

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF
PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

January 15, 1969

The 98th annual meeting of Pilgrim Congregational Church was called to order on January 15, 1969 at 7:30 P.M. Dr. Halfaker presided.

The Minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved. The minutes of two special meetings were accepted without reading.

The report of the clerk was read and accepted. Issuance of letters of transfer was approved. Dr. Halfaker led the membership in prayer for those members who died during the preceding year.

The report of the treasurer was presented by Mr. Bradley. He reported receipts were sufficient to pay all the bills for the year 1968, and in the regular audit recently completed, the books were approved. Mr. Dickerson moved the report be accepted. The motion was accepted and unanimously approved.

For the Board of Trustees, Mr. Grindy reported pledges increased \$3,500 over previous years, and that there is a copy of the audit in the church files with the books found to be in very good order. The report of the Board of Trustees was accepted.

Mr. Grindy presented the budget for 1969. He explained also that at the Loyalty Day dinner, there was discussion of the use of church funds for local benevolences. Therefore, in the budget \$500 has been allocated for special projects studied and recommended by the Board of Trustees. The budget was accepted unanimously.

The reports of the Loyalty Day Committee, the Benevolence Committee, the Board of Deacons, the Board of Deaconesses, the Board of Christian Education, the Assistant Minister, the Historian, the Women's Fellowship, the Pilgrim Fellowship, the United Campus Christian Fellowship, the Church Vocations Scholarship Committee, the Music Committee, the Flower Committee, and the Lookout Committee were presented.

Mr. Atkins reported that those who heard Mr. Manthei had their interested stimulated in the Chicago Theological Seminary, and \$750 from the Church Vocations Scholarship Fund plus \$250 from the Women's Fellowship were given for the scholarship fund at the Seminary. It is hoped that this contribution will become annual when we have no local applicants.

Dr. Fawcett reported for the Music Committee that the Bell Choir will be reorganized next fall and a new director appointed.

The above reports were unanimously accepted.

The report of the Nominating Committee was read by its secretary, Miss Wallace. Pursuant to motion and second, it was unanimously adopted. There were no nominations from the floor, and the clerk was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for those named in the Committee's report.

Dr. Halfaker acknowledged the service of those who are retiring from the various committees, and various officers and committee chairmen also expressed their appreciation.

On behalf of the Board of Deacons, Mr. Eaton presented proposed amendments to the Constitution of Pilgrim Church, which would omit the word "adult" from the Constitution so it would not be a qualification for membership. The specific Articles and Sections to be amended would be as follows:

Article V, Section 3.

In the second paragraph delete the word "adult" in the second line.

Article VII, Section 3.

In the first paragraph delete the word "adult".

Article VII, Section 3.

In the third paragraph delete the words "of the age of eighteen or over".

Article VII, Section 4.

Delete the word "adult".

Article IX.

In the first paragraph, delete the word "adult".

In the By-Laws, Article B, Section 5,

second paragraph delete the word "adult".

Mr. Eaton moved that the Annual Meeting recommend to a special meeting of the church to be held immediately following the morning service on Sunday, February 2, that the amendments to the constitution and by-laws eliminating age restrictions on the voting age of members of the church or participation in other responsibilities of membership, as recommended by the Board of Deacons be adopted. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Eaton reported that the Diaconate had recommended a matter to the annual meeting for consideration. Two members of the church, Dr. and Mrs. van Druten, felt the need to write to the Pope last August, concerning the Second Encyclical on Human Life. Their letter was presented to the November meeting of the Board of Deacons and was discussed at the January meeting of the Diaconate. The letter read as follows:

"Dear Sir:

It is with great discouragement that we meet your pronouncement on "Human Life". We feel that this statement represents an appeasement of ultra-conservative forces and fails to meet the realities of a very grave world problem. World hunger, as a partial product of over population simply will not wait for theological dogma.

As Congregationalists, and members of the United Church of Christ, we are distressed that your pronouncement prolongs the day when Ecumenism can be a fact.

Sincerely,

(signed) William Van Druten, M.D.
Psychiatrist

Mr. Eaton presented the recommendation of the Diaconate that the church go on record as endorsing the concept indicated in Dr. van Druten's letter and requesting that letters reflecting this endorsement be sent to the Pope, the Minnesota Conference and the General Synod. If this recommendation is adopted, the Chairmen of the Deacons and Deaconesses will be instructed to appoint a committee of five individuals not necessarily from the Diaconate to prepare such letters which will be reviewed with the Diaconate before they are mailed.

Mr. Eaton moved the adoption of this recommendation from the Diaconate. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dickerson.

There was extended discussion of this motion with many members expressing their views. Proposals to amend the motion failed. Mr. Palmer then moved to table the original motion and it was voted 26 to 17 to table.

Mr. Eaton stated that he felt the discussion of divergent views was healthy and that it points to the matter long under discussion in the Board of Deacons on how a church should take a stand.

Mr. Spencer moved that we give a vote of appreciation to our pastor and to our treasurer for their services.

The reports of officers and organizations which were distributed to the membership prior to the Annual Meeting are incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Clerk

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

CLERK: Mrs. Harold O'Dell

TREASURER: Jesse D. Bradley

HISTORIAN: Anna Lee Stensland

BOARD OF DEACONS: (for three years) Samuel F. Atkins, Robert F. Eaton,
Thomas S. Kohlbry, Robert M. Owens, Joseph L. Saver,
Richard G. VerWey.
(for one year) Clark B. Crowell

BOARD OF DEACONESSSES: (for three years) Mrs. Warren J. Brooker,
Mrs. Wilbur M. Fox, Mrs. Rolland G. Nelson.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: (for three years) Raymond H. Bonnell, Jr.,
Walter W. Matzke, David W. Oberlin.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: (for three years) Richard J. Kunz,
Mrs. Valworth R. Plumb, Mrs. Allen A. Young.

LOOKOUT COMMITTEE: Mrs. Walter W. Matzke, Chairman, Mr. and Mrs. T.
A. Brain, Mr. and Mrs. William G. Currier, Mr. and
Mrs. Wilbur M. Fox, Mr. Walter W. Matzke, Mr. and
Mrs. Arthur Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. V. M. Tengquist.

MUSIC COMMITTEE: Dr. Keith R. Fawcett, Chairman, R. B. Buchanan,
Mrs. F. H. Cash, C. L. Edson, Mrs. M. M. Fifield,
Wilbur M. Fox, Mrs. Karl F. Honigman, Mrs. Richard
J. Kunz, Mrs. Joseph H. Leek, Mrs. Ellis N. Livingston,
William P. Van Evera, Mrs. Kenneth C. Weyl.

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Mrs. Keith Brownell	Mrs. Thomas Gemuenden
Bruce Buchanan	Mrs. Walter W. Matzke
Mrs. E. C. Congdon	John D. Morrison
Robert H. Engstrom	Samuel G. Radford
Edward T. Fride, Jr.	Martha Wallace
John Z. Dahl, Chairman	

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
OF
PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Sunday, February 2, 1969

The special meeting of Pilgrim Congregational Church was called to order by Mr. Robert Eaton at 11:35 a.m. on Sunday, February 2, 1969. Mr. Eaton announced that the notice of this meeting had been posted on the bulletin board outside the church office in accordance with the constitution. The business before the meeting was the adoption of amendments to the constitution and by-laws, as recommended by the Annual Meeting, eliminating age restrictions on the voting age of members of the church or participation in other responsibilities of membership. The word "adult" would be deleted from Article V, Section 3, second paragraph; from Article VII, Section 3, first paragraph; from Article VII, Section 4; from Article IX, first paragraph; from By-Laws, Article B, Section 5, second paragraph, and in Article VII, Section 3, third paragraph, the words "of the age of eighteen or over" would be deleted. (See page 220, Minutes of Annual Meeting).

Mr. Eaton called for a motion that the action of the Annual Meeting be carried forward and the amendments be adopted. Mr. Dickerson made the motion, which was seconded and carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth H. O'Dell, Clerk