

RESOLUTION

Of The Session of The Drayton Avenue Presbyterian Church in Support of the Ferndale Public Library Millage

WHEREAS the *Constitution* of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) affirms that The Great Ends of the Church include the “nurturing of the children of God” and the “promotion of social righteousness” (*See Book of Order* G-1.0200); and

WHEREAS in 1969 the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America (a predecessor of the PC(USA)) issued a statement confirming that “[e]ducation is the formation of the public, the sum of all those ways in which men recognize and accept their solidarity with one another. “Public” and “education” thus conceived belong together. That is what “public education” is all about, and what makes any well-conceived system of education public.” (*See Minutes*, UPCUSA, 1969, pp 428-469); and

WHEREAS in 1981 the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America affirmed “that faith, because it knows the limited nature of all human answers, insists on the freedom to pursue inquiry and learning. It regards such inquiry as necessary to protect against idolatry and absolutism in the church and state.” (*See Minutes* UPCUSA, 1981, p 380); and

WHEREAS in 1995 the 207th General Assembly of the PC(USA) reaffirmed “the church's position to support a public education of high quality for all children” and asked “congregations to pray for our schools and encourage learning and dialogue about public education, working locally and ecumenically whenever possible” (*See Minutes*, PC(USA), p. 60); and

WHEREAS, the Vision of the Ferndale Public Library (“FPL”) in Ferndale, Michigan is to bring “people and information together in a vibrant environment.”; and

WHEREAS the Mission of the FPL is to be “welcoming and responsive to those who live and work in our community, providing quality resources and innovative programs in a comfortable setting”; and

WHEREAS in furtherance of its mission the Board of the FPL has prepared and approved a plan for a major improvement and expansion of library services (the Plan”) that would, in part provide for new computer databases on business, investment and employment that could be used by the public, (particularly those without internet access and the unemployed), and for 3,500 new books a year; and

WHEREAS, in order to fund the improvements identified in the Plan, on Tuesday, May 8, 2007, the Electors of the City of Ferndale will be asked to approve a 1.0 mill operating levy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that The Session of The Drayton Avenue Presbyterian Church:

Affirms that the Plan of the Ferndale Public Library to improve and expand the services of the library is consistent with the Great Ends of the Church to nurture the children of God and to promote social righteousness, and the long tradition of The Drayton Avenue Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to support community education;

Supports the passage of the 1.0 mill operating levy by the electors of the City of Ferndale on May 8, 2007;

Asks the members and friends of The Drayton Avenue Presbyterian Church, and the community at large to support and promote the passage of the 1.0 mill operating levy;

Authorizes the use of church facilities and other communication media to promote the passage of the 1.0 mill operating levy.

Resolution Approved by Session – February 28, 2007