

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

<sup>4</sup> Show me Your ways, O Lord; Teach me Your paths. <sup>5</sup> 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 20, 2025

### RESURRECTION SUNDAY

Jesus' death, burial and resurrection was necessary for the washing away our sins, and providing the opportunity for us to be justified before God. In addition, Jesus' death, burial and resurrection was also beneficial for us to have an intimate and personal relationship with God, the Father, through Jesus. We now have a tripartite relationship with Jesus: Jesus is our Savior, Jesus is our Lord and Jesus is our friend:

As Savior, Jesus came to this world to seek and save the lost (*"for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."* Luke 19:10), and provide an opportunity, through receiving Him as Savior, to live with Him eternally (*"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."* John 3:16). We accomplish this when we confess and believe in Jesus (*"that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved... For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved"* Romans 10:9, 13).

As Lord, we yield our lives over to Jesus to take full control of our lives. We understand that since Jesus is Lord of our lives, He has the right to dictate what happens in our lives (*"And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."* Revelation 19:16). Therefore, we bow before; we worship and praise and we surrender ourselves to Jesus – body, soul and spirit. (*"<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* Philippians 2:9-11). The more we surrender to Jesus, the more authority He has in our lives, the more He reigns as Lord in our lives.

As friend, Jesus desires to transition our relationship from that of a servant to that of friendship. Why is this an important transition? Because friends will be there for friends. Since Jesus is our friend, we know that Jesus will be there for us. In John 15:13-15, Jesus said, *"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. <sup>14</sup> You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. <sup>15</sup> No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you."* Clearly, there is a difference between a servant and a friend. The word 'servant' is the Greek word *Doulos* which means a bond servant, slave – there is no personal and intimate relationship. The word 'friend' is the Greek word *Philos* which means a friend, or companion – there is a deep relationship that is implied and anticipated. Our relationship with God, through the sacrificial gift of Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit provides a transition to deeper and deeper intimacy with Jesus.

# PASTORAL TRANSITION

## PASTORAL TRANSITION SCRIPTURES:

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

<sup>4</sup> Show me Your ways, O Lord; Teach me Your paths. <sup>5</sup> 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 <sup>19</sup> PRESENT HIM TO ELEAZAR THE PRIEST BEFORE THE WHOLE COMMUNITY, AND PUBLICLY COMMISSION HIM TO LEAD THE PEOPLE. <sup>20</sup> TRANSFER SOME OF YOUR AUTHORITY TO HIM SO THE WHOLE COMMUNITY OF ISRAEL WILL OBEY HIM. (NLT)

# 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.

	<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>