

**Interim report of the Legacy Planning Committee prepared by Charles Harrington for the meeting of the Board of Trustees on January 19, 2016**

- 1) After I offered to the YRSC in 2014 that I would chair an effort to encourage Legacy giving to the church, Gail Pasyna and John Hooper passed on to me all the materials they had gathered so we would not have to duplicate previous efforts.
- 2) When I was elected to the Ministerial Search Committee, I told the YRSC that I would have to put the Legacy effort aside until after my work co-chairing the MSC was completed, In June of 2015 I returned to the YRSC to form a committee to promote Legacy giving to the church.
- 3) I asked David Thompson (who was familiar with the work of the endowment committee) to be on the Committee. Catherine Onyemelukwe, and Denny Davidoff (experienced fund raisers) were also asked to join the "Legacy Planning Committee". I felt small committees were appropriate for this effort.
- 4) The four Committee members met many times over the summer and into the fall of 2015. We were joined at our September meeting by John Morehouse. We were joined once by the then chair of the YRSC.
- 5) The Committee drafted a brochure describing our vision for a "Legacy Society" to be formed in the church comprised of those who had made clear their intention to make provision in their estate planning for a gift to TUCW. In doing so the Committee followed closely the UUA policies and recommendations concerning Legacy giving.
- 6) The four Committee members all made their own commitment to include the church in our estate plans and agreed to be publicly identified in the brochure to help establish connections with members of the church who might be considering such a commitment themselves.
- 7) The LPC shared drafts of the brochure with the YRSC, and a revised brochure was approved for printing by the YRSC.
- 8) The LPC established a link to the endowment committee,. First I met with Bob Trefrey to bring them up to date on our efforts. I then was invited by Brian Lasher to attend a meeting of the endowment committee to present our plans and seek their input.
- 9) A second form to be filled out by people who indicated their intention to become members of the Legacy Society was created by the LPC. This form seeks specific information about the source of the gift (will, beneficiary of IRA, trust, insurance, or whatever), and certain details so that the church would have the information it needed when the time arose to make sure that the donors intentions would be respected. The form also asks if the donor would like to specify the purpose of the gift to the endowment, Not doing so would mean the gift would go to the general endowment.. Drafts of this form (now called the acknowledgement form) were shared with the YRSC and the Endowment Committee. The latter provided useful detail as to specialized funds within the endowment to which gifts could be addressed.

10) The brochure was printed and the LPC received its charter publicly by John Morehouse at services prior to the Sunday fair of all the committees in the church. Brochures were first handed out at our table..

11) Six members of the church came up to us to tell us that they had made such a commitment. We told them that we would be sending an acknowledgement form when it was finalized.

12) In early December, at the point where labels were requested to send the brochure to all members of the church, and a cover letter from John had been prepared, Dorothy told me that Anne had said that the brochure could not be sent out since it specified the general endowment as the default option for legacy giving (we followed the UUA guidelines). But we were told that this diverged from a policy that the Board had passed that would make the operating budget the default option for gifts received by the church. (We knew of no such policy when we did our work and we think it would hinder our campaign).

13) A meeting of Anne, Dorothy, members of the LPC, YRSC, and Endowment Committees was held. A compromise was proposed that removed any mention of a default option from the brochure but included current operating expenses as an option in the acknowledgement form. Since the whole thrust of the brochure and the campaign was to be "Gifts that keep on giving" we vehemently opposed any mention of current operating expenses in the brochure. I have subsequently come to the position that it should not be in the acknowledgement form either. It is after all our major selling point that Legacy means a lasting gift to the long-term survival of the church.

14) We understand that, since we have never had a Legacy Society before, the possible negative effect on the Legacy efforts of the new policy may not have been explored when the Board acted to approve the new policy.

15) So we will be supporting an effort for the Board to reexamine its policy in regard to the Legacy Society and hopefully exempt the Society from having a default option to current operating expenses. This will allow us to send the brochure out at the end of January as is, and allow us to create a final version of the "acknowledgement" form in time to respond to those who express (or who have expressed) an interest in joining us the the Legacy Society.

16) We would also seek the Board's support for the placement in the foyer of a (hopefully ever-growing) list of members of the Society.

Respectfully submitted,  
CC Harrington (chair, LPC)