



THE PILGRIMAGE

The newsletter of Pilgrim Lutheran Church (LCMS), Broadway at Florey, Kilgore, Texas

April 2018

We glorify God by receiving the forgiveness of sins by grace through faith in Jesus Christ and sharing that salvation through word and deed with those in our midst, in our community, and throughout the world.

What Easter gives us is sufficient for now and eternity

Dear Members and Friends of Pilgrim Lutheran Church,

Do you *feel as if* you already have the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting that we confess in the Apostles' Creed? Perhaps not, especially as we watch friends and loved ones die and our own bodies decline and decay in various ways. Of course, our feelings about whether or not we already have the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting do not change *the objective reality that*, with repentance and faith in Jesus's death on the cross for our sins and His resurrection from the grave, we already have these end of time realities as our possession, even if we do not yet fully experience them now as we will experience them then.

We should *not* but nevertheless still *do* sin in this life. Expectations to the contrary only lead us eventually to despair. Dashed human hopes and dreams, changes that we do not like but are forced upon us, and all such things also can lead us to despair. But, in Christ, there is always sure and certain Divine hope! As there was a fixed limit to Christ's period of suffering, followed by death, before eternal glory, so there is a fixed limit to our periods of suffering, perhaps followed by death, before eternal glory. We may not always see the light that is at the end of the tunnel, but it is always there, whether or not we see it.

Easter is *the* big deal of the Christian faith. Everything that came before Jesus's death was necessary but on its own insufficient for our salvation. Jesus's death did it all, but if that is where things had ended, we never would have known. As Jesus's descent into hell revealed the impact of His death to those there, so Jesus's resurrection revealed the impact of His death to those living then and us who follow them. Jesus's resurrection proves that He is the Son of God, that His teaching (including His repeated prophecies of His death and resurrection) is the truth, that God the Father accepted His sacrifice for the sins of the whole world, and that all believers

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in Christ will likewise rise to eternal life. Holy Baptism received in repentance and faith connects us to Jesus and all that He has done for us (Romans 6:1-14).

Jesus perfectly kept the law that we fail to keep, and Jesus died for our failure to keep that law. He has done all that needs to be done for our salvation, and He continuously offers that salvation and all that we need to get through this life by way of His read and preached Word, individual Holy Absolution, and the Sacrament of the Altar. There may be no life of luxury, perfect children, or fulfillment of our wildest wishes, but in the resurrected Christ Jesus we have all that we truly need.

One of my favorite Easter hymns is “I Am Content! My Jesus Ever Lives” (*Lutheran Service Book* 468; see also *Lutheran Worship* 145, which dropped stanza 3 from *The Lutheran Hymnal* 196). The hymn well describes what should be our state of mind, heart, and spirit since Jesus ever lives, is our head and light, and at length sets us free. August Crull gave us the translation “I am content”, but the German is *Ich habe g’nug*, more literally “I have enough” (the hymn’s tune is ES IST GENUG, or “it is enough”, but that tune title apparently comes from an earlier hymn with a different text). Though some might have difficulty with the tune, we do well to sing or say that with Jesus we can be content because we have enough, sufficient for what God permits us to face in this life. Like St. Paul, we can be content in whatever situation we are in (Philippians 4:11, and apparently see also Luke 3:14; 2 Corinthians 12:10; 1 Timothy 6:6, 8; and Hebrews 13:5, though be aware that a number of different Greek words are translated similarly). In time, all of this life will pass and we will not only have but also fully experience the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting that we confess in the Apostles’ Creed.

All are invited and welcome to Pilgrim for all of this month’s “sufficient” Easter and other services and activities detailed throughout this newsletter!

*His and your servant,
Pastor Galler*

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS!

- 01 – Julia Heil
- 03 – Dallas Landry
- 04 – Tiffani Scheuermann
- 06 – Lucy Watts
- 07 – Ben Morton
- 10 – Carolyn Holcombe
- 16 – Bianca Adams
- 16 – Colleen Hooge
- 29 – Nikki Hinson



Happy Anniversaries!

- 03 – Remo and Kathy Gualtieri
- 08 – Jim and Holly Treadway
- 23 – David and Elaine Navaille



A church ceiling painting in the style of Greek icons depicts the resurrected Jesus having defeated death and, as it were, caught between heaven and earth during the Easter season. Image:

<https://3.bp.blogspot.com/-3ocDhEnyNuM/Vye6-3SIIxI/AAAAAAAAAJDU/tuwtdkXL9ZUArKqwSO3nIT-QSA4jJUAQCLcB/s1600/opstanding-grieks.png>

The third day He rose again

When I was a child, I wondered why, on the basis of Holy Scripture, the three creeds said that Jesus on the third day rose *again*. I mean, after all, Jesus had not risen *before*, so why was His resurrection from the dead a rising *again*? When I became a man (1 Corinthians 13:11) and studied the language of Holy Scripture and the creeds, I came to understand that the prefixes of the compound words used in Greek, Latin, and German intensify the base meanings of the root words in a way that is hard to reproduce in a single English word. So, we have rose *again*, indicating that Jesus again stood in the midst of His people as He had stood there before, and as we who may die before His final coming also will again stand on the Last Day. Jesus the Son of God rose as He said that He

would, demonstrating that the Father accepted His sacrifice on the cross for the sins of the whole world, and also that all who repent and believe in Him will rise to eternal life (those that do not repent and believe will still rise but to eternal torment apart from God). That future resurrection is already a present possession of those who repent and believe and are baptized into Him, but it remains the goal and hope of our striving in this present life, in part made possible by our not despising but regularly hearing His Word read and preached and receiving individual Holy Absolution and the Sacrament of the Altar.

As part of that striving, you are invited to celebrate Jesus's on the third day rising again from the dead, with all those who repent and believe in Him at Pilgrim Lutheran Church on Easter Day, throughout the Easter season, and always. On Easter Day, April 1, 2018, we will have special "Sonrise" Matins at 7:00 a.m. and the Divine Service at 10:45 a.m. In between the two, we will have an Easter Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. and an Egg Hunt at 9:00, before Sunday School and Adult Bible Class at 9:30 a.m. For the rest of the 50-day Easter season and every other Sunday, the schedule begins with Refreshments at 9:15 a.m.

When you come, you will see throughout the season the use of white for the cloths called "paraments" on the furnishings of the Chancel and for the pastor's stole. The color white symbolizes the joy, celebration, gladness, purity, and innocence of the season. You may also notice our use of a form of the ancient Easter Acclamation: "Alleluia! Christ is risen!" to which the congregation responds, "He is risen indeed! Alleluia!" Notable in that greeting is the ringing return, from being put away for Lent, of the word "Alleluia!", meaning "Praise the Lord!", transliterated from the original Hebrew through Greek into English.

The Gospel Readings for the season present multiple themes that are all part of the Easter mystery: resurrection, ascension, and the sending of the Holy Spirit. The following are the Sundays of Easter in April of 2018 and their Gospel Readings (appointed by *Lutheran Service Book's* three-year lectionary series B).

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- Easter Sunday (04/01): Jesus rises from the dead (John 20:1-18; Mark 16:1-8)
- Second Sunday (04/08): Jesus appears to Thomas (John 20:19-31)
- Third Sunday (04/15): Jesus explains how His rising fulfills Holy Scripture (Luke 24:36-49)
- Fourth Sunday (04/22): The Good Shepherd takes up His life for the sheep (John 10:11-18)
- Fifth Sunday (04/29): Jesus is the Vine and believers are the branches (John 15:1-8)

Usually you can read and hear any sermon at Pilgrim at www.pilgrimlc.org/sermons.

Pastor Galler

APRIL EVENTS

EASTER SUNDAY ACTIVITIES APRIL 1st: 7:00 a.m. “Son-rise” Matins; 8:00 a.m. Breakfast in the Parish Hall (cooked by men of the congregation); 9:00 Easter Egg Hunt; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Bible Class; and 10:45 a.m. Divine Service.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY resumes Wednesday, April 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library and continues each Wednesday throughout the month with our “Salvation History is our Story”, which will pick up the events of Jesus’s ministry in Galilee where we left off in February. All are welcome at any time to participate onsite or listen later online.

COUNCIL REPORTS ARE DUE to Holly Treadway, Recording Secretary, by Sunday, April 8th, so they can be assembled and read before the meeting on April 15th.

PREMARITAL CATECHESIS CLASS will meet in April only on Sundays, April 8th and 22nd, due to Easter Sunday and other activities after the Service on the other Sundays.

LWML QUILTING BEE is Monday, April 9th at 5:30 p.m. in Room 4 of the Parish Hall.

LWML MEETING/ SUPPER/ BIBLE STUDY is Monday, April 9th at 6:30 PM in the Conference Room/Library.

ELDERS will meet on Tuesday, April 10th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library. Please come having read and being prepared to discuss the Treatise on the Power and Primary of the Pope, paragraphs 7-21, pp. 294-297.

REGULAR QUARTERLY CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING on Sunday, April 15th, at 12:30 p.m. in the Great Room.

PILGRIM’S NEIGHBORHOOD “SPRING THING” is Saturday, April 21st. See the article elsewhere in this newsletter and watch for more details in the Sunday bulletins.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES for the May *Pilgrimage* may be due Sunday, April 22nd.

19TH QUARTERLY BLOOD DRIVE: 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 28th, in the Parish Hall.

5th SUNDAY MEAL will be Sunday, April 29th. Plan to bring food to share for a scrumptious meal immediately following the Divine Service and lots of time to visit afterwards. (These “quarterly” Fifth Sunday Meals take the place of what were regular meals before the old quarterly Voters’ Meetings.)

1	Isaiah 25:1-9
	Romans 1-3
2	Ps. 114
	Romans 4-6
3	Ps. 115
	Romans 7-9
4	Ps. 116
	Romans 10-13
5	Ps. 117
	Romans 14-16
6	Ps. 118
	1 Cor. 1-3
7	Ps. 119:1-8
	1 Cor. 4-6
8	Ps. 119:9-16
	1 Cor. 7-9
9	Ps. 119:17-24
	1 Cor. 10-11
10	Ps. 119:25-32
	1 Cor. 12-14
11	Ps. 119:33-40
	1 Cor. 15-16
12	Ps. 119:41-48
	2 Cor. 1-4
13	Ps. 119:49-56
	2 Cor. 5-7
14	Ps. 119:57-64
	2 Cor. 8-10
15	Ps. 119:65-72
	2 Cor. 11-13
16	Ps. 119:73-80
	Galatians 1-3
17	Ps. 119:81-88
	Galatians 4-6
18	Ps. 119:89-96
	Ephesians 1-3
19	Ps. 119:97-104
	Ephesians 4-6
20	Ps. 119:105-112
	Philippians 1-2
21	Ps. 119:113-120
	Philippians 3-4
22	Ps. 119:121-128
	Colossians 1-2
23	Ps. 119:129-136
	Colossians 3-4
24	Ps. 119:137-144
	1 Thessalonians 1-3
25	Ps. 119:145-152
	1 Thessalonians 4-5
26	Ps. 119:153-160
	2 Thessalonians 1-3
27	Ps. 119:161-168
	1 Timothy 1-3
28	Ps. 119:169-176
	1 Timothy 4-6
29	Ps. 120
	2 Timothy 1-2
30	Isaiah 25:1-9
	2 Timothy 3-4

Bible Reading generates three more Q&A

Over the last three months, the Daily Bible Reading plan, reproduced at left (and in a larger-print form available in the Narthex) from *Lutheran Worship* (pp.295-299) and which everyone is encouraged to be following, has had us read the five books of Moses preceded and followed by a synoptic Gospel account. Perhaps there is little surprise that the following three questions that are answered below come from February and March's reading of Leviticus and Deuteronomy.

Q: Leviticus 12:6 dictates that a new mother must sacrifice a lamb following the birth of her child. What is the reasoning behind this ordinance, since elsewhere sacrifices serve primarily as atonement for sins?

A: In this case, the law prescribes a lamb as a burnt offering and a pigeon or dove as a sin offering (confer v.8 and the less-burdensome offering made after the time of the poorer Virgin Mary's purification was completed in Luke 2:22-24). Childbirth with its post-natal flow of blood made a woman ceremonially unclean, and as a result the ceremonial law mercifully exempted her both from the law's normal rigors and from her typical role in the life of her family and community for a time before she was reincorporated into the community. Admittedly, the sin was not any special moral guilt but the result of her bodily condition, and so the pigeon or dove, the smallest of the bleeding sacrifices, was sufficient as a sin offering. Although the ceremonial law is fulfilled for us in Christ, a vestige of this provision survives still today, for example, *Lutheran Service Book: Agenda* has a rite for the Blessing of a Mother After Childbirth,

Q: Leviticus 18 lists sexual sins. We Lutherans teach that sex should be confined to marriage, but that ordinance does not appear in this chapter. Is there an Old Testament basis for the injunction against extra-/pre-marital sex, not just adultery? It's always seemed odd to me that I never found a rule against pre-marital sex listed explicitly in the Mosaic law.

A: Following out of Leviticus 16 and 17 dealing with God's making His people holy through the use of blood, Leviticus 18 describes how the sanctified people of God attempt to preserve that sanctity in regards to sexual relations, especially in contrast to the Egyptians and Canaanites, and so keep the land God was giving them. You are right that the listing of Leviticus 18, perhaps influenced by the Egyptian and Canaanite contexts, does not contain an explicit command against extra-marital or pre-marital sexual relations, and that the Commandment against adultery (for example, Exodus 20:14) strictly-speaking deals with violation of the

marriage bond, though the Old Testament's understanding of fornication to some extent also may have been included (see, for example, the *Small Catechism's* explanation to the Sixth Commandment as requiring that we all should lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we

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say and do). As the perfect interpreter of the Old Testament law, Jesus understood the Commandment against adultery to include other things such as even lust in the heart (Matthew 5:27-28). Certainly the New Testament includes adultery as just one kind of sexual immorality (confer Matthew 15:19; Mark 7:21-22; Galatians 5:19-21), all of which sexual immorality (even homosexuality and bestiality) can be said ultimately to be an affront to God's institution of marriage as the place for sexual intercourse, always with the purpose of procreation, and God's intent for that marriage bond (see Matthew 19:3-6 and, Mark 10:6-9) and its intimate sexual relationships to be between one man and one woman who are joined for eternal life (Genesis 1:27-28; 2:23-24). In the end, we must not be so Biblicistic that we expect to find specific passages against anything that is a sin (for example, the use of internet pornography is not explicitly addressed by the Bible but is nevertheless included in its prohibition of all forms of sexual immorality).

Q: In Deuteronomy 2:5 and 2:9, God commands the Israelites to avoid warring with the Edomites and Moabites because they are the descendants of Esau and Lot and because He's given them Seir and Ar as their inheritance, just as He's given Israel the land of Israel. Are we to assume that these peoples were heirs to God's promise of salvation as well?

A: God's promise of salvation by grace through faith extended to all people then, as it extends to all people now. God's grace and faithfulness is evident as Moses recounts for the generation about to enter the Promised Land God's past commands and their obedience to those commands, especially regarding other blood-related people groups and the land that God had effectively given them. Even though Esau had sold his birthright (Genesis 25:29-34) and married Hittite wives who made life bitter for his parents Isaac and Rebekah (Genesis 26:34-35; 27:46), God reportedly had promised the descendants of Esau (the brother of Jacob, who is also called Israel) Mount Seir (also called Edom, the region southeast of the Salt Sea, which is now part of Saudi Arabia; confer Genesis 36:8-9). Likewise Abraham's nephew Lot's descendants (Genesis 19:36-37) had settled north of Edom, both the Moabites from his son Moab and the Ammonites from his son Ben-ammi (note the reference to the Ammonites in Deuteronomy 2:19-22). These examples further said to show that God's conquest of Canaan was not a greedy land-grab by the Israelites but His punishing the Canaanites and His fulfilling His promises to Abraham's descendants for the eventual salvation available to all through Abraham's line.

If you have a question about your Bible reading, whether or not you are following the recommended plan, you are always welcome to ask me! Just email, text, call, or otherwise ask, and I will be happy to answer!



This anonymous 12th-century mosaic from the Cathedral of Monreale, Sicily, shows Eve being introduced by God to Adam, what might be called the first marriage, in which relationship all God-pleasing sexual intercourse takes place. *Image:* <http://www.familyproject.com/art-history-background-session-three/>.

FEBRUARY/MARCH PHOTOS



(Left) On Sunday, February 25th, Pilgrim enjoyed our first “Grub and Games” event (like a “Blessed Pot Meal” and “Game Night” combined in the afternoon). After Divine Service, we enjoyed a lunch and then played many games. Pictured, in clockwise order, are Jeanna Watts; Spencer Land; Carl Gardner; Colleen, Jennifer, and Matthew Hooge; Devin Landry, Tyler Watts, Pastor Galler, and Dylan Landry, VERY much involved in a game of Settlers of Catan:Seafarers. Other groups enjoyed other games.

Photo: Barbara Wuthrich.

(Right) On Saturday, March 10th, our members Jeromy McMurray and Tina Stevens were united in holy matrimony by Pastor Galler. Pilgrim’s LWML Society hosted a reception in the Parish Hall after the wedding, with finger food and an apricot-puree cake made by Jeromy’s aunt. More than 60 people attended the Vespers service, including a former exchange student from Germany, whom Jeromy had hosted, and his sister Kelly Wilcox, who enjoyed reminiscing with Jeanette Paetznick, who had known her when Jeromy and his siblings were younger and he became a member when Pr. Piepkorn was here. *Photo: Morgan Broyles (Jeromy’s sister).*



(Far left) On Saturday, March 17th, Danny Sampson and Cooper Sampson do what has become their “usual” job at the Spring Work Day, cleaning the inside and outside of the Sanctuary windows. (Near left) Edgar Wuthrich and Brady Gage paint directional arrows on the west parking area to direct traffic from the Florey entrance, down the hill, and out the Broadway exit. (Don’t think Brady isn’t working, as his feet are holding the stencil steady.) *Photo: Angela Sampson.*

FEBRUARY/ MARCH PHOTOS (continued)



On Sunday, March 18th, Pilgrim’s LWML Society hosted a Bridal Luncheon at the home of Sharon Sampson to celebrate the marriage of Tiffani Erickson and Frank Scheuermann. (Left) Pictured are Tiffani’s mother Toni Erickson, Sharon Sampson, and Tiffani Erickson. (Right) One of the gifts Tiffani received was a towel “cake”, made by Gayle Gardner, in keeping with her long-standing tradition of making such gifts for bridal showers at Pilgrim. Other cards and gifts are slightly visible on the coffee table. *Photos: Angela Sampson.*

Not all of the Work-Day work got down on the work day but on March 21st! (Near right) The Watts children— Jack, Mark, Lucy, and Emma— hang the lower portion of the church sign with Jeanna and Emma’s improved paint-job. (Far right) You have heard the one about how many Aggies it takes to change a light bulb? Four Sampsons spanning three generations—Cooper, Steven, Angela, and Danny— patch a dime-sized hole left in the wall after Remo relocated the giant clock. *Photos: Barbara Wuthrich.*



Pilgrim’s VBS rescheduled to June 3-7, 2018

Theme: “Sanctified” (the same as the Higher Things Conference)

Three-year-olds through 6th-graders and adults

Light Supper at 5:00 p.m. and Sessions from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Watch for more details, sign-up sheets, etc.



Giving brings more receiving

Our Father in heaven sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. His atoning sacrifice is the first-fruits of all the dead (1 Corinthians 15:20), a pleasing aroma to His Father—and our Father—so that His perfect life and death count for all who believe in Him. We will also be raised from the dead in turn, but, until then, we live in Him, receiving and giving and receiving more.

He claimed us as His own children in Holy Baptism. He sustains and strengthens our faith with His Holy Word, individual Holy

Absolution, and His Body and Blood. As new creatures, who have put on Christ, we bear good fruit. According to our vocations, we do the good works prepared for us, which He makes known to us in His Word.

By faith then, trusting in the Word of God, we do what He says, because He does not lie and always keeps His promises. For “without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him” (Hebrews 11:6).

And so the Lord promises: “Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first-fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine” (Proverbs 3:9-10).

How do we honor the Lord with the wealth that God has given us in His generosity? By giving of it generously to those whom the Lord has called us to love and support: your family, your society, and your church. And His promise is that in so doing, you will never lack.

I can almost hear it now: “But that’s from the Old Testament!” But our Lord Jesus Himself gives us similar promises in the New Testament. For example, He says, at the conclusion of the Parable of the Talents, “For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance” (Matthew 25:29).

And then at the end of the Parable of the Dishonest Manager, He says: “One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another’s, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.” (Luke 16:10-13.)

And in His Sermon on the Mount, He says: “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matthew 6:19-21.)

We have become conditioned against these promises because of their misuse by the peddlers of the prosperity gospel—the guys on TV who say you get rich by putting God in your debt. And thus, we miss out on the fact that God often also does reward temporal faithfulness in

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temporal matters with temporal blessings, if not only with spiritual blessings (see further Matthew 19:28-30; Mark 10:29-31; Luke 18:29-30).

It's no *quid pro quo* ("this for that"). It's all from God's grace, of His fatherly divine goodness and mercy. But those Bible passages just quoted do in fact say what they say! It's not the Old Testament's problem. It's ours. It is almost as if we have become so jaded against this idea that we think it a virtue to be stingy with our offerings.

But, our Father in heaven still loves to bless those who bless others. He loves to give to those who give freely and generously. In fact, He challenges us to challenge Him: "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need." (Malachi 3:10, the only time we are told *to* test God.)

And so, while we do not give so that we would get, we do receive from the Lord in order to give, and He will bless our giving with more receiving. For "He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things" (Romans 8:32)?

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Pilgrim's year-to-date plate offerings and expenses reported

Following a request from Pilgrim's Board of Elders, Pilgrim's Treasurer reports the following figures for 2018 through March 23rd (11 of 52 weeks):

Undesignated Plate Offerings received:	\$24,549.18
Undesignated Plate Offerings projected:	\$27,500.00 (for deficit budgets)
Actual accrued expenses:	\$27,160.23
Projected expenses per budget:	\$30,144.39

(11/52 of the total for the year under the austerity budget)

Tyler Watts
Treasurer



April
2018

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

Investment	Fixed Rate ⁽²⁾		Floating Rate ⁽²⁾	
	Rate	APY	Rate	APY
One Year Note ⁽¹⁾	2.000%	2.02%	2.000%	2.02%
Three Year Note ⁽¹⁾	2.375%	2.40%	2.375%	2.40%
Five Year Note ⁽¹⁾	2.750%	2.78%	2.625%	2.65%
Flex Savings			1.000%	1.00%
<u>Accounts For Congregations</u>				
Congregation Savings			1.250%	1.26%
Building Fund Savings			2.750%	2.78%

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
⁽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.

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 St. Peter, Gun Barrel City

OUR PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH:

Faithful stewardship of God's gifts

**THOSE UNCONVERTED AND WHO HAVE STRAYED FROM THE FAITH
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 (our member, at Naval base in Virginia)
Brian Holcombe (Carolyn Holcombe's son assigned to a base in Japan)
Nick Modisette (George and Jeanette Heil's nephew, sailing with the Navy in the Pacific)

THOSE IN POLICE, FIRE, AND CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENTS

THOSE WHO TRAVEL:

Brady Gage
David Navaille
Charles Rittenberry
Edgar Wuthrich

SHUT-IN/HOMEBOUND:

Gwen Heil (our member, in the Carriage Inn Assisted Living in Katy)
Don Nicol (our member, at home in Henderson, not really able to come to church)
Leroy Thomas (our member, at Arbor Grace, formerly Kilgore Health and Rehab)

THOSE WHO NEED HEALING:

Bob (David Navaille's friend, experiencing a health issue)
Steve Atchinson (Betty Miller's grandson, still learning how to use his prosthetic hand)
Mozelle Barton (Connie Wilburn's friend, still has a long way to go fighting her cancer)
Linda Davis (Paul Guinn's friend, chemotherapy for breast cancer resumes in March)
Sandra Davis (George B.'s coworker Misty Hill's mother, lung cancer chemo starts 2/26)
Dana Renae Freeman (our member, upper respiratory and ear issues during pregnancy)
Betty Gage (Brady's stepmother, still not back to work after 12/14 shoulder surgery)
Marty Griffin (Shannon's niece's father-in-law, chemo for bone cancer is complete)
Dulcie Gualtieri (Remo's mother, cancer is spreading, treatment to be determined)
Carolyn Holcombe (our organist, seeing doctor 2/23 after hand surgery 02/13)
Vernell Hooge (Paul's mother, heart catheterization 2/1, new medicine for 3 months)
Kathy Jennings (Remo and Kathy's friend, still has ups and downs)
Jo Johnsey (Sallye Key's mother, condition reportedly worsening)

Prayer list continues on the following page.

Prayer list continues from the preceding page.

Jerome Key (our member, apparently scheduled for additional testing)
Sallye Key (our member, re-broken ribs)
David Landry (our member, better and worse days with Ankylosing Spondylitis)
Arielle Lindo (Bianca Adams' niece, diagnosed with Leukemia)
Dennis Martin (Navailles' friend, recovering in a hospital from a broken pelvis)
Sandy McBride (Emma Watts' friend Emma McBride's aunt with health issues)
Jeffrey Miller (Jeanna Watts' father, resisting follow-up to ER visit)
Charlene Phillips (Olene Herricks' friend, on hospice care)
Danny Sampson (our member, good endoscopy results Monday, oncologist Friday)
Nellie Shubert (Arcele's brother Chuck's sister-in-law, at the Willows)
David Smith (our member, home from the hospital, kidney transplant pending)
Ronnie Stover (Angela's friend Sherri Lilly's friend, better on experimental medicine)
Donny Joe Thomas (Arcele's neighbor and friend, heart catheterization week of 2/25)
Spencer Thompson (Connie's friend, 2/22 scan showed improvement in lung cancer)
Tracy Tippitt (Arcele Wilburn's niece, dealing with a blood clot in her leg)
Jim Treadway (our member, at home after 2/28 surgery on left carotid artery blockage)
Mark Tucker (Sarah's brother-in-law, could not continue chemo, may have surgery)
Harold Wilburn (Arcele's brother-in-law, dementia seems about the same right now)
Robert Wiles (Betty Miller's nephew, untreatable cancer, remains on a feeding tube)
Wendy Wright (Connie's friend, having trouble recovering from gall bladder surgery)

THOSE IN THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

EXPECTANT MOTHERS:

Dana Freeman (our member, due in July)
Amelia Jackson (Watts Family relative, due July 15)

FAMILIES IN CRISIS OR NEED AND ALL FAMILIES:

Adams Family (Bianca's heavy load at school)
Herricks Family (God's guidance for our member Olene and her son Joe)
Key Family (right regard for God's Means of Grace)
Landry Family (ongoing home and employment transitions)
Mayhall Family (Sarah Land's sister's family, struggling with her divorce)
Watts Family (transition to Kansas this summer)
Williams Family (Beth West's friends, Natalie is a mother of four without a car or job)

Please support Kilgore's Helping Hands

Kilgore's Helping Hands organization that is well-recognized for its distribution of food to those in need relies on partners like Pilgrim to help keep its shelves full. Monetary donations go furthest, they say, but they also have a regular need for donations of canned meats (chicken, tuna, Vienna sausage), canned soups, canned fruit, canned vegetables, peanut butter, pinto beans (1 or 2 lb. bags), and cereal. (They prefer cans with pop-tops.) You can place your items in the box in the Narthex (under the guest register) or take them directly to 201 South Martin Street, if you can catch them open.





“Spring Thing” plans progress

Outreach Coordinator Dylan Landry is making progress on the plans for Pilgrim’s first “Spring Thing” on Saturday, April 21st, 2018, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Pilgrim’s North Lawn, but he needs your help—and prayers for good weather (he says the long-range forecast is calling for rain). Dylan is nearly finished with a poster to put up around town but especially needs volunteers to bring food and help at the event, which he says is under the auspices of the Outreach and Inreach Coordinators.

As you may know, Pilgrim’s outreach events have tended to be concentrated in the fall, and so there had been a desire to do some-“thing” in Spring, and, in January, Pilgrim’s Church Council approved Dylan’s preliminary plans. The neighborhood will be invited to come for lunch, and Pilgrim’s youth may conduct a car wash to raise funds for their travel to Higher Things this summer. At least Pilgrim’s existing brochures will be available for people to have a better idea of what goes on inside, too.

Watch for more details in Sunday bulletins and a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If you are willing to give of your time, talents, and treasures to conduct this event—from publicizing it in the community, preparing and serving the food, conducting the car wash, and everything else—call or text Dylan at 903-619-0152, or shoot him an email at djlandry.spark@gmail.com.

MAY EVENTS

PREMARITAL CATECHESIS CLASS will meet on Sundays in May after the Divine Services as needed and as schedules permit.

LWML QUILTING BEE is Monday, May 7th, at 5:30 p.m. in Room 4 of the Parish Hall.

LWML MEETING/ SUPPER/BIBLE STUDY is Monday, May 7th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY will likely meet every Wednesday in May at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library continuing our study “Salvation History is our Story”.

ELDERS will likely meet on Tuesday, May 8th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library. (The reading assignment will be announced closer to the meeting.)

ASCENSION DAY DIVINE SERVICE is Thursday, May 10th at 7:00 p.m.

SPECIAL DIVINE SERVICE: The congregation is invited and welcome to a special 9:00 a.m. Divine Service on Thursday, May 17th, in connection with the Circuit #14 Pastors’ Meeting at Pilgrim.

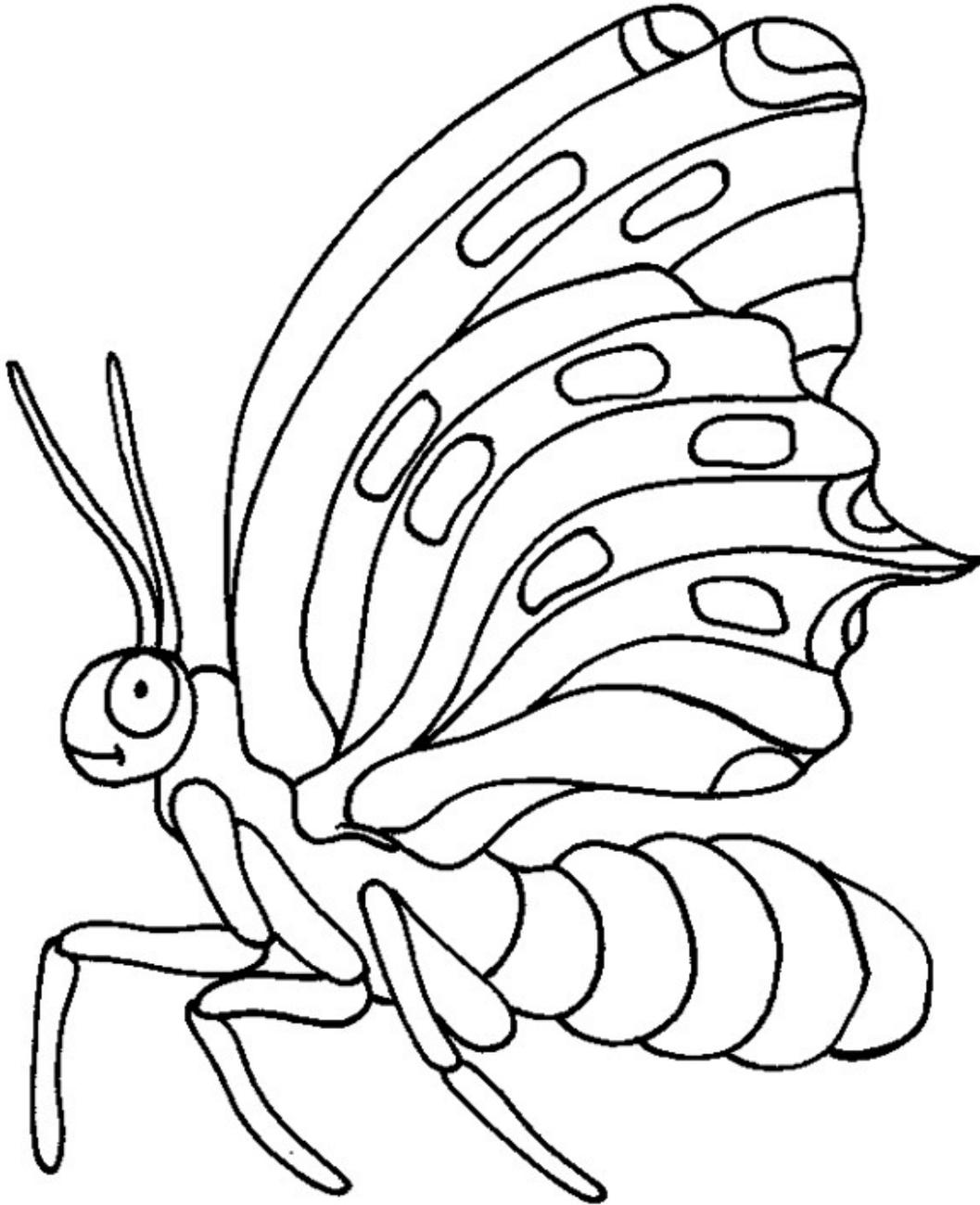
ELDERS’ LUNCH is May 20th after the Divine Service. The Elders will provide the food, do all the work, and want everyone to come, socialize, and discuss a few topics in small groups with their respective elder.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES for the June *Pilgrimage* will be due Sunday, May 20th.

VISITATION DIVINE SERVICE is Thursday, May 31st at 7:00 p.m.

KIDS' PAGE

The activity below is reprinted from www.sermons4kids.com/easter_sunday_coloring_page.htm



Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;
the old has gone, the new has come!

2 Corinthians 5:17



APRIL 2018

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
1 THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD (W) 7:00 AM "Son-rise" Matins 8:00 AM Breakfast 9:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service Julia Heil (B)	2	3 M/M Remo Gualtieri (A) Dallas Landry (B)	4 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study Tiffani Scheuermann (B)	5	6 Lucy Watts (B)	7 Council Reports due tomorrow
8 2 ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (W) 9:15 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service Pre-marital Catechesis M/M Jim Treadway (A)	9 5:30PM Quilting 6:30PM LWML Meeting/Supper/ Bible Study	10 6:00 PM Elders Carolyn Holcombe (B)	11 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	12	13	14
15 3 RD SUNDAY OF EASTER (W) 9:15 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service 12:30 PM Council Meeting	16 Bianca Adams (B) Colleen Hooge (B)	17	18 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	19 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Circuit #14 Pastors meet in Fairfield	20	21 11:00 AM-2:00 PM "Spring Thing" <i>Pilgrimage</i> articles due tomorrow
22 4 TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (W) 9:15 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service Pre-marital Catechesis	23 M/M David Navaille (A)	24 Grace Morton (B)	25 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	26	27	28 8 AM -12:30 PM Blood Drive
29 5 TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (W) 9:15 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service Fifth Sunday Meal Nicki Hinson (B)	30	Communion Assistant – Carl Gardner Acolyte – Matthew Hooge Cleaning Volunteers – Your Name Here?				

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.