

MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BARRINGTON

The annual congregational meeting of the Presbyterian Church of Barrington was held in the Countryside School on the evening of Thursday, January 11th, ^{1962,} beginning at 8:15 p.m. with the temperature five degrees below zero. The meeting was opened with the singing of "Blessed be the Tie that Binds" and prayer by The Reverend Winchester.

The Clerk read the suggested agenda for the evening. The suggestion was made from the floor that the report of the structure committee be moved up to the position following the election of Elders. The suggestion was incorporated in the agenda. The entire agenda was then approved.

The Stated Clerk read the minutes of the congregational meeting of August 27th, which were approved.

The Pastor's report was given by The Reverend Winchester. He spoke of the areas of responsibility of the Minister as found in the Constitution and the Hand Book prepared by Dr. Eugene Carson Blake. He further reported that a call had been made on every home of our church family within the past six months; that during the year seven infants and three adults had been baptized; that he had performed six funerals (none members of

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the Presbyterian Church of Barrington) and eight marriages (two members of our church). In the area of evangelism we had 169 visitors and guests to our church services during the year 1961, of which Reverend Winchester estimated 100 were prospects for membership.

The Minister in looking ahead to the forthcoming year observed that our church had now been established for a long enough time that the honeymoon period was over. He expressed the belief that the church was moving along nicely and looked forward to an even better year in 1962. The motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously that the minister's report be accepted.

The report of the Stated Clerk was then given by Elder Wilbur Edwards. This report included the church membership of 264 people at the end of 1961, an increase of 14.3% over 1960; church attendance during 1961 averaged 110 against 111 during 1960; children enrolled in our church school were 145 with 11 teachers compared to 132 enrollment and 15 teachers in 1960. As an editorial note the Clerk observed that the year 1961 had been a year of testing for our new congregation and he predicted that 1962 would be a year of decision. It will be the year in which we decide how strong a church and how effective a ministry we really want. By the end of 1962 the Clerk thought it would be quite clear whether we will end up as just another church comparing itself favorably with the averages in church

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attendance, church school membership, etc. with similar churches in other communities, or whether this will be the church it can be -- a church in which the Spirit of God truly goes out to reach effectively the lives of its members and those who have not yet committed themselves to join with us. The motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously that the clerk's report be accepted.

Elder Hal Wilson, on behalf of the finance committee, gave a report on the current fund for the year ending December 31, 1961. Against a budget of \$32,100 we had received \$32,447 with total disbursements of \$7,958, which when added to the cash balance of December 31, 1960 of \$5,827 gave us a cash balance as of December 31, 1961 of \$13,785.

The building fund report showed we had received during the year 1961 \$33,049, which when added to the balance at the end of 1960 of \$9,373 gave us total receipts of \$42,422. We advanced \$7,000 to the Church Extension Board for architects' fees leaving a cash balance in the building fund as of December 31, 1961 of \$35,422. The motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously that the treasurer's report be accepted.

Mrs. Wendell Fentress reported on behalf of the Womens' Organization calling special attention to the special activities of the Womens' Organization this

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past year. These included an outstanding musical event in May, the church picnic in July and the evening dinner meeting in December along with the cooperation that the Womens' Organization extended to the play "We Walk by Faith". Mrs. Fentress then asked Mrs. Norstrom to give the financial report for the Womens' Organization. Starting with a balance on hand in January of 1961 of \$75 the Womens' Organization had a balance on hand as of June 1, 1961 of \$1367.58 of which \$1,028.43 had been put into savings for later use in our church and \$210.65 set aside for a future benevolence. The recommended budget covering the period June, 1961 to June, 1962 for the Womens' Organization is \$600 in receipts and disbursements of \$600.

The Westminster Fellowship report was given by Jack Train, Sr. in place of Jack Train, Jr. During the year 1961 the Youth Fellowship was led by Mr. Don Thomas, Jr., Mr. Pat Talmey and Mr. Jack Train, Jr. The sponsors during the year were Mr. and Mrs. Allen Shields and Mr. and Mrs. McCulley. During the year there was an average attendance of 15.

The report of the nominating committee was given by Mr. Wendell Fentress in place of Mr. Gordon Monsen, the chairman. The nominating committee presented the following slate for a three-year term as Elders:

Henry Beard

Fred Kieholtz

Gordon Monsen

Jack Train

The motion was made and seconded that the Clerk pass a unanimous ballot for the slate as presented. This was passed.

The Stated Clerk presented the report of the committee on structure of organization. At the last annual meeting the Session was charged with appointing a committee to investigate the wisdom of establishing a board of trustees separate from the Session. The committee was appointed as ordered and its recommendations made to establish a separate board. This recommendation was presented as unanimous on behalf of the five men serving on the committee. These five men, Charles Boand, Wilbur Edwards, Wendell Fentress, Leo Lyons and Herbert Smith also unanimously recommended, "that the establishment of a separate board of trustees be approved at the annual meeting of the congregation in 1962, and that the members of the board of trustees be elected at the annual meeting of the congregation in 1963". In view of the importance of this step, the entire report as read to the congregation is presented herewith:

"It is this committee's recommendation that a separate Board of Trustees be established; that the number of Trustees be fixed at nine and the term of office, except for the initial Board, be fixed at three years; that in the case of the initial Board

three members be elected for terms of one year, three members for two years, and three members for three years; and that no person shall serve as a Trustee and at the same time as a member of the Session.

Under the Constitution of the United Presbyterian Church, trustees, like other boards and bodies of a church, hold authority subordinate to that of the Session of such church. The office of trustee is one of dignity and responsibility, requiring ability and devotion. Trustees, upon their election, should be properly recognized at a service of worship and set apart to the discharge of their responsibility by prayer.

It is the recommendation of this committee that the Board of Trustees be vested by the Session with the following general powers and duties:

1. To receive, hold and transfer property, including the investment and reinvestment of permanent funds entrusted to them, being

subject always to the authority and instructions of the church corporation.

2. To exercise all other powers or authorities vested in them by the laws of the State of Illinois, in conformity with the actions of the Session as conveyed to them from time to time, and to perform such other duties relating to the property or finances of the church as may be delegated to them by the Session at any time and from time to time.
3. To submit a financial statement of all matters committed to them and a report of their proceedings to the Session for review at least once a year and at other times upon request of the Session.

It is the committee's further recommendation that, pursuant to the general powers and duties set forth in paragraph two above, the Session charge the Board of Trustees with the following additional duties and grant to it the powers necessary to the performance thereof:

- A. The responsibility for the maintenance, care, upkeep and supervision of the initial unit of the

church building, when completed, as well as the grounds and other physical assets of the church.

- B. The responsibility for the annual operating budget, the conduct of the every-member canvass, and the control and supervision of the finances of the church, exclusive of building funds.

Reasons of the Structure Committee for the Preceding Recommendations:

1. The creation of a separate Board of Trustees would relieve the Session of many temporal matters and allow it to concentrate more fully on spiritual matters.
2. A separate Board of Trustees would afford to a greater number of members opportunities for serving their church.
3. When the initial unit of the church building is completed, the responsibilities for that property and the increasing budget of the church can best be handled by a separate Board, which will devote

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its time primarily to temporal affairs .

The motion was made , seconded and passed unanimously that the recommendation of the structure committee be accepted . It should also be noted at this point in the official minutes that quoting from the Session meeting of December 4th , "It was the further sense of the Session that when specific powers were placed upon the board of trustees by the Session , it should be made eminently clear that the preparation of the budget be subject to approval of the Session prior to its submission to the congregation ."

The question was then raised as to whether we had enough members of the congregation present to confirm such an action as that taken with regard to the establishment of the separate board of trustees . There were 21 members present in addition to the Moderator and the Stated Clerk . The Clerk was instructed to inquire of the Stated Clerk of the Chicago Presbytery and of the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly , if need be , to ascertain whether a sufficient number of members were present for the adoption of the structure committee's report .

Mr. Fentress then read the recommendation of the nominating committee that the twelve members of the Session be appointed as trustees for the year 1962 . It was moved , seconded and passed that the Clerk record an unanimous

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ballot for the election of all Session members as trustees.

The nominating committee for church offices for the year 1963 was named. They are: George Pope, Wilbur Edwards and Lee Vance from the congregation. The motion was made, seconded and passed that the Clerk record an unanimous ballot for the election of these men.

Elder Hal Wilson then presented the budget for the year 1962. Estimated receipts for the current operating fund amount to \$35,000. Of this amount our Pastoral Ministry accounts for \$9,134, the general office and property budget \$9,054, the budget of the Worship Committee \$5,562, budget of the membership committee \$1,175, the budget of Christian education committee \$2,450 and the budget of the finance committee \$675. The motion was made to accept the budget. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Mr. George Gruendel gave a report on behalf of the building committee. The highlights of Mr. Gruendel's report were made that we now have adequate cash to begin construction which is anticipated around March 15th (or when weather permits) and we anticipate being in the first unit of our new church home by Thanksgiving. In addition to the sanctuary itself, we can save over \$10,000 by building the administrative unit and loggia at the same time as the Sanctuary. Such additional construction would provide much needed space for the Christian education program as well as an office

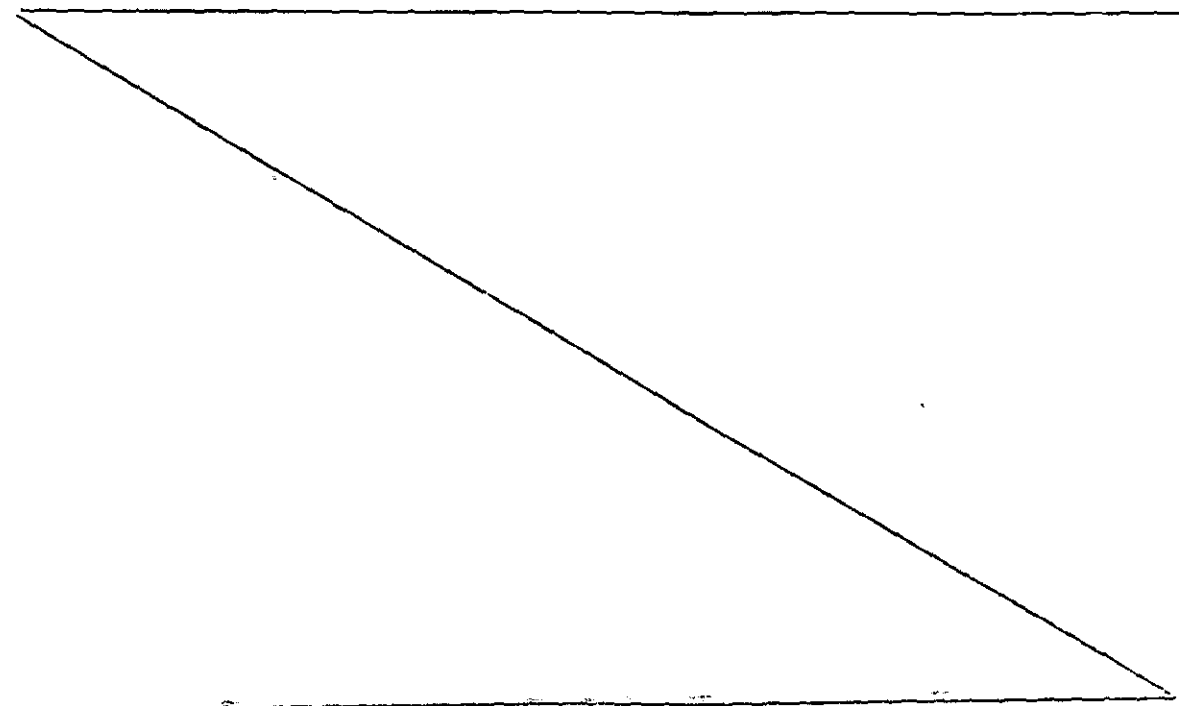
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for the Minister. There are still some members of our church, who have not as yet pledged to the building fund program, and it is hoped that others will increase the amount of their present pledges. A letter spelling out the status of our present church building program and our needs will be sent shortly to the entire membership.

The Pastor thanked all who made reports and those who had come out on such a cold evening. The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Wilbur S. Edwards

Wilbur S. Edwards
Stated Clerk



January 23, 1962
Dictated January 20th

Dr. Herbert N. Brockway
Stated Clerk
Chicago Presbytery
8 South Dearborn
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dr. Brockway:

The Presbyterian Church of Barrington had its annual meeting on the evening of January 11th. On this occasion the report from the committee on structure of organization, created as a result of action at the previous annual meeting, was read. The committee recommended the establishment of a separate board of trustees at the January 11th, 1962 meeting, with the new board to be appointed at the congregational meeting in January of 1963.

On the occasion of the congregational meeting, due to the poor weather conditions there were altogether 23 present. The vote was unanimous in favor of the recommendation of the structure committee. After the vote had been taken, the question was raised by a member of the congregation as to whether the 23 people present represented a large enough attendance to take such an action. Our membership is now 264. As the Stated Clerk, I was instructed to write you to advise us.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Wilbur S. Edwards
Vice President

WSE:mb

PRESBYTERY

OF CHICAGO

29 EAST MADISON STREET

CHICAGO 2 ILLINOIS

Telephone ANdover 3-0166

Robert N. Brockway, D.D.

Stated Clerk

January 29, 1962

Mr. Wilbur S. Edwards
Encyclopedia Britannica Films Inc.
Wilmette, Illinois

Dear Mr. Edwards,

Your question regarding the quorum for a congregational meeting is often asked.

The Constitution of our denomination does not define this specifically. The matter is left to the local body and is most commonly defined by its own local church bylaws.

If there is no such definition of quorum in the bylaws of your congregation, it must be assumed that when a meeting is called with proper and sufficient notice, any number of persons responding to that call will be considered a quorum.

One would always hope that when circumstances conspire to keep the attendance unreasonably low, those who gather would be led by the moderator to adjourn to a later time when a more representative group might attend. But they do not have to do so.

Your attendance January 11th was near 10 % of the total membership. This seems small, but unfortunately this is not unusual. I am sure that its actions must be considered valid.

Sincerely yours,

Stated Clerk