

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

THE NEWSLETTER OF PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH OTHELLO, WASHINGTON

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2023



With Thanks

Dear Pilgrims,
Anna and I wish to thank you all for the kind gestures of cards and gifts that we received this Christmas. You are truly a generous and thoughtful congregation and we appreciate you all very much.
Thank you,
Pastor Don and Anna Short

ELCA Good Gifts Recap

Our ELCA Good Gifts ornaments generated an amazing \$1,155 toward a variety of global barnyard items, school fees, uniforms, and supplies, water filters, vaccinations, meals at soup kitchens, and so much more. Thank you all for your donations, and support for this important work done by the ELCA. Thank you to Anna and Fay for spearheading this annual campaign.

Thank you Jensen Family

A big hearty thank you to Liz & Steve Jensen for the Christmas wreaths and also to Liz's dad Dallas Boge for the beautiful Christmas tree donated to our congregation. Thanks to Liz & Steve for the delivery!!! We appreciate YOU!



Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will be held Saturday, Jan 14th at 10 in the Quilting Room at Pilgrim. Bring your Gather Magazine for January and your Bible! If you need a copy of the study, please talk to Anna beforehand so she can make you a copy!!

Quilters Benefit

As our quilters are a blessing to the community of Othello and beyond, so is the community a blessing to our quilting group. Dr. Don Birks presented \$500 from the Rotary Club to Fay Coats which allowed the quilters to purchase much needed batting for the next few months. Thank you Rotary!



Congregational Meeting & Potluck

Our annual congregational meeting will be on Sunday, January 29th, directly after worship.

Items on the agenda will include:

- 1) Discussing & adopting the 2023 Annual Budget
- 2) Electing of 3 council members to replace Annie (finishing her 2nd 2-year term), Kristi (finishing her 1st 2-year term), and Ernie (finishing his 1st 2-year term). Kristi and Ernie have graciously agreed to serve a second term.
- 3) Appointing members to the nominating committee
- 4) Appointing 2 members to the Endowment Committee
- 5) Reviewing church business

The Annual Report, including the proposed budget, will be available on Sunday January 22nd, to peruse and study.

(Kindly turn in all committee reports by Tuesday, Jan. 17th) If you can send them to the church electronically pilgrimlutheran@hotmail.com, please do so. That will make it ever so much easier for Anna to put the packet together. **Thank you for your cooperation and your promptness!**

All are welcome to attend the congregational meeting. Only "voting members" may vote on motions. Thank you for your continued support of Pilgrim Lutheran's mission.

Following our meeting we will gather in the Fellowship Hall to share in a potluck. Meat will be provided; **please bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share!**

See you there!

Epiphany of our Lord Sunday, Jan. 8th at Pilgrim

The season of Epiphany is about the awe and wonder of God revealed in unexpected ways and places. It's about the star and the magi who followed the light of the star. Sunday, January 8th, we can become observers of these weeks in Epiphany and get ready to experience awe and wonder wherever God is revealed to us. **YOU** are invited to bring any of your Christmas cards with the wisemen and star on them and attach them to the bulletin board on the south side of the Narthex. That way we will be reminded of Christ's light in this world-every time we walk to the Fellowship Hall...



Cookie Exchange Recap

On December 18 following worship we had a fun time of fellowship, cookie decorating, and singing. Lots of beautiful cookies were decorated and shared. **Photos on the back page!** Many thanks to Elaine Wade for the organization required to put this on and to the Fellowship Committee for the help, and to all who participated!

January Message from our Pastor

Dear Pilgrims,

The New Year has arrived in its usual fashion. It seems to me that new years almost always start with the promise of hope. We hope that this year will be better than last year. We hope that friends and family will find health and happiness in this new year. We hope that wars will cease, and peace will return to places ravaged by the damage of battle. We hope for all kinds of things, like an end to hunger, poverty, and homelessness, and this year will bring its share of triumphs and tragedies, victories and defeats, highs, and lows.

So, what will make this year different from every other year, other than the numbers at the top of the calendar? It seems to me that the one variable that is in our control every year is us! We get to decide how we will approach each tragedy or triumph. We get to decide what our reaction will be to each defeat or victory. We will determine for ourselves whether an experience will be a high point or a low point of our lives.

Fortunately, we do not need to act on our own. We do not need to determine our fate without guidance from God. We have places to turn and strategies to employ when we are faced with challenges and opportunities during the coming year. We can turn to the pages of the Holy Bible to read what God's people have done in the

past. We can turn to God in prayer for guidance in situations of the day, and we can rely on our brothers and sisters in Christ to hold us in love and prayer, offering us their strength and support, when we are meeting challenges and opportunities in our lives this year.

We have a connectedness that comes from being part of the body of Christ, the church. As Jesus said in John, chapter 15, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

I think that is the main advantage of being a Christian. We are all connected to one another in one enormous family of faith, and Jesus is at the head. Jesus is the vine, and no matter how small our branch may seem, we are still connected to the vine, and Jesus, our vine, gives us whatever is needed so that we may bear fruit, whether that fruit is quilts, school kits, ELCA Good Gifts, donations to the Food Bank, supplies for Adams County Pet Rescue, or any number of other worthy causes we support. We are a vital branch of Jesus, the vine. So, whatever this new year may bring, I pray that we will be fruitful. 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:

pilgrimlcpastor@gmail.com

Anna's Hours:

Tues 9-12 pm
Thurs 9-12, 1-2 pm
Fri 9-12

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

12/4 Attendance: 30	Offering: \$ 3,864
12/11 Attendance: 41	Offering: \$ 550
12/18 Attendance: 27	Offering: \$ 2,075
12/24 Attendance: 63	Offering: \$ 1,703
12/25 Attendance: 13	Offering: \$ 930

2022 Offerings — \$ 117,560

2022 Expenses— \$ 127,017

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

Christmas Program Thanks!

Many thanks to Marcia Bougher for once again organizing the Children's Christmas Program. Given Dec 11, it featured narration by Shawn & Alex Mendoza, violin by Audrey Stephens, and a great cast of characters!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 	2	3	4 9 am Quilting	5	6  Epiphany	7 
8 9 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship & Sunday School Healing Service	9	10  Church Council @ 7 pm	11 9 am Quilting	12 7 pm Worship & Music Meeting	13	14 10 am Women's Bible Study @ Church
15 9 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship & Sunday School	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day-No School	17 Reports due to Anna	18 9 am Quilting	19	20	21
22 9 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship & Sunday School	23	24	25 9 am Quilting	26	27	28
Pastor & Anna at Conference/Oregon						
29 9 am Adult Forum 10 am Worship & Sunday School Congregational MTG	30	31	Birthdays-January 1 Whitney Blaak 6 Erika Moreno 9 Nancy Roth 9 Jeremiah Rodriguez 19 Manny Maine 20 Sally McFarlin, 20 Eileen Lawrence 23 Dick Hudnall 25 John Betz 27 Pete Olsen 30 John Bunch		Anniversaries-January 12 Pete & Lynn Olsen 29 Michael & Paula McKay 30 Ron & Jan Hilmes	



Dr. Birks presenting Fay and the quilters with \$500.

Upcoming Events

Jan 8-Healing Service

Jan 8-Put away Christmas Party after Fellowship

Saints vs Angels Souper Bowl Food Drive-stay tuned for more info!



Upcoming Meetings

Church Council-
Tues. Jan 10 @ 7 pm

Worship & Music-
Thurs. Jan 12 @ 7 pm

Fellowship-
Mtg after service on Jan 15

Congregational Meeting/Potluck
After worship Jan 29th

DATE	USHERS	READER	GREETER	ACOLYTE	CLICKER	COMMUNION PREP Set Up	COMMUNION PREP Bread	COMMUNION Assistant	Coffee Hour	
Jan 1	Larry	Linda B	Please note that there are many opportunities to help out with Sunday services this month. If everyone does a little bit, then one person won't have to do multiple tasks. That would really be helpful!! It would also be helpful if people signed up in advance so I can be sure to get it in the newsletter! Thanks ever so much in advance!! Kristi						Anna Annie	
Jan 8	Pete					Tammy				Anna Kristi
Jan 15										Annie
Jan 22						Tammy				
Jan 29						Tammy				Potluck



The Corner of 7th and Elm
640 East Elm Street
Othello, WA 99344

e-mail: pilgrimlutheran@hotmail.com
Facebook: PilgrimLutheranChurch-ELCA
Website: othellolutheran.com
Church Phone: 509-488-9952

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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

January 2023



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.**



Cookie Decorating...
And a wonderful time was had by all!!

Lectionary Readings for January

Jan 1	Numbers 6:22-27	Psalm 8	Galations 4:4-7	Luke 2:15-21
Jan 8	Isaiah 60:1-6	Psalm 72:1-7,10-14	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
Jan 15	Isaiah 49:1-7	Psalm 40:1-11	I Corinthians 1:1-9	John 1:29-42
Jan 22	Isaiah 9:1-4	Psalm 27:1,4-9	I Corinthians 1:10-18	Matthew 4:12-23
Jan 29	Micah 6:1-8	Psalm 15	I Corinthians 1:18-31	Matthew 5:1-12



book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.