

The Church of the Pilgrimage  
Church Council Meeting  
November 25, 2007  
**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Rev. Gary Marks; Marylyn Colburn, Chair; Barbara Quinn, Christian Education Committee; Bob Taylor, Music Committee; Susan Miller, Stewardship Committee; Carol Taylor, Membership and Evangelism Committee; Hildegard Schimpf, House Committee; Raymond Quinn, Board of Trustees; Don Jennings, Advisory Board; Jessica Hague, Visioning Committee

The meeting was called to order at 11:40 AM with a prayer by Don Jennings.

The minutes of the previous Council meeting were not available

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Christian Education Committee: The Committee is currently planning the Advent Workshop for Saturday, December 1st and the Christmas Eve family service. There are about six children participating in the Junior High Fellowship Group and about four children participating in the Senior High Fellowship Group. In Church School the sixth grade has been moved to meet with the seventh and eighth grade class and teachers continue to team teach.

Music Committee: There is a search committee formed with representatives from various committees, for the purpose of filling the Music Director position. The search committee has decided that they are going to fill the single position of the Music Director, as opposed to a combined position of Music Director and Organist. The committee hopes to have a decision by January. During the interim period, Jessica Hague fills the soprano Section Leader position when Kelly Depasqua is acting Music Director. Elizabeth Reilly and Lois Post are alternating organist, each playing two weeks per month. A student of Elizabeth's, Bridgette Wargovich, will be playing during a couple of services.

Stewardship Committee: The committee has begun the 2008 campaign planning. The theme is yet to be developed. The schedule is to kick off the campaign on February 10th, with the Chest of Joash on March 9th and 16th.

Memorial Fund Committee: Verna Hoyt had reported to Marylyn that the committee has been in the process of purchasing bibles for the Confirmation Class and for the pews. It was also reported that the committee has provided a computer and software for use by the Financial Secretary and Treasurer.

Membership and Evangelism: New members have been well received. The new Directory has been a success. Continuing review of our membership list should be conducted.

House Committee: More sign ups for Sunday coffee are always needed. A bit more care should be given to the china and silverware since some pieces have been lost.

Board of Trustees: The Board has recently met with its financial advisor from Bear Stearns to

review and realign some of our investment funds. Despite voting a large deficit at last year's Annual Meeting, the budget appears to be in relatively good shape, to date. The Board plans to provide an update of the budget to the Congregation after the first of the year. The Board has hired a Financial Secretary, Rev. Karen MacArthur, who has provided significant changes to our management and reporting of our income and expenses. Building and grounds work during the past year has included sanctuary window replacements and steeple repairs. The three buildings of the church have been inspected and lists of needed work have been developed and are being prioritized. Initial capital campaign funding of the John Robinson Center improvements will be depleted within about one year. In order to avoid a significant impact to our operating budget, a renewed capital campaign may have to be conducted. Nothing has been organized to date. This would be a campaign formed separate from the Board of Trustees.

Advisory Board: The Board continues to provide meals for shut-ins. Three weeks of hosting overnight stay overs for the homeless are planned for the winter. Head ushering duties are being divided up among the Board members. The Discernment Committee is planning to have a meeting with the Congregation. Jessica Hague is looking into becoming an ordained minister.

Visioning Committee: The committee is planning to hold visioning sessions with the Congregation, after services in January. The committee is developing programs for those sessions.

Jen Healy forward a suggestion to consider "how can the Congregation be greener, faithful stewards of creation".

The next Council meeting was scheduled for February 24, 2007.

Following a prayer by Rev. Marks the meeting was adjourned at about 12:30 PM.