

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

THE NEWSLETTER OF PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH OTHELLO, WASHINGTON

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2021



Lenten Worship

Pilgrim's Ash Wednesday Service will be held on February 17th at 7 pm. Please note that we will follow all the Covid-19 protocols that we use on Sundays, and that additionally Pastor will place the ashes on our foreheads with individual Q-tips.

Our Soup & Bread Lenten dinners are suspended for the time being and will be replaced with a message on our Pilgrim FaceBook page. You will be able to watch it when it is convenient to you. We hope to be able to return to our wonderful Lenten dinners & fellowship next year!

Women's Bible Study

At this time, we still plan to meet for Bible Study on February 20th, at 10 am, at the church. Please be flexible as our orders from the Governor may change. All Covid-19 protocols will be followed. Please bring your Bibles, and February's Gather magazine. Hope to see you there!

AED (Defibrillator) Education

On February 14, directly after our worship service, Linda Bork will be doing a demonstration on how to use the AEDs. They are located in our Narthex below the light switch for the sanctuary, and at the south end of the church near the Fellowship Hall. Please plan to stay and learn this important information so that we all know what to do in case of an emergency. It's a great way to **show some love** to your fellow Pilgrims on Valentine's Day!!

Congregational Meeting Update

Our annual congregational meeting was held Sunday, January 31st, directly after worship, with Pete Rodriguez presiding. Pastor Short offered a responsive litany and prayer.

During this meeting we:

- 1) Read & Approved the minutes of the January 26, 2020 congregational meeting.
- 2) Elected Annie Smith to her 2nd term on Council, Ernie Summers, & Kristi Spohr to their 1st terms on Council
- 3) Elected Steve Jensen, Trudy Doolittle, and James Weinkauf to Endowment Committee. They join Randy Deasy & Pete Olsen on the Endowment.
- 4) Appointed Pete Rodriguez as outgoing President to the Nominating Committee.
- 5) Heard & read reports from Pastor Short and the committees of our church.
- 6) Approved the 2020 Financial Report as presented.
- 7) Approved a 2021 Mission Budget of \$136,937 and capital expenditures at \$1000 for entrance mats, \$10,000 for painting the church, \$10,000 for Landscaping, and \$10,000 for striping/sealing the parking lot.
- 8) Saw a preview and description of the landscaping project on a PowerPoint by Linda Crosier and Kristi Spohr

If you have any questions concerning the business of the Annual meeting, please contact any of the Council members or Pastor Short! And definitely pick up a copy of the Annual Report if you don't already have one. Thank you for your continued support of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, its activities, and its mission.

Saints vs. Angels Souper Bowl

It's getting crowded in the Narthex! Pilgrims have been bringing non-perishable people food, pet food, and more to the Narthex as part of our Souper Bowl Competition! The last day to bring items to the church for counting is Sunday, February 7th. You are also encouraged to donate \$\$\$ - every \$ counts as 1 pound! The Souper Bowl Trophy will be awarded to the winning team on Feb. 14! Remember that the real winners are all the people and animals that we are helping during these challenging times. Thank you Pilgrims!

Landscaping Progress

Aaron Stephens, with some help from Grandma and Grandpa Bouger, is working to prepare the garden beds around the church. He is pulling out overgrown shrubs, iris, and weeds, to make room for the new landscaping! Don't worry! He is saving some iris of every color to plant in the new beds! Thanks, Aaron! Photo Below & one more on page 4.

Happy
Valentine's Day!
Share God's
LOVE!



February 2021 Message from our Pastor

Dear Pilgrims,

One of the gospel readings this month contains a healing story. It tells of how Jesus defeated disease and restored a person to health. It is a vivid reminder to me that we have been seeking the intervention of Jesus for nearly a year now regarding healing us from this dreaded COVID-19 pandemic. Far too many people have gotten sick, far too many people have died, and far too many lives have been disrupted by this virus. We continue to pray for an end to the pandemic, but month after month drags on and we are still encouraged to wear masks, practice physical distancing, and refrain from bodily contact with anyone except those in our own household. We want this pandemic to end, but we seem to be stuck with it for a while longer.

That does not mean God is not involved in bringing the pandemic to an end. I believe God provided the wisdom and knowledge for many scientists to develop the vaccines that have been released. Many people have been vaccinated and many more are hoping to be vaccinated soon. Some states have reduced the restrictions on businesses so that people are able to enjoy dining out together outdoors again. While it is too cold here to do that, I think it is a good sign that we are slowly turning a corner on this pandemic. We will get through this pandemic and God will see us through, because the Lord is faithful. Even if we have given up on God, there is no way God ever gives up on us, because, as Paul wrote to Timothy, "if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself." (2 Timothy 2:13)

Another example of God's faithfulness is our own congregation. Throughout this pandemic we have had faithful leaders who have planned worship and made accommodations so that the Word of God would continue to be provided and we would still have opportunities to worship. Throughout this pandemic your faithful leaders have developed ways for you to worship with us whether you are able to be in the building on Sunday morning or join us in our online worship webcast. Throughout this pandemic you have been faithfully following us in person or online, and that is something we will continue, even when we are no longer restricted by this pandemic.

For the foreseeable future we will continue to make worship accommodations to preserve your health during this pandemic. For instance, we are still not using the ELW's during worship. We are still requiring people in attendance to wear masks, and we still provide hand sanitizer in the narthex to ensure we are not sharing disease around the church. We will also make one more accommodation for you in our Ash Wednesday service. This year your pastor will impose ashes with a Q-tip instead of a finger, and if you are participating in worship online you will be asked to impose your own ashes. Ash Wednesday is February 17th, so if you need ashes for your worship at home, please stop by the church and pick some up. In the meantime, continue to pray for an end to this pandemic. Continue to pray for the health of your neighbors, friends, and family, and continue to pray for the will of God to prevail in our world. As Paul reminded the Thessalonian church, "16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18) I'll see you in church or online.

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:

pilgrimlpastor@gmail.com

Anna's new office hours

Wed & Thurs 7:30-9:30 am

Friday 8-9 am & 4-5 pm

Please call if you need info on anything!

Cell phone **509-761-1205**

News Regarding Donations

Your Giving Statement for 2020 (Contribution Report) is available. To receive it, please contact Kristi or Marc Spohr. For 2020, even if you do not itemize, you may deduct part of your annual charitable contributions. Consult your tax advisor for further information.

INFO CORNER

1/3	Attendance:	29	Offering:	\$ 3,506
1/10	Attendance:	28	Offering:	\$ 2,799
1/17	Attendance:	24	Offering:	\$ 1,856
1/24	Attendance:	33	Offering:	\$ 1,316
1/31	Attendance:	34	Offering:	\$ 1,955
2021 Offerings —		\$ 11,432		
2021 Expenses—		\$ 9,450		

Thank you, Pilgrims, for supporting your Church and its Mission!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Donate Food to the Saints or Angels in the Narthex.	2 Pray for our Sunday School Children.	3 Listen to tonight's message from Pastor Don.	4 Are you a Saint or an Angel?	5 Send a birthday card to someone on the list below! Call Anna for an address if you need to.	6 Send an uplifting text to a friend.
7 10 am Worship & Sunday School	8 Get outside for a walk in your neighborhood.	9 Church Council 7 pm	10 Listen to tonight's message from Pastor Don.	11 Have your children or grands send a note to a Pilgrim.	12 Pray for Pastor Don and Anna.	13 Pray for everyone in our congregation to receive the vaccine!
14 10 am Worship & Sunday School AED Training 	15 	16 Pray for ALL the Front Line workers.	17 Ash Wednesday Service 7 pm	18 Send a thank you message to Anna in the snail mail.	19 Stop & look when a flock of geese flies over.	20 Women's Bible Study 10 am
21 10 am Worship & Sunday School	22 Send a cheerful note to another Pilgrim.	23 Take a walk around the block.	24 Listen to tonight's message from Pastor Don.	25 Send your tithing to church.	26 Call a friend that you haven't spoken to in a long time.	27 Make a Zoom, or FaceTime call w/ your family.
28 10 am Worship & Sunday School	Thank God out loud for your family!	Upcoming Lenten Initiative				
Virtual Services! FaceBook: Pilgrim Lutheran Church-ELCA Website: othellolutheran.com Don't forget to hit the SHARE button to share the Good News with friends and family!!!		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilgrim's Worship & Music + Education committees have teamed up to offer a Lenten opportunity for giving. Personal Care Kits distributed by Lutheran World Relief are desperately needed in these trying times. The simple gifts of soap, towels, toothbrushes, combs, & nail clippers improve the standard of living for people around the world. Specifically, in the Andes, these kits are helping dairy farmers practice proper hygiene and, in turn improve their dairy products through sanitary milking practices. We can't control when disaster strikes, nor can we end poverty overnight, but we can gather these items to help people around the world reach their full potential. Worship & Music Comm. Will organize what we all donate of these 5 items, and the Sunday School kids will wrap them up and tie them to ready them for mailing. This project turns Faith into Action and will make a great impact on those who receive the Personal Care Kits. Thanks Pilgrims, and thank you Committees. 				
Anniversaries—February 20 Leonard & Joleen Bland		Personal Care Kit Supply List <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) One lightweight bath-size towel 2) 2 bath-size bars of soap, any brand, in packaging 3) 1 adult toothbrush in packaging 4) 1 sturdy comb w/o packaging 5) 1 metal nail clippers w/o packaging 				
		Birthdays—February <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Maya Martinez 5 Henry Solbrack 7 John Bergstrom 9 Tammy Rodriguez 9 John Lawrence 11 Brady Hilmes 12 Lillian Solbrack 13 Tyler Evans 14 Joleen McKay 15 Trevor Hilmes 16 Roger Martinez 21 Lupe Mendoza 23 Audrey Stephens 25 Dee Wright 27 Jennifer Porter 27 Elijah Rodriguez 				





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Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

February 2021

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.



Aaron handling gnarly roots!

Volunteers Make Pilgrim Work

Your church depends on volunteers to function properly and currently we need volunteers for lots of positions including ushers, greeters, acolytes, sacristans, readers, and a reader board manager. Training WILL be provided. If you have any questions about these positions, or would like to volunteer, please call Pastor Don at 509-761-1212. Thank you.

Contemporary Service

January 31 was the 5th Sunday of the month. The worship committee has dedicated the 5th Sunday to a more contemporary service. James Thornton is bringing his guitar to play along with Pastor Short's. The music selection is geared to songs that lend themselves to guitar and the service is more relaxed. May, August, and October are months with 5 Sundays. If you have suggestions, and/or feedback regarding this new form of worship, please contact Fay Coats or Pastor Don.

Lectionary Readings for February

Feb 7	Isaiah 40:21-31	Psalm 147:1-11,20c	I Corinthians 9:16-23	Mark 1:29-39
Feb 14	II Kings 2:1-12	Psalm 50:1-6	II Corinthians 4:3-6	Mark 9:2-9
Feb 21	Genesis 9:8-17	Psalm 25:1-10	I Peter 3:18-22	Mark 1:9-15
Feb 28	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16	Psalm 22:23-31	Romans 4:13-25	Mark 8:31-38



book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.