

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

THE NEWSLETTER OF PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH OTHELLO, WASHINGTON

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 5

MAY 2020



Update on Sunday Services

At this time we have no official word on when we may begin meeting together for Sunday Services. Please pay close attention to the prayer chain, Pilgrim Lutheran's FaceBook, and our website, for information regarding the resumption of Sunday services.

Church Services ONLINE

Pastor and Anna have been putting together Wednesday Evening Messages and Sunday Services for us, including some wonderful hymns. If you are in need of a hymnal and would like to follow along or sing, please come by the church during Pastor's hours to pick one up. These meditations and services are posted to Facebook, to our website, **AND** to youtube.com for viewing at your convenience. Please make sure to thank Pastor and Anna for their devotion in making sure that we receive God's Word and message.



Pastor Don giving us a Wednesday message from the Meditation Room/Library



Virtual Services!

This time of social distancing is challenging for believers who love to worship together. Thankfully Pilgrim Lutheran has a system in place for delivering a shortened service, music, and Wednesday messages to our Pilgrims via FaceBook, and/or our website. That little iPad that the church purchased in 2016 is still going strong, and is being used to bring you worship. You will find the addresses for our FaceBook page, and our website every month on the return address area for our newsletter. I will put it **here** as well!
FaceBook:
Pilgrim Lutheran Church-ELCA
Website:
othellolutheran.com

Home Altars

You may have noticed that people are putting together home altars for the Sacrament of Communion. I have pulled some of these photos off our FB page so that we all may see them and be inspired! Enjoy! More on the back page.



Red Cross Blood Drive

This important event will be held at Pilgrim **Thursday, May 21**, between 1-6 pm. It is extremely needed during this time of pandemic so if you are able, please give blood! Please contact Pastor Short if you are willing to help set up before the event. Thank you in advance!



What IF...

What if each person who viewed the services, messages, and posts on FaceBook hit the **SHARE** button after viewing. It's so easy to do. You can choose to say something about the service, or simply **SHARE** without saying anything at all. Imagine all our friends and relatives near and far hearing Pastor Don's message of hope, and love. Surely we want to spread the Good News, and "invite everyone to **share** in God's Love and Grace" as we say in our Mission Statement! If you have any questions on how to do this, please contact Kristi or Kayla Spohr, or Anna Short.

Live Simply so that others may Simply Live.



May 2020 Message from our Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We have not had worship together in the church building since March 15th. Did you realize that? You have been attending worship online for well over a month now! I have heard lots of comments about your online worship experiences as Anna and I have been in conversation with some of you. I am grateful that you are willing to attend worship in this virtual community, held together with the electronic means of computers and the Internet. I am grateful that, for the most part, you are engaged and positive about the online worship service. I am grateful for the way many of you share our online services with friends and relatives. You are great ambassadors for Pilgrim Lutheran Church.

I have heard some of you say, "I can worship in my pajamas! Isn't that great!" "I can worship on MY schedule because the videos are saved for viewing anytime." "I can worship for a while, pause the recording and use the restroom or get a sandwich, come back to the computer and I haven't missed anything; it's great!" But as pleased as I am with your online presence, I understand your impatience for a return to the familiar surroundings of the church building.

I have also heard someone say, "When can we go back to having 'real' church again?" Another person said, "The online services are great, but I sure do miss the people!" And another comment was, "The advantage to having church in the church building is being able to say 'hi' to all of my friends and have a cup of coffee together after church." I totally get it. Online services are not as good as being there in person. Many people want to know when this pandemic will end. When will the government lift the stay at home order? When can we get back to church? How long will we have to wait until we can have church again? The answer, of course, is that it is up to Governor Inslee. Despite the protests, the regional governments in some counties defying state orders, and some television personalities, we will not gather in the building until it is safe to do so. I have been in consultation with Bishop Kuempel on this matter, and her response was, "Just a heads up: I'm going to be VERY conservative in my recommendations around in-person worship. We're seeing too many spikes after lifting of quarantines in other parts of the world."

Be patient. We will be together again in God's time. We will be able to have coffee together again, sing songs together again, share the joy of the Lord together again when God is ready to bring us together again. I have to believe God is teaching us something in this pandemic. Perhaps God is reminding us that the church is not the building; the church is the people. Perhaps God is telling us that gathering for worship is something that can happen in a variety of ways. Perhaps God is doing something new with us, as it says in 2 Corinthians, "So, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation." (2 Corinthians 5:17-18) Hang in there, new creation!

God is still at work in us, with us and through us. Thanks be to God!

Peace,

Pastor Don Short

Pastor Short's office hours:

Tues-Friday 9-12

Afternoons reserved for visitations, meetings, and appointments.

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

Pastor's Email: pilgrimlcpastor@gmail.com

Anna's office hours

Because Anna's hours are variable at the School District during closure, please contact her by cell phone if you need information! Thank you for understanding.

Cell phone **509-761-1205**



Stewardship



You Pilgrims **ROCK** at your faithfulness in stewardship that enables Pilgrim to continue its mission during the pandemic! Way to go Pilgrims! And thank you!

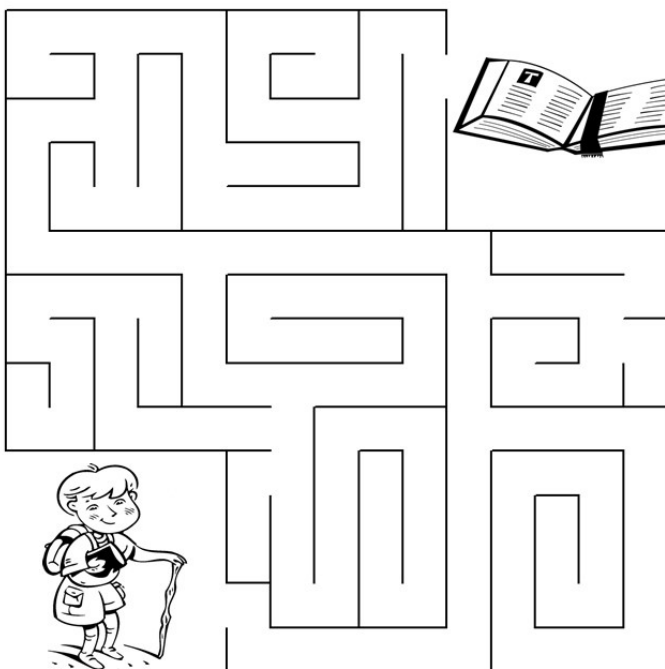
INFO CORNER

4/5	Attendance:	Offering: \$	2,887
4/12	Attendance:	Offering: \$	3,230
4/19	Attendance:	Offering: \$	14,240
4/26	Attendance:	Offering: \$	815

2020 Offerings —	\$ 53,767
2020 Expenses—	\$ 41,784

Thank you, Pilgrims, for supporting your Church and it's Mission!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
MORE ideas of activities to help us get through the month together!				Say the ELCA World Hunger Prayer found at the bottom of this page, 3 times this month.	1 Send a birthday card to someone on the list below! Call Anna for an address if you need to.	2 Send an uplifting text to a friend.
3 Watch the Pilgrim Service live on FaceBook.	4 Get outside for a walk in your neighborhood.	5 Pray for Bob Reichert's surgery today.	6 Pray for ALL the Front Line workers. Listen to tonight's message from Pastor Don.	7 Donate to the Food Bank.	8 Pray for Pastor Don and Anna.	9 Pray for those working on a vaccine for the Corona virus.
10 Watch the Pilgrim Service live on FaceBook.	11 Spend an hour working in your yard!	12 Church Council To Be Determined Thank God for your friends by name.	13 Plant a vegetable. Listen to tonight's message from Pastor Don.	14 Have your children or grands send a note to a Pilgrim.	15 Draw a cross in chalk on the sidewalk or driveway.	16 Send a thank you message to Anna in the snail mail.
17 Watch the Pilgrim Service live on FaceBook.	18 Send a cheerful note to another Pilgrim.	19 Send your tithing to church.	20 Take a walk around the block. Listen to tonight's message from Pastor Don.	21  Blood Drive 1-6 pm	22 Pray that we will be able to meet at church on Pentecost Sunday!	23 Call a friend that you haven't spoken to in a long time.
24 Watch the Pilgrim Service live on FaceBook.	25 Paint a rock with an encouraging message & hide it outside the church.	26 Send a book to one of your relatives/ grandchildren.	27 Listen to tonight's message from Pastor Don.	28 Thank God out loud for your family!	29 Pray for our Sunday School Children.	30 Read a devotion from <u>Christ in Our Home</u> .
31 Wear Red Pentecost Sunday	Wear Red! It's possible that we still won't be in the sanctuary worshipping on Pentecost, but we can still wear red at home to recognize the Holy Spirit in our lives as we go about our day.				Birthdays-May 1 Jada Moreno 3 MaryAnn Kirkpatrick 3 David Reichert 5 Rick Bougher 7 Ashley Stephens 11 Clayton Wright 12 Jan Charleston 13 Pete Rodriguez 17 Steve Jensen 18 Joseph Guzman 20 Sandy Russell 20 Keith Russell 23 John Stephens 23 Isaac Guzman 26 Kassie Tricola 26 Melissa Stephens 29 Ron Hilmes 31 Jan Hilmes	



←
For Kids for Pentecost
But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth.
John 16:13a (NIV)

Anniversaries-May
10 Kassie & Matt Tricola
17 Angela & Roger Martinez
23 Erika & Bulmaro Moreno

Table Prayer from ELCA World Hunger
Come Lord Jesus, be our guest,
And let these gifts to us be blessed.
Blessed be God, who is our bread;
May all the world be clothed and fed.



The Corner of 7th and Elm
640 East Elm Street
Othello, WA 99344

e-mail: pilgrimlutheran@ hotmail.com
Facebook: PilgrimLutheranChurch-ELCA
Website: othellolutheran.com
Church Phone: 509-488-9952

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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

May 2020

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 **servicing our community, being a good neighbor, and embracing the power of prayer.**



Calendar Challenge
You may have noticed that the calendar suggests activities to do during the month of May. Kristi is offering up an ice cream incentive for those who bring her a completed calendar which shows the date on which each activity was completed. Please note that they do not need to be completed on the exact day suggested, just at some point during the course of the month. Call or message Kristi for more details if needed.



Easter Altar

Lectionary Readings for May

May 3	Acts 2:42-47	Psalms 23	I Peter 2:19-25	John 10:1-10
May 10	Acts 7:55-60	Psalms 31:1-5,15-16	I Peter 2: 2-10	John 14:1-14
May 17	Acts 17:22-31	Psalms 66:8-20	I Peter 3: 13-22	John 14:15-21
May 24	Acts 1:6-14	Psalms 68:1-10,32-35	I Peter 4:12-14,5:6-11	John 17:1-11
May 31	Acts 2:1-21	Psalms 104:24-34,35b	I Corinthians 12:3b-13	John 20:19-23



book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.