

# HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018 PILGRIM'S PROGRESS

## OUR STORY

Reflections	1
Teacher's Communion	2
Budget Meeting	3
Library News	4
From the Moderator	5
Band of Prayer	6
Wedding	7 - 8
Santa & Mrs. Claus	9
Pilgrim Youth	10-11
Celebration	12
Quilters	13
Facility Use	14
Activities & Events	15
Calendar	16

## Reflection

**Dr. Beth Bingham ~ Senior Minister**

A prayer by Ted Loder moves me each time I read it, and I remember well how it literally changed the life of a person in the church in Anchorage who was bearing the deepest pain. It helps settle the soul to get ready to work for a New Year filled with hope and promise and peace.

Here are some excerpts:

*Patient God, the clock struck midnight and I partied with a strange sadness in my heart and confusion in my mind. Now I ask you to gather me, for I realized the storms of time have scattered me, the furies of the year past have driven me, many sorrows have scarred me, many accomplishments have disappointed me, much activity has wearied me, and fear has spooked me into a hundred hiding places one of which is pretended gaiety.*

*I am sick of a string of 'Have a nice day's.' What I want is passionate days, wondrous days, dangerous days, blessed days, surprising days. What I want is you!*

*Patient God, this day teeters on the edge of waiting and things seem to slip away from me...*

Continued on Page 2



## Pilgrim Life-Pilgrim Faith

### **REFLECTIONS** (continued from Page 1)

*Help me not to let my life slip away from me.*

*O God, as I hold up my life to you now, as much as I can, as high as I can, in this mysterious reach called prayer. Come close, lest I wobble and fall short. It is not days or years I seek from you, not infinity and enormity, but small things and moments and awareness, awareness that you are in what I am and in what I have been indifferent to. It is not new time, but new eyes, new heart I seek, and you...*

*O Patient God, make something new in me, in this year, for you.*

*(Ted Loder Guerillas of Grace, pp.114-116)*

---

### **WOMEN'S AUXILIARY MEETING**

The Women's Auxiliary's monthly meeting will be on January 2nd. It is one the members look forward to as a time to unwind from the holiday and enjoy a relaxing afternoon. There will be games, puzzles and other activities to choose from so come and have fun.

Lunch will be provided by Sherry Glab, devotions by and our librarian, Megan Parnell, will again bring us the book jacket talk.

The Board meeting will begin at 10:30, business meeting at 11:30 and lunch at 12:00 noon.

---

### **COMMUNION FOR OUR TEACHERS AND SUPPORT STAFF: JANUARY 7**

Every Sunday while most of us worship, there are the hard-working church school teachers and helpers who spent the morning with our children. Sharla Wickman realized that they were missing the opportunity to celebrate communion. So, every communion Sunday the sacrament will be offered to those who are not able to be in the service. We will gather in Dr. Bingham's office at 9:30. Our next communion will be on January 7. We traditionally have communion on the first Sunday of January marking both Epiphany and the New Year. Please join us if you are unable to attend our sanctuary worship.

---

### **INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT OUR CHURCH, OR JOINING OUR CHURCH? INQUIRERS' CLASS: SUNDAY JANUARY 7 11:30 A.M.**

Come join us in the conference room to learn more about our church. We will talk about the Congregational tradition, and the history and organization of Pilgrim Church. We will also discuss what it means to be a member of the church. Those who are interested in becoming members will be received during our worship service on Sunday, January 21. This is a great way to learn about who we are. There will also be some special refreshments!



***POMONA VALLEY MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 14 AT 6 P.M.  
PILGRIM CHURCH SANCTUARY***

Pilgrim Church is once again honored to host the annual Pomona Valley Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration on Sunday, January 14. This event celebrates Dr. King's legacy, features inspirational word and music, and presents scholarships to the youth winners of the essay contest. We encourage Pilgrims to attend and offer a warm welcome to the visitors from our community! Following the service there will be a vendor fair and a light reception

---

***CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP: MONDAY, JANUARY 22 AT 7 P.M.***

Taking care of another or being responsible for the care of another is an important and sometimes exhausting and difficult task. It helps to come together with others and share resources and conversation. If you know someone who would benefit from this time please invite them. This group is open to all.

---

***CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO APPROVE THE BUDGET: SUNDAY, JANUARY 28***

This is an official call for the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 28 after worship to approve the budget for 2018 . The trustees will also hold a "Town Hall" on Sunday, January 14 to share the information and answer any questions.

---

*Thank you!*



***THANK YOU FROM MEGAN***

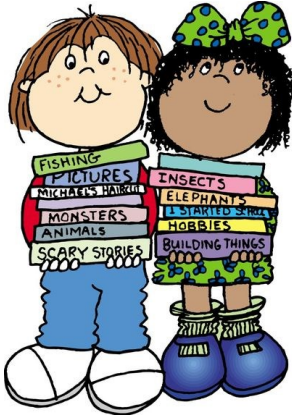
I want to thank all of you from my heart for the kind words, cards, carrot cake and gifts on December 10<sup>th</sup> celebrating my 25 years at Pilgrim. It has been my pleasure to work here among so many friends.

Megan



## Pilgrim Life-Pilgrim Faith

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



We are meeting in the Children's Library at the end of class each Sunday to practice music with Nancy Rodewald. You may pick your child up at the Library at 11:20.

Children may also check out books at this time. (Some adults have been finding books to read, too.) We have two children who have turned in their forms for reading 10 books from our library. (And one of our adults is working on earning a brick, too.) As soon as we have enough completed forms, we will paint their bricks in the library, publish their names and Dr. Bingham will make a cake!

---

### JANUARY LIBRARY NEWS

The library committee wishes everyone a very happy new year. We met in early December in order to make sure we had new books over the holidays for our readers.

We selected new fiction: *End Game* by **David Baldacci**, *The Other Einstein* by **Marie Benedict**, *Indigo Girl* by **Natasha Boyd**, *Midnight Line* by **Lee Child**, *Every Breath You Take* by **Mary Higgins Clark**, *X Marks the Scot* by **Kaitlyn Dunnett**, *Hard Core 24* by **Janet Evanovich**, *The Last Painting of Sara De Vos* by **Dominic Smith**, and *Quick and Dirty* by **Stuart Woods**.

For those looking for new ideas for devotions we have *Higher Is Waiting* by **Tyler Perry** and *The Wisdom of Sundays* by **Oprah Winfrey**.

Now that the holiday rush is over there is plenty of time to catch up on your reading. Come to the library and check us out!

*Megan*

#### LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Wednesday	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Thursday	Closed
Friday	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Saturday	Closed
Sunday	9:00 a.m. to noon





The end of the old year and the beginning of a new year are times for remembering and for planning. We remember the blessings we have received from God, we remember celebrations we have shared with others through the years, we remember service and sacrifice of men and women who answered their country's call and served at home and abroad, we remember the accomplishments of the past and

we set goals for the future. We remember the reason we are able to hope for "Peace on earth"—the grace of God demonstrated in the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Christ.

We extend our hearts and hands to those for whom even the best memories of past celebrations are accompanied now with tears, because there are empty places at our tables and in our pews. Again, the One whose birth we have celebrated makes it possible for us to grieve with hope and faith. Because the Word became flesh—was born, grew up, lived, and died as we do, we know that our pain is understood and our tears will be wiped away. Our tears and sorrow are natural and normal. They do not represent an absence of faith and they are not judged. They are acknowledged and will be "wiped away."

As we begin the New Year, we will be both remembering and planning. There are two very important meetings for our church that we should be praying about. The budget committee and the Trustees of the church will be presenting a proposed budget for 2018 in January. After copies of the proposed budget are distributed, we will have a Town Hall meeting for questions, answers, and discussion on January 14. We will have a Congregational Meeting on January 28 to vote on our budget for 2018. Our most important preparation for the coming year is prayer! Part of our praying must be listening and looking to see what God is doing among us and in our community. I am convinced that if we, as a congregation, are focused on God's work, God will supply what is necessary to see that it is done. This is why we speak about "consecrating" our pledges. We make commitments of faith to support the work of God.

There will also be something significant to remember and celebrate. The Reverend Dr. Beth Bingham gave her first official sermon as pastor of Pilgrim Congregational Church on Sunday, January 10, 1993. On Sunday, January 14, we will be marking her twenty-fifth anniversary as Pastor. Cynthia and I have not been members here for nearly that long, so many of you will know much more about the impact she has had on the church and the community. We are grateful for her impact on us—helping us feel welcomed, loved, and challenged by thought-provoking sermons and worship experiences. I have been a pastor, and I know that it is not always easy. Help us to commend her for twenty-five years of faithful service and leadership.

Keith Eades,  
Moderator 2017-2018





# *BAND OF PRAYER*

## *NEW YEAR PRAYER:*

Thank You Lord for giving me  
The brand new year ahead.  
Help me live the way I should  
As each new day I tread.  
Give me gentle wisdom  
That I might help a friend,  
Give me strength and courage  
So a shoulder I might lend.  
The year ahead is empty,  
Help me fill it with good things  
Each new day filled with joy  
And happiness it brings.

*Amen.*

Contact Mary Prendergast to submit your prayer request by phone or email to the Band of Prayer. Be assured that all requests are utterly confidential. If you would like to join the group of those who receive the requests and include them in your prayers you may also contact Mary at 909-973-6709 or email [maryprendy17@gmail.com](mailto:maryprendy17@gmail.com).

---

### ***THE MUSICIANS' CLUB OF POMONA VALLEY***

The Musicians' Club of Pomona Valley will present Humperdinck's delightful opera Hansel and Gretel on Tuesday, January 23, at 7:30, in Pilgrim Hall. Directed by Carolyn Wilson, who also appears as the Sandman, the opera stars Debbie Dey as Hansel. Nancy Rodewald and Micaela Mazur will appear as Gingerbread Children and Angels. Betsy Bowering will also appear as an Angel. The orchestra, which includes Tom Mazur on French horn and Jackson Wilson on cello, will be conducted by Susan Winckler. Admission is free. Please join us for this wonderful performance!



***NOVEMBER 4, 2017***



***HUTCHINSON ~ TORRES LOVE***







## Pilgrim Life-Pilgrim Faith

### *SEALED WITH A KISS*







*THE BUSY SCHEDULE OF SANTA & MRS. CLAUS*



Megan & Bill Parnell







*CELEBRATING THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS*



**A special Thank You to all of those who made  
our Pageant a success!  
See you next year!**



*PILGRIM TALENT CONTINUES*







## Pilgrim Life-Pilgrim Faith

### *CONGRATULATIONS MEGAN*



Dr. Bingham Congratulates  
Megan Parnell, at her surprise tribute  
celebrating 25 years of service,  
December 10, 2017.

Baby Bailey McHenry had to share  
her pink booties with  
Beyonce (the cat).  
Thank you Jackie McHenry  
for sharing the giggle.





### *QUILTERS/CRAFTERS GROUP*

The Quilters/Crafters Group sold some of their creations at the Harvest Festival and the Christmas Marketplace this year. Your generosity in buying our variety of handmade wares earned \$495 for the Christian Education department to continue their nurturing of our young people.

This year we also donated 52 red baby hats to the American Heart Association for distribution in February to babies born in February for Heart month as part of their program to educate parents in heart healthy education for their young families.

Please consider joining us in the new year! We meet on Thursday mornings from 10 am to noon in the Conference room. Come work on your favorite project or start a new one and enjoy the fellowship!



---

### *HAND IN HAND FOR THE HOLIDAYS*

A grateful and heart-felt thank you to all who helped with Hand in Hand this year. By bringing food, adopting a person or a family, bringing extra gifts, donating funds and helping to set up and wrap, you all made 13 families very happy this year. Brethren Church provided gifts and food scrip for 3 families and Pilgrim provided gifts and food scrip for 10 families and food for 13 families. Distribution day is always fun with smiles and hugs and lots of Christmas spirit. Thank you all for your support!

Outreach Board



### FACILITY USE

When coming to the church, please remember to check in AND out with the office staff. This is extremely important in case of an emergency because if no one knows you are here, no one can look for you. It is also important so that you can know whether or not rooms are being rented by others. Renting our facility to others brings us much needed income. We want our guests to continue to come back to our facility, so we need to be respectful of their space. Also, if you are planning to meet at the church, please let BaLinda know so she can make sure the space you want is available. Following these procedures would be very much appreciated.

We are asking **all ministries** to contact the church office and submit a list of everyone who has keys to the church. We must keep and maintain an updated list for our insurance purposes. Please contact us right away.

	FACILITY USE	
January 6, 2018	Private Memorial - Sanctuary	11:00 a.m.
January 14, 2018	MLK Event - Sanctuary, Gym & Pilgrim Hall	6:00 p.m.
January 19, 2018	Private Wedding Rehearsal - Sanctuary	5:00 p.m.
January 20, 2018	Private Wedding - Sanctuary	3:00 p.m.
January 21, 2018	Musician's Club - Pilgrim Hall	1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.
January 23, 2018	Musician's Club - Pilgrim Hall	5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
January 27, 2018	Soroptimist Fundraiser - Gym	5:00 p.m.

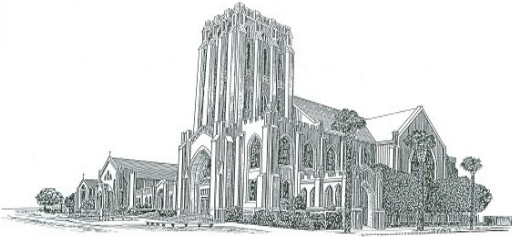
Thank you,  
Dee Hupp, Facilities Use Chair

### REMEMBRANCE



If you know someone who would love to receive a card or note from the Women's Auxiliary; please call or email submitting their name, address and telephone number. We believe in no one being left out, it's always nice to receive a note "Just Because". You can contact me, Sharla Wickman, at 909-374-9220 or [sharla1wick@gmail.com](mailto:sharla1wick@gmail.com).





**Worship Services**

Sunday 10:00—11:00am  
Church School 10:15— 11:15 am  
Children/Youth Worship 10:00am

**Tuesday**

Twilight Bible Study 5:45 — 6:45pm

**Church Office Hours**

Monday—Thursday 9:00— 4:00pm  
Friday 9:00— 3:00pm

**Office Closed Daily**

Lunch 12:00— 1:00pm

600 N. Garey Avenue

Pomona, CA 91767

P- 909.622.1373 F- 909.629.2554

[www.pilgrimchurchpomona.com](http://www.pilgrimchurchpomona.com)

[pilgrimoffice@pilgrimchurchpomona.com](mailto:pilgrimoffice@pilgrimchurchpomona.com)



**Happy 25th  
Anniversary  
Dr. Bingham**

Dr. Bingham,  
The staff appreciates  
your love, dedication  
and devotion to us and  
to Pilgrim Church.

Congratulations on  
your 25 years of  
service.

BaLinda Dillard  
Mary Ferguson  
John Gibbs  
Nancy Newell  
Megan Parnell  
Judy & Edmund Perea  
James Stevenson  
Susan Winckler

## **Activities Events**

**WEEKLY  
Tuesdays**

Twilight Bible Study Resumes January 9 - 5:45 p.m.  
Bunko January 9 & 23 - 11:00 a.m.

**Thursdays**

Quilting & Art Time —10:00 a.m. to noon  
Bell Rehearsal — 6:30 p.m.  
Choir Rehearsal — 7:30 p.m.

**SAVE THE DATES**

**Monday, January 1 - Office Closed**

**Tuesday, January 2**

**Women's Auxiliary**

Board Meeting, Conference Room 10:30

Business Meeting, Pilgrim Hall 11:30

**Wednesday, January 3**

Lunch, Gym 12:00 p.m.

Program 1:00 p.m.

Church Council 7:00 p.m.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Sunday, January 7**

Communion

**Sunday, January 14**

Town Hall Meeting

Inland Valley Martin Luther King Jr. Event

Sanctuary 6:00 p.m.

**Monday, January 15**

Office Closed honoring

Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday

**Sunday, January 21**

Meeting Sunday

**Sunday, January 28**

Budget Meeting