



Dear members of the City Planning Committee:

St. Francis of Assisi Parish stands in support of the proposed warming shelter to be housed at the First Presbyterian Church.

The lack of adequate and short-term accommodations for the homeless is apparent in the city and county of Manitowoc. First Presbyterian Church is seeking to correct that by providing a warm, safe place during the cold months, for people who do not qualify or cannot gain access to the limited space available provided by the Hope House or the Haven. In addition to this much needed service they would provide a nutritious meal and offer them access to attend to their other basic human needs.

As people of faith, we are called to welcome, care for and love our neighbors. In our faith tradition, we are called to clothe, shelter, feed and provide care for those who are facing life circumstances that could easily come upon any of us.

While it might feel unsettling to witness the physical and emotional distress of the homeless, all people have a right to a safe and decent place to sleep at night. They are our neighbors and members of our community.

First Presbyterian Church and its ecumenical partners have come together to meet an important and pressing need in this community. That effort should be applauded and supported.

Sincerely,

Pastor