



Preaching, Teaching and Reaching for  
Transformation and Liberation

## **“CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM WITH UNDERSTANDING”**

Of Issachar, those who had understanding of the times, to  
know what Israel ought to do... 1 Chronicles 12:32

**THE PASTOR’S PEN** April 30, 2023

## **PRAY, PRAY, PRAY THEN, WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO, DO, DO?**

In the past week, we have received distressing news regarding young people who were shot for making common, ordinary and unavoidable mistakes – for accidentally being in the wrong place that resulted in them being shot and one of them killed.

In Missouri, on Thursday, April 13, 2023, a Kansas City teen, Ralph Yarl, was shot twice after going to the wrong home to pick up his younger, twin brothers.

Last Saturday, April 15, 2023, a young lady, Kaylin Gillis, was riding with three other friends who were looking for a friend’s house in upstate New York and was shot to death after the car she was riding in mistakenly drove onto the wrong driveway.

On Tuesday, April 18, 2023, a man shot and wounded two cheerleaders, Heather Roth and Payton Washington, in an Elgin, Texas supermarket parking lot after one of them said she mistakenly got into his car.

Also on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, a North Carolina man shot a 6-year-old girl, her parents and an additional neighbor after a basketball accidentally rolled into his yard.

What is at the foundation of this proliferation of violence for making common, ordinary and unavoidable mistakes? All of us at some point in our lives have rang the wrong doorbell, turned into the wrong driveway, went to the wrong car, etc.

When older and old adults are responding in violent ways to mistakes that others make, how can we expect children who are living with them and watching them to respond?

I am asking that we pray, pray, pray. Then, strategize what we (individually and as a church) are supposed to do, do, do.

# The Pilgrim Rest Oasis

*Sharing the Faith · Securing the Future*

Through faith God has given us the space to be an oasis in the middle of the city.

An oasis is a fertile spot in the desert where refuge, relief, and refreshment is found.

Be part of God's plan for Pilgrim Rest and this community.

Start contributing to the Oasis today!  
Let's continue to make progress!



Thank you for your continued support of God's plan for us.



*Your contribution can be dedicated to a specific activity or the Oasis, in general.*

	<b>Educational Enrichment</b>	<b>Technology Literacy</b>	<b>Athletics &amp; Recreation</b>	<b>Performing Arts</b>	<b>Facility Innovation</b>
\$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15 Subject books for elementary (math, literature, history, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 iPad</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 basketballs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 art sets for aspiring artists</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>External security lighting to keep the street well-lit and safe</li> </ul>
\$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100 Summer Bridge books to help students retain learning during breaks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100 "learn how to code" kits for elementary students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 tennis rackets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 beginner saxophones or 8 beginner violins</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Camera security system to keep everyone safe</li> </ul>
\$2,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9 students can be challenged to excel using interactive problem-solving programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 computer for graphic design and website creation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12 sets of golf clubs for children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 Play Scripts with performance/licensing fee and cast instructions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wireless PA system to easily communicate at the school</li> </ul>
\$5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 smartboard to help teachers engage students in learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 STEM lab cart of materials for a classroom with multiple activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3-day Speed and Agility workshop for 15 young aspiring track stars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100 pairs of tap shoes for aspiring dancers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Battery operated floor scrubber to keep the building looking its best</li> </ul>
\$10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 trip for 15 students to visit 1 HBCU</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100 Robotic kits to reinforce studies in STEAM subjects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open gym for 20 young people 1 X a week throughout the winter in a safe place</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>200 tickets to see Alvin Ailey Dance Company</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LED light fixtures throughout the school to promote learning and natural light</li> </ul>

# WORK FOR THE WEEK

## APRIL MEMORY VERSE

<sup>6</sup> Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

**Acts 9:6 (NLT)**

## APRIL MEDITATION QUOTE

"You don't make progress by standing on the sidelines, whimpering and complaining. You make progress by implementing ideas."

**Shirley Chisolm**

## TODAY'S STUDY QUESTIONS AND MEDITATION:

Is my faithfulness to God stronger than my commitment to my family? \_\_\_\_\_

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Jesus has a way of compensating for family and giving us the perfect surrogate family \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## FOR THE YOUTH

Those outside of your family who love and support you - are family \_\_\_\_\_

If you are not able to talk with your family regarding some challenges you are facing, please give me a call so we can talk. \_\_\_\_\_

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