

Pilgrim's Progress

NEWSLETTER/PILGRIM CHURCH

JANUARY 2020

Dear friends and members,
I can finally make it public that six weeks after leaving Redding, I will be moving to Wichita to become the Transitional Executive Leader for the Presbytery of Southern Kansas. It may be as surprising to me as anyone else that after a rather lengthy and far reaching search, I shall end up back near the place of my birth and upbringing. I am excited for this new adventure and am not entirely sad to be sprouting wings with my husband on this new adventure.

Between now and February 1, you will be sprouting different wings. Preparing for the arrival of your newly called, settled pastor, Allen O'Brien. I am thrilled for you and continue in prayer for all the ways that you will make yourselves ready for his arrival so that you may begin this chapter and journey together. There are steep and rough places along the path, some lovely way stations at which to stop and destinations still unknown. I pray that you will take a leap and make this journey boldly step by step. I appreciate the time here, the opportunity, the challenge and the learning.

I continually reminded you of my temporary status here, so no need to dwell on that except to say as the great theologians of Broadway in the musical, *Wicked*, poetically say:

GLINDA

I've heard it said

That people come into our lives for a reason

Bringing something we must learn

And we are led

To those who help us most to grow

If we let them

And we help them in return

Well, I don't know if I believe that's true

But I know I'm who I am today

Because I knew you:

Like a comet pulled from orbit As it passes a sun

Like a stream that meets a boulder

Halfway through the wood Who can say if I've been changed for the better?

But because I knew you

I have been changed for good

ELPHABA

*It well may be
That we will never meet again
In this lifetime
So let me say before we part
So much of me
Is made of what I learned from you
You'll be with me
Like a handprint on my heart
And now whatever way our stories end
I know you have re-written mine
By being my friend:
Like a ship blown from its mooring
By a wind off the sea
Like a seed dropped by a skybird
In a distant wood
Who can say if I've been changed for the better?
But because I knew you:*

GLINDA

Because I knew you:

BOTH have been changed for good

ELPHABA

*And just to clear the air
I ask forgiveness
For the things I've done you blame me for*

GLINDA

*But then, I guess we know
There's blame to share*

BOTH

And none of it seems to matter anymore

GLINDA ELPHABA

*Like a comet pulled Like a ship blown
From orbit as it Off it's mooring
Passes a sun, like By a wind off the
A stream that meets Sea, like a seed
A boulder, half-way Dropped by a
Through the wood Bird in the wood*

BOTH

Who can say if I've been changed for the better?

I do believe I have been changed for the better?

GLINDA

And because I knew you:

ELPHABA

Because I knew you:

BOTH

Because I knew you:

I have been changed for good.

Peace and grace,

Gail

Learning Report

Learning programs for our children and youth are continuing under the able leadership of Brittany and Kaarin.

The adult Faith Forum group is taking a break this month and will resume with new enthusiasm when Rev. O'Brien comes on board. Stay tuned for what we'll be doing in February/March!

Again, we recommend our UCC 'Still Speaking Daily Devotionals' to read at home. You can sign up to get them in your email daily by going to ucc.org/daily.devotional.

Paula Kahler

Lori McNeill

Learning CoCos

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Joys:

December 1st. found our congregation voting to accept Allen O'Brien from Elk Grove as our settled Pastor. The enthusiastic congregation welcomed Allen with anticipation of his arrival the first of February.

The following landscape volunteers have worked diligently on our property. Give them a big "thank you" for their efforts: John Egolf, Tara Swanson, Chris McNeil, Randy Haynes, George Cole, Raymond, Bill Justice, Heather Hennessey. Also, note the lovely pansies planted at the front entrance by Nancy Milton and Diane Langan

On Sunday, December 8th the Madrigal Choir inspired us with their voices singing during our worship service.

The group expressed heartfelt appreciation for the Shasta High School group to be able to use Pilgrim Church for the setting of the Madrigal dinners which they put on during December. Our own Nancy Dutton Hill was the first Queen of the Madrigal dinner several years ago under the direction of Ken Putnam, the founder of the group.

News has come of the Big Move for Harry Daniell. He is now living at Shasta Estates on Buenaventura Blvd. He has brought Py and Bud Pyshora, who also live at Shasta Estates, to Sunday services. It seems that the Pyshoras were members many years ago and now they have moved back to Redding and are enjoying their return to Pilgrim church.

Alice Beier shared her big news that a great grandson has arrived in her family. Congratulations, Alice!

A few members of our choir brought some joy to some of our shut-ins by singing Christmas Carols.

Thank you to Nancy Milton, Pam Crowe, Heather Hennessey, and Donna Nelson.

Paula and Dick Kahler are ecstatic over the birth of Hattie Jean born to their son, Dillon, and daughter-law, Mary, in Seattle, WA the week of Thanksgiving. That makes 3 grandchildren for Paula and Dick to dote on.

Thanks to David Steele for bringing his father, Ken Steele, to church in December. It was so joyful to have Ken join us in worship and coffee hour. He recently celebrated his 95th birthday.

The worship service led by Heather Hennessey on December 15th featured the singing of Christmas hymns and readings by Micki Forell and Ken Hill about the stories behind the Carols. It was interesting to learn the history of some of our traditional Christmas hymns.

Pat Tucker announced the good news of her successful eye surgery which she had recently.

We are so happy for you and wish you a speedy recovery.

What a special Christmas Pot Luck luncheon after service on December 15th. We certainly had a bountiful spread of food for all to enjoy. Several members of the choir led us in singing Christmas carols - thanks to Nancy Dutton and Sheri Curtis (our pianist). Kudos to so many who helped make the Pot luck a success- Heather Hennessey, Randy Haynes, Peggie Linville, Barbara Cross, Sara & Glenn Hoxie, Bob Cross, Diane Hepburn, Cindy Asher, Andrea Egolf Nancy Milton...If you ever need a dishwasher and dryer team call on Elizabeth Zang and Pat Tucker. They were great!



Joys Continued

Karen Lawrence and others helped Michelle Martin Streeby, who is project director for Mercy Foundation North, decorate Christmas trees. The trees were displayed at Turtle Bay Exploration Park for a Formal Gala Event. The proceeds from the Gala help support the Hospice program at Mercy Hospital. The decorated trees are eventually distributed to locations around Redding for the community to enjoy.

Concerns

A few weeks ago Kim Healey was in an automobile accident which totaled her car but thankfully, Kim was not seriously injured. She had bumps and bruises and was a bit sore and is doing better now.

In January, Piyush and Promilla Dhanuka's daughter, May, will be going to India for a semester of study and work among the under privileged population. We pray for her safe keeping.

Rosemary Thomas has moved to Sundial Assisted Living, Poppy Hall #8 at 395 Hilltop Dr. in Redding. The family suggests that Sunday afternoons are the best time for visitors. Many of us remember how faithfully Rosemary bought flower arrangements for the communion table. She truly has a very green thumb... what a gardener!

Several Pilgrims are unable to attend worship services but continue to appreciate prayers on their behalf. They would enjoy hearing from other Pilgrims by way of notes or cards...

They are Rosemary Thomas, Deanie Coon, Joanne Nelson, Ken Steele, Claudine Couples, Linda Lack, Paul Frye and Caroline Kennedy.

Please let your Serving Cocos, Peggie Linville and Barbara Cross, know if you or someone you know has special needs or cares with which we can help.



Happy Birthday

January Celebrations

2nd - Diane Hepburn

7th - Paula Damico

Jim Carr

8th - Margaret Chamberlain

12th - Nancy Dutton

20th - Elizabeth Betancourt

If you aren't on the list, Happy Birthday to you! Email the office so we can celebrate you too!

<mailto:office@pilgrimchurchredding.org>

Landscape Report

After clearing brush in November, a great pile of debris was stacked by the lower parking lot. It's not there anymore! Your December team of Randy Haynes, Bill Justice and Heather Hennessey burned it all - very carefully - in one long day.

To beautify our cleaned up grounds, Nancy Milton and Diane Langan planted cheerful pansies by our front door steps. Soon, Glenn Hoxie will repair our old, tired irrigation to keep those pansies blooming. In the meantime, the blessed rains have taken care of all watering needs.

Thanks, landscape team!

Worship Report

January brings consistency and changes - just like most of life. The consistency regards Christmas, for the Christmas Season which, for the church begins on December 25 and runs for twelve days, carries us through the New Year celebration and brings us to the season of Epiphany. Thus, you'll see Christmas candles, greens, crèche and poinsettias until January 5. At that time, banners and colors in the sanctuary will change. Sara and Heather will be climbing ladders to take down swags and wreaths, searching through church closets for Epiphany creations from yester year, and bringing a fresh look to our worship space.

Also in the realm of consistency, Pastor Gail will be with us through January 16, with her last Sunday being January 12. (Don't forget her farewell party at Fellowship time on the 12th.)

In the theme of change (but with a touch of old-time, down home heart, Sara Hoxie will lead us in a Folk Song Sunday on January 19th. You won't want to miss it.

Plans are still fluid for worship on January 26, but if YOU have a message you'd like to share, contact Heather and volunteer!

As daffodils assure of us new life breaking forth, the month of February will bring a new time of life to Pilgrim. Pastor Allen will join us February 1st and lead us in worship the very next day. As we sang in worship on December 15,

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God ye heavenly hosts above.
Praise God in wonder, joy and love.

Your Worship Co-co's
Sara Hoxie and Heather Hennessey

Financial Secretary's Recap of Income
First 11 Months of 2019

Description	Budget	Projected Income 11 months	Actual Income 11 Months	Income Variance 11 Months
Pledges	130,945	120,032	127,562	7,530
Loose Plate	12,900	11,825	7,622	-4,203
Sub-Total	143,845	131,857	135,184	2,385
Building Use	13,100	12,012	14,397	2,892
Other- Parking				
Lot Rent	*5,100	5,100	5,100	0
TOTAL	162,045	148,969	154,681	5,277

*Other Income: The parking lot rental in the amount of \$5,100 was paid on November 6th.

The pledge income for 11 months came in at \$7,530 above the projected income for 11 months into this year. We continue to show a positive number due to the number of Pre-Paid Pledges received to date.

The loose plate income for 11 months is \$4,203 lower than projected.

The Building Use income for 11 months is above the projected income by \$2,385. We received a \$3000 deposit from Shasta Madrigals for the performances in December.

Thank you all for your generous spirit of giving.

Robert Cross

Financial Secretary

OFFICERS

Interim Minister:

Gail Doering

Moderator:

Tara Swanson

Clerk:

Paula Damico

Assistant Clerk:

Paula Kahler

Treasurer:

David Steele

Financial Secretary:

Bob Cross

Members at Large:

Sue Crandell, Dan Scollon,

Diane Hepburn

COCO'S (Co-Coordinator)

Finance:

Bill Justice, John Crowe

Learning:

Paula Kahler, Lori McNeill

Serving:

Barbara Cross, Peggie Linville

Connecting:

Pam Crowe, Piyush Dhanuka

Worship:

Sara Hoxie, Heather Hennessey

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Bill Justice, Sue Asbill, Donna Nelson, Doreeta Domke, Lori McNeill

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Glenn Hoxie, Diane Hepburn, Paula Kahler



WE WILL OPEN THE BOOK. *Its pages are blank.*

We are going to put words on them ourselves.

THE BOOK IS CALLED **Opportunity**

and its first chapter is **New Year's Day.**"

~ Edith Lovejoy Pierce XOXOXO

HAPPY NEW YEAR PILGRIMS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:30 TOPS Meeting	2 6:00 CODA Meeting 7:00 Euphrates Institute	3 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast	4 9:00 Aikido 10:30 7 th Sense Poetry Group
5 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 2:00 UU Meeting	6 6:00 CODA Meeting	7	8 10:30 TOPS Meeting 2:00 p.m. House Concert Chuck Brosky	9 6:00 CODA Meeting	10 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast 5:00 p.m. PAS	11 9:00 Aikido
12 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 2:00 UU Meeting	13 6:00 CODA Meeting	14	15 10:30 TOPS Meeting	16 6:00 CODA Meeting	17 8:00 Men's Breakfast Country Waffles 8:30 HOPE VAN	18 9:00 Aikido
19 Worship Service 10:00 2:00 UU Meeting	20 6:00 CODA Meeting	21	22 10:30 TOPS Meeting	23 6:00 CODA Meeting	24 8:00 Men's Breakfast Country Waffles	25 9:00 Aikido
26 Worship 10:00 2:00 UU Meeting	27 6:00 CODA Meeting	28	29 10:30 TOPS Meeting	30 6:00 CODA Meeting	31 8:00 Men's Breakfast Country Waffles	2/1 9:00 Aikido 10:30 7 th Sense Poetry

PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

P.O. BOX 99-3183

REDDING, CA

96099

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

