

What is a Presbyterian Pilgrimage Weekend?

Pilgrimage is a three-day event spent with other Christians for mutual spiritual enrichment and growth.

Its basic message is that Christianity is a way of life rather than a set of doctrines.

Pilgrimage is a highly structured, purposefully designed method of refreshing the faith of individuals and, through the individuals, the environments in which they live and work.

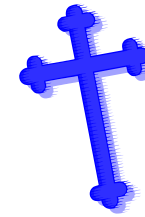
Participants live together spending their time in worship, discussion, singing, and prayer.

Discussions stem from talks by clergy and laity on themes of God's grace, how it works in our lives, the different ways we respond to it, and how we live under it.

Pilgrimage Weekend is a time to look at your own life in the light of God's will for you, a time to learn and reflect on your place in His "scheme of things."

It attempts to equip individual Christians to be more effective in their churches, their homes, at work, and in their communities.

The History of Pilgrimage



The roots of Pilgrimage Weekend go back to a ministry entitled Cursillo de Cristiandad, Spanish for a "short course in Christianity." Originally a Catholic ministry, Protestant churches have adopted the format forming several different weekends: Episcopal Cursillo, Lutheran Rainbow, Methodist Walk to Emmaus, and the interdenominational Tres Dias.

The Evangelism Committee of the Presbytery of the Peaks helped start Cursillo weekends in the Presbytery of the James in 1991. People from the Presbytery of Eastern Virginia participated in these weekends and we began offering our own – renamed Pilgrimage – in 2002, with the help of the James community. All communities are affiliated with Presbyterian Pilgrimage's national leadership.

The Purpose of the Weekend

The purpose of the Pilgrimage weekend is to inspire, challenge, and equip local church members for Christian action in their home churches, places of work, and communities.

Who Should Attend?

The Pilgrimage Weekend is designed primarily for adult members of Presbyterian Churches but welcomes all Christians. Singles and couples are welcome. If you are married, it is recommended that both spouses attend together so that you can share the joy of the experience. Spouses attending together may not, however, be roommates or participate in the same small group.

To participate in a Pilgrimage Weekend, you need only to complete an application and have your pastor sign it. You will need a sponsor. If there is not a sponsor within your church (any one who has been on any 4th day weekend including Pilgrimage, Cursillo, Tres Dias, Walk to Emmaus, or Great Banquet), call the person listed under "Interested in Attending?" and a sponsor will be arranged for you.



What the Pilgrimage Weekend is *Not*

The weekend is not designed to convert the participants from unbelief or from one denomination to another. It seeks only to guide Christians into a closer and more personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

What Happens After the Weekend?

A person goes to Pilgrimage Weekend only once, the effect of the Pilgrimage lasts a lifetime! Pilgrims want to share the experience with their family, friends, co-workers, and their congregation. After the weekend, pilgrims can join reunion groups. These small groups reinforce the teachings of the weekend, affirm friendships made on the weekend, and provide a place to share the Christian journey. Large gatherings, called Ultreyas, meet several times a year to share and encourage all who have attended Pilgrimage Weekends.

What is the Cost?

Pilgrims need to turn in an application and \$75.00 to their sponsor. Couples will need to complete individual applications. This is your only cost. Other weekend expenses are covered by donations from those who are enthusiastic about the Pilgrimage Weekend ministry. Confidential scholarships are available so funding concerns should not stop anyone from attending.

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Pilgrimage Weekend Summer 2014

June 19-22

Application deadline is four weeks ahead of the weekend.

Interested in Attending?

Contact:

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