Hello! It’s such a joy to be the newest part of our church and a new addition to the Pilgrim’s Progress as your called and settled minister. The love with which you’ve welcomed me has filled me with gratitude. It is so good to be here.

And I want to say a big thank you to everyone who participated in our makeshift spirituality typology exercise a few Sundays ago. The results of the straw poll (since we’re in the polling spirit): 5 for “head” type spirituality, 13 “heart,” 24 “mystic,” and 28 “commonwealth” (social action) -- based on Corinne Ware’s Spirituality Wheel. It was wonderful to get to know each other a little deeper and, I’ll remind you, if you found yourself in one of the more under-represented quadrants it simply means your presence is that much more precious!

We need each other. That’s the sermon I’ll preach a hundred times. Nobody heals in isolation. Our transformation is unique and bound up in one another’s. No one is able to walk our path for us, but we don’t dare go it alone.

So this weekend we’re doing just that: taking the journey deeper. Sunday we begin a corporate journey inward through the season of Lent, exploring emotion and keeping in mind that social transformation is intimately connected with the personal. We’ll reflect, celebrate, stretch ourselves, and contemplate the role of certain basic emotions in our lives and spiritualities, finally culminating in the triumph of vulnerability that is Palm Sunday.

Each Sunday in March there will be an opportunity for someone in the congregation to share a moment when that week’s specific emotion was important for them (we’ll pass
around a sign-up sheet). This will make more sense after this coming Sunday.

I'm looking forward to Lent, looking forward to reading Rohr's The Universal Christ in our book club, enjoying Wednesdays at Woody's and learning as much as I can about our community. Most of all, I'm grateful to be on the journey with you.

Peace,
Pastor Allen

Worship Report

By the time we receive this March newsletter, Ash Wednesday will be behind us. Hopefully, a number of Pilgrims joined our friends at First Christian Church for that meaningful service.

During the season of Lent, which started with Ash Wednesday and ends with the dawn of Easter Sunday, Pastor Allen will be preaching a sermon series. One Sunday's sermon should build on another; you won't want to miss it.

The color of Lent is purple. In ancient times, that color represented royalty, probably because the dye needed to produce it was so rare and costly. In the Christian tradition, it represents the royalty of Christ and it stands for the sorrow of his passion and death. Our sanctuary will be draped in purple through Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday.

Meetings with Pastor Allen are scheduled soon to plan for Easter services, but he has already indicated his interest in a Sunrise Service as well as the 10:00 a.m. service. Stay tuned as Easter is on April 12th this year so we have plenty of time to announce our worship options.

A final word of thanks to both Mary Forbes and Sara Hoxie. Mary has been hemming beautiful purple fabrics for our Lenten décor (shown above), and Sara is stepping down from her role as Worship Co-coordinator. Thank you, Mary and Sara, for your quiet, steady gifts of service to our congregation.

Connecting Co-Cos
Heather Hennessey & Sara Hoxie

Landscape Report

With the help of Chris, Cora and Thelonius McNeill, Paula Damico, Kory Lawrence, Tyler and Elizabeth Shuster, and Heather Hennessey, all the Crepe Myrtles around the church were pruned in the month of February. They look great and they'll burst forth in bloom this summer because of that work.

Nancy Milton & Diane Langan planted pansies by the church's front door last November. During the December & January rains, they didn't look their best, but don't miss them now! They've turned their colorful faces towards the sun and they're blooming beautifully. Thanks, Nancy and Diane!

Leon Nelson continues to help with weed control, and on Saturday, March 14th, Heather will begin weed whacking along the western edge of our sanctuary. If you can help, please bring your string trimmer and join her. Cutting the grass keeps us from having to poison it.

Heather Hennessey
Pilgrims Connect

March 3  Primary Election. Be sure to vote!

March 8  Coffee & Conversation: Maggie McNamara, Director of Passages in Redding. Passages supports family caregivers by providing critical services and community resources, especially for those caring for loved ones with dementia, Alzheimer’s disease and other disabling medical issues. Meet in the Fireside room during coffee time.

March 21  Hope Van

March 22  One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering

Other opportunities

- Adopt a Block Cleanup - Need 2 volunteers, see Pam
- Faith Works Support as needed: watch for donation requests.

Plan Ahead

April 17  Faith Works Masquerade Fundraising Dinner

April 18 Whole Earth Watershed Festival

Get to Know the Endowment Fund

Pilgrim Church has received a contribution from Rosemary Thomas and Rochelle Beyer’s Estate Settlement in the sum of $10,000. Rosemary, who was 98 years old, passed away in January. Many of you would remember Rosemary a longtime, loving and dedicated member of Pilgrim Church and how she shared her beautiful flowers from her garden many Sundays.

There was no stipulation given with this estate settlement as to how this contribution was to be used. The Finance Team decided to invest this donation in the Endowment Fund knowing that Rosemary would be pleased with that decision.

For those of you that are not aware of what the Endowment Fund is we have provided a little history about the fund. The fund was established back in 1995 in order to provide the opportunity for members through their wills, to make a lasting legacy gift from their estate to Pilgrim Church upon their death. Or this also provides the opportunity for members to make contributions to the fund to provide future income for Pilgrim Church. Over the years several members have participated with contributions and the fund had grown to a total of $98,000 as of April 2018.

The money was originally invested in a Moderate Balanced Fund with United Church Funds in New York. As written in the Church Bylaws 3 members are selected and appointed as custodians by the church council to monitor this investment. It was determined by the custodians that funds available at The Vanguard Group would provide a more favorable return for the investment so, the decision was made to transfer the funds invested at United Church funds to The Vanguard Group. That transfer was completed in April 2018 and since that change was made the Endowment Fund has grown to a balance of $114,950 as of 12/31/19. The addition of this estate settlement of $10,000 will bring the total investment to $124,950.

As it is stated in the Constitution and Bylaws of Pilgrim Congregational Church, Article XI - Endowment Fund,
All principal amounts will be retained and only the income expended. No portion of the income generated by the Endowment Fund shall be used for the annual operating budget. On February 25, 2018, the Bylaws were amended and approved by the Church Council to read as follows: “The interest income generated by the Endowment fund may be transferred to a separate Reserve Account and can be used on an as needed basis for the operating budget only with the approval of the Church Council.”

We hope this definition of what the Endowment Fund is all about will answer any questions you might have. If you do have a question about the Endowment fund please contact one of the custodians listed here.

A letter on acknowledgement of the receipt of this generous contribution has been sent to the Rosemary Thomas Family

Endowment Custodians:
Robert Cross
John Egolf
Bill Justice

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**Joys & Concerns**

**Joys**

What a wonderful welcome the congregation gave Pastor Allen O’Brien on his first official day with us on Feb. 2nd. Everyone is eager to spread the word that Pilgrim Church has a new minister. Even our long time members, Robb and Karin Lightfoot drove up from Chico to meet him.

Sheri Curtis, our pianist, arranged for a substitute for her while she was in Florida for a wedding. Alda Turgieva accompanied our choir and played during the services for 2 Sundays. Alda is also the principal pianist for the North State Symphony where she performed on Feb. 8th playing a Donzon by Marquiz as well as the Symphony #3 by Saint Saens. Welcome back Sheri and thank you to Alda for sharing your talent with us.

Welcome back to Glenn and Sara Hoxie from your trip to Nashville to celebrate Sara’s sister’s milestone birthday.

The landscape crew worked with Heather Hennessey on Saturday. Many hands accomplished much work to beautify our property. Thanks to the Cifu Shuster family including Story, Paula Damico, and Kory Lawrence, Chris, Cora and Thelonius McNeill. It’s a big job to prune the Crepe Myrtle trees.

Kit Harvey had a trip to Moscow (not Idaho — Russia) with her brother Chris and wife, Billie in February.... What tales she has to tell.

Leon and Donna Nelson are singing Hawaiian tunes these days as they have recently returned from 2 weeks of Aloha time on Kauai.

Peggie Linville and Kim Healey, the Serving Cocos, express many thanks to several Pilgrims who helped them serve the luncheon following the memorial service for Ken Steele on Feb. 12. Kit Harvey, Nancy Larsen, Barbara Cross and Bill Justice. Many brought food for the buffet table. Also Heather Hennessey, Randy Haynes and Mary Forbes who arranged the tables. The service, which was well attended, was led by Pastor Allen and the eulogy given by Heather Hennessey who shared many stories of Ken’s life.

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**Concerns**

Roy Price will begin his radiation treatments Feb. 24th for prostate cancer...first SCSF, San Francisco and then in Redding. Keep him and Linda in your prayers.

Prayers for Sue and Don Crandell’s granddaughter, who is 28 and has been extremely ill, hospitalized with complications. She is Sara Hoxie’s niece.

Our very own Allen O’Brien became ill the week of Feb. 17th... Oh dear, what have we done to him? Prayers for a speedy recovery for Allen.

On Feb 19th, Dick Kahler was brought back to Redding by ambulance from Sacramento and will be at VIBRA Rehab facility. This has been a long recovery from his surgery. Prayers are needed for him and Paula as they go through these next few weeks of Physical therapy, as well as speech and swallowing therapy.

How nice to have family visitors with us on Sunday Feb 16, Sonny and Bev Stupek’s, daughter Lauren from Southern California and Harry Daniel’s 2 daughters with him at Church.
Several Pilgrims are unable to attend worship. Each one would appreciate a call or card to cheer up their day: Paul Frye, Joanne Nelson, Claudine Cupples, Linda Lack, Deanie Coon, and Caroline Kennedy.

Called to Care group needs to know if there are others in our congregation who would like a minister’s visit or who might have special needs with which we could help. The following are in the Called to Care group: Peggie Linville, Kim Healey, Kit Harvey, Alice and Ed Beier, Diane Hepburn, Heather Hennessy, Karen Foss, Barbara Cross, Sally Dale, Dee Domke, Teri Hartley, Allen O’Brien. Anyone may volunteer to be included.

Letter from Our New Moderator

These are exciting times for us here at Pilgrim. I pray that each of us takes this opportunity to renew our faith and rededicate ourselves to our shared christian mission. I also pray that we continue to be mindful of the need to support each. Let’s never miss the opportunity to express our love, gratefulness and admiration of each other.

I am so fortunate to be following in the steps of Tara. Her vision, dedication and level headed decision making skills will be a hard act to follow. Her leadership has led the council to a place of strength. We focus now on building our role in the community and striving to support each as we continue on our spiritual path. With revitalized energy and purpose, let’s get started straight away!

Moderator, Glenn Hoxie

Save the Date

Wednesdays @ Woody’s
Meet up with your fellow Pilgrims and friends at First Christian Church at Woody’s Brewing Company in Downtown Redding. We meet every Wednesday at 5:30pm. Join the conversation.

Men’s Breakfasts
Pilgrim’s Men’s Breakfast takes place at Country Waffles on Athins ave. in Redding every Friday at 8am. See you then!

Choir Practice
If you’re interested in joining the Pilgrim choir, drop by for choir practice on Sunday mornings at 8:30am.

Book Club
March 5 | 2pm | Fireside
We’re beginning our journey through Richard Rohr’s The Universal Christ on March 5 and continuing each Thursday at 2pm.

Pacific Crest Music Concert
March 7 | 7pm | Sanctuary

Ladies Luncheon
March 13 | 12pm | Fell. Hall

Performing Arts Society
March 13 | 7:30pm | Sanctuary

One Future at a Time
March 14 | 7pm | Sanctuary

Called to Care
March 15 | 11:30pm | Fireside
Paciﬁc Crest Chamber Players and Soprano Gloria Gazave

Performance includes
Quartet No.1 in Bb Major “La Chasse”, Op.1, No.1 - Haydn
String Quartet No.14 in Ab Major, Op. 105 - Dvorák
“Lascia ch’io pianga” - Handel
“Come mail poi vedermi piangere” - Marcello

Saturday
March 7
7PM

Pilgrim Congregational Church
2850 Foothill Blvd
Redding, CA

Suggested Donation at the Door $20
Join us for refreshments following concert

4th ANNUAL
COMMUNITY SING-ALONG

A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR ONE FUTURE AT A TIME
a local nonprofit organization changing lives in Africa by creating opportunities for education, health, and personal empowerment www.onefutureatatime.com

Come sing with the One Future band
Some of your favorites and ours
Featuring songs by Crosby, Stills, & Nash, The Everly Brothers, The Beatles, Van Morrison, Linda Ronstadt, Kansas, and more

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, at 7:00 p.m.
PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
2850 FOOTHILL BLVD, REDDING

TICKETS: $20 AT THE MUSIC CONNECTION OR AT THE DOOR
Includes Admission, Refreshments, a Songbook and a Chance for a Door Prize