

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

January 2025



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 Alcala - Bookkeeper

Ms. Natalie Brown - Admin. Assistant

Mrs. Megan Parnell - Librarian

Mr. Brian Cochran - Mktg. & Media Mgr.

& Events Coordinator

Mrs. Sarah Campbell - Communications

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

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MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR MINISTER

Interpreting the Sacred Text

*"So they read from the book, from the law of God,
with interpretation."
~ Nehemiah 8:8*

The Book of Nehemiah is the extraordinary account of the rebuilding of the walls and the city of Jerusalem following the Babylonian captivity. Nehemiah was given permission to return to Jerusalem to rebuild it. He encountered all manner of opposition, both internal and external resistance to these plans. But he was ultimately successful, restoring the city and repopulating it with the Jewish faithful.

During this rebuilding effort, Nehemiah organized large reading sessions, in which every able man and woman was assembled to listen to the reading of the Law of Moses. It is a striking scene. When Ezra the priest opened the book, the entire throng stood to hear the text. And when they heard it read, they lifted their hands, crying, "Amen, Amen," and fell on their faces to worship God.

The power of a sacred text is difficult to deny. It can bring people to tears. It can shatter the most persistent self-deceptions. It can bring hope to the hopeless. Sacred texts do this in a context of interpretation. That is, a powerful text is an understood text.

It is a remarkable fact of God's grace and mercy that the human practice of writing is used to convey God's love for the world. It is so remarkable that many Christians have difficulty accepting that God's truth might be communicated through documents that are tainted with human errors. They insist that there cannot be errors in the text when there are many.

Both Gospels and the writings of Paul tell us that God has chosen to reveal God's self through the limited and weak human form. This means that divine love is shown in the body and the life of Jesus, and it is shown through the human form of writing.

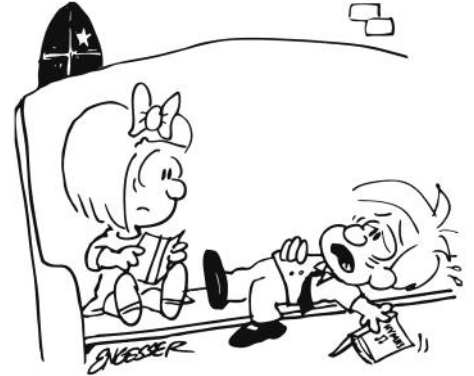


It is in and through our weaknesses that God is revealed. And so we will keep reading the sacred text, analyzing, studying, and interpreting, looking for signs of the divine even as we acknowledge our human limitations.

*Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn
Sr. Minister*



HOLY HILARITY



"That last 'Glo-ooo-oooh-oooh-oooh-oooh-oooh-oooh-oooria' about did me in."



"Don't worry. I'm a church pastor. First little problem, and they'll find me."



"I made a New Year's resolution to eat broccoli. If I can't stand it, I'll give it up for Lent."

MESSAGE FROM THE MODERATOR



The end of one year and the beginning of a New Year is a time for reflection on the past, and thinking of the things we want to accomplish in the New Year. For me as an individual and as the moderator of the church, the past year seems to have passed very quickly. My work as a hospice chaplain keeps me busy. I start each day with a plan for the families I want to visit and the things I hope to accomplish. On any given day, my phone may ring, and my plan may go out the window, because someone has an urgent need. It doesn't happen every day, but some days when it does happen, I feel that I have been in the right place at the right time.

We have had a number of special activities at the Church. The Christian Education Board, the Membership Board, as well as other boards and committees have been working harder and harder to create opportunities for our own growth and fellowship and to introduce others in our community to new opportunities. The Pilgrim CREW has put together a Jubilee Proposal, which the Church Council is passing to the congregation for approval. The proposal calls for the hiring of an Associate Minister. The Trustees have been working on a proposed budget, and the Church Council has appointed a search committee. If the congregation approves the proposal and the budget, we want to be able to move forward. On January 5, we will have a town hall meeting to discuss and respond to questions about the proposal and the budget.

If you want to know how things get done at Pilgrim Church, I would encourage you to get involved. Visit a Church Council meeting, or a meeting of one of the boards or committees. Say "yes" if you are asked to serve as a member of a board or committee by the nominating committee. Or, volunteer to help with a project or activity or in the church office. Find a place where you can be involved.

It is always a time for prayer, but this seems to be a time of transition for our church, and prayer is especially important for us at this time. Prayer is talking to God, but listening to God is important, too. We listen to God when we read His Word, or better, when we allow His word to "read us." It can also help to be silent and to hear what God may be saying to us through what others say or do.

For about six months I tried to summarize presentations made to the annual meeting of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches. I am working on editing my earlier pieces into one document without so much repetition. If you are interested, let me know.

May God bless Pilgrim Congregational Church and each of us throughout the New Year!

MESSAGE FROM PILGRIM AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

On behalf of Pilgrim Auxiliary, let me convey my very best wishes that each of you will enjoy a healthy and happy New Year. As I reflect on 2024, I was extremely blessed to be part of many wonderful events and activities, for which I am most grateful. My heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who contributed to a very productive and successful year for Pilgrim Auxiliary!

I am extremely pleased so many attended our Christmas Dinner. It was a wonderful time of fellowship, followed by a very enjoyable Pageant, highlighting a delightful performance by our Youth, who are the future of Pilgrim Congregational Church! Such a special blessing for each of us to enjoy!

Please mark your calendars and plan to join Pilgrim Auxiliary on Tuesday, January 7th, 2025 at 11:30am. Our very own Dr. Patrick Horn will be sharing the wonderful trip he enjoyed with his family to Wales last summer. Please plan to remain for a delicious luncheon and time of fellowship, following his presentation.



I sincerely hope 2025 will find many of you joining us at our monthly Auxiliary meetings. We deserve the opportunity to enjoy the spiritual support and fellowship provided by our gatherings.

*In Christian Love,
Bonnie Seath
Pilgrim Auxiliary President*

FROM THE PILGRIM AUXILIARY RUMMAGE TEAM

Thank you for all your donations!!! Our fabulous and dedicated Rummage Sorters have been busy sorting every Friday from 9am to 11am. They are a great crew and we are almost able to keep up with the donations.

Many, many thanks to all our Super Sorters, **Faye Campbell, Thea Clark, Jan Manildi, Elyse Mengle, Susan Newton, Guadalupe Ocegueda, Bill Parnell, Armondo Piercy, Judy Sanders, Nancy Todd, and Sue Villa.** You can be a Super Sorter, too. Just join us at the garages on Friday mornings.

We have been having fun with our Holiday Mini Sales. There is a table in the Gym with items appropriate to the season that are either left over from the last rummage sale, or arrived after the sale was over. If you see something you like, just take it and put a donation in the basket. We made \$460 on last year's Mini Sales!

We will resume sorting in January. You may bring your clean, gently used donations directly to the garage on Fridays when we are sorting, or to the Gym on weekdays and Sunday. We accept most everything, including furniture. We do not accept large appliances or knives. If you're donating furniture or other large items, please call the office at (909) 622-1373 to arrange for a custodian to help you.

SAVE THE DATE!
Spring Rummage Sale
April 5th, 2025
8am to 1pm

*With thanks,
Jan Manildi & Judy Sanders
Rummage Sale Co-Chairs*



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
Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn

will be sharing the wonderful summer trip he enjoyed with his family in Wales.

COMING UP

February 4th, 2025

Presenter: Dane Vose

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

Lunch Host: Sherry Glab



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

January 2025 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_____

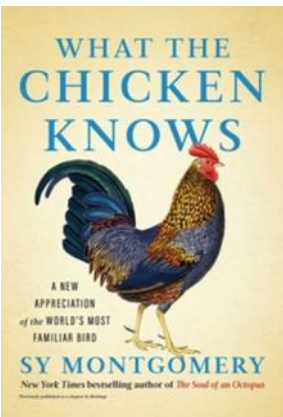
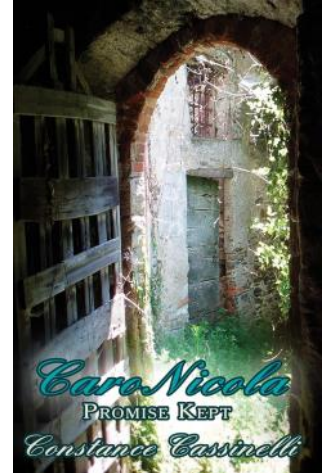
City_____ State _____ Zip_____

Phone_____

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

FROM THE LIBRARIAN

The library committee is pleased to report that **Constance Cassinelli** has confirmed that she will speak at the library coffee. She picked February 16th which is meeting Sunday so we will start with refreshments at 12:30pm to allow folks to hold their meetings and our speaker will begin at 1pm. Her story is an interesting one of how she used her great-grandfather's letters to reconstruct her family's history in Italy. Her second book, which she is working on now, is about their lives in America. We have a copy of *Caro Nicola: Promise Kept* in the library if you would like to get a head start on the subject.



The committee met in December to select new books:

In Fiction:

Rockin' Around the Chickadee by **Donna Andrews**,

To Die For by **David Baldacci**

We Three Queens by **Rhys Bowen**

Now or Never by **Janet Evanovich**

An Elderly Lady Is Up To No Good by **Helene Tursten**

The Gonif by **Andy Weinberger**

Non-Fiction:

What the Chicken Knows: An Appreciation of the World's Most Familiar Bird by **Sy Montgomery**.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, February 16th

Library Coffee in Pilgrim Hall

12:30pm ~ Refreshments

1pm ~ Presentation

**Speaker: Constance Cassinelli
(author of Caro Nicola)**



Now that the holiday rush is over, stop by our library for a good read!

Megan



MUSIC NOTES

Music Notes

from the Choir Director: Susan Winckler



A big thank you to Pilgrim Choir singers! You worked very hard to make the Christmas season memorable with your beautiful singing, and you all look gorgeous in your new blue choir robes. A big thank you to the Diac-nate Board who made it possible to purchase the stoles.

Also, I am announcing the major work to be performed with an orchestra on June 1st. It is "Twilight Mass" by Ola Gjeilo with orchestra parts written by Tom Mazur with permission from the composer. Please save the date.

Stay tuned for upcoming events:
Super Soup Supper and an Alfred Hitchcock Silent Movie Night.

Susan Winckler
Choir Director

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
Music Sunday
June 1st, 2025 at 10am
"Twilight Mass" ~ Ola Gjeilo
Arr. by Tom Mazur



CHOIR PROFILES



Nancy Rodewald is a veteran member of Pilgrim's Choir. Though she has lived in Orange County since high school, she is a native of Pomona and attended Trinity Church as a child.

Music has been a part of her life for a long time. During her 16 year tenure at Disneyland loading guests into boats, trains, rockets, and theaters, she also participated in Disney's Employee Drama Club starring as Queen Aggravain in "Once Upon a Mattress". After a time as an Administrative Assistant, Nancy wanted to work somewhere closer to home that involved music. This lead her to Yamaha where she has worked for 18 years in the music education department. Nancy helps the team organize camps, concerts and teacher trainings for the Yamaha schools across the country. Also, just this year she was cast in Yamaha's annual video Christmas card. You can see the video card on YouTube at:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bq6TQH9pM8.

Nancy sang with the Sweet Adeline Choruses for 35 years which included singing with beloved choir members Doreen Keepers and Loretta Barker in a Sweet Adeline Quartet. Doreen invited Nancy to join Pilgrim's Bell Choir which led to her joining Pilgrim's Choir and the rest is history.

Nancy eventually took over working with the Pilgrim Littles when Doreen retired and she has been giving them a wonderful music experience during Sunday School. She also is the Children's Music Director for special programs like the Christmas Pageant.

We love and appreciate Nancy Rodewald for her beautiful voice in Pilgrim's Choir on Sunday mornings and for how she brings music to Pilgrim kids.

OUTREACH

Hand in Hand

*Thank you for helping to bring joy to our Hand
In Hand families this Christmas!*



Christmas 2024 Hand in Hand Families were very surprised and grateful for everything provided to them. We completed another successful Hand in Hand Christmas distribution and there were lots of surprised and happy faces as parents shopped in our "Gift Boutique". Then more surprises as they worked to fit everything into their transportation home!

Special Thanks to Nancy Todd and Susan Newton for helping to gather items, set up, help parents shop in the Gift Boutique, and pack up the remaining items for Rummage. Grateful thanks to Amy Newell, Janet McBride, Patty Schelling, and Judy Sanders for the shopping, transporting, moving, and preparing the storage and distribution rooms both before and after the event. Additional thanks to those who stopped by to wrap an extra present or see there was anything they could do to help.

A HUGE Thank you to everyone who bought food or gift cards or made a donation or adopted a person or kids or a mom or a whole family and made this 37th year happen. This is truly a program where everyone can get involved, whether it's buying a box of cereal, or buying an item on a wish list or bringing in a jacket or shirt, adopting a person or a family or donating gently used items.

Our Pilgrim Family has supported Hand in Hand for the Holidays by providing food, clothing, and other needs for Christmas. This program started back in 1987 with Don & Judy Sanders and the Diaconate Board. 37 years later, it continues, now sponsored by the Outreach Board, BUT it couldn't continue without all of you.

This year brought some new changes to our process. We gathered food through the month of November. We purchased Target gift cards again so families could buy fresh food. We continue to try new ways to make it convenient to participate. We were fortunate to have so many adopt a family or a person. We also had several gently used items contributed to help with the larger or more expensive items that were on the wish lists. We want to make participation as easy as possible to keep this program going. If you have Ideas to make it easier and more fun to participate, please let me know.

Thanks again to Patience Guild, Friendship Guild and other families and individuals who kicked it all off by making the commitment to adopt a family or individual and made it all possible!

~Nancy Newell on behalf of the Outreach Board



DIACONATE BOARD

New Altar Cloth for the Sanctuary



At long last, the **Diaconate Board** has completed the purchase of a new green altar cloth (it is reversible to purple.) This process took some time but was a needed step in updating our sanctuary paraments. Our historic altar table is quite large, and companies do not carry cloths of a size to completely cover it. We were fortunate over 50 years ago to have members who were able to hand sew our altar cloths to the exact table measurements! Our current white cotton and lace communion cloths (two) were lovingly made and donated by **Jeanne Nolden**. One of those was made from a bolt of cloth discovered at our Rummage Sale! We are not planning to discard our “historic” altar cloths, but are now able to brighten up the altar with cloths that are not stained or torn. We hope to complete this process in the next year or two. The Diaconate Board hopes that you enjoy seeing the rich beauty of the wood altar table along with the new and brighter cloth.

Sue Selters, Chair.

HAS ANYONE SEEN NANCY?



One might think you have to change your name to Nancy to join Pilgrim. Of course that is not the case, but it does seem to be that Nancy is a popular name here. One thing I am sure of is that Pilgrim has the best Nancys in the world and most of them were all together at the 2024 Christmas Marketplace.

Pictured to the left, from the left: **Nancy Blackstock**, **Nancy Flanders** and **Nancy Rodewald**. In the front is **Nancy Newell**. Though they were not available in person that Sunday, **Nancy Sturgis** and **Nancy Todd** are always in our thoughts.

All these lovely ladies are Pilgrim treasures. You will often see them serving in a variety of Pilgrim’s ministries from Rummage Sales, Hand In Hand, Music and more. Though they may share a first name, each one blesses Pilgrim and their communities with their time and many talents.

We are lucky to have each Nancy in our Pilgrim family.

PILGRIM WORKSHOPS

Pilgrim Workshops

Questions or to sign up, call 909-622-1373 (M-F, 9am to 4pm)
or email Membership@pilgrimchurchpomona.com

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.



Cooking Class

with Chef D.J. Campbell

March 25th, 2025 at 6:30pm

\$50 per team of 2 (includes all supplies)

LEARN:

To cook a delicious meal highlighting the main course of Stuffed Shells
(vegetarian options available.)

ENJOY:

A nice dinner together following class to enjoy the fruits of your efforts.

PARENTS:

Babysitting for children 10 and younger will be available.

Space is limited to 12 teams of 2. RSVP by March 9th.

Call 909-622-1373 or email: MembershipBoard@pilgrimchurchpomona.com



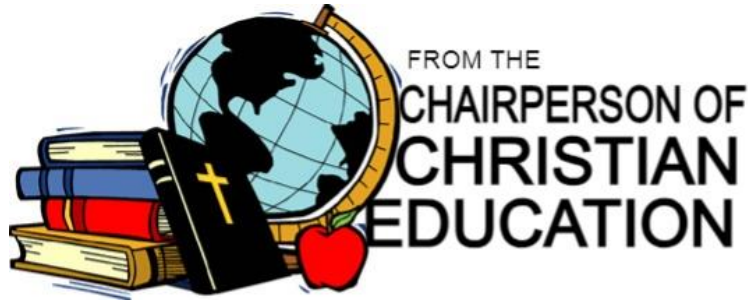
SAVE THE DATE!!!

BINGO NIGHT

Saturday, May 10th, 5pm to 9pm



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



We wish everyone a very Happy New Year from Pilgrim's Board of Christian Education and hope all had a very joyful holiday season!

PLEASE NOTE: The regular Sunday School Schedule will resume on January 5th, 2025. We are looking forward to seeing all the Pilgrim youth, students, and teachers when we return.

ANNOUNCEMENT: The Pilgrim Youth and CE board is pleased to announce their "Lollipops for Love" Valentine fundraiser from January 12th through February 9th. Look for a table in the gym beginning January 12th to purchase your Valentine lollipops. Proceeds will go to support the youth NAPF/Hope Conference and other summer field trips.



Thank you for your support.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

CALLING ALL PILGRIM BOARD CHAIRS!!!

The nominating committee will be sending out nomination forms by mid January. All board chairs should keep an eye out for these forms to be sent by email and placed in the appropriate board box. Anyone interested in serving on a particular board, volunteering as a non-voting member, or changing positions can contact Christine Vanyo or Lisa Keepers. We're already looking forward to a wonderful 2025/2026 church year.



PILGRIM MINISTRIES

Pilgrim Groups, Guilds & More

A big part of the Congregational Way is fellowship. Fellowship with our church, our community and each other. In this spirit, Pilgrim Congregational Church has many opportunities to come together whether it is to share our common interests, walk together in our faith journeys, to share our talents through acts of service or a combination of all the above. Please check out the ministries below to find your niche or let us know if there is a new ministry you are interested in seeing at Pilgrim.



Morning Devotional is one of our ministries that is exclusively online, but includes anyone who would like to join either to participate in light discussion via zoom or just to watch on YouTube or Facebook. This is a great way to start the day where ever you may be literally as well as where every you are on your journey to faith. An inspiring meditation led by Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn is a fantastic way to start your day. [Join online Monday through Friday at 9am.](#)

Pilgrim Auxiliary is an entity of its own that serves to support Pilgrim Congregational Church through fundraising and programming. All Pilgrim Church members are automatically welcomed into the Pilgrim Auxiliary and they meet the first Tuesday of the month (October—June) to go over business, enjoy an informative and entertaining program and share a delicious lunch. Within the Pilgrim Auxiliary are small groups know as Guilds. Over the years their have been a variety of Guilds with 2 still going strong.



I'll be there for you.

dedicated group of women. You are welcome to join us at any time. For more information contact Jan Manildi at 909-262-6126 or email gmanildi@aol.com.

Friendship Guild meets monthly on the fourth Thursday of the month at 1pm either at the church or a member's home. Each Christmas we adopt a family each year at Hand-in-Hand and our December meeting show what we had purchased and then work together to get them all wrapped and ready Distribution Day. Our guild will fundraise at the Christmas Marketplace selling interesting items often handmade and donated. Many times these profits are used for Camperships. The Friendship Guild goes on a Spring field trip to somewhere fun and interesting such as Mission Inn, the Hindu Temple, or the Ontario Museum of History & Art. You will often find some of our guild members helping in the kitchen as they are a wonderful, helpful, and



Patience Guild consists of 16 members. We meet the second Tuesdays of the month, in the evening. We help host the coffee hours during the year, and our guild provides the creamers, juices, napkins and plates for all coffee hours throughout the year. We provide for one Hand-in-Hand family and this year we were able to provide for two! Sometimes our meetings are at various houses of the guild members, and sometimes we just go out to eat. Either way, we never have a meeting without food or snacks! If you would like more information, speak to Susan Newton, Sue Selters, Sue Shedd, Nancy Flanders, Nancy Newell, Julie Mestas, Beth Brooks, Karen Loehr, Karen Mengle, Lisa Keepers, Bonnie Seath, Christine Vanyo, Cynthia Eades, Janet Stevenson, Megan Parnell or Pam Seggerman.

PILGRIM MINISTRIES



Twilight Bible Study meets weekly on Tuesdays at 5:45pm in the Minister's Library. All are welcome to join in person or online as Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn leads a discussion on the upcoming sermon lesson. Those joining online and wishing to participate in the discussion log in through Zoom. Those wishing to just watch are recommended to join in through YouTube, but if you are joining through Facebook you can share through text comments and responses. Participating in Twilight Bible Study adds depth and understanding to the next Sunday's Worship Service.



Joyful Endeavors is just exactly what it sounds like – people enjoying each other's company. Each Thursday morning at 10 a.m., "Joyful Endeavors" is held in Room 13 for folks wanting to perform quilting, sewing, crocheting, playing games or just about any kind of hands-on activity. In reality it is also a time when friends can get together and share their time and their experiences. Sometimes, the enjoyment of everyone's company continues at lunch at a local dining spot. "Joyful Endeavors" is a "child" of an earlier church quilting group that used to meet

weekly at the same place. That group was dissolved by the same thing that slowed up so many activities more than four years ago – the Covid epidemic. Over the last year, however, Nancy Blackstock has restarted the weekly get-together. It's open to anyone to sew, do crafts or just wanting to enjoy the company. The turnout sometimes is a bit slim and other times a half-dozen or more are there. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to drop by.



Friday Morning Men's Breakfast: Join Pilgrim men and their friends (women too) on Friday mornings at 8am at Roberta's Village Inn in downtown La Verne (2326 D Street.) You will find good conversation, fellowship and a hearty breakfast. For any questions call regular diner, Bill Parnell, at 909-624-5253.

These are just some of Pilgrim's ministries. Please come visit Pilgrim Congregational Church any Sunday to learn more about all our ministries. Don't see one that fits you? Let us know of a ministry or small group that you would like to see here at Pilgrim.

Pilgrim Congregational Church
600 N. Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA. 91767
PilgrimOffice@pilgrimchurchpomona.com
909-622-1373, M-F, 9am to 4pm

CALLING ALL PILGRIMS



Town Hall Meeting

**January 5th, 2025
11am in Pilgrim Hall**

**Topic:
Jubilee Directive & Proposed 2025 Budget**

Congregational Meeting



**January 26th, 2025
11:30am in Pilgrim Hall**

**We need a quorum to vote for the
2025 budget.**

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PROJECT

43rd Annual MLK Celebration
Pomona Inland Valley MLK Project
Honoring Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

What is your Life's Blueprint?

*"If you can't be the sun, be a star.
For it isn't by size that you win or you fail. Be the best of whatever you are."*



Join US!

**Sunday,
January 19, 2025
at 6 PM**

**Pilgrim Congregational Church
600 N. Garey Ave.
Pomona, CA 91767**

Keynote Speaker:



Dr. Joy DeGruy
Researcher, Educator, & Author

IN MEMORIAM

Gary Manildi

July 10, 1941 – November 2, 2024



Gary Manildi at the 100th Boston Marathon.

Jan met Gary at the beginning of her Senior year at San Jose State. Jan went next door to meet her new neighbors in the apartment, she found that the new residents had 2 very interesting visitors. One of them was named Gary Manildi. Jan asked him if he was related to Bruce and Katy Manildi, neighbors of hers that she grew up with in Santa Cruz. Turns out that his father was born and raised in Santa Cruz and graduated from the same High School she did. Gary's father came to Southern California to attend Pomona College. Gary was born in Hollywood because his mother was an adagio dancer in the movies.

This was 1964 and the draft board was after Gary. You were draft exempt if you were a full time student or married, so Jan and Gary graduated on Friday, had rehearsal on Saturday and got married on Sunday. A couple of years later, they decided that in order to be exempt, you had to have children. Gary was working as a Loan Officer for American Savings in Redwood City. He got a \$50 raise, a new company car and his draft notice all in the same week. Most men were being sent to Vietnam, but Gary,

Jan's brother and brother-in-law all spent a year in Korea instead.

After Korea, Gary ended up going into partnership with a High School friend who had a landscape maintenance business here in the Inland Valley, so Jan and Gary moved to Montclair. Gary went to school and got certified as a Drug and Alcohol Counselor and worked for several years at Chino Community Hospital. Gary was very active in AA. He always said you had to change one addiction with another and he changed his addiction to alcohol with an addiction to running. He had several friends that he ran with. He ran 5 K's, 10 K's, and several marathons. Jan got to see Gary run in the 100th Boston Marathon in 1996!



Bottom left, counter clockwise: Gary & Jan Manildi, daughter, Joey & husband David Ramos, daughter Gina and husband Rus Mims

When Rev. Judy Roska, of Pilgrim Congregational Church in Pomona, found out that Gary had a license to drive a van, she recruited him to drive the church van. He would go to all the retirement homes and pick up the ladies and bring them to church. Once he was sure they were all settled into their pews, he'd go up the street and have donuts with some of his buddies. He also drove down to the border to get the Pan American students and take them up to Cedar Lake Camp and back.

Gary was very helpful with the Rummage Sale. He and Tom Shoultz were in charge of the Nuts & Bolts Department. On Rummage Moving Day he helped the Sigma Chi guys get all the rummage to the right rooms. He and Tom decided to open up the garage on Sundays so people could put their donations right in to be sorted.

Gary and Jan Manildi were married for 60 wonderful years. They have 2 fabulous daughters who married terrific husbands and 2 awesome grandchildren. They see themselves as having been truly blessed. Jan shared that she thinks Gary will be remembered most for his great sense of humor. His last words in the hospital were when their daughter, Joey, was stroking his hand and he looked up at her and said, "Do they pay you to do this? A dollar a day?"



Gary Manildi & Tom Shoultz working together on Rummage.

Gary Manildi will be very much missed by his family and Pilgrim friends as well.

IN MEMORIAM

Margaret Jean Nolden October 13, 1931 – November 23rd, 2024



Margaret Jean (Nisbet) Nolden, known by many as Jeanne, graduated from Chaffey High School, class of 1949 and furthered her education at Citrus Junior College. While in high school, (1948,) Jeanne won the United Nations Award. Later on, Jeanne married Norbert (Jack) Nolden. Before passing away suddenly in May of 1980, they had 3 beautiful children, Mary, Martin, and Natalie.

Professionally, she dedicated herself to the arts and healthcare. She taught ballet for ten years at Covina Parks & Recreation and the Catherine Joyce School of Ballet. Her creative talents shone brightly as she also worked as a costume designer and seamstress with several prestigious ballet schools and societies. In addition to her

contributions to the arts, Margaret served as a nursing assistant, medical assistant, and office manager, providing care and support to many.

Jeanne's spiritual life was centered around Pilgrim Congregational Church in Pomona, California. She served in many ways at Pilgrim including, but not limited to singing in the choir, helping in Notions during the Pilgrim Rummage Sales and making costumes for the children's dramatic programs. In just the last couple of years she made the new angel costumes for the children's Christmas pageant.

During her tenure singing with the choir she traveled with the Pilgrim Choir in 2000 to Guadalajara, Mexico. The choir performed at a sister Congregational Church, El Buen Pastor Congregational Church in Colonia Moderna, to help raise funds to support the Salvation Army Orphanage of Guadalajara. While there, they also performed a short concert at Santuario de Guadalupe.



Jeanne Nolden (second from the left) sightseeing in Guadalajara with some of the ladies from the Pilgrim Choir.

Jean's hobbies included playing the piano and classical/Spanish guitar, and she was an enthusiastic gardener with a particular fondness for flora.

Jean is survived by her three children, three great-grand children, and six great-great grand children. She is the last of her generation to pass and her legacy is one of kindness, creativity, and devotion. She will be fondly remembered and greatly missed.

“What we have once enjoyed deeply we can never lose. All that we love deeply becomes a part of us.”

~ Helen Keller



“CONGRATULATIONS - Margaret Jean Nisbet, left and Barbara Culver congratulate each other on winning in the United Nations contest...”



Margaret Jean and Norbert (Jack) Nolden

SCRIP FOR THE NEW YEAR



Download our RaiseRight mobile app



New Year Shopping with Scrip while supporting Pilgrim Church Ministries.

When planning your new year's project and preparing your supplies list consider purchasing scrip before you head out to the hardware stores and crafting shops. Using scrip can also help with grocery, gas and other budgeting goals which are often at the top of many New Year's resolution lists. Bonus: while crossing off items on your to do list you help 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.

INTERNATIONAL CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

THESSALONIKI, GREECE

GRAND HOTEL PALACE, THESSALONIKI, GREECE
MAY 22-26, 2025



ABOUT ICF:

Since 1977 the ICF has hosted international conferences bringing together adults, youth, clergy and laity from churches all over the world.

JOIN US:

As Congregationalists from around the world journey to the biblical city of Thessaloniki, Greece! All youth under 18 years old must travel with a parent or legal guardian.

COST:

For a 6 day stay, conference fee and activities (excluding airfare) is \$1,350 per person sharing a double room and \$1,850 for a single room. Rates include:

All accommodations except airfare
All land transportation
Archaeological site fees

Professional Tour Guide Services
Other cultural experiences
2 meals a day (breakfast & dinner)

Conference Sessions take place everyday, along with our journey throughout Biblical sites.

Included Activities:

Trip into the city of Thessaloniki
All day trip to Philippi & Neapokis (Kavala)
Other archaeological and historical sites

Visit to the Refugee Care Center
Visit to Veria Vergina

Optional additional touring days and destinations following the conference are available with additional fees.

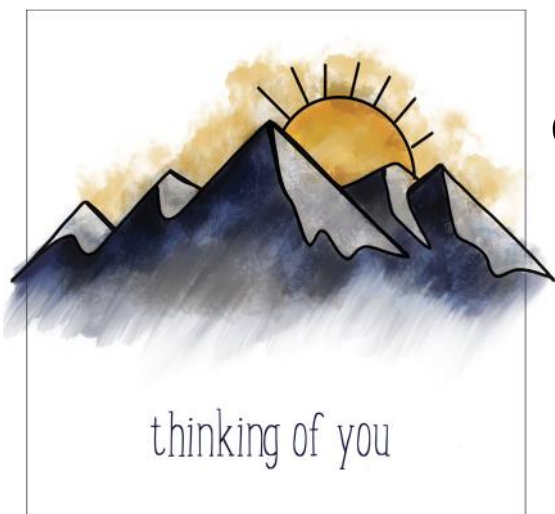
Visit <https://www.internationalcongregationalfellowship.org/conference-2025/> for more information and to register. LAST DAY TO REGISTER HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO JANUARY 15th, 2025

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>

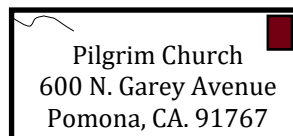
MOBILE



Text

PILGRIMCHURCH
To 833-813-9522

MAIL



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

January 5th

Second Sunday after Christmas

Communion Sunday

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn
Worship Assistant: Mr. Jon Olson
Lesson 1: John 1:10-18
Lesson 2: Jeremiah 31:7-14
Theme: "The Reality of Eternal Joy"
Homily: "A Celebration of Eternal Joy"
Color: White
Fellowship Host: Library Committee
Ushers: Meggen Olson, Christine & Ron Vanyo, and Dulce Ruiz
Acolytes: Preston Dague & Charlie McCormick

This morning's flowers are lovingly provided by:
Ben & Sue Selters,

*"For Sierra Whyte and Charlotte Selters, baptized in this sanctuary,
(31) years ago, (1-9-94.) The Selters family."*

January 12th

First Sunday after Epiphany

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn
Worship Assistant: Mrs. Sue Selters
Lesson 1: Acts 8:14-17
Lesson 2: Isaiah 43:1-7
Theme: "Redemption Means Sacrifice"
Sermon: "The Cost of Redemption"
Color: White
Fellowship Host: Patience Guild
Ushers: Susan Shedd, Sharon Willison, Lisa Keepers, & Michael Lawing
Acolytes: Isabella & Jasmine Marceleno
This morning's flowers are thankfully provided by: Judy Sanders,
"For the love of Pilgrim Church."

Boutonnieres for **January** are provided, *"With Blessings to all who worship here at Pilgrim Congregational Church."*

Liturgical Notes by Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn:

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.

January 19th

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn
Worship Assistant: Mr. Emmanuel Rickards-Ruiz
Lessons 1: John 2:1-11
Lesson 2: Isaiah 62:1-5
Theme: "The Lord's Delight Was a Desolate Place"
Sermon: "The Lord's Delight"
Color: White
Fellowship Host: Trustees
Ushers: Sylvia Osborn, Guadalupe Ocegüera, Jenni Whyte, & Lorraine Rogers
Acolytes: Samantha Campbell & Armondo Piercy

This morning's flowers are thoughtfully and lovingly provided by: Pilgrim Auxiliary's Rummage Sale Notions Department Crew,
*"In loving memory of Jeanne Nolden,
with appreciation for her many contributions to Pilgrim."*

January 26th

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Patrick Horn
Worship Assistant: Mrs. Susan Shedd
Lesson 1: Luke 4:14-21
Lesson 2: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Theme: "The Law Is Read to the People"
Sermon: "Interpreting a Sacred Text"
Color: White
Fellowship Host: Diaconate
Ushers: Ben & Sue Selters, Janet McBride, & Axford Manness
Acolytes: Kodie Gray & Emmanuel Rickards-Ruiz

This morning's celebratory flowers are provided to:
*"Susan Winckler - Happiest of Birthday Wishes to You!
Wishing you another year of good health, filled with much happiness, as you continue to oversee our wonderful music program here at Pilgrim."*



JANUARY

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 the Lord’s Prayer)
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

January 1st

New Year’s Day
Office Closed

January 5th

Jubilee Town Hall Meeting
Newsletter Articles DUE

January 6th

Epiphany

January 7th

Pilgrim Auxiliary
Mtg./Program/Lunch

January 8th

Church Council Meeting

January 12th

Diaconate Meeting
Knitting & Crochet Class

January 19th

MLK Jr. Project Celebration

January 20th

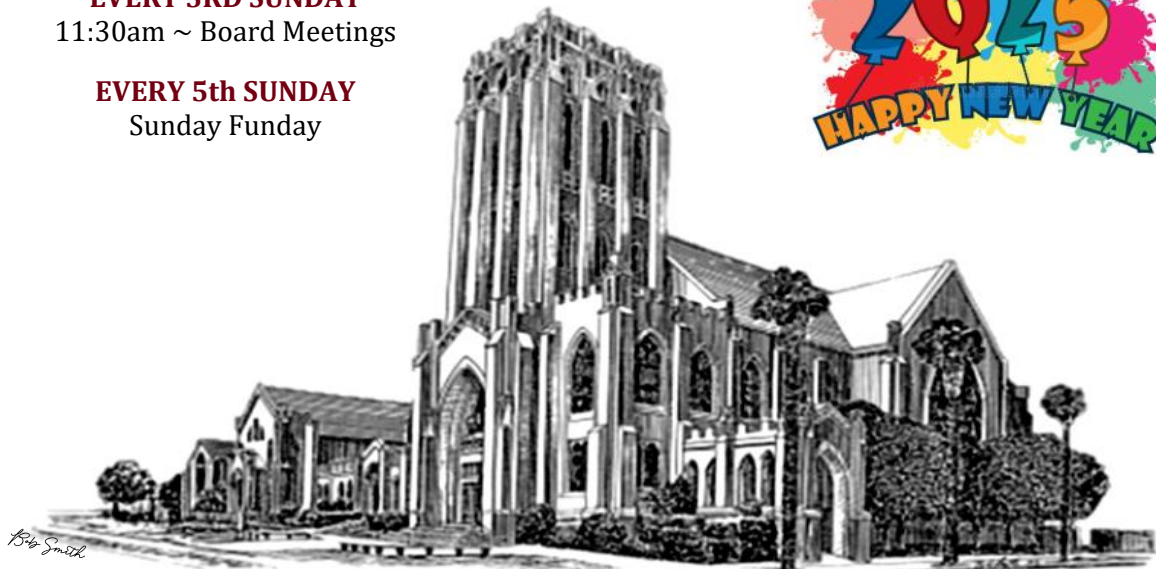
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Office Closed

January 24th/25th

Winter Retreat Lock-In



January 26th


Board of Trustees Meeting
Congregational Budget Meeting





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY OFFICE CLOSED 7:30pm NA Support 	2 10am Joyful Endeavors 6:00pm Basketball 7:30pm AA Mother Group	3 8am Men's Breakfast	4 NOON NA Group Meeting
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5 9am Adult Sunday School and Gather & Greet 9:45am Worship Service 11am Fellowship Hour 11am Jubilee Townhall Meeting 11:30am GGMT 	6 9am Morning Devotional 10am Alanon "Serenity" 7:30pm Mountainside Rehearsal	7 9am Morning Devotional 10am Pilgrim Auxiliary Mtg./Program/Lunch 9:30am CEA/HOW 5:15pm Young Champions 5:45pm Twilight Bible Study 7:30pm AA	8 9am Morning Devotional 6pm Basketball  7:30pm NA Support	9 9am Morning Devotional 10am Joyful Endeavors 7:30pm AA Mother Group	10 8am Men's Breakfast 9am Morning Devotional	11 NOON NA Group Meeting
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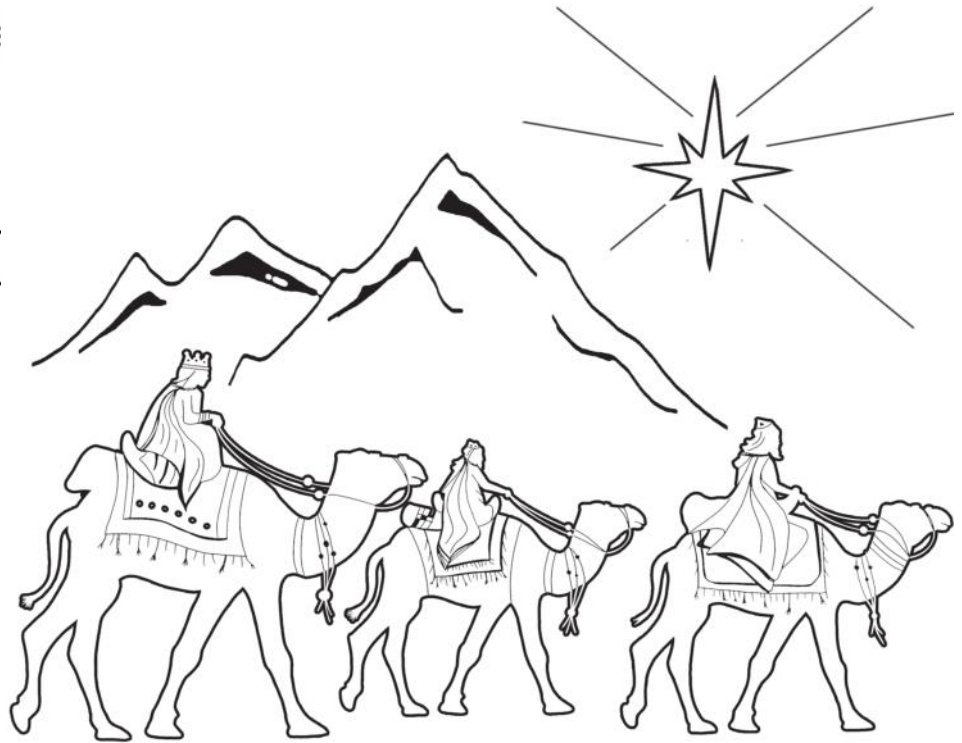
12 9am Adult Sunday School and Gather & Greet 9:45am Worship Service 11am Fellowship Hour 11:30am Diaconate Meeting  NOON Knit & Crochet Class	13 9am Morning Devotional 10am Alanon "Serenity" 6:30pm Mountainside Board Meeting & Rehearsal	14 9am Morning Devotional 9:30am CEA/HOW 5:15pm Young Champions 5:45pm Twilight Bible Study 7:30pm AA	15 9am Morning Devotional 6:00pm Basketball 7:30pm NA Support	16 9am Morning Devotional 10am Joyful Endeavors 7:30pm AA Mother Group	17 8am Men's Breakfast 9am Morning Devotional	18 10am Christian Business 360 Meeting NOON NA Group Meeting
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19 9am Adult Sunday School and Gather & Greet 9:45am Worship Service 11am Fellowship Hour 11:30am Meeting Sunday  4pm MLK Project Celebration	20 MLK Jr. Day OFFICE CLOSED 9am Morning Devotional 10am Alanon "Serenity" 7:30pm Mountainside Rehearsal	21 9am Morning Devotional 9:30am CEA/HOW 5:15pm Young Champions 5:45pm Twilight Bible Study 7:30pm AA	22 9am Morning Devotional 6:00pm Basketball 7:30pm NA Support	23 9am Morning Devotional 10am Joyful Endeavors 7:30pm AA Mother Group	24 8am Men's Breakfast 9am Morning Devotional Winter Retreat Lock In (TBA)	25 NOON NA Group Meeting Winter Retreat Lock In (TBA)
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26 9:00am Adult Sunday School 9:00am Gather & Greet 9:45am Worship Service 11:00am Fellowship Hour 11:30am Trustees Meeting & Congregational Budget Mtg. 	27 9am Morning Devotional 10am Alanon "Serenity" 7:30pm Mountainside Rehearsal	28 9am Morning Devotional 9:30am CEA/HOW 5:15pm Young Champions 5:45pm Twilight Bible Study 7:30pm AA	29 9am Morning Devotional 6:00pm Basketball 7:30pm NA Support	30 9am Morning Devotional 10am Joyful Endeavors 7:30pm AA Mother Group	31 8am Men's Breakfast 9am Morning Devotional
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FUN WITH FAITH—CELEBRATING EPIPHANY

When they saw the
STAR, they
rejoiced
 exceedingly with
GREAT
JOY.
 Matthew 2:1



In the story of the Magi, what word is used to give a sense of Jesus' age when the wise men visited? What does it tell us? Hint: Matthew 2:1-12

- A. "baby"; Jesus was still a newborn in a manger.
- B. "child"; when the wise men visited, Jesus had grown past infancy.
- C. "youth"; Jesus was probably between 10 and 14.
- D. No word is used to suggest Jesus' age at the time of the wisemen's visit.



Did you find all 15 books of the bible in the puzzle in the December Pilgrim's Progress? You will find the answers highlighted below.



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.

Books of the Bible

Mark
 Acts
 Ruth
 Amos
 Titus

Luke
 Revelations
 Numbers
 Esther
 Lamentations

Kings
 James
 Job
 Judges
 Hebrews