



SEASONS

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Passing on the Faith

Last week my grandson joined with me to lead a three-day, two-night Grandparent/Grandchild camp at the sacred space of Pilgrim Heights. Kendric has taken part in this type of camp for the past 7 years and at least 15 camps. All during this time he has grown in his faith.

My wife, Carla and I first began living out the dream of a camp time for Grandparent/Grandchild camps about 15 years ago. Our dream was to provide a time that grandparents could join with their grandchildren to grow through play, sharing stories and sharing their faith together. We realized that grandparents have very little time today to enjoy their grandchildren in a very relaxed time and also give their grandchildren a time to learn and grow in the sharing of their grandparent's faith.

In the first chapter of Romans Paul writes, "Through Jesus we received both the generous gift of his life and the urgent task of passing it on to others..." That is our task and who is more important in our lives to pass it on to then our grandchildren? It is part of growing the body of Christ. Growing the body of Christ, sharing the message of love, forgiveness and understanding is what all of us are called to be about. Being a part of that is and has been what has energized my life in ministry for 46 years.

One of the times I realized how important the Grandparent/Grandchildren camps were was when I filled a pulpit at a small rural church. That morning I realized this was a church that was in the last years of life. The reason for that observation was that there were no children in the church. In talking with the minister of the church the next week she said they were going to work on that problem. She told me two women of the church had invited 4 children of the community to attend a Grandparent/Grandchild camp with them. I was so excited when they arrived at camp. During the hours that unfolded and the sharing together, the 4 young people grew in their excitement. With the ending of camp the two women and their adopted grandchildren were excited to get home and share their stories about their experience. Several months later I returned to the church to fill the pulpit again. I could not believe it when at least 20 children sat in front of me waiting for Children's time in the service. I had seen them walking to church from various directions. They were excited about the stories of faith and were looking forward to when they could go to church camp.

I challenge each of you to think about taking your grandchild to a Pilgrim Heights Grandparent/Grandchild Camp next summer. If you don't have a grandchild that fits, then adopt a child. Send other children to camp. Remember, "Through Jesus we received both the generous gift of his life and the urgent task of passing it on to others..." Get excited about growing the faith of our young people so the Church will flourish in the future.

Keep Dancing in the Faith,

Rev. Kenneth E. Briggs Jr.

This Grandparent/Grandchild camp was 1 of 24 residential church camp sessions this summer. In total 340 campers, deans, counselors and guests attended camp!

Scholarship Fundraiser

To help offset the cost of camp for those people needing some financial assistance, Ken Briggs has created a CD of 10 songs, available for \$10. All of the proceeds go to camp. To order your copy, ContactUs@PilgrimHeights.org.



John Clayton, owner of BroadView Seed Farms, has been instrumental in visioning and implementing native prairie plots at Pilgrim Heights over the past 3 years. In these spaces, we are creating personalized, hands-on learning instruction for event participants as well as a beautiful backdrop for guests visiting the site.

John has successfully written several grants on our behalf this year to further the wildflowers and native prairie plantings here at Pilgrim Heights including:

- ◆ Guernsey Charitable Foundation for a \$1,200 CountyLine® Rotary Cutter which is essential for mowing the large open field spaces in a timely manner.
- ◆ International Transmission Company for a \$3,200 36" 22 HP Subaru Commercial Duty-Hydro Walk-Behind Brush Mower. The Brush Mower is very agile and has multiple uses: cutting walkways for trails, chopping dried vegetation in the Children's Garden prior to re-planting, creating burn barriers, and maintaining the prairie plots, especially the 1 acre plot below the lake dam which is too wet to support the weight of a tractor's rotary cutter.
- ◆ Monsanto for \$1,000 in seeds to create wildflower prairie, as well as several gallons of round-up to establish a prairie that covers the entire hillside near the lake.

The prairie life forms of plants, butterflies, song birds, bumble bees, etc. at Pilgrim Heights have a fighting chance for a sustained existence because of the generous support of the caring people like John Clayton and the board members and employees from the Guernsey Charitable Foundation, International Transmission Company (ITC) and Monsanto.



Thanks to all those involved for embracing our conservation efforts, nurturing our native species, and providing teaching opportunities through outdoor classrooms.

Volunteer now to be part of the vision and expansion

<http://www.pilgrimheights.org/how-to-help-out/perform-a-service-project>

Nehemias & Ana Ayala
brother and sister from Honduras



Nehemias & Ana Ayala volunteered at Pilgrim Heights for 9 weeks, from June 1st through August 1st. They spent time leading games / crafts / nature activities, preparing / serving meals, and also helping with various housekeeping and maintenance activities.

Nehemias enjoys traveling to new places; he likes drawing & painting, playing soccer and other sports; he is energetic, adventurous; and likes spending time outside camping and doing a variety of activities. Nehemias shared his artistic talents with us by designing and painting a mural on the exterior of Aspen Hall.



Ana is a pre-school teacher; she likes spending time with her family and friends as well as traveling; she is a crafty person; and loves to cook new things. Ana shared her culinary arts talents and culture with us, making Tres Leches Cake.

We very much appreciate the efforts Nehemias & Ana have made volunteering for the camp this summer and hope they return next year!

Get Real on the Road: Tragedy & Recovery, Crow Bars & Paint Brushes

Our Get Real Goes On The Road mission trip campers were few, but mighty!

Jane Meyer, Tony Loffer & Kay Runner went On The Road to Joplin, MO where they worked under the guidance of the Rebuild Joplin organization on two of nine houses in progress that week; one was demolition and one was new construction.

They were housed and hosted with generous hospitality by the South Joplin Christian Church family. Through their work and new friendships, they helped rebuild a little bit of Joplin; and Joplin renewed their spirits as well.



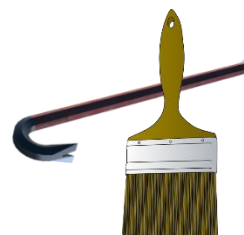
Interested in mission trips?

Let's plan youth and adult options for the coming year.

ContactUs@PilgrimHeights.org



Thank you friends – You inspire us to serve!



UCC Confirmation Retreat

<http://www.pilgrimheights.org/attend-our-events/retreats/confirmation/>

- Friday, September 5th 7 pm - Saturday, September 6th 5pm



Women's Retreat - "Live Empowered!"

<http://www.pilgrimheights.org/attend-our-events/retreats/women-s-retreat/>

- Friday, September 12th 6pm - Saturday, September 13th 4pm



A Day Away: Praying with the Psalmist - Thursdays 9am-3pm

<http://www.pilgrimheights.org/attend-our-events/retreats/praying-with-the-psalmist/>

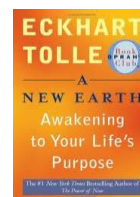
- September 11th Taste of God: Exploring the Word and the Garden
- October 9th Psalms We Sing: Familiar Hymns and New Songs
- November 13th Thanksgiving Psalms: A Day of Gratitude



The Shift: A New Earth - Saturdays 1pm-8pm

<http://www.pilgrimheights.org/attend-our-events/retreats/the-shift/>

- August 23rd The Discovery of Inner Space
- September 27th Your Inner Purpose
- October 25th A New Earth
- November 22nd Review & Reflection



Autumn Harvest - come-and-go or come-and-stay throughout the weekend

<http://www.pilgrimheights.org/attend-our-events/retreats/autumn-harvest/>

- Friday, October 3rd 6pm - Sunday, October 5th 1pm



Men's Fall Service Retreat

<http://www.pilgrimheights.org/attend-our-events/retreats/men-s-retreat/>

- Friday, October 24th 6pm - Saturday, October 25th 4pm



A Very Camp Christmas

<http://www.pilgrimheights.org/attend-our-events/retreats/a-very-camp-christmas/>

- Friday, November 21st 7pm - Sunday, November, 23rd 3pm



Pilgrim Heights Camp & Retreat Center, a non-profit service of Our Sacred Space, Inc.
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