

**Minutes**  
**Church Council Meeting**  
**January 23, 2017**  
**8:40pm – 9:30pm**

***Council Attendees:* Joan Barrington (at large council member), Lynne Devnew (clerk), Heather Edwards (at large council member), Jim Garrett (treasurer, representing chair of trustees), Patti MacLennan (chair of deacons), Drew Thawley (at large council member), Peggy O'Connor (senior minister), and Emily Keller (associate minister).**

The new council convened for its first meeting at 8:40pm.

Topics to be covered at this first, brief meeting included discussing our role, setting our leadership structure, and scheduling our next meeting.

Role of the new council

- This council will instigate things happening, not be the doers
- It will be involved with the search committee on developing the church vision – and the search committee will involve others from the congregation.
- Our role is planning and logistics, how are we living the mission and vision and how are we not; it is our role to determine how to address the gaps.
- The council will help set agendas; it will be focused on ends, not means.

Setting our leadership structure

- The council chair will run the council meetings and set the council agenda
- The intent is for the chair and co-chair to be selected from the at large members
  - In the future, there will be a new member each year. In the second year the at large member will serve as co-chair. In the third year the at large member will serve as chair of council.
  - Thus, we must determine which of our at-large members will be considered a first-year, a second-year, and a third-year member.
  - Heather would like to serve on the search committee. If she is selected, she will be the third-year member of council. (While not discussed, this would mean she would be chair of council until May, unless the decision is made for the second year member to add this spring to next year's term).
  - Drew and Joan are to meet to discuss which of them will be a first and which a second year member.

Next steps

- The new council is responsible for pulling together the new search committee. We would like to have the committee in place by March.
- The new council is responsible for how the vision process will be determined.

- It was decided it would not be appropriate to wait for a month to meet again. Our first meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, January 31 at 7pm.

Jim Garrett distributed a copy of the budget to be voted on at the January 29 congregational budget meeting. Bruce Hadley, who continues as Pilgrim Church moderator with a slightly redefined role, will describe the new council process at the January 29 Congregational Budget Meeting.

Minutes prepared by: Lynne Devnew, Pilgrim Church Clerk