The sturdy white-haired woman—deathly thin in all the clothes she owns—stood yesterday before the congregation of Christ Congregational Church, Silver Spring.

Her worldly possessions consist of blue slacks, blue shirt topped with a many-pocketed blue tunic, blue socks and a pair of blue sneakers.

Across the front of the hip-length tunic in white football uniform letters are the words "PEACE PILGRIM". Across the back is "25,000 MILES ON FOOT FOR WORLD PEACE."

She told the congregation that her pockets carry all she owns. She doesn't, she says possess a penny.

From her pockets, at various times, she produces a map, a piece of paper for people to write their names on if they want to be on her mailing list, and a blue slip of paper.

The printed slip says, among other things: "I shall remain a wanderer until mankind has learned the way of peace, walking until I am given shelter and fasting until I am given food."

She has a no other name than "Peace Pilgrim." Her age, former job, even her birthplace, she keeps secret.

She has been on her strange pilgrimage for 15 years and "prepared" for it 15 years before that. She dates her active interest in her cause some 30 years back.

"Even in little ways. The shoe clerk would say, 'Your feet measure 5B.' And I would say, 'Give me size 6C; I like to wiggle my toes.'"

She gave away her evening dresses to young girls who could use them. Other things she either gave away or used up. She says she has no close family. "Can't you imagine how even grownup children would worry about mother being out on the road?"

She walks south in winter and north in summer. When it's cold, she stuffs newspapers under her tunic. If she's sleeping in the open, she covers herself with newspapers. When her clothes are dirty, she washes them just before she goes to bed at night and presses them dry in the morning.

When they wear out—her tunic now has large holes around the edge—an ad

By Sarah Booth Conroy
Washington Post Staff Writer

By Tom Allen—The Washington Post

PEACE PILGRIM
... 25,000 miles for peace

Peace Pilgrim runs on faith

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