

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

THE NEWSLETTER OF PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH OTHELLO, WASHINGTON

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2019



Kent Russell & his horse being blessed!

Blessing of the First Responders

Our 4th Annual Blessing of the First Responders went very well, with Adams County Sheriff's Office, Othello Police Dept., Othello EMTs, Firefighters, and for the 1st time Adams County Posse was invited to attend. They were treated to a great breakfast, and then were given an individual blessing by Pastor Don. We do this to honor and thank them for their dedication and service to our community, and to ask God to grant them safety as they do their varied jobs. Thank you to everyone who prepared the food and especially to the First Responders who came that morning.

Women's Bible Study

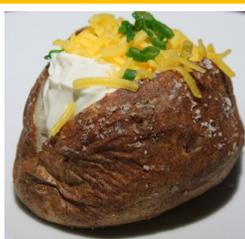
Our women's Bible Study will take place on October 12, at 10 am in the Quilter's room next to the kitchen. Please join us for study and fellowship as well as plenty of love and laughter. Extra copies of the study are in the Narthex, and if you have any questions, please call Fay Coats.

Pilgrim Congregational Retreat

Thank you to the Endowment Committee for the wonderful retreat this past weekend at Lutherhaven. In this beautiful environment, 29 Pilgrims worshiped, held meaningful discussions, ate extremely well, and marveled at God's amazing handiwork around them. The snowfall was a bonus! Another big thank you to our musicians, Donna Reichert and James Thornton, to Bob Reichert for managing the room assignments, and to Marcia Bougher for the great craft! Photos on the back page.

Potato Feed

Friday night, **October 4**, from 5-7 pm, Pilgrim Lutheran is hosting a Community Baked Potato Bar prior to the Huskies Homecoming Game. Harvest Fresh has donated the potatoes for the event, and we will have all the fixings available! Proceeds are benefitting the Othello Food Bank, and Assured Hospice. Stop by for dinner on your way to the Huskies game and support these two agencies which work to ease people's pilgrimage. Hours are from 5-7 pm. Be sure to bring your neighbors and friends! For more information or to volunteer at the event, call Sandi Bosch at 488-9788.



Why do we do a Blessing of the Animals in October?

The annual Blessing of the Animals service is coming up on **October 6th** this year. Each year we bless our pets and service animals on the Sunday closest to the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, which is October 4th.

St. Francis is the patron saint of all animals, and legend has it he used to preach to the birds while they sat on his arms and shoulders and listened. In the Scriptures, the act of blessing means 'the imparting of power or life.' The person performing the blessing is mediating that power from God or Christ to the animal involved. To bless is more than an expression of goodwill and caring. To bless is to impart God's power in person! The blessing of each animal, by name, means that health, healing and life are being mediated from God for the benefit of the animal in its relationship with its human partners. We will bless all animals immediately following our regular worship service on October 6th. Animals are welcome to attend worship with their human companions. See you then!



Introducing the 'Experiencing God' Video Series

Beginning October 6th at 9 am, your pastor invites you to a new video series called 'Experiencing God'. This series will explore many common questions about God such as; "Who is God?" "Is God angry with us?" "Who is the Holy Spirit?" "Where does Jesus fit into all of this?" "What difference does it make to be a person of faith in today's world?" Come and hear from many of the pastor's former seminary professors in this interesting and thought-provoking video series. See you there!

October message from our Pastor:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Whenever fall comes around, I look forward to one main thing. Is it football? No. Is it the baseball playoffs? No. Is it the colorful fall leaves? No. Those are all great fall things for some people, but for me, every fall means fresh apples. Right now, the produce stands are full of the new crop of apples. I love fresh apples! I love the crisp, juicy texture when I bite into one and I love the sweet, tangy taste of a perfectly ripe apple. I don't bother baking it into a pie or mashing it into sauce. Don't even THINK of covering it with a candy coating or caramel! I'll just wash a nice, fresh Gala apple and eat it raw, skin and all, right down to the core.

Some people think that the apple was the forbidden fruit that Eve and Adam ate in the Garden of Eden. There's nothing about that in Scripture. The Bible only says that, "Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat." (Genesis 2:17a, RSV) But if you read Eve's description of it; "The woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes" it sounds like it could easily have been an apple. They are indeed attractive and delightful to look at, and they certainly are good for food, but lots of other fruits qualify in that department as well.

Scripture DOES imply that the apple is precious, however. Psalm 17 says, "Guard me as the apple of the eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings." The psalm implies that the apple of the eye is precious enough to be guarded, and we, who are children of God, are the apples of God's eye!

But as delightful as apples are, I think there is a fruit that is even more precious. This fruit has never been forbidden, and that is the fruit of the Spirit. In Paul's letter to the Galatians he explains, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. There is no law against such things. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. (Galatians 5:22, 23 and 25). So, a life guided by the Holy Spirit will be a fruitful life. Life guided by the Holy Spirit can be a joyful experience. And the best news is that the fruit of the Holy Spirit can be harvested anytime, not just late summer or fall. You don't even need a ladder! God is available to us to guide our lives into fruitful service whenever we make ourselves available for God.

How will we know if our lives are guided by the Holy Spirit? As Martin Luther wrote in the Small Catechism, we, the church, are called, gathered, enlightened and made holy by the Holy Spirit, and kept with Jesus Christ in the one common, true faith. So, as Christians, we can't help but be guided by the Holy Spirit, so we will show forth the fruit of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives. I look forward to sharing in this fruit with you as we are guided by the Holy Spirit in all that we do together. See you in church.

Pastor Don Short

Pastor Short's office hours

Wednesday-Friday 9-12 pm

Tuesdays 9-11 am

Tues pm reserved for text studies & Wed-Fri afternoons reserved for meetings, visitations, and appointments.

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

Anna's office hours

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 2-4 pm

Cell phone 509-761-1205

Painting is Complete

Pilgrim Lutheran's budget included money for the painting of the parsonage this year. That has now been completed and it looks wonderful! Integrity Painting out of Moses Lake took on the job. The parsonage has an updated look with a new color and freshly painted doors.

INFO CORNER

9/1	Attendance: 29	Offering: \$ 2,303
9/8	Attendance: 42	Offering: \$ 1,397
9/15	Attendance: 36	Offering: \$ 1,610
9/22	Attendance: 33	Offering: \$ 1,027
9/29	Combined Att: 49	Offering: \$ 1,534

YTD Offerings — **\$ 80,605**

YTD Expenses— **\$ 94,014**

Thank you for supporting your Church and it's Mission! God loves a generous heart!

Thank you!

Many thanks to Anna Short for putting out the newsletter in September for me while I prepared for hip surgery. The newsletter turned out great and was very much appreciated! Thank you, Kristi

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4 Potato Feed 5-7 pm 	5
Men's Group Breakfast- Saturdays 8am @ Casa Mexicana Sunday School-every Sunday in October				2 pm Set up for Potato Feed		
6 10 am Worship Blessing of the Animals	7	8 Alfa y Omega 6 pm 7 pm Church Council	 9	10	11	12 Women's Bible Study: 10 am
13 Healing Service 10 am Worship	14	15 Alfa y Omega 6 pm	16 Worship & Music 7 pm	17	18	19
20 10 am Worship	21	22 Alfa y Omega 6 pm	23	24	25	26
27 10 am Worship Reformation Sunday	28	29	30	31 Halloween	Birthdays-October 1 Donna Adams 5 Donna Reichert 9 Erica Virgin Rodriguez 11 Trent Spohr 12 Addie Jo Russell 15 Danita Porter 16 Treva Reichert 18 Aaron Stephens 21 Cindy Eidahl 23 Steward Hilmes 26 FayAnn McCourtie 26 Eric Porter 26 Rob Reichert 28 Marcia Bougher 28 Miah Rodriguez 29 Barb Maine 31 Maro Moreno	
Bishop's Convocation @ Lutherhaven! →						



Anniversaries-October

- 5 Fred & Sandi Bosch
- 8 Shane & Sandy Russell
- 29 Don & Elaine Wade
- 29 Ron & Sue Hosek

Help Needed

Please note the schedule below and help wherever you can. We already have plenty of bread to get us through the month of October. Thank you!

God's Work-Our Hands Sunday

Thank you to everyone who came to pick up trash on the Wildlife Refuge Sept 8, and to the Summers for opening their home afterwards for treats!

Attention!

If you do not see your birthday or anniversary on these lists, please contact Anna in the office so that they may be added to the master list. Thank you!

DATE	USHERS	READER	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	ACOLYTE	SACRISTAN	BREAD	CLICKER	GREETER	COFFEE HOUR
Oct 6		Liz Jensen	.Shirley McCullough			↓	Anna Short		Nancy R Sue Long -Hosek
Oct 13		Annie Smith		Maxwell			Tammy Rodriguez	Sandi Bosch	Elaine W. Angela M
Oct 20		Don Wade	Annie Smith		Nancy Roth		Tammy Rodriguez	Nancy Roth	Cindy E Anna S
Oct 27		Donna Adams	Donna Adams					Elaine Wade	Elaine W Annie S



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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

October 2019

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



Photos starting at lower left:
Makeshift games by the kids
Liturgy study with Pastor Don
Crafting with Marcia
Paying attention to Pastor Don

Lectionary Readings for October

Oct 6	Habakkuk 1:1-4,2:1-4	Psalm 37:1-9	2 Timothy 1:1-14	Luke 17:5-10
Oct 13	2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c	Psalm 111	2 Timothy 2:8-15	Luke 17:11-19
Oct 20	Genesis 32:22-31	Psalm 121	2 Timothy 3:14—4:5	Luke 18:1-8
Oct 27	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalm 46	Romans 3:19-28	John 8:31-36



book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.