

PILGRIM CHURCH

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ANNUAL REPORTS.

1900.

for 1899

Pastor.

Clerk.

Treasurer.

Superintendent of Sunday School.

Ladies' Union.

Woman's Missionary Society.

not here

Report of Trustees.

Christian Endeavor.

Pastor's Report.

Jan. 18, 1900/

The Constitution of our church provides that the Pastor "shall have control of the pulpit and the exercises of public worship; shall preach the Word and have the spiritual oversight of the congregation; shall administer the sacraments; and shall ordinarily act as moderator in the meetings of the church." The Constitution does not provide that he shall make an annual written report. This perhaps comes under the works of supererogation. The work of a pastor is of such a nature that it is pretty generally known by the congregation whether he is doing it or not. His demeanor in the public exercises is known and read of all men. His more confidential relations with the members of the church are not so easily known, and they are hardly susceptible of formal report.

Some things, however, may be reported. The number of sermons and addresses I am not able to recount. Our services have been kept up to their full number during the year. A principal part of my duty as a new pastor was to get acquainted with the people. I am not able to report as many calls upon the people in their homes as I anticipated, but I have record of 603 calls from the time of my arrival until to-day. There were 11 baptisms, 4 adults and 7 infants. Five funerals were attended, but one of which was of a member of the church, that of Mr. Olmstead. The marriages have numbered but three, not one of which was in the congregation. Judged by this test, the Pilgrim Church is very near the kingdom where they neither marry nor are given in marriage. There have been received into the church since last February ²⁸~~27~~ persons, ¹⁶~~15~~ by confession and 12 by letter, a record which I trust will be greatly improved this coming year.

The services have been well attended. The ability to number a congregation while conducting a service is not mine; I cannot even make an estimate, or institute a comparison with former years. The Sunday

evening service seemed to be in a rather languishing condition, but under the stimulus of a series of sermons on The Bible in the Light of Benevolent Modern Scholarship, the attendance was largely increased. The attendance has not kept up to the highest figures then attained, but a good increase has been won. It is my purpose, as far as possible, to make the Sunday evening service both educative and evangelistic. If I mistake not, a comparatively large number of people have come under the influence of a skeptical spirit. The age has been described as an age of doubt, and not a few are wandering between two worlds, "one dead, the other waiting to be born." To meet this condition, to set forth the essential reasonableness of Christianity, to show that we are true to the old while hospitable to the new, to assert Christ's claim to be Lord of all life, and to win men to him,--these are the aims I have in mind in our evening service. I am impelled to seek not only your interest but your co-operation in this matter, even at the cost of a little self-denial. We cannot hope to do much in the way of winning outsiders if the church people themselves systematically neglect the service. People like to go where people are.

Our prayer meetings have been fairly well attended when compared with the average attendance on most churches, nevertheless, I wish the attendance were much larger. We should do well could we keep up the numbers found in the prayer meetings from February until May last year.

I have one recommendation to make, and that concerns our benevolent offerings. It has come to pass in the changes of the years that churches are more or less scattered during the summer months. It is the part of wisdom to avoid any important contribution at a time when the people are not liable to be present. I recommend that our schedule, according to By-Law 6, be changed to the following:

C. C. B. S.....January

A. B. C. FM.March.

A. M. A.....May.

C. S. S. and Pub.....June.

C. E. S.....September.

C. H. M. S.?.....October.

These are our regular church missionary offering. In addition we take up an offering for the Children's Home Society, and one communion offering for the Ministerial Relief Fund. It would be eminently wise also to take up an annual offering for the American Bible Society.

In order to carry out more effectively our benevolent intentions, I recommend further that a committee of three be appointed, or elected at the annual meeting of each year for each one of the six branches of our benevolent work, and that one deacon be a member and chairman of each committee. We have six deacons so that we can man six committees with chairmen. The intent of this is that the arrangements for securing the regular benevolent offerings be regarded as part of the regular machinery of the church. In the interregnum between Mr. Patton's pastorate and my one some of our offerings went by default. There is no immediate prospect of your being without a pastor. Nevertheless it would be well to set up this piece of machinery. It is the scheme followed by the Old South Church in Boston, one of the most generous churches of our order, and it is well worthy our imitation.

One change is usually sufficient for one meeting, and we will rest at that. It may be that next year I shall recommend an entire change in the manner of taking our benevolent offerings. Some churches canvass the whole membership, seeking systematic missionary offerings from every member, the total receipts to be placed in a fund, and to be apportioned to the various societies according to a pre-arranged scheme

of percentages.

Like many of our pastors, I find myself dissatisfied with the preset training of our children and young people. This is not a criticism of Sunday School or Christian Endeavor. We need something in addition to these which will take the place of the catechism drill some of us had when we were children ourselves. Dr. Jefferson's cry at the International Council, "O, for a catechism," has stirred a response in many hearts. I have not yet seen anything which covers the ground adequately. I hope to be able to find or to make such a catechism that by means of it the children in our families and classes may be more systematically instructed and guided into the life and duties of church membership.

Meanwhile, I rejoice in the excellent work done in the Sunday School, especially in the drill the children get in the Bible, learning the names and order of the books, and committing to memory many of its passages.

Most heartily do I thank all the members of the church and congregation for the unfeigned kindness with which you greeted and have treated me and mine. A more loyal, more responsive, more appreciative people I never expect to find. Especially do I think those who have borne the burdens of office--the trustees for their splendid enterprise and prudent management of the finances; the Sunday School officers and teachers for their sustained enthusiasm in laboring with the children; the Woman's Missionary Society for their steadfastness in the face of great discouragements; the Ladies' Union for their ceaseless labors on behalf of the church; the many improvements they have accomplished; the beautifying they have in mind; and last, not least, ^{their} taking the initiative in a movement whereby the minister can look into the faces of his congregation and the members of his congregation can look into his face; the

young people for their faithfulness in sustaining the Christian Endeavor Society in meetings most helpful and spiritual. "The Friends in Council" have continued their meetings. What they do I am not quite sure, but I am confident that what they do is worthy of being done and is well done. The Choir has been most helpful. Individual mention would perhaps be invidious, but Mrs. McKindley deserves special mention and thanks for the magnificent manner in which she has devoted herself to this important part of the service of worship, a service in which ability and taste have been hallowed by reverence.

I am proud to be pastor of such a church. I believe in Pilgrim. I call no man my friend who is not a friend of Pilgrim. I thank God for the opportunity of service, for the measure of success which has been won, and for the greater success which beckons us on into the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexander Milne

Duluth, Minn., Jan. 18, 1900.

To The Members of Pilgrim Congregational Church-

I submit the following report for the year ending Jan. 18th, 1900. Mr. Chas. I. Turner, who was elected clerk at the last annual meeting, having moved to Minneapolis, was obliged to resign the office. I was elected to fill his unexpired term. Since being elected I have opened a new record book. I have tried to get the membership as near correct as possible, but found it a very difficult thing to do, as so many of the members have removed from the City without taking letters, and it is now difficult to locate them.

After writing the record up as carefully as possible, I find we have a total of 370, of which 119 are male, and 251 female. We have added to the membership by profession of faith ¹⁶15, and by letter 12.

We have dismissed by letter 3, and 2 have been removed by death.

Clerk.

Annual Report and Financial Statement of the Treasurer, Pilgrim
Cong'l Church of Duluth, Minn., for the year ending January 18th, 1900.

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The register shows an amount due under the pledges, which may be considered perfectly good, a total of \$84.85. Pledges have been paid in advance in the sum of \$75.00, so the pledge account may be said to balance.

Interest on the mortgage of \$15,000 is paid until May 26th, 1900, the Ladies' Union have contributed \$450 for that purpose. All salaries are paid to the 1st of the current month. All fire insurance premiums are paid. The note of \$200, which stood against the church at the First National Bank a year ago has been taken up, and there are no unpaid bills nor loans, except the mortgage bond.

Transient collections have averaged \$9.21 per Sunday for fifty-one Sundays. The weekly pledges being regularly paid amounts to about \$80.00 per Sunday. The Treasurer would suggest that the pledges be increased at least \$10.00 per week, as otherwise there will be a deficiency in the future, as there has been in the past, and this deficiency has to be met by the generous assistance of the Ladies' Union, and an extra effort on the part of the Trustees and Finance Committee in soliciting special contributions.

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand Jan. 19th, 1899,-----	\$	4.56
Gen'l, Transient and Special collections-----		4792.97
Received from Ladies' Union for Int. on Mtg. \$450		
" " " " " Repairs	18.75---	468.75
" " rent of church-----		25.00
Rec'd for Benevolences-----		91.57
Rec'd for the Cong'l Building Society-----		18.61
Rec'd from Home Missionary Society-----		78.50
Rec'd from American Missionary Society-----		70.72
Rec'd from American Board Cong'l Foreign Missions-----		73.14
Rec'd from Friends in Council-----		8.00
Total-----		\$5631.82

DISBURSEMENTS.

Pastor's salary from Feb. 12th, '99 to Jan. 1st, 1900--	1791.70
Pulpit supply and expense thereon-----	154.00
Expense incident to change of pastors-----	200.00
Music-----	966.00
Janitor-----	420.00
Fuel-----	263.63
Hotel advertisement, Team work, postage, printing, Stationery, janitor's expense, and incidentals,-----	86.20
Benevolences paid-----	72.57
Missions and building societies-----	240.97
Light and Water-----	167.73
Street Sprinkling tax-----	4.26
Fire Insurance-----	115.50
Interest on Mortgage and Exchange-----	900.50
First National Bank note and interest-----	214.96
Plumbing, repairs, etc.-----	66.21
Cash on hand to balance-----	27.59
Total-----	\$5631.82

To this should be added--

Special fund for boiler and repairs not passing through Treasurer's hands-----	1012.00
Expended by Ladies on repairs and not credited herein--	159.22
Making a grand total of receipts by the church of--	\$6803.04

Respectfully submitted,

Jan. 18th, 1900.

Henry J. Pierson
Treasurer.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL S. S.
FOR YEAR ENDING JANUARY 7TH, 1900.

Mr. A. G. Strong was elected Superintendent of the school at the beginning of the year, and after a faithful service of about four months, was obliged to resign April 30th on account of ill health. Mr. Horr, the Assistant Superintendent, then filled the office until September 17th, at which time your present Superintendent was elected.

The record of the school kept by Mr. Johnson, the Secretary, shows the average attendance for the year to be 180, a decrease of about $8\frac{1}{2}\%$ compared with the previous year. The largest attendance on any one Sunday, 227, November 19th, and the smallest, 70, on August 20th. The total contributions \$203.92. The annual Children's Day offering for the Congregational S. S. & Pub. Society was \$20.11.

The present enrollement is about 250, composed of 35 officers and teachers, and 215 scholars. The primary department has been under the efficient charge of Miss Beopold, and has been moved from the east side of the building to the rooms adjoining the side entrance on Lake Avenue, a location much more pleasant for the little ones.

During the year we have studied the Blakeslee lessons on the "Life of Christ," and for the coming year will take up the "Lives of the three great Apostles, Peter, Paul, and John."

Two social meetings of the teachers and officers have been held in the church parlors, which have been largely attended. At these meetings matters of interest to the school have been discussed and they have proved helpful and interesting to all. It is hoped to hold them at least quarterly during the present year.

A generous friend of the school lately gave us \$50 for the purchase of new hymn books, which have been sorely needed. A committee is

engaged in the pleasant occupation of trying to agree on the best book.

A special offering was taken by the scholars one Sunday to purchase a picture of our former pastor, Dr. Patton, and which now adorns our rooms.

The year 1900 opens full of encouragement for the school. Every class is provided with a regular teacher, and new scholars are coming in almost every week. Our teachers are regular in attendance, and earnest and faithful in their work, and I confidently expect that this year will witness a steady gain in all branches of our S. S. work.

Superintendent.

REPORT OF THE LADIES' UNION OF THE PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH FOR THE YEAR ENDING JANUARY 16, 1900.

In presenting the report for the Ladies' Union of the past year's work, we feel that there is much ground for encouragement and that the outlook for the coming year is especially bright.

There have been nineteen meetings held up to January of 1900, with an average attendance of sixteen. In April it was decided to organize into circles, hoping thereby to enlist a larger number in the work of the "Ladies' Union," and at the same time swell the receipts. This idea was not original with us, nor yet can it be said to have been copied entirely, for it was the desire of the late Mrs. Noyes, I am told, to see some such plan in operation.

It was decided to form five circles, and appoint leaders, which was accordingly done, as follows:

Circle No. 1, beginning at Second Ave. West and extending West.

No. 2, or Star Circle, from 2nd Ave. West to 2nd Ave. East.

No. 3, or Square Circle, from 2nd Ave. East to 9th Ave. East.

Circle No. 4, from 9th Ave. East to 15th Ave. East.

No. 5, or *East End* ~~Endion~~ Circle, from 15th Ave. East, east.

The Circle farthest west has had no regular leader, and is now about to join forces with the "Star Circle,"--Mrs. C. A. Duncan and Mrs. *L. E.* ~~W.~~ Paddock, leaders.

Mrs. Hood is leader of the "Square Circle," and Mrs. Weiss and Mrs. Ames of the "Endion Circle." Circle No. 4 has had no leader.

While the Circles were organized in May, it was not until two months later that they were in good working order. In the meantime the Union was not entirely idle.

A supper was given by the "Square Circle" in the church, and while the weather was unfavorable, it was pleasant to hear the tongue of "Bobbie Burns" illustrated in speech and song, respectively, by our pastor and Miss McKay.

The ladies have also been good housekeepers so far as their funds have allowed. We have re-covered the doors and made them solid at an expense of \$75.00. We have put in the lecture room which have reduced your gas bills, and served as excellent illuminators. We have repaired a leak in the roof and had some necessary plastering done at a cost of \$65.00, or thereabouts. In fact, we have spent \$177.97 upon repairs.

Then it was due to the funds of the Union and the splendid services of Mrs. Chapman and Miss Paddock that our church was a "thing of beauty, indeed," upon Easter morning, and still again, upon Christmas Sabbath, with its wealth of green, under ^{Mrs. Paddock's and} Mrs. Milne's direction.

An artistic concert given under Mrs. McKindley's direction directly after Easter netted \$75.75, Fifty Dollars of which was turned into the Treasury, and \$25.00 went to the choir as a little fund for extra music.

In July, the various Circles arranged for and tendered a reception to Mr. and Mrs. Milne, which they assured us was wholly delightful. There was a very large attendance at this; the refreshment room was a bower of beauty, the main room equally so, an orchestra dispensed good music, and all joined in a heartfelt welcome to our pastor and his wife. It was an added pleasure to have with us at the time our former pastor, Mr. Noyes, and we regretted that Mr. Patton was unable to prolong his stay to be with us also.

At times we have thought the elements held a grudge against

us, as upon the occasion of the excursion by Circles 3 and 4 to Fon Du Lac, the moonlight excursion "around the Horn," by the Star Circle, when the rain arrived early, the moon late, and many of the people failed to arrive at all, and the oyster supper by the same Circle later, but we "weathered" all the storms and have come through victoriously.

The charitable work has not been inconsiderable: A barrel of clothing and supplies, valued at \$28.00, was packed and sent, in response to a request from Mrs. Dinwoodie, to Talladega, Ala. In response to an appeal from Mr. Schuman, Y. M. C. A., we have given \$30.00 towards the furnishing of the Y. M. C. A. rooms. The sum of \$10.00 was sent to Hannah Wash, the Indian girl, at Ft. Berthold, N. D.

The "Star Circle" gave a delightful "musical" at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Duncan. Mrs. Ames gave us the privilege of spending a very pleasant afternoon as in fancy we took with herself and husband a Mediterranean trip such as they had enjoyed in fact a few months previous, with all the poor fare, hard beds, and other dra' comforts left out.

The splendid concert given under the direction of Mrs. Thomas by the Endion Circle was, save the annual supper and Fair, the greatest financial success of any event of the year, the net proceeds being \$122.45.

We have sung and sewed,

Baked and brewed, (grape-juice),

Prayed and persevered, with the result as shown by Mrs.

Norton, the Treasurer, as follows:

Balance on hand Jan. 16, 1900,	11.85
Received from pledges,	58.61

Rec'd from Easter Concert,	75.75
Rec'd from Circle No. 1,	28.27
Rec'd from Star Circle,	160.00
Rec'd from Square Circle,	75.00
Rec'd from Circle No. 4,	56.00
Rec'd from ^{East End} End Circle,	185.00
Rec'd from supper in December,	65.30
Total,	<u>\$715.78</u>

Expenditures.

Church repairs,	177.97
Flowers,	13.80
Music,	18.56
Stamps,	2.48
Sundry expenses,	8.80
Church poor,	9.65
Board of Trustees,	450.00
Total,	<u>\$681.26</u>
Balance on hand.	34.52
	<u>\$715.78</u>

Fully \$50.00 more was raised which did not pass through the

Treasurer's hands.

Balance on hand January, 1900,	34.52
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There are no unpaid bills.

The officers elected for 1900 are:

For President, Mrs. J. L. Swan.

For Vice-President, Mrs. C. A. Duncan.

For Secretary, Mrs. McGonagle,

For Treasurer, Mrs. J. W. Norton.

Executive Board, Mrs. Milne and Mrs. Mitchell.

We have decided to save our money this year to apply upon re-carpeting and refrescoing the church, and when we consider that we

have raised \$765.00 largely since September, and the large additional expenses which the church has met the past year, the task which we have set ourselves does not seem so formidable, and we may remember that "Things out of hope are compassed oft with venturing."

While the work of the Circles is, under existing circumstances, primarily that of raising funds, we feel that it has not ended in being that alone. Who shall set a value upon the closer friendships formed, the greater sociability, the better knowledge of one another, and indeed, the spiritual uplift we have had, for we trust our work has been done "In His name."

May we not then take courage, and in the words of another:

"Look up and not down,

Look out and not in,

Look forward, not back,

And lend a hand."

Dated, January 18, 1900.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary W. Mitchell,

President

The Women's Missionary Society has had twelve meetings during the past year. In our knowledge gained we have been led by Mrs. Paddock, McGonagle, Woodbridge, McMillan, Stewart, Chapman, Kimball, Swan and Boyington, and while these ladies have enlarged our view in relation to the peoples of Japan, Utah, China, Cuba, and the Phillippine Islands, we also have become better acquainted with the people of Mexico and our own Mountain Whites. In April the Friends in Council warmed our hearts toward the poor Indians, and our Missionary Mother (Mrs. Stewart) in July so efficiently placed the labors of the A. M. A. before our mental vision that the women who were present at that meeting not only know where all the missionary money comes from, but where it goes to. During the month of April we held one missionary meeting in the place of the mid-week prayer meeting. This was a very helpful meeting along spiritual lines. Our thank offering meeting was held in the church parlors in November, and was an especially interesting meeting, the offering amounting to about forty dollars.

Our largest meeting was in June, the smallest in September. The average attendance fourteen, which is a less attendance than in 1898. This we believe is not due to a lack of interest in missionary work, or that some of our ladies belong to Literary Clubs, but to the fact that the majority of our ladies go away from the city for the summer months, and perhaps we have not yet learned the best way to interest the newcomers, but with our new president in the chair, and our pastor's wife to encourage and help us, we expect that the report for 1900 will show a goodly increase of members.

Total receipts for the year in cash have been \$158.65. Of this money we have sent \$39.63 to the foreign work; \$78.01 to the Home work; \$18.99 has been used to defray incidental home expenses, such as sending delegates to convention, and other similiar items of expense. Cash

on hand \$22.02.

We have arranged for a new system of raising the coming year's money. This is the mite box system, and we hope when you are asked to take a mite box, you will take it, and remember that every penny you put in the little box goes to help your sister in some other part of this dear old earth.

While our meetings have not shown as large an attendance as we could wish, and we have not raised as much money as we hoped, yet we know that our knowledge of and love for missions has grown, and our spiritual life strengthened during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

President.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.
TO THE MEMBERS OF PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH:

The Board of Trustees beg leave to submit to the Church, this, their annual report for the year ending January 16, 1900.

Owing to the fact that Mr. White, who has been acting as Chairman of the Board until within a few weeks, has left the city and that the other members of the Board failed to keep a record of all the proceedings of the Board during the past year, and that kept by Mr. White has not been obtained in time for this report, the Board will be unable to make as full and detailed report as could have been made by Mr. White, but in a general way can lay before the Church the work done during the past year.

We think it a distinct ground for congratulation on the part of the members of the church, as well as the Board, that the church is able to come to this annual meeting entirely free from all debt, except the mortgage, and with a small balance in the Treasury. This, we think, is the first annual meeting held for a number of years in which there was no floating debt or unpaid bills.

During the last year, in addition to paying off the floating indebtedness, the amount of which is shown by the Treasurer's report, the trustees have, by special contributions, been able to install a new heating plant for the church at an expense of _____ Dollars.

The church building is now insured, as the Board understands, for the sum of \$25,000, and is covered by a mortgage of \$15,000 drawing interest at the rate of 6% per annum, which makes a fixed interest charge of \$900 per year to be added to the running expenses of the church. As shown by the Treasurer's report for the past year,

the total amount of money passing through the hands of the Treasurer was \$5627.26; of this amount \$468.75 was contributed by the Ladies' Union, and \$8.00 by the Friends in Council, leaving a balance of \$5150.51, contributed by the church proper, of which amount the general collection fund contributed \$4792.97, or a little more than \$90 per Sunday.

The estimated expenses for the next year are as follows:

Pastor's salary,	2000.00
Music,	1000.00
Interest charges,	900.00
Janitor,	400.00
Fuel,	200.00
Insurance,	90.00
Minister's supply,	100.00
Light and water,	160.00
Miscellaneous expenses,	150.00
Total,	<u>\$5000.00</u>

Inasmuch as the ladies of the church have expressed their desire to devote their energies for next year to re-carpeting and re-frescoing the church, it will be necessary for the trustees and financial committee to raise at least the amount of \$5000.00 for the general expenses of the church, aside from the special contributions for benevolences of various kinds. To do this, a weekly pledge of \$90.00 ought to be had. This weekly pledge, in addition to the usual transient collection, will meet the anticipated expenses of the church without the necessity of special efforts such as have been necessary in the past to meet pressing contingencies. The Treasurer states that there are pledges now in force which are being regularly paid to the amount of \$80.00. This

would seem to make it necessary, or at least advisable, that the amount of weekly pledges be increased \$10.00 per Sunday, and the trustees would recommend to the members of the church who are able to increase their pledges to notify the treasurer at once of their willingness to do so.

In conclusion, the trustees desire to express their appreciation for the excellent work done by the finance committee and by the ladies' organizations in raising money to meet the needs of the church during the past year. They feel that the outlook for the church for the ensuing year is very encouraging, but they would not have any member by reason of this outlook feel warranted in decreasing his offerings. Let us rather by an increased consecration of ourselves and our energies to the work of building up the church, prepare ourselves for the next task the trustees have in mind, which is paying off the mortgage. This the trustees are now planning for, and hope that the time when the work can be taken up in earnest will soon be here.

Dated, January 18, 1900.

Respectfully submitted,

Oscar Mitchell

Chairman of Board of Trustees

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN
ENDEAVOR, Jan. 19, 1900.

To The Members of Pilgrim Cong. Church:

Dear Friends:

The Christian Endeavor Society closes the year with a feeling of gratitude to God for real and evident growth--not in numbers but in spiritual life. The membership now is 45 as against 50 of last year; but tho' there is a decrease in numbers, we believe that the standard of Christian life is raised, and the spiritual power of the members is increased.

The committees at work in the Society are: Prayer Meeting, Lookout, Missionary, Calling, Social, Flower, Good Citizenship, and Sunday School.

For the Prayer Meeting Committee, we would say that the meetings, held every Sunday evening at 6:30, are helpful and stimulating.

For the Lookout Committee, that there are a number of regular attendants who are just ready to join us, and the outlook for future increase in membership is promising.

For the Missionary Committee we have a most encouraging report of awakened interest; and more prayer for, study of, and giving to Missions, both home and foreign. The amounts given to each will be stated later. We have purchased a Missionary Library of sixteen volumes, and are now trying to solve the problem of a book-case.

It is estimated that the Calling Committee has made 110 calls in the Interest of the Christian Endeavor.

The Good Citizenship Committee has charge of a prayer meeting at the Branch Bethel the second Wednesday in each month.

The Flower Committee finds its work rather difficult at this time of the year.

The Sunday School Committee is seeing that the S. S. is supplied with an orchestra for opening exercises.

We have enjoyed a variety of social gatherings during the year which have meant no little labor to the Social Committee.

The yearly report of the Treasurer is as follows:

Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1899,	10.51
Receipts for year,	79.40
Paid out,	

Miss Moulton's salary,	25.00
Missions in Alaska,	5.00
General expenses (including S. S. Orchestra),	52.65
Balance on hand,	7.26

\$89.91	89.91
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Miss Moulton is at work in India and is supported by the C. E. Societies of Minnesota, our share being \$25.00.

I believe this is the fitting time and place to urge upon the parents of our young people the claims of the Christian Endeavor Society as a religious training school for the boys and girls of this church. Training in Christian work, in self-denial and giving, in readiness of expression as to Christian experience; and, most of all, in growth in spiritual life and character. Joining the Endeavor Society is the first step toward joining the church. And we would ask for the intelligent sympathy and practical co-operation of all who are interested in the welfare of our young people. We should be pleased if every member of the church would, at least once during the coming year, set aside a Sunday evening to visit our prayer-meeting, and come into touch with us. Remember our Motto is:

"For Christ and the Church."

Respectfully submitted, _____

1899

Annual Report of "FRIENDS IN COUNCIL" January 1899-January
1900.

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Ourselves upon the threshold, once again we find,
Of a new and unexplored cycle of time
And, as is our custom, we call up for review
The year just past the more earnestly to renew
Our efforts, and the more earnestly to tread
The unknown paths that lie just ahead.
Assured that failures and successes
Anchored deep in the heart
Are, slowly but surely, perfecting life's chart.
And so from the "Friends in Council" I bring a greeting
Full of hope and good cheer to this annual meeting,
For the past year has surely been one for rejoicing
Altho' not meriting our unlimited endorsing.

One year ago, as you may recall,
Was reported financially, the best of all.
On financial agitation we seemed to thrive
And to money getting seemed more alive.
To-night we rejoice that not all of success is financial
That other blessings there are quite as substantial.
While in the past from others we have gleaned
This year our credit is redeemed
By our personal offerings far in excess
and who would say that in giving we have not been blest.
Even now if we read the signs aright
A larger harvest for the coming year is in sight.

Our funds have been variously distributed
Help to the needy and pleasure to the sick have contributed;
Our social life has been mostly confined
To gatherings in the parlors where we have dined
Sumptuously and with great good cheer
As many can testify who are now here.
And yet of extravagance accused we cannot be
For in excess of expense has been our supper fee;
Our supper once over, our attention we have turned
To the home and foreign fields, and have learned
Of the Grievous Turkish yoke
Of the sorrow and suffering Christless oppression must
ever provoke;
Of noble men and women whose self-sacrificing love
Has brought Christ down from above
Of the wonderful ministries of healing
That have touched the springs of feeling
In many a weary sick soul
And pointed him to the heavenly goal.

One social evening at the home of a hospitable friend we have spent
To which invited guests their presence kindly lent
All assured the host and hostess in grateful tone
Of a pleasant evening upon starting home.

Of course, it was a bit of etiquette
You may say, and yet
It was more; there was that in the tone
That was ample assurance alone
That our entertainers had not labored in vain
To lend to the occasion a joyful strain.

The first of the year there came an appeal
From our sister society, did the "Friends in Council " feel
Like lending a hand of a Thursday night
At making a missionary program spicy and bright?
Always ready to assist when we can
We at once fell in with the plan
The subject assigned us was full indeed
Of all that one might reasonably need
To give to the evening a thrilling effect
If developed according to the original project.
Twas the Past and the present of the aborigines
The scope of the subject one readily sees.
But before degenerating quite to the barbaric state
And before the war-whoop was quite up to date
Our pastor, perhaps fearing serious results
Came to us to consult
The advisability of a present rejection
Of the subject, a collection
For the foreign land
Being close at hand.
Nothing loth, we readily agreed
Glad from our ponderous contract to be freed.

Added to our number this
Four welcome names appear
But from our roll, there disappears
A valued name that had graced it for years
Miss Carrie Noyes ' departure I have a double cause to regret
For were she but with us yet
Mine would not be the task
Your patient hearing for this report to ask.
But enough of the past with its lessons well learned
We trust with fresh hope and courage to the future we have
turned.

Females

2

Deaths, Males

2

Males	129
Removed	5
	<u>124</u>
Added	10
	<u>134</u>

Females	235
Removed	2
	<u>233</u>
Added	18
	<u>251</u>

Ch. expenditure

" "

\$5631.82

Ladies Repairs

1012.00

" Additional

159.22

S. S. Expenses

72.00

Woman's Mission. Soc

18.30

Y. P. S. C. E. Expense

18.99

Friends in Council

52.65

24.00

\$6988.98

Foreign Missions.

Ch. Coll

\$73.14

Woman's Miss. Soc.

39.63

Y. P. S. C. E. Miss Moulton

25.00

Friends in Council

40.05

\$177.82

Home Missions

Ch. Coll.

\$78.50

Womans Miss.

78.01

\$156.51

Duluth, Minn., Jan'y 16th, 1899.

To the Members and Society of Pilgrim Congregational Church:

The Board of Trustees of the church, by their chairman, present the following Report for the year ending January 17, 1899.

It is inevitable that the annual report of a Board of Trustees of any church society shall deal largely, if not exclusively with the finances of the society, whether there be a Finance Committee of the church or not, and during almost the entire year last past the trustees have constituted the sole finance committee.

We began the year with a list of annual expenditures to be made about as follows:

Pastor's salary	\$2000.00	
Janitor's "	395.00	
Music	800.00	
Insurance	187.00	
Fuel	200.00	
Light and water	180.00	
Pastor's vacation supply	80.00	
Interest on mortgage	900.00	\$4742.00

This was perhaps not our exact estimate, but is such an estimate as I am now able to make from data now at hand. I believe that insurance was estimated at \$140.00, whereas our actual expense for insurance per year is about \$93.50; other items may also vary.

Taking this as approximately correct, and leaving certain incidental repair bills to be taken care of from the proceeds of rentals of the church building, it was necessary to raise the pledges and weekly offerings to about \$91.20 per week to meet our annual bills, including interest. We found that pledges actually amounted to about \$61.67 per week, in force at the beginning of the year, which would give us a total of \$3206.84 per annum from that source. Add to this

- an estimated weekly collection on Sunday mornings and evenings of \$7.50 per week, or \$390.00, we would still be short of the amount needed by about \$1150.00 per annum, and if the ladies raised \$250 of this, the shortage would be the exact amount of our interest coupons.

An interesting conditions of affairs for presentation to any board, truly; and the question of meeting this deficit has been very constantly before your board, and has also been presented by it to the church on several occasions, with uniform results.

Whether it be that the society has come to believe so thoroughly in its own ability always to emerge successfully from any hole, no matter how deep; whether the people are content in the belief that there will always be found a few people ready to put their hands in their pockets and make good all deficits; whatever may be true, the Board of Trustees has found itself utterly unable by any means that it could devise, or that has been suggested to it, to raise the weekly pledges more than a dollar or two above the amount that it found in force at the beginning of the year. As often as the interest coupon has fallen due, it has been necessary for somebody to circulate a subscription paper and make good the amount, the ladies making up the remaining \$250.00 shortage.

Your board will have to bring back to you at the end of the year, entirely unsolved, except as your recently appointed Finance Committee has been able to do something toward that end, but it is respectfully suggested that each recurring circulation of these semi-annual subscription calls among the few whose names

are generally found upon them makes it just so much harder for the few to make the necessary sacrifices; and that there seems no good reason why a church should be conducted on such unbusinesslike principles, more than any other corporation. We believe that one of two things should be done; either we should pledge in advance an amount sufficient to meet the current expense account as at present existing, or we should cut that account to meet the amount pledged.

Can we cut expenses? We have just called a new pastor, making him an offer of \$2000.00 per annum; and if he accepts, we manifestly cannot cut there. We cannot cut janitor's salary, insurance, fuel, light and water, vacation supply or interest account; and the only remaining item is music, to meet which \$800 per year has always seemed to every music committee all too little. The other alternative is an increase in pledges.

Moreover, we are bound to this increase for we have called Mr. Milne on the distinct understanding that his pre-requisite is to be complied with, that current expenses for the year be fully pledged in advance. What he means by this is fully apparent from a letter written by him to the chairman of your Board of Trustees, from which I quote:

"You and I understand one another in regard to my insisting upon the pledges sufficient for the usual annual expenditure, interest included. Part of the problem of the church is financial. There is not much prospect of a successful attack upon the principal of the debt unless the annual expenses are provided for by the regular contributions. That accomplished, the smallest amount accumulated by special effort is clear gain towards the reduction of the principal. I am glad to hear that the amount needed is so nearly in sight that the trustees can guarantee the entire sum."

It is entirely obvious from the foregoing, especially from the words, "unless the annual expenses are provided for by the

regular contributions," that Mr. Milne contemplates their provision from pledges and weekly offerings, which are the only "regular contributions" and not in any part from donations made by the ladies' societies, which would be largely the result of those "special efforts" on which he relies for reduction of principal. It is equally obvious, therefore, that we must either at once raise our pledges to an amount which with weekly offerings will aggregate about \$91.00 or we must write or wire Mr. Milne the exact status.

I beg to state here that this last statement is my own and not made by any authority of the Board of Trustees, though I cannot think neither they or the church will differ from me in this expression of opinion.

We are informed that the pledges have now been increased to about \$73.00 and if we add to this the weekly voluntary offerings, it will leave us still about \$10.00 short of the necessary \$91.00. Of this the ladies have agreed to guarantee \$300.00, as we are told; but this comes up neither to the spirit nor the letter of Mr. Milne's very reasonable requirement.

I respectfully suggest, then, in conclusion that we proceed at this annual meeting to increase our pledges in the amount of \$10.00 and that we do not leave the church until this is accomplished. A Council was called for the 16th of this month, in Columbus, Ohio, to act on Mr. Milne's resignation of the pulpit of Plymouth Church, and a very determined effort is being made to retain him there. Let him not be called to Pilgrim Church of Duluth and accept that call, leaving a people who are ready and anxious to do more for him financially than we have offered,

only to come here and find that we have not done even what we
offered in the implication of our call.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. C. WHITE,

Chairman Board of Trustees.

President	L. Ella Roe
Vice-President	Miss Bates
Secretary	Miss Williams
Treasurer	Miss Dean

Financial Report.

Balance on hand	\$8.68
Received in pledges	48.75
" from suppers	19.88
" " dues	4.50

DISBURSEMENTS/

W. B. M. I.	\$40.05
For suppers	15.77
For social	7.28
For flowers	1.00
For church	10.00
To balance	7.71
	<hr/>
	\$81.81
	\$81.81

L. Ella Roe.

STATEMENT OF TREASURER OF LADIES' UNION.

Total receipts for 1897	\$649.09
" " " 1898	446.39
A decrease of	<u>\$202.70</u>
Pledge to Church Treasur.	\$400.00

Having fulfilled our pledge and all expenses paid, we have a balance in treasury of \$11.85.

Amelia Ericson, Treas.

A. M. A.

1899.

Ch. Collection	\$70.72
Ladies Union Clothing	28.00
" Indian girl	10.00
Y. P. S. C. E. Alaska	5.00
J. Kimball	5.00
	<u>\$118.72</u>

S. S. & Pub. Soc.

Coll.	\$20.11
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Ch. Bldg.

Coll.	\$18.61
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Other Benevolences.

W. Ames	\$500.00
G. Gilbert	1000.00
J. Kimball	15.00
Ladies Union, Y. M. C. A.	30.00
Chapman, Y. M. C. A.	50.00
	<u>\$1595.00</u>

Home expenditures	\$6988.98
Foreign Missions	177.82
Home "	156.51
A. M. A.	118.72
S. S. & Pub. Soc.	20.11
Ch. Bldg.	18.61
Other	1595.00
	<u>\$8075.95</u>

S. S. Members	250.00
Av. Att.	180.00
Families	200.00
Church members	364
Added 1899	28
Removed letter	5
Death	2

Church had Y. Boh 1899	364
Male members	129
Female	235

Rec'd 1899eConf.	16
" Letter	12
" Males	10
" Females	18

Dismissed by letter	5
Males	3

1899.

The Ladies' Union has held, this year, sixteen meetings, with an average attendance of fourteen. Two socials were held in the spring and an entertainment under auspices of the Home Consumers' League with supper in connection with it.

In June it was voted to pledge \$400 toward the church expenses. A farewell reception was held for Mr. and Mrs. Patton in the church parlors and the ladies had a reception for Mrs. Patton at the home of Mrs. Weiss.

Five suppers were given during the year, The Annual Supper, one to delegates in June, one to the Home Consumers League, The Harvest Home Supper and the supper or restaurant at the Christmas sale.

The meetings during the summer were suspended, but a barrel of clothes was made and sent to Hannah Wash, the Indian girl. The success of the Christmas sale under Mrs. Woodbridge's efficient direction testifies to her ability and that of her assistants. I believe the amount raised is as much or more than we ever raised. As seen by the Treasurer's report our success financially is not so great as in other years. This may be explained by the confused state of affairs in the church incident to being without a pastor, and also by incapacity of the president.

Respectfully submitted.

Clara Ames,

President.

Secretary's Report of Ladies' Union. 1899.

The Ladies Union has held sixteen meetings during the past year with an average attendance of fourteen. Two socials were held in the spring and an entertainment under the Home Consumers' League with supper in connection with it.

In June it was voted to pledge \$400 toward the church expenses. A farewell reception was given Mr. & Mrs. Patten in August. Four suppers given during the year:

To delegates in June.

Home Consumers League

Harvest Home supper

Christmas sale supper.

No meetings held through July, August and September.

There was some work done for Hannah Wash, but it was while I was away during the summer, and I don't know just how much was done.

Sincerely,

Carrie E. Cant.