker@yahoo.com](mailto:greytbiker@yahoo.com)

Bryn Heil has bought a new home in Longview, and his address should be changed to the following:

1730 Rainbow Drive  
Longview, TX 75604-2436

Note that the address for Julia Heil is no longer current.

Under friends of the congregation (for now), you may add:

Carl, Bianca, and Seth Adams  
175 West Holt, New London, TX 75682  
903-646-6099

The next edition of the Directory is likely to come out in August of 2017.



Jim and Holly Treadway were received as members of Pilgrim by transfer on Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017. They are pictured here with Pastor Galler.  
*Photo: Barbara Wuthrich.*

## APRIL PHOTO ALBUM



(Left) On Friday, March 31, 2017, a crew spreads concrete from North Crete Services into the forms for the sidewalk from the existing ramp to the Office Area to the main entrance of the new Parish Hall with Sunday School Classrooms.

*Photo: J. Galler.*

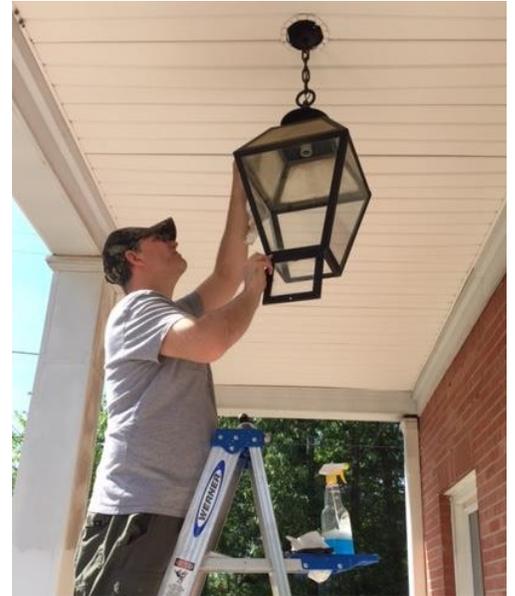
(Far right) On the Saturday, April 8, 2017, annual cleaning day, Steven Sampson installs a new glass pane in the light over the main entrance to the Sanctuary.

*Photo: Barbara Wuthrich.*

(Near right) Danny Sampson and Cooper Sampson do their usual good job of washing the Sanctuary windows.

*Photo: 'Angela Sampson.*

(Below top and bottom) The Pilgrim congregation begins the April 9, 2017, Palm Sunday Divine Service outside before processing inside. *Photos: Barbara Wuthrich and Angela Sampson.*



(Above, left to right) Clay Ellis and Emma Wats pose with Pastor Galler after the April 9, 2017, Palm Sunday Divine Service in which they were confirmed.

*Photo: Barbara Wuthrich.*



## MORE APRIL PHOTOS

(Near right, left to right) Brandy Ellis and Carolyn Holcombe receive punch and cake from Angela Sampson, Cooper Sampson, and Sharon Sampson at the LWML's Confirmation Reception April 9, 2017.  
*Photo: Barbara Wuthrich.*



(Far right, left to right) Layne Hopkins and Clint Jahr clean up after cutting the long-awaited door through from the Office Area to the New Parish Hall.  
*Photo: Barbara Wuthrich.*



(Above, left to right) Marci Landry, Sharon Sampson, Sarah Land, Spencer Land, Luke Land, David Landry, Josey Landry, and Pastor Galler are among those enjoying the April 16, 2017, Easter Breakfast blocks from Pilgrim at the city park off Harris and Commerce Streets.  
(Right, left to right) Jack Watts, Cooper Sampson, Lucy Watts, Emma Watts, and Luke Land hunt for Easter eggs in the park after they finished their breakfast. *Photos: Angela Sampson.*



(Above) Emma Watts makes her Pilgrim debut on the piano by playing the Tanzanian tune "Mfurahini Haleluya" (LSB 466) as a Voluntary during the Offering in the Divine Service on Easter Day, April 16, 2016.  
(Right) Tyler and Jeanna Watts play their trombones with the organ accompanying "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands", the Hymn of the Day in the Easter Divine Service, as their son Mark Watts looks on.  
*Photos: Barbara Wuthrich.*

# 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!*

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

Vacancies at Our Savior, Centerville, and Redeemer, Nacogdoches

Our former member Rev. Michael Monterastelli, seeking a call and interim employment

## OUR PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH:

Faithful stewardship of God's gifts

Safe and speedy construction of the new Parish Hall

## THOSE UNCONVERTED AND WHO HAVE STRAYED FROM THE FAITH:

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

## THOSE DEALING WITH TEMPTATIONS AND SINS RELATED TO SEXUALITY FOR AN END TO THE EVILS OF ABORTION

## PEACE AND UNITY IN THE WORLD AND COUNTRY

## MEN IN THE SERVICE:

Victor Guinn (Paul Guinn's son, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton)

George C. Heil (at base in Virginia)

Brian Holcombe (Carolyn Holcombe's son stationed in Washington, D.C.)

## THOSE IN POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS:

Sam Morton (Longview Fire Department)

## THOSE WHO TRAVEL:

Brady Gage

David Navaille

Danny and Sharon Sampson (4/25-5/2 for Sharon's brother-in-law's Memorial Service)

Edgar Wuthrich

## SHUT-INS:

Gwen Heil (our member, in the Carriage Inn Assisted Living in Katy)

Wayne and Better Miller (our members, at home in Longview but unable to drive)

Leroy Thomas (our member, presently at Whispering Pines in Longview)

Rev. Harold Wageman (former PLC pastor, under hospice care at Henderson Rehab)

## THOSE WHO NEED HEALING:

Steve Atchinson (Betty Miller's grandson, learning how to use his prosthetic hand)

Lew Barney (the Nicols' friend, continuing to grieve the loss of her husband years ago)

Mozelle Barton (Connie Wilburn's friend, doing well dealing with lung cancer)

Sam Bradley (Beth West's uncle, recovering from broken hip at a Plano facility)

Maria Church (Elaine Navaille's coworker, side effects from oral chemo for melanoma)

Sophie Collins (5-year-old Sabine girl injured in three-car accident 4/10)

Mary Criswell (our member, out of hospital 4/24 but still being treated for pneumonia)

Kay Crouch (Danny Sampson's shirt-tail relative, still holding her own after surgery)

Kathy Jennings (Remo and Kathy's friend, making progress against her cancer)

Martha Johnson (Sallye Key's sister, still hospitalized after colon cancer surgery 3/28)

Sarah Land (recovering from radioactive treatment, kidney stone, and shingles)

David Landry (new member, suffering from worsening Ankylosing Spondylitis)

*Prayer List continues on the following page.*

*Prayer List continues from the previous page.*

Carl London (Connie Wilburn's coworker, living day to day with his terminal cancer)  
Kelly McClendon (Danny's shirt-tail relative, home recovering from 2/7 surgery)  
Herb Michel (relative of Pastor's friends, at home but needs continued healing)  
Beth Nicol (new medicine for shoulder pain not yet helping fibromyalgia)  
Don Nicol (on oxygen at home, smaller tumor but lung and heart trouble)  
Freda Piazza (Sharon's sister, blood clot to be addressed before repeating knee surgery)  
Rev. Kurt Reinhardt (former classmate of Pastor Galler's, suffered massive stroke 3/20)  
Richard Rump (Jennifer Hooze's father, home after embolism 2/18 but needs peace)  
Abby Smith (Jeanna's cousin's wife, bed rest at home, awaiting liver biopsy results)  
David Smith (in rehab unit at Longview Regional after recent stroke)  
Traci Tippitt (Arcele's niece, finally trying to stand up after 12/03 car accident)  
Lanell Toon (Beth Nicol's friend, widespread stage 4 cancer and diabetic husband)  
Mark Tucker (Sarah Land's brother-in-law, diagnosed with bladder cancer)  
Vincent Vernon (Walkers' brother-in-law, possibly final months of terminal cancer)  
John P. Walker (John and Vicki's son, wrapped up 8 weeks of IV antibiotics at home)  
Abby Weeks (Brady's brother's granddaughter, diagnosed with hemiplegic migraines)  
Pat Welch (Beth Nicol's friend, Parkinson's continues to make her situation worse)  
Arcele Wilburn (4/18 cataract surgery in Tyler went well, next scheduled for 5/2)  
Harold Wilburn (Arcele's brother-in-law, mental health issues and appropriate treatment)  
Robert Wiles (Betty Miller's nephew, untreatable cancer, remains on a feeding tube)  
Van Willey (Remo and Kathy's friend, diagnosed with stomach cancer 2/14)

**THOSE IN THE MEDICAL PROFESSION**

**EXPECTANT MOTHERS:**

Mary Clubb (former member Aaron Clubb's wife, second pregnancy)

**FAMILIES IN CRISIS OR NEED AND ALL FAMILIES:**

Erickson Family (recent college graduate Tiffani continues to seek employment)  
Herricks Family (God's guidance for our member Olene and her son Joe)  
Landry Family (locating a place for their office, water for their home)  
Eric and Abbi Longson (Criswell's granddaughter and husband, seeking employment)  
Reed Family (Heil's boarder Lina, reconciliation with her family)  
Roberts Family (Olene Herricks' friend, for God's guidance and strength)  
Thomas Family (Leroy's sons and grandchildren)  
Glenn West Family (void left after Glen's recent passing)  
Wuthrich Family (dealing with Edgar's brother Bernie)

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## **Pilgrim's to-date plate offerings reported**

Following a request from Pilgrim's Board of Elders, Pilgrim's Treasurer reports the following figures for 2017 through April 23, 2017 (16 of 52 weeks):

Undesignated Plate Offerings received:	\$32,614.33
Undesignated Plate Offerings projected:	\$44,782.58 (for deficit budget)
Accrued expenses:	\$43,076.12
Projected expenses per budget:	\$45,381.99 (16/52 of the total for the year)

While actual expenses are roughly \$2,000 below projection, actual undesignated giving is an alarming \$12,000 below projection!

*Tyler Watts  
Treasurer*

## JUNE EVENTS

**GUADALUPE RIVER RETREAT:** The annual retreat June 2-4<sup>th</sup> is being organized by Faith Lutheran Church in Plano and is available for all college and young career adults. Cost is \$60 per person. Contact Pilgrim’s Church Office if you are interested.

**MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY** is presently planned to be held Wednesday June 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. (not on June 28<sup>th</sup>, when Pastor will be at the Higher Things Conference).

**“MAKING THE CASE” CONFERENCE:** Issues, Etc. is organizing this conference for June 9-10<sup>th</sup> in Collinsville, Illinois. Please contact Pilgrim’s Church Office if you are interested.

**EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE** is June 16<sup>th</sup> for the Texas All-State Lutheran Music Camp at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin, July 6-8, at the cost of \$100. For more information, contact the Church Office.

**ELDERS** will meet on Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library (reading assignment TBA).

**ANNUAL PILGRIM PICNIC** that will also honor our members Jasmine Landry and Grace Morton, who are graduating from high school, will be held one Sunday in June. Watch the bulletins and June *Pilgrimage* for further details.

**LWML NATIONAL CONVENTION:** Our member Sharon Sampson, in her capacity as LWML East Texas Zone President/Delegate, will attend the June 22-25 event in Albuquerque, NM.

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES** for July are due Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>. Please submit your contributions for your newsletter by that time.

**PRESENTATION OF THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION:** We will host Our Redeemer Lutheran Church for a covered-dish meal at 6:00 p.m., followed by a joint service at 7:00 p.m.

**HERE I STAND: HIGHER THINGS 2017 CONFERENCE:** Pastor Galler will accompany Matthew Hooge and Luke Land to the June 27-30<sup>th</sup> event at Trinity University in San Antonio.

**ONCE-A-MONTH-SOCIAL GATHERING:** Give your ideas to Barbara Wuthrich.



**Texas District  
Church Extension Fund**  
1-888-951-1233    [www.TexasCEF.org](http://www.TexasCEF.org)  
[www.facebook.com/texascef](http://www.facebook.com/texascef)

INVESTMENT	FIXED RATE <sup>(2)</sup>		FLOATING RATE <sup>(2)</sup>	
	Rate	APY	Rate	APY
One Year Note <sup>(1)</sup>	1.500%	1.51%	1.125%	1.13%
Three Year Note <sup>(1)</sup>	1.750%	1.76%	1.625%	1.63%
Five Year Note <sup>(1)</sup>	2.250%	2.27%	2.125%	2.14%
Flex Savings			0.500%	0.50%
<b>ACCOUNTS FOR CONGREGATIONS</b>				
Congregation Savings			1.000%	1.00%
Building Fund Savings			2.250%	2.14%

All individual Texas District CEF investments (FLEX, fixed and floating rate notes) may be included in a person’s IRA portfolio, through our custodian GoldStar Trust Company. [www.texascef.org/ira.html](http://www.texascef.org/ira.html)  
<sup>(1)</sup> Subject to penalty for early withdrawal. <sup>(2)</sup> 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.

## KIDS' PAGE

# The Ascension of Jesus

While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. Luke 24:51 (NIV)

Based on Luke 24:44-53



B T Q O M D Q S U F F E R U F  
F N C Q W O P S A L M S T S A  
G X N Q O F S M Z Z H N U C O  
B B Y C R O T E C M E T N R J  
R A P R S R S P S P F E C I A  
N I G Y H G U P E G K D L P S  
Z F S F I I M R N A N W D T P  
B J Z E P V F S T A Y E E U O  
X L K R E E G J T Q L H J R H  
E T E U D N X S Y L P D U E T  
E S X S E K R K I O E A M M P  
J S X V S E W F R N D X I C H  
A X A B D I L P E U V V N O R  
D E C N K U N P L F J S D Q S  
H R U I F H O G G V Y K S L C

RISE	REPENT	PROPHETS	TAKEN
SUFFER	PSALMS	OPENED	FORGIVE
HEAVEN	SCRIPTURE	FULFILLED	MOSES
WORSHIPED	BLESSING	UNDERSTAND	MINDS



# MAY 2017

## 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
	<b>1</b> 5:30-8:00 PM LWML Quilting, mtg., Bible Study	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> North Texas Confessional Lutherans Study Group in Plano	<b>5</b>  Pastor Galler (B)	<b>6</b> LWML ET Zone Workshop at Gun Barrel City 9:30 a.m. to 2:35 p.m.
	Pastor at Texas District Theological Convocation in Austin					
<b>7</b> 4 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EASTER (W) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service	<b>8</b> 1:00-6:00 PM Cleaning Ladies	<b>9</b>  6:00 PM Elders	<b>10</b>  7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  Tom and Mary Criswell (A)
<b>14</b> 5 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EASTER (W) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service	<b>15</b>  Tyler and Jeanna Watts (A)	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	<b>18</b> Circuit Pastors' Meeting (Lufkin) 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	<b>19</b>  Steven Sampson (B)	<b>20</b> <i>Pilgrimage</i> articles due tomorrow  Edgar Wuthrich (B)
<b>21</b> 6 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EASTER (W) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  5:30 Pastor prays at Kilgore City Council	<b>24</b>  7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	<b>25</b>  7:00 PM Ascension Divine Service	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 7 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EASTER (W) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  7:00 PM Visitation Divine Service	Communion Assistant – Steven Sampson  Acolyte –Cooper Sampson  Cleaning Volunteers <span style="background-color: yellow;">Your name here ???</span>		

**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](http://www.pilgrimlc.org)



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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.