



PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

December 2023



PILGRIM
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH

Senior Minister

Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn

Consulting Minister

Dr. Lowell Linden

Licensed Minister

Mr. Jon Olson

Ministers Emeriti

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Bingham

Rev. Dr. Douglas Lobb

Youth Director

Mrs. Sarah Campbell

Music Dept.

Ms. Susan Winckler - Director

Mr. Bruce Jones - Organist

Ms. Nancy Rodewald - Children's Music

Office Staff

Ms. Nancy Newell - Bookkeeper

Ms. Natalie Brown - Admin. Assist.

Mrs. Megan Parnell - Librarian

Mr. Brian Cochran - Mktg. & Media Mgr.

Mrs. Karli Gordon - Events Consultant

Custodial Staff

Mr. James Stevenson

Ms. Laura Lezama

Mr. Joe Madrigal

Mr. Christian Campbell

WELCOME HOME!

Mission:

Pilgrim Congregational Church is an independent community of Christian faith which glorifies God through worship and service to others, respects individual spiritual growth, and inspires compassionate fellowship.

Vision:

Pilgrim Congregational Church is the spiritual home of our community where all people are welcomed, known, and loved.

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Friday, 9am to 4pm
Appointments are recommended.

Worship Service:

Sundays at 10am ~ In-person or Online



Pilgrim Congregational Church

600 N. Garey Avenue

Pomona, CA. 91767

Phone: (909) 622-1373

Fax: (909) 629-2554

Email: PilgrimOffice@pilgrimchurchpomona.com

Website: www.pilgrimchurchpomona.com

Facebook & YouTube: Pilgrim Congregational Church Pomona

A Blessed People

“... they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.” – Isaiah 61:9

There are a multitude of ways in which Pilgrim Congregational Church is a blessed people. We are a fellowship of hope and faith, of service and love, of prayer and worship. We have financial resources for services to the community and educational programs for spiritual development. We fervently support, with prayer and service, the sick and disabled in our communities. We enjoy the fruit of all these ways of being church. It certainly feels as if our church fellowship is blessed.

You may recall that Jesus spoke frequently about what it means to be blessed. He provided a whole list of blessings in the Sermon on the Mount called the Beatitudes. He also told stories which emphasized that we are blessed when we give to those in severest need without expecting anything in return. Pilgrim Church is certainly blessed in this way, too, since we give to our communities without expectation of repayment, gifts freely given in the spirit of joy.

We can see that Jesus was a devoted student of the message in Isaiah since his message so closely aligns with what we read in Isaiah 61. In this passage, a blessed people is a people whose righteousness and praise “springs up before all the nations.” Ancient Israel is described as blessed because they are characterized by their works of righteousness and the salvation which is theirs in the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

In the coming year, Pilgrim Congregational Church will have more and more opportunities to be a blessed people. We will be faced with new beginnings and unique occasions to give to one another and to those in our community who are in need. The Advent and Christmas Season is a season of renewing this message of blessedness, of lifting up the lowly and filling up the hungry with good things. And if we respond in loving submission to this message, Pilgrim Church, like Ancient Israel and Mary, the Mother of Jesus, will be called blessed from generation to generation.



PILGRIM AUXILIARY



Christmas Melodies

presented by

Susan Winckler & Choraescence

Tuesday, December 5th

11:30AM

Join us

The 1st Tuesday of the month

10:00am ~ Meeting

11:30am ~ Program

12:30pm ~ Luncheon

COMING UP NEXT

January 2nd, 2024 ~ The Stephan Center

Presenter: Cynthia Robbins

Devotions: Guadalupe Ocegueda

Lunch Host: Don Sanders/Janet McBride



“The Stephen Center partners with individuals, families and the community to overcome homelessness, substance abuse, and mental health concerns.”

To learn more visit: <https://stephencenter.org/>

PILGRIM AUXILIARY ~ SUNDAY SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Dear Pilgrim Members and Friends,

The Christmas season is here We will once again be decorating our Sanctuary with poinsettias dedicated by our members and friends to their loved ones or to memorable events of the year. I sincerely hope you will join me in adorning our Sanctuary on Sunday, December 17th and 24th with these beautiful symbols of Christmas. Your name and dedication(s) will be printed in a Christmas Dedication Booklet which will be mailed to you on or before Sunday, December 17th. Poinsettias will be \$21.00 each. Please place your completed order form and payment in an envelope marked Christmas Poinsettias. Make checks payable to Pilgrim Congregational Church. Please let us know if you would like to take your poinsettia following our Christmas Eve service, or you prefer we bring your poinsettia to one of our homebound members. Please have your order in by Sunday, December 3, 2023. If you have any questions please contact me.



Continued Blessings,

Bonnie Seath, Flower Chairperson

Phone 909-953-2577 or email Bonniehbd@verizon.net

2023 Christmas Poinsettia Dedication

ORDER FORM

December 3, 2023 due date

Number of Poinsettia(s) _____ (\$21.00 Each)

Please make check payable to Pilgrim Congregational Church for a total of \$ _____

Will you pick up your poinsettia(s)? Yes ___ No ___

Please return this order form & check made payable to *Pilgrim Congregational Church* to Nancy Newell, Financial Secretary's Office

Dedication(s) to read: (Please print)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

WILL TAKE POINSETTIA(S) _____ or WILL NOT TAKE POINSETTIA(S) _____

PILGRIM AUXILIARY ~ RUMMAGE



Thank you to everyone who has been participating in our Very Mini Rummage Sales. There are always some things in our Holiday Department which don't sell at the Rummage Sale that are just too good to send to the Thrift Store, so we set them aside to offer during the month of that holiday. Some Pilgrims have also added some things to make our little sales even better (and help empty out their closets.) We made over \$40 on our Halloween Sale and are doing well on our Thanksgiving Sale. The money we make is going into a special fund to help Pilgrim Auxiliary with camperships for Cedar Lake. Watch for our Very Mini Christmas Sale this month.

The Fall Sale may be over and the Spring Sale is 4 months away, but we are already collecting rummage donations once again as of Nov. 15th. Keep in mind when bringing your donations it would be most helpful if you call ahead so someone from our custodial staff can assist you at the garages. If you must bring rummage in on a Sunday, please let us know by Friday so we can have custodial staff help you to drop it off directly to the garages either before or after church. This will keep rummage out of the hallway and gym. Drop off times during the week are, Mondays—Fridays, 9:30am to 2:30pm.

Save the date: Spring Rummage Sale: Saturday. April 20th, 2024

OUTREACH~CHRISTMAS OFFERTORY

Outreach Board has voted to keep the Christmas Offering local this year and in particular to sponsor:



Foothill Family Shelter is a non-profit organization founded in 1984 which houses homeless families with children for a period of up to 120 days free of rent or utilities. Also with the possibility of one year of transitional housing and extended housing. Pilgrim has a long time connection with Foothill Family Shelter. Outreach was offered a tour of the facilities at 1501 W. 9th Street, Suite D, Upland several years ago. We have good photos from there and some of the additional housing nearby. The staff has made this opportunity available again so hopefully in January, we can schedule a "Field Trip" to visit them, and of course, the congregation will be invited. There is a lively "Grant Christmas Wishes" program going on right now! Donations of gifts and gift cards are always welcome. Making wishes come true for Foothill Family Shelter clients will help to make our Holidays more joyous!

You can find out more about Foothill Family Shelter at: <https://www.foothillfamilyshelter.org>

PILGRIM PROFILES

Because December brings a visit from St. Nicholas, who better to interview than someone who has played Santa many times, both at Pilgrim and elsewhere?



Don Sanders attended adult camp at Cedar Lake with wife Judy, who is standing in the back with other Pilgrim friends.

Don Sanders joined Pilgrim in January 1977. He had been involved in the young adult program at Union Congregational Church in Angel's Camp so he looked for another Congregational church when he moved to Southern California. Here at Pilgrim he has served on the Christian Education Board, the Outreach Board and the Board of Trustees and as Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School teacher and Moderator (1989.)

Now retired, Don taught high school science. After attending San Jose State College Don took science classes in Texas. He started his career in Crockett in the bay area, moving to Southern California to work at the new San Dimas high school which opened in 1970. His hobbies include gardening, travelling and cooking. (Pilgrim has often benefitted from his culinary skills, including lunches, Christmas cookies and the rummage bake sale!) He is the oldest of seven children. The family began in Minnesota and came to Ponderosa for the logging industry, then to Calaveras.

Here at Pilgrim Don met Judy and her son Bob in 1978. They were married in 1980 and son Brian was born in 1982. Their son Bob has four daughters, Daphne, Sophia, Sadie and Stella, all baptized at Pilgrim as was Brian's son Leigh.

When asked what Pilgrim means to him his answer was: "Pilgrim is important because of religious support, friendly membership, and the place where I met Judy".

LIBRARY NEWS

After our usual meeting in October, the library committee decided to combine our November and December meetings due to the holidays. We will still have lots of new books for readers to check out.

Popular authors with new books:

Let it Crow by Donna Andrews
Proof of the Pudding by Rhys Bowen
Dirty Thirty by Janet Evanovich
The Exchange by John Grisham
Twelve Months to Live by James Patterson



In non-fiction we purchased:

The Astors by Anderson Cooper
The Ins and Outs of In-N-Out Burger by Lynsi Snyder who is the owner.
Universal Faith by Jenny Wang who is a senior at Webb School and interviewed local religious leaders.

Come by the library and check us out!

~~~Megan

*Merry Christmas To All,  
& To All A Good Book!*



## SPOTLIGHT ON MUSIC



Our very own Choir Director & Organist, **Susan Winckler** was highlighted in a newsletter by Elaine Hagenberg (Susan's daughter) under *Conductors Who Inspire*. It reads, "After Susan Winckler performed *Illuninare* with her choir in June, [at Pilgrim Congregational Church's Music Sunday] she kindly shared her choir's enjoyment and asked, 'When will you write your next extended work? We are all waiting...' When I expressed uncertainty, [Susan] replied, 'I will wait patiently. (I am 79 though, so I can't wait too long.)'"

For eight decades, Susan has pursued her creative passions and continues to use her gifts to serve others! Throughout her life, Susan has made a significant career impact of both education for young musicians and music ministry as a teacher, conductor, organist, and soloist in a number of California congregations.

Susan loves working with her church choir and playing the beautiful 4 manual pipe organ at Pilgrim Congregational Church, [Pomona.] She finds church musicians to be exceptionally loyal, and says both conducting and playing the organ are '*inspiring and religious*' experiences. In addition to her music, Susan has been a lifelong painter, and more recently has found a creative outlet through jewelry-making and ceramics (one of her stunning pieces from 2022 is pictured above.)"

## HARMONIA

### ***CHRISTMAS BY CANDLIGHT***

Saturday, December 9th, 2023, 6pm

Tickets: \$40 suggested donation

Discounts available  
for those who join  
Harmonia.

*Four-Course Dinner by Andrew Olson*

*Entertainment by*

***Choralescence***

Contact Betsy Bowering or  
visit the Harmonia Booth on  
Sundays to purchase tickets.

## OUTREACH



Our Pilgrim Family has supported families in need through **Hand in Hand for the Holidays** by providing food, clothing, and other needs for Christmas. This program started 35 years ago,

*but it couldn't continue without all of you.*

Everyone can help by adopting a person or family, or making a donation to Hand in Hand. We will purchase the Gift Cards for food this year, but **you** can help by making a *tax deductible* donation to Pilgrim Church and writing "Hand in Hand" in the memo section of your check. You may also contribute through PushPay by choosing "Other" and put Hand in Hand in the notes or select Hand in Hand from the drop down list.

We invite you to **try a new opportunity at Hand in Hand's virtual "Grocery Store"**. We have done the physical shopping. You can choose from available food items from our "store" at the Hand in Hand table during Coffee Hour. Our "Store" accepts cash, checks made payable to Pilgrim Congregational Church, and payments made through PushPay.

Youth are encouraged, with parent permission, to go through their toys, electronics and clothes for gently used and clean items they have outgrown and no longer play with or wear. Please bring these items on Sundays to the Hand in Hand table. These items will be available to kids in need at the Hand in Hand Shop on pick up day.



**Please bring in all donations for Hand in Hand by Sunday, December 17th!**

*Thank you for helping to bring joy to these families this Christmas!*





## PILGRIM MARKETPLACE



Pilgrim Congregational Church presents

# Pilgrim's Christmas Marketplace

Sunday, December 3rd  
11AM to 2PM

600 N. Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA. 91767

Get Christmas shopping done  
while supporting small/local  
businesses as well as  
Pilgrim Church programs !!!

Many vendors from our  
community with commercial  
products to handcrafted  
items and more.

### Other Great Features:

- \* C.E. Country Store
- \* Soup & Salad Bar  
(both supporting youth  
programs at Pilgrim)

~ ~ ~

Please contact Beth Brooks at 909-229-5921 if you have any  
questions or would like to participate as a vendor.



**FAMILY CHRISTMAS DINNER & PROGRAM**

**CHILDREN'S  
★ CHRISTMAS ★  
PROGRAM**

**Wednesday**

**DEC**

**20th**

**6pm ~ Dinner with Music**

**7:30pm ~ Showtime**

**8:30pm ~ Hot Cocoa with Santa**

**Dinner Tickets**

**\$15, (\$7 for kids 6yrs - 12yrs)**

**Children 5 & Under Free**

**Program & Cocoa with Santa**

**FREE**

**Reserve your seat TODAY!**

**RSVP by December 17th**

**909-622-1373**

**[Sarah@pilgrimchurchpomona.com](mailto:Sarah@pilgrimchurchpomona.com)**



## PILGRIM YOUTH'S HOLIDAY SWEET SHOP



# Pilgrim Youth's Holiday Sweet Shop

Last day to order: December 1st, 2023

Get your favorite holiday See's Candies, or order a special treat for family & friends. Our shop has expanded to include options for those celebrating Jewish Holidays as well as gift items like candles, mugs and more.

You can purchase a See's gift card and use it at a See's Store to get those items that you don't find at the **Pilgrim Youth Holiday Sweet Shop.**

### Ways to Buy:

**Order online to be delivered to a location of your choice at:**

[https://www.yumraising.com/secure/pilgrimcc\\_pilgrim\\_youth\\_holiday\\_sweet\\_shop\\_58/SarCam5183/candy](https://www.yumraising.com/secure/pilgrimcc_pilgrim_youth_holiday_sweet_shop_58/SarCam5183/candy)

If you need assistance or call Sarah Mondays/Thursdays: 10:30am - 4:30pm at 909-622-1373. All profits go to benefit youth programs at Pilgrim Congregational Church.

*Thank you for supporting youth programs at Pilgrim Congregational Church!!!*

## TRUSTEES ~ SCRIP



Download our RaiseRight mobile app



When shopping for Christmas gifts and for your Hand in Hand families considering ordering SCRIP today! You can get much of your shopping done while supporting Pilgrim Church ministries all from the comfort of home. You can make orders, or refill cards at the Raise Right website or download the app and register through your phone or tablet.

The profits from each order will apply to Pilgrim Church once a month. You will be responsible for any charges (shipping/transaction fees.) Raise right customer service is available to assist as well. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 909-622-1373.

*Thank you for supporting the scrip program for all these years!*



## CHURCH NEWS



With the holidays upon us we gather in love and gratitude while missing those who can not join us. Visit the Card Corner each Sunday to send a message to those we miss letting them know we are thinking of them this holiday season and always. You will find cards, pens and member addresses at the Card Corner.

  
Hanging  
of the  
Greens

Saturday  
**Dec  
2nd**  
8:30am

### Office Closure Notice

The office will be closing at 11am on Friday, December 22nd and will be closed Monday, December 25th for Christmas.

The office will be closed Monday, January 1st & Tuesday, January 2nd for New Years.

Morning Devotionals will be suspended: December 25th & January 1st.



**CHRISTMAS<sup>EVE</sup> service**  
CELEBRATING JESUS

6:30pm  
*Prelude Music*  
~~~  
7:00pm
Candlelight Service
~~~  
8:00pm  
*Cookies & Cider Reception*



We joyfully welcomed **Arthur Truman** officially as a member of Pilgrim Congregational Church on Sunday, November 12th during Worship Service. We are blessed to have Arthur as a member of our Pilgrim Family.

*A New Day Dawns ~ Psalm 97:11*

**COMING UP IN THE NEW YEAR...**



Pomona Inland Valley  
MLK PROJECT  
Honoring  
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

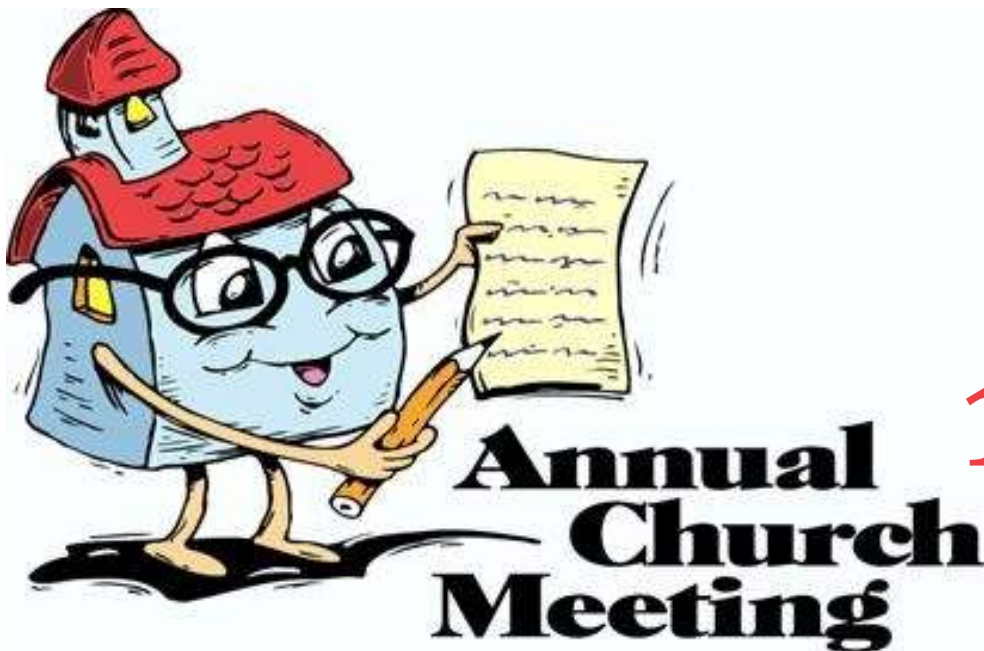
BELOVED COMMUNITY  
***"Let us live together in peace and  
love in a Beloved Community."***

JOIN US  
Sunday, January 14, 2024, at 6pm

at Pilgrim Congregational Church  
600 N, Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA. 91767

Keynote Speaker:  
Regina Brown ~ Evangelist & Motivational Speaker

Youth Social Justice Awards (ages:15-19), Local Performing Artists,  
Zennie Cummings Community Support Award, Local MLK Vendors



**January**

**28th**

**11:30am**



# WHAT WE DO, WHY & HOW

## Church Boards Informational Fair

### *Calling all Church Board Chairs~*

The Nominating Committee is hosting a **Board Fair on Sunday, January 7th, 2024 during Fellowship Hour.** We are asking all church boards and committees to have a representative available to sit at a table to provide information to church members. We are also asking the flyers be provided describing the board functions as well as the tasks of the board members. If you need the flyers printed by the church office please email it Susan Newton ASAP, no later than December 17th. As you know December is a very busy month and we don't want to overwhelm the office staff. This is a great opportunity to inform our membership about Pilgrim's ministries.

*Thank You,  
Susan Newton, Nominating Committee Chair*

### Mark Your Calendars

**Church Boards Informational Fair  
Sunday, January 7th, 2024  
(During Fellowship Hour)**

All members are invited to attend an informational event to learn about all the boards and committees. You may find that niche that meets your interests.

If you have any questions as a board or attending member please contact:

**Susan Newton**

Email: [sa.newton@verizon.net](mailto:sa.newton@verizon.net)

Cell: 909-263-6006



### What About the Bulletin Board?

Here at Pilgrim we are fortunate to have so many ways to communicate with each other and the community. We have our newsletter, The Pilgrim's Progress, our Weekend Update and Special Events E-blasts and emails, social media via Facebook, Zoom & YouTube and of course... our Bulletin Boards. In the front hallway, near the church office, you will find the Community News that contains information on services and events around Pomona Valley. The Pilgrim News Board shares Pilgrim members' life events they want to share with their Pilgrim Family. The Christian Education Board shares events and programs sponsored by

the Christian Education Board & Youth. Then there is the Pilgrim Welcome Bulletin Board. This one highlights everything you need to know at Pilgrim and is often the first thing that catches the eyes of guests coming in that may be visiting Pilgrim for the first time for an event be it a Pilgrim Sponsored event or a facility rental. This board includes our worship service details, communication opportunities, Usher/Acolyte as well as Fellowship Hour Calendars and a current month focused calendar.

Did you know that there is designated space for each board, guild and groups to post their news and events? Each labeled section belongs to the titled board and we encourage board's to update and decorate their section as they see fit. The office staff tries to put up current news from the newsletter, and we can add fliers and such on request, but do not assume we know what you want on your section, especially if there is a change or update to an event or program that changes what went out in the newsletter. This is a great way to not only keep members up-to-date on church information, but also to attract visitors to attend our events, programs and ministries. If you have questions please contact Sarah at 909-622-1373, M/W/Th, 10:30am to 4:30pm or see her Sundays after Worship Service.



## A CHURCH THAT PRAYS TOGETHER, STAYS TOGETHER



If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please send your Band of Prayer requests to Sue Shedd via email at [saintshedd@roadrunner.com](mailto:saintshedd@roadrunner.com) or leave a message at 909-622-1373.

The NACCC Prayer Circle is a weekly gathering of fellow Congregationalists from around the country who meet by Zoom for 30 minutes to pray for local, regional, national, and international concerns as well as follow up with one another. The prayer time is led by a facilitator, but opened to the group as well. To join in 8pm Monday evening prayer circle visit: <https://www.naccc.org/naccc-prayer-circle/>

### SPECIAL THANK YOU!



If you know someone who would love to receive a card or note from Pilgrim Auxiliary, please submit their name and address to [sarah@pilgrimchurchpomona.com](mailto:sarah@pilgrimchurchpomona.com) or call 909-622-1373 and ask for Sarah. These can be a notes of celebration, sympathy, get well or just thinking of you.

*It's always nice to receive a note "Just Because!"*

### WAYS TO GIVE

#### ONLINE



Visit our link

<https://pushpay.com/g/pilgrimchurchpomona>

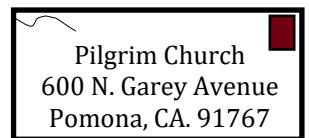
#### MOBILE



Text

PILGRIMCHURCH  
To 833-813-9522

#### MAIL



Send a Check



When you send "PILGRIMCHURCH" to 833-813-9522 you will receive a one-time reply containing a link to give to PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (1msg/request). Please be aware that Msg & Data rates may apply. For full Terms & Conditions please visit <http://pushpay.com/terms>. For the Privacy Policy please visit <https://pushpay.com/privacy>. For help reply HELP or STOP to cancel. **If you have any questions please call the church office at 909-622-1373.**

# SUNDAY SERVICE NOTES

**December 3rd, 2023**

**1st Sunday of Advent ~ Communion**

**Holiday Marketplace**

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn  
Worship Assistant: Rev. Keith Eades  
Lesson One: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Lesson Two: Isaiah 64:1-9  
Advent Candle: The Selters Family  
Theme: The Intimacy of God's Spirit  
Sermon: God's Holy Hiddenness  
Color: Purple  
Anthem: All Praise To Thee-Elaine Hagenberg  
Offertory: Debbie Dey  
Fellowship Host: Diaconate  
Luncheon Host: Christian Education & Youth  
Ushers: Susan Shedd, Sharon Willison,  
Lisa Keepers & Michael Lawing  
Acolytes: Isabella & Jasmine

This morning's flowers are thankfully provided: *"In appreciation to ALL who have so generously dedicated their time, talents, and treasures this year to Pilgrim Congregational Church."*

**December 10th, 2023**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn  
Worship Assistant: Mrs. Susan Shedd  
Lesson One: 2 Peter 3:8-15  
Lesson Two: Isaiah 40:1-11  
Advent Candle: The Prendergast Family  
Theme: Old Prophecies for a New Day  
Sermon: The Word that Speaks Again  
Color: Purple  
Anthem: Good Christian Men, Rejoice-Dan Forrest  
Offertory: Steve O'Donnell  
Fellowship Host: Patience Guild  
Ushers: Sylvia Osborn, Guadalupe Ocegueda,  
Jenni Whyte & Lorraine Rogers  
Acolytes: Samantha & Emmanuel

This morning's flowers are lovingly provided by Cedric & Lorraine Rogers: *"Dear Pilgrim Family, as Tiny Tim said in A Christmas Carol: 'God Bless Us Every One.'"*

**December 17th 2023**

**3rd Sunday of Advent**

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn  
Worship Assistant: Mr. Ron Vanyo  
Lesson One: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
Lesson Two: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11  
Advent Candle: The Stillions Family  
Theme: The Blessing of Good News  
Sermon: A Blessed People  
Color: Purple  
Anthem: Hark the Herald Angels Sing-Dan Forrest  
Offertory: Patrick Blackwell  
Fellowship Host: Friendship Guild  
Ushers: Ben & Sue Selters & Janet McBride  
Acolytes: Madelyn & Kodie

The colorful poinsettias beautifying our Sanctuary have been dedicated by our Pilgrim Church Members & Friends. Thank you to everyone who provided these meaningful dedications.

**December 24th, 2023**

**4th Sunday of Advent**

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn  
Worship Assistant: Miss Berlyne Stillions  
Lesson 1: Romans 16:25-27  
Lesson 2: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
Advent Candle: Guadalupe Ocegueda, Dulce Ruiz & Emmanuel Rickards-Ruiz  
Theme: God's Spirit in a Concrete World  
Sermon: The God of History  
Color: White  
Anthem: The First Noel-Dan Forrest  
Offertory: Ding Dong Merrily on High Camp Kirkland  
Fellowship Host: Sherry Glab  
Ushers: Meggen Olson, Christine & Ron Vanyo  
Acolytes: Preston & Charlie

**December 24th, 2023**

**Christmas Eve Service: Nativity of the Lord**

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn  
Worship Assistant: Dr. Fay Ellwood  
The Psalm: Psalm 96  
Christmas Scripture: Luke 2:1-20  
Christmas Candle: TBD  
Theme: A New World Order  
Meditation: A New Kind of King  
Color: White

Special Music for Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
Cookie & Cider Reception by Membership Board

**December 31st, 2023**

**1st Sunday after Christmas Day**

**New Year's Eve**

Presiding Minister: Dr. Patrick Horn  
Worship Assistant: TBD  
Lesson One: Galatians 4:4-7  
Lesson Two: Isaiah 61:10-62:3  
Theme: Glorified by God  
Sermon: A Crown of Beauty  
Color: White  
Fellowship Host: Library Committee  
Ushers: Ben & Sue Selters & Janet McBride  
Acolytes: Madelyn & Kodie

This morning's flowers are lovingly provided by the **Southworth Family**: *"In loving memory of Betty & Bill Southworth, from John, Steve, Donald & David."*

**The boutonnieres for December are provided by The Mengle**

**Family**: *"In loving memory of Dr. H.R. Mengle."*

**Liturgical Notes by Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn:**

**Purple** was originally associated with royalty because it was a more expensive color to dye, and it was used to welcome the coming of a king. It also evokes pain and suffering. Purple symbolizes fasting, faith, patience, and trust. It is the liturgical color used during the seasons of penance, Advent, and Lent. For Advent, purple symbolizes the impending birth of Jesus while foreshadowing his death.

**White** symbolizes purity, innocence, and birth. It is associated with the brightness of the heavens during daytime and was used to symbolize the purity of heaven and the angels. It also came to be associated with joy, celebration, and peace. White is the liturgical color of Christmas, Epiphany, and Easter.

**To Listen to the Sunday Service on Your Phone:**

Dial +1-669-900-9128. Then when prompted, enter the Meeting ID: 330 195 900, followed by the pound (#) sign.

**To View Sunday Service Online:**

Visit Facebook Page or YouTube Channel, Pilgrim Congregational Church Pomona.

# December

## WEEKLY / MONTHLY

**EVERY MORNING, MON. - FRI.**  
Daily Devotional  
9am via Facebook Live and Zoom

**EVERY SUNDAY**  
9am – Adult Sunday School  
9am – Gather & Greet  
10am – Worship Service (In-person & Online)  
Sunday School for 1st – 7th grade  
(following Children’s Message)  
11am—Fellowship Hour  
& Flashpoint

**EVERY TUESDAY**  
Twilight Bible Study  
5:45pm via Facebook Live & YouTube

**EVERY 1ST TUESDAY  
(OCTOBER - JUNE)**  
Pilgrim Auxiliary  
Meeting, Program & Luncheon

**EVERY 1ST WEDNESDAY**  
7pm – Church Council Meeting

**EVERY FRIDAY**  
Men’s Breakfast ~ Roberta’s at 8am

**EVERY 3RD SUNDAY**  
11:30am ~ Board Meetings

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 2nd**  
Hanging of the Greens

**December 3rd**  
Advent Begins  
Christmas Marketplace

**December 5th**  
Pilgrim Auxiliary  
Meeting/Program/Lunch

**December 6th**  
Church Council Meeting

**December 9th**  
Christmas by Candlelight

**December 10th**  
Crew Meeting

**December 13th**  
Library Committee

**December 19th**  
Christmas Program Set up  
& Dress Rehearsal

**December 20th**  
Christmas Dinner & Program

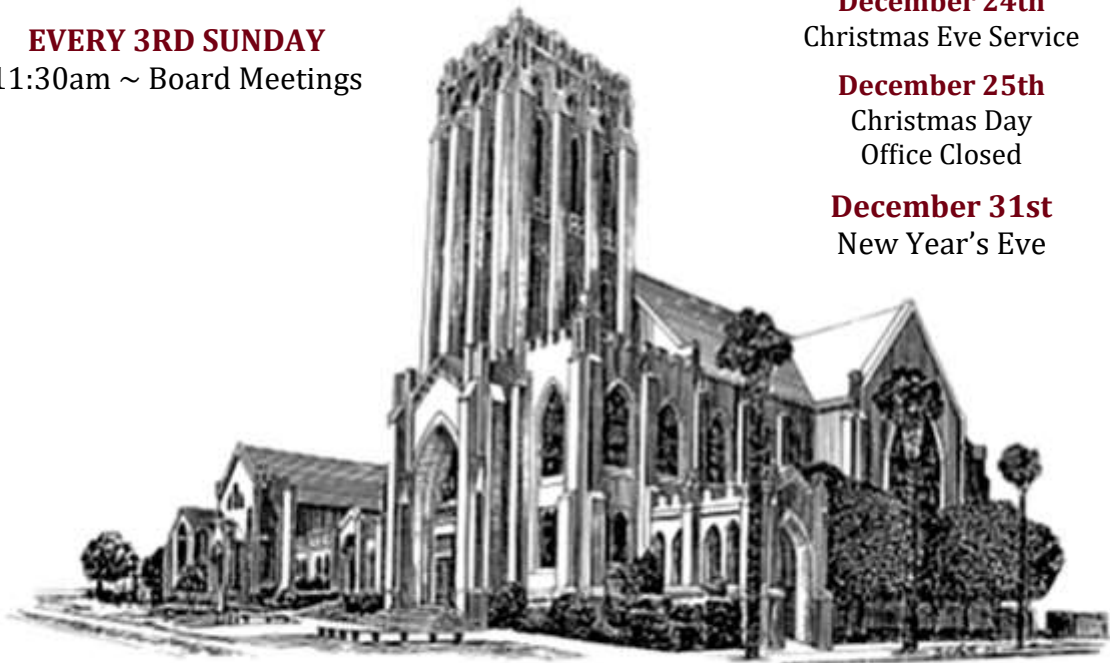
**December 21st**  
Choir Rehearsal

**December 22nd**  
Office closes at 11am

**December 24th**  
Christmas Eve Service

**December 25th**  
Christmas Day  
Office Closed

**December 31st**  
New Year’s Eve





Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

# December

1  
8:00am  
Men's Breakfast  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional

2  
Market Place-set up  
12:00pm NA Group  
8:30am  


3 Advent Begins  
9:00am ~  
Adult Sunday School  
Gather & Greet  
9:45am Worship Service  
3:30pm Sigma Chi Meeting



4  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
10:00am  
Alanon "Serenity"  
6:30pm AA  
7:30pm  
Mountainside  
Rehearsal

5 Articles Due  
10:30am  
Pilgrim Auxiliary  
Meeting & Program  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
9:30am CEA/HOW  
5:45pm  
Twilight Bible Study  
7:30pm AA

6  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
6:00pm Basketball  
7:30pm NA Support



7  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
7:30pm AA Mother  
Group

8  
8:00am  
Men's Breakfast  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional

9  
12:00pm NA Group  
  
6:30pm  


10  
9:00am  
Adult Sunday School  
Gather & Greet  
9:45am Worship Service  
11:00am Program Rehearsal  
11:00am Fellowship Hour  
12:00pm CREW Meeting  
3:30pm Sigma Chi Meeting  
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

11  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
10:00am  
Alanon "Serenity"  
6:30pm AA  
6:30pm  
Mountainside Board  
Meeting & Rehearsal

12  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
9:30am CEA/HOW  
5:45pm  
Twilight Bible Study  
7:30pm AA

13  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
9:50am  
Library Committee  
6:00pm Basketball  
7:30pm NA Support

14  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
7:30pm  
AA Mother Group

15  
8:00am  
Men's Breakfast  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
7:00pm  
Mountainside  
Rehearsal

16  
12:00pm NA Group  
Meeting  
3:00pm  
Mountainside  
Concert

17  
9:00am Adult Sunday School  
& Gather & Greet  
9:45am Worship Service  
11:00am Fellowship Hour  
11:30am  
Program Set-Up & Rehearsal  
3:30pm Sigma Chi Meeting



18  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
10:00am  
Alanon "Serenity"  
6:30pm AA  
7:30pm  
Mountainside  
Rehearsal

19  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
9:30am CEA/HOW  
5:45pm  
Twilight Bible Study  
6:00pm  
Program  
Dress Rehearsal  
7:30pm AA

20  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
6:00pm Basketball  
6:30pm  
Christmas Dinner  
& Program  
7:30pm NA Support

21  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
7:30pm  
AA Mother Group  
8:00am  
Hand in Hand  
Distribution Day  
7:30pm  
Choir Rehearsal

22  
8:00am  
Men's Breakfast  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
  
Office Closes at  
11am


23  
12:00pm NA Group

24 Christmas Eve  
9:00am  
Adult Sunday School  
Gather & Greet  
9:45am Worship Service  
11:00am Fellowship Hour



7pm service with  
a prelude at  
6:30pm and  
followed by a  
Cider Reception

25 Office Closed  
10:00am  
Alanon "Serenity"  
6:30pm AA



26  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
9:30am CEA/HOW  
5:45pm  
Twilight Bible Study  
7:30pm AA

27  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
6:00pm Basketball  
7:30pm NA Support

28  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional  
7:30pm  
AA Mother Group

29  
8:00am  
Men's Breakfast  
9:00am  
Morning Devotional

30  
12:00pm NA Group

31 New Year's Eve  
9:00am Adult Sunday School  
9:00am Gather & Greet  
9:45am Worship Service  
11:00am Fellowship Hour



Merry  
Christmas!

