



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

March 16, 2025

2025 LENTEN SEASON

During this 2025 Lenten Season, we want to encourage everyone regarding the need to establish and maintain our hope in Jesus despite what is happening within our country. Too many are resting their expectations for the future upon what is happening in Washington, DC. Clearly, they need to know that there is hope – and, that hope is available through a relationship with Jesus, the Christ. Therefore, during the 2025 Lenten Season, I am encouraging us to use this season to establish, re-establish, continue to nurture and/or further deepen our relationship with Jesus.

The season of Lent is customarily accompanied with fasting. I am challenging us to spend these days fasting – that is, giving something up. I encourage us to do more than just giving up certain things for the 40 days of Lent, I encourage us to use the next 40 days to strip and cleanse ourselves of anything ungodly and/or unhealthy.

Additionally, I am also encouraging us to use the 40 days of Lent to establish life disciplines, as well as positive and beneficial goals for our lives that we, likewise, will continue after the season of Lent.

Think of it this way, for the 40 days of Lent, we have an opportunity to make life-long, lifestyle changes to produce overall, holistic health and well-being (spiritual, mental, emotional, physical, dietary, etc.) that we will continue for the rest of our lives. Examples include:

- Modifying our eating habits and committing to eating healthier foods.
- Modifying our sleeping habits.
- Exercising more and taking better care of our health.
- Drinking more water (note: not just liquids, but water)
- Identifying at least one ungodly and/or unhealthy action, attitude and activity and determine to give it up forever that we may be drawn closer to God and deeper in our intimacy with Him.
- Commit to attend Worship Service, Sunday School and Bible Study weekly
- Commit to daily Bible reading

CHURCH ETIQUETTE / DEPARTMENT

1. To give respect and honor to the sanctuary, the place where we corporately come together to worship God, absolutely no food or beverage (including water) is to be consumed in the sanctuary
2. To give respect and honor to the reading of the Scriptures and times of prayer, please do not walk and talk when the Scriptures are being read and when someone is praying. During these times, God is speaking and we are speaking with God.
3. To give respect and honor to the moving of the Holy Spirit as people consider coming to Christ, please refrain from walking and talking when the Invitation to Discipleship is being offered by the minister after the sermon.
4. To give respect and honor to the meaning of the Lord's Supper, only those who have accepted Jesus, the Christ, as their Savior and Lord, and have been baptized can participate in the Lord's Supper. Please do not permit your children to receive the Lord's Supper if they have not been baptized. Doing so will diminish its significance for them.

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

DEUTERONOMY 34:7-9 ⁷MOSES WAS ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY YEARS OLD WHEN HE DIED. HIS EYES WERE NOT DIM NOR HIS NATURAL VIGOR DIMINISHED. ⁸AND THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL WEPT FOR MOSES IN THE PLAINS OF MOAB THIRTY DAYS. SO THE DAYS OF WEEPING AND MOURNING FOR MOSES ENDED. ⁹NOW JOSHUA THE SON OF NUN WAS FULL OF THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM, FOR MOSES HAD LAID HIS HANDS ON HIM; SO THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL HEADED HIM, AND DID AS THE LORD HAD COMMANDED MOSES (NKJV)

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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