

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

THE NEWSLETTER OF PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH OTHELLO, WASHINGTON

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MARCH 2017



Shrove Tuesday Report



Huge thanks to the congregation for the wonderful coming together to support our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Setting up, shopping, cooking, bussing tables, washing dishes, cleaning afterwards, it was a big job! We couldn't do it without everyone pitching in! Special thanks to Leonard Bland for picking up and renting the grills AGAIN!! Our efforts were very successful, with donations of \$1133 to split between our Food Bank, and the Hospice Visiting Angels Foundation. We also thank the Othello Community for coming out to support our efforts, and to the Sun Tribune for publishing our advertisement! Well Done, Pilgrims!

Lenten Soup & Bread Suppers

Our Annual Soup and Bread Suppers begin Wednesday, March 8, and continue for the next 4 weeks. Consider bringing your family to have supper here at church and sample the amazing soups that our Pilgrims provide. Immediately following supper we will be studying Martin Luther's Small Catechism. We hope to see you there!



Above: Judy Summers serving up peaches.

Celebration of the Arts

On February 12, Pilgrim Lutheran hosted a Celebration of the Arts which was sponsored by the Othello Ministerial Association. It was a resounding success with 100 people in attendance, and a variety of art forms on display. The service began with Lynette Caruthers speaking about the Beautification Committee's efforts on Main Street. Fran Parker recited a beautiful poem "My Mat" that she had written. The Othello Ecumenical Ensemble presented "Be Thou My Vision" and "Worship the King". Pilgrim Lutheran Choir sang and George Roper played Bell solos. Pastors Don Short, Adam Janes from the Christian Church, Eric Depew from the Nazarene Church, and Becky Anderson from the Presbyterian Church all participated in scripture readings. Following the service, attendees gathered in the Fellowship Hall for viewing the arts, and refreshments. An opportunity to support the Beautification Committee raised \$250. Our thanks to the Ministerial Association for this grand event, and for this contribution to the Beautification Committee. For photos from the Celebration of the Arts, please turn to the back page.

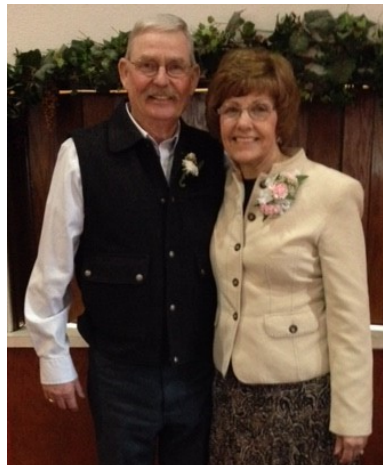
St. Patrick's Day Open House

Pastor Don and Anna are hosting the second annual St. Patrick's Day open house party at the parsonage on March 17, between 6-8 pm. All are welcome, and wear your green!



Recognition Sunday

Sunday February 26, we recognized Jim and Vicki Nau. We thank Vicki for sharing her musical talent with us and her committee work. We thank Jim for his efforts on Property Management, and Council work. When you see them next time, give them a big thanks!



Carpet Renewal Fund Drive

The carpet at Pilgrim Lutheran Church is 35 years old and showing its age. It has become outdated, scraggly and the tears in it have tripped more than one person. It is time for it to go! Our council has initiated a fund drive to pay for the cost of replacing it in stages and has earmarked \$10,000 in savings toward this project. Estimates have placed the total cost at approximately \$40,000.00. This will be broken down into three phases. We will complete each phase as funds permit.

Phase I: Fellowship Hall floor and wall & hallway from the Narthex to the Fellowship Hall. The carpet in this area is the worst. The projected cost for Phase I is \$16,500.

Phase II: Narthex, Sanctuary, Offices, Alter and Communion Rails- The carpet in this phase, while outdated, is in fair shape. The projected cost for this phase is \$17,500.00.

Phase III: Classrooms & Library-The projected cost for this phase is \$6,000.00.

We can reduce some of these costs by removing and disposing of the old carpet ourselves. Money donated to this renewal effort should be considered second mile giving over and above our regular tithes.

God bless, Ernie Summers



American Red Cross

Together, we can save a life

The next Blood Drive at Pilgrim will be Tuesday, March 28, from 1-6 pm. We would greatly appreciate help in setting up, and taking down. If you feel called to donate blood, that is greatly needed and appreciated as well!!!



Above: Sue Bunch decorating for Shrove Tuesday.

From your Pastor:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
 You made it! You have survived a whole year under my pastoral leadership! I began my time among you officially on March 1st of last year and here we are again, one year later. The building is still standing and worship is still going on week after week faithfully. I wonder if there is some kind of irony that my one year anniversary with you also marks Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent.

All through the month of March and halfway through April we will be in the church season of Lent. Some people call it a Lenten Journey and I have wondered about that. We don't really go anywhere. If Lent is a time to remember when Jesus was in the wilderness for forty days, why do we think he was on a journey? The Bible doesn't say that. It says, "Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished." (Matthew 4:1, 2) It says nothing about a journey.

I understand the Lenten fast; that is a good spiritual discipline, but I don't understand what the journey part is all about unless people are trying to compare their Lenten journey to the wilderness wanderings of the Israelites, which took forty YEARS, not forty days. Did you know the main reason the exodus of the Israelites took so long was because of their disobedience to God? I don't think that is something I want to aspire to, so I would encourage us to not compare our Lenten season to some kind of journey. What are we leaving? Where are we going? There is so much going on where we are right now that leaving seems contrary to good sense.

For instance, right now the weather is warming and people are beginning to think about gardening. Right now there are people planning to participate in the community wide clean up to get ready for the Sandhill Crane Festival. Right now there are good discussion groups going on around the church with Men's Breakfast Book Study reading "Making Sense of the Cross" every Saturday morning at 8am at Casa Mexicana and the Women's Gather Bible Study which now meets at Coventry House at 10 am one Saturday each month. (This month it will be on the 18th). There is also an Adult Forum Bible Study that meets each Sunday morning and we are taking a slow read through the book of Acts. Lots of good discussions come from those groups and more voices in the discussion can only make the discussion better, so please consider spending some of your Lenten season with one of those groups.

Oh, by the way, if you are looking for something to give up for Lent, I recommend you give up worry. As Jesus asked, "Can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness." (Matthew 6:27 and 33) See you in worship!

Peace, Pastor Don

From your Church Council:

Greetings Fellow Pilgrims!

Did you know that every month Pastor Don holds a special healing service after our worship? It takes place on the first Sunday of the month. The service includes the laying on of hands, and anointing with oil along with a personal prayer. The goal is to acknowledge God's role in every healing and to gain a sense of peace and confidence in the presence of God for those who suffer from a disease or discomfort. Several of us have attended regularly, and can attest to the sense of peace it gives to each of us.

We also encourage you to attend the Lenten Soup suppers for great fellowship, food and study. Why don't we all invite a neighbor or two to accompany us, and see what happens? This is the year of the invitation! We were busy in February with many folks coming for the Celebration and Shrove Tuesday. Let's keep the momentum Pilgrims!

In God's Love,

Larry, Kristi, Sandy, Ernie, Jim, & Marcia

INFO CORNER

2/5 Attendance: 40 Offering: \$ 1982
 2/12 Attendance: 42 Offering: \$ 2231
 2/19 Attendance: 35 Offering: \$ 3080
 2/26 Attendance: 42 Offering: \$ 2021
 YTD Offerings — \$ 20,617
 YTD Expenses— \$ 18,891

Noisy Offering for Synod Assembly \$188
 Super Bowl for Food Bank \$ 264
 Shrove Tues. Dinner to Food Bank & Hospice \$1133

Ash Wed. to Lutheran World Hunger \$ 315
Thank you for supporting your Church and it's Mission! God loves a generous heart!

Pastor Short's office hours -Tuesday-Friday 9-12

Afternoons reserved for visitations, meetings, and appointments.

Anna's office hours- Tuesday & Thursday 9-11
 Friday 9-11 & 2-4

If you are in need of emergency pastoral care, please contact Pastor Don Short at **509-761-1212.**

Council Members:

Larry McCourtie	—	509-989-6645
Kristi Spohr	488-9950	509-331-4406
Sandi Bosch	—	509-346-5211
Marcia Bougher	—	509-750-5288
Jim Nau	—	509-989-0327
Ernie Summers	—	509-989-1206

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Temple Tender Tuesdays —10 am Men's Group Breakfast - Saturdays 8am @ Casa Mexicana SUNDAY SCHOOL -March 5, 12, 19, 26			1 Quilting 9 am Ash Wednesday Service 7 pm	2	3	4
5 9 am Book of Acts 10 am Worship Healing Service	6	7 Alfa y Omega 6 pm "The Shack" movie @ Reichert's Showhouse 7 pm (tickets in advance required!)	8 Quilting 9 am Lenten Soup, Bread & Study @ 6 pm	9	10	11
12 10 am Worship 9 am Book of Acts	13	14  Alfa y Omega 6 pm	15 Quilting 9 am Lenten Soup, Bread & Study @ 6 pm	16	 17 St. Patrick's Open House 6-8 @ Parsonage	18 Women's Bible Study 10 am 
19 9 am Book of Acts 10 am Worship Recognition Sunday	20	21 Alfa y Omega 6 pm	22 Quilting 9 am Lenten Soup, Bread & Study @ 6 pm	23	24	25
26 9 am Book of Acts 10 am Worship	27	28 Alfa y Omega 6 pm Blood Drive 1-6 pm	29 Lenten Soup, Bread & Study @ 6 pm	30	31 	

Birthdays-March

- 1 Darla Spurgeon
- 7 Ella Moore
- 8 Shane Wright
- 9 Marc Spohr
- 13 Phil Bennison
- 14 Jose Guzman Jr.
- 16 Mike Adams
- 17 Ryan Moore
- 17 Payton Roberts
- 18 Bob Reichert
- 22 Jacob Thornton
- 29 Bernard Brandt

Anniversaries-March

- 15 Stewart & Abby Hilmes

Women's Bible Study 

Our Bible Study will be held at Coventry House March 18 at 10 am. There will be someone there at the entrance to direct you to the meeting place! Extra copies of the study can be found on the desk in the Narthex! Hope to see you there!

Council Action

In January our PLC Council voted to give the Big Bend Electric Rebate of \$290 back to Big Bend to provide electricity to the underserved.



Tuesday March 14

- 6:30** Committees Meet
- 7:30** Council

Please call or text Kristi Spohr at 509-331-4406 with any birthdays or anniversaries to be added to the list. **Thank you!**

Shrove Tuesday Shenanigans



DATE	USHERS	READER	Communion Assistant	ACOLYTE	Sacristan	BREAD	CLICKER	GREETER
Mar 5	Sharon B. & Sandi B	Kristi Spohr	Fay Ann	Marc Spohr	Sue Bunch	Fay Ann McCourtie	Tammy Rodriguez	
Mar 12	Jim & Vicki Nau	Shirley McCullough	Sue Bunch	Bill Porter	Bill & Danita Porter	Cindy Eidahl	Tammy Rodriguez	Sharon B & Sandi B.
Mar 19	Pete R and Phil B	Linda Bork	Anna Short		Anna Short		Tammy Rodriguez	Annie Smith
Mar 26	Pete Rodriguez	Donna Adams	Annie Smith		Donna Adams	Donna Adams	Tammy Rodriguez	Annie Smith



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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

March 2017

Mission Statement: PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH is led by the Holy Spirit **to invite** everyone to experience God's **Love** and **Grace** through life's pilgrimage of faith.

Vision Statement: PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH provides a warm, caring, and open atmosphere where we spread God's Word by serving our community, being a good neighbor, and embracing the power of prayer.



Celebration of the Arts Photos
On top left: Donna Adams chats with Fred Lieske, former member who with his wife Lori, attended the function. **Bottom left:** Pastor Don speaks with Lynette Caruthers **Below:** collection of photography by Pastor Becky Anderson **Right:** Ernie Summers, Pastors Depew and Janes sample the refreshments.



Sandi Bosch ready to serve at Shrove Tuesday

Lectionary Readings for March

March 5	Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7	Psalm 32	Romans 5:12-19	Matthew 4:1-11
March 12	Genesis 12:1-4a	Psalm 121	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	John 3:1-17
March 19	Exodus 17:1-7	Psalm 95	Romans 5:1-11	John 4:5-42
March 26	I Samuel 16:1-13	Psalm 23	Ephesians 5:8-14	John 9:1-41



book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.