

# PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

THE NEWSLETTER OF PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH OTHELLO, WASHINGTON

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 7

## JULY 2020



### Update on Sunday Services

We began our services in the sanctuary on May 31, Pentecost Sunday. On May 22, our calendar activity was to pray that we would be able to meet at church on Pentecost Sunday. How many of us have been praying just that, and look at how generously God provided an answer to our prayers! Thank you God!

### Adams County Health Face Covering Directive

Adams County has directed that all individuals at indoor or confined public settings must wear face coverings over their noses and mouths if they are likely to be in contact with another individual who does not share their household. We are all wearing facemasks at worship to comply with this directive. If you do not have a face mask, Elaine Wade has supplied the church with plenty for our use. We are also physically distancing with each family group 6 feet away from another on the pews. Pews are marked with signs and 6 foot intervals are marked with masking tape. Thank you for your attention to these additional ways to help our congregants to stay healthy.

### Church Services ONLINE

Our services will continue to be broadcast live on FaceBook, and uploaded to the Pilgrim Lutheran Website for viewing at our convenience. If you feel at greater risk or are concerned about worshipping on site, please be assured that our services are available to you online. If you need help accessing them online, please reach out to Anna Short for help.



Above: Pastor Don Short presenting the Wednesday message from the Columbia National Wildlife Refuge.

### Volunteer Needed

Pilgrim is looking for a volunteer to change the sign out front on 7th Ave on a regular basis. It is a great way to highlight events that are happening at our church, like the recent Red Cross Blood Drive, and other activities that we hope to get back to very soon. It is also one way for us to share hope and love with our community! If you are interested in taking on this important task, please contact Pastor Don. Thank you very much.

### Virtual Services!

FaceBook:

**Pilgrim Lutheran Church-ELCA**

Website:

**othellolutheran.com**

### Anna's Summer Hours

Please note that with school out, Anna's hours will be changing. Beginning June 12, Anna will be working Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 9-11:30. Please let her know how much you appreciate the work she is doing to make sure we can access our worship services and Wednesday messages electronically!

### Bible Study Interest

Are there any women interested in doing a Bible Study through ZOOM this summer? Zoom is a way for us to meet online for discussion and study. Sorry, no treats involved except those available in your own homes! If interested, please contact Kristi Spohr. Thank you!

The Corona Virus Pandemic has certainly stretched our congregation to envision new ways and methods to do church together—that is, to hear, and spread God's message of love, and hope. If you are still struggling or need help in any way with accessing our worship services online, please reach out to Anna Short, Kayla or Kristi Spohr. They are very happy to help you. Don't forget to SHARE the online videos so that all your friends and relatives near and far are able to hear Pastor Don's messages!

**July 2020 Message from our Pastor**

Dear Pilgrims for Christ,

I totally get it. You are getting tired of online worship. Fewer and fewer people are viewing the worship services on Sundays. I understand your desire to return to worship in the church building. That day is coming. Each day that we endure our separation gets us closer to our reunification. Be patient. We will return to worship in the church building soon, perhaps even later this month. Announcements will be sent out on the church web site, the Facebook page and through the prayer chain. You will know when we are gathering together again, and I hope it is as soon as Father's Day.

But even when we gather things will be different. We will need to take precautions against spreading the COVID-19 virus. Hand sanitizer will be present. We will be strongly encouraged to wear face masks in worship. We will observe keeping a distance from each other in the pews unless your pew companions live in the same household. We will forsake fellowship time after worship for the time being, and we will not share the peace with bodily contact. Worship will be different, but God will be there, just the same.

During this pandemic, have you stopped to wonder what God is thinking? I know God cares for our safety and well-being, so I know God is glad to see when we follow the recommendations of the health department and other medical professionals. As Jeremiah reminded the people of Israel while they were exiled in Babylon, God wanted them to know; "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then, when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the LORD." (Jeremiah 29:11-14a)

God has not abandoned us during this pandemic. I honestly think God is leading us into a new future, one that will be more inclusive of those who are not comfortable with worship in a church building, but still want to build a relationship with God. I think that is something we have learned from this online worship format and it is a blessing I would like to see if God will encourage us to carry into our future. I am not entirely sure what that new future will look like, but then, neither was Isaiah certain of the future God had planned for the nation of Israel when he wrote what God told him to say, "Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." (Isaiah 43:18-19)

I am ready to embrace the new future God has planned for Pilgrim Lutheran Church. I am excited by the possibilities of growing a faith community that does not depend on meeting in a building. I am open to the challenges of following God on the way made in the wilderness. Are you ready as well? Are you willing to trust God to lead us? Are you able to believe God knows what is best for us? Here is a proverb to help you think about leaning on God into the future; "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." (Proverbs 3:5-6) I'll see you on the Internet.

Peace,

Pastor Don

**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!

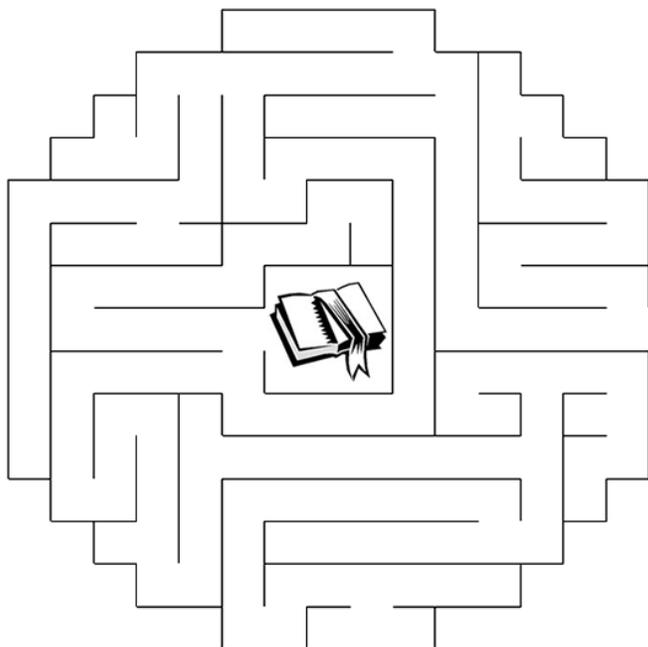
**INFO CORNER**

6/5	Attendance:	Offering: \$	3,015
6/12	Attendance:	Offering: \$	1,655
6/19	Attendance:	Offering: \$	1,990
6/29	Attendance:	Offering: \$	2,060

2020 Offerings —	\$ 66,183
2020 Expenses—	\$ 50,938

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><b>Table Prayer from ELCA World Hunger</b></p> <p>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.</p>			<p><b>1</b> Pray the Lord's Prayer out loud.</p> <p>Listen to tonight's message from Pastor Don.</p>	<p><b>2</b> Get outside for a walk in your neighborhood.</p>	<p><b>3</b> Send a birthday card to someone on the list below! Call Anna for an address if you need to.</p>	<p><b>4</b> Send an uplifting text to a friend.</p>
<p><b>5</b> 10 am Worship Open your Bible and read one of your favorite passages/verse.</p>	<p><b>6</b> Pray for an end to racial inequality.</p>	<p><b>7</b> Church Council To Be Determined Thank God for your friends by name.</p>	<p><b>8</b> Work in your yard for one hour! Listen to tonight's message from Pastor Don.</p>	<p><b>9</b> Donate to the Food Bank.</p>	<p><b>10</b> Pray for Pastor Don and Anna.</p>	<p><b>11</b> Read a devotion from <u>Christ in Our Home</u>.</p>
<p><b>12</b> 10 am Worship Flag Day</p>	<p><b>13</b> Pray for an end to civil unrest.</p>	<p><b>14</b> Pray for those working on a vaccine for the Corona virus.</p>	<p><b>15</b> Send a text to a Pilgrim. Listen to tonight's message from Pastor Don.</p>	<p><b>16</b> Have your children or grands send a note to a Pilgrim.</p>	<p><b>17</b> Send a thank you message to Pastor Don in the snail mail.</p>	<p><b>18</b> Pray for ALL the Front Line workers.</p>
<p><b>19</b> 10 am Worship Father's Day</p>	<p><b>20</b> Pray that our state continues to see Corona virus numbers decline.</p>	<p><b>21</b> Send your tithing to church.</p>	<p><b>22</b> Take a walk around the block. Listen to tonight's message from Pastor Don.</p>	<p><b>23</b> Draw a cross in chalk on the sidewalk or driveway.</p>	<p><b>24</b> Paint a rock with an encouraging message &amp; hide it outside the church.</p>	<p><b>25</b> Call a friend that you haven't spoken to in a long time.</p>
<p><b>26</b> 10 am Worship Send a cheerful note to another Pilgrim.</p>	<p><b>27</b> Thank God out loud for your church family!</p>	<p><b>28</b> Stop @ church to small the roses!</p>	<p><b>29</b> Say the ELCA World Hunger Prayer found below, 3 times this month.</p>	<p><b>30</b> Pray for our Sunday School Children.</p>	<p><b>31</b> Birthdays—July</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Jolene Bland</li> <li>2 Lena Mendoza</li> <li>2 James Thornton</li> <li>5 Austen McKay</li> <li>9 Ernie Summers</li> <li>11 Dianne Kidd</li> <li>12 Stephanie Rodriguez</li> <li>13 Fred Bosch</li> <li>14 Alex Mendoza</li> <li>18 Abby Hilmes</li> <li>19 Roger Thieme</li> <li>19 Sue Long-Hosek</li> <li>19 Matias Mendoza</li> <li>24 Aubrey Moreno</li> <li>25 Kayla Spohr</li> <li>29 Paula McKay</li> </ul>	

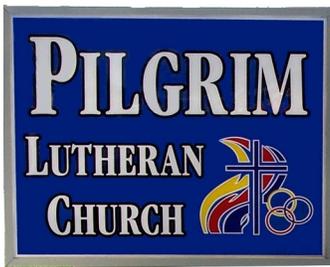


### Trinity Sunday Maze

And you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free! John 8:32

### Project—Favorite Bible Verse or Passage

Hi everyone! I am working on a project for next month's newsletter and would love to collaborate with you! My idea is to include favorite Bible verses and/or passages on the calendar so that we would have Bible verses to read for every day of the month. We might even be able to do 2 months if I receive one from every person, kids included! It would be great to have everyone participate. Please email your verse or passage to Anna at pilgrimlutheran@hotmail.com I thank you all in advance and look forward to seeing your choices. Kristi Spohr



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Church Phone: 509-488-9952

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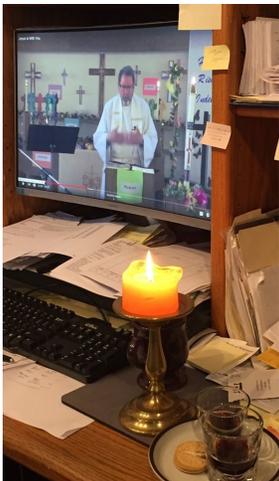


**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

July 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.**



**More Home Altars**

Because we are continuing to take communion in our own homes, please continue to send your altar photos to the church email! And I will continue to post them.

**Lectionary Readings for July**

July 5	Zechariah 9:9-12	Psalm 145:8-14	Romans 7:15-25a	Matthew 11:16-19,25-30
July 12	Isaiah 55:10-13	Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13	Romans 8:1-11	Matthew 13:1-9,18-23
July 19	Isaiah 44:6-8	Psalm 86:11-17	Romans 8:12-25	Matthew 13:24-30,36-43
July 26	I Kings 3:5-12	Psalm 119:129-136	Romans 8:26-39	Matthew 13:31-33,44-52



**book of faith**  
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.