



THE PILGRIMAGE

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

Autumn is a time to consider our stewardship of God's gifts

Traditionally, and somewhat logically so (as calendar-year budgets are prepared), autumn is often the season for a series of stewardship sermons in Lutheran congregations. For example, the current issue of *Concordia Pulpit Resources* offers not a predictable three-part series—featuring time, talent, and treasure—but an eight-part series titled “God’s Stewards”—featuring such subtitles as “Managers, Not Owners” and “Living in the Present, Looking to the Future”. Instead of that eight-week approach with its suspension of the usual Lectionary Series Readings’ emphases and themes, Pilgrim continues to accent stewardship themes as they come up in the regular Lectionary Series and our usual course of Bible Classes and Studies and the like. For example, our monthly newsletters include stewardship articles and our Sunday bulletins include paragraphs provided to congregations by Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod stewardship staff.

Through such faithful preaching and teaching of God’s law and Gospel, the Holy Spirit moves God’s people to turn in sorrow from their sin, to trust God to forgive their sin, and to bring forth good works in keeping with their vocations, including cheerfully giving first-fruit offerings to support the work of God’s Kingdom in this place. In addition, we in the Prayer of the Church most Sundays have been praying that God make us more-faithful stewards of the resources He has entrusted to our use. And, thanks be to God, Pilgrim’s Financial Secretary can report that generally when individuals give at Pilgrim they now are giving more than they previously gave.

Presently, Pilgrim’s lay leadership and I are working together both to estimate the total offerings that the congregation might reasonably expect to receive in 2019 and to budget accordingly. As some of us may have encountered elsewhere, other congregations utilize various combinations of pledge systems, every-member visits to discuss pledges, and more-detailed and even, in some cases, public reporting of what individuals pledge and give. At least some of us

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here are not sure that such pledging in the end provides any better increase in giving or any better estimate of future offerings than the kinds of approaches we carry out here.

An individual's offerings ultimately are between that individual and God, and an individual's offerings may be best left between the individual and God. God certainly knows best of all what each of our individual circumstances are, and so what we can and do give! Pledges and accompanying visits may provide very-pointed opportunities for us to consider our giving levels from year to year, but other things, including this article, can also provide us such an opportunity to consider our giving and the importance of the work of God's Kingdom in this place for us. Such consideration can lead to different responses.

Where there is necessary repentance for anyone's neglecting to support the work of God's Kingdom in this place, there is free forgiveness for the sake of the God-man Jesus Christ's death on the cross for the sins of the whole world and the opportunity to change their support for the better. Where there is unnecessary guilt over one's inability to give more, it, too, can be forgiven and removed. There is no reason that those who cannot give more than they can give should hesitate to come to Pilgrim in order to receive God's free forgiveness! Ultimately, such forgiveness leads to our joyful thank-offerings. As the psalmist sang (Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19) and as we sing in the Offertory of Divine Service, Setting One (*Lutheran Service Book* 159-160), "What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem."

Some choose to offer their thanksgiving and pay their vows automatically through their financial institutions, so that the congregation is supported whether or not they are in attendance on any given Sunday, and all are certainly welcome so to make their offerings. We all presumably want the pastor and people to be here both when we are here and when we want them to be here! To that end and with that in mind, I also encourage you to look over the reports from the September 16th Council Meeting (contact the Church Office if you want a hard-copy of the Packet) and to be a part of the budgeting process at the October 14th Council Meeting and November 4th Annual Voters' Meeting.

May God's continuing to make us more-faithful stewards of the resources He has entrusted to our use be sufficient to more than support the work of His Kingdom in this place, or may God grant us the wisdom necessary in order to reduce the congregation's expenses to the level of offerings it receives, without unnecessarily affecting our life together as pastor and people.

*His and your servant,
Pastor Galler*

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS!

01 – Carl Adams
06 – Barbara Wuthrich
07 – Sarah Land
08 – George C. Heil

19 – Elaine Navaille
20 – Shannon Gage
25 – Lindie Melendrez
25 – David Smith



We follow the Lectionary especially when we prefer not to

One of what might be said to be the blessings of Lutheran congregations' using an appointed series of Readings for Sunday services is that congregations are insulated from individual pastors' arbitrarily picking what Readings they think congregations need to hear. At the same time, however, one of what might be said to be the curses of using the same Lectionary series is that congregations have to hear and perhaps the pastors have to preach about Readings that maybe the congregations do not want to hear and perhaps the pastors do not want to preach about. Of course, people and pastors are somewhat free to suspend the usual Readings, especially as other observances take precedence (and there is a somewhat complicated prioritizing of such observances), and pastors are generally free to preach either on whichever Reading they desire or on a different text altogether (what is usually called a "free text"). However, suspending the usual practice of following the Lectionary and preaching on the Gospel because the Gospel (or any other) Reading says something we may not want to hear or expound should be rejected precisely because our not wanting to hear and expound it is probably all the more reason that we need to hear and expound it. We should follow the Lectionary especially when we might prefer not to follow it!

Such is arguably the case with Jesus's teaching about marriage, divorce, and "remarriage", linked with His teaching about the Kingdom of God belonging to children, in the Gospel Reading of Mark 10:2-16 on the first Sunday of this month. Hearing and preaching that whoever divorces a spouse and "marries" another commits adultery can be tough when there are people so "remarried" in the congregation or among those we know and love. Yet, faithful preaching will not only indict them of their sin but will also indict all of us of our sin, sin related to the Sixth Commandment to live a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do and sin related to all of the other Commandments. And, more importantly, faithful preaching will ultimately proclaim the forgiveness of all sin, for the sake of Jesus Christ and Him crucified and resurrected, and point the repentant to God's Means of Grace for receiving that forgiveness, all without giving any license to sin in this or any other way. May God grant it be so in all of the congregations of His Church!



The following are all of the Sundays this month and their appointed Gospel Readings according to the second (B) year of *Lutheran Service Book's* three-year lectionary series.

- Twentieth Sunday (10/07): Jesus teaches about marriage and divorce (Mark 10:2-16)
- Twenty-first Sunday (10/14): Jesus speaks of inheriting the Kingdom (Mark 10:17-22)
- Twenty-second Sunday (10/21): Jesus says all things are possible (Mark 10:23-31)
- Twenty-third Sunday (10/28): Jesus answers cries for mercy (Mark 10:46-52)

On your own, you may wish to read Mark 10:32-45, which is omitted from this month's more or less continuous reading of Mark, though Mark 10:35-45 is appointed both for this lectionary year's Fifth Sunday in Lent, with an option to add verses 32-34, and for the festival of St. James the Elder, Apostle, which observance is appointed for July 25.

A special midweek observance planned for this month (and its Gospel Reading) is Reformation Day on October 31 (John 8:31-36). Our alternating hosting of the Presentation of the Augsburg Confession and of the Reformation Day joint services with Our Redeemer

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Lutheran Church, Longview, has the Reformation Day Divine Service at Pilgrim on Wednesday, October 31, at 7:00 p.m. And, following ORLC's example last year, we will use Divine Service, Setting Five, which people have asked whether we would ever use. Although more fleshed-out than *Lutheran Worship's* Divine Service III, *Lutheran Service Book's* Divine Service, Setting Five, also follows the lead of Martin Luther's *German Mass* of 1526 by using hymns for the "ordinaries" of the liturgy (those parts of the liturgy "ordinarily" used). In addition, a number of the hymns used, though in some cases less-familiar ones, are hymns whose texts, if not also tunes, are by Luther. A Setting of the Divine Service God provided to the Church through Luther, utilizing a number of Luther hymns, seems especially appropriate for an observance of the Reformation God worked through Luther!

Overall, this month continues the non-festival half of the Church Year, which uses green-colored cloths on the pastor (vestments) and furniture in the Sanctuary (paraments), which color brings to mind the life and growth evident in foliage and fruit and reflects the growth in the Church. However, on Reformation Day, the color is red, bringing to mind the fire of the Holy Spirit and the blood of the martyrs who died bearing His message.

On green and red occasions, everyone is always invited and welcome in person at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, and anyone can read and hear sermons preached at Pilgrim at www.pilgrimlc.org/sermons.

Pastor Galler

Rittenberry baptized into Pilgrim membership



On Sunday, September 2, 2018, Charles Rittenberry (center) joined his wife Gwen (left) as a Pilgrim member as he was baptized by Pastor Galler (right). A long-distance truck driver, Charles tenaciously underwent his adult catechesis as his and Pastor's schedules permitted, with most sessions conducted by telephone. *Photo: Holly Treadway.*

Although we do not have a picture, on Sunday, September 9, 2018, four people were received as Pilgrim members by transfer: John and B.J. Wilson, Margot McMillen, and Linda Traylor.

In Memoriam

Since last noted in *The Pilgrimage*, two members of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, as we say, transferred to the Church Triumphant. Sharabeth Nicol Upton, who was born into this world on September 29, 1961, and who became a member of Pilgrim by her Confirmation on December 10, 2017, entered into eternal life on July 10, 2018. And, Dr. Leroy Thomas, who was born on December 17, 1936, and who became a member of Pilgrim by His Confirmation on June 30, 2013, entered eternal life August 27, 2018. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord (Revelation 14:13-14)!

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

Bible reader asks about Solomon’s chariots

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 (reproduced by permission from *Lutheran Worship*, pp.295-299). The plan calls for reading a psalm (or other little song) and a few chapters of a book each day, and it gets us through the whole Bible in one year. Our so reading the Bible together provides the unique opportunity for a congregation-wide discussion of the Daily Bible Reading through Q&A such as the following, which relates mostly to July’s reading of 1 Kings.

Q: Solomon, besides building the temple and acquiring all sorts of wealth, brought chariots and horses out of Egypt (for example, 1 Kings 10:26). I was thinking that the LORD had said the Israelite nation was not to have chariots and horses. Did that command no longer apply, or is it all one with Solomon’s disobedience, such as his collection of heathen concubines that led him to worship idols in his old age (1 Kings 11:1-13)?

A: As you thought, the LORD in Deuteronomy 17:16 did say that the Israelites’ king should not acquire many horses for himself (confer 1 Samuel 8:11), and in Deuteronomy 17:17 the LORD said that the king should not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor acquire excessive gold and silver. Opposition to horses centered both on their symbolizing pagan luxury and on a wrongful reliance on their physical power for defense (see, for examples, Psalms 20:7; 33:17; Isaiah 31:1; Ezekiel 17:15). At the command of the LORD, Joshua hamstrung captured Canaanite horses (Joshua 11:6, 9), and David hamstrung most of the horses captured from Zobah, though he kept enough for 100 chariots (2 Samuel 8:4). Not only does 1 Kings 9:19 refer in general to towns for Solomon’s chariots and horsemen (or “horses” NIV), but 1 Kings 4:26 and 2 Chronicles 1:14 and 9:25 also put numbers to at least the stalls for those horses for those chariots and horsemen. I suppose one could argue that the number of Solomon’s horses was not “many” (roughly contemporaneous accounts reportedly give larger numbers of some other countries’ chariots and smaller numbers of still other countries’ chariots), but that argument about the definition of “many” would seem even less valid in the case of Solomon’s 700 royal wives and 300 concubines or in the case of Solomon’s gold and silver. As far as we know, the prohibitions against those things still applied in Solomon’s time and certainly show Solomon to have sinned in a number of ways, as the application of God’s law to us shows us to have sinned in a number of ways, too. Thanks be to God for the forgiveness He gave to Solomon and gives to us through faith in Jesus, Who rode not a horse of war but a donkey of peace (Zechariah 9:9-10)!

I always welcome such questions about the Daily Bible Reading. Our being in the Word together by such reading gives the Spirit greater opportunities to work in us and so ultimately to grant us spiritual growth: up as individuals, together as a congregation, and out to the world.

Pastor Galler

OCTOBER EVENTS

LWML ACTIVITIES will resume on Monday, October 1st, beginning with quilting at 5:30 p.m. and continuing with supper, business, and Bible Study at 6:30.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY should be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, October 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th in the Conference Room/Library (not on October 31st due to the Reformation service).

21st QUARTERLY KILGORE COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE is scheduled for Saturday, October 6th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please donate and/or help with the drive in other ways.

LWML EAST TEXAS ZONE FALL EVENT: “Our Rest in a Changing World” is the theme for the “event” Saturday, October 6th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Palestine. (See the flyer on the LWML bulletin board in the Narthex for more.)

LWML SUNDAY at Pilgrim is Sunday, October 7th.

ELDERS MEETING should start at 6:00 p.m. October 9th in the Conference Room/Library. (The reading assignment is *Concordia* pp.309-315, 351-358.)

CITY OF KILGORE OKTOBERFEST is downtown from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. October 13th, and would be a fun outing for a group of Pilgrim’s members. That just might help us to decide if we want to participate in that in 2019.

ST. LUKE’S UNITED METHODIST FALL FEST will be held Saturday, October 20th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Pilgrim will have its usual bread booth. See sign-up sheet in the Narthex to volunteer to work and indicate which breads and how much you plan to make (which helps other members strive to produce a variety). Of course, you are always welcome to make more!

NOVEMBER PILGRIMAGE DEADLINE: Please contribute by Sunday, October 21st.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR THE NORTH TEXAS JUNIOR HIGH RETREAT is October 26th. The \$45 cost includes a t-shirt. The retreat will be held from 7:00 p.m. Friday, November 2nd, through 2:30 p.m. Saturday, November 3rd, at Faith Lutheran Church, Plano.

FIFTH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM IN KILGORE: “Why church?” is the theme for this year’s gathering at the Devall Student Center Ballroom from 3:00-5:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 28th. Please help publicize the event and plan to attend and help host.

JOINT REFORMATION DAY DIVINE SERVICE will be held this year at Pilgrim at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 31st. (We will use Divine Service, Setting Five.)

Sewer work affects Pilgrim’s parking



The City of Kilgore’s contracted sewer work moves down Florey Street on Wednesday, September 26, 2019. Each day crews remove a section of the street, dig approximately 8-10 feet down, work on the sewer line, and fill it back in, but leave the ground exposed with mud on and other damage to on our parking spaces. (See the damage to the edge of our parking spaces in the foreground of the picture, for example.) A City official assures us that the parking areas will be restored to their original or better condition. *Photo: Barbara Wuthrich.*

WHY CHURCH?

A Fifth-Annual Symposium in Kilgore

Sunday, October 28, 2018, from 3:00-5:00 p.m.
Devall Student Center Ballroom, Kilgore College, Kilgore, Texas

What difference does it make whether or not someone belongs to a congregation of the Church? A Fifth-Annual Symposium in Kilgore will take up the topic “Why church?”, and everyone is welcome to attend the free event, Sunday, October 28, 2018, from 3:00-5:00 p.m., in the Devall Student Center Ballroom on the campus of Kilgore College (1116 Broadway Boulevard, between Nolen and Elder Streets, in Kilgore, Texas).

Pilgrim is one of the sponsors of the annual symposia series, and members are encouraged not only to attend but also to staff the welcome table, mingle with those attending, and reach out to those in attendance who may not have a church home. Please let Pastor Galler or Acting Outreach Coordinator Tina McMurray know if you can help.



Dr. Glenn Young

The Dr. Glenn Young, senior pastor of First Baptist Church, Kilgore, will give an opening presentation and then, after a short break with refreshments, other local pastors will respond briefly to his presentation before the panelists field questions from the audience. Previous Symposia have had nearly 150 in attendance, and, no matter the number, they have featured lively and engaging discussion!

Young has experience pastoring several existing congregations and planting new ones. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Southwestern Louisiana, a Master’s Degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Doctor of Ministry in Theology from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

The 2018 panel will include the Rev. Ben Bagley of St. Luke’s United Methodist Church, the Rev. Dr. Jayson S. Galler of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, and the Rev. Will Wilson of First Presbyterian Church. The event will be moderated by Terry Booker of Kilgore College.

The 2018 Symposium is the fifth in a series connected to the anniversary of the October 31, 1517, Reformation. (Past themes, audio files, and handouts are available in the online version of this article at www.pilgrimlc.org/2018-symposium.) 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 banner graphic at the top of this page was composed using an image found online at <https://www.fruitofmybranches.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Why-Church.jpg>.

Rally Day activities kick-off new Sunday School year

On Sunday, August 26th, 2018, Pilgrim had Rally Day activities. The 2017-2018 Sunday School year wrapped up that morning in the education hour, with its usual refreshments, Opening, classes, and Closing. Then, in church before the Divine Service, Christian Education Coordinator Sarah Land recognized Sunday School teachers and students. After the Divine Service, we had a hot dog lunch with all the fixings and played games. By the end, everyone was ready to go on their 2018-2019 classes and curriculum, which began the following Sunday, September 2, 2018, picking up the Old Testament lessons where we left off last spring. (The summer session focused on lessons related to “Serving with Joy!”)



Sarah Land’s trouble finding watermelons with seeds kept a popular Pilgrim activity from the end of Vacation Bible School, but, thanks to Angela Sampson’s finding them, the “contest” took place on Rally Day. (Above) Matthew Richards, Edgar Wuthrich, Jonathan Deitrick and Spencer Land watch “winning spitter” Sarah Land go her distance.

Photos: Barbara Wuthrich.



Cooper Sampson, Cayden Hinson, and Matthew Hooge seemed to prefer the game of Corn Hole, which they were very good at, to spitting watermelon seeds, although they did definitely eat their share of the fruit. Thanks go to the Lands for the use of their Mississippi State Corn Hole set and for organizing the day and to all who in any way made it a success.

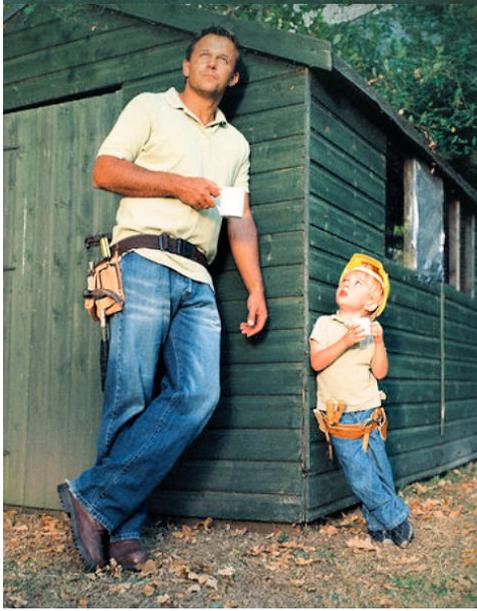


A native of California, Matthew said that he had never spit watermelon seeds, but he gave it a try. Watching with Edgar and Sarah, Jonathan, his LeTourneau roommate, never did “compete” but enjoyed the day. We thank God that Jonathan, whom we met at the LeTourneau Church Fair on August 18, 2018, regularly worships with us at Pilgrim while he is away from his LCMS church home in Oklahoma.

*Shepherd of tender youth, / Guiding in love and truth / Through devious ways;
Christ our triumphant king, / We come Your name to sing / And here our children bring / To join Your praise.*

*O ever be our guide, / Our shepherd, and our pride, / Our staff and song.
Jesus, O Christ of God, By your enduring Word / Lead us where You have trod; / Make our faith strong.*

—Attributed to Clement of Alexandria; translated by Henry M. Dexter
(Lutheran Service Book 846:1, 4)



Our Father's giving leads to our His children's giving

Why do we give? Is it simply because God commands us to? Or is there more to it? To be sure, the God's Word in the Bible says we should give, and that should be sufficient to encourage us to give (Luke 6:38; Acts 20:35; 1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 8:7; Galatians 6:6).

But, there is more to it than just obligation. We are not just trying to fulfill a work of the law. We are bearing fruits of the Spirit given to us by our Father in heaven through His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. In other words, we are not just doing what our Father said, we are also doing what He did.

Children emulate their parents. When they grow up they often carry many of the same mannerisms and characteristics as their parents, but there is more to it than that. Children copy their parents even on a more mundane level. They watch how their parents cross their legs, how they fold their hands, how they stand and sit and walk, how they do and say most everything.

And, children try to copy their parents, which can be quite humorous when parents wish that their children would not copy them. A child's copying or repeating something less-than-polite that they learned from a parent can be uncomfortable and embarrassing. Sitcoms thrive on these situations. Children only emulate their parents because they want to be like them.

By grace, through faith, we are God's children. In Holy Baptism, God the Father declares of us what He declared of Jesus at His Baptism in the Jordan: "You are my beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased." God the Father claims us as His own. He takes away all our sins, and in exchange He gives us His righteousness, His purity, His holiness, and His Spirit, by which we cry out, "Abba", that is, "Father".

We are born again, born from above, born of water and the Spirit, to a new life in Christ as His children. We are children of God in Christ, through Baptism. And, since we are children, we are heirs—heirs who share in the glory of the Son of God. The inheritance is ours because of the Father's grace and mercy, His generosity in sending His Son in time to save us for all eternity.

And, this is also why we give generously of our income to the work of the church. We want to be like our heavenly Father. We want to emulate His generosity by being generous ourselves. We give to the work of the Church because we have witnessed the generous giving of our Father in heaven.

More than that, we are recipients of it. Because we have received God our Father's gifts, we ourselves desire to give. And, His gifts are not just spiritual: they are temporal and earthly, as well. As the Small Catechism teaches in the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer:

Give us this day our daily bread. *What does this mean?* God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving. *What is meant by daily bread?* Daily bread includes

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everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

In other words, God gives us everything we need for the care of both body and soul. His generosity knows no bounds. Therefore, we sit down at the beginning of the year, the beginning of the month, or the beginning of the week, in order to set aside a generous portion of God's daily bread for His work in the Church.

We do not do this simply because He has commanded us so to do; it is also because we, as His children by grace, want to emulate His generosity in our own lives. He is our Father; we are His children. And, children want to be like their parents!

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

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

Following a request from Pilgrim's Board of Elders dating to August of 2014, reaffirmed in June of 2018 as to its publication and format, I am reporting the following figures for 2018 through September 16th (39 of 52 weeks):

Undesignated Plate Offerings received:	\$83,027.00
Undesignated Plate Offerings projected:	\$92,500.00 (for deficit budget)
Actual accrued expenses:	\$101,349.83
Projected expenses per budget:	\$108,375.57

(39/52 of the total for the year under the austerity budget)

Ross Land
Treasurer

CEF supporting investment earns Pilgrim another rebate

As of the August report, Pilgrim's latest monthly rebate of interest on the loan for the Parish Hall came to \$26.40. Pilgrim had \$38,005 in supporting investments with the Texas District Church Extension Fund (CEF) on an outstanding loan balance of \$316,809, for a supporting investment level of 12%. Additional investments may be made at any time. See the rate slip below.

OCTOBER 2018



Texas District Church Extension Fund
1.888.951.1233 • texascef.org

Investment	Fixed Rate ²		Floating Rate ²	
	Rate	APY	Rate	APY
One Year Note ¹	2.250%	2.27%	2.500%	2.52%
Three Year Note ¹	2.500%	2.52%	2.750%	2.78%
Five Year Note ¹	2.750%	2.78%	2.875%	2.91%
Flex Savings			1.000%	1.00%

Accounts For Congregations			
Congregation Savings		1.250%	1.26%
Building Fund Savings		2.875%	2.91%

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 LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

Convention October 2-7, considering women's ordination
LCMS, DISTRICT, AND CIRCUIT, PASTORS AND PEOPLE
Vacancies at St. Peter, Gun Barrel City, and Trinity, Tyler
OUR PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH:

Budgeting and nominating processes
Faithful stewardship of God's gifts

**THOSE UNCONVERTED AND WHO HAVE STRAYED FROM THE FAITH
THOSE DEALING WITH TEMPTATIONS AND SINS RELATED TO SEXUALITY
THOSE IN DESPAIR, THAT THEY MIGHT REMAIN MINDFUL OF GOD'S LOVE FOR
THEM IN CHRIST**

FOR AN END TO THE EVILS OF ABORTION AND ASSISTED SUICIDE

SEASONABLE WEATHER: drought conditions here, and fires, flooding, and storms elsewhere

PEACE AND UNITY IN THE WORLD AND COUNTRY

THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES:

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's son, assigned to the Bonham Ricard out of San Diego)
Nick Modisette (George and Jeanette Heil's nephew, sailing with the Navy in the Pacific)

THOSE WHO SERVE IN POLICE, FIRE, AND CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENTS

THOSE WHO TRAVEL:

Brady Gage
David Navaille
Charles Rittenberry
Cooper Sampson
Dan West
Edgar & Barbara Wuthrich

THOSE WHO MOURN: Family and friends of Charlene Phillips (Olene Herricks' friend)

SHUT-IN/HOMEBOUND:

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

THOSE WHO NEED HEALING:

Rhonda (Connie Wilburn's friend, having some mental health difficulties)
Linda Davis (Paul Guinn's friend, now undergoing radiation for breast cancer)
Sue Davis (David Navaille's friend, having cancer-removal surgery)
Tiffani Erickson (our member, heat-exhausted and experiencing back and shoulder pain)
Cayden Hinson (recovering from 9/26 reconstructive surgery)

The Prayer List continues on the following page.

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David Holcombe (our organist's son, still not healed after 7/17 cyst surgery)
Walt Hooge (Paul's father, now in dementia unit as Parkinson's continues to progress)
Jim Hunt (Holly Treadway's cousin, transplanted kidney working well but hard recovery)
Cathy Jennings (Remo and Kathy's friend, doing better on chemotherapy pill)
Gary Johnson (David Navaille's friend, recovering from colon cancer surgery 9/17)
David Landry (our member, better and worse days with Ankylosing Spondylitis)
Albert Loar (at David Navaille's request, deputy hit by drunken driver)
Emily Melendrez (recovering from 4/24 wrist surgery, in-home therapy now underway)
Geneva Modisette (Jeanette Heil's aunt, progress in rehab after heart attack and stroke)
John Connor Newman (new members John and B.J.'s grandson, had knee surgery 8/22)
Don Nicol (our member, hospitalized in Chattanooga after surgery putting screws in hip)
Cynthia Robbins (Jeanette's sister, following recovery plan after heart attack and strokes)
Bob Roger (David Navaille's friend, on the kidney transplant list)
Errol Schultz (David Navaille's friend, radiation of tongue cancer begins in October)
Nellie Shubert (Arcele's brother Chuck's sister-in-law, at Autumn Leaves in Henderson)
David Smith (our member, home again after being diagnosed with an infection)
Spencer Thompson (Connie's friend, receiving radiation treatments for lung cancer)
Tracy Tippitt (Arcele Wilburn's niece, recovering from a recent shoulder surgery)
Jim Treadway (still struggling at times after aneurism, has a vision appointment soon)
Michele Trotter (Don Nicol's daughter Shana's friend, cervical cancer surgery 05/18)
Mark Tucker (Sarah's brother-in-law, recovering from surgery to remove his bladder)
Beth West (health complications increasing)
Jean West (Dan's mother, apparently suffered a stroke recently)
Joenette Whisenant (Debbie Smith's aunt, bone infection that may need amputation)
Harold Wilburn (Arcele's brother-in-law, dementia, now able to do less for himself)
John Wilson (scheduled for knee surgery 10/01)
Sherry Wilson (new members John and B.J.'s daughter-in-law, stage four cancer)
Gene Worsham (Jeanette Heil's uncle, brain hemorrhage after fall, recovering at home)

THOSE IN THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

EXPECTANT MOTHERS

FAMILIES IN CRISIS OR NEED AND ALL FAMILIES:

Adams Family (Bianca's change in educational plans)
Tiffani Erickson and Frank Scheuermann (anxiety and stress at work)
Paul Guinn (in hiring-process for a Lindale company)
Herricks Family (God's guidance for our member Olene and her son Joe)
Landry Family (ongoing home and employment transitions)
Mayhall Family (Sarah Land's sister's family, struggling with her divorce)
Reece Family (Smith's daughter's family, dealing with Jeffrey's health and legal issues)
Thomas Family (Olene's neighbor's family, Robin has kidney and other problems)

Almighty God, You have promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in Your Son's name. Mercifully incline Your ears to us who have now made our prayers and supplications to You, and grant that those things that we have faithfully asked according to Your will we may receive to meet our need and bring glory to You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

—Lutheran Service Book: Altar Book, #219, p.452.

NOVEMBER EVENTS

NORTH TEXAS JUNIOR HIGH RETREAT: 7:00 p.m. Friday, November 2, through 2:30 p.m. Saturday, November 3, at Faith Lutheran Church in Plano. The title for the retreat is “I Believe.....the Apostle’s Creed”.

DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME ENDS: Remember to “fall back” before Sunday morning, November 4th, or risk being an hour early for the Education Hour and the Divine Service.

ANNUAL VOTERS’ MEETING will be held Sunday November 4th in the Parish Hall following the Divine Service and a covered-dish meal. Election of officers and voting on a budget will be part of the business at this first annual meeting since Pilgrim implemented its new Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules.

LWML ACTIVITIES will occur on Monday, November 5th, beginning at 5:30 p.m. for quilting in the LWML Room, followed by supper, any business, and Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room/Library.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY should be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, November 7th and 14th in the Conference Room/Library (neither the 21st, due to Thanksgiving, nor the 28th, due to the first Midweek Advent Service).

EAST TEXAS PIPE ORGAN FESTIVAL runs from Sunday, November 11th, through Thursday, November 15th. A flyer with a schedule of all of the programs will be on the bulletin board in the Narthex as we get closer to the time. Some of our members have enjoyed going together to attend these in the past, and you might enjoy the beautiful music even by yourself.

ELDERS MEETING should start at 6:00 p.m. on November the 13th in the Conference Room/Library. (Reading assignment will be made at the October meeting.)

“REEL EAST TEXAS FILM FESTIVAL” will run from Thursday, November 15th, through Sunday, November 18th, and would be a fun outing for a group of Pilgrim’s members. We will have more information in the November newsletter, and, or in the Narthex on the bulletin board.

DECEMBER/JANUARY PILGRIMAGE DEADLINE: Please have your contributions for this combined newsletter in by Sunday, November 18th.

THANKSGIVING: As was the case last year, Pilgrim’s Board of Elders has opted *not* to offer a Divine Service observing Thanksgiving.



FLOAT DECORATING: Our usual date for building/decorating our float is the Saturday before the parade, so we assume that we will prepare our congregation’s float for the annual Kilgore Christmas parade on Saturday, November 24th, probably at Remo Gualtieri and Kathy Hudson’s home (201 Norris Road, Kilgore). Watch future Sunday bulletins for final details.

ANNUAL KILGORE CHRISTMAS PARADE: Tuesday, November 27th, at 6:30 p.m. Watch the bulletins for more information, but plan now at least to come to Pilgrim for our customary chili supper afterwards in the Parish Hall.

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES will begin Wednesday, November 28th, at 7:00 p.m., and continue on December 5th, 12th, and 19th. A light supper will presumably be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. before each service. Watch for more details in future bulletins.

KIDS' PAGE

In Mark 10:17-31, the Gospel Readings for the 21st and 22nd Sundays after Pentecost, a rich young man went away sorrowful after Jesus told him that he had to sell all that he had and give to the poor if he wanted to inherit eternal life by what he did. What is impossible with man is possible with God! Thanks be to God that we inherit eternal life because we are adopted as children of God in Holy Baptism by grace through faith in His Son, Jesus Christ.

(Children may wish to color the picture below that depicts Mark 10:22.)

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OCTOBER 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 5:30 PM LWML Quilting 6:30 PM Meal, Meeting, & Bible Study Carl Adams (B)	2 Noon Kilgore Ministerial Fellowship Lunch	3 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	4 Pastor gone to Plano for Study Group (10:00 AM to 2:00 PM)	5	6 8:00 AM-12:30 PM Blood Drive 10:00 AM–2:00 PM LWML ET Zone Fall Event (Palestine) Barbara Wuthrich (B)
7 20 TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:15 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service (LWML Sunday) 2:00-3:00 PM Longview Life Chain Sarah Land (B)	8 6:00-8:00 PM Sanctity of Life Banquet George C. Heil (B)	9 6:00 PM Elders' Meeting	10 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	11 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM Circuit 14 Pastors' Meeting (Corsicana)	12	13 1:00-9:00 PM Kilgore's Oktoberfest
14 21 ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:15 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service 12:30 PM Church Council Meeting	15	16	17 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	18 10:00 AM-2:30 PM Pastor at new District President's Meeting in Rockwall	19 Elaine Navaille (B)	20 10:00 AM-2:00 PM Bread Booth October <i>Pilgrimage</i> articles due tomorrow Shannon Gage (B)
21 22 ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:15 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service	22	23 5:30 PM Pastor prays at Kilgore City Council Meeting	24 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	25 Lindie Melendrez (B) David Smith (B)	26	27
28 23 RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:15 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service 3:00-5:00 PM "Why Church?" Fifth-Annual Symposium (at the Duvall Student Center, Kilgore College)	29	30	31 REFORMATION DAY 7:00 PM Divine Service (at Pilgrim)	Communion Assistant – Remo Gualtieri Acolyte – Cooper Sampson 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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Rev. Dr. Jayson S. Galler, Pastor

pastor@pilgrimlc.org

903-984-4333

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.