

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

December 2024



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

Music Dept.

Ms. Susan Winckler - Director

Mr. Bruce Jones - Organist

Ms. Nancy Rodewald - Children's Music

Office Staff

Mrs. Leila Alcalá - Bookkeeper

Ms. Natalie Brown - Admin. Assistant

Mrs. Sarah Campbell - Office Assistant

Mrs. Megan Parnell - Librarian

Mr. Brian Cochran - Mktg. & Media Mgr.
& Events Coordinator

Custodial Staff

Mr. James Stevenson

Mr. Christian Campbell

Mr. Laurence Holmes

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

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Pilgrim Congregational Church

600 N. Garey Avenue

Pomona, CA. 91767

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Facebook & YouTube: Pilgrim Congregational Church Pomona

MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR MINISTER

Blessed Mother

*"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."
~ Luke 1:42*

In our Protestant tradition we have a long and persistent history of downplaying or ignoring the role of Mary, the mother of Jesus. The reasons given for this include perceived excesses in the Catholic and Orthodox traditions of exalting Mary's role without the biblical support for doing so.

This Protestant response is an unfortunate *overreaction* to the rituals and practices of the Catholic Church. We have so diminished Mary's role that we tend to think of her as a secondary character in the story to other, more important figures, like John the Baptist or the disciples. This diminished role is not supported by the text. Mary is venerated by her cousin Elizabeth in the Gospel of Luke as blessed among all women.

This blessing is directly connected to Mary's faith in God. She is venerated as the mother of Jesus precisely because she believed that God had called her to be the mother of a child that would liberate all flesh from suffering and oppression.

What role ought Mary to play for us in a tradition that has ignored her for so long? Might we be able to recover and reclaim a role for Mary that rightfully exalts her as the Blessed Mother of the Christ? And what might that recovered role look like?

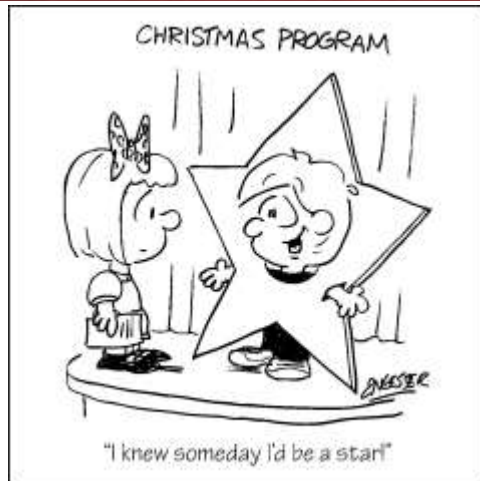


Perhaps Christmas should be a time when we Protestants more thoroughly acknowledge the role of the faithful mother of Jesus. She is, for us, not just a model of faith and motherhood, but worthy of our reverence because, like other figures in the Bible, she was called by God to serve. She is the Blessed Mother of the Christ, the material vessel of God's presence on earth.

In this Christmas Season, let us sing and celebrate with gratitude this special mother. When we sing of and celebrate the Birth of the Savior, let us remember that the child was born to a real mother with hopes and dreams and love for her child, the Blessed Mother of Christ.

*Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn
Sr. Minister*

HOLY HILARITY



MESSAGE FROM THE MODERATOR



In his presentations to the NACCC, Alan Roxburgh, explained that decreasing church attendance and the exodus of young people from the church is related to a crisis in the larger Western culture. The story we have lived by (with superior technical knowledge and hard work, we will succeed.) has come unraveled. In the wider culture, people are less certain that higher education and hard work will make a difference.

Roxburgh says the answers to the church's crisis will not be found in the "Ivory Towers" of educational institutions or denominational leaders. The programs and ideas that have worked for the church in the past no longer work as well. There were those in Judea and among the exiles who were focused on returning to Jerusalem and rebuilding the temple, and after Jesus' resurrection and return to heaven, the apostles stayed in Jerusalem and frequently visited the temple. Roxburgh said that the answers today will be found by believers "on the ground" in their communities, and instead of a prepackaged program, he suggested "practices" for believers. These practices are "Dwelling," "Discerning," and "Experimentation."

"Dwelling" for Roxburgh is intentionally identifying with our community, sitting around tables with the peoples of the community and listening to them with the desire to understand their needs and hopes.

"Discerning" refers to coming to understand how the Holy Spirit is working around us. The church is not declining because God is not working. God is always at work to reach out to the peoples of the world to draw them from sin and death to life. It is not easy to discern how and where the Spirit is working, and when we sense the Spirit may be working, we are not always certain.

Experimentation is trying new ways to address the needs of the members of our community as they understand them with the good news of Jesus the Christ. If the approaches and programs of the past are no longer working with our young people or the people of our community, we need to look for new ways to introduce them to Jesus. Roxburgh said that with one church group that he was with for an extended period of time, he gave a homework assignment. He asked the people if they would be willing to talk with their grandchildren, or the grandchildren of someone they knew, about what was important to them and why they thought the church was not meeting their needs. When he met with them again, they told him that the young people had been glad to talk, and were pleased that someone had asked them what they thought.

A few months ago, our pastor and others met with a group of younger adults in our church for a similar purpose. A number of our members have been working as the Pilgrim Crew to help chart a course for our congregation. They have asked us to consider their Jubilee Directive. In January we will discuss this and a proposed budget that, if adopted, can lead to hiring a new Associate Minister to help design and implement new programs. A search committee has discussed a job description and we hope will soon be reviewing applications. This is experimentation. Experimentation is not new to Pilgrim Congregational Church. Cynthia and I have been here maybe 14 or 15 years, and in that time a number of changes have been made in the order of worship and programs of the church. As disciples of Jesus we should be continually looking for more effective ways to introduce people to Jesus, and to challenge them to join in the ministry of His church.

~Keith Eades, Moderator

Pilgrim's Progress ~ December 2024



INVITATION FROM PILGRIM AUXILIARY PRESIDENT



Join us for the
PILGRIM AUXILIARY
Meeting, Program & Luncheon
1st Tuesday of the month

10:00am ~ Meeting
11:30am ~ Program
12:30pm ~ Luncheon

Everyone is cordially invited to attend the program beginning at 11:30am in Pilgrim Hall. Plan to remain for luncheon to enjoy delicious food and fellowship.

January 7th, 2025
Traveling in Wales
Reverend Dr. Patrick Horn
will be sharing the wonderful summer trip he enjoyed with his family in Wales.





Dear Pilgrim Church Members and Friends,

Once again, on behalf of Pilgrim Auxiliary, a very special “thank you” to everyone who dedicated Sunday Sanctuary Flowers and Boutonnieres this past year. You *are* very special people! Each and every heartwarming dedication provided an inspiring addition to our Sunday morning worship services. I sincerely hope you will join me again this next year in continuing this longstanding tradition.

Sunday bouquets will be \$42 each; our monthly boutonnieres will be \$26. Please complete the form displayed, and send it with your payment to the church office by the first of the month prior to your Dedication: Attention Bonnie Seath. If you would like to take the arrangement home after the service, please be sure to check the “WILL TAKE” box, otherwise your arrangement will be delivered to one of our homebound members.

Bonnie Seath, Flower Chairperson

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

SANCTUARY FLOWERS ORDER FORM

October 2024 through August 2025

Bouquet \$42	Date_____	Number of Bouquets____	\$_____
Boutonnieres \$26	Month_____		\$_____
		TOTAL	\$_____

Return this **order form & check** to **Bonnie Seath, Pilgrim Auxiliary**
(mailbox in church office)

Dedication is to read: (Please print)

Name_____ Address_____

City_____ State _____ Zip_____

Phone_____

WILL TAKE ARRANGEMENT_____ or **WILL NOT TAKE ARRANGEMENT**_____

FROM THE LIBRARIAN

Due to the busy holiday schedule, the library committee will combine our November and December meetings. The next Library Committee meeting will be Wednesday, December 4th at 9:30am. Of course, we will continue to have new books for your reading pleasure as well as many tried and true Christmas titles. If you are interested in new cookie recipes or would like to read Christmas stories or learn the origins of our songs and customs, you can find them in our library.



Recent acquisitions include :

In Too Deep by **Lee Child**,
Den of Iniquity by **J.A. Jance**,
The Great Hippopotamus Hotel by **Alexander McCall Smith**,
Counting Miracles by **Nicholas Sparks**.

In non-fiction, famed chef **Ina Garten** has a memoir out, *Be Ready When the Luck Happens*.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, February 16th

Library Coffee

12:30pm in Pilgrim Hall

Speaker: Constance Cassinelli (author of Caro Nicola)

Stop by the library and see all the good books we have for you.

Megan

CHOIR PROFILES



Introducing **Vicky Campos**; Vicky (they/them) holds a BA in Music with an emphasis in Vocal Performance from the University of La Verne. Vicky first met many of Pilgrim Congregational choir members while singing with the Mountainside Master Chorale. Previously, Vicky has been involved with music ministry at Covina UMC and Ontario First UMC. Outside of church, Vicky sings with Profectus Chamber Choir, which performs a cappella choral music. In addition to that Vicky also sings with SoCal mix, which performs a cappella barbershop harmony. Vicky resides in Fontana, CA where they work for the San Bernardino County Library. Please be sure to greet Vicky with a warm welcome to Pilgrim Congregational Church on Sundays as it has already been an honor and a pleasure to have them singing with the choir.





Music Notes

from the Choir Director: Susan Winckler



Pilgrim Choir has a treat in store for you on Christmas Eve. They will be performing the whole Vivaldi *Gloria* with a string quartet for the Pre-service music at 6:30pm. And during the service they will be singing some of your favorite Christmas carols in noteworthy (pun intended) arrangements with the strings. We are also hoping that the choir will be wearing their new robes and stoles (made possible, in part, due to the generosity of the Diaconate Board.)

Christmas by Candlelight 2024



PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 600 N. Garey Avenue
Pomona, CA. 91767

Join us for dinner and a show!
Sat., Dec. 7th at 6pm

Tickets and Harmonia memberships available from Betsy Bowering on Sundays during Fellowship Hour.

Suggested donation: \$40
Discounts available with Harmonia Membership.

Lo, How a Rose

Mountainside Master Chorale
Matthew Miles, Artistic Director

Classical Christmas
With ChamberOrchestra

Saturday, December 14, 2024, 3pm
Pilgrim Congregational Church
600 N. Garey Ave., Pomona


Tickets may be purchased at the door or on website: www.mountainsidemasterchorale.org
Tickets: \$25 - Seniors: \$22 - Students: 18 & younger: \$10
Pilgrims who host: FREE



Mark your calendars for these musical events:

- December 7th ~ Christmas by Candlelight
- December 14th ~ Classical Christmas
- Dec. 24th ~ Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- June 1st ~ Choir Sunday

Hand in Hand 2024



Many, many thanks to all who have already stopped by the Hand in Hand table to see how you can help make our 7 families have an extra special Christmas this year! If you haven't come by, please stop by to ask questions or see how you can help.

Here are some of the ways you can still help Hand in Hand

- * We have several requests for bikes - mostly for 5 to 8 year olds. We include a helmet with each bicycle.
- * Make a donation to help buy missing food, gift cards or special gifts that haven't been covered yet.
- * Bring gently used toys, jackets, clothing, that have been outgrown or are no longer used. We set up a room for our families to shop for items that may not have been included on their wish list. Any items not chosen will be added to rummage after distribution day.
- * Make 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.

Please stop by the Hand in Hand table to find out how you can still help. If you have adopted a family or family member, please bring your gifts to the Hand in Hand Table by Sunday, December 15th, 2024 so we can prepare for distribution day.

Whether you choose to make a cash donation, adopt a person or family, or buy food or other items, all your help is most appreciated!

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

Joy & Peace from the Hand-in-Hand Team



MEMBERSHIP BOARD

Pilgrim Workshops

Sign up at Membership@pilgrimchurchpomona.com

Questions: Call 909-622-1373 (M-F, 9am to 4pm)



Knit & Crochet Workshop Sunday, January 12th at Noon

Leading the class will be
Megan Parnell

Join us for an Introduction to Knitting and Crochet Workshop. The class will include supplies, basics for beginners, step-by-step instructions and tips for the more advanced. Light refreshments will be served.

CHRISTMAS EVE



Tuesday, December 24th

Pilgrim Congregational Church
600 N. Garey Avenue, Pomona

6:30pm ~ Special Music

7pm ~ Candlelight Service

Followed by a Cookies & Cider Reception in Pilgrim Hall



PILGRIM YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT

PILGRIM YOUTH DECEMBER SERVICE PROJECT

HELP US DECORATE OUR

MITTEN TREE!

DECEMBER 1ST - DECEMBER 20TH



The Pilgrim Youth are serving the Pomona community by collecting winter clothing. Please bring items to the collection box in the gym or see Christine Vanyo for donation drop off & questions. Items will be delivered to the **Pomona CAPE Foundation**, a local non-profit for cultural awareness & education that will distribute the items to those in the Pomona community in need.

Please bring in clean, new and gently used (teen/adult sizes):

COATS	SWEATSHIRTS
SWEATERS	HOODIES
SCARVES	GLOVES
NEW SOCKS	BEANIES

NAPF/HOPE FUNDRAISER



Pilgrim Youth Holiday Sweets 2024

See's Candies Online Store

OPEN NOW TO DECEMBER 6th

Order your favorite sweets to accent your holiday events or have delivered to friends and family for a sweet holiday gift. Profits will go towards the NAPF/HOPE Conference 2025 in St. Louis, Missouri. See Christine Vanyo or any member of the Board of Christian Education if you have questions or need assistance.

Last day to order is December 6th

Visit the link below to shop our online store.

https://www.yumraising.com/secure/pilgrimcc_pilgrim_youth_holiday_sweets_78/PilChr3468/candy



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

*You are invited to
Pilgrim Congregational Church's Christmas Dinner & Program,
and bring your friends and family!*

Dinner is hosted by Pilgrim Auxiliary & the Program is presented by the Board of Christian Education and performed by Pilgrim children and youth. This is a wonderfully fun & spiritual evening that serves as remembrance of why we celebrate Christmas by filling our hearts with joy, hope, love and peace as we prepare for Jesus' arrival.

Pilgrim Youth Present **THE FIRST NOEL**

**Wednesday, December 18th
7:00pm**

Join us before the show at 6pm for a special
Christmas Dinner hosted by the Pilgrim Auxiliary.

Dinner: \$15 (\$7 for 7 yrs. & younger)
Show: FREE

Please RSVP for dinner by December 11th.
Call 909-622-1373 or email PilgrimOffice@pilgrimchurchpomona.com
Please let us know of any dietary restrictions.
Pilgrim Congregational Church
600 N. Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA. 91767



HOLIDAY FUN AT PILGRIM



Cider with Santa
Sun., Dec. 8th
11:30am

Santa & Mrs. Claus are making a special visit to Pilgrim to join us for Fellowship Hour for Cider or Juice and to take pictures with our Pilgrim Family.

Winter is coming and it will be filled with **JOY, HOPE. LOVE & PEACE.** You have likely already read about many of the holiday events that are coming up. Be sure not to miss all the opportunities for fun fellowship as we prepare for the arrival of Jesus. There are opportunities to serve, give back, support Pilgrim youth, enjoy holiday music, visit and get pictures with Santa Claus and even get some holiday shopping done. Please join us for what you can and invite your friends and family for some fantastic fellowship.

All are welcomed home at Pilgrim Congregational Church.

December 7th
Christmas by Candlelight
(Lo' How a Rose)

December 8th
Cider with Santa & Mrs. Claus

December 14th
Mountainside Concert
(Classical Christmas)

December 15th
Christmas Marketplace

December 18th
Christmas Dinner & Pageant

December 24th
Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service

Pilgrim Congregational Church's
Christmas Marketplace

DEC 15	Pilgrim Church 600 N. Garey Avenue Pomona, CA. 91767	Join us! 11am-2pm
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Gifts, Holiday Décor & More...

Reservations for vendors are now being accepted, \$25 a table. Please call Bonnie at 909-953-2577 or email bonniehbd@verizon.net to reserve your spot today.

Remember to invite your friends and neighbors!



SCRIP FOR CHRISTMAS

Get your holiday shopping done early, order your scrip from Pilgrim today!



Download our RaiseRight mobile app



Christmas Shopping with Scrip while supporting Pilgrim Church Ministries. *All in the palm of your hand if you shop with Scrip*

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 avoiding the holiday rush and support Pilgrim Church ministries at the same time. You can make orders, or refill cards at the Raise Right website or download the app and register through your phone or tablet. See instructions below:

1. Go to the Raise Right website - www.raiseright.com or download the RaiseRight app.
2. Click Join a Program
3. Enter Enrollment Code: 535323LC11L99 (case sensitive). This code allows the profit from the sale to be applied to Pilgrim.
4. Create your personal account following the steps.
5. Go to Account in upper right hand corner.
6. Payment Options is located on left side. Strongly suggest you use a credit card and add the information at check out.
7. Order items and follow steps to place and check out your order.

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.

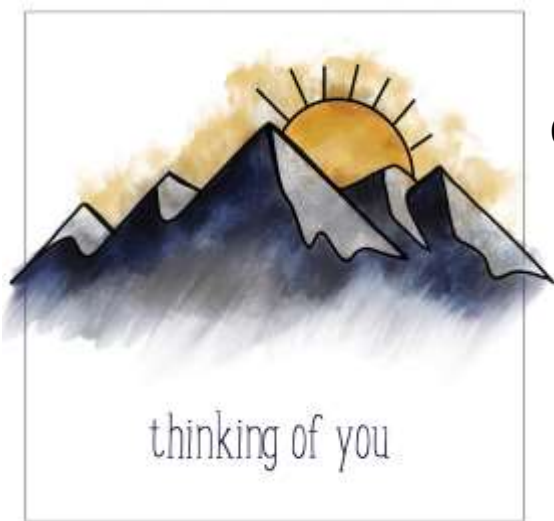
PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

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 or leave a message at 909-622-1373.

CARD CORNER



Every 3rd Sunday during Fellowship Hour, the Card Corner will be available with cards and addresses for Pilgrim members to share a friendly note with our families out of state, are home bound or we just haven't seen in awhile. Stop by and write a card to let our Pilgrims know we are thinking about them.

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

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

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.**

SERVICE NOTES

December 1st

First Sunday of Advent

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn
Worship Assistant: Rev. Keith Eades
Lesson 1: Jeremiah 33:14-16
Lesson 2: Luke 21:25-36
Candle of Hope: Dawn & Armondo Piercy
Theme: "The Hope of Our Redemption"
Sermon: "Your Redemption Is Drawing Near"
Color: Purple
Fellowship Host: Diaconate
Ushers: Sylvia Osborn, Guadalupe Ocegueda, Jenni Whyte, & Lorraine Rogers
Acolytes: Samantha Campbell & Armondo Piercy
This morning's flowers are lovingly provided by: Marria Casner, "In appreciation of wonderful Pilgrim."

December 8th

Second Sunday of Advent

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn
Worship Assistant: Miss Isabella Marcelano
Lesson 1: Malachi 3:1-4
Lesson 2: Luke 3:1-6
Candle of Peace: Angel Gomez, Juan, Isabella & Jasmine Marcelano
Theme: "Salvation For All"
Sermon: "All Flesh"
Color: Purple
Fellowship Host: Patience Guild
Ushers: Ben & Sue Selters, Janet McBride & Axford Manness
Acolytes: Kodie Gray & Emmanuel Rickards-Ruiz
This morning's flowers are thankfully provided by:
1. The Mingle Family, "With thanks for our office and custodial staff."
2. Santa's Elves, "Thanking Dane Vose for his weekly photos of our Sunday Sanctuary Flowers and Ushers. We appreciate you."

December 15th

Third Sunday of Advent

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn
Worship Assistant: TBD
Lesson 1: Zephaniah 3:14-20
Lesson 2: Luke 3:7-18
Candle of Joy: The McCormick Family
Theme: "Jesus The Messiah"
Sermon: "The Anointed One"
Color: Purple
Fellowship Host: Friendship Guild
Ushers: Meggen Olson, Christine & Ron Vanyo, and Dulce Ruiz
Acolytes: Preston Dague & Charlie McCormick
This morning's flowers are lovingly provided by Janet Beech, "Pilgrim - My second family!"

The colorful poinsettias beautifying our Sanctuary December 15th through Christmas have been dedicated by our Pilgrim Church Members and Friends. Heartfelt thanks to everyone who provided these meaningful dedications.
Boutonnieres for **December** are dedicated to everyone who worships at Pilgrim Congregational Church during this holiday season. "Happy Holidays."

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. Then enter Passcode 1887, followed #.

To View Sunday Service Online:

Visit Facebook Page or YouTube Channel at: Pilgrim Congregational Church Pomona.

December 22nd

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn
Worship Assistant: Mrs. Jenni Whyte
Lessons 1: Micah 5:2-5a
Lesson 2: Luke 1:39-45
Candle of Love: The Whyte Family
Theme: "A Mother's Love"
Sermon: "The Blessed Mary"
Color: Purple
Fellowship Host: Sherry Glab
Ushers: Susan Shedd, Sharon Willison, Lisa Keepers, & Michael Lawing
Acolytes: Isabella & Jasmine Marceleno
Our Sunday Sanctuary Flowers this morning are thankfully provided to Andrew Olson and Bill Parnell for so generously volunteering their time each week to video and live stream our Sunday worship services.

December 24th

Christmas Eve

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn
Worship Assistant: Mr. Jon Olson
Lesson 1: Isaiah 9:2-7
Lesson 2: Luke 3:7-18
Christ Candle: The Stillions Family
Theme: "God Comes To Earth"
Sermon: "A Vulnerable God"
Color: White
Cookie & Cider: Membership Board
Ushers: Sylvia Osborn, Guadalupe Ocegueda, Jenni Whyte, & Lorraine Rogers
Acolytes: Samantha Campbell & Armondo Piercy

December 29th

First Sunday of Christmas

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn
Worship Assistant: Dr. Fay Ellwood
Lesson 1: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26
Lesson 2: Luke 2:41-52
Theme: "Jesus As A Boy"
Sermon: "Being Young"
Color: White
Fellowship Host: Library Committee
Ushers: Ben & Sue Selters, Janet McBride & Axford Manness
Acolytes: Kodie Gray & Emmanuel Rickards-Ruiz
This morning's flowers are thankfully provided,
1. to Susan Winckler, Bruce Jones, and our wonderful Choir: "Your music throughout the year is so magnificent, and we appreciate your beautiful musical contributions to our weekly Sunday worship services."
2. "In appreciation to ALL who have so generously dedicated their time, talents, and treasures this year to Pilgrim Congregational Church."



DECEMBER

WEEKLY / MONTHLY

EVERY MORNING, MON. - FRI.

Daily Devotional

9am via Facebook Live and Zoom

(Devotionals will be ending for the year on Dec. 24th and retuning in 2025 on Jan. 3rd)

EVERY SUNDAY

9am – Adult Sunday School

9am – Gather & Greet

10am – Worship Service (In-person & Online)

Sunday School for 1st – 12th grade
(following Children’s Message)

11am - Fellowship Hour

11:30am - Choir Rehearsal

EVERY TUESDAY

Twilight Bible Study

5:45pm via Facebook Live & YouTube

(There will be no Bible Study on Dec. 24th & Dec. 31st.)

EVERY 1ST TUESDAY

(OCTOBER - JUNE)

Pilgrim Auxiliary

Meeting, Program & Luncheon

EVERY 1ST WEDNESDAY

7pm ~ Church Council Meeting

EVERY THURSDAY

10am ~ Joyful Endeavors

EVERY FRIDAY

Men’s Breakfast ~ Roberta’s at 8am

Rummage Sorting ~ 9am to 11am

EVERY 3RD SUNDAY

11:30am ~ Board Meetings

EVERY 5th SUNDAY

Sunday Funday

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1st

Advent Begins

Youth Christmas Party

December 3rd

Pilgrim Auxiliary Mtg./Program/Lunch
(Christmas Melodies)

December 4th

Library Committee Meeting

Church Council Meeting

December 5th

January Newsletter Articles DUE

December 7th

Christmas by Candlelight

(Lo’ How a Rose)

December 8th

Cider with Santa & Mrs. Claus

December 14th

Mountainside Concert

(Classical Christmas)

December 15th

Christmas Marketplace

CREW Meeting

December 17th

Pageant Dress Rehearsal

December 18th

Christmas Dinner & Pageant

December 19th

Hand-in-Hand Distribution Day

December 20th

Pilgrim Staff Christmas Party
(Office closes at 11:30am)

December 21st

First Day of Winter

December 22nd

Trustees Meeting

December 24th

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service

December 25th

Christmas Day

December 31st

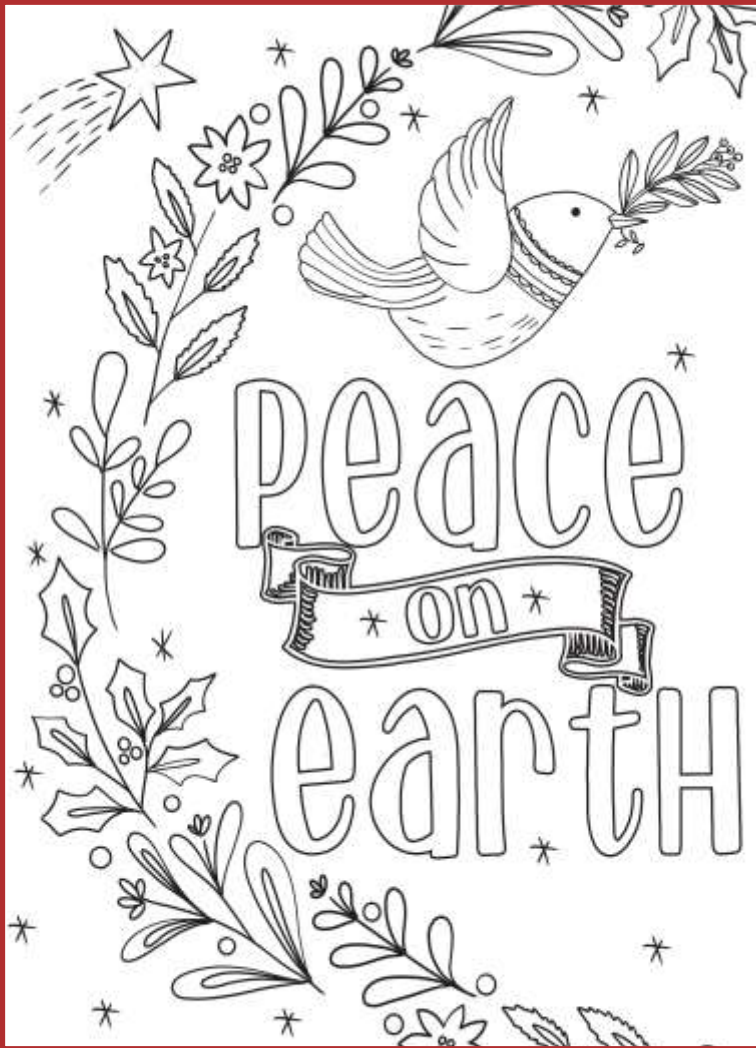
New Year’s Eve

Office CLOSED



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Advent Begins 9am Adult Sunday School Gather & Greet 9:45am Worship Service 11am Fellowship Hour Hand In Hand 11:30pm Choir Rehearsal 4:00pm Sigma Chi Meeting Youth Christmas Party 11:30am Pilgrim Hall 	2 9am Morning Devotional 10am Alanon "Serenity" 7:30pm Mountainside Rehearsal	3 9am Morning Devotional 10am Pilgrim Auxiliary Mtg./Program/Lunch 9:30am CEA/HOW 5:15pm Young Champions Cheerleaders 5:45pm Twilight Bible Study	4 9am Morning Devotional 9:30am Library Committee 6pm Basketball  7:30pm NA Support	5 Newsletter Articles Due 9am Morning Devotional 10am Joyful Endeavors 7:30pm AA Mother Group	6 8am Men's Breakfast 9am Morning Devotional & Rummage Sorting	7 NOON NA Group Meeting 6pm Christmas by Candlelight "Lo' How a Rose" 
8 9am Adult Sunday School Gather & Greet 9:45am Worship Service 11am Fellowship Hour Hand In Hand Diaconate Meeting 3:00pm Moose Meeting 4:00pm Sigma Chi Meeting 11:30pm Choir Rehearsal Cider with Santa 11:30am 	9 9am Morning Devotional 10am Alanon "Serenity" 6:30pm Mountainside Board Meeting & Rehearsal	10 9am Morning Devotional 9:30am CEA/HOW 5:15pm Young Champions Cheerleaders 5:45pm Twilight Bible Study 7:30pm AA	11 9am Morning Devotional 6pm Basketball 7:30pm NA Support	12 9am Morning Devotional 10am Joyful Endeavors 7:30pm AA Mother Group	13 8am Men's Breakfast 9am Morning Devotional & Rummage Sorting 7pm Mountainside Dress Rehearsal	14 NOON NA Group Meeting 3pm Mountainside Concert 
15 9am Adult Sunday School Gather & Greet 9:45am Worship Service 11:30am Meeting Sunday NOON CREW Meeting 4pm Sigma Chi Meeting Pilgrim's Christmas Marketplace 11am to 2pm 	16 9am Morning Devotional 10am Alanon "Serenity"	17 9am Morning Devotional 9:30am CEA/HOW 5pm Pageant Dress Rehearsal 5:15pm Young Champions Cheerleaders 5:45pm Twilight Bible Study 7:30pm AA	18 9am Morning Devotional 6pm Christmas Dinner 7pm Christmas Pageant 7:30pm NA Support 	19 Hand In Hand Distribution Day 9am Morning Devotional 10am Joyful Endeavors 6pm basketball 7:30pm AA Mother Group 	20 Pilgrim Staff Christmas Party Office Closes at 11:30am 8am Men's Breakfast 9am Morning Devotional & Rummage Sorting	21 9:30am NCNW Meeting 10am Christian Business 360 Meeting NOON NA Group Meeting 
22 9am Adult Sunday School Gather & Greet 9:45am Worship Service 11am Fellowship Hour 11:30am Trustees Meeting 4pm Sigma Chi Meeting 11:30pm Choir Rehearsal	23 9am Morning Devotional 10am Alanon "Serenity"	24 Christmas Eve 9am Morning Devotional 9:30am CEA/HOW Office closes at NOON 6:30pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:30pm AA	25 Office Closed 7:30pm NA Support 	26 10am Joyful Endeavors 6pm basketball 7:30pm AA Mother Group	27 8am Men's Breakfast	28 NOON NA Group Meeting
29 9am Adult Sunday School Gather & Greet 9:45am Worship Service 11am Fellowship Hour 4pm Sigma Chi Meeting	30 10am Alanon "Serenity"	31 9:30am CEA/HOW 7:30pm AA New Year's Eve  Office Closed				

FUN WITH FAITH



Advent Reading Plan
Advent begins Dec. 1st
Hope - Joy - Peace - Love

Take time each day to read God's Word as we prepare for the arrival of His greatest gift on Christmas Day.

Hope-		Joy-	
Day 1: Jeremiah 29:10-14		Day 13: Philippians 4:4-9	
Day 2: Romans 15:8-13		Day 14: Psalm 16	
Day 3: 1 Peter 1:3-12		Day 15: James 1:2-18	
Day 4: Hebrews 10:19-39		Day 16: Psalm 30	
Day 5: Psalm 33		Day 17: Luke 2:8-20	
Day 6: Titus 2:11-3:8		Day 18: John 15:1-11	
Peace-		Love-	
Day 7: Isaiah 9:1-7		Day 19: Micah 7:18-20	
Day 8: John 14:1-7, 25-31		Day 20: Romans 8:31-39	
Day 9: John 16:25-33		Day 21: John 3:16-21	
Day 10: Romans 5:1-11		Day 22: 1 John 4:7-21	
Day 11: Ephesians 2:11-22		Day 23: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5	
Day 12: Colossians 3:1-17		Day 24: Ephesians 2:1-10	



Find 15 books of the Bible in the following paragraph. Answers will be revealed in the January 2025 edition of the Pilgrim's Progress.

In this remarkable paragraph are hidden 15 books of the Bible. It is a real lulu; kept me looking so hard for the facts I missed the revelations. I was in a jam, especially since the names were not capitalized. The truth will come to numbers of you. To others it will be a real job. For all it will be a most fascinating search. Yes, there will be some easy to spot, others hard to judge; so we admit it usually results in loud lamentations. One lady says she brews coffee while she puzzles over it.

Can you find all fifteen?