



February 2009

MUSEUM FRIENDS ANNUAL MEETING ON IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING CULTURE

Dr. Sheryl Miller, Professor of Anthropology at Pitzer College, will be the featured speaker at the Annual Meeting of the Petterson Museum Friends on Monday, February 9 at 3:00 p.m. in Decker Hall. An ethnic arts scholar, Professor Miller will speak on the topic: "Preserving Culture: The Importance of Ethnographic Museums."

As you know, the Museum Friends is a membership organization open to the public as well as Pilgrim Place. Since its founding in 1968 with a group of community individuals dedicated to preserving and exhibiting the treasures brought to Pilgrim Place by retiring ministers and missionaries, the organization has provided ongoing support for special programs, activities and community outreach of the Museum. Today, almost 10,000 pieces of art, fine art and material culture are stored and exhibited at the Museum.

At the time of the Annual Meeting, residents and community friends are invited to make a donation supporting special speakers and programs planned each year. Your support to the Museum—viewed by many as a symbol of the unique intercultural perspective of Pilgrim Place—is much appreciated.

DOCENT TRAINING SCHEDULED

Docents at the Museum are always needed. If you are interested, call Museum Curator Carol Gil at 399-5544. The next docent training session will be held Wednesday, February 25 at 3:00 p.m. at the Museum. Becoming a docent is a wonderful way to learn about the many "treasures" at the Museum.

*-Dwight Vogel, President
Petterson Museum Friends*

IMPORTANT TOWN MEETING EVENTS

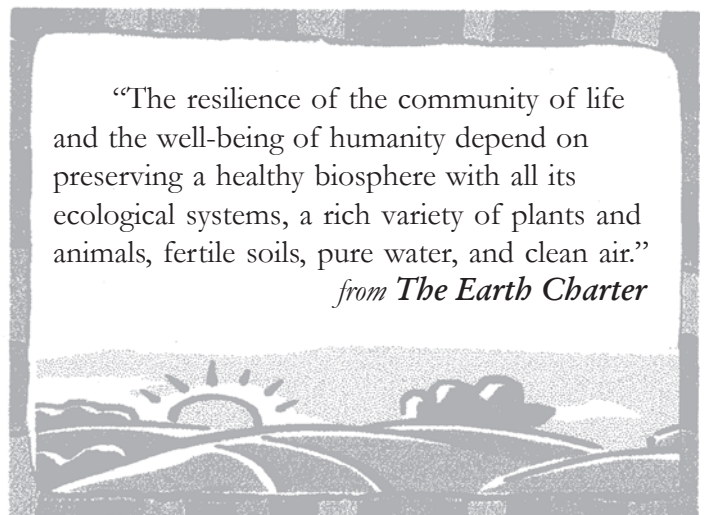
Mark your calendars: **Wednesday, February 11 at 9:30 a.m.** for a special Town Meeting Forum and **Tuesday, February 17 at 10:00 a.m.** for a special Town Meeting. Both meetings are in Decker Hall. Your presence and vote on the 17th is very important.

During the past six months, a TMX-appointed task force has been reviewing and updating our Town Meeting Constitution and By-laws. The purpose of the revision is to enhance transparency, efficiency and resident participation in our governance. Following the mandate of our present Constitution, the forum on February 11 will be held to discuss the changes to the first draft which was presented in December. The Town Meeting on February 17 will provide the opportunity for adoption. Copies of our new draft Constitution and By-laws will be available for everyone to study prior to the forum. Arrangements for voting will be made for Pilgrims at Pitzer who find it more convenient to remain in that building.

-Dean Freudenberger

"The resilience of the community of life and the well-being of humanity depend on preserving a healthy biosphere with all its ecological systems, a rich variety of plants and animals, fertile soils, pure water, and clean air."

from The Earth Charter



INAUGURATION

On your slender shoulders
we place the burdens of a nation
that cannot kick the habit
of war, greed, imperial over-reach
We give you the broken
credit system, healthcare system,
electoral system, banking system
We have nothing to bequeath
but endless problems
of our own making

Against your campaign of change
we pit our resistance
our inability to consider
genuine transformation
If there is a way hopeful
peaceful compassionate
we are suspicious, uncertain
It is not what we will gain
but what we imagine we might lose
that sabotages change

Over your message of unity
we divide into separate interests
corrupting power from above
burning anger from below
In between we cast rocks
at the glass houses of our neighbors
How can we, so unequal, be one?
And how across the wide chasm
expect you to build a bridge?

Transcending our disparate despairs
what vision can unite us?
Surely there is a way to serve all the people
a path to peace for the whole world
a gathering in and together
that will bring your wisdom
and our hurts to a center point
of renewal and rebirth
A way to share each other's burdens
and build justice throughout the land

-Pat Patterson 1/19/09

MySpace.mod

As the newly elected moderator, I am prompted to ask myself, "Will I survive?" Being the Town Meeting vice-moderator for the past year provided good preparation; but now, after looking out upon the sea of residents filing into Decker Hall and Abernethy dining room during our January Town Meeting, all I felt was "wow!" You are an impressive group of individuals. My task, as those of moderators of past years, is to work with everyone (staff and residents) to help keep our Pilgrim ship steady on course. This unique community is the most active place I have ever experienced. In case you are not fully aware, we have at work 14 standing Town Meeting committees (such as Aquatic Fitness, Environmental Concerns, Festival, Guest Rooms); 7 special committees (such as Archives, Flowers, Memorial Garden); and 8 other assignments (such as the editor of *Pilgrim Place News*, Community Gardens coordinators, Pitzer Representative to TMX). Far more than 200 individuals are involved with activities associated with these committees. The challenge is to hold them all together in service of Pilgrim Place.

The commitments of the moderator are many. At present count, they involve 12 Town Meeting officers, planning sessions in preparation for the 12 TMX monthly meetings; 2 or 3 Advisory Council meetings per year; attending 12 Board of Directors meetings, with one of them a day long retreat; partnership with 3 to 6 special Board task force sessions; and several master site planning meetings related to our building projects since I have served on this committee since its inception. Oh yes, my new responsibilities do not excuse me from my "home committee," known as Plants and Produce, where there's always compost making, fruit tree harvesting and pruning, and the weekly mini-sale.

Will I survive? The answer is a resounding, "Yes!" I make this prediction because of (1) many expressions of well wishes, (2) Pilgrim patience, (3) the sharing of good ideas and insights, (4) and the immediate willingness of everyone to say, "Yes," when help is requested. We're all in this business of governance together for the maintenance and moving ahead of this amazing community. Jane Douglass, past moderator, and Janet Vandevender current vice-moderator, are standing by to help when needed. We have reason to expect a most creative year as we face the launching of our building projects as part of our effort in achieving a sustainable future and walking more softly upon the earth. We are grateful for the challenges we confront at this strategic moment in our community's history, since these accomplishments will be beneficial for generations of Pilgrims yet to arrive. Of course, I will, and we all will, survive! Many thanks for your gracious support. *-Dean Freudenberger*

Considerations from the CEO

Defining Moments

The Inauguration of Barack Hussein Obama as the 44th President of the United States of America was a “defining moment” for many of us personally and our country in general. As I sat among residents, staff and community guests in Decker/Abernethy on January 20 with rapt attention focused on the big screen TVs set up for the day, one could feel the anticipation, exhilaration and expectation in the air. Something very dramatic and important was taking place. As with other pivotal events in years past, I suspect I’ll recall just where I was on that day, etched indelibly on my consciousness.

This got me thinking about other defining moments many of us have experienced or shared over our lifetimes: declarations of war or peace, the March on Washington, assassinations of beloved leaders, the collapse of the Berlin Wall or the stock market, court rulings on race, privacy, equality and justice, Olympic moments and World Series, to name a few.

But then there are more personal definitions that shape our lives: the birth of a child, a spiritual conversion or revelation, buying a home, the death of a loved one, a marriage or ordination. Such times are less “public,” but no less defining.

And here at Pilgrim Place, I’ve developed my own little catalog of defining moments over the past ten years that are in some ways very personal and others that I’m sure are shared by many of you because they celebrate a milestone, a new beginning or the end of an era.

So, what is the importance of such defining moments? Perhaps it is that they provide for us a frame of reference, a shared experience or passage that helps us understand ourselves and our world better. Indeed, we learn from such moments about how to make sense of our lives or provide a context for the future. I think it was Kierkegaard who said “life can only be understood backward. It must be lived forward.”

I’m sure Pilgrim Place and each of us anticipates the possibility of experiencing more defining moments in the months and years to come as we evolve into a Continuing Care Retirement Community...as we launch our campus redevelopment project and anticipate the great celebration of our 100th Anniversary. It’s my hope and prayer that we will find the courage and resolve to embrace both sides of the phenomenon with an emphasis on the “forward!”

But for now, the future will happen soon enough. I’m very content to bask in the glow of our latest, shared, extraordinary “defining moment.”

-Bill Cunitz

Why is Residents’ Annual Giving important?

For generations, Pilgrims have sustained this community through a profound model of stewardship; all residents have the opportunity to give on a regular basis to benefit the campus as a whole. It makes residing here affordable. The spirit of sharing financial resources is a time-honored tradition at Pilgrim Place; it defines our culture and enables us to foster a unique, intentional community.

The Residents’ Annual Giving fund is used annually to help support the operating budget of Pilgrim Place. Its oversight is monitored by residents who also set the goal. This year our goal is **\$230,000**.

For more information about this fund or if you have questions about making a pledge, you may contact any member of the 2009 Residents’ Annual Giving committee: Rizek Abusharr, Ruth Borden, Bill Cundiff, Marcia Doss, Ruth Thomson & Barbara Troxell.

-Joyce Yarborough

2009 RESIDENT DIRECTORY UPDATE

You will note that the “look” of the 2009 Resident Directory—being distributed with the NEWS—is different this year. Reason? Producing it this way is cost effective.

As you may know, we’re in the throes of developing an online, password-protected pictorial directory that I expect will be launched in the new few weeks. Rather than to produce an entirely different, hard copy directory for use in your home, we are making copies of a PDF version of our pictorial directory (without the photos).

In addition to saving money, the advantage of this approach is that you will be able to access online this same (continually updated) information at any time throughout the year. And, in fact, you’ll be able to print copies, as you wish.

Please note, too, the Campus Disaster Plan map is on inside front cover—for easy reference. And given a space constraint in the online version, I was not able to include the year of birth for those who added that information in the 2008 Directory.

I’ll explain more about Pictorial Directory when it’s ready to be “up and running.” In the meantime, please contact me with any changes ... and if you have suggestions or questions.

-Sue Likens

[For your convenience, Pilgrim Place maps that indicate where residents live are available in Garden Lounge. One per family, please]

ANNOUNCING

ANDIRON CLUB

On Wednesday, February 4 at 11:00 a.m. in Decker Hall, Larry Schulz will share “Songs My Mother Taught Me.” This, a summary title, is a way to suggest things, a mood, not just from *his* experience and memory. We might have to sing ourselves, to consider what we have enjoyed, been taught and, subsequently have been trying to modify: re-interpret the words, themes, the stories. And who has been listening?

Larry and Donna have been at Pilgrim Place since 2002. While here, Larry has shared his ministries, his interests, his passions (including music)—especially his constant work for racial justice, for anti-poverty development, for social action. On this day, Larry will remind us there are still many things to be done, to be imagined, to sing about. *-Herman Ruether*

WORLD AFFAIRS FORUM SPOTLIGHTS MEDICAL MINISTRY IN CONGO

On Wednesday, February 11 at 11:00 a.m. in Decker Hall, Bernard Kabibu, hospital administrator, and Leon Mubikays, medical director, with Christian Medical Institute of Kasai Region in Democratic Republic of the Congo, will discuss their work. The Kasai River is the chief south tributary of Congo River, famous for its rapids and waterfalls.

A Presbyterian endeavor founded in 1954, the Medical Institute runs a hospital, clinics in various towns, and a nursing school. The geographical areas it directly serves have not been subjected to the violence troubling nearby parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo, but it serves poor congregations. And these are subject to some reverberations from disaster and conditions existing in other parts of the Congo and Africa. During their talk and PowerPoint presentation, there will be time for discussion and questions.

-Herman Ruether

65TH WEDDING CELEBRATION

In 1994 seven Pilgrim couples celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversaries separately. Five years later, four of these couples celebrated their 55th Anniversaries with an expedition to Little Tokyo. On Valentine’s Day in 2004, five couples and two widows celebrated Anniversary number 60 at dinner in Abernethy

The three remaining couples—Sadaichi and Marian Asai, Ken and Barbara Coates, and John and Ruth Phillips—will celebrate their 65th Wedding Anniversaries on Valentine’s Day, Saturday, February 14 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. in Pitzer South Lounge. A highlight of the party will be romantic music of 50 or so years ago by the Pilgrim Pickers. All invited.

-Ken Coates (for all six of us)

PRESIDENTS DAY: A DAY OF PRAYER

Presidents Day, Monday, February 16, has been recommended and voted by the Town Meeting Executive Committee as a day of Pilgrim Place community prayer. Suggested recipients of the day’s prayer requests include: the new administration in Washington, recovery of the global economy, financial health for Pilgrim Place, the upcoming campus expansion program and its major construction planned to start in April.

In addition to prayers at home, corporate prayer is encouraged at the new Quiet Place in Brooks Court, which was inaugurated at 687 Leyden Lane in January.

On February 16 residents are invited to come and go at this new facility from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

“!CARNIVAL!”... “FAT TUESDAY!”... “MARDI=GRAS!”

A Big Pilgrim Place Party will be held Tuesday Feb 24, at 5:30 p.m. in Abernethy Dining Room & Decker Hall. All are invited to an evening, dress-up pre-Lenten Dinner-Dance.

Dancing will include both ballroom and a line-circle-square dance caller. Rhonda and her hard-working staff will serve a classic Mardi Gras Dinner. There will be no noon meal in Abernethy that day. Surrounding the dance floor, on stage, and in the Garden Lounge will be table and card games, like at our New Year’s Eve traditional party. BYOB. Outrageous festive clothing optional! *-Gene Boutilier for Scrooby Club.*

GUIDELINES FOR COMMUNICATION

Because we are a diverse community whose members have many concerns, we want to keep one another informed. The community has adopted guidelines for doing this appropriately through the Pilgrim Place News, Wednesday Announcements, and oral announcements at the Abernethy microphone.

The Communications Committee of Town Meeting will be reviewing the “Guidelines for Communication at Pilgrim Place” in our upcoming meeting. A copy of these is posted on the bulletin board near the Decker entrance to Abernethy Dining Room as well as in the Town Meeting notebook in the library. Residents are encouraged to refresh their memories by looking at these and making any suggestions for change they would like considered.

*-Keith Tennis, Chair
Communications Committee*

As I See It

*A supplement for Pilgrim Place NEWS
for expression of mind and heart offered
for common thought.*

FRANCES WORD SMITH

Her e-mail address starts out: “franwordsmith.” She’s been one all her life, having parlayed a degree in creative writing at the University of Texas into a distinguished career in journalism, mainly in writing and editing news of churches and the world church. Now she steps down from her latest assignment as editor of Pilgrim Place NEWS. She became a resident here in 1994, and started out on the NEWS helping then-editor Ruth Borden and PR Director Sue Likens.

We will miss her cheery and humorous announcements at the Abernethy microphone. (“What is so rare as a day in June—get your material in to dot.org tomorrow by 1:30.”) Woe be unto the writer who missed the deadline. Anything filed as late as 1:40 p.m. simply did not make it into print. Contributors got the message.

When she began, the NEWS came out twice a month. The new monthly schedule was a relief, although she never regarded the undertaking as a chore. A bright spot arrived with the computer; she no longer needed to count words.

Her contributions to Pilgrim Place have been many. As Editor, she was for years ex-officio member of the Town Meeting Executive Committee. She is a creative and articulate member of the Environmental Concerns panel. Mildred Stoerker, whom Frances had come to know when she was an active member of the Riverside Church in New York, enlisted Frances for the Festival’s Treasures Booth, of which she then served as chair for many years.

In 1954 Frances helped prepare for the Second World Council of Churches meeting in Evanston, Illinois. She later spent ten years 1966-76 in Geneva editing the Ecumenical Press Service and covering conferences on four continents. Her last job was eleven years in New York as director of the United Methodist News Service.

At Pilgrim Place NEWS she has agreed to help the new editor, Donna Danielson, with proofreading.

How do you describe a word smith like Frances?

In a word—terrific.

-Willard Hunter

PILGRIM TOURS ON THE MOVE!

On Wednesday, March 18 join your neighbors for a visit as far south as one can go without a passport! We will travel to **Centro Romero in San Ysidro** on the border between San Diego and Tijuana. The Romero Center is named for Dan Romero, recently retired Conference Minister of the Southern California Nevada Conference of the United Church of Christ. Before that, Dan, a member of the New York Bar, served as Secretary for Mission Program of the United Church Board for World Missions. The mission of the Romero Center is to:

- Further understanding of the migratory realities between Latin America and the United States.
- Enable participants to enhance their political, socio-economic, and cultural views of the forces shaping the lives of many throughout the continent
- Reflect theologically on the constant migratory exchanges between both sides of the border.

Our visit to the Romero Center will be brief but fascinatingly relevant to today's headlines. In order to make it even more meaningful, a day or two before our visit we will offer an orientation presentation and a day or two following our trip we will offer wrap-up video and conversation to which all are welcome. On the lighter side, our visit to San Diego will include a ferry ride across the bay from Coronado Island to the embarcadero where we will enjoy seaside snack.

After Easter, Pilgrim Tours will balance travels with a visit north to **Santa Barbara**. As you may know, tour leader Dale Morgan came to us directly from 20 years in this beautiful mission city. Dale will delight us in the wonders of this jewel of a coastal city as only a native can.

-Jeanne Halverson

SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS EAST CAMPAIGN

Every day people from Claremont to Rancho Cucamonga enjoy the mountain backdrop of Ontario and Cucamonga peaks in the Cucamonga Wilderness. The steep, rugged terrain rises abruptly from foothill communities reaching up to almost 9,000 feet. Because the area is protected by Congress as Wilderness, the highest level of protection available to federal land, these mountains will be forever unscarred by development.

Citizens have long championed adding land to the 12,700 acre Wilderness to ensure the availability of healthy recreational activities and the protection of important wild places for future generations. The U.S. Forest Services has recommended adding 7,000 acres to the area. At 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 29 a free program will be presented at the Claremont Hughes Community Center on "Native Americans in the San Gabriel Mountains."

-Dick Moore

About Pilgrims

Eloise Dale will perform an organ recital of well-known organ pieces—from Bach to Gigout—at the Claremont United Church of Christ on Sunday, February 15 at 3:30 p.m. All are invited!

PLANT AND PRODUCE COMMITTEE

Think back with me to the summer bumper crops of apricots, then peaches. Weren't they delicious! Now we are enjoying the mandarins. And there have been many other good things. We are indeed blessed with all of the produce we have, but we should remember the work that each piece of fruit and vegetable represents with multiple stages of cultivation and harvesting.

During this past year there has been a mini sale nearly every Wednesday, making good, organically grown food available to us all for low prices and earning over \$4000 for the Festival Fund. The pruners, compost makers, growers, waterers, pickers, sorters, and sellers have all contributed to making these good things available to us. There have been contributions of produce from individuals, both Pilgrims and community friends. Produce left over from the sales has been taken to the Beta Center for distribution.

The Plants and Produce section at this year's Festival had a good year with sales of over \$8000. Again, there were plants, pots, and pomegranates contributed by friends that supplemented what we had. The greenhouse made a good start at paying for itself by earning more than \$2500.

This is the first full year that the new greenhouse has been in use and it has been good to see how well plants grow in it. Heating and cooling systems are now in place and it is a lovely addition to our campus.

This is the last year for Alma Schneider's lovely dish gardens, as she is unable to continue with this work. Thank you Alma for all you have done. We would love to see someone else continue making these. Several others on the Plants and Produce committee are finding it difficult to continue with the work they have been doing because of advancing age. To continue the service our committee does, we need help. This can involve a couple of hours a month sorting produce for the mini sale or handling the mini sale one day a month or picking fruit one morning a month, watering plants in the Plymouth Gardens a week at a time, helping in the greenhouse, or other small or larger jobs.

Right now, as the call goes out for people to help with the pruning, remember those sweet peaches and sign on.

*-Judy Wallace, Chair
Plant & Produce Committee*

FROM HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE

Is it Alzheimer's disease – or part of normal aging?

Not all memory glitches signal Alzheimer's. Use this list, adapted from the Alzheimer's Association (www.alz.org) to help you decide whether to seek a professional opinion.

Memory Loss

Normal: Occasionally forgetting appointments or names of acquaintances, books or movies.

Worrisome: Forgetting names of close friends or family members, being unable to remember things just learned and being unaware of the memory loss.

Difficulty with Familiar Tasks

Normal: Occasionally forgetting why you came into a room or what you planned to say.

Worrisome: Frequently being unable to perform everyday tasks, like cooking a meal, making a phone call, or playing a game.

Language Problems

Normal: Sometimes having trouble finding the right word.

Worrisome: Often forgetting simple words or substituting unusual ones. For example, someone looking for a toothbrush might ask instead for "that thing for my mouth."

Disorientation

Normal: Forgetting the day of week or where you are going.

Worrisome: Getting lost in the neighborhood or forgetting how you got somewhere.

Poor Judgment

Normal: Making a questionable decision from time to time. For example, anyone might choose not to wear a hat or gloves in cold weather.

Worrisome: Frequently making clearly inappropriate decisions, such as forgetting to wear pants or a shirt, wearing several layers of warm clothes in hot weather, or giving away large sums of money to a stranger.

Problems with Abstract Thinking

Normal: Having a hard time balancing a checkbook.

Worrisome: Forgetting what numbers are for or how to do simple addition or subtraction.

Misplacing Things

Normal: Occasionally losing a wallet or keys.

Worrisome: Putting things in unusual places, like keys in the freezer or a wallet in the sugar bowl.

Mood Changes

Normal: Occasionally feeling moody or sad.

Worrisome: Rapid mood swings—from calm to tears to anger, for example—for no apparent reason.

Personality Changes

Normal: Gradual, modest changes as you age.

Worrisome: Dramatic personality shifts, becoming, for example, suspicious, fearful or dependent.

Loss of Imitative

Normal: Sometimes feeling weary of work or social obligations.

Worrisome: Extreme passivity, for example, sitting in front of the TV for hours or sleeping much more than usual.

Calendar

Sunday, February 1

10:15 a.m. Health Center Worship
Leader: Luverne Tengbom

Monday, February 2

10:30 a.m. 2009 Budget Hearing
Decker Hall

Tuesday, February 3, 10, 17, 24

11:30 a.m. Eurcharistic Circle Forms
6:00 p.m. Alternative Supper
Scrooby Lounge

Wednesday, February 4

11:00 a.m. Andiron Club •

Thursday, February 5

7:00 p.m. Vespers
Leader: Barrie Gray
Musician: Ann Gray

Friday, February 6

3:00 p.m. 2009 Budget Hearing
Scrooby Lounge

Sunday, February 8

10:15 a.m. Health Center Worship
Leader: Henry Hayden

Monday, February 9

3:00 p.m. Museum Friends Annual Meeting •

Wednesday, February 11

9:30 a.m. Town Meeting Forum •
11:00 a.m. World Affairs Forum •

Thursday, February 12

7:00 p.m. Vespers
Leader: Paul Kittlaus
Musician: Ann Gray

Saturday, February 14

3:30 p.m.- 65th Anniversary Celebration •
5:00 pm

Sunday, February 15

10:15 a.m. Health Center Worship
Leader: Philip Uhlinger

Monday, February 16 – Presidents Day

Office Closed
Day of Prayer

Tuesday, February 17

10:00 a.m. Town Meeting •
1:30 p.m. Copy deadline for March NEWS

Thursday, February 19

7:00 p.m. Vespers
Leader: Judy Chatfield
Musician: Jim Manley

Sunday, February 22

10:15 a.m. Health Center Worship
Leader: Ernest Newborn

Tuesday, February 24

5:30 p.m. Mardi Gras Celebration •

Wednesday, February 25

3:00 p.m. Museum Docent Training •

Thursday, February 26

7:00 p.m. Vespers: Taize Service

• Denotes NEWS item

HSC Chaplain

Maxine Denham

February Guest Rooms

Primary / Carolyn Loper / 625-4882

Back Up / Jean Rosewall / 624-9640

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Maire at 909.399.5513 or smaire@pilgrimplace.org
At any time, you may view the monthly NEWS on
the Pilgrim Place website at www.pilgrimplace.org.

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