



# Our Pilgrim Stories

## 7.5

**Melissa has intentionally sought balance in her life. She moved back to the area following her divorce.**

**She is shy and doesn't like to step out of her comfort zone, but she also didn't want to return to the church of her youth. "I didn't want to be known only as someone's granddaughter." She wanted to find a new church family, her church family, where there were no expectations or limitations placed on her. She also wanted to give some time to growing her faith. "My faith was a 5 out of 10 at the time."**

**"After visiting multiple congregations in the area," Melissa said, "I showed up at Pilgrim one Sunday. The welcome was overwhelming. The acceptance of where I was at that point in my life and for who I was cemented my choice of Pilgrim as my new church family."**

**The relationships Melissa developed at Pilgrim and the Bible studies she attended allowed her to explore her faith more fully. They deepened her relationship with God and the community. "I could never be a 10 in my mind, but I got to a 7.5 out of 10 in my faith life." Melissa is remarried now and feels gratitude that her son Caleb is surrounded by the faithful people of Pilgrim who are helping him grow in his faith, too.**

**As Melissa continues to seek balance and grow her faith, Pilgrim is at the center. "I am grateful to be in a church that teaches me how to live the "I believe" and how to develop my relationship with God. I want to create an environment where others can have the same experience. That is why I serve as a retreat leader with a group called Women On A Mission. I am committed to providing a place where people will be accepted for who and where they are in life and their faith."**

**Your generosity to Pilgrim makes it possible for us to provide Bible studies that grow faith for people like Melissa. Thank you for your generosity to this ministry we all share.**