

PILGRIM'S PROGRESS



Volume 2, Issue 06

PILGRIM CHURCH A UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATION

June 1st, 2021

NON-ORDINARY NO MORE!

By Pastor Paul Eknes-Tucker

What a difference a year makes! Last June I wrote an article talking about what **Non-Ordinary Time** would look like for us as the COVID Pandemic took devastating hold of our world. This year my June article gets to be the first to announce that **Non-Ordinary Time** is coming to an end on June 20th. On that Sunday we will move from our Thursday night recording of worship to live streaming on Sunday mornings. Between now and the 20th we will perfect our ability to use this new worship technology at our Thursday night tapings. This is such a miraculous moment to be considering. In a matter of weeks, our world has changed enough that *in-person gatherings for the fully vaccinated*

have become a possibility again. The Pilgrim Book Club has been meeting in person in the Prayer Garden on Sunday mornings for a few weeks now. We want to make Sunday worship safe for all our congregants beginning on the 20th. *This means we will still have social distance in the sanctuary and masks are welcome for those not completely vaccinated.* We will also find creative ways to do some of the behaviors that have the highest transmission risks -- like passing of the peace, taking offering and having communion. My experience of Pilgrim folk is that we are adaptable and caring about finding new ways to create community that allows more people to participate together.



Other exciting news includes the latest Art Exhibition at the United Church Center. Rev. Pamela has an article in this edition about the artists and their work. I hope you will join us at **The Artist Gathering** so all of us can meet the creators of the beautiful works on exhibit.

Teresa Moran has stepped up to revive a ministry to the houseless in our area by providing items that would be helpful to have for someone living on the streets in Lakeview, including toothbrush/paste, lotions, personal garments and personal hygiene items. We will be collecting those items monthly similar to our previous "Snack Pack" outreach.

And last, but not least, the Church Council wants to thank John Owen

and Dee Dee Lyon as they leave their time of service on the Church Council. John has served in leadership on the Council for many, many years and is taking a well-earned break. He will continue to be part of the worship and media teams. We are grateful for his steady presence over the years that have seen a lot of transitions. **Thank you John!** Dee Dee is stepping down after some health problems. It was a delight to have her on the Council during the COVID months and we are all holding her in our hearts and prayers as she regains her strength. **We love you, Dee Dee!**

With these two vacancies, this is a great time for you to consider being part of the Church Council. This group meets monthly after worship and makes sure ministry plans are funded, the United Church Center is well cared for and that Pilgrim remains a healthy and vital congregation. *If you are interested in considering an appointment to the Council, see Chair Rob Young or Pastor Paul for more information.*

We are so blessed to be coming out of a major "once-in-a-century" health pandemic. Through it all, Pilgrim has found creative ways to flourish and thrive.

Things will never be the old normal, but thank God Non-Ordinary is coming to an end.

RACE MATTERS IN BIRMINGHAM

By Rev. Pamela A. Canzater

*"It's a year since George Floyd was murdered,
I still can't talk about race."*



You Can.
With Us.

Race Matters
in Birmingham*

When: Friday, June 4, 2021
Gather, 5:30 pm - 6:00 pm
Program 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Where: 2817 6th Avenue South, B'ham, AL 35233
Pilgrim Church UCC & Covenant Community
Church UCC Building

For more information call
Rev. Pamela Canzater, 216-470-6037.

*Race Matters in Birmingham is based upon the Alcohol Anonymous program; under the umbrella of Racists Anonymous.

FATHERS & SONS

VISIONS OF INSPIRATION AND TRUTH!

MAY 23 ~ JUNE 27, 2021

Featuring

WILLIE E. WILLIAMS, SR. & WILLIE E.



Art started for me with middle school class projects and a weekend art class financed by my grandmother. Subsequently, my first art piece titled "Shoe Shine Boy" was the beginning of my artist journey. Now 40 years later with experience and degrees in Architecture (BS and MA) from Tuskegee University, I have come full circle using art as my platform to express those experiences.

My use of geometric forms and shapes is an abstract expression of integrating Art and Architecture through African tribal masks and I use those expressions to connect to my African culture. The use of carbon steel is metaphorical and refers to the diluting and disconnection from my culture as a result of an imposed European Western Culture.

Conceptually, I am influenced by my son, Willie Williams, Jr. and African tribal masks. Although I can't truly and authentically connect to my African roots, I abstractly bridge my connection to my removed African culture through the forms and shapes in my pieces. The hope of my artwork is to inform and process the effects of our displacement as African-Americans. Through this I wish to inspire a greater and deeper appreciation of our culture, community, and relationships.



My creative philosophy is inspired by Paul Roberson's quote that artists are "the gatekeepers of the truth." The concept of truth is relative to the individual, but to me it means authenticity - in who you are and to the experience you come from. I create with this thought in mind as I delve into themes related to African-American culture, which is a multifaceted identity within itself. I interchangeably work in the mediums of sculpture, painting, and drawing to represent different aspects of my culture in a variety of ways, which all working together to achieve my purpose of positively representing and preserving African-American culture beyond the stereotypes that has undermined its greatness.

I am a native of Birmingham, AL. I received formal art training from the Alabama School of Fine Arts from 2009-2014, where I graduated from the Visual Arts Department. Following graduation, I attended Birmingham-Southern College, receiving a B.F.A in art in May of 2018. I currently own and operate my studio and gallery, Studio 2500, which is located in North Birmingham. Notable achievements include national recognition in the Young Artist Association. Features include the City of Birmingham's segment 99 Voices, BhamTimes, The Birmingham Times, AL.com. I have also exhibited and displayed my work in various parts of the country including Chicago, NYC, Houston, and Atlanta.

UNITED CHURCH CENTER ART GALLERY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2817 6th Ave. S. ~ Birmingham, AL 35233

CALL: 205-731-0999 FOR TOURS & INFORMATION

Arrange the events of the Exodus in correct chronological sequence, and line up the bold letters to reveal God's cry for His people.

WATER AND MANNA PROVIDED
MOUNT SINAI
CROSSING THE JORDAN RIVER
MOSES APPOINTED LEADER
PHARAOH DEFEATED
THE PROMISED LAND
EGYPTIAN SLAVERY
FORTY YEARS IN THE WILDERNESS
FREEDOM
PLAGUES AND DEATH OF FIRSTBORN
CONQUERING CANAANITE KING'S
REBELLION IN WILDERNESS OF PARAN
ACROSS THE RED SEA ON DRY GROUND

WATER
ELIM
ALTAR
CLOUD
TREE
MARAH
MANNA
AMALEKITES
SINAI
SIN
PRAYED
OMER
BRONZE
ADVANCE
MERIBAH
BASHAN
QUAIL
HOREB
PARAN



LOVE IS PATIENT & KIND
IT DOES NOT ENVY, IT DOES NOT BOAST
IT IS NOT PROUD
IT DOES NOT DISHONOR OTHERS
IT IS NOT SELF-SEEKING
IT IS NOT EASILY ANGERED
IT KEEPS NO RECORD OF WRONGS
LOVE DOES NOT DELIGHT IN EVIL
BUT REJOICES WITH THE TRUTH
ALWAYS PROTECTS, ALWAYS TRUSTS
ALWAYS HOPES, ALWAYS PERSEVERES
LOVE NEVER FAILS
1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-8

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The Bible frequently gives us very precise "time markers" for days, weeks, and months. Using the numbers indicated by the clues, work the equation to come up with the answer.

| | | |
|---|---|-------|
| Number of years children of Israel spent wandering in the desert (Numbers 32:13) | = | _____ |
| Minus ... | - | _____ |
| Number of months scorpion-like locusts are allowed to sting in the book of Revelation (Revelation 9:10) | - | _____ |
| Plus ... | + | _____ |
| Number of days two witnesses prophesy in Revelation before they are murdered (Revelation 11:3) | - | _____ |
| Divided by ... | ÷ | _____ |
| Number of days before the murdered prophets arose (Revelation 11:11) | - | _____ |
| Minus ... | - | _____ |
| Number of years Jeremiah prophesied Israel would serve the king of Babylon (Jeremiah 25:11) | - | _____ |
| Divided by ... | ÷ | _____ |
| Number of days it took for God to complete His creation (Genesis 1:1-31) | - | _____ |
| Plus ... | + | _____ |
| The day of the month that Noah's ark came to rest on Mount Ararat (Genesis 8:4) | - | _____ |
| Minus ... | - | _____ |
| Half the number of the jubilee year (Leviticus 25:10) | - | _____ |
| Minus ... | - | _____ |
| Number of months the dragon is allowed to blaspheme in Revelation 13:5 | - | _____ |
| | = | _____ |

| PILGRIM BIRTHDAYS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE |
|---|
|  Lily Lawson ~ June 7th John Williams ~ June 17th John Owen ~ June 24th Donna Milton ~ June 30th |
| PILGRIM ANNIVERSARIES FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE |
|  Aaron & Kista Hamilton June 12th |

**IF WE HAVE MISSED YOUR BIRTHDAY, WE APOLOGIZE!
PLEASE LET US KNOW & WE WILL GLADLY ADD IT!**