

ITEM P.200 FOR INFORMATION

PILLARS OF THE CHURCH

Pillars of the Church



Presbyterian Mission Agency Board
February 5, 2016

INSPIRE | EQUIP | CONNECT

Pillars of the Church

Based on the Pillars of our Faith and Tradition

“....and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ‘Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’ Jesus said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest commandment. And a second is like it: ‘ You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.” (Matthew 22:35-40 NSRV)

Pillars of the Church

What is it?

For Individual Donors: A monthly recurring gift program

For Congregations and Presbyteries: An annual recurring gift program

Why a Recurring Gift Program?

- Builds a constituency of support
- Visible and tangible support
- Recognizes generosity at EVERY level
- Increases financial support and stability through sustained giving

Why “JOIN” Pillars of the Church?

- Commitment
 - Loyalty
- Faithfulness

To a ministry I care about and want to show support

How did “Pillars” Start?

1. Staff Commitment
2. Current recurring donors invited to join
3. Annual congregation/presbytery donors invited to join
4. An affinity group
5. Recognition

Outcomes since Nov. 2014

Designated Giving to CPJ Ministries:

- From individuals:
increased more than 4x
- From congregations and presbyteries:
almost double

7

Recurring Gifts The Industry Standard

All non-profit giving in U.S.: the
average recurring gift is:

**\$23 per month resulting in a
\$276 annual gift**

For PC (USA) giving: the average
recurring gift is:

**\$67.24 per month resulting in a
\$806.88 annual gift**

8

Presbyterian Mission Agency Giving

- Total Number Recurring Gifts: 452
- Total Monthly Giving: \$30,394.67
- Total Annual Giving: \$364,735.94

9

HOME > NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS >

Pillars of the Church champion sees work ahead for PC(USA) EDUCATOR SAYS SOCIAL WITNESS 'IS CENTRAL TO THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL'

DECEMBER 18, 2012

LOUISVILLE

For Robert Trawick, joining the Pillars of the Church campaign was a no-brainer. He strongly believes in the work the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), adding that the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations and the Office of Public Witness conduct some of the most vital work the church can do.

With a background in theological ethics, Trawick is thoroughly connected with the church. He teaches at a Dominican school, is a ruling elder and has served as moderator for Hudson River Presbytery. He has also been involved with the Israel/Palestine Mission Network among others and has written for the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy.

"I sense there has been a pushback in the Presbyterian Church that political involvement and social witness in general are not appropriate for the church," he says. "A lot of my work has been around the idea that not only is it appropriate, but it is central to the mission of the church universal. I think it's poor theology to suggest that Christianity is about personal salvation only."

Trawick's interest in social witness work grew out of his involvement at the 200th General Assembly in 2012. Serving on the Middle East Committee allowed Trawick to immerse himself into the work around divestment and boycott.

As times have changed, Trawick has seen the role of the church change.

"I think we need to prayerfully let go of this sense that we as a church are going to return to our place in American culture," he says. "The 1950's are gone and the church's cultural pre-eminence is gone. I don't think our central mission is to make more Presbyterians. I'd like for us to understand what it means to be a smaller church. I'd like for us to understand what it means to be a church that is visibly faithful to a particular message."



Robert Trawick. —Photo provided

Presbyterian News Service
RICK JONES



10