

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

THE NEWSLETTER OF PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH OTHELLO, WASHINGTON

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2017



THE SEASON OF EASTER

Here is the schedule for our Easter Season Activities:

PALM SUNDAY April 9 Gather in the Fellowship Hall @ 10 am

MAUNDY THURSDAY April 13 Worship with Communion @ 7:00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY April 14 Tenebrae Service @ 7:00 pm

We will be joined by the Christian Church.

EASTER April 16 Celebrating the Risen Lord Worship @ 10 am

We celebrate our Lord's resurrection with our worship service at 10 am on April 16.

Breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall from 8:30 to 9:30.

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt for the children at 9:30.

Remember to bring fresh cut flowers on Easter for our "Flowered Cross".



Fond Farewell to Jan Charlston

The family of Jan Charlston would like to invite you to her 80th birthday celebration (and farewell to Othello) at Pilgrim Lutheran Church on Saturday, April 29 at 1 pm. A light lunch and cake will be served. We request only the pleasure of your company "no gifts please." We wish Jan the very best at her new home in Davenport. There will be a sending service to bless Jan in her move at worship on Sunday morning April 30.

St. Patrick's Day Open House

Thank you, Pastor Don and Anna for hosting the second annual St. Patrick's Day open house at the parsonage. The food was fabulous and the company was grand. We all had a wonderful time-There WAS a lot of Green!

Cleaning Up Othello

On March 11 a good turnout of Pilgrims braved the chill and a little bit of rain to walk 14th Ave and 1st Ave to pick up trash. This was a citywide clean up effort in preparation for the Sandhill Crane Festival. Afterwards we gathered at Larry and FayAnn McCourtie's home for a delicious brunch! Many thanks to all who participated, to Larry and FayAnn for offering their home, and to those who brought goodies. We have the Sun Tribune photos posted at church. See the back page for an after the event photo.

Compassion Sunday

On April 30 Pilgrim Lutheran will have a coffee hour following worship where Linda Bork and Fay Coats will describe their experiences of sponsoring a child through Compassion International. Founded in 1952, Compassion International is a Christian child development and child advocacy ministry dedicated to helping over 1.9 million children in need worldwide. Compassion's programs help release children from poverty in Jesus' name and enable them to become responsible, fulfilled adults. The children Compassion serves receive: a caring and safe Christian environment to grow in self-confidence and social skills; the opportunity to hear the Gospel and learn about Jesus; educational opportunities and mentoring; health care; hygiene training; supplementary food if necessary; personalized attention; guidance and love. Please plan to stay after worship and listen to this worthy cause.

Our Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to Shirley McCullough in the loss of her daughter Tricia. Please continue to keep Shirley, Lisa and their families in your prayers as they grieve her passing.

Sunday School Bees & Trees



PLC Sunday School held a bake sale after worship on March 26 with the purpose of supporting the

ELCA Good Gifts Bees and Trees campaign. Thanks to YOU, **\$402.52** was collected for this program. The children are continuing to collect donations during Lent, and after Easter the full contribution will be sent to the synod for distribution. Thank you for your generosity!



A Special Opportunity for Women

Saturday May 6, at 11 am, Meghan Olsen will lead Pilgrim Lutheran women and guests in an hour of multi-level and multi-age yoga exercises. Exercises will focus on stretching, balance, flexibility, and breathing, with accommodations made for all levels of fitness. We will choose a Bible verse to focus on during this hour, and follow the exercises with a salad luncheon. This is an outreach activity that your Evangelism Committee hopes all PLC women will support by inviting friends, co-workers, and others to participate. Stay tuned for additional information as the event gets closer.

Women's Bible Study



Our Bible Study will be held at Coventry House April 8 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!

From your Pastor:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
 On Palm Sunday we will read together again the story of the Passion of Christ. We will hear again how Jesus came into Jerusalem with loud shouts of "Hosanna to the Son of David" on Sunday, only to be betrayed by Thursday and crucified on Friday. Wow! How quickly things can change!
 This year we will read from the Gospel According to Matthew, which is the only one of the four gospels that mentions that there were Temple guards stationed at the tomb to prevent grave robbing, and the only gospel that mentions there was an earthquake at the time of the resurrection. The other gospel writers didn't seem to think those details were important enough to include in their writings, so that makes me wonder what, among those details, caught Matthew's imagination? Why did he, and he alone, decide to include the meeting between the chief priests and Pilate where the priests confided in the governor that they were afraid the disciples were going to raid the tomb? Why did Matthew decide to include the part about the earthquake? And only Matthew says the angel sat on the stone. In the other gospels the angel either sits inside the tomb or stands beside the women who had brought burial spices. What is Matthew emphasizing by including these details?
 It may seem like minor, trivial details to some people, but I think Matthew is up to something. I think Matthew is emphasizing God's power over the powers of this world. I think Matthew is letting us know that, while we may have the power the threat of death, with guards and weapons and fear, God has the ultimate power of life over death! The resurrection is God's exclamation point in the defeat of sin and death. The resurrection is where God displays to us and for us that God is not interested in death. The resurrection shows that God does not want to be separated from us by sin. God is ultimately and finally most interested in creating an unending bond of love and offering us eternal life. No power on earth can stand up against that.
 We may try to contain God in tombs. We may try to guard against God's actions. We may try to defeat God's power with weapons, but none of that works. God's love, I am convinced, is *the most powerful force in the universe!* We cannot run from God's love because God knows where we are. Read Psalm 139 and you will know what I mean. We cannot get God to stop loving us no matter what we do because God forgives us. Psalm 103 says, "He forgives all your iniquity and heals all your diseases." (Ps. 103:3) Finally, even death is no barrier for God. The resurrection proves that. It was enough evidence for Paul to write, "I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things in the present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38-39) We worship God, the most powerful force in the universe, and we participate with God by being disciples of the most powerful King in the universe, and that gives us something to celebrate! Happy Easter! See you in church.

Pastor Don

From your Church Council:

Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Greetings Fellow Pilgrims!
 Hold onto your hats! The Holy Spirit is blowing through and upon Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Othello. There is a full slate of activities lined up for April and May. There are opportunities for worship to complete our Lenten season and Holy Week, culminating with our celebration of Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday. There is a Healing Service April 2nd. Bishop Wells will be here on April 23rd to complete a Ministry Review with Pastor Short and with us. We have a luncheon and sending for Jan Charlston, a Compassion International coffee hour, quilts to bless and send out, and an outreach women's event at the beginning of May. Of course, this time of the year, we look forward to greeting our people returning from winter in the south! We pray that their journeys north will be safe and uneventful! Please take a moment during your busy spring to thank Pastor Don, Anna, and all the folks who ensure that events go smoothly here at Pilgrim Lutheran! May God's Peace fill our hearts as we receive and recognize the Holy Spirit working in us.
 Happy Easter! Happy Spring!
 Larry, Kristi, Sandy, Ernie, Jim, & Marcia

INFO CORNER

3/5	Attendance:	46	Offering:	\$ 3162
3/12	Attendance:	40	Offering:	\$ 1726
3/19	Attendance:	37	Offering:	\$ 1910
3/26	Attendance:	47	Offering:	\$ 1208

YTD Offerings — \$ 28,623

YTD Expenses— \$ 26,810

Bees & Trees Bake Sale \$ 402.52

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

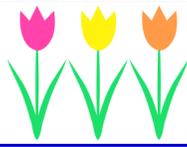
Afternoons reserved for visitations, meetings, and appointments.

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 -April 2, 9, 23, 30						1
2 9 am Book of Acts 10 am Worship Healing Service	3	4 Alfa y Omega 6 pm	5 Quilting 9 am Lenten Soup, Bread & Study @ 6 pm	6	7	8 Women's Bible Study 10 am
9 9 am Book of Acts 10 am Worship Palm Sunday	10	 Alfa y Omega 6 pm Committees @ 6:30 pm Council @ 7 pm	12 Quilting 9 am	13 Maundy Thursday service 7 pm	14 Tenebrae Service 7 pm	15
16 Easter See front page for schedule	17	18 Alfa y Omega 6 pm	19 Quilting 9 am	20	21	22
23 9 am Book of Acts 10 am Worship Recognition Sunday Bishop Wells visit	24	25 Alfa y Omega 6 pm	26 Quilting 9 am	27	28	29 Luncheon for Jan Charleston @ 1 pm
30 9 am Book of Acts 10 am Worship Compassion Sunday	 Tuesday April 11 6:30 Committees Meet 7:30 Council					

Birthdays-April

- 3 Shirley McCullough
- 4 Jorn Ogendahl
- 5 Kevin Spohr
- 8 Shannon McKay
- 9 Jose Guzman
- 10 Bruce Moore
- 12 Robert Rogers
- 14 Ethel Krug
- 15 Becca Thornton
- 16 TJ Spurgeon Jr.
- 19 Judy Summers

Quilts to be sent in May

Our Quilters have worked hard this year, and we look forward to adorning the pews with their handiwork. Blessing of the quilts will be April 30 at our worship service, and they will be packed up on **Tuesday, May 2nd at 9 am**. Your help in assembling, packing, and weighing the boxes of quilts is much appreciated by all the quilters and those who receive them!

Cleaning up our grounds!

Please watch the bulletins for information regarding work parties during the month of April and May! If all of us pitch in a little, we will have our church looking tip top in no time at all. Thank you!

PLC News Wanted for the Newsletter

If you have **events** and or **topics** that need to be publicized in our newsletter, please call or text Kristi Spohr at 509-331-4406, or email the church at pilgrimlutheran@hotmail.com **Thank you!**

DATE	USHERS	READER	Communion Assistant	ACOLYTE	Sacristan	BREAD	CLICKER	GREETER
April 2	Pete R. &	Annie Smith	Fay Coats	Anna Short	Fay Coats	Fay Ann McCourtie	Tammy Rodriguez	Tammy Rodriguez
April 9	Pete R. & Phil B.	Anna Short	Larry McCourtie		Sue Bunch	Cindy Eidahl	Tammy Rodriguez	Tammy Rodriguez
April 16	Pete R & Larry McC	Shirley McCullough	Shirley McCullough		Nancy Roth	Nancy Roth	Tammy Rodriguez	Tammy Rodriguez
April 23	Pete R. & Leonard		Annie Smith	Bill Porter	Bill & Danita Porter	Cindy Eidahl	Tammy Rodriguez	Tammy Rodriguez
April 30	Pete R. &		Sue Bunch	Anna Short	Anna Short	Fay Ann McCourtie	Tammy Rodriguez	Tammy Rodriguez



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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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



The Clean Up Crew

Bill & Danita Porter
With their green on!



Happy Spring!!!



Lectionary Readings for April

April 2	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Psalm 130	Romans 8:6-11	John 11:1-45
April 9	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Matthew 27:11-54
April 16	Jeremiah 31:1-6	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Colossians 3:1-4	John 20:1-18
April 23	Acts 2:14a, 22-32	Psalm 16	I Peter 1:3-9	John 20:19-31
April 30	Acts 2:14a, 36-41	Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19	I Peter 1:17-23	Luke 24:13-35



book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.