

# Pilgrim's Progress

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### Worship Services

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

### Monday

Brown Bag Bible 12:00 to 1:00pm

### Wednesday

Youth Bible Study 6:00pm  
 Celebration Worship 7:00pm  
 Renovatus 8:00pm

### Church Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 8:30—4:30pm  
 Friday 8:30 -4:00pm

### Office Closed Daily

Lunch 12:00 to 1:00pm

## Mother. She Hath Done What She Could

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth E. Bingham  
 Senior Minister

### REFLECTIONS...

In an in-between summer in seminary, I was a mother's helper for a family I still love. To my delight we spent the summer at the grandparents' home in Sprucehead Island, Maine. It was a beautiful place, right on the ocean with the sound of waves splashing on the rocky shore the constant chorus in our background. It was a wondrous place for a three year old who was my primary responsibility. We climbed and played and talked and read and every now and then would go to the island store where her mother and I indulged in fireballs. Besides Kenna, the three year old, there were infant twins, Bret and Lehna, who consumed much of their parents' time. All in all, it was a first hand view of what it meant to be a mom. I looked at their mom, Gay, as the role model for my own parenting and am pleased that my own son seems to be growing into the same kind, good and happy souls the three of them are now.

My days off I spent adventuring



I was a mother's helper for a family I still love.

along the Maine coast, a wonder for a young woman who had grown up in Wisconsin, gone to college in Iowa, and saw an ocean for the first time when she went abroad to study at age 21. I was equally fascinated by the history of the place---Wisconsin and Iowa were downright modern compared to the East Coast. So I found myself traipsing through grave yards, doing rubbings. I had started in New Haven, CT. that spring and found gravestones just as old and fascinating in Maine.

It was in Thomaston that I found the stone that told me what I was beginning to understand from being a mother's helper, and which I

*(Continued on page 3)*

# ANNUAL MEETING & DINNER MAY 16

Dr. Beth Bingham

As proscribed in our church bylaws the annual meeting of Pilgrim Congregational Church is held on the third Wednesday in May.

At that time boards and committees present reports of their activities over the past years and new members are elected to boards and offices.

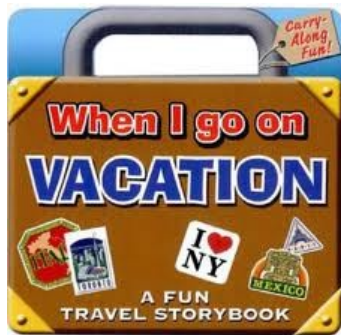
This year is particularly exciting as we prepare for the Gala celebration of our 125 years of faithfulness in the community.

We will have our fellowship dinner beginning at 6:30 (\$8 for adults, \$4 for children under 12, children under 3 are free), with reservations by the attached coupon or through the church office

by Monday, May 14.

The meeting will begin at 7:30. Remember that as a Congregational church these meetings are important because all authority and decision making rest with the members of the church.

See you then!



I must have a good book

Coming this Fall...



Ask "Nurse Mary" For your medical care and concerns contact Nurse Mary Scott with your inquiries. 909-622-1373

## LIBRARY NEWS

by Megan Parnell

Don't forget to include our library in your vacation plans this summer. The library committee continues to meet and select new books for your reading pleasure. You can be assured of plenty of books being available all

summer long. Also, we have many books on CD for you to enjoy as you drive or work out. We can supply you with magazines and paperback books that do not need to be returned so you can read them on the airplane

and not bother to take up room in your suitcase on the flight back. Your librarian will be happy to recommend things to you; just ask.

# Dinner & Annual Meeting

**May 16, 2012**  
**6:30 p.m**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ADULTS(@ \$8.00)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Children (3 -12) \$4.00** \_\_\_\_\_ **#Under 3(FREE)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Highchair needed?** \_\_\_\_\_

If you are on the permanent list; you will not need to register.

## THE LOVE OF A FATHER

Jon Olson

Over the years, picking out a Father's Day card to give to my father was a perpetual problem; nothing ever conveyed the appropriate sentiment and the funny ones simply avoided sincerity. Yet, the joy in receiving a card has only been a reflection of my children's intention to express their gratitude and love for me, and as such, what is printed on the card is totally insignificant, knowing they are thinking about me is the important point. That makes me feel all the effort in raising them has been worth the worrying, frustrations, moments of joy, and the overwhelming sense of pride to see what they have become.

As part of God's creation, we probably don't do everything we are supposed to do, including thanking Him. However, those times when we do what is right still may not be as significantly meaningful to God as those tiny moments when we close our eyes, focus our attention on Him and thank God for loving us.

## Reflections

*(Continued from page 1)*

more fully understand being a mother. There were just a few words, but they said everything. "Mother. She hath done what she could."

As I think about Mother's Day, and how we might honor the ones who loved us and nurtured us and helped us become who we are today, that pretty much says everything. For all their weaknesses (which most of us could easily list) for all their hovering (though now we know that worrying is part of loving), for all they couldn't give us....it is their strength, and their protection and their concern which have mattered so much more. "She hath done what she could." And, frankly, that was plenty.

So let us be about thanking God for those women who loved us and empowered us, who softened us and strengthened us, who chided us and supported us, and who, above all, gave us life.



Happy Father's Day !



Life without God  
is like an  
unsharpened pencil;  
it has no point!

### Beth's Blog...

Finding faith in every-day moments. Check out the website on a weekly basis or read her posts on FaceBook.

## ***CAREGIVER GROUP: Mondays May 7 and 21***

The first and third Monday of each month those who are caring for others in the home, or have responsibility to oversee the care of others join together for sessions of information and support. We meet in the conference room at 7 p.m., and welcome anyone to join us. Included in May's information will be conversations about grief—not only at death, but when lives change dramatically. For any questions please call Dr. Bingham or Mary Scott, our parish nurse. They may be reached through the church office at 909-622-1373.

## ***MOVIE NIGHT AT PILGRIM: Tuesday, May 15 “Joyful Noise”***

On Tuesday, May 15 we will gather at 6 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall to share dinner and to watch the movie “Joyful Noise” “a funny and inspirational story of music, hope, love and renewal. The small town of Pacashau, Georgia, has fallen on hard times, but the people are counting on the Divinity Church Choir to lift their spirits by winning the National Joyful Noise Competition.” (joyfulnoisemovie@warnerbrothers.com) The movie stars Queen Latifah and Dolly Parton and has gotten excellent audience reviews.

We will provide a main dish, and ask those coming to bring a dish to share (salad, side or dessert) and \$3 to help cover the cost of the entrée. After seeing the movie we will have a discussion about it. These are always well attended, wonderful events. See you then!

## ***CEDAR LAKE ADULT CAMP: July 29***

Once again we are offering the adults the opportunity to spend time in the San Bernardino Mountains at Cedar Lake Camp. We will gather on Sunday, July 29 and end our formal activities on Thursday, August 2. While the youth and children meet at the “lower camp” we will be in Harriman Lodge. Harriman has individual rooms with private baths. The dining area is located in the lodge which makes the week easy even for those whose mobility is limited.

Each day includes Bible Study, Worship, book “conversations,” movies and recreational activities as well as plenty of time to enjoy the lake and the mountains. Swimming and boating, shopping, hiking and sightseeing are always on the docket.

The cost for the whole week from Sunday to Saturday is \$360 per person for a single room \$300 for those sharing a room. Those wishing to come up for part of the week may do so, space permitting. Daily rates are \$50 for a shared room or \$60 a night for a single. You are welcome to stay until Saturday though our program will conclude on Thursday.

Please make reservations through Dr. Bingham. And let her know if there are books or movies you think would provide good discussion on faithful concerns.

## **HOT STOCK TIP**

Pilgrim teens are selling stock each Sunday after church in May, proceeds are for NAPF.

Visit our table in Pilgrim Hall to receive your personalized stock or mail your request to the church attention Matt Moncrief.



## **CONFIRMATION CLASS: May 2**

Confirmation classes will begin Wednesday nights May 2 through May 30 at 6pm in Pilgrim Hall. Confirmation will be held on Christian Education Sunday, June 3.

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY: June 3**

On June 3 all 3rd graders will receive Bibles. There will be confirmation and graduation as well as the youth play and Teacher's appreciation.



## .....HISTORIAN'S CORNER

### “Rummage, Pilgrims, Mother's & History.....”



BaLinda suggested a *Pilgrim's Progress* tie-in to Mothers Day this month which turns out to connect with our Pilgrim history of mega-giant Rummage Sale efforts twice a year. And these sales and the run up to it all the fun of rummage week fellowship ARE family events for us as well as family events for the community!

The chair of our department (Women Warriors of Ladies wear), has been dedicating two weeks of rummage duty twice a year since childhood I found out, helping her mother at the sales, and later taking over the job herself, bringing her sisters in on it who join the crew from out of state when they can, and also bringing us help from her sons and husband. She donates two days from her practice twice yearly to keep the tradition going. THAT's dedication! And there are many many other Pilgrim workers sacrificing time, labor, and energy while balancing multiple demands.

All around the Pilgrim Church buildings during Rummage Preparation week there is a very special “family” atmosphere of fellowship and connection and a sort of “mothering” of one another as the various age groups of volunteers blend and work together on the giant effort....and this is in wonderful partnership with our Pilgrim men who complement the skills and energy and ‘heart’ needed to make these sales happen.

Of course on Sale Day...the hard work is rewarded with meeting and greeting our community neighbors... many are repeat visitors and some are new friends... it's a social “family” affair for all as we assist families in selecting, carrying, and searching for “special” items...and the neighborliness and encouragement and the thanks expressed to us from all these people who bring their families to us and wish us well and thank us for our work is indescribably re-energizing !  
Sale Day is a WONDERFUL DAY! ...and it is a twice-yearly “family reunion day” with our community!

Another special family feature of Pilgrim rummage sales is the unique family relationship we have with Cross-roads House in Claremont...who sends us about a dozen women volunteers to work side-by-side with us for the week of the sale and this VERY special fellowship opportunity becomes a ‘family’ thing every time. Sometimes shy and unsure on the first day of working with us, it all changes within a few hours of shared hard and dedicated work in so many of the rummage departments..... the “Mothering Thing” develops and we work together, talk together, eat together and the “Pilgrim Family embraces and expands and is made stronger and able to provide more service and Bigger BETTER sales and bonds with the community.

Exhausting, tiring, hot, dirty and unglamorous work sometimes...but these are the BEST sales in the Valley and sometimes the BEST two weeks of our year! Thank you to all the workers...We ARE making generational Pilgrim History and the workers are the “HEART OF PILGRIM.!!” Our Moms would be proud !!!!!

#### THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

On Tuesday, **June 5** the Pilgrim Women's Auxiliary will be hosting our annual potluck to thank all Rummage Sale volunteers. The luncheon will be held in the Pilgrim Gym at 12:00.

Please bring your favorite dish to share. All volunteers, men and women are invited. If you cannot bring a dish; a \$3 donation would be appreciated. This will be our last meeting until October 2012.

Mary Ferguson, President

Vice Presidents: Roberta Fisher, Loretta Barker, Judy Sanders, and Jan Manildi



## Pilgrim Celebrates 125: May 19 and 20

"The 125th Anniversary Committee gently reminds you: For the Anniversary Dinner on May 19th, all reservations and your payment of \$25 are due to the church office by this Friday, May 4.

Please remember, no reservations or payments will be accepted at the Ebell Club the night of the dinner. From the invitation you received by mail, be sure to return your RSVP card and check this week!"

We are honored to have Charles Phoenix who is a performer, humorist, chef and author. In his live shows, videos, media appearances and books, the self-proclaimed "retro daddy" explores America's classic and kitschy pop cultural past and present...Fans enjoy his unique spin and genuine reverence for all things Americana, trust his guide to attractions from coast to coast." A native of Ontario, CA, Charles' first book was a retro look at the Pomona Valley. He has spoken at our church, and also appeared on the "Today" show and "The Martha Stewart Show."

### Pilgrim's Celebration Worship

#### Bob Smith

Come join us on Wednesday evenings in Pilgrim Hall. We have a great time singing and clapping our hands and praising God. We all have lots to give thanks for; just being alive is a blessing.

Join Pilgrim's **God Squad** and cheering section. Carl plays a mean guitar, Chris leads the singing, Max is a cool drummer and Bob gives us those organ low notes. Hear Matt's enthusiastic sermons with 45 minutes of all-out songs of praise.



### Harmonia sponsors "Adopt a Musician"



You can adopt your very own musician for a day! It costs \$250 to support one musician in the manner to which s/he is accustomed, but you can also adopt a portion of a musician (or support a musician on a less grand scale)! Your generosity will benefit our entire congregation by allowing us to enjoy your musician's talents on **Choir Sunday** as they accompany our choir John Rutter's exciting celebration of traditional spirituals



# The Adventures of Cedar Lake

We are excited to be back for another year of Cedar Lake Camp. Our theme for this year is Still Waters and we will be looking at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm and other passages/references to water in the New Testament. We have a great team of seasoned staff complimented by some new young counselors for what promises to be another great experience for the campers. Set in the most beautiful location in Big Bear, activities include campfires, crafts, swimming, boating, recreation, singing, dancing, skits, vespers and "group".

Camp is **July 29<sup>th</sup> – August 4<sup>th</sup>** and is open to all young people from those entering 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade in fall to those just graduated from High School. The cost for the week is \$369 which includes all lodging, meals, "store", T-shirt, camp CD and Camp Photo. Forms are available in Church Office or you can contact Eddie Hupp at [ehupp@sheffhomes.com](mailto:ehupp@sheffhomes.com) and have forms emailed to you. If cost is a prohibitive issue, please use this same email to discuss financial assistance availability. Let's give these young people an experience that they will carry with them forever!

## Ed Hupp (Eddie)



Having the opportunity to be a counselor at Cedar Lake Camp was without a doubt among one of the most rewarding endeavors of my young life. After attending Cedar Lake almost every year between 1st and 12th grade, I was quite familiar with the camp and the powerful impact it had on young people. Cedar Lake is a perfect atmosphere to simultaneously develop spiritual growth and have loads of fun. It doesn't discriminate between 8 year olds and 18 year olds, between regular church goers and those who may not have ever opened a Bible. Cedar Lake develops your faith and your person no matter what your background.

Needless to say I jumped at the opportunity to become a counselor when I became too old to be a camper. I was immediately struck by how good it felt to facilitate a child's relationship with God. Teaching, mentoring, and coaching the kids may not have always had a direct impact on how they interacted with God or explored their faith, but it helped put them in a position to do so. You're always around the kids, at every meal and event and activity. You are the one supervising their week long journey with the divine. The support from the other counselors is a bond unbroken by time or distance, and the source of some of my closest friendships.

And oh what fun it was! The kids at Cedar Lake are the reason the camp exists, and they teach us as much as we teach them. A child's innocent approach to theology is incredibly humbling, and offers a crucial- if forgotten- perspective when we examine God and the Bible. They remind us to take the time to revel in God's majesty, and let yourself be awe-struck by the gorgeous landscape surrounding Cedar Lake and Big Bear Lake.

They show us how important curiosity and inquisitiveness are as we learn about Christianity. And, most importantly, they portray the joy and amusement of getting closer to God through their worship, their songs of praise, and the friendship and community they develop over the course of the week.

Counseling at Cedar Lake is as enjoyable a week as you can imagine. Skits, pirate wars in the lake, hearing the day's gossip from Ringtail, water balloons, and all the rest are reason in themselves to participate. But the incredible feeling of helping someone discover God, and making a host of discoveries of my own along the way is why Cedar Lake will always be special to me.

**Teddy Bingham**

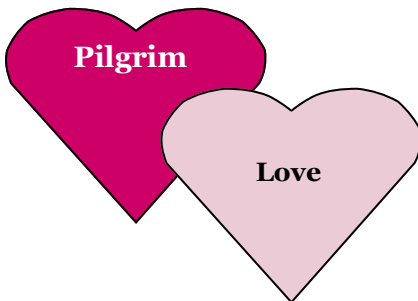
## LOVE IS IN THE AIR!



**Kate Marie Henry** and **Matt Moncrief** got engaged on April 4th at the Melting Pot in Brea, California.

Matt asked the chef to prepare a special dessert plate that read “*Will You Marry Me*” in chocolate and strawberries. She said Yes!

Their wedding date is set for December 28th, 2012, here at Pilgrim.



**Robert (Bob) Magnusson** who is a longtime member of Pilgrim, including honorable Boys Brigade, was married to **Sanna Martikka** of Helsinki, Finland on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

The wedding took place in Bob’s gorgeous backyard in Old Tustin where his 1923 home is on the historic tours. He has built a beautiful redwood tree house where the ceremony took place. Rev. Donald Bentley officiated; Charles Magnusson (Bob’s Dad) was his best man. The Magnusson family members were in attendance as well as the Martikka family from Finland. The newlyweds will be living in Tustin.



Pilgrim Congregational Church

600 North Garey Avenue  
Pomona, CA 91767Phone: 909-622-1373  
Fax: 909-629-2554  
E-mail: PilgrimOffice@verizon.net

We're on the Web!

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

We Cherish Christian Fellowship!

~Pilgrim's Mama Chick ~  
Megan Parnell**WOMEN'S AUX TEA  
MAY 1**Board Meeting is at 10:30  
General Meeting is at 11:30  
Tea is at 12:30.  
Please contact  
Church Office to RSVP.

## PILGRIMS IN THE NEWS

By **Beth Brooks**

It was nice to see **Margaret and George Baird** at church on Palm Sunday.

Thanks to **Megan and Bill Parnell** (AKA Peep and the Easter Bunny) for another successful Easter Egg Hunt! A good time was had by all.

**Mary Brooks** will be receiving her Masters of Business Administration from Azusa Pacific University on her 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday (May 5<sup>th</sup>).

**Beth Bingham** was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of the Pomona Cemetery Association. She joins **Keith Pewe** and **Bill Newton** (who replaced his father, Sanford, after retiring from 24 years of service—10 years of which he served as chairman).

Speaking of **Sanford Newton**...he joined Pilgrim when he was 12 years old. He was in Boys Brigade (as was son, Bill) and won the Drilldown in 1945 before joining the army.

**Beth Brooks** had a surprise birthday visit from **Kathy White Corbman** (Alabama). The two met as NAPF counselors in 1980.

**Stuart Merkel** has recently been called as minister of Faith Community Church in Franklin, Wisconsin.

Are you interested in joining a Yoga Class at Pilgrim? Please contact **Megan Parnell** in the church office.

### PILGRIM'S FIRST WOMAN USHER

By **Nancy Magnusson**

Many years ago I was asked to be the first woman usher here at Pilgrim Church. The procedure was well taught and supervised by Bill Southworth, Fred Eckerman, and Irv Erickson.

Strict rules were told to me and these gentlemen watched with eagles' eyes to make certain that I was doing everything that was instructed to me.

1. We had to seat church goers first and then hand them a program.
2. No one could walk down the aisle without an usher.
3. Late comers could only be seated by an usher.

It was indeed an honor to serve as the first woman usher here with the head ushers teaching and watching at all times.



Egg Hunters: Makayla Brown and Madelyn Eriksen