

PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

DULUTH, MINNESOTA

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND ORGANIZATIONS

PRESENTED AT

THE ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 18, 1956

OUR COVENANT

We are united in striving to know the will of God as taught in the Holy Scriptures, and in our purpose to walk in the ways of the Lord made known or to be made known to us. We therefore join and covenant with each other to worship, work and serve together as loyal disciples of Jesus, to live among our fellow men a life of righteousness and brotherly love, and to do all within our power to promote the reign of God's will in all human relations.

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REPORT OF THE CLERK

1.

On January 1, 1955 the membership of Pilgrim Church was: 1,012

New members during 1955:	
On Confession of Faith	27
By Letter of Transfer	42
Reaffirmation of Faith	6
Total	<u>75</u>

Members lost during 1955:	
Removed by death	17
Letters of Transfer granted	17
Total	<u>34</u>

Net gain in membership during 1955	<u>41</u>
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Total Membership as of January 1, 1956	1,053
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Of this total 796 are resident in Duluth and 257 are non-resident.

During the year 41 births were recorded and 28 children and 3 young people were baptized.

Members lost by death were:

Mrs. Agnes Friederichsen	Mrs. E. D. Field
Mrs. Roger M. Weaver	Mrs. A. W. Kloepfel
Mrs. Lucian J. Marsh	Mrs. Isabella Ann Gow
Mrs. William E. Tracy	Mrs. Harriet Aldan
Mr. Allen J. Olson	Mrs. Alfred W. Frick
Mrs. Thomas R. Martin	Mr. Clayton W. Smith
Mrs. Royal C. Bruen	Dr. Robert L. Nelson
Mr. Roger M. Weaver	Mrs. Theron H. Hawkes
Mr. Martin M. Meldahl	

Letters of Transfer were issued to the following persons:

Mrs. Donald R. Bero to Glen Avon Presbyterian Church, Duluth.
 Mrs. David R. Johnson to University Congregational Church, Missoula, Montana.
 Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Tews, Helen Tews, to Olivet Congregational, St. Paul.
 Mrs. H. S. Hanson to Glen Avon Presbyterian, Duluth.
 Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Copeland to Congregational Church, Antigo, Wisconsin.
 Mr. and Mrs. James B. Crowe to the Federated Church, Fergus Falls.
 Mr. W. H. Elliott to Mizpah Congregational Church, Hopkins.
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Snyder, Gwen Snyder, to First Congregational, Naperville, Ill.
 Mrs. Duaine L. Linton to Rose Memorial Presbyterian, Binghamton, N. Y.
 Mrs. R. J. Moe, Robert Moe, to St. Stephen's Episcopal, Minneapolis.

Respectfully submitted,

Cadwell H. Hunt, Clerk

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2.

The Board of Trustees held regular monthly meetings during the year.

All bills have been met. All our benevolence pledges have been paid. We have set aside \$2800 in a depreciation fund for the parsonage.

A contract was given to the Western Waterproofing Co. of Kansas City, Mo. for a complete job of tuck-pointing the church at a cost of \$21,802.00. A contract was given to the Plaunt Co. of Duluth for the replacement of the old coal-fired boilers with oil-fired steel boilers complete with all fixtures and a new 8,000 gallon tank at a cost of \$17,812.00. The contracts were awarded on a competitive bid basis. Both projects were completed before the advent of cold weather. To meet these costs your Board is borrowing \$39,000.00 from Duluth's three banks at a rate of $4\frac{1}{2}\%$. It is anticipated that this loan will be repaid over a ten-year period.

Rev. James W. Schaefer joined our staff as Associate Minister. Miss Dorothy Belt was made church secretary, succeeding Mrs. Howard Manley.

The installation of the carillonic bells was completed in the spring and has been a splendid addition to our church. This was a memorial gift from Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Nordal in memory of their parents.

Many gifts were made by generous donors for special projects including a substantial donation toward the erection of a new chapel within the church. The total value of gifts for special projects and memorials for the year amounted to \$13,640.00 making a total for gifts received during the past three years of \$38,242.00, which indicates a splendid vote of confidence and expression of devotion to the work of Pilgrim Church.

The Board wishes to express its appreciation for the faithful and devoted service of its retiring trustees, Mrs. G. H. Spencer and Mr. D. M. Bellows. They have been wonderful board members and have served Pilgrim Church well.

The Loyalty campaign under the able chairmanship of Mr. Hubbell Carpenter was successfully completed. The church is in excellent financial condition. The balance in the general fund at the close of the year amounts to more than \$1000.00.

The proposed 1956 budget is hereby presented to the congregation and we recommend its adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth Duncan,
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DEACONS

3.

The Board of Deacons held nine regular meetings during the year with excellent attendance at each. Many matters of interest and importance were passed on and given necessary attention.

Mr. Montague was reappointed to supervise the communion service and Dr. Plumb was named to the Religious Education Committee. The terms of Mr. Montague, Mr. Bonnell and Mr. Wahl, all of whom have made fine contributions of their services, will end this year.

Dr. Halfaker again conducted classes during Lent, which were well attended and enjoyed.

On January 1st Mrs. Manley concluded her duties as Secretary. A sizeable gift of money contributed by her many friends in the Church and a scroll expressing the appreciation of the Church for her long and splendid services, were given to her.

On July 1st James Schaefer became our Associate Minister, with the duties of supervising and conducting the Church School, the young people's activities, and assisting Dr. Halfaker in making calls. While Dr. Halfaker was on vacation Mr. Schaefer assisted the guest preacher in the church services.

During the past year we again had the pleasure of having two of our own members occupy the pulpit. On Laymen's Sunday Dr. Ellis Livingston gave a fine sermon with Dr. Charles Bagley conducting the worship service. The willingness of laymen to do this and the contributions they thus make are evidence of the spirit in our church today.

Further evidence of this and of its effect is found on every side - in the increase in attendance at services, in the increase in membership, in the great number of gifts that have been made, but above all in the time and efforts so many are willing to give and in the very evident desire shown by all to work together in unity and harmony.

This desire caused the Board of Deacons and the Board of Trustees, in addition to their own regular meetings, to hold six meetings jointly during the year. The purpose of these meetings was two-fold: first, to keep informed on all that has been going on with reference to the merger, so that if any action should be required of this Church we would be in a position to advise and recommend; second, and uppermost in the hearts and minds of the members of these Boards, has been the fervent hope and desire to keep our Church on an even keel throughout and avoid anything that would in any way affect the harmony, unity and great gains which have been attained under the splendid leadership of Dr. Halfaker. At a special meeting on December 18th the Church adopted unanimously a report of these joint Boards advising that no action be taken by Pilgrim Church as a church either to promote or defeat the merger, and a resolution providing that we should remain a free and autonomous church until such time as we shall decide otherwise.

We are fortunate, indeed, in having the ministry of Dr. Halfaker. With him as our leader, and with all of us working together and dedicated to that end, we can become a truly great church.

Respectfully submitted,

R. H. Neimeyer, Chairman,
Board of Deacons.

REPORT OF THE HISTORIAN

4.

The year 1955, the 84th year of Pilgrim Church, was a year of continued progress and worthwhile accomplishment. The various organizations of the church maintained their high standard of activity and service to the church and all branches of the church work have grown under the capable leadership of Dr. William L. Halfaker, who completed his third year as our minister on November 16.

Several outstanding events of the year should be noted in this report. Such an event was the installation of the Carillon Bells in March, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert L. Nordal in memory of their parents. The Carillon provides the music of twenty-five English type bells, the tonal equivalent of forty tons of cast bells. The bells are played each week day at 12:00 noon and at 6:00 in the evening. We are deeply grateful for this beautiful memorial gift.

In the middle of the year the Rev. Charles W. Ramshaw retired as our Pastoral Assistant. We wish to record here our deep appreciation of his faithful service to Pilgrim Church and his valuable help to the shut-in and hospitalized members.

On July 1st the Rev. James W. Schaefer came to Pilgrim Church as Associate Minister. Mr. Schaefer grew up in Mayflower Church in Minneapolis and was active in Pilgrim Fellowship as president of the Twin Cities Fellowship and president of the State Pilgrim Fellowship. A graduate of Hamline University and of Chicago Theological Seminary, he specialized in Religious Education during his B.D. work at the Seminary. He has the full responsibility for the Church School and the Pilgrim Fellowship program for high school and junior high school young people, acts as advisor to the young adult group, and assists Dr. Halfaker in a number of other phases of the church work, particularly with calling on new residents and church school families.

Many gifts were made by generous donors for special projects and memorials during the year. The complete list is recorded in the Book of Remembrance in the narthex. Altogether, the gifts for special projects and memorials during the year amounted to \$13,640. Among these was a gift of stock at Christmas time valued at more than \$8,000 to be applied on the proposed remodeling and improvements for various departments of the church including provision for a new chapel within the church building.

The historical records of the church are carefully preserved in a separate place and materials of special significance are kept in the church safe. Bound copies of the bulletins are added to the file each year. These bulletins provide a valuable potential source of historical information for the future. Likewise a copy of the mimeographed reports submitted at the annual meeting each year is made a part of the permanent records of the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph S. Knowlton, Historian

REPORT OF THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

5.

The Religious Education Committee of Pilgrim Congregational Church, an elected advisory group of six with a representative from the Deacons, presents this report:

- 1.) The committee approved "Scout Troop 8" committee men and their staff for the coming year.
- 2.) Church school enrollment has increased for all the departments over last year.
- 3.) The committee approved entering into the Week Day Christian Education Program.
- 4.) The committee approved participation in a program to test and evaluate curriculum materials for the Division of Christian Education of the Congregational Churches.
- 5.) Definite improvements in Church School educational facilities have been recommended.
- 6.) Mr. Schaefer has successfully developed our Junior Church which meets at 9:30 each Sunday morning.
- 7.) Through the efforts of our past director, Dorothy Belt, and our present Associate Minister, Mr. Schaefer, improvements have been made and are being made in both the teaching and the course materials.

Respectfully submitted,

D. F. Walker, Chairman

REPORT OF THE PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP

The Pilgrim Fellowship of Pilgrim Church has progressed far during the past year. We have based our principles on the importance of the individual members in our organization all working together towards established goals.

Our P.F. meets every Sunday at the church, the meeting starting at 7:00. Our meetings consist of some singing, then business, then recreation downstairs. After recreation we hold our "discussion". We usually have a filmstrip, a visiting speaker, or a panel discussion led by PF'ers. Then after the discussion we go to a worship service held in the narthex of the church, and finally down to the kitchen for cokes and food. Our program is very flexible, but we try to include these six items on our agenda every Sunday.

The officers of the PF plan much of the program. We have 13 officers who meet once a month to decide about future programs, PF projects and special activities. The officers do much of the technical work involved in running an organization such as ours.

Of course, there is room in our schedule for fun, too. We have a party once a month and also we have special activities such as caroling before Christmas.

Our P.F. is quite active in state and association affairs. Four of our members are association officers and we have high hopes for one or two of our members for state offices next year.

In fact, we have many plans for the future. With our active membership at 25 and our potential for next fall between 40 and 45, we are looking forward to the coming year with the anticipation and the hope which seem to be characteristic of today's youth, today's Pilgrim Fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Dinham, President

It has been a fast six months that I have been on the staff of Pilgrim Church. I feel that I am finding my place in the program and activities of the Church. There is much for me to learn. My time disappears at an alarming rate. Yet the most important aspect of my relationship with Pilgrim Church is the ready help and assistance that has come from many people.

The major responsibility of the Associate Minister centers on the Church School, a school of 370 enrolled children and young people and a staff of 46. The figures break down as follows:

- 82 Cradle Roll (not enrolled in Church School classes).
- 193 active and 23 inactive in the classes from the two-year olds through the sixth grade.
- 60 active and 12 inactive in the Junior Church (Junior High).
- 18 classes that meet every Sunday.
- 31 regular staff personnel (teaching and administrative).
- 13 substitutes on call.

Two new aspects of the program in the Church School should be brought to your attention. Faced with overcrowding and facilities that are inadequate for the Church School to meet at one hour, the Junior High Department was moved to 9:30 and re-organized as a Junior Church. These young people now meet in Salter Hall for worship under the leadership of Mr. Jack Healy, their superintendent. The last half of the hour is spent in classes.

Though it is still in its beginning stages, the Junior Church appears to meet with the approval of its members. Development of a strong program is a continuing affair. At present a group of Junior Deacons is the only functioning development. In time the Junior Church will have Trustees, a Music Committee, an Annual Meeting, and other activities. The service in Salter Hall and the organization of the department are modeled after Pilgrim Church. We feel that in this way the young people may come to know and appreciate the activities and functions of a church and become prepared to participate as informed adults.

A second innovation has involved the development of a class for two-year-old children. This class meets in the tower room on the third floor under the leadership of Mrs. Robert Seguin, a registered nurse, and assisted by the mothers on a rotation system. Though two year olds are very young, there is a program for them which cannot be considered the same as baby-sitting. The need for this class is readily seen in the fact that eleven children were in attendance last Sunday - the fifth session of the class. The number of children who may enroll is staggering there are thirteen other children in the Cradle Roll who are two years old - not to mention those who are 20 to 24 months.

The Pilgrim Fellowship program for senior high age is expanding and becoming more effective. There are now twenty-six active members of the group. Beginning with a one-day retreat last fall, the group has carefully planned their program which is effected by 13 officers. Sunday evenings are devoted to regular programs with parties and planning sessions held on other nights of the week.

A young adult group was formed in November that is gradually getting under way. It includes twelve members who are past college but not yet eligible for the Pilgrim Pairs. They meet twice a month. Indications are that this group will grow and develop into a significant part of our fellowship program.

I function as the Institutional Representative for our Boy Scout Troop and our Cub Pack. As such, I have attended Troop and Pack Committee meetings and occasionally the regular meetings with the boys. In relation to the scouting program, I

have worked with six boys helping them meet the requirements for the scout God and Country Award. This work has involved six class sessions and at least three hours of individual consultation with each boy. These six scouts have been examined by the Christian Education Committee and will receive their awards on Scout Sunday, February 12th.

Two responsibilities outside of Pilgrim have fallen into my lap. First, the Association Pilgrim Fellowship found itself without an advisor this fall. Since four of the Association officers are members of our PF group, I found myself helping them plan the fall rally and their present efforts for a paper. Without quite knowing what had happened, I became acting advisor. This has now involved attending a state PF executive meeting for two days. Secondly, in an effort to support inter-denominational activity by our young people, I took our two representatives to meetings of the UCYC here in Duluth last Fall. When Dr. John Lennon, of the First Methodist Church and advisor to the UCYC, left town, the group asked my help in keeping the wheels rolling.

My personal records are not complete, but from culling my appointment book and checking calling cards the following statistics appear to be close to the truth. I have preached twice at Pilgrim Church, and twice elsewhere. I have assisted in the services 8 times, addressed 6 women's meetings, and attended 58 committee meetings.

Evenings are extremely busy. I have participated in 17 PF Sunday meetings, 6 PF officers meetings, 5 Christian Education Committee meetings, 4 Church School Workers' Conferences, 3 meetings of the Pilgrim Pairs, 6 meetings of the new Young Adult group, and 5 UCYC (United Christian Youth Council) meetings.

Since I arrived last July, I have made approximately 245 house and hospital calls, the hospital calls during Dr. Halfaker's absence last summer. Three weeks in July and August were spent attending conferences; two weeks at the Faribault Summer School of Christian Education and one week at the Green Lake, Wisconsin Pilgrim Series Workshop. I have attended two Duluth Association meetings, one as a member of the Executive Committee representing Christian Education. The latter responsibility required my attendance at a conference Committee on Christian Education meeting in Minneapolis.

I have found that changes and additions to a program such as we have at Pilgrim require planning far in advance of implementation. The plans and ideas that follow are being evaluated.

The Church School needs more coordination with the homes. To effect a working relationship, a Parents' Council may be formed. Such a group would plan and arrange for programs and family suppers. It may prove desirable to divide the Primary and Junior Departments into three groups next fall. Recruiting and training of new personnel for the Church School Staff will begin shortly. By June we hope to have the staff prepared for next year.

Our seventh and eighth grade junior high young people do not have a fellowship group. It is my hope that such a group may be formed next fall if not sooner. Along with our two present groups, a regular Sunday supper may prove worth-while.

All of these activities require leadership and assistance by adults. If the present program is to be intensified and expanded, we will need more volunteer help for both Sunday and weekday activities.

My association with Pilgrim Church is a very pleasant and rewarding one. The guidance and help that I receive from Dr. Halfaker is understanding and greatly appreciated. I am happy to be a member of Pilgrim Church, to know its people, and to share in its activities.

Respectfully submitted,
James W. Schaefer

REPORT OF THE UNITED YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

7.

In the second year of this program the growth and development that was hoped for has come to be. The program and activities of the group have expanded in all directions. After the formation of the United Youth Fellowship by Glen Avon Presbyterian, Lakeside Presbyterian and Pilgrim Congregational Churches in September of 1954, a new phase of religious emphasis was added to the UMD campus. United Youth Fellowship was and is dedicated to: (1) Developing a better understanding of Christianity; (2) Learning how to apply Christianity to life; (3) Learning to think clearly, pragmatically and with maturity; and (4) Learning to work and live together.

During the past year a number of activities have been established which it is the hope of United Youth Fellowship will become traditional. In January of 1954 the first annual dinner was held for the people of the three sponsoring churches. Then in May of 1954 at the last meeting a Senior's Night was held where all of the graduating Seniors who were interested in the United Youth Fellowship were contacted and invited to attend. Finally, in the Fall Quarter of this year, 1955, the United Youth Fellowship sponsored a Parent's Night, inviting the parents of the various students to attend the United Youth Fellowship so that they might become acquainted with our program, understanding the objectives and the functions of United Youth Fellowship. It is hoped that these three programs will become a tradition and part of the United Youth Fellowship.

In addition to this, United Youth Fellowship has conducted its regular Thursday Night meetings, meeting at 6:00 o'clock in Pilgrim Congregational Church for supper, worship, discussion and recreation. We have discussed such topics as church design, and symbolism, the significance of the Reformation, church ritual and communion and baptism.

The present officers are:

President: Dick Weld

Vice president: Joe Stevens

Secretary-Treasurer: Mary Ann Magnuson

5 Committee Chairmen: Kathy Grimwood, John Nordale, Mary Conley,
Myrtle Holmes, Darleen Dahlberg.

These people make up the Council which is responsible for developing and carrying on the program.

In addition to the program above indicated, we have instituted a more extensive and intensive program of deputations. This is a program whereby the people from the United Youth Fellowship go to various churches in Duluth and surrounding areas to conduct their church worship program. We hope that we may continue to be of service to those in the community and to God our Maker as we undertake this task of ministering to others in the priesthood of all believers.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan H. Mundt, Director

REPORT OF THE WOMEN'S ASSEMBLY

2.

Another successful year has been enjoyed by the members of the Women's Assembly. The church pledge of \$400 was paid as well as \$100 thankoffering which is used for the projects of the Congregational Women of the state. In addition, several improvements were made in the kitchen and coat rooms. Two racks for moving chairs were added and are much appreciated by our custodian.

We are justly proud of the report of our Friendly Service Guild. In addition to many cartons of good used clothing packed and shipped to needy areas both in this country and in Europe, this group has completed and shipped 35 complete layettes. The usual contributions of money have been made by the Assembly through this committee under Mrs. Jevy's chairmanship.

Through our committee on Community Interests gifts of money have been made as needed to local charities and worthy causes and volunteers have helped at the children's home.

Mrs. Baldwin and Mrs. Nelson as housekeeping chairmen have added to the kitchen equipment as needed and supervised other improvements.

In addition to the money raised in each of the seven groups or circles the Assembly had four money making projects - a rummage sale, a Salad Luncheon, the concert, "Pinafore", and the Christmas Bazaar. A large number of our members worked together on these projects and we feel that they were not only successful in money raising but they also increased the fellowship enjoyed by all those who gave of their time and talents.

We feel extremely grateful for the wonderful cooperation we have enjoyed from the members of the Women's Assembly. We are especially grateful to Dr. Halfaker who has been generous with his time in advising us and has given us a rare degree of inspiration.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary M. Tibbott
Ada S. Thomas

REPORT OF THE YOUTH PAIRS

In the third year of our young couples group we find we have fifty couples on our list and have had a good showing at every meeting so far.

Our officers, elected in October, are: Peter and Sally Stave, Presidents; Jack and Jackie Roger, Vice-presidents; Willie and Lisa Hutchinson, Secretary-Treasurers; and Bob and Ruth Ann Eaton, Membership Chairmen.

We have planned and held both social and educational meetings this year with a Halloween party in October, a wonderful talk by Dr. Halfaker on Congregationalism in November and a Progressive Dinner in December. We are planning an outdoor party for this month and we would like to visit another Duluth industry this year if at all possible as that was a most interesting and successful meeting last year.

We feel we have a fine group consisting of people that are very worth while knowing and great fun to be with. We look forward to seeing them at every meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter and Sally Stave, President

REPORT OF THE MUSIC COMMITTEE

9.

The music committee is happy to avail itself of this opportunity to again express in writing its sincere appreciation of the sustained excellence of music which we are privileged to hear from our choir and organ under the direction of Miss Rogers. We are indeed fortunate, and not unmindful of the time necessary in practice and of the faithfulness required to attain this high standard in addition to musicianship.

A gift to the church was received from Mrs. Allen J. Olson, in memory of her husband, for re-voicing the clarinet stop in the organ. This is being done in the factory and will be completed this winter.

It can appropriately be recorded here that Pilgrim Church had a part in the Convention of the American Guild of Organists last summer. Three recitals were given in our auditorium, the artists nationally known organists. Miss Rogers was Program Chairman for the Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy H. Congdon, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE LOOKOUT COMMITTEE

Members of the Lookout Committee attended to delivery of the church flowers, each Sunday through the year, to the sick and shut-ins of our congregation.

On Easter Sunday an augmented committee attended to distribution and delivery of the lilies.

All members of the committee found joy and satisfaction in this form of service to Pilgrim Church.

Respectfully submitted,

The Hubert Moores, Co-Chairmen

REPORT OF THE COFFEE HOUR HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

The Coffee Hour Hospitality Committee functioned through the spring and summer months under the chairmanship of Mrs. Helen F. Duncan. A reception was held after church services on July 3rd in honor of Mr. James W. Schaefer, our new Associate Minister.

There have been two coffee hours during the past two months. The first was held November 15, when approximately 100 guests were served. The second, our Christmas party on December 11, was attended by over 110 members of the congregation. In addition to the adult members, there were many members of the Church School Department who came with their parents. We wish to thank Mr. John Andresen for his generosity in furnishing the coffee for all of these occasions.

Respectfully submitted,

Cordelia C. Goodman,
Margaret C. Sarff,
Co-Chairmen

REPORT OF THE SERVICE COMMITTEE

10.

For the past two years the Service Committee has devoted practically its entire effort in bringing the Graudums family to Duluth from Germany. With the help of various church members outside of the committee, we were successful in obtaining employment and housing assurances for the entire family. Although there were many delays, it was believed from the information available to us that it would be only a matter of time before the family would receive the necessary clearances and be on their way to Duluth.

Early in November of last year, we were informed that the Graudums' departure had again been delayed by what appeared to be a technicality in the immigration laws, and probably an error made by a representative of the American Consulate in the course of the physical examination prior to debarkation. The family will be eligible for reconsideration by the authorities again in July of this year, and it is hoped that shortly thereafter the Graudums will finally be on their way to Duluth. In the meantime, the committee will continue its contact with the family and send help to them from time to time in whatever form the committee deems proper.

The committee recently requested from the Congregational Christian Service Committee in New York information on other displaced families so that we could move as rapidly as possible in the sponsorship of an additional family or families.

After examination of the two case files submitted to us, it was decided that we would assume the sponsorship of the Konstantine Grab family presently located in Yokohama, Japan. Mr. Grab was born in Harbin, China, is of Czechoslovak nationality, and is 34 years of age. His wife, Valentina is 37 years of age, was born in Russia and is of Russian nationality. The couple has one son, Konstantine, 6 years of age. Mr. Grab is an auto mechanic and arc welder by trade. The necessary job and housing assurances have been obtained and the application and assurance forms have been sent to New York for further processing.

The committee feels that Pilgrim Church is capable of sponsoring more than one displaced family and is, therefore, at the present time contemplating sponsoring an additional displaced family. It is the hope of the committee that by the end of this month, assurance forms will be completed for one additional family and that before too many months go by, we will be able to report to the congregation that two displaced families, in addition to the Graudums family, are on their way to Duluth under the sponsorship of Pilgrim Church.

Because of the preference given the work involved in the sponsorship of displaced families, the committee has been unable to consider or investigate any other project within the church. It is contemplated, however, that the committee will shortly be in a position to examine in detail the functions of the other church committees, and aid and assist them in their service projects wherever possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Buchanan, Chairman

In the spring of 1954 the Deacons voted to set up a blood bank for the benefit of our church members. A committee was appointed consisting of the Minister and the writer of this report as Co-Chairmen, Mrs. J. T. Adams, Mr. M.E. Linquest, and Dr. R. E. Nutting.

After careful study of regulations and by-laws governing other blood banks and consultation with the hospitals, a set of regulations governing our blood bank was prepared and submitted to the Board of Deacons for approval. A copy of these regulations was sent to all members of the church and is also attached to this report.

In addition to a general appeal for donors the committee made an organized effort to contact members of the church who might be eligible to donate blood. At the time of the preparation of this report we have balances of 13 pints at St. Luke's and 6 pints at St. Mary's. With the replacement of 2 pints recently used at St. Luke's, our balance there will reach the goal of 15 pints. We are still somewhat below that goal at St. Mary's hospital.

Members willing to make a donation to the bank should contact the chairman or the church office for information and appointments at the hospitals.

We are happy to list the names of those who have donated, thus having established and maintained our blood bank on a working basis. They appear in the order of their donation:

At St. Mary's

R. H. Neimeyer
John Morrison
Mrs. Alfred Hartley

Mrs. Roderick Syck
Mrs. C. L. Edson
Jesse D. Bradley

Douglas Bourgeois
John T. Adams

At St. Luke's

Frank Hansen
Earl Nelson
Herman Genuenden
Richard Nelson
Robert Rhode
L. W. Moore

Mrs. Laird Goodman
Mrs. John Dickerson
Dr. R. E. Nutting
Mrs. Howard Clarke
Fred Stout, Jr.
Dr. V. R. Plumb
Merrill Whittemore

John King
Grant Merritt
Wilfred Sarasin
James W. Schaefer
Robert Swanson
W. P. Van Evera

Five of these donors are not members of the church. Their donation was made to replace blood used by members. If you or members of your family do not qualify as donors you may secure an outside donor, either as a replacement for blood withdrawn or to make an original deposit for you.

I want to thank Mrs. Adams for her good efforts among the women of the church and the others of the committee for their interest and, of course, to those who have donated, go the thanks of every member of our splendid congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

W. D. Haselton, Co-Chairman

PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH BLOOD BANK

12.

Regulations

I. Membership in the Bank

- A. Membership shall be limited to active members of Pilgrim Church.
- B. Blood donations become the property of the Bank and do not give the right to the donor to designate where and when they shall be used.
- C. The Bank shall be administered by a committee of five members to be appointed by the Board of Deacons, which shall include at least one woman and one deacon and the minister. The Deacons shall designate the chairman and the minister shall serve as co-chairman.

II. Obligations of Membership

- A. Blood donation. Continuation of the benefits of the Bank is dependent upon the cooperation of members in making adequate blood donations.
- B. Those failing to qualify as donors may secure an acceptable substitute.
- C. Successful operation of the Bank will require a minimum of 15 pints of blood on deposit at St. Luke's Hospital and 15 pints on deposit at St. Mary's Hospital.
- D. It is the responsibility of the family of the user to replace withdrawals from the Bank either through donations by members of the family or other persons whom they may secure as donors.

III. Coverage

- A. Withdrawals may be made for the benefit of active members, husband or wife, parents or guardians, and children or brothers and sisters living with and dependent on the member.
 - B. Withdrawals shall be limited to three (3) pints at any one illness at the discretion of the committee.
- NOTE: This regulation is invoked only if the Bank withdrawals become too heavy for the safety of the Bank.

IV. Requirements for blood donors

- A. Adults in good health, 18 to 60 years of age, who meet the requirements established by the hospitals for blood donors may give blood for the Bank. Appointments will be made by the Blood Bank committee.

REPORT OF THE MEN'S CLUB

13.

The Men's Club, despite strong competition from TV, other men's organizations and "old man winter" appears to be headed for a successful season. Approximately 85 men attended each of the first two meetings and it is hoped that this figure will jump to 100 for each of the next three meetings.

At the November meeting members of the Men's Club approved a recommendation of the Executive Committee to adopt the following as Club projects:

1. Establishment of a Lenten Breakfast for the men of the church
2. Sponsor and develop Laymen's Sunday at Pilgrim Church
3. A study of the landscaping of the church.
4. Purchase of a new movie screen for the Fellowship Hall.

The Club is financially sound and strong in morale.

Respectfully submitted,

R. L. Heller, President

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF USHERS

Ushers are divided into three teams each consisting of a captain and eight men with two standby men who act as substitutes. Each team rotates one month on and two months off. All of these men have been carefully selected from different age groups. They have served well and faithfully. I want to add my personal word of praise and thanks to that previously expressed to them by the Deacons at a Board Meeting, December 27th and conveyed to me in a letter which reads as follows:

"At the meeting of the Board of Deacons held December 27th at the Lincoln Hotel, I was instructed to write to you as a Deacon in charge of our very fine group of ushers and express to you and to them the thanks of the Board of Deacons for the excellent services rendered by each and every one of the ushers.

"The courteous and dignified manner in which our ushers have discharged their duties has added much to the dignity of our church services.

"Please say to each usher 'thanks' from the Board of Deacons.

Sincerely yours,

W. A. Newman, Secretary."

I also want to thank John Dalton, Assistant Head Usher, for his faithfulness and the congregation for their fine cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas Walker, Head Usher

REPORT OF THE COMMUNION GUILD

14.

The Communion Guild consists of 20 very faithful women of our church. We have prepared communion five times during the year. This means coming to the church on Saturday afternoon and preparing the silver, filling the glasses, and setting the table. It also means staying after church to wash the silver and put it away. We have taken excellent care of the communion silver and linen. This committee has also taken care of the new silver services of the church this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Lottie Nutting, Chairman

REPORT OF THE FLOWER GUILD

It is the purpose of the Flower Guild to arrange for flowers for the Sunday Services. With the exception of a few Sundays during the year and the summer Sundays when garden flowers are provided, all of the flowers have been given as memorial gifts. The flowers for the Sundays when we do not have memorial gifts are provided by the Women's Assembly. We wish to thank the Women's Assembly and all who have provided flowers.

Would you like to provide memorial flowers for the service some Sunday? Such a gift will provide a beautiful memorial to a loved one, contribute to the beauty and worshipful atmosphere of the sanctuary, and bring joy to the sick and shut-in members of the congregation to whom flowers are taken by the Lookout Committee following the service. A note will appear in the bulletin naming the person in whose memory the flowers are given. Please call the church office and indicate when you would like to provide the flowers and the name of the person in whose memory you make the gift. The cost is \$5. The flowers will be selected and arranged by the Flower Guild and the bill will be mailed to the donor by the florist.

The members of the Flower Guild are Mrs. Sam F. Atkins, Mrs. K. R. Fawcett, Mrs. F. H. Magney and Mrs. Hubbell Carpenter.

Respectfully submitted,
Beatrice Halfaker, Chairman

REPORT OF THE OFFICE HELP COMMITTEE

It is the duty of this committee to assist in the church office when extra help is needed to fold and enclose general mailings, such as Pilgrim News, Every Member Canvass Material, letters to the church members, etc.

The committee helped with 17 mailings and with the assembling of the Annual Reports, a total of 110 hours work. Approximately 16,649 items were handled.

The following women have helped with this work during the past year: Mrs. W.B. Arper, Mrs. R. G. Barnes, Mrs. Hubbell Carpenter, Mrs. T. W. Doan, Mrs. P.F. Heimick, Miss Margaret Hemenway, Mrs. Amos Johnson, Mrs. T. J. Kitts, Mrs. H. J. McClearn, Mrs. Katherine S. Miller, Mrs. A. C. Oberg, Mrs. S. A. Rhode, Mrs. O. E. Sarff, Mrs. B. S. Savin, Mrs. A. L. Wiltse.

Respectfully submitted,
Isabelle J. Savin, Chairman

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

15.

The Nominating Committee submits the following nominations for officers and committee members:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: (for three years) S.F. Atkins, H.E. Farnam, V.D. Johnson, Jr.
(for two years) Mrs. E.C. Congdon (to complete unexpired term of Mrs. G.H. Spencer).

BOARD OF DEACONS: (for three years) H.P. Clarke, A.H. Forsan, H.J. Gemuenden,
F.W. Hansen, J.H. Healy, V.R. Plumb.

TREASURER: J.D. Bradley

ASSISTANT TREASURER: W.D. Haselton

CLERK: C.H. Hunt

HISTORIAN: R.S. Knowlton

AUDITOR: K.F. Honigman

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE (for three years): W.F. Arndt, R.M. Smith.

LOOKOUT COMMITTEE: H.U. Moore, Chairman, Mrs. H.U. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. W.F. Baldwin, Mr. and Mrs. N.B. Barsness, Mr. and Mrs. R.R. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. T.B. Silliman, Mr. and Mrs. C.T. Williams.

STANDING COMMITTEE: Mrs. S.F. Atkins, Mrs. P.N. Bray, Mrs. Josiah Fuller, Mrs. G.C. MacRae, Mrs. J.M. Morrison, Mrs. C.D. Steele.

MUSIC COMMITTEE: Mrs. E.C. Congdon, Chairman, Mrs. Hubbell Carpenter, Mrs. T.W. Doan, C.L. Edson, Mrs. Kenneth Duncan, Dr. K.R. Fawcett, George Finch, Mrs. H.A. Garver, Mrs. F.C. Jacobson.

SERVICE COMMITTEE: R.B. Buchanan, Chairman, J.T. Adams, Mrs. John Glendenning, L.E. Griffith, Mrs. R.L. Heller, E.N. Livingston, Mrs. W.B. Matter, Dr. R.L. Swanstrom, Mrs. M.H. Tibbetts, Mrs. W.P. Van Evera.

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE UNION GOSPEL MISSION: Mr. and Mrs. W.D. Avery
Mr. and Mrs. Laird Goodman

THE BOARD OF USHERS: Head Usher: Douglas Walker; Assistant Head Usher: John Dalton

Captains: Cadwell Hunt, Robert Rhode, Charles Tomlan

Ushers: E.B. Appelquest, T.A. Brain, R.B. Buchanan, E.L. Burg, Jr., J.C. Andresen, J.M. Dickerson, D.V. Dodge, A.M. Eagles, Jr., R.F. Eaton, W.M. Fox, E.T. Fride, Jr., John Glendenning, Jr., W.J. Grandy, H.W. Griggs, James Hanson, R.L. Heller, R.C. Jackson, T.J. Lee, E.N. Livingston, Russell Moe, J. D. Morrison, R.E. Nelson, R.M. Smith, Richard Weld, Norman Zilles.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. J. T. Adams
Mrs. E.B. Appelquest
Mr. E. R. Bechtel
Mrs. A. D. Chisholm
Dr. F. C. Jacobson

Mrs. R. L. Mayall
Mr. N. A. Moberg
Mrs. T. F. Phillips
Mr. Robert M. Smith
Mr. Douglas Walker

Mr. M. E. Linquest, Chairman

REPORT OF THE TREASURER - 1955

16.

RECEIPTS

Individual Contributions	\$50,822.79
Loose Offerings	2,070.39
Church School for Expense	459.82
Women's Assembly for General Fund	500.00
Women's Assembly for Housekeeping	874.24
Rentals	565.00
Payments on sale of former parsonage	840.00
Church School for Benevolence	211.15
Special Offerings (Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas)	3,363.64
Women's Assembly for Benevolences	400.00
Special Projects	3,145.78
Memorial Fund	9,227.36
Other Unbudgeted Income (including borrowing)	<u>34,596.11</u>
Total Receipts	\$107,076.28

DISBURSEMENTS

<u>Pastoral Expense</u>	
Salary - Minister	7,800.00
Annuity Dues - Minister	941.70
Minister's Fund	151.65
Salary - Pastoral Assistant	250.00
Expenses - Pastoral Assistant	250.00
Pulpit Supply	300.00
Salary Associate Minister	1,800.00
Parsonage - Associate Minister	<u>450.00</u>
	11,943.35
<u>Office Expense</u>	
Salary - Secretary	2,646.45
Salary - Financial Secretary	498.13
Office Supplies	302.32
Postage	427.98
Printing (not Bulletins or E.M.C.)	510.55
New Equipment and Maintenance	<u>190.49</u>
	4,575.92
<u>Music</u>	
Salary - Organist & Choir Director	1,422.00
Salary - Youth Choir Director	207.20
Sheet Music	145.31
Organ Service	148.00
Choir Fees	<u>2,383.86</u>
	4,306.37
<u>Religious Education</u>	
Salary - Director	1,927.24
Curriculum Materials	491.60
Church School Supplies	98.00
Audio-Visual Materials	32.73
Church School Equipment	129.32
Awards - Bibles for 3rd grade	36.40
United Youth Fellowship Budget	355.16
Lenten Seminars	50.00
Miscellaneous, P.F. Expense, etc.	<u>137.71</u>
	3,258.16

REPORT OF TREASURER (Cont.,)

17.

Maintenance & Operating

Salary - Caretaker	2,938.70	
Supplies	230.34	
Electricity, Water and Gas	1,357.61	
Telephones	385.69	
Fuel	2,940.27	
Repairs	3,475.93	
Insurance	1,542.75	
Parsonage Utilities, etc.	713.43	
Painting Wood on Church Exterior	1,155.00	
Housekeeping Expense	813.60	15,553.32

General Expense

Printing Bulletins	1,272.88	
Printed Literature	74.05	
Newspaper Advertising	164.92	
Every Member Canvass	312.12	
Collection of Garbage and Ashes	139.50	
Church Contribution Envelopes	72.18	
Conference Delegate Expense	322.41	
Per Capita Dues	303.60	
Deacons Expense	33.18	
Miscellaneous General Expense	251.99	
Contingent Fund	1,047.23	3,994.06

Benevolences

Finnish Missions, State Conference	3,640.00	
American Board	1,170.00	
Board of Home Missions	1,170.00	
Relief and Reconstruction	715.90	
Chicago Theological Seminary	350.00	
Northland College	300.00	
Union Gospel Mission	200.00	
World Council of Churches	50.00	
National Council of Churches	50.00	
Congregational Historical Society	25.00	
The Gideons	50.00	
Other Benevolences	2,398.56	10,119.46

Depreciation Fund

1,000.00

Amortization Fund

Note - Northern Minn. Nat'l Bank	840.00	
Parsonage Mortgage	1,272.84	
Parsonage Improvements	2,800.00	4,912.84

Special Projects

1,696.30

Expenditures for Memorial Gifts

7,540.02

Other Unbudgeted Disbursements

New Boilers	17,812.00	
Tuck-pointing	14,534.67	
Miscellaneous	2,557.56	34,904.23

Total Disbursements

103,804.03

SUMMARY CASH STATEMENT

18.

Operating Funds

Balances January 1, 1955
 General Fund
 Memorial Fund
 Displaced Persons Fund
 Special Projects Fund

\$ 930.04
 398.44
 659.38
314.08

\$ 2,301.94

Receipts

Total Cash

107,076.28
109,378.22

Disbursements

103,804.03

Balances December 31, 1955

General Fund
 Memorial Fund
 Displaced Persons Fund
 Special Projects Fund

1,092.72
 2,083.53
 634.38
1,763.56

5,574.19

5,574.19

Segregated Funds (In Savings Account)

Balances January 1, 1955
 Depreciation Fund
 Hornby Scholarship Fund

1,503.33
1,006.67

2,510.00

Receipts:

Transfer from Operating Funds
 Interest

2,800.00
44.56

2,844.56
5,354.56

Total Cash

Disbursements

1,575.00

Balances December 31, 1955

Depreciation Fund
 Hornby Scholarship Fund

2,825.13
954.43

3,779.56

3,779.56

Contract for Deed - Wilson (from sale of former parsonage)

Balance January 1, 1955 \$10,290.02
 Received 840.00
 Interest 506.93
 Applied on Principal 333.07
 Balance December 31, 1955 9,956.95

Parsonage Loan - Northern Minn. Nat'l Bank

Balance January 1, 1955 4,469.88
 Paid 840.00
 Interest 209.17
 Applied on Principal 630.83
 Balance December 31, 1955 3,839.05

Parsonage Mortgage Contract

Balance January 1, 1955 7,159.82
 Paid 1,272.84
 Interest 336.76
 Applied on Principal 936.08
 Balance December 31, 1955 6,223.74

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED DURING 1955

19.

February 6

Mr. and Mrs. Edward B. Appelquest
2029 Columbus Avenue

Mrs. Edward L. Burg, Jr.
615 Woodland Avenue

Mr. Robert L. Burrows
3122 Greysolon Road

Major and Mrs. Lee H. Buswell
619 N. 10th Avenue East

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel V. Dodge
2821 East First Street

Mrs. Lee R. Farmer
100 Elizabeth Street

Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Griggs
2502 East Second Street

Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Hatch
2401 East Fifth Street

Mr. and Mrs. James S. Martin
5315 Glendale Avenue

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest D. Nelson
502 N. 17th Avenue East.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Nelson
2811 Branch Street

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Seguin
317 N. 23rd Avenue East

Mrs. Frank J. Smith
101 Hawthorne Road

Mrs. Elizabeth Walls
101 Hawthorne Road

April 7

Mrs. M. H. Alworth
2628 Branch Street

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd V. Brovald
2337 East Eighth Street

Mrs. Robert F. Eaton, Jr.
1444 London Road

Mr. Axel H. Herbert, Charles Herbert
2906 East First Street

Mrs. Cadwell H. Hunt
401 East Second Street

Mrs. Alice Kohler
1122 Chester Park Drive

Mrs. W. J. Robertson
101 West Myrtle Street

Confirmation Class

Charles Bagley
James Carpenter
Alison Clarke
Donald Gessner
John Gibson
Mary Harlow
Susan Hatch
Linda Hatfield
Paul Lubratovich
Marilyn Miller
Robert Morrison

Julia Neimeyer
Gerald Plumb
Peter Rhode
Jean Robertson
Jeffrey Smith
David Thompson
Gayle Thoreson
David Walls
David Williams
Stephen Zilles

September 18

Rev. James W. Schaefer
1721 East Third Street

October 2

Mr. and Mrs. William G. Currier
4510 Pitt Street

Mr. Guy Langsford
1847 Vermilion Road

Mr. Peter M. Olsen
4203 Robinson Street

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Parsons
1919 East Third Street

Mr. H. H. Plumb
1828 London Road

Mr. and Mrs. Werner J. Zentner,
David Zentner, Barbara Zentner
2910 Branch Street

November 27

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Neil Currie
4823 East Superior Street

Mr. and Mrs. Jewell V. Emmett
411 N. 18th Avenue East

Mrs. John Gemuenden
1513 East Third Street

Mrs. David W. Hanson
416 N. 15th Avenue East

William Haskins
5726 Glenwood Street

Miss Lyla M. Nichols
1714 East First Street

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard W. Tayler
100 Elizabeth Street