

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

THE NEWSLETTER OF PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH OTHELLO, WASHINGTON

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 5

MAY 2022



Coming May 15-Traveler's Blessing

After Worship on May 15, Pastor Don will do a special blessing for all the folks who will be on the road this summer, whether by car, plane, or travel trailer/motor home. You are invited to bring your motor homes/trailers to worship that day and after the service, Pastor will have a blessing for each. Should be a fun day, and a chance for us all to share plans, and listen to others if we aren't traveling ourselves.

ELCA Northwest Intermountain Synod Regional Gathering

Our Synod gathering for Central WA will be held at Moses Lake Immanuel Lutheran Church on Saturday, May 21, from 10 am-4 pm. We would love to get a group from Pilgrim to attend, participate in the gathering, and bring back ideas generated to share with our congregation. There is no limit to the number of people we can bring. If interested, please contact Pastor Short.

Women's Bible Study

Many thanks to Fay Coats for hosting the April Women's Bible Study at her home on April 9th. We will meet again at Fay's home on Saturday, May 14th, at 10 am for the May Gather magazine Bible Study. If you need a copy of the Gather magazine or directions to Fay's house, please contact Pastor Short at his mobile # on page 2.

Red Cross Blood Drive
Pilgrim Lutheran Church
Tuesday May 24th 1-6 pm

Your help taking down tables & chairs after church on the 22nd, and putting them back up @ 7 pm after the Drive is greatly appreciated!



Lent & Easter Thank You

Thank you to everyone who so generously prepared soup, bread, egg casseroles, and cinnamon rolls for our Lenten Mid-week services and for our Easter Breakfast! Thank you to everyone who spent time and energy decorating the sanctuary and the Fellowship Hall so they were festive and beautiful to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! And a special thank you to those organizing it all behind the scenes! More photos on the back page.



A New Meaning for Leaning



A pastor of a small church would occasionally call on one gentleman to pray, and every time this one guy would pray, he would pray, "Oh God, thank you for this word today, and bless these people today," and end with the strangest statement, "And, oh God, oh Lord, prop us up on our leaning side."

Finally, the pastor pulled him aside, and said, "I love the way you pray, but what are you talking about—Prop us up on our leaning side?" The man responded, "Well, Pastor, I'm a farmer. I live out on the farm, & you know, I've got an old barn, & it's been there a long time. It's been through a lot of weather, storms, & a lot of bugs have eaten at it." "I got to looking at it one day while riding my tractor, & I noticed that it was leaning to one side, so I thought to myself, the barn is leaning, it's only a matter of time before the whole thing falls."

The farmer continued, "So, you know what I did? I went & got some pine beams, & I propped it up on its leaning side. It still leans, & probably always will. But I propped it up on its leaning side, & it's not going to fall down. Then I got to thinking about it while I was riding on the tractor. I thought about the kind of year I've had, and some of the storms I've been through, & some of the people that are bugging me, & eating away at my joy & eating away at my spirit. And I thought, you know, I'm still here? I'm still standing after all that stuff I've been through. The storms, & the howling winds—they couldn't topple me. I'm still standing by the grace of God."

The farmer concluded, "From time to time, I find myself leaning. Leaning toward my old desires, leaning toward anger, leaning toward becoming bitter or hateful at the people who are bugging me, or leaning toward going back to the old habits & the old life I used to have. And when I feel myself start leaning toward that tendency, I just remember that old barn, & I pray out loud on my tractor—Lord, I thank you that you're going to prop me up on my leaning side."

Thank you for submitting this story Judy Summers

May Message from our Pastor

Dear Pilgrims,

The gospel reading for May 1st, the Third Sunday of Easter, begins with the disciple Peter declaring to his fellow disciples, "I am going fishing." There are six other disciples in the room, and they decide to accompany Peter, and suddenly there is a whole fishing trip going on for the disciples.

It reminds me of the times I have gone fishing with Jim and Vicki. Jim likes to say, "We're going fishing, we're not necessarily going catching!" And as it turns out, the times I have gone with Jim and Vicki, despite their best efforts at bringing me close to the fish, I have found that when I go fishing, the fish are safe. So far, even though they have shown us pictures of fish they have caught, and even though we have eaten fish they have caught when they served us for dinner, we have not personally caught any fish on the fishing trips we have taken with them.

The same thing happened for the disciples. They fished all night long and caught the same number of fish I did. They caught nothing. Sometimes I wish I had Jesus as a fishing guide, just like the disciples did. When Jesus was standing on the shore, watching the disciples come in after a fruitless night on the lake, he asked them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" The disciples didn't even try to tell a fish story, they simply answered honestly, "No." Then Jesus suggested they try the right side of the boat, because he said they would find some fish there, and they caught so many fish that the net was too heavy to bring back into the boat! See, I think Jesus is a

wonderful fishing guide! But so far, He has not told me where the fish are on Lake Roosevelt when I am out there with Jim and Vicki.

It is no matter. Jim and Vicki are gracious and good people, willing to share what God has provided them. They are good sports, even when I catch nothing. They are a good reflection of what we have as a body of Christ here in Othello. We have a congregation full of good and caring people, who are willing to share whatever we have with whoever is in need.

But what do WE need? What should we ask God to provide for us? What gaps do you see as you look around at your good friends and neighbors who share your church with you? To me, it seems like we lack a population of people under the age of 60. We have a good core of people in that age group, but they are not the bulk of the congregation. How do we attract younger Christians to share in the fellowship and love that we enjoy as the body of Christ here at Pilgrim?

It seems to me that we need a good fishing guide. We need Jesus to show us where the people are that would benefit from the love and fellowship and caring that we offer here at Pilgrim. We need Jesus to turn us into disciples that "fish for people" as he says in Mark 1:17. Despite our best efforts, we cannot seem to grow the church, but with Jesus leading us and the Holy Spirit inspiring us, we will not grow the church, but God will. I think we should ask Jesus where we should go fishing. Are you with me? See you in church or online. Peace,

Pastor Don Short

Pastor Short's office hours:

Tues-Friday 9-12 am
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**.

Mondays are Pastor's Day off. Please limit contact to emergencies only. Thank you.

Pastor's Email:
pilgrimcpastor@gmail.com

Anna's office hours (please note change)

Wed, Thurs, & Fri 3-5
Please call if you need info on anything!
Cell phone **509-761-1205**



Council Members

Marcia Bougher
Larry Kirkpatrick
Annie Smith
Kristi Spohr
Ernie Summers
Don Wade

INFO CORNER




4/3	Attendance:	28	Offering:	\$ 7,476
4/10	Attendance:	30	Offering:	\$ 2,516
4/17	Attendance:	24	Offering:	\$ 1,590
4/24	Attendance:	31	Offering:	\$ 1,650

2022 Offerings —	\$ 39,177
2022 Expenses—	\$ 42,802

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

SAVE the DATE

Vacation Bible School is happening soon!
Who: Kids entering K-6th
Where: Othello First Pres. Church
When: June 20-24, 2022
Time: 2-4:30 pm

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Quilt Blessing 9 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship & Sunday School	2	3	4 9 am Quilting & Packing them UP	5 Nat'l Day of Prayer 12 noon-City Hall Flagpole	6 Banners & Blooms Auction-6:30 Senior Center	7
8 Mother's Day 9 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship & Sunday School	9	10  Church Council @ 7	11 9 am Quilting	12 7 pm Worship & Music	13 Call & say thanks to Pastor Don	14 Women's Bible Study 10 am at Fay's
15 9 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship & Sunday School	16 Pray for Pastor Don and Anna.	17	18 9 am Quilting	19 5-7 pm 3rd Thursday Dinner	20	21 ELCA Regional Gathering-ML 10-4
22 9 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship & Sunday School	23 Send your tithing to church.	24  Blood Drive 1-6 pm	25 9 am Quilting	26 Send a thank you message to Anna in the snail mail.	27	28
29 9 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship Sunday School	30 	31	Men's Breakfast: Saturday mornings 8 am @ Casa Mexicana			

Birthdays-May

1 Jada Moreno
3 MaryAnn Kirkpatrick
3 David Reichert
5 Rick Bougher
7 Ashley Stephens
11 Clayton Wright
12 Jan Charlston
13 Pete Rodriguez
17 Steve Jensen
18 Joseph Guzman
19 Sandy Russell
19 Keith Russell
23 John Stephens,
24 Isaac Guzman
26 Kassie Tricola
26 Melissa Stephens
28 Ron Hilmes
31 Jan Hilmes

Upcoming Meetings

Church Council-

Tues. May 10 @ 7 pm

Worship & Music-

Thurs. May 12 @ 7 pm

Fellowship-

Sunday, May 15 after worship

Packing Up the Quilts & Personal Care Kits

Please come and help the quilters pack up the quilts & care kits if you are able on May 4th at 9 am.



It was a cold and snowy Easter Week with snow, wind, and snow again. Thankfully the warmth and love of the promise of Jesus's resurrection got us through the crazy weather and Easter Day was perfect.

DATE	USHERS	READER	GREETER	ACOLYTE	CLICKER	COMMUNION PREP Set Up	COMMUNION PREP Bread	COMMUNION Assistant	Coffee Hour
May 1		Anna S	Annie S		Tammy	Nancy Fay C	Elaine		Linda C Sandi
May 8		Annie S	Liz & Rancy		Tammy	Liz	Elaine	Liz	Nancy Sally Mc
May 15		Angela	Carolyn Sue B	Maxwell	Trudy	Nancy	Elaine		Angela Elaine
May 22		Linda B	Trudy		Tammy	Anna S	Elaine	MaryAnn	
May 29		Don W	Larry MaryAnn		Tammy	Anna S	Elaine		Elaine



The Corner of 7th and Elm
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Othello, WA 99344

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Website: othellolutheran.com
Church Phone: 509-488-9952

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Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

May 2022

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.**



Lectionary Readings for May

May 1	Acts 9:1-6	Psalm 30	Revelation 5:11-14	John 21:1-19
May 8	Acts 9:36-43	Psalm 23	Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
May 15	Acts 11:1-18	Psalm 148	Revelation 21:1-6	John 13:31-35
May 22	Acts 16:9-15	Psalm 67	Revelation 21:10,22-22:5	John 14:23-29
May 29	Acts 16:16-34	Psalm 97	Revelation 22:12-14,16-17,20-21	John 17:20-26

Anniversaries - May

10 Matt & Kassie Tricola
17 Roger & Angela Martinez
30 Maro & Erika Moreno



book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.