

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

THE NEWSLETTER OF PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH OTHELLO, WASHINGTON

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2026



ELCA Good Gifts Update

Good Gifting Pilgrims!!

On Christmas Eve, Pilgrims & visitors contributed \$829 to the ELCA Good Gift Program. An additional \$171 was added from the Bell Fund to make \$1000. Our gifts go to support projects in 86 countries around the world. Our options are driven by ELCA churches and partners so that our choices are those that make the biggest impact on the people's lives.

Here is what we ordered for the gifts:

A herd of goats	\$300
4 batches of chicks @ 10/ea	\$40
4 roosters @ 15/ea	\$60
4 piglets @ 30/ea	\$120
10 water filters at 30/ea	\$300
School fees & uniforms for 3 girls@ 40/ea	\$120
School supplies for 6 children @ 10/ea	\$60

Thank you for your continued generosity and support for this program. It means the world to those who benefit from it.



Christmas Eve Service!

Congratulations!!!

On December 21, Pilgrims welcomed a new member to God's family. Stone Henry Schomberg, son of Ashley and Taige Schomburg and great grandson of Marcia and Rick Bouger was baptized by Pastor Ginny Krekling and richly celebrated by all of us! Photos on page 2 & 4!

Women's Bible Study

This month's Bible Study will be held on Saturday, January 17th, at 10 am in the sewing room at Pilgrim. Bring your Bible & your copy of the Gather Magazine or grab one from the Narthex. See you there for study, fellowship, sharing & some great discussions.

Happy New Year!

Congregational Meeting & Potluck

Our annual congregational meeting will be on Sunday, January 25th, directly after worship.

Items on the agenda will include:

- 1) Electing of 3 council members. **Larry Kirkpatrick & Marcia Bouger** have each completed their 2nd year of their 2nd term. **Linda Bork** has agreed to be nominated to serve a 2nd 2 year term. **Don Wade, Evelyn Olson, and Trudy Doolittle will be starting the 2nd year of their 1st term.**
- 2) Discussing & adopting the 2026 Annual Budget. Because our Pastoral needs & future expenses are still somewhat unknown, our proposed budget this year will be a true guesstimate. The Council will be meeting on Jan 20 to finalize the proposed budget. Therefore, the 2026 Proposed Budget will be handed out and available for discussion on the day of our Congregational meeting.
- 3) Appointing members to the nominating committee
- 4) Appointing at least 1 member to the Endowment Committee
- 5) Reviewing church business to include possible replacement of the church roof at an approximate cost of \$130,000.

The Annual Report, will be available on Sunday January 18th, to peruse and study. (**Kindly turn in all committee reports to the office by Friday Jan. 10th**) If you can send them to the church electronically pilgrimlutheran@hotmail.com, please do so. That will make it ever so much easier for **Lisa & Kristi** 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!

Advent Musical Event

Thank you to Liz Deasy who initiated and helped organize this great evening event on Dec 17. She had lots of help from Pastor Adam Janes and Corinne Field, and the Hand Bell choir. All who attended enjoyed singing many Christmas carols, the additional special music, and the many treats and fellowship that followed.

A Message from your Pilgrim Council

Hello Pilgrims!

Happy New Year! Are you busy making New Year's Resolutions? Or are you like me, I haven't made a resolution in years! That way, I can't break them! I was so humbled and grateful to see so many people at Christmas Eve services! Singing carols, hearing the word of God, it was a wonderful service. I especially wanted to thank Bob and Treva Reichert for the wonderful music. Treva's singing so reminded me of Donna. Please continue to keep Donna in your prayers. I also want to thank Elaine for recording the service, for Alex reading the candle liturgy, Sofia and Matias for lighting the candles, (especially as they were asked at the last minute, they did a great job!), Pete and Marc for ushering, Kristi and Tricia for singing in Norwegian!!! God is good!

Evelyn and I will have a Zoom meeting with a potential interim pastor on January 10th, please keep us in your prayers as we hopefully move forward. Please also continue to keep the call committee in your prayers as they continue their work.

Our congregational meeting is on January 25th after our church service. We will be hearing committee reports, a financial update, discussing upcoming maintenance that needs congregational approval, and importantly, voting on new council members. I've heard lots of questions about what the council does; I'll try to give a brief overview. The council meets once a month, on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm. This can change, as things come up (searching for a new pastor??), but generally stays the same. Each member of the council oversees/participates in five different categories: Property Management; Worship, Music and Fellowship; Endowment/Evangelism; Christian Education; Evaluation. With input from Marc Spohr, and depending on the amounts, the council makes financial decisions for the congregation. Please prayerfully consider becoming a council member. If you are not able to commit to being a council member, please consider how you can help out with the council's work on an as-needed basis.

Again, Lisa's office hours are in flux. Please keep her and her family in your prayers. Many thanks to all who keep the church running! You are much appreciated!! Here's to a wonderful New Year!

May God's Peace be with you all!
See you in church!

Linda Bork
Council President

In Case of Emergency:

Please contact a Council person, who will contact the Pastor on call. They are listed below for your convenience. Please make sure that you have at least one of their numbers. If not, call or message Kristi Spohr who can assist you.

Linda Bork
Don Wade
Marcia Bougger
Larry Kirkpatrick
Evelyn Olson
Trudy Doolittle



Prayer chain requests go to Evelyn Olson or Linda Bork.

Music Opportunity

There is a **Handbell Plus Concert** at the Othello Christian Church Sunday, **January 11th at 3 pm**. Let's support these wonderful musicians with our attendance!



Pastor Ginny & Stone Henry

Anniversaries–January

12 Pete & Lynn Olsen
29 Michael & Paula McKay

Birthdays–January

6 Erika Dominguez Moreno
9 Nancy Roth
9 Jeremiah Rodriguez
19 Manny Maine
20 Eileen Lawrence
23 Dick Hudnall
27 Pete Olsen
30 John Bunch

INFO CORNER

12/7	Attendance:	36	Offering	\$ 4,487
12/14	Attendance:	29	Offering	\$ 1,425
12/21	Attendance:	58	Offering	\$ 2,040
12/24	Attendance:	90	Offering	\$ 829
12/28	Attendance:	18	Offering	\$ 4,670

Year to Date Offerings: \$ 125,483
Year to Date Expenses: \$ 142,500

Thank you for the generous Christmas Eve offerings for ELCA Good Gifts.

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

January

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Men's Breakfast Saturday mornings 8 am @ Checo's			1 Happy New Year!	2 Alpha Omega 5:30-9	3
4 10 am Worship Sunday School Alpha y Omega	5 School's back	6 Alpha Omega 5-10	7 Quilting 9-12	8	9 Alpha Omega 5:30-9	10
11 10 am Worship Sunday School Alpha Omega 3-9	12	13 Alpha Omega 5-10	14 Quilting 9-12	15	16 Alpha Omega 5:30-9	17 Women's Bible Study 10 am @ Pilgrim
18 10 am Worship Sunday School WMF Meeting Alpha Omega 3-9	19 MLK Jr Day (No school)	20 Council 6 pm Alpha Omega 5-10	21 Quilting 9-12	22	23 Alpha Omega 5:30-9	24
25 10 am Worship Sunday School Congregational mtg Alpha y Omega	26	27 Alpha Omega 5-10	28 Quilting 9-12	29	30 Alpha Omega 5:30-9	31

Things you should know

- 1) Evelyn Olson has been working hard all fall pursuing an Associate Degree in Lay Ministry. This will allow her to preside over communion & entire services, basically do everything except Baptisms, marriages, and funerals. Please encourage her as she flexes and takes an even more active role in our services.
- 2) The number of people to thank this year for their work at church has grown to the extent that it will not fit in this last space I have to fill. You will find an addendum to a weekly bulletin with all the thank yous, but in the mean time, please consider taking an additional job or two to help maintain the church..., bake bread, serve communion, provide treats, read the lessons, etc. And thank those who are already doing these jobs!
- 3) The quilters could use some extra hands! If you know anyone who would like to work with the quilts in some capacity, please reach out to Linda Crosier who can give them all the info they need! The quilters sent 21 quilts out in the Christmas Baskets this year, and our Sunday School sent 75 Health kits out with the Christmas Baskets as well. What a fabulous ministry we have going on here!!! Good job Pilgrims!! Happy New Year!

	USHER/GREETER	READER	ACOLYTE	SACRISTAN	CLICKER	BREAD	TREATS AFTER WORSHIP
Jan 4	Marc	Kristi		Linda C Carolyn	Tammy	Elaine	Elaine
Jan 11		Linda B			Tammy		Vicki
Jan 18					Tammy		
Jan 25		Linda B					Potluck



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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

January



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.**



Baptism at the Font



Thank you to the whole cast of characters portraying the Christmas story on Dec 21. It was wonderful and so nice to see the grown up kids alongside our young ones! Thank you also to Marcia and Judy!

Lectionary Readings for January

Jan 4	Jeremiah 31:7-14	Psalm 147:12-20	Ephesians 1:3-14	John 1:[1-9] 10-18
Jan 11	Isaiah 42:1-9	Psalm 29	Acts 10:34-42	Matthew 3:13-17
Jan 18	Isaiah 49:1-7	Psalm 40:1-11	I Corinthians 1:1-9	John 1:29-42
Jan 25	Isaiah 9:1-4	Psalm 27:1,4-9	I Corinthians 1:10-18	Matthew 4:12-23



book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.