

Park Central Presbyterian Church

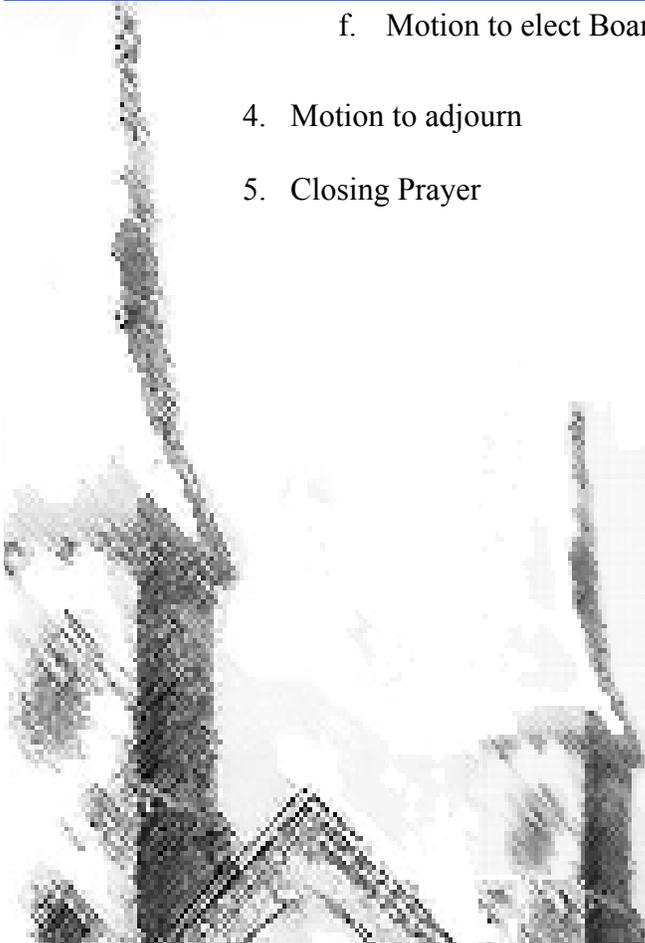
504 East Fayette Street, Syracuse, New York 13202

phone: 315.475.1677

email: office@parkcentralchurch.org

Annual Meeting June 5, 2016 Agenda & Reports

1. Opening Prayer
2. Motion to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2015, October 18, 2015 & January 31, 2016 congregational meetings
3. Annual reports
 - a. Questions and discussion
 - b. Motion to receive reports
 - c. Human Resources Committee nominees
 - d. Motion to approve committee nominees
 - e. Motion to elect Session (Ruling Elder) nominees
 - f. Motion to elect Board of Deacons nominees
4. Motion to adjourn
5. Closing Prayer



Faith in the City since 1846

Park Central Presbyterian Church
Congregational Meeting Minutes
In the Church Sanctuary
Sunday, June 14, 2015

The meeting was called to order immediately after Sunday morning service at 11:35am.

The Rev. Andrew McTyre, moderator, opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2014 Congregational Meeting. Seconded and approved. A motion was called to approve the minutes of the November 23, 2014 Congregational Meeting. Seconded and Approved.

Reports: The Annual Reports were presented. Rev. McTyre asked for discussion. There being none, a motion was made to receive them as submitted. Seconded and approved.

Nominees: The Human Resources Committee presented candidates for committees.

- ◆ A motion was made to accept the slate of nominees for committees. Seconded and approved.
- ◆ A motion was made to elect Session Nominees of Sue Stinson, Craig Kerr, and Caroline Sheffield for the Class of 2018. Seconded and approved.
- ◆ A motion was made to elect Deacon Nominees of Wynetta Devore and Anita Wagner for the Class of 2018. Seconded and approved.

With no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the Congregational Meeting at 11:38am. Seconded and approved.

Rev. McTyre led us in a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted.

Sandra Yingling
Clerk of Session

Congregational Meeting
Park Central Presbyterian Church
In the church sanctuary
October 18, 2015

At 11:36 a.m. Rev. J. Andrew McTyre called to order the “town hall” style meeting of the congregation to provide feedback on the Ad Hoc Committee on Outreach.

Elder Joe Russo, Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee, went over the written report. He emphasized that we needed to increase our exposure, not repackage ourselves. He reported that the report had been presented to Session who accepted and adopted the initiatives. He reported that Session authorized an increase in hours for both Stacey Burns and Bob Allen who would be working on many of the initiatives. He cautioned the congregation that this would be considered only a beginning, not to expect immediate results, but to give the initiatives time to work.

Elder Russo asked the congregation for questions of which there were several. Elder Russo remarked that our website had recently been redesigned by Craig Kerr the younger. Margaret Charters requested a training class on social media for members over 55. A request was made for more social activities.

Elder Russo remarked that one of the things PCPC does very well is greeting visitors.

The committee was discharged with thanks for its work at 12:03pm. The meeting was closed in prayer by Rev. J. Andrew McTyre.

Respectfully submitted

Sandra Yingling
Clerk of Session

Park Central Presbyterian Church
Congregational Meeting
In the church sanctuary
January 31, 2016

The congregational meeting was opened at 11:35 a.m. with prayer led by Rev. Andrew McTyre.

The congregation voted to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2015 congregational meeting.

Nominations from the Human Resources Committee were presented by Rev. McTyre. Upon a motion made, seconded, voted, and passed (MSVP), Ginny Marty was elected a Ruling Elder of the class of 2017.

Rev. McTyre presented the 2016 church budget which had been approved by Session. There were questions about the retirement of the PILP loan and about “special offerings”.

The Clerk of Session shared the Terms of Call for the pastor for which congregational approval was required. She noted that staff had not received any merit increases since 2010 although COLA (cost of living adjustment) increases had been provided. Based on that, Session had recommended a 3% merit increase for all staff which was reflected in the Terms of Call for the pastor. The congregation voted unanimously to pass the Terms of Call as presented. (MSVP)

The meeting was closed with prayer at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Sandra Yingling
Clerk of Session

Park Central Presbyterian Church

Annual Report of the Board of Deacons, 2015-2016

As set forth in scripture, the ministry of a Deacon is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ. At Park Central, each Deacon has a list of congregation members with whom to stay in touch. Deacons also work alongside Rev. McTyre in providing care to the congregation, which can take many forms throughout the year, such as:

- Providing meals during an illness or after a surgery
- Accompanying members to doctors' appointments
- Sending cards of encouragement and visiting members in the hospital or while recovering at home or a care center
- Preparing the communion elements, under the faithful service of Sharon Terry
- Organizing a reception following a funeral or memorial service
- Assisting Rev. McTyre or an Elder with private communions and at the monthly services held at The Nottingham
- Delivering flowers at Christmas and Easter, with assistance from many
- Continually praying for the people of Park Central

We are grateful for the many people in the Park Central community who readily and selflessly also perform these acts of care and service.

To assist members in financial need and maintain confidentiality, the Deacons Fund is managed outside of the Park Central Church budget. The fund is also used to send flowers on behalf of the congregation and cover the annual church picnic expenses. Looking ahead, training is being planned, to be led by Rev. McTyre in fall 2016, for the Deacons to be better equipped for dealing with care concerns. Also in the works is a pamphlet to encourage regular prayer for the Park Central community.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Wagner, Moderator, on behalf of the 2015-2016 Board of Deacons:

Susan Barbour

Wynetta Devore

Joyce Packard, Secretary and Session Liaison

Tom Packard

Marge Schuster, Treasurer

Park Central Presbyterian Church
Mission Committee Annual Report
June 2016

Each year your Mission Committee works to provide opportunities for our membership to engage in Christ's mission to the world, whether that mission is local or global. In addition to the numerous mission projects we engage in (outlined here), we encourage and support other congregations mission endeavors by providing \$20,000 from our "Presbytery" budget line which can be used to support their mission projects. Churches who meet the funding guidelines may receive up to \$5,000 annually at the discretion of the committee. Applications & guidelines for Presbytery funds can be found at : <http://parkcentralchurch.org>

2015 Year end summary Here are some of the highlights of your mission committee's activities this year. 81%, or \$40,242 of the mission budget was allocated, for the following programs.

VBS The mission committee provided financial support to the Education Committee for a week Vacation Bible School in June for the children, most of whom came from the Salvation Army summer program. Please see the Education Committee report for details on this mission.

CROP Walk - With Sue Stinson's leadership Park again participated in the annual CROP walk which was held at Onondaga Lake Park. raising \$1,203 for Church World Service 25% of which we designated go to the Columbus Circle Food Pantry.

Thanksgiving meal @ justice center - Members prepared and served a Thanksgiving meal to the women in the Justice Center. The meal was well received, as were the placements created by Park children which the women were permitted to keep.

Heifer Project - In December the teenagers and children (with the Education Committee and Sarah McTyre's guidance) led us in the annual Heifer International collection. This year the congregation was given the choice of supporting either Heifer or giving through the Presbyterian Mission Program. Through the generous donations of the congregation \$3,775. was contributed to provide sustainable support for families around the world.

HEMP (Haiti Education Mission Partnership) - This year the mission committee provided \$8,463 in financial support to HEMP to provide: tuition for a student from Dubre to attend secondary school, funds to pay teachers salaries in Paulette, funds to repair the school roof in Paulette, small business grants for the elderly to provide sustainable income and provided a 3 day mobile medical clinic that treated 287 children in May 2015.

Westside Academy CAP Support - We purchased and delivered school supplies and snacks in time for the first day of school for Danny Vargas's program at the Westside Academy. The committee sponsored a **Christmas Giving Tree** which provided Christmas gifts for six families. We distributed them at a Christmas dinner which enabled our church family to make a personal connection with the families from the Westside Academy.

LAMP - (Latin American Mission Partnership) After our Feb. 2015 trip to Campeche an anticipated 2016 mission trip to Mexico was delayed until 2017 to allow our Mexican partners in this combined ministry to plan this trip.

Samaritan Center Feeding - Park Central continues its commitment to the Samaritan Center by providing financial and physical support for our congregation to prepare and serve two meals a year. In addition, we provided funds from our Presbytery line to enable the Valley South/Otisco Congregations to serve an additional meal at Thanksgiving. In October of 2015 and April of 2016 our congregants prepared and served over 500 hot meals at the Samaritan Center.

MLK Day of Service - On January 18 about 30 people, including partners from our local mission efforts, prepared 96 school backpacks for high school students who have been out of school and are making the transition back to the classroom, assembled 30 “Welcome Home” baskets for families who are leaving a shelter and moving into a new home, created 22 art bags for women who are living at Vera House, and made 52 Valentine’s Day cards for people living in nursing care.

Household Closet - The committee continues to organize and purchase items for the household closet off the parlor. Items from this closet have assisted women released from the justice center to set up their apartments. We encourage PCPC members who have household items (small or large) to donate to contact a committee member.

PCPC Community Readers (MLK Readers) - The mission committee recognizes the congregation volunteers who read weekly at Martin Luther King Jr. elementary school. Organized and led by Margaret Charters the volunteers provide 1:1 reading support to SCSD students. Park volunteers include: Julie Bridge, Sherly Day-Berenthal, Anna Bosler, Karen Dross, Anne Gonyea, Baird Hansen, Grayson Jones, Joe Russo, Deenie Turner and Siegrid Tuttle. The mission committee provided funds this year for this program to purchase additional reading materials, and hosted the opening luncheon for the volunteers.

Earth Care - The Mission Committee partnered with the Membership & Outreach Committee to provide fair trade coffee which is produced in Haiti, supporting our brothers and sisters there.

Syrian Refugee Relief - With the worsening refugee situation in Syria your mission committee has taken several steps to explore how we might help. In 2015 we donated \$1,500 to Church World Service for refugee relief. We are currently working with Daryl Files, from Interfaith Works, to explore how Park might become ambassadors for a refugee family with a town meeting scheduled in June 2016.

It has been a blessing to serve on this committee working with a team of people who have a passion for God’s work in the world, and who are supported by a congregation that shares that sense of commitment to mission both locally and globally, giving us a vision of heaven on earth.

Harry J. Dross (Chair). Your Mission Committee: Karen Dross, Divya Hoffmann, John Laidlaw, (Secretary), Jay Wilcox and Ed Zielinski (session representative/treasurer).

**Park Central Presbyterian Church
Christian Education Committee
Annual Report – June 2016**

We give thanks to God for the gifts and growth of the last year. Here are some highlights:

Summer 2015

- At the beginning of the summer, we held *Splash into God's Word* Vacation Bible School in partnership with the Salvation Army. Over 60 children participated with the loving and generous help of over 20 volunteers from our congregation. The program included an Earth Care component about how to use water and keep it clean.
- Because the worship time remained at 10:30, the adult Bible study group continued to meet at 9:30 on Sundays through the summer months.
- The Centering Prayer group continued through the summer and through the year. Anyone who is interested in learning about centering prayer is welcome any Monday evening in the chapel beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Fall 2015

- We began the new program year in September and continued using the *Feasting on the Word* curriculum for the children's classes and the adult Sunday morning group. We have also begun to use some creative resources for children from Illustrated Children's Ministry.
- In coordination with the HR Committee and the Session, we hired a new nursery caregiver, Corrina Jones.
- Individuals purchased *Daily Feast* to use for devotional time at home.
- The committee coordinated putting together and sending care packages to our college students.
- We began a year-long emphasis on Christian pilgrimage:
 - There were two showings of *The Way* to introduce the theme.
 - Committees and boards began using monthly devotionals on different aspects of pilgrimage.
 - The Rev. Lawrence Bartel led a retreat day at Alverna Heights centered on the themes of Christian pilgrimage.
 - Before and after the retreat, there were Wednesday evening sessions based on *The School of the Pilgrim* by Brett Webb-Mitchell.

Advent 2015

- An event, *Pilgrimage Through Advent*, was held on Sunday, November 22. There were hands on activities and opportunities for prayer and reflection to help everyone prepare for the Advent journey.
- The committee provided a take home Advent devotional guide and also bought Advent calendars for the children.

- The labyrinth was available in the sanctuary for prayerful walking and meditation on each Wednesday of Advent from 11:00 to 2:00. Members of our community and our downtown neighbors came in to pray through the season.
- The children and teenagers presented a mission skit in worship in December and collected gifts for Heifer International and the Presbyterian Giving Catalog.

Epiphany 2016

- The committee helped plan and prepare the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service for all ages.

Lent and Easter 2016

- The labyrinth was available in the sanctuary for prayerful walking and meditation on each Wednesday of Lent from 11:00 to 2:00. More members of our community and our downtown neighbors came in to pray through the season. Our hope is to continue offering the labyrinth as a welcoming opportunity for prayer throughout the coming year.
- The committee provided devotional materials for Lent in print and online.
- Marissa Saunders joined us to facilitate *Justice and Joy: A Lenten Conversation on Race*. The group met throughout the Lenten season on Wednesday evenings for prayer and courageous conversations to discern how God is calling us as a faith community.
- A follow-up six week book study on Jim Wallis' book, *America's Original Sin*, will run from the end of April through the beginning of June on Wednesday evenings.
- A small group began meeting to work on plans for a fall retreat and for a year-long confirmation process beginning in the fall of 2016. The date for the fall retreat is Saturday, October 8, and it will be held at Christ the King Retreat Center.

We are looking forward to this summer's Vacation Bible School (June 27– July 1) and welcome new volunteers for this amazing and meaningful week of service with children in our community. The theme for this year is *Joy in Jesus!*

Members: Gail Hamner, Joan Deppa, Georgette Schmidt, Marge Schuster,
and Sarah McTyre, Parish Associate

**Park Central Presbyterian Church
Earth Care Team
Annual Report – June 2016**

The Earth Care Team met in March to complete and submit the application for re-certification as an Earth Care Congregation of the PCUSA. Our church has been awarded this designation since 2014. Churches earn Earth Care Certification when they pledge to carry out the work of protecting God's creation through worship, education, use of facilities, and outreach.

In the past year,

- Vacation Bible School focused on God's gift of water.
- Our trustees have continued to seek the best ways to make our building energy efficient, and by sharing our space with outside groups, we are able to maximize the purposefulness of this building.
- The distribution of household items to people in need is one way that Mission is able to re-purpose items, and the purchase of fair-trade coffee from Haiti supports a community important to our congregation.
- Membership and Outreach is sponsoring an outing at Onondaga Lake, in which we will learn more about the reclamation of the lake.
- In both worship and fellowship, our church is committed to avoiding the use of single-use plastic or styrofoam throw-away products.
- Members from each committee (Worship, Membership and Outreach, Education, and Trustees) will continue to develop ways for Park Central to participate in the PCUSA's Earth Care Congregation Program.

Respectfully Submitted,
Caroline Sheffield

**Park Central Presbyterian Church
Membership and Outreach Committee
2016 Annual Report**

Our responsibilities:

- Maintain membership roles
- Plan activities that foster community among the membership
- Oversee outreach activities for visitors and community (friendship pads, writing visitors, the annual advertising plan, maintaining the website, relationship with SU community, luncheons, coffee hour)

The committee is grateful for the continuing and dedicated help provided by Bev Halderman, Jane Garrett, and Nancy Moeur. Although these ladies do not attend meetings, they play an important role in fulfilling the duties of the Membership and Outreach Committee.

- Bev continues to handle the monthly luncheons. She sets the tables, decorates them and cleans up afterwards. We wish to thank her and the other volunteers who pitch in to help Bev.
- Jane has stepped into the role of chief "coffee lady". She prepares goodies, makes the coffee, sets the table, and cleans up afterwards. She is assisted by several other baking volunteers. Caroline Sheffield has been assisting by signing up volunteers to do the coffee hour thus giving a respite to Jane. Jane also has been helping Bev with the monthly luncheons doing set-up and clean-up.
- Nancy continues to write welcoming letters to all our visitors.

We continue the process of updating our membership lists and the directory. Caroline has revised our New Member Form.

Caroline and Kristen are planning a new photo directory that will include all of Park's members and friends.

Joan Deppa and Joe Russo have been leading a group that is focusing on our website with the intention of updating it both visually and with content.

Tom Packard has re-instituted quarterly church tours after the Sunday service. Ben Merchant is his docent-in-training.

New tablecloths and dining tables are on order for our monthly luncheons. Haitian coffee has been purchased for the coffee hours and luncheons. This coffee is fair-trade coffee.

We continue to pursue opportunities to foster community within the congregation.

- We initiated, with the assistance of the deacons, a monthly communion service which is held at the Nottingham. We are thankful to Sue Stinson who plays the piano and other volunteers who assist. This communion service is alternated with Pebble Hill.
- In April there was a reception with coffee and goodies after the Organ Crawl.
- In May there was a reception after the New York Landmark's Sacred Sites Conservancy tour.
- On June 7th we will gather at the Honeywell Visitor Center to have an Onondaga Lake Recovery tour. Weather permitting, those so interested can walk one of the trails. The event will be followed by refreshments at the Carman-Yingling home.
- Planning was started for a church-wide celebration later this year and a Christmas social event.

We ask the patience of the congregation as we try to find new opportunities for members and friends to meet together for fun and fellowship.

Your Membership and Outreach Committee: Kay and Bill Billingham, Elberta Bradshaw, Roy Terry, Ben Merchant, Caroline Sheffield (session representative), and Sandi Yingling

PARK CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Human Resources Committee Annual Report
Sunday, June 5, 2016

The Human Resources Committee completed reviews for staff in the fall of 2015 and nominates the following people for service on boards and committees in the respective years noted. A “(2)” indicates a second term.

Worship committee
class of 2018

Victoria Kennedy (2)
Selma Moore (2)

Education & Nurture Committee
class of 2018

Georgette Schmidt (2)
Brigid Boyle

Mission & Interpretation Committee
class of 2018

John Laidlaw (2)
Jay Wilcox (2)

Membership & Outreach Committee
class of 2018

Grayson Jones
>>OPENING<<

Stewardship Committee
Class of 2018

Ann Gonyea (2)
>>OPENING<<

Human Resources Committee
Class of 2018

Kevin Moore
>>OPENING<<

Session
class of 2019

Joe Russo (2)
Ed Zielinski (2)
Craig Williams

Deacons
Class of 2017
Joyce Packard

class of 2019
Susan Barbour (2)
Marge Schuster (2)