



FAITH IN ACTION: TRACING A LEGACY OF LOVE

⁹ The human mind plans the way, but the Lord directs the steps. **Proverbs 16:9**

⁴ Show me Your ways, O Lord; Teach me Your paths. ⁵ Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all day long. **Psalm 25:4, 5**

THE PASTOR'S PEN

February 2, 2025

TRACING A LEGACY OF LOVE

For the month of February, the month that is dedicated to sharing expressions of love, we will trace the legacy of love that established Pilgrim Rest and brought us to where we are today. We will do so by tracing the love motivations of the pastors of Pilgrim Rest.

Although we do not have the written records of their thoughts or the direct words from their mouths, as a pastor and knowing a pastor's heart, I believe I can reasonably articulate their motivations in consideration of their love for and welfare of the Pilgrim Rest family.

The love motivated by their decisions has created a legacy of love. We now live that legacy of love and have a responsibility to ensure that the legacy continues for future generations to experience.

Generally, when a pastor is led to establish a church, it is because God has a vision for that church to minister in ways that no other church is ministering. That pastor is sent by God to step outside of the norms and traditions that define other churches in the area to establish a church that will do what no one else is doing.

I am sure some are saying that you know pastors who started churches because they were upset and in disagreement with the church they attended. Two responses: First, those pastors went (on their own) and were not sent (by God) to establish those churches. Second, those pastors were motivated by their own selfish desires and needs versus being motivated by their passion for God and their compassion (their love) for God's people.

Moved by his passion for God and his compassion (their love) for God's people, on February 18th, 1952, Pastor C. V. Harrington established Charity Mission. On May 8, 1952, the Baptist Council met and Charity Mission was organized into a church and declared a Baptist Church, named by the pastor, Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church.

As our African ancestors believe that our names are more than what we are called, our names embody who we are, the name, Pilgrim Rest, expresses to the community that we are a church where a *Pilgrim* who is weary and worn from the journey of life can find *Rest*.

As Pastor Harrington was not satisfied with the church worshipping in and ministering through the edifice they were in, God led him to build a church edifice that would glorify God and benefit the needs of the congregation and community. As a result, Pilgrim Rest has the proud distinction of being the first Black church in Milwaukee to build a church. Even more, the church was designed, built, financed and legal transactions conducted by Blacks.

Many do not understand the weight placed upon a pastor who decides to build, relocate, renovate and engage in major church infrastructure projects. The primary strength that sustains a pastor through the process is their passion for God and their compassion (their love) for God's people.

The sacrifices of love from Pastor C. V. and Mother Susie Harrington will be remembered and cherished. We stand resolved in our belief that we are who we are and where we are because of the legacy of love that was laid by them and those who were a part of the Pilgrim Rest family at that time, and commit to forever remember and share the stories and live their love.

“Together shall we continue to grow and this church shall be as a flaming mountain standing out as a beacon light leading men to Christ, giving our children better religious training, our mission giving aid to those in need and here may the downtrodden find solace and peace.”

Pastor C. V. Harrington, 1964

PASTORAL TRANSITION

PASTORAL TRANSITION SCRIPTURES:

⁹ The human mind plans the way, but the Lord directs the steps.

Proverbs 16:9

⁴ Show me Your ways, O Lord; Teach me Your paths. ⁵ Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all day long.

Psalm 25:4, 5

PASTORAL TRANSITION PRAYER:

Dear God, In my mind, I make my plans, But I desire You, Lord, to direct my steps.

So, show me Your ways, O Lord; Teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You, I wait all day long.

As you show me, teach me and lead me, I will seek your will, I will trust your leading and I will follow your directing as I pray regarding our next pastor. In the name of Jesus, the Christ, Amen

PASTORAL TRANSITION TIMELINE



BIBLICAL SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

PSALM 40:8, ⁸ I TAKE JOY IN DOING YOUR WILL, MY GOD, FOR YOUR INSTRUCTIONS ARE WRITTEN ON MY HEART.” (NLT)

PILGRIMRESTMILWAUKEE.ORG



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.

Beginning



Current



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

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

