



November

PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH | NEWSLETTER | 2020

Since I gave myself to Love's service,
Whether lose or win,
I am resolved:
I will always give her thanks,
Whether lose or win;
I will stand in her power.

-Hadewijch, 13th century poet and mystic

There will be talk of losing and winning this week. As much as we long for unity, peace, and fraternity, there seems to be much on the line for ourselves, people for whom we care, our society, our planet. Some speak of despair and feelings of powerlessness; others rally and remind us warmly to vote.

I've been asked what gives me hope. And if I'm honest (or despairing?), I take solace in knowing, though I don't always control the circumstances, I can choose my response. Come what may, it is our human birthright to choose Love's service and Love's power: a miracle invisible only for its commonness and availability.

Lose or win, grief or celebration (or frustration at binaries), we can choose gratitude together with our spiritual mother and sibling Hadewijch: gratitude for the Love in which we live, the many loves we share, the honor of service, and the resolve of a life grounded in its power.

May the God who is Love surround us through the coming weeks. Amen!

Pastor Allen

Learning

Kaarin and Allen continue to provide special learning opportunities for our children and youth. Some of our children will be sharing special Thanks as they light our worship candles this month.

Heather is continuing a Bible Study of the book of Psalms on Tuesdays at 4. Come prepared to meet outside if necessary.

Allen is leading our study of Ibram X Kendi's book, "How to be an Antiracist", on Thursdays at 3 via zoom. We hope to finish our discussions by the end of this month. We'll look at something special for Advent after that.

Our Pilgrim Library is open by appointment. Call the church office. Pilgrims strive to be life long learners! Let us know if we can help.

— Scott Hepburn & Paula Kahler, Pilgrim Learning CoCos

Worship

My fellow Worship Co-coordinator, Diane Hepburn, and I changed the paraments and other sanctuary décor on Monday, October 19. We chose a fall theme for the remainder of Ordinary Time. This theme will also take us through November, our "Thanksgiving month." Our hope is that the Madrigals will want to decorate the sanctuary again in time for the church season of Advent. We will be in touch with them in early November.

Your Worship Co-co's encouraged our choir to join the UCC Conference Annual Meeting's virtual choir for the singing of "Great is Thy Faithfulness." Pastor Allen was then able to transfer that performance into our Pilgrim worship service for October 25. Thanks to Nancy Dutton Hill and choir members Donna Nelson, Pam Crowe and Jim Carr for making that happen.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Hennessey and Diane Hepburn, Worship Co-coordinators

Serving

The Serving committee Co-Cos have gathered names of members who are willing to pick up groceries or necessary items during this quarantine period. For contact purpose:

Kim Healey 605-0080

Peggie Linville 515-4110

Pilgrim Church 243-3121

The Buddy System is still ongoing during this isolation period. For anyone wishing to connect with another member via phone on a regular basis, please contact Kim Kealey at 605-0080, and leave a message. Those who have Buddies please continue your calls, they are appreciated.

The Serving Co-cos want to be sure all are aware of instacart.com, a nationwide service that provides home grocery delivery here in Redding. An additional internet site provides pre assembled delivered meals for 30 minute preparation. In your search bar go to every plate. Meals are reasonable and healthy.

Prayer chain requests are always available through

Jean Cannon

227-3274 | jeancannon@frontiernet.net

Barbara Cross

221-3809 | eugjoy@gmail.com

A virtual Called to Care meeting was held on 10/18 and the next meeting of this group will be 11/15/20.

We thank all the church members who have donated birthday, get well and condolence cards. All members of the Called to Care have been busy making phone calls; responding to prayer chain requests; providing meals; sending cards for birthdays and other greetings. A new list of volunteers for providing meals to those who have had surgery has been established. See Barbara Cross's "Joys & Concerns" for further details.

Serving Co-cos,
Peggie Linville and Kim Healey

Landscape

An intrepid team of three finished pruning all the Texas Privet bushes around the front of the church in October. Many thanks to Paula D'Amico and Chris McNeill for skillfully and patiently managing those prickly bushes.



On Saturday, November 7, Heather, Paula and Chris will start working their way around the east and south sides of the church pruning more Privet and some Pyracanthus. Please join us! We start about 9:00 and finish about 11:00. And if pruning isn't your thing, bring a rake. There is always lots of clean up to be done.

Connecting

French County Soup for the Soul Sale - Oct. 24

- This past month has seen our focus on soup. Kudos to Heather and team for cooking 44 gallons of soup for us. Huge thanks to new members Teri Hartley and Victor Sokolow for adding excitement and creativity. Big thanks to Sheri Curtis for procuring

all the bread. We are grateful to over 30 volunteers who prepped for the event, worked at the sale, and for all customers who came to make it a special day.

- Special thanks go to Anderson Safeway for donating all the bread, Enjoy the Store for all the bags, and to Victor Sokolow for donating the \$150 work boots that will be made to order. Thanks to Heather Hennessey, Diane Hepburn, and Pam Crowe for the Enjoy the Store gift certificates.
- We will be able to donate to three non-profit organizations this year. We'll let you know how much as soon as possible. The selected organizations are ones Pilgrim works with regularly: SEACM, FaithWorks and our Pilgrim Compassion Fund.
- Enjoy the soup!

FaithWorks Apt 9

- Baby Dennis was born Sept. 3, 2020 coming into the world at 9 lbs. 5 oz. and 22" tall.
- Thanks to the good fairy who dropped off boxes of diapers for the family this month. They were delivered and the family was delighted.

Anti-Racism

- At the September Council Meeting, Council voted to erect a Black Lives Matter statement, either one of our own making or one of the traveling exhibits available. We may be able to use the Sonoma UCC traveling exhibit in December. Please contact us if you are interested in helping.

Creation Justice Church

- We are still moving in the direction of becoming a creation justice church. It includes being green at church and at home, addressing climate change and more. From the Kairos Milwaukie UCC, we borrow these ideas to keep in mind as the holidays approach:

KMUCC Green Team Tips for a Green Holiday Season

- Get a real Christmas tree – but if you have an artificial one already, keep using it
- Use LED lights
- Buy less – and buy eco-friendly items including non-object gifts like planned experiences, planting trees, charity donations
- Make your own holiday cards and ornaments
- Connect with Nature

- Choose eco-friendly wrapping paper, even the comics from the newspaper
- Don't forget the food – sustainable and tasty, with minimal waste. Love leftovers.
- Calculate your carbon footprint, using a carbon footprint calculator like the one the University of California, Berkeley offers on its website.
- If there is anyone in the congregation who would love to help head up Creation Justice, please contact us.

Best wishes to all,
 Connecting Co-Cos,
 Pam Crowe & Sue Crandell

French Country Soup for the Soul

October 24, 2020

Connecting Co-Cos, Sue Crandell & Pam Crowe, give hearty thanks to all our Volunteers!! This event was a success because of each and every volunteer from concept, overall planning, soup cooking, procuring, cutting, bagging, stamping, tying, writing, researching, stuffing, tabling, setting-up to clean-up.

Please give recognition to:

Teri Hartley	Karen Foss	Tara Swanson
Victor Sokolow	Andrea Gibbens	Diane Hepburn
Peggie Linville	Liam Egolf-Gibbens	Donna Nelson
Heather Hennessey	Jorianna Egolf-Gibbens	Randy Haynes
Jo Ficklin	John Egolf	Nancy Milton
Karly Chin	Astrid Rainsford	George Cole
Eila Chin	KevIn Rainsford	Elizabeth Cifu Shuster
Sheri Curtis	Kara Rainsford	Tyler Cifu Shuster
Barbara Cross	Lucia Rainsford	John Crowe
Bob Cross	Tyler Rainsford	Allen O'Brien

If your name is missing, let me know. We'll fix that!
 And thanks to all the folks who bought soup!
 We'd be nothing without you!

A Note from June Hartmann

This is a thank you note the church received from June Hartmann who now lives in Chico:

"I was honored to serve the community of Redding through the Health Dept. as a visiting nurse to the elderly and those that had become paralyzed and to be chosen the first Hospice Coordinator in the North State in 1978. Later I worked with the chaplain with the grievings group and to work as the volunteer coordinator for the Presbyterian Church after I retired. I joined Lee's Book Club in 1999 and joined Pilgrim Church in the year 2000. I celebrated 50 years of marriage in a beautiful ceremony in the church chapel. Later I spent taking care of my husband who had Parkinsons. I have had a full and productive life for which I am very grateful. Thank you so much for your written wishes. It was much appreciated.

Love, June"

Joys & Concerns

JOYS

Jay Curtis, Sheri's father, was thrilled and most appreciative of the 99th birthday greetings for him with many cards and the "drive-by" visitors. Thank you all!

On display at the Turtle Bay Museum is a collection of artistic benches created by local artists from Sept 26 to Jan 10th. Among the artists is Michelle Martin-Streeby's husband, John, with a very large creative metal sculpture. John Streeby has contributed much art in public places throughout Redding. Exhibits like this are supported by many financial gifts. Our own Doretta Domke is one of the supporters. Thank you to the artists and contributors.

Heather Hennessey, Paula Damico and Chris McNeil spent a Saturday morning trimming shrubbery at our church. Hats off to you!

Kit Harvey, our resident eagle resource for info on the eagles, shared that the male, Guardian, has returned to the tree/nest near Turtle Bay. Liberty, the female, should return soon. We'll be watching and hoping for eggs in the nest in January.

What an enthusiastic group put on the “Soup for the Soul” drive-by event at the church on Saturday Oct. 24th. Huge thank yous to Heather Hennessey, “The SOUP QUEEN”, who made gallons and gallons of the French Country Market Soup for the sale. Teri Hartley and Victor Sokolow along with Pam Crowe and several volunteers organized the event to raise money for Pilgrim Church to donate to non-profits with whom the church has shared in the past from the French Country Market. Part of the proceeds will also be added to our Compassion fund. Hooray for all of you!

The lessons about racism presented by Kaarin Brooke for the children during the worship services in October have been enlightening for the children as well as the adults. Thank you Kaarin.

Thanks to Keith Asher for sharing his talent with us during worship. This modest man has a gift for singing and playing the guitar.

One of the many joys Pastor Allen brings to the youth of Pilgrim Church is the once a month Friday night “Game Night”. There is laughter and smiles through the Zoom gatherings.

We send gratitude to so many who share their time and talent for our worship services—liturgists, candle lighters and musicians.

A lovely birthday outing on Oct. 28th. took Barbara Cross to McCloud. Barbara and Bob enjoyed the beautiful views of the 3 McCloud Falls and scenery which is here “in our own back yard”!

A hearty welcome to Virtual Coffee Hour to Angela and Gary French. This couple has been enjoying our on-line worship services and hope to become a part of our congregation.

The Northern California/Nevada Conference Choir’s singing of “Great is Thy Thankfulness” during worship on Oct. 25th was inspirational. Singers from Pilgrim church were, Donna Nelson, Jim Carr, Pam Crowe, Heather Hennessey joined the group. Megan Owen, Nancy Milton’s daughter was also in the choir.

Kit Harvey continues her golfing hobby by playing in tournaments in California. She also thoughtfully took Bob Clark, a former golfer, to the Lake Redding Course to putt that little white ball on the greens. Thank you Kit for sharing time with Bob.

We send appreciation thoughts to Doreeta Domke for taking over the responsibility of sending Birthday cards to Pilgrims. Sally Dale had done this for several years—Thanks to both of these women.

CONCERNS

Our prayers are with the Crandell family as they cope with the death of Sue's beloved husband, Don, and Sara Hoxie's father. Don passed away on Oct. 28th at the end of a long well-lived life.

Andrea Gibbens Egolf expressed concern for so many who have PTSD emotions as we go through the October Zogg fire in the Igo area as well as the Berry Creek fire. She also asks for prayers for her brother in Boise, Idaho, who has tested positive for Covid-19.

We continue our prayers for June Mackey who had surgery in October for the removal of a tumor on her kidney. May she have a good recovery.

Prayers for Rachel Hatch as she has been going through a variety of medical tests to determine a diagnosis of some health challenges she is facing.

Pastor Allen officiated at the graveside service for Maggie Cerro, John Cerro's wife. Maggie's daughters and Pastor Allen planned a comforting service in memory of Maggie on Oct. 9th.

Scott Asbill, Sue Asbill's son suffered a severely broken leg while on a power scooter in Spokane. Sue is very concerned as he is having a difficult recovery.

The Serving Co-cos, Peggie Linville and Kim Healey, would like to hear from you if you know of someone who may need extra help. This could be a time when many Pilgrims are in need of extra care but are hesitant to ask.

Several Pilgrims are unable to connect for worship or cannot have visitors during this epidemic. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers. Send cards or make a phone call: Deanie Coon, Linda Lack, Caroline Kennedy, Claudine Cupples, Joanne Nelson and Paul Frye.

Submitted by Barbara Cross

Finance Report

Summary	Budget	Projected Income	Actual Income	Difference
Pledges	135,000	101,250	106,615	5,365
Loose Plate	13,000	9,747	12,684	2,937
Sub-Total	148,000	110,997	119,299	8,302
Building Use	15,000	11,250	4,160	-7,090
Other	*5,100	0	0	0
Total	168,100	122,247	123,459	1,212

Other income: * the 5100 is for the Parking Lot Rental and is paid to Pilgrim In October each year.

The income for the first 9 months for Pledges, Loose Plate & Building use was \$123,459 compared to our projected 9 months income of \$122,247 still shows a variance to the plus side of \$1,212. Due to the fact that the church facility has been closed since mid march the income from Building Use has fallen well below our projected budget number by \$7,090. It is uncertain at this time when the church will be open for outside community bulding use.

Stewardship Drive for 2021 Update:

I am pleased to report that as of October 23 we have received 21 pledge commitments with a total commitment of \$45,212. Thanks to those of you who have sent in your pledge cards.

We sent out around 100 letters and pledge cards announcing the start of our 2021 Stewardship Campaign around October 7th. For those of you who have not responded PLEASE SEND IN YOUR PLEDGE CARDS.

Submitted by: Robert Cross, Financial Secretary

Robert Cross,
Financial Secretary