

# Pilgrim Lutheran Church

BROADWAY AT FLOREY

KILGORE, TEXAS



August 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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## Special needs of the Body of Christ

Dear Members and Friends of Pilgrim Lutheran Church,

As I write this article, the 2015 Special Olympics World Games are being held in Los Angeles. Some 6,500 child and adult athletes with intellectual (and possibly also physical) “disabilities” from 165 countries are competing in 25 different Olympic-style sports. The Special Olympics’ goals include giving the athletes opportunities to “demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship”. Similar are the alternating year’s smaller Paralympics, in which competitors are athletes with physical or intellectual “impairment” and a goal is “to inspire and excite the world”, touching people’s hearts “for a more equitable society”. Especially as Christians, who recognize the value God places on each and every life from womb to tomb, by redeeming them with the blood of His Son Jesus, we celebrate these opportunities for those who are differently abled to achieve among their peers.

Yet, as much as we celebrate those with intellectual and physical challenges significant enough to qualify them for such competitions, would we want such disabilities or impairment for ourselves, either individually physically or collectively as the Church, the Body of Christ, in this place? Surely you and I want our own physical bodies and our collective congregational Body to be as perfectly complete as possible.

For Pilgrim’s nearly 60 years of history before God called me to serve here, God blessed the congregation, and He continues to bless it today. Faithful pastors and people have gathered and continue to gather around God’s purely preached Word and rightly administered Sacraments. There they have received and continue to receive God the Father’s forgiveness of sins by grace through faith in Jesus, and thereby the Holy Spirit has drawn and continues to draw more people to our congregation, the Church in this place. Even when we might think we have a hand in any particular individual’s coming to be a member of Pilgrim, ultimately the work and glory is God’s.

God’s glory should shine forth from our existence as the Body of Christ in this place. For example, we should receive God’s forgiveness and, in turn, forgive one another. We do not hold grudges but deal with one another as Christ would have us deal with one another (Matthew 18:15-20). Each of us individually is a “member” of the collective congregational Body of Christ, like each of our eyes, ears, hands, and feet are “members” of our individual physical bodies. The Divinely-inspired St. Paul uses that figure of speech at length in Romans 12:3-8,

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1 Corinthians 12:1-31, and Ephesians 4:1-16, and what He says in such places shows clearly how we often fail to glorify God as the Body of Christ in this place.

For example, no one member ought to think more-highly of himself or herself than any other. Longtime members and new members are equally members; those able to give more or less of their treasures, talent, and time are equally members. When a longtime member or one giving more dismisses an idea or concern because it is from a new member or one giving less, we are not glorifying God as the Body of Christ in this place. Similarly, each member has different but equally vital functions, service, and workings, and, when one fails to fulfill his or her function, service, or working, the function of the Body as a whole is impaired. Officers and Board and Committee chairs and members all have special roles, and they ought to fulfill them together. The congregation's aberrant long-term survival mode from 20 years of vacancy must give way to proper processes. When decisions are made by one or even two members apart from the proper process for making such decisions, we are not glorifying God as the Body of Christ in this place. God may bring many new members to our congregation, but who among them will want to remain here when excluded in such ways?

St. Paul even goes so far as to say that the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, that the parts we think are less honorable are deserving of special honor, and that the parts that are unpresentable are to be treated with special modesty. God intends for there to be no schism-divisions in the Body, but for each part to have equal concern for each other, and for the whole to suffer or rejoice as each part suffers or is honored. Are we glorifying God as the Body of Christ in this place when we do such things as fail to give rides to those in need who wish to but cannot otherwise come to Divine Service or Bible Study or fail to help those in spiritual or material need? If God is not bringing more new members to our congregation than He is bringing, perhaps He is not doing so because He knows how poorly we might treat them.

To be sure, repentant-believers are sinner-saints, who live together in the forgiveness of sins. They want to do better than disable and impair the Body of Christ in this place. If they are current or future Officers and Board and Committee chairs and members, they fulfill their special roles in connection with the others. Such functioning of the individual members and the whole Body is especially vital as we this fall prepare a new budget for 2016 that for the first time could include up to \$18,000 in previously unbudgeted mortgage payments on our new Parish Hall.

Our life together as members of the Body of Christ in this place is not about the glory of Pilgrim's buildings or individual members but about the glory of God. Somewhat like the competitors mentioned at the outset, as we together share our gifts, skills, and friendship, we demonstrate courage, experience joy, and inspire and excite the world, touching people's hearts with God's law and Gospel that lead to a more-equitable society here and the most-equitable society in the life to come.

*His and your servant,  
Pastor Galler*

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Let strife among us be unknown; / Let all contention cease;  
Be God's the glory that we seek; / Be ours His holy peace.  
Let us recall that in our midst / Dwells Christ, His only Son;  
As members of His body joined / We are in Him made one.  
For love excludes no race or clan / That names the Savior's name;  
His family embraces all / Whose Father is the same.

*-- Lutheran Service Book 845:4-6*

## Bread of Life is prominent on three of August's Sundays

Recorded in John 6, our Lord Jesus's extended teaching of Himself as the Bread of Life, which comes down from heaven for the life of the world, is distributed over the Gospel Readings appointed by *Lutheran Service Book* for the first three Sundays in August of 2015. This particular teaching follows Jesus's feeding some 5,000 people and walking on water, of which events we heard on the final two Sundays of July from their record in St. Mark's Gospel account. The Gospel Readings appointed by *LSB* for the final two Sundays of August resume the somewhat continuous reading of St. Mark's account.

Probably most well-taught Lutherans hear Jesus's words in John 6—such as those in verse 55, “My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink”—and they think of the Lord's Supper, but not all commentators, even Lutheran ones, are so sure that Jesus's words refer to a sacramental consumption of Christ in the Lord's Supper. For example, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther—for polemical reasons against the Protestants who rejected Jesus's real, physical presence in the Sacrament—said that John 6 did not refer to the sacrament, and some strictly follow his interpretation still today. Yet, none of Luther's writings contained in *The Book of Concord*, which norms the preaching and practice of faithful Lutherans, requires us to reject what is called a “sacramental” understanding of John 6.

In fact, some writings in *The Book of Concord* arguably require such an understanding, recognizing that in the Lord's Supper there are *both* a spiritual eating *and* an oral eating, which is also called a sacramental eating. The Formula of Concord says John 6 chiefly speaks of the spiritual eating, but that it *chiefly* speaks of the spiritual eating indicates that it *also* speaks of the sacramental eating (Solid Declaration VII:61). The flesh and blood of Christ have divine properties and the power to make alive (SD VIII:55, 58; SD XI:28), and the only place that we can orally consume the flesh and blood is in the Sacrament of the Altar. However, the oral eating of Christ's flesh and blood is not coarse or carnal, as if it were cannibalistic, but supernatural and beyond our ability to understand (Epitome VII:15; SD VII:64).

Due to my travel for my Continuing Education course, the Lord's Supper will not be offered on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, but Pilgrim will offer it the other four Sundays of this month. The dates and Gospel Readings for all five of this August's Sundays follow (according to *LSB's* Series B).

- Tenth Sunday (08/02): Jesus says God works people's faith (John 6:22-35)
- Eleventh Sunday (08/09): Jesus is the bread of life (John 6:35-51)
- Twelfth Sunday (08/16): Jesus gives flesh and blood to eat and drink (John 6:51-69)
- Thirteenth Sunday (08/23): Jesus speaks about “tradition” (Mark 7:1-13)
- Fourteenth Sunday (08/30): Jesus tells what does and does not defile (Mark 7:14-23)

This month continues the non-festival half of the Church Year, which uses green-colored cloths on the pastor and furniture in the Sanctuary, which bring to mind the life and growth evident in foliage and fruit and reflect the growth in the Church.

Everyone is always invited and welcome in person at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, and anyone can read and hear sermons preached at Pilgrim at [www.pilgrimlc.org/sermons](http://www.pilgrimlc.org/sermons).

Pastor Jayson S. Galler



## AUGUST EVENTS

**LWML SUMMER RETREAT** Friday, July 31<sup>st</sup> through August 1<sup>st</sup>, in Palestine, TX.

**MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY** every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary (except August 5<sup>th</sup>, due to Pastor's being gone for Continuing Education).

**YOUTH CATECHESIS** is expected to be held Thursdays August 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in Longview.

**ONCE-A-MONTH-SOCIAL GATHERING:** Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> an Ice Cream Social (homemade only) will be held from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Kilgore City Park.

**ELDERS** Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. (Reading assignment is AC XXV, pp.49-50.)

**LETOURNEAU UNIVERSITY CHURCH FAIR** Saturday, August 22, in Longview from 3:00-4:30 p.m.

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES** for September are due Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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### *HAPPY BIRTHDAY!*

Emmett Koen V – August 06  
Arcele Wilburn – August 06  
Emmett Koen IV – August 08  
George B Heil – August 09  
Caroline Koen – August 14  
Vicki Walker – August 16  
Gayle Gardner – August 23  
Aurianna Chaisson – August 24  
Bob Abraham – August 27  
Rebekah Morton – August 27  
Mackenzie Gill – August 30  
Angela Sampson – August 30  
Ron Morton – August 31

Heavenly Father, our times are in Your hands. Look with favor on those who celebrate birthdays, and grant that they may continue to grow in wisdom and grace. Strengthen their trust in Your goodness and bless them with Your abiding love all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (*LSB:AB #306 alt., p.468*)

### *HAPPY ANNIVERSARY*

M/M Matthew Smith – August 21  
M/M/ Edgar Wuthrich – August 28



Gracious Heavenly Father, we thank You for the blessings of married life. We rejoice with those who observe wedding anniversaries. Bless them in the years to come so that they may remain faithful to You and devoted to each other. By Your presence gladden each day that You graciously grant them; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (*LSB:AB #305, p.468*)

# Giving Away Everything

*Editors' Note: The following is the July 8, 2015, "Memorial Moment"—with Scripture, devotion, excerpt from a Church Father, and prayer—distributed daily by the Rev. Dr. Scott R. Murray of Memorial Lutheran Church in Houston, Texas, reproduced here by permission of the author. You are encouraged to subscribe at <http://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/manage/optin/ea?v=0016gbbKsaiGSovEBqsiV6neg%3D%3D>.*

## **2 Corinthians 9:6-15 (ESV)**

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all contentment in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, "He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission flowing from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others, while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

Stewardship is an easy topic that we make hard. Stewardship is easy when we recognize all that we have is a gift from God, and is not our own. To be a steward means to manage well what belongs to another. Our master has put us in charge of His worldly goods. Then He asks us to give them away. So what's the problem? We should find it very easy to give away what isn't ours, but someone else's. It is like being the executive officer for a large charitable foundation. That person has the pleasure of giving away the money that she did not earn and sees it put to good charitable uses in organizations that benefit from the foundation's grants. She sees the joy written all over the faces of those who work for great charities that use money that is not hers, but which she gives away, to feed the poor, care for the sick and homeless, preach the gospel, or educate the young. This only becomes difficult and painful, if she mistakenly acts as though she is giving away her own money. Then she will give grudgingly, unhappily, and slowly.

Often it happens in the church that people decline to give, because they are under the misapprehension that their goods are their own possession, rather than God's. I have heard people say, "Pastor, I can't give, because all my money has already been spoken for to cover the needs and wants of my family. We just bought a new house and a car. And there's no money left over for God." The problem here is not the organization of the household, as though they had to work toward having some money left over from God. The problem here is that they do not know all that they have belongs to their heavenly Father in the first place. Those who contend that they own all their possessions are finally breaking the first commandment by claiming ownership of that which is not theirs, stealing it from God, and finally claiming mastery over what is His. This is blasphemy. No wonder they have such a hard time giving generously and cheerfully.

If we give only grudgingly we are cheating ourselves, as well as God. We are cheating ourselves of the true joy of giving. Those who give in joy receive far more than they give. Think how generously God has given to us. Our heavenly Father never gives to us grudgingly. He has offered the blood of his own

precious Son on our behalf that we might be enriched in Him. He gave His dearest treasure over to death that He might be offered even for those who would never acknowledge His sacrifice for

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them. He gave himself completely and in great joy. Christ was a good steward of God's riches, giving them away with abandon, including Himself. In Him we have received everything. And, that everything we can cheerfully give away.

*Rev. Dr. Scott R. Murray*

“The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully (2 Corinthians 9:6). But to correct their attitude Paul added, ‘not reluctantly or under compulsion’ (2 Corinthians 9:7). For the shower of mercy ought to have both ungrudgingness and delight. Why do you complain about the giving of alms? Why do you lament when you show mercy, and lose the advantage of the good work? For if you lament you act mercifully, but are cruel and inhuman. For if you mourn, how will you be able to raise him who is sorrowing? For it is a great thing if the one who receives the alms suspects no ill, especially when you are giving with joy. Nothing seems to be such a disgrace as receiving from others, and therefore you will even cast down the receiver rather than raise him up, unless by an exceedingly cheerful visage you remove the suspicion and show that you are receiving rather than giving.

“This is why Paul says, ‘The one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness’ (Romans 12:8). Who that received a kingdom, wears a sad expression? Who that is receiving pardon for his sins continues to look dejected? Don't pay any attention to the expenditure of the money; but the increase that comes of that expenditure. For if he that sows rejoices, although sowing with uncertainty of a harvest, how much more should he rejoice who farms heaven? Therefore, even though you give but a small amount, you will be giving much. Just as those who give with a sad looks will turned much into little. The widow outweighed many talents with the two pennies, for her spirit was great. And how is it possible, it may be said, for one that dwells in extreme poverty, and gives it all, to do this with a ready mind? Ask the widow, and you will hear the way and know that it is not poverty that makes narrow circumstances, but the attitude of a person. For it is possible even in poverty to be a person who is generous (great-souled), or for the rich to be ungenerous. Hence in giving Paul looks for simplicity, and for showing mercy with cheerfulness, and in supporting the poor he looks for diligence. For it is not just with money that he wishes us to render every assistance to those in want, but to render service in words, deeds, and in person, and in every other way.”



*John Chrysostom (c.349-407 A.D.), Homilies on Romans, 21*

Lord God, Heavenly Father, from Your hand we receive all good gifts and by Your grace we are guarded from all evil. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that, acknowledging with our whole heart Your boundless goodness, we may now and evermore thank and praise You for Your loving-kindness and tender mercy. By that same Spirit empower us to give generously what you have first given to us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



The site of the new Parish Hall with Sunday School classrooms awaits the completion of the remodel of the old Parish Hall into office, study, and conference room so that the old oil-field building can be emptied and moved away and new construction can begin.

*Photo: Pastor Galler*

## **Pilgrim's Voters reaffirm commitment to new building**

Despite a higher-than-expected final bid from the contractor for a new Parish Hall with Sunday School classrooms, Pilgrim's Voters in their July 26<sup>th</sup> meeting reaffirmed their commitment to the project. A vote authorizing any necessary loan and construction was made in January and still applied, but the Capital Improvements Committee asked for the Voters' reaffirmation since the final bid came back higher than expected and considerations of contingency and other expenses upped the needed loan and likely monthly mortgage

payment by some 50%. The Committee's request of the Voters resulted in a little discussion and was followed by a secret ballot that carried the reaffirmation 16-2. Everyone was encouraged, if possible, to increase their giving over 2014 levels by 15%, for example giving 11.5% of gross income instead of 10% (those who had already increased their giving over 2014 by 10% might only increase it another 5%). Giving for 2015 currently is exceeding budget projections, which helps the Texas District Lutheran Church Extension Fund (CEF) be willing to consider the increased loan to the congregation. Everyone is reminded that their own personal investments with CEF not only can earn a better rate of return than other investments (see the bottom of p.8 in this edition of the *Pilgrimage*) but also can help generate a rebate of the interest Pilgrim will pay on the loan.

## **Lutherans for Life plan National Conference**

The 2015 Lutherans For Life National Conference is planned for October 30-31, 2015, in Petersburg, Kentucky, with the theme "Created, Redeemed, Called", based on Isaiah 43:1. Conference speakers and their topics include Ken Ham, "The Gospel in Genesis"; Col. John Eidsmoe, "Evolution vs. the Sanctity of Human Life"; and Timothy Goeglein, "Faith in the Halls of Power". The Conference schedule offers plenty of time to explore the Creation Museum. Early-bird registration rates, which include a ticket to the Creation Museum, are available through September 15<sup>th</sup> and are \$100 for adults and \$50 for students. For more information visit <http://www.lutheransforlife.org/conference/>.



## Concordia Seminary recruiter plans visit

Have you ever considered becoming a pastor or deaconess? If so, Rev. Michael Redeker from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, would like to meet with you at Trinity Lutheran Church in Tyler on Wednesday, September 23, between 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. Rev. Redeker is interested in meeting with prospective students of all ages—elementary-school age through adults. Meetings are individual and informal, and family/friends are welcome to come with you. Appointments are not necessary but encouraged. If you are interested in scheduling a specific time, please contact Rev. Redeker at 314-505-7225 or [redekerm@csl.edu](mailto:redekerm@csl.edu).



## You can help Kilgore’s “Helping Hands”



For the month of August, Helping Hands especially requests cereal/oatmeal, peanut butter/jelly, canned fruit, and shampoo/conditioner. School supplies are also welcome before August 7 (for a list of specific supplies, call them at 903-984-1796). They also continue to collect individually wrapped or small packages of toilet paper. A container for your donations is located in Pilgrim’s Narthex. If you want to donate money above and beyond your regular church offering, you can send your check or money order to Helping Hands of Kilgore, PO Box 1576, Kilgore, TX 75662.

## Pilgrim’s to-date plate offerings reported

Following a request from Pilgrim’s Board of Elders, Pilgrim’s Financial Secretary reports the following figures for 2015 through July 26<sup>th</sup>:

Plate Offerings received: \$76,719.90  
 Plate Offerings projected: \$70,287.00



Texas Church Extension Fund

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

Investment	Fixed Rate <sup>Δ</sup>		Floating Rate <sup>Δ</sup>	
	Rate	APY	Rate	APY
One Year Note <sup>◆</sup>	.750%	.75%	0.250%	0.25%
Three Year Note <sup>◆</sup>	1.250%	1.26%	1.250%	1.26%
Five Year Note <sup>◆</sup>	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%

Δ- 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.

1	Habak 3:2-19
	2 Chron. 1-3
2	Psalms 57
	2 Chron. 4-6
3	Psalms 58
	2 Chron. 7-9
4	Psalms 59
	2 Chron. 10-12
5	Psalms 60
	2 Chron. 13-15
6	Psalms 61
	2 Chron. 16-18
7	Psalms 62
	2 Chron. 19-21
8	Psalms 63
	2 Chron. 22-24
9	Psalms 64
	2 Chron. 25-27
10	Psalms 65
	2 Chron. 28-30
11	Psalms 66
	2 Chron. 31-33
12	Psalms 67
	2 Chron. 34-36
13	Psalms 68
	Ezra 1-5
14	Psalms 69
	Ezra 6-10
15	Psalms 70
	Nehemiah 1-3
16	Psalms 71
	Nehemiah 4-6
17	Psalms 72
	Nehemiah 7-9
18	Psalms 73
	Nehemiah 10-13
19	Psalms 74
	Esther 1-3
20	Psalms 75
	Esther 4-6
21	Psalms 76
	Esther 7-10
22	Psalms 77
	Job 1-3
23	Psalms 78
	Job 4-6
24	Psalms 79
	Job 7-9
25	Psalms 80
	Job 10-12
26	Psalms 81
	Job 13-15
27	Psalms 82
	Job 16-18
28	Psalms 83
	Job 19-21
29	Psalms 84
	Job 22-24
30	Psalms 85
	Job 25-27
31	Habak 3:2-19
	Job 28-30

## Daily Bible Reading features seasonal canticles

If you have been following the Daily Bible Reading plan that we are encouraging everyone to follow (from *Lutheran Worship* pp.295-299), you may already know (and if you are not following the plan, you may be interested to know) that each month begins and ends with what is called a “seasonal canticle”. Each month a “little song” or “sung liturgical text” (as *Lutheran Service Book* defines the term on xxiv) is chosen to correspond generally with the season of the Church Year in which it is used.

Some of the seasonal canticles may be very familiar. For example, the *Magnificat* (Luke 1:46-55) is used in December, the *Benedictus* (Luke 1:68-79) is used in January, and the *Nunc Dimittis* (Luke 2:29-32) is used in February. (Luke’s other canticle, the *Gloria* [Luke 2:14], is not used.) Other seasonal canticles may be less familiar. For example, a prayer found in Isaiah (64:1-9) is used in March, part of a song of praise found in Isaiah (25:1-9) is used in April, two short psalms of praise found in Isaiah are used in June, and a Song of Moses (Exodus 15:1-18) is used in November. Still other seasonal canticles may not be familiar at all. For example, Hannah’s Prayer (1 Samuel 2:1-10) is used in May, a different Song of Moses (Deuteronomy 32:1-4) is used in July, Habakkuk’s Prayer (3:2-19) is used in August, part of David’s Prayer (1 Chronicles 29:10-13) is used in September, and Jonah’s Prayer (2:2-9) is used in October. (Other Biblical canticles that may be somewhat more familiar are not used, such as those in Revelation 4, 5, 15, and 19.)

Habakkuk’s Prayer, August’s seasonal canticle, apparently was used early on as a psalm, as it has come down to us with musical and/or literary notations (for example, see the end of v.19). In this Prayer, Habakkuk petitions God to renew His deeds in the context of remembering God’s former deeds, using figures of speech to recall the Lord’s awesome delivery of His people from Egypt and other enemies. (You do not have to know all the geographical and historical details to benefit from reading the Prayer.) Those previous mighty deeds give the writer hope for delivery from the people’s present distress. We likewise pray this canticle with confidence and trust that God will renew His deeds! We can truly pray these words as we think of ourselves and God’s Church in this world, even as we know that our victory over sin, death, and the power of the devil is already won and given to us through Holy Baptism.

There are many more things that could be and have been said about Habakkuk’s Prayer. Some of the things that I have said previously about it are available in the various resources that are linked off the Daily Bible Reading page of our website: <http://www.pilgrimlc.org/daily-bible-reading>.

Such gems as Habakkuk’s Prayer await all of us as we are in God’s Word every day through this Daily Bible Reading plan. You are always

welcome to ask me your questions about what you read, whether or not you are following this plan. The Holy Spirit will work through His Word as He promises to do!

Pastor Jayson S. Galler

## SEPTEMBER EVENTS

**QUILTING BEE** Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, at 5:00 p.m.

**LWML** will meet Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

**MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY** every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

**YOUTH CATECHESIS** date, time, and location are to be determined and announced.

**ELDERS** Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. (Location and reading assignment TBA.)

**RALLY DAY** Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, during Divine Service.

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES** for October are due Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>.

**LWML FALL RALLY** Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, in Athens.

**ONCE-A-MONTH-SOCIAL GATHERING:** Please contact Tifaney Sampson with your ideas.

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### **Please pray as our congregation has been requested to pray**

CHRISTIANS BEING PERSECUTED WORLDWIDE

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 NOT YET INCLUDED IN OR WHO HAVE STRAYED FROM THE FAITH:

Jessa Key (Jerome and Sallye's granddaughter who has not yet been baptized)

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

THOSE WHO ARE STRUGGLING WITH HOMOSEXUALITY

PEACE IN THE WORLD

MEN IN THE SERVICE:

Victor Guinn (Paul Guinn's son, back in the States)

George C. Heil (in New York continuing Navy school)

Brian Holcombe (Carolyn and Wendell Holcombe's son in D.C.)

Ross Land (stationed at Fort Polk in Louisiana)

THOSE IN POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

THOSE WHO TRAVEL:

Toni and Tiffani Erickson and their friend Margie (travelling to Wisconsin)

Brady Gage

Pastor Galler (to and from Continuing Education course in Montana via Austin)

Remo Gualtieri and Kathy Hudson (Puerto Rico)

Hooge Family (travelling for two weeks, including to Higher Things Youth Conference)

Jerome and Sallye Key

LWML ladies attending the East Texas Zone Retreat 7/31-8/1

David Navaille

Edgar and Barbara Wuthrich

*Prayer List continues on next page*

*Prayer List continued from previous page*

**SHUT-INS:**

Bob Abraham (in an Alzheimer Center in Austin)  
Leland Dean (in a care facility in Oklahoma)  
Harold Engebretson (on hospice care at Brookdale in Henderson)

**THOSE WHO NEED HEALING:**

Gary Adams (David Navaille's cousin, soon to undergo chemo for liver cancer)  
Rev. Dennis Bragdon (ORLC's pastor, radiation for prostate cancer, knee pending)  
Ardith Coughlin (ORLC friend of Pilgrim, dementia treatment, cornea concern)  
Tom Criswell (various health concerns including hole in macula, follow-up 9/24)  
Cliff Dantin (Navailles' friend Brad's father, in assisted living, motivational issues)  
Kimberly Dietz (Shannon's partner's sister, monitoring bone marrow regeneration)  
Mark Harrington (Walkers' brother-in-law, aneurism, Myasthenia Gravis, lung spots)  
Landon Hawkins (baby known to Watts Family, Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome)  
Charlotte Herrell (Sharon Sampson's sister, last chemo for now 8/3, more possible)  
Brenda Johnson (Pilgrim visitor, challenges include Stage 3 liver cancer and treatment)  
Olin Johnson (Nicols' friend with Parkinsons, continuing to decline in nursing home)  
Jerome Key, Jr. (Jerome and Sallye's son, complications from a motorcycle accident)  
Laura Key (Jerome's step-mother, continuing to decline in nursing home)  
Sallye Key (spiritual strengthening, peace, and joy)  
Paul Kuehn (at home after 7/20 surgery, but breathing difficulty and therapy)  
Carl London (Connie Wilburn's coworker, additional testing for new spot on liver)  
Marion Madison (Toni Erickson's aunt, recovering from 7/15 knee-replacement)  
Herb Michel (relative of Pastor's friends, in and out of hospital with various concerns)  
Sam Morton (at home recovering from a back procedure 6/3)  
Don and Beth Nicol (Don's COPD is acting up, Beth has pain in her neck)  
Shirley Peters (Mary Clubb's former pastor's wife, upcoming additional eye surgeries)  
Mike Powell (David Navaille's friend, hip-replacement-related surgery 7/22)  
Charles Ramage (Carolyn Holcombe's brother, awaiting results and treatment options)  
Karen Reed (Ron Morton's colleague's wife, kidney removed for cancer 6/11)  
Tiffany Rightenour (Dan's friend, at home slowly recovering from motorcycle accident)  
Sadie Stewart (Remo Gualtieri's shirt-tail acquaintance, can't breathe on her own)  
Mike West (incoming member Dan's brother, knee surgery 7/14)  
Robert Wiles (Betty Miller's nephew, untreatable cancer, still on feeding tube)  
James Willey (Remo and Kathy's friend, cancer surgery July 24)  
Wendy Wright (Connie Wilburn's friend, recovering from breast cancer surgery 7/15)

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

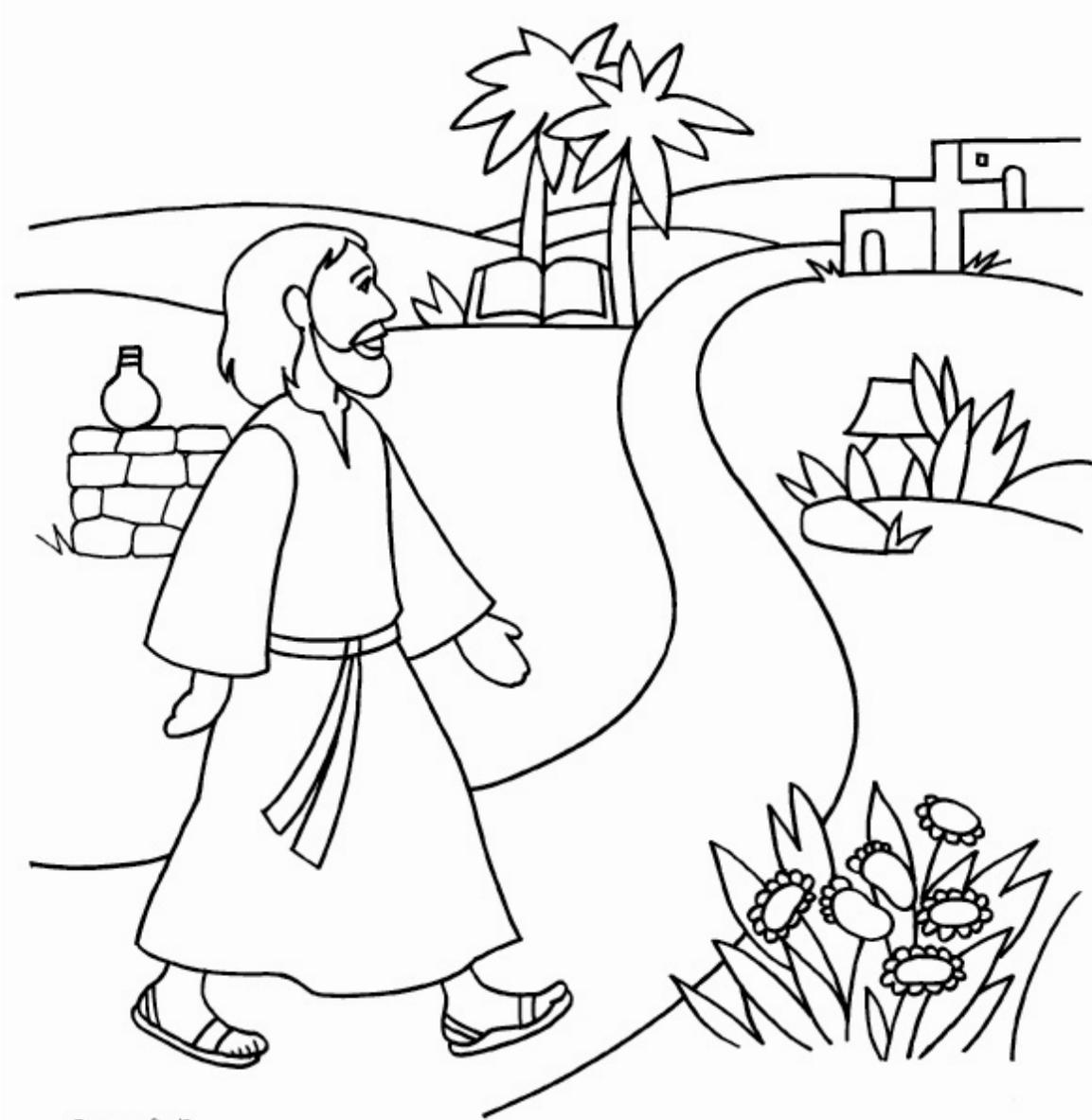
Mary Clubb (our member Aaron's wife, in delivery window, would be induced 8/20)  
Caroline Koen (our member, expecting her and Emmett's second child)

**FAMILIES IN CRISIS OR NEED AND ALL FAMILIES**

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison and wife Kathy (LCMS president, house fire 7/29)  
Myers Family (friends of the Watts, son Jordan convicted of serious charges and jailed)  
Raymond Family (Cooper's Scouts friends' family, teenager Paiglynn ran away 4/17)  
Thomas Family (Leroy's sons and grandchildren)  
West Family (employment concerns)

# KIDS' PAGE

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Can you find?



Your Word



is a lamp



to my feet



and a light



to my path.

Psalm 119:105



# AUGUST 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>2</b> 10 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Matins (no communion)	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> No Midweek Bible Study	<b>6</b> No Catechesis  Emmett Koen V (B) Arcele Wilburn (B)	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>   <b>8</b> Emmett Koen IV (B)
Pastor at Continuing Education Class – an Elder will answer the church phone and contact the Pastor on call as needed.						
<b>9</b> 11 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service  George B Heil (B)	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 2:00-5:00 PM Cleaning Ladies 5:30 PM Pastor prays at Kilgore City Council	<b>12</b>   7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	<b>13</b>   4:00-5:00 PM Youth Catechesis	<b>14</b>   Caroline Koen (B)	<b>15</b>
Pastor at Continuing Education Class						
<b>16</b> 12 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service 1:30-3:30 PM Ice Cream Social in Kilgore Park Vicki Walker (B)	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>   6:00 PM Elders	<b>19</b>   7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study	<b>20</b> Circuit Pastors' Conference in Palestine  4:00-5:00 PM Youth Catechesis	<b>21</b>   M/M Matthew Smith (A)	<b>22</b> 3:00-4:30 PM Le Tourneau Fair  Newsletter articles due tomorrow
<b>23</b> 13 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service  Gayle Gardner (B)	<b>24</b>   Aurianna Chaisson (B)	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>   7:00 PM Midweek Bible Study Beth West (B)	<b>27</b>   Bob Abraham (B) Rebekah Morton (B)	<b>28</b>   M/M Edgar Wutrlich (A)	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 14 <sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (G) 9:30-10:30 AM SS & Bible Class 10:45 AM Divine Service  Mackenzie Gill (B) Angela Sampson (B)	<b>31</b>   Ron Morton (B)	<b>Communion Assistant</b> – John Walker  <b>Acolyte</b> – Benjamin Morton				

**Pilgrim Lutheran Church**  
713 Florey Street  
Kilgore, Texas 75662-3503

**The Pilgrimage** is a monthly newsletter for the members and friends of



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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.