



PILGRIM LUTHERAN CHURCH

44 CHAPEL ROAD – KENMORE, NY 14217

(716) 875-5485

*A Congregation in Mission, Community and Service*

# *PILGRIM'S PROGRESS*

**OCTOBER 2018**

PASTOR: Rev. Ben Eder

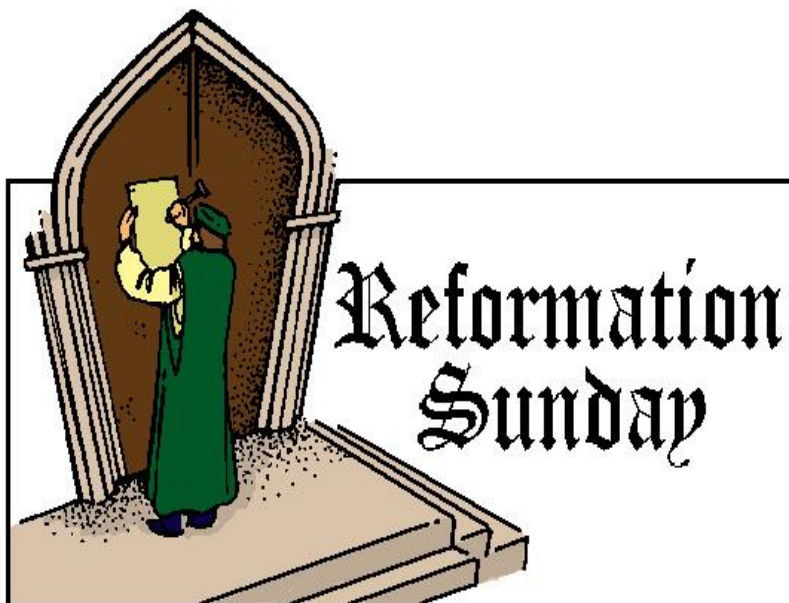
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM

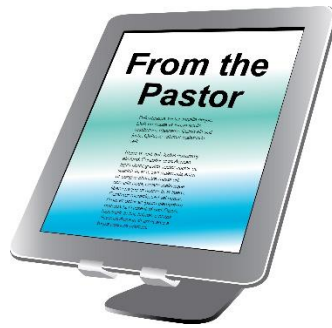
EDITOR: Mary Werth

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY: 9:30 AM

ASSOC. EDITOR:

WORSHIP: 10:00 AM





One of the things that has been said about me through the years (and which I agree with) is that I tend to be a very loyal person: for example, I have been married to the same woman for 34 years and have been the pastor of only two parishes in 33 years.

As a loyal person, it takes a lot for me to quit something or on somebody; I only change associations or relationships reluctantly, when it seems that there is no other recourse.

How do I define loyalty? Primarily, loyalty is defined by “who is there” in my life. People can say they're loyal, but it's their actions that reveal the truth of their words. If someone insisted that they were loyal but were hardly ever present, you would question that, wouldn't you?

Near the end of his earthly ministry, shortly before he was to be crucified, Jesus encountered the issue of loyalty:

*After this (the feeding of the 5000) many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. So, Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you want to go away as well?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.” - John 6:66-69*

If someone professes to be a member of a congregation, but rarely attends or supports the church through their financial gifts and talents, what conclusion could be drawn from such an absence (other than illness, away for the winter or another good reason)?

Likewise, there may be some in the congregation who may not always agree with me personally or may even take umbrage with some of my positions on things, but who nevertheless remain: when they do so, I don't interpret that only as personal loyalty to me or even to this congregation, but assume that they remain because they're being fed spiritually (and receiving other blessings) by remaining at this particular congregation.

Ultimately, a Christian's loyalty ought to be to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who alone suffered, died, and rose again from the dead for our salvation. Throughout my ministry, I have striven to point others to Jesus, and not to myself as pastor nor to anyone or anything else. Above all, “It's all about Jesus.”

In looking at my life I must face the fact that I have not always been loyal to Jesus, or even some of the people in my life. Despite this, Jesus has always remained faithful to me. The Apostle Paul assured his protegee Timothy, “*If we are faithless, he (Jesus) remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.*” - 2 Timothy 2:13

Regardless of our loyalty or lack of it, let us give thanks to Jesus for always “being there” in our lives.

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Ben Eder



# SUNDAY SERVER SCHEDULE

## OCTOBER 2018

DATE →	Oct. 7	Oct. 14	Oct, 21	Oct. 28	
<b>READER</b>	Abigail Size	Mary Werth	Gary Smith	Tyrone Bryant	
<b>USHERS</b>	Jim O'Brien * George Alessi	Scot LaFalce * Traci LaFalce	Tegwanda Alford * Peggy Clark	Eric Fellner * Gary Smith	
<b>COMMUNION ASSISTANT</b>	Eric Fellner	George Alessi	Frank Alessi	Jim O'Brien	
<b>NURSERY</b>	Ruth & Gaby O'Brien	Peggy Clark	Carol Obot	Carolyn Alessi	



### Finding our range

While visiting a church, Robert Neff learned a lesson about the body of Christ. As he listened to a tenor's faltering voice, he noticed worshippers pulling out hymnals to locate the soloist's song.

"By the second verse, the congregation had joined the soloist in the hymn," Neff says. "By the third verse, the tenor was beginning to find the range. By the fourth verse, it was beautiful. And on the fifth verse, the congregation was absolutely silent, and the tenor sang the most beautiful solo of his life."

Neff concludes: "This is life in the body of Christ, enabling one another to sing the tune Christ has given us."  
—from *Witnesses of a Third Way: A Fresh Look at Evangelism*



# October

## BIRTHDAYS

<b>Dianne Weurch</b>	<b>Oct. 2</b>
<b>Frank Alessi</b>	<b>Oct. 10</b>
<b>Kathy Rodgers</b>	<b>Oct. 11</b>
<b>Tegwanda Alford</b>	<b>Oct. 15</b>
<b>Roberto Diaz</b>	<b>Oct. 17</b>
<b>Sue Holway</b>	<b>Oct. 18</b>



# October

## ANNIVERSARIES

<b>Oct. 7</b>	<b>Mike &amp; Dianne Weurch</b>
<b>Oct. 10</b>	<b>Lee &amp; Amber Trimmer</b>

\*\*\* IF YOUR BIRTHDAY AND/OR ANNIVERSARY IS NOT LISTED, PLEASE LET ME KNOW SO I CAN ADD YOU TO MY LIST. THANK YOU. - MARY WERTH \*\*\*

## **\*\*\* BAKED GOODS/RUMMAGE SALE CORRECTION \*\*\***

The proceeds are going back into the Esther Circle treasury to ensure that the Esther Circle will be able to supply Pastor with gift cards for those in need, Meals on Wheels, Bible Translators, and various other charities. Hearts for the Homeless is funded through the Esther Circle fellowship coffee hours on the fourth Sunday of each month.



### **Stick with it!**

“If I’ve learned anything about friendship, it’s to hang in, stay connected,” says journalist Jon Katz. “Don’t walk away, don’t be distracted, don’t be too busy or tired, don’t take them for granted. Friends are part of the glue that holds life and faith together.”

This applies to church life too. When we’re annoyed by some aspect of congregational life or caught in conflict with other members, it’s tempting to drift away to another church — or no church. Even when all is fine, we sometimes let church take a back seat. But our bonds with the family of God are “part of the glue that holds life and faith together.” For the sake of the benefits we gain and give, may we “hang in [and] stay connected” with our church family. May we not “walk away [or] be distracted, ... be too busy or tired.” May we not take one another for granted but thank God for this “glue” — even when things get a bit sticky!

### **Make it count!**

This is our time on the history line of God. This is it. What will we do with the one deep exhale of God on this earth? For we are but a vapor and we have to make it count. We’re on. Direct us, Lord, and get us on our feet.

—Beth Moore



## ESTHER CIRCLE

Our meeting is Monday, October 8th., 6:30 pm. at the church. All ladies are welcome! We will have a brief business meeting and a Bible Study afterward. Those who attended September's meeting, remember your "Inspirational Stone"!

Thank you to all who assisted in the Pot Faith meal. We welcome all our new Pilgrim members.

The circle continues to collect Dash's tapes. Please give them to Sue Holway. The mite boxes for the LWML mission projects can be given to Karen Smith.

May you enjoy this Fall season and all the colorful natural beauty created by God.

Carol Obot & Sue Holway



## COMMUNITY DINNER

**\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE: There is NO dinner in October. The next one will be in November. See the Voters Meeting article for details. \*\*\***



The P.A.L.s (Pilgrim Active Laymen) will meet on Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m. at the Olympic Restaurant at Military Road and Sheridan Drive. All men are welcome to join us.



A Voters Meeting was held on September 16<sup>th</sup> after the service. The following will be received into membership on September 23<sup>rd</sup>: Kathy Farkas, Jim Hartz, Jennie McCoy, Cheryl Miller, Mike Myers, Brian Patterson and Ruth Whitmer.

Our Community Dinner will become bi-monthly. After much discussion and some good ideas, Scot and Traci LaFalce volunteered to help organize a dinner planning committee. They would like to know if you can help with things such as planning the menus, shopping, cooking, setting up, serving and cleaning up. If you have any talents in these areas, please contact them. (There will be NO dinner in October.)

We also want to re-design our website with "streaming" our services and updated electronic giving. The sound system will most likely have to be updated for that as well.

The kitchen light has been replaced. Signs stating that security cameras are on the church premises have been put up in the parking lot.

A new church directory was discussed and approved. If anyone wants to handle this project, please contact Gary Smith for more information.

Christmas caroling at senior residences was suggested by Mark DeFazio. We agreed to try it. He will contact the residences for permission first. Then there will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. We hope to have some kind of handout to distribute at the residences as well. More details will follow in the November newsletter.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 9<sup>th</sup>.

We adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.



### **A well-shaken tree**

For several years I have read the Bible through twice in 12 months. It is a great and powerful tree, each word of which is a mighty branch. Each of these branches have I well shaken, so desirous was I to know what each one bore and what it would give me. And the shaking of them has never disappointed me.

—Martin Luther



## **Minister to your ministers**

In honor of Clergy Appreciation Month, use these alphabetical reminders of how to treat your pastors:

- A**ccept them as people.
- B**uild them up. Say “thank you.”
- C**ommunicate with them.
- D**efend them when someone tries to run them down.
- E**ntertain them. They like to have fun, too!
- F**amily. Allow them to have a family life.
- G**enuine. Be honest with them. Be yourself around them.
- H**onor them. Don’t put them on a pedestal but respect them.
- I**ncome. Pay them enough so money isn’t a concern.
- J**udge not! Avoid being critical.
- K**ind. Treat pastors as you want to be treated.
- L**ove. See 1 Corinthians 13.
- M**aintain. Their families have the same needs as other families.
- N**urture. Help them grow in grace.
- O**ffer to help. The list of things you can do is endless.
- P**ray for them. Lift up their names to God daily.
- Q**uelch not. Encourage instead!
- R**ejoice in and with them.
- S**urprise them — in little and big ways.
- T**rust them. Believe in them.
- U**nderstand them. Put yourself in their place.
- V**acation. They need time away.
- W**elcome them into your home. Don’t wait for an invitation.
- e**Xpend yourself, not them.
- Y**oke. Help them bear their burdens with grace and dignity.
- Z**ap all gossip!

## **OOPS! - FROM PILGRIM WORSHIP SHEET - 9/2/18**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**    *Deuteronomy 4:1–2, 6–9*    (“Listen to the statutes and just decrees that I am teaching you.”)

**Someone needs to brush up on their proofreading statutes.**





## **THRED: Where Ideas Take Shape and Sometimes Get a Little Weird**

With blog posts like "Bingeing, Self-Control, and the "Great Life-Waster," "45 Lessons I Didn't Learn in School," and "Marshmallows and Delusions of Grandeur" **THRED** values readers' time by offering content that is engaging and entertaining.

At THRED you'll find ongoing conversations about all sorts of issues in the marketplace today. These can range from sex and the world at large to school and cultivating friendships. THRED thrives on conversations among people who differ in perspective but who share an interest in learning more about others and the world we all live in.

For many, THRED's initial point of contact is its Facebook page, which you can access by [clicking here](#). This is where you will find an open invitation to jump into the discussion and tell us what you're thinking.

At the THRED website, there are articles dealing with relationships, community, society, God, Christianity, and other relevant interests. These can be found by [clicking here](#). At the THRED homepage, there's a minute-long video that will give you quick snapshot of what this engaging ministry is all about.

**THRED ... where your voice matters.**

## **Think LHM Learn for Personal Reflection, Group Studies**

Online courses from LHM are ideal for digging into a particular topic, exploring it, and coming away with insights to use in your everyday life. Courses like *Then & Now: The Nature of Spiritual Conversations*, *Follow Me: The Calling of Jesus*, and *Watch. Read. Reflect: The Reformation* are designed to be engaging and interactive for users, giving them valuable information to apply immediately.

Courses from LHM Learn fall into five different faith-strengthening categories. Here they are:

- \* Christian Foundations (the basics of Christianity from biblical, theological, and historical perspectives)
- \* Cultural Concepts (resources to understand the different demographics, cultures, and religions in our world today)
- \* Everyday Insights (thoughts about the good and bad that life throws our way)
- \* Outreach Essentials (personal evangelism and tools to reach others with the Gospel)
- \* Spiritual Reflections (devotional thoughts meant to strengthen and encourage)

To find out more about these thought-provoking courses and how to empower your faith and witness, [click here](#).

## Mystery Scrambles - Answers

### Mystery Set #1

Topic: Flight

dragonfly

helicopter

robin

wasps

eagle

astronaut

zeppelin

### Mystery Set #2

Topic: Internet

broadband

website

email

podcast

facebook

online

virus

### Mystery Set #3

Topic: Cinema

script

lights

rehearse

director

audience

actors

camera



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# SEPTEMBER PUZZLE ANSWERS

## Bible Word Search: OCCUPATIONS IN THE BIBLE

R X T F T R Z Q D A Y V M R I  
E C H W A B E N E S N C I E N  
P Q U C A R P E N T E R D H N  
E O L P Q O M J T R J J W C K  
E R P U B P H E V O A S I A E  
K O D H O E N M R L I T F E E  
E R O E I G A V A O L R E T P  
T E T R R L K R A G E P A P E  
A P S A T N O R E E R D T H R  
G M V M A I D S E R V A N T C  
Z E M R Q G A H O A R A H P C  
R T N A H C R E M P L P S Y I  
H T I M S K C A L B H Z V I L  
E H A R P I S T X H E E I T I  
W A R R I O R Q J J D I R F L

ASTROLOGER	BLACKSMITH	CARPENTER	CHARIOTEER
CUPBEARER	EMPEROR	ENGRAVER	FARMER
GATEKEEPER	HARPIST	INNKEEPER	JAILER
MAIDSERVANT	MERCHANT	MIDWIFE	PHARAOH
PHILOSOPHER	POET	TEACHER	WARRIOR

**References:** Isaiah 47:13; 1 Samuel 13:19; Mark 6:3; 1 Chronicles 19:18;  
Genesis 40:1; Acts 25:25; Exodus 28:11; 2 Timothy 2:6; 2 Samuel 18:26;  
Revelation 14:2; Luke 10:35; Acts 16:23; Deuteronomy 15:17; Matthew 13:45;  
Genesis 35:17; Genesis 12:15; Acts 17:18; Acts 17:28; 1 Chronicles 25:8;  
Judges 11:1

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**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE  
NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER IS OCTOBER 24<sup>TH</sup>.**