



THE PILGRIMAGE

The newsletter of Pilgrim Lutheran Church (LCMS), Broadway at Florey, Kilgore, Texas
June 2020

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.

Let us study God's Word, now regarding life issues

For most of the last three years, Pilgrim's Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class joined Pilgrim's Sunday School in using Concordia Publishing House's "Growing in Christ" curriculum to study four 13-week quarters of Old Testament events and five such quarters of New Testament events (summer 2018 was a quarter themed "Serving with Joy!", and summer 2019 was a quarter studying "Last Things"). The original decision by Pilgrim's then Board of Christian Education—before the latest congregational structure under the latest Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules—came as we moved into the new Parish Hall and again had room to have refreshments together before the Sunday School and Adult Bible Class hour and wanted both to add a joint opening and closing and to encourage family discussion of the lessons apart from class time on Sunday mornings. For the adults, the move additionally provided opportunities to study in depth some familiar—and possibly not-so-familiar—Biblical accounts.

Of how many of those opportunities did you avail yourself? How often do you in-person or even electronically participate in Pilgrim's Midweek Bible Study, currently working under the them "Salvation History is Our Story" and following in chronological order all the events of the Old and New Testaments? Are you regularly in God's Word otherwise, such as by following the plan Pilgrim distributes for Daily Bible Reading (see, for example, elsewhere in this newsletter) and making use of its associated online resources? These questions do not just relate to Biblical literacy, which is certainly a problem for some, but these questions also relate to our keeping of the Third Commandment, as the *Small Catechism* puts it, by not despising God's Word but holding God's Word sacred (holy) and gladly hearing and learning God's Word.

You may say what you like about my teaching style, and I certainly know that there are some pastors out there who are better teachers than I am (and I might like to think that there are also other pastors out there who are worse teachers, too), but ultimately this matter is about our regard for God's Word. For example, the Divinely-inspired St. Paul thanks God for the Thessalonians, who received the Word of God that they heard from St. Paul and his coworkers

Article continues on following page.

not as the word of men but as what it really was, the word of God, which is at work in those who believe (1 Thessalonians 2:13).

In relation to our gladly hearing and learning God’s Word, the Synod’s 1991 “Explanation of the Small Catechism” points not only to that passage and the Thessalonians but also to other passages (Joshua 1:8; Psalm 26:8; Luke 11:28; Acts 2:42; and Colossians 3:16) and to other examples: Jesus, Who gladly heard and learned the Word of God (Luke 2:31-52); Jesus’s follower Mary, who sat at the feet of Jesus and learned His Word (Luke 10:39); the Blessed Virgin Mary, Who kept and pondered the Word of God in her heart (Luke 2:19); and the Bereans, who searched the Scriptures daily (Acts 17:11). Notably, in the case of the Bereans, the Divinely-inspired St. Luke says they searched the Scriptures in order to see if the things that Paul and Silas were saying based on Holy Scripture were true. We must be familiar enough with Holy Scripture in order for us to tell whether or not pastors are the living voice of our Good Shepherd (John 10:4-5, 16, and 27)!

All of us need to repent of our sins related to God’s Word and to be forgiven by grace through faith in His Son Jesus Christ, crucified and resurrected for us. Part of that repentance is at least the desire to do better, as also the person who is forgiven then at least tries to keep not only the Third Commandment but also all of God’s Commandments.

This Summer Quarter Pilgrim’s Sunday School is using a CPH curriculum titled “Fear, Love & Trust: Following God’s Commandments”, but the Sunday Adult Bible Class will again, as last Summer, break from using the same curriculum and instead this summer study “Life Issues”, a focus that should not be all that surprising, given our past observance of annual Life Sundays and regular petitions in every Sunday’s Prayer of the Church for us to be better advocates for and defenders of God’s gift of life.

The “Life Issues” we will consider are not only those issues of abortion and euthanasia, but also other issues, such as those related to contraception and adoption, and even issues raised by the coronavirus, such as the use of tissue from aborted babies in developing potential coronavirus vaccines and the allocation of limited medical resources based on maximizing “life-years”.

I pray that you will join us Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. for Refreshments and then at 9:30 a.m. for the Class, either in-person or via the telephone or the internet. (Handouts and audio will be posted later online for you to stream or download at your convenience.)

*His and your servant,
Pastor Galler*

DAILY BIBLE READING	
1	Isaiah 12:1-6
	Acts 15-16
2	Psalm 150
	Acts 17-18
3	Psalm 1
	Acts 19-20
4	Psalm 2
	Acts 21-22
5	Psalm 3
	Acts 23-24
6	Psalm 4
	Acts 25-26
7	Psalm 5
	Acts 27-28
8	Psalm 6
	Joshua 1-5
9	Psalm 7
	Joshua 6-8
10	Psalm 8
	Joshua 9-11
11	Psalm 9
	Joshua 12-16
12	Psalm 10
	Joshua 17-21
13	Psalm 11
	Joshua 22-24
14	Psalm 12
	Judges 1-3
15	Psalm 13
	Judges 4-6
16	Psalm 14
	Judges 7-9
17	Psalm 15
	Judges 10-12
18	Psalm 16
	Judges 13-15
19	Psalm 17
	Judges 16-18
20	Psalm 18
	Judges 19-21
21	Psalm 19
	Ruth
22	Psalm 20
	1 Samuel 1-3
23	Psalm 21
	1 Samuel 4-6
24	Psalm 22
	1 Samuel 7-9
25	Psalm 23
	1 Sam. 10-12
26	Psalm 24
	1 Sam. 13-15
27	Psalm 25
	1 Sam. 16-18
28	Psalm 26
	1 Sam. 19-21
29	Psalm 27
	1 Sam. 22-24
30	Isaiah 12:1-6
	1 Sam. 25-27

JUNE 2020



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	1.875%	1.89%	1.375%	1.38%
Three Year Note ¹	2.000%	2.02%	1.375%	1.38%
Five Year Note ¹	2.250%	2.27%	1.375%	1.38%
Flex Savings			1.000%	1.00%
Rainy Day Fund**			1.250%	1.26%
<small>**Amounts over \$10,000 receive the Flex Savings rate</small>				
Accounts For Congregations				
Congregation Savings			1.250%	1.26%
Building Fund Savings			2.500%	2.53%

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.



JUNE 2020

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	2 2:00 PM Pastor www.KFUO.org 5:30 PM Rotary Board Zoom Mtg. NO Mary/Martha Meeting	3 Noon Rotary Zoom Meeting 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	4 Pastor gone to 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM Plano Study Group	5	6 (Willows Services suspended until further notice) Margot McMillen (B)
7 THE HOLY TRINITY (W) 9:15 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service M/M Paul Guinn (A) Dan West (B)	8	9 6:00 PM Elders' Meeting	10 Noon Rotary Zoom Meeting 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	11 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Circuit #14 Meeting (?) Gwen Rittenberry (B)	12	13
14 2 ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:15 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service	15	16	17 Noon Rotary Zoom Meeting NO Willows party 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study Jeanette Heil (B)	18	19	20
21 3 RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:15 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service Dana Freeman (B)	22	23 Rotary Installation Banquet at First Presbyterian	24 Noon Rotary Zoom Meeting 7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	25 PRESENTATION OF THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION 7:00 PM Divine Service	26	27
28 4 TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:15 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service	29 Gwen Freeman (B)	30	Elder on Duty: George B. Heil (Back-up: Remo Gualtieri)			

“Blessed be the Holy Trinity and the undivided Unity. Let us give glory to Him because He has shown His mercy to us.”
(Liturgical Text)

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

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



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

713 Florey Street
Kilgore, Texas 75662-3503

www.pilgrimlc.org



Rev. Dr. Jayson S. Galler, Pastor

pastor@pilgrimlc.org

903-984-4333

Pastor Galler is the editor of **The Pilgrimage**. Volunteers assist with distributing editions. Everyone is welcome to contribute articles at any time, and a regular assistant editor is desired to return the newsletter to its previous more-expansive form. All copyright holders of excerpted or reproduced materials are hereby acknowledged, and such materials are used in good faith under fair use provisions.