

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. **Psalms 25:4, 5**

THE PASTOR'S PEN

April 13, 2025

HIGHLIGHTING THOSE WE HELP

PROJECT FOCAL POINT

Another community organization that Pilgrim Rest supports yearly is Project Focal Point.

Project Focal Point came into existence in 1970, under the direction of The American Baptist Churches of Wisconsin and three Black churches: Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church, Calvary Baptist Church, and Mount Moriah Baptist Church. The organization began as a youth center in the early 1970's and opened its doors to senior citizens in the mid-to-late '70's, when the Milwaukee County Department on Aging sought it out as a senior dining site.

- The purpose of Project Focal Point was to be a home mission center on the north side of Milwaukee for the ABC churches.
- Our Mission is to enhance the quality of life for independent and disabled seniors through recreational activities, in a safe and friendly environment.
- Our goal is to enrich the lives of our seniors by promoting and encouraging self-esteem and independence, as well as to educate them in Health & Wellness, Food and Nutrition, and other meaningful workshops.
- Our focus is to keep our seniors from regressing to nursing homes, maintaining their stay at home as long as possible, and enjoying everyday life.

Through the years, Project Focal Point has been blessed with great leaders, including our own Rev. Dr. Trinetta V. McCray. Our vision is to continue to reach out and develop relationships to the surrounding community we serve. We desire to include our founding churches and other churches in our community to play an active role in planning and implementing activities to further meet the needs of our community. Our greatest challenge is to build a greater and stronger senior program so we can meet their spiritual, physical, emotional, and mental needs.

Mary Laymon, 87, said she has been participating in senior activities and lunches at Project Focal Point, located in Milwaukee's Borchert Field neighborhood, for "too long to remember." "I come because I like doing arts and crafts, crossword puzzles and I like mixing with people," said Laymon, who lives in senior housing in Milwaukee's Lincoln Park neighborhood and learned about Project Focal Point through her church, Metropolitan Baptist. "And," she added, "I like the food. I get somebody to wait on me. I don't have nobody to wait on me at home."

"We meet the needs of people who wouldn't feel comfortable at other centers," said Board President Ruby Jackson, who has volunteered with the organization for over 40 years. Clinton Rose's seniors are often "retired professionals," she said, while Project Focal Point hosts "common people, a lot of hard-working people, not college-degreed people."

Guest lectures are offered by representatives from various health, legal, tax and community organizations. But it's not all serious business. The seniors have had their hair done by Milwaukee Area Technical College cosmetology students, and take shopping and field trips.

Hattie Mattox, 74, a resident of the Granville neighborhood, calls bingo in the mornings, eats lunch and has met nice people, she said. She began coming to Project Focal Point three years ago "to keep from sitting around the house."

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

NUMBERS 27:19-20 ¹⁹ PRESENT HIM TO ELEAZAR THE PRIEST BEFORE THE WHOLE COMMUNITY, AND PUBLICLY COMMISSION HIM TO LEAD THE PEOPLE. ²⁰ TRANSFER SOME OF YOUR AUTHORITY TO HIM SO THE WHOLE COMMUNITY OF ISRAEL WILL OBEY HIM. (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