

# Pilgrim Lutheran Church

BROADWAY AT FLOREY

KILGORE, TEXAS



March 2015  
"PILGRIMAGE"

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*Mission Statement: Pilgrim Lutheran Church is to glorify God in proclaiming the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ with Word and deed in our midst, in our community, and throughout the world.*

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## Jesus and His Church are about the forgiveness of sin

Dear Members and Friends of Pilgrim Lutheran Church,

As I mentioned in the sermon during last month's Ash Wednesday Divine Service (<http://www.pilgrimlc.org/sermons/2015-02-18/returning-reconciling-and-being-righteous>), twice in two days people in the community told me that they thought they might be too sinful for the Church. I perhaps naively assumed they were not too comfortable in their sin to be repentant as they would be asked to be, and so to an extent I was shocked and saddened. While a profound awareness of one's own sin is laudable, the perception that one's own sin is too great for the Church is not. With what despair must one be left?

Our current season of Lent is a time for all of us to be especially mindful of our own sin. We let the Holy Spirit work through God's Word of law to show us both our sinful nature and our resulting actual sin. We remember that even as aware of our own sin as we might be, there is other sin of ours known only to God. Even our sin against our neighbors is sin against God, and even the least infraction of the law warrants death now in time and torment in hell for eternity. By nature, we all deserve that death and torment, and so, in that sense, no one sinner is worse or better than another. In the end, overconfidence is as bad as despair.

God sent His Son to be born in human flesh in order to suffer and die and so save us from our sin and its consequences. That Son, Jesus Christ, came specifically to call sinners to repentance and faith (for example, Mark 1:14-15). On at least one occasion, when questioned about His association with notorious sinners, He remarked that it is not those who are well who need doctors but those who are sick who need them (Matthew 9:12; Mark 2:17; Luke 5:31). The case is *not* that there are any *who are not sinners* and so not in need of Jesus and His Church, but Jesus and His Church are for those who repent of their sin and trust God to forgive their sin for Jesus's sake. Jesus and His Church are about the forgiveness of sin: all sin, each and every sin, no matter how great. Those who repent and believe are forgiven by grace for Christ's sake through faith.

In this lifetime, such repentant believers in Christ will continue to sin, and that often leads to accusations of hypocrisy. If Christians dare to speak against others' sin, non-Christians people call the Christians hypocrites, because the Christians sin, too. On this point, the popular bumper sticker largely has it right, "Christians are not perfect, just forgiven." But, unlike what

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the word “just” on the bumper sticker might suggest, Christians’ being forgiven is certainly not a minimal thing: their forgiveness cost God in the flesh of the man Jesus His life.

In part because they continue to sin and recognize the cost of their forgiveness, those who repent and believe are a part of the Church. They regularly hear God’s Word preached. They are baptized, and so they can remember their baptism when they have doubts about their forgiveness. They privately confess the sins they know and feel in their hearts to their pastors for the sake of receiving individual Holy Absolution from them. And, they regularly receive in the Sacrament of the Altar the bread that is Christ’s body and the wine that is Christ’s blood, given and shed for them for the forgiveness of sins.

So forgiven by God, they forgive those who sin against them, whether or not those who sin against them are fellow believers, and whether or not those who sin against them are even sorry for their sin. While the faithful Church must always proclaim God’s Word of law that shows people their sin and in effect judges those who do not repent and believe, Christians in the Church do not judge their fellow repentant believers, for we all know the depth of our own sin.

When discussing the Church with the Adult Catechesis class recently, I was again struck by the following statement from the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, one of our Lutheran Confessions: “The Church is not merely an association of outward ties and rites like other civic governments, however, but it is mainly an association of faith and of the Holy Spirit in men’s hearts. To make it recognizable, this association has outward marks, the pure teaching of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments in harmony with the Gospel of Christ.” (VII/VIII:5) Regrettably sometimes we look too much like such an association of outward ties and are not enough recognized by the pure Gospel and rightly administered Sacraments. Although the appearance of the congregation may at times mislead, such things as ethnicity, social status, and gender do not matter among the baptized (Galatians 3:28).

At the most basic level, one who has been a member of the Church and even of this congregation longer than another, one who has been more active, one who belongs to a certain family or families, or anything else like that, is no more important or valuable than anyone else. We all appreciate individuals’ service to the congregation, of course, but such service does not merit anything before God, and we all remain equally sinners and equally forgiven, even as Christ died for all equally.

*His and your servant,  
Pastor Galler*



## *HAPPY ANNIVERSARY*

M/M George B Heil – March 19

M/M J D Sampson – March 20

## *HAPPY BIRTHDAY!*

Ross Land – March 02

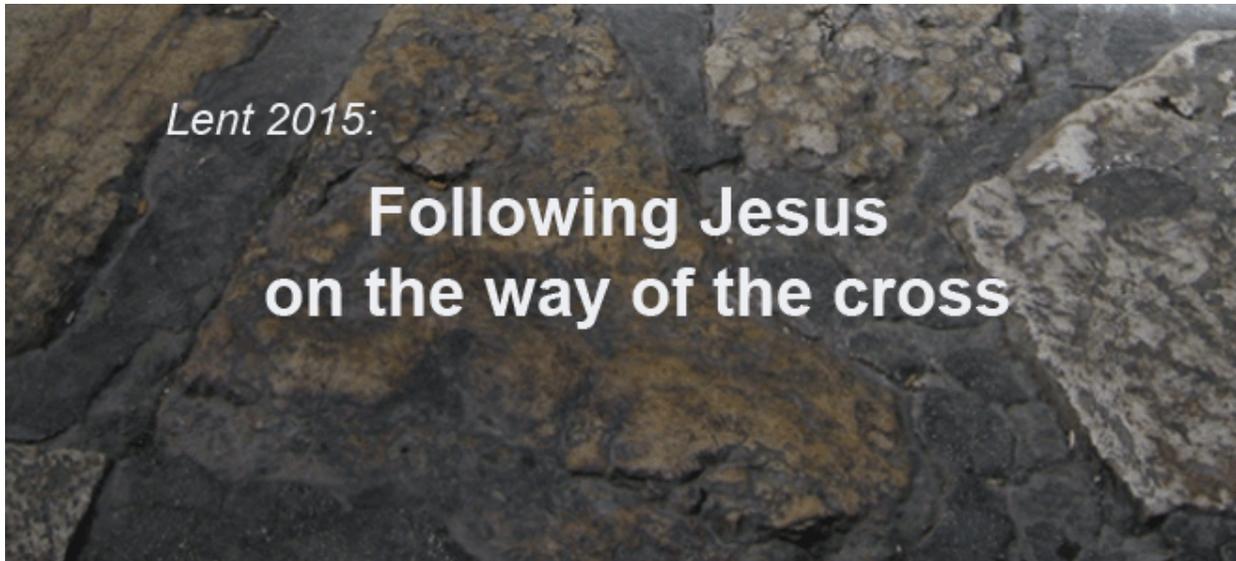
Olene Herricks – March 05

Cooper Sampson – March 13

Brady Gage – March 16

Grace Morton – March 27





The God-man Jesus Christ calls all who believe in Him to take up their crosses and follow Him. In at least one case, that call comes after Jesus had to emphasize for His disciples the Divine necessity of His own suffering, rejection, crucifixion and death in order to save all people from their sins (Mark 8:31-9:1). More than literally retracing Jesus's steps through Jerusalem on the *via dolorosa* ("way of sorrows"), following Jesus on the way of the cross can be both our taking up our crosses and following Him through this life and our again hearing and reflecting on His Passion, as we again do this month during Lent at Pilgrim, with special midweek worship opportunities, as well as our regular Sunday Divine Services.

This month there are four special Midweek Lenten Vespers services on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Amid Lenten hymns and prayers, we also sing and pray penitential Psalms, hear Readings from a Passion narrative combined from the four Gospel accounts, and reflect on key statements or events from the Readings.

- Lent II (03/04): Gethsemane, The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak
- Lent III (03/11): The Palace of the High Priest, Blasphemy
- Lent IV (03/18): The Praetorium, The greater sin
- Lent V (03/25): Calvary, When the wood is green, when it is dry

The Midweek Vespers will be preceded by a meal at 6:00 p.m. for as long as the schedule for the remodeling of our Parish Hall permits.

Although not strictly-speaking a part of Lent, the following are the Sundays in Lent during March 2015 and their Gospel Readings (appointed by *Lutheran Service Book's* three-year lectionary series B, which largely uses the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, though less evidently this season).

- Second Sunday (03/01): Jesus is confessed as the Christ (Mark 8:27-38)
- Third Sunday (03/08): Jesus prophesies of His death and resurrection (John 2:13-22)
- Fourth Sunday (03/15): Jesus is sent to save but also brings judgment (John 3:14-21)
- Fifth Sunday (03/22): Jesus serves by giving His life as a ransom for all (Mark 10:35-45)
- Sixth Sunday (03/29): Jesus triumphantly enters Jerusalem to die (Mark 11:1-11)

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Those Sundays, like all of the Sundays of the Church Year when Pastor Galler is present, Pilgrim offers a full Divine Service with the Sacrament of the Altar, this Church Year following the liturgy of *Lutheran Service Book's* Divine Service, Setting Three.

Finally, mark your calendar now for our special services during the last week of Lent, Holy Week. Maundy Thursday Divine Service is on April 02 at 7:00 p.m., and Good Friday Divine Service is on April 03 at 7:00 p.m. The Easter Season begins April 05 with "Sonrise" Matins at 7:30 a.m. and Divine Service at 10:45 a.m. In between will be an Egg Hunt, Sunday School and Adult Bible Class, and possibly an Easter Breakfast, if the schedule for the remodeling of our Parish Hall permits.

All are invited and welcome to any of our activities in person or to read and hear the sermons at Pilgrim from any and every season of the Church Year at <http://www.pilgrimlc.org/sermons>.

*Pastor Jayson S. Galler*

*The image of the pavement on the via dolorosa used in the banner graphic at the top of this article is used from <https://timvalentino.files.wordpress.com/2012/04/golgotha-10-dolorosa-pavement.png>, where it is uncredited.*

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## MARCH EVENTS

**ADULT CATECHESIS** Sundays, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>.

**YOUTH CATECHESIS** Tuesday March 3 and Thursdays March 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Longview.

**BANNER/QUILTING PARTY** Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 5:00 p.m.

**LWML** will meet Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

**LENTEN VESPERS SERVICES** Wednesdays, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. As long as the remodeling schedule allows, 6:00 p.m. meals will precede the services.

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS** Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, at 12:00 a.m. Remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour or risk being late Sunday morning!

**ELDERS** will meet Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. (Reading assignment AC/Ap XXI, p.44 and pp.202-208.)

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES** for April are due Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**CLEAN UP DAY** Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m., weather permitting (rain date is April 4<sup>th</sup>).

**ONCE-A-MONTH-SOCIAL GATHERING:** Please contact Tifaney Sampson with your ideas for a fun outing in the month of March.

## PILGRIM'S PLATE OFFERINGS

Following a request from Pilgrim's Board of Elders, Pilgrim's Financial Secretary reports the following figures for 2015 through February 22<sup>nd</sup>:

Plate Offerings received:	\$19,436.95
Plate Offerings projected:	\$18,743.20

## Four from Pilgrim attend 2015 Circuit #14 Retreat

The 2015 Circuit #14 Retreat centered on the vulnerability to addictions in Christian families. The Rev. Jim Otte, who some may remember as pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Nacogdoches (1986-2000), presented the program Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, in the Parish Hall of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Palestine. Rev. Otte currently is a part-time associate pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church in Plano and conducts a private counseling practice in Ft. Worth.

Beginning with the definition of addiction as “compulsive need/use of habit-forming substances; increased tolerance; obsessive use/focus (thoughts)”, Rev. Otte helped us recognize the many kinds of addictions. A list could include (but is not limited to) alcohol, mind-altering drugs, work, and pornography. Rev. Otte said aloneness can be the culprit that drives people to addiction as a means of escape, and he pointed to Genesis 2:18a “The Lord God said, ‘It is not good for the man to be alone.’” All of us humans have our own pet addictions, and Rev. Otte helped us to recognize that some of our fellow members and many strangers who walk into our church are looking for acceptance and forgiveness but are filled with doubt that God loves them. Rev. Otte said God’s remedy to “alone” is “we serve”, and he cited Gen.1:31, where God created his most cherished creation, and Gen.2:8 and 15, where God gives man his life purpose. Rev. Otte reminded us that we forgive because we were first forgiven by God in Christ.

Pastor Otte quoted Matthew 3:17 to remind us that baptism establishes and seals our Soul value to God, and the power of being most-cherished empowers us to cherish and respect others. He offered a bull’s-eye target for checking how well we cherish and serve others, whether in a home or a congregation, by asking the following questions:

1. What am I doing that makes you feel cherished/respected?
2. What am I doing that triggers your feeling uncherished/disrespected?
3. When there is something you are doing that frustrates me, how would you like me to bring it to your attention?

Using a trio of stuffed animals as a visual anchor to remember his point of our being created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27), we met the dragon/symbol of courage (Ephesians 6:10-12), the bumblebee/symbol of compassion (Ephesians 4:32), and the turtle/symbol of humility (Philippians 2:3). During the presentation Rev. Otte used these characters often to demonstrate how we are all hardwired to have these traits but can choose to use them to work together to the glory of God, although he also pointed out that Satan can twist our thoughts from Service to Status, as he did in Genesis 3:1-5, when Satan implied that God was holding out on Adam and Eve and that they deserved better. Just as Adam and Eve found a solution (Genesis 3:7b-8) when they felt shame, fear, and guilt in the Garden of Eden, people today use their “fig leaves” of drinking, drugs, etc. to hide from the Lord God and themselves. Just as God gave them the means to permanently cover their sins by sacrificing animals for hides to cover them (alluding to His sending His Son Jesus to be sacrificed) we serve people by reminding them that Jesus died for the sins of all of us and for every kind of sin.



Pastor Galler, Barbara Wuthrich, and Sharon and Danny Sampson (right table) were among dozens from across the Circuit attending the latest in a series of annual retreats. (Photo: Rev. David Bergman.)

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The Retreat began at 9:00 with an opening devotion and ended about 3:00 with a closing devotion, both by pastors from the Circuit. In between the four sessions presented by Rev. Otte were breaks with refreshments and lunch served by the Bethlehem LWML and included in the \$20 registration fee. If you missed the Retreat but are interested in the topic, Rev. Otte's handout and recordings of his presentations' audio are on our congregation's website, <http://www.pilgrimlc.org/2015-circuit-retreat>. Plans will soon be made for the 2016 Retreat, so let Pastor Galler know if you have a topic you would like to see presented.

*Barbara Wuthrich*

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## APRIL EVENTS

**MAUNDY THURSDAY DIVINE SERVICE:** Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.

**GOOD FRIDAY DIVINE SERVICE:** Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.

**WORK DAY:** Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 p.m. at church (if March 28<sup>th</sup> was rained out).

**EASTER VIGIL:** Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.

(Trinity Lutheran Church, 221 Pan American Dr., Livingston, TX).

**EASTER "SONRISE" MATINS:** Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 a.m.

**BIBLE CLASS, EGG HUNT, AND SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m.

**RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD DIVINE SERVICE:** Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, at 10:45 a.m.

**BANNER/QUILTING PARTY:** Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 p.m.

**LWML** will meet Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

**MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY** resumes weekly on Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**YOUTH CATECHESIS** Thursdays April 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Longview.

**ADULT CATECHESIS** Sundays, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>.

**ELDERS** meet Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.  
(Reading assignment AC "Summary" and "Review" pp.44-45.)

**COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE** Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES** for May are due Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>.

**VOTERS' MEETING** (preceded by a Covered-Dish Meal, if construction allows) Sunday, April, 26<sup>th</sup>, after the Divine Service.

**ONCE-A-MONTH-SOCIAL GATHERING:** Please contact Tifaney Sampson with your ideas for a fun outing in the month of April.

## DIRECTORY CHANGE

**HAROLD ENGBRETSON's** correct phone number is 903-655-7537.

1	Isaiah 64:1-9
	Numb. 16-18
2	Psalm 85
	Numb. 19-21
3	Psalm 86
	Numb. 22-24
4	Psalm 87
	Numb. 25-27
5	Psalm 88
	Numb. 28-30
6	Psalm 89
	Numb. 31-33
7	Psalm 90
	Numb. 34-36
8	Psalm 91
	Deut. 1-3
9	Psalm 92
	Deut. 4-6
10	Psalm 93
	Deut. 7-9
11	Psalm 94
	Deut. 10-12
12	Psalm 95
	Deut. 13-15
13	Psalm 96
	Deut. 16-18
14	Psalm 97
	Deut. 19-21
15	Psalm 98
	Deut. 22-24
16	Psalm 99
	Deut. 25-27
17	Psalm 100
	Deut. 28-30
18	Psalm 101
	Deut. 31-34
19	Psalm 102
	Luke 1
20	Psalm 103
	Luke 2-3
21	Psalm 104
	Luke 4-5
22	Psalm 105
	Luke 6-7
23	Psalm 106
	Luke 8-9
24	Psalm 107
	Luke 10-11
25	Psalm 108
	Luke 12-13
26	Psalm 109
	Luke 14-15
27	Psalm 110
	Luke 16-17
28	Psalm 111
	Luke 18-19
29	Psalm 112
	Luke 20-21
30	Psalm 113
	Luke 22
31	Isaiah 64:1-9
	Luke 23-24

## Luke's Gospel account in time for Lent, Easter

The Daily Bible Reading plan we are encouraging you to follow is intended to somewhat correspond to the Church Year, and this Church Year again the reading of St. Luke's Divinely-inspired Gospel account comes up as we near the end of Lent and enter into Holy Week and move on towards Easter, for some a welcome change from the reading of the Pentateuch that concludes this month. A Biblical canticle or Psalm and a few chapters of a book is not too much for you to read or listen to every day, and you will find the "discipline" of reading the Bible daily appropriate for Lent and every season of the Church Year.

St. Luke's Gospel account was brought about by the Holy Spirit through a man named Luke, who was a Gentile doctor and both a friend to and coworker of St. Paul (see the so-called "we" portions of Luke's second book, Acts, such as Acts 16:11). The book is an orderly account of Jesus's life, death, and resurrection for the salvation of all people. St. Luke seems to assume his hearers' unfamiliarity with the land where these events took place, so the book may have been written first for people in Antioch, Achaia, or Ephesus, although we, too, benefit from this Gospel account. Bible scholars suggest that the book may have been written in Rome, although Achaia, Ephesus, and Caesarea are also given as possibilities. A usual date for the writing of St. Luke's account of the Holy Gospel is 59-63 A.D., or perhaps a bit later. Some early church writings imply the account was written after St. Paul's martyrdom, although another theory holds that both the book of Luke and the book of Acts were written as a sort of defense document for Paul's first appearance before Caesar. In a formal preface (Luke 1:1-4), St. Luke states his purpose for writing: that Theophilus, possibly his patron, and all people might know the certainty of what he and they have been taught.

More than any other Gospel account, St. Luke gives the full scope of Jesus's life, from birth to ascension, in an orderly, detailed fashion that is said to be "characterized by literary excellence, historical detail, and warm, sensitive understanding of Jesus and of those around him." More than the writers of the other Gospel accounts, St. Luke is said to emphasize how God's plan also includes Gentiles, the importance of prayer, how people react to the Good News with joy, the role of women, Jesus's interest in the poor, His concern for sinners, family, His role as the Son of Man, and the role of the Holy Spirit (although John's account, I think, has more on the Holy Spirit). I might also mention St. Luke's focus on the Temple and worship.

Remember you can begin following the Daily Bible Reading plan at any time, and some background information on each month's readings has been provided (for example, see the March 2013 newsletter—available online or from the church office), and more information on each day's reading is also

available (see <http://www.pilgrimlc.org/daily-bible-reading>). Finally, remember that I welcome questions about the Daily Bible Reading by phone, by email, by text, or in person, and I will attempt to answer such questions by the same medium and at the beginning of each Sunday's Adult Bible Class. This Lent and Easter and always, God truly blesses us as we are in His Word!

*Pastor Jayson S. Galler*

# **Please pray for our members, family, friends, and coworkers**

## **OUR PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH:**

Hearts and minds open to God's vision and direction for our congregation

Proportionate first-fruit giving from our members

Final processing of our loan from Church Extension Fund's for our new building

## **THOSE WHO HAVE STRAYED FROM THE FAITH:**

Elizabeth & Ava Nicol (Don and Beth's niece and grand-niece)

## **THOSE WHO ARE STRUGGLING WITH HOMOSEXUALITY**

## **MEN IN THE SERVICE:**

Victor Guinn (Paul Guinn's son deployed in Kuwait)

George C. Heil (Navy school in Charleston, SC)

Brian Holcombe (Carolyn and Wendell Holcombe's son stationed in San Diego)

Ross Land (at present home on medical leave from Fort Polk in Louisiana)

## **THOSE IN POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSION**

## **THOSE WHO TRAVEL:**

Brady Gage

Jerome and Sallye Key

David Navaille

Edgar and Barbara Wuthrich

## **SHUT-INS:**

Bob Abraham (in an Alzheimer Center in Austin)

Leland Dean (in a care facility in Oklahoma)

Harold Engebretson (at the Emeritus Senior Living in Henderson)

## **THOSE WHO NEED HEALING:**

Shannon Baker (Beth Nicol's cousin with cancer undergoing new chemotherapy)

Rev. Dennis Bragdon (ORLC's pastor, undergoing treatment for prostate cancer)

Vern Buell (Remo and Kathy's friend out of the hospital but on antibiotics for kidney)

Ardith Coughlin (ORLC member, friend of Pilgrim, dementia with Lewy bodies)

Sabrina Davis (Connie Wilburn's friend, fighting lung cancer at from M.D. Anderson)

Connor Dickens (son of former member Sarah McPherson, mental health issues)

Alexandra Frericks (Sallye Key's relative, some progress with heart rehab in Atlanta)

Sue Gammon (Arcele Wilburn's sister, undergoing more testing)

Mark Harrington (Walkers' brother-in-law, chemo done for now)

Charlotte Herrell (Sharon Sampson's sister, apparently more cancer despite chemo)

Olene Herricks (trying to regain her strength after being ill for a while)

Kathy Hudson (last stem-cell treatment on her shoulders in Florida 1/2)

Kathleen Jennings (Heil relative's pastor's wife, surgery 8/20 and chronic pain)

Olin Johnson (Nicols' friend with Parkinsons, continuing to decline in nursing home)

Laura Key (Jerome's step-mother, continuing to decline in nursing home)

Jennifer Bacarisse Lacobee (apparently cancer free but still has collapsed lung)

Ross Land (our member in the Army who suffered a broken ankle 01/28)

Carl London (Connie Wilburn's coworker, at work after surgery, still fighting cancer)

Lane Meador (Wilburn's 7-year-old paralyzed friend, rehab but complications)

Herb Michel (relative of Pastor Galler's friends, back in the hospital fighting infection)

Judy Nix (Danny and Sharon's neighbor awaiting biopsy results)

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- Shirley Peters (Mary Clubb's former pastor's wife, eye being removed)
- Danny Sampson (recovering from ankle surgery 12/03, monitoring liver condition)
- Betty Sewing (Sallye Key's step-mother in Denver, ongoing treatment for BOOP)
- Sharabeth Upton (Nicols' daughter, severe pain in her legs, seeing specialists)
- Vince Vernon (Walkers' brother-in-law, has an open wound that is not healing)
- Robert Wiles (Betty Miller's nephew, untreatable cancer, now on feeding tube)
- Rhett Wilkins (shirt-tail relative/friend of the Wuthriches, still hospitalized but better)

**ALL MOTHERS EXPECTING CHILDREN, INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING:**

- Mary Clubb (our member Aaron's wife, needs to regain lost weight)
- Kristen Heil (our member George C.'s wife)
- Kari Medlin (Angela Sampson's friend, had difficult pregnancy last time)

**FAMILIES IN CRISIS AND ALL FAMILIES**

- Jerome Key, Junior, Family (one-year-old son still not baptized, various life changes)
- Ashley Kocke and newborn son Edgar (Elaine's shirt-tail acquaintance, difficult delivery)
- Myers Family (friends of the Watts, son Jordan jailed and facing serious charges)
- Rev. Gary & Judy Piepkorn (a former pastor of Pilgrim, lost house in a fire)

## Pilgrim's remodeling/construction project making progress

Church Extension Fund (CEF) officials notified Pilgrim in February that a \$225,000 loan was approved, and we are trying to get all the paperwork into CEF so the loan can be finalized and the remodeling of the existing Parish Hall can begin. Even though we have the money for that phase of the project in the bank, CEF says no work can be underway at the time the loan closes. We are waiting for the next round of plans and more exact estimates on the new Parish Hall, which also need to go to CEF. In the loan process, CEF discovered a problem with our congregation's status in the State of Texas, and we are trying to get that matter resolved also, so that the loan can go ahead. We appreciate that some have already increased their offerings to help pay for the building, and we remind everyone that their investments with CEF may lead to a rebate of the interest the congregation will pay on its loan. (See the current CEF rates below.)

*Steven Sampson, Chair  
Capital Improvements Committee*



**February  
2015**

<u>Investment</u>	<u>Fixed Rate<sup>Δ</sup></u>		<u>Floating Rate<sup>Δ</sup></u>	
	Rate	APY	Rate	APY
One Year Note*	.750%	.75%	0.250%	0.25%
Three Year Note*	1.250%	1.26%	1.000%	1.00%
Five Year Note*	1.750%	1.76%	1.750%	1.76%
Flex Savings			0.500%	0.50%
<u>Accounts For Congregations</u>				
Congregation Savings			1.000%	1.00%
Building Fund Savings			1.750%	1.76%

<sup>Δ</sup> Rates subject to change. \* Subject to penalty for early withdrawal. Rates reviewed monthly. Texas District Church Extension Fund is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, CEF investments are not SIPC- or FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts. This does not constitute an offer to sell or a request to buy. The offer is made solely by CEF's Offering Circular.

**Texas Church Extension Fund**  
 1-888-951-1233    [www.TexasCEF.org](http://www.TexasCEF.org)  
[www.facebook.com/texascef](https://www.facebook.com/texascef)

# KIDS' PAGE

<http://www.calvarywilliamsport.com/vl13.htm>





# MARCH 2015

## Pilgrim Lutheran Church

www.pilgrimlc.org  
(903-984-4333)

Pastor's Regular Study Hours  
 Tuesday 5:00–8:00 PM  
 Wednesday–Friday 9:00 AM–12:00 PM  
 Saturday Noon–3:00 PM

Cleaning Volunteers  
 your name here

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT (P) 9:15-9:30 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service 12:15 AM Lunch & Adult Catechesis	<b>2</b>  Ross Land (B)	<b>3</b> Noon Kilgore Ministerial Lunch 4:00-5:00 PM Youth Catechesis (at ORLC) 5:00 Quilting Bee 6:00 PM LWML	<b>4</b>  6:00 P.M. Meal 7:00 PM Midweek Vespers	<b>5</b> Pastor goes to Plano Study Group  Olene Herricks (B)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <i>Daylight Saving            Time begins tonight</i>
<b>8</b> THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT (P) 9:15-9:30 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  2:00-5:00 PM Cleaning Ladies	<b>11</b> 7:30 AM Small Church Pastors' Breakfast 6:00 PM Meal 7:00 PM Midweek Vespers	<b>12</b>  4:00-5:00 PM Youth Catechesis (at ORLC)	<b>13</b>  Cooper Sampson (B)	<b>14</b> 10:00 AM Worship Service at The Willows
<b>15</b> FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT (P) 9:15-9:30 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service	<b>16</b>  Brady Gage (B)	<b>17</b>  6:00 PM Elders	<b>18</b>  6:00 PM Meal 7:00 PM Vespers	<b>19</b> Circuit Pastors' Conference in Palestine 4:00-5:00 PM Youth Catechesis M/M George B Heil (A)	<b>20</b>  M/M J D Sampson (A)	<b>21</b> 10:00 AM Worship Service at The Willows Newsletter articles due tomorrow
<b>22</b> FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT (P) 9:15-9:30 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service 12:15 AM Lunch & Adult Catechesis	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  5:30 PM Pastor prays at Kilgore City Council	<b>25</b>  6:00 PM Meal 7:00 PM Vespers	<b>26</b>  4:00-5:00 PM Youth Catechesis (at ORLC)	<b>27</b>  Grace Morton (B)	<b>28</b> 9:00 AM Work Day at Church 10:00 AM Worship Service at The Willows
<b>29</b> PALM/PASSION SUNDAY (P) 9:15-9:30 AM Refreshments 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service 12:15 AM Lunch & Adult Catechesis	<b>30</b>	<p><b>Communion Assistant</b> – John Walker</p> <p><b>Acolyte</b> – John Morton</p>				

**Pilgrim Lutheran Church**  
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Pastor Galler and Sharon Sampson are the editors of **The Pilgrimage**. Barbara Wuthrich assists with producing and distributing editions. Everyone is welcome to contribute articles at any time. All copyright holders of excerpted or reproduced materials are hereby acknowledged, and such materials are used in good faith under fair use provisions.