

## **Special meeting Yellowstone Presbytery, April 7, 2020, 12:00 Noon Via Zoom Teleconference Call**

**20-023.** This meeting was duly called by the PMT with approval of the Leadership Cabinet to conduct an examination of the Rev. Dr Chuck Carlson, HR, to a position as Interim Pastor, to approve the Interim Pastor Agreement at FPC Butte, MT and to accept him into membership in Yellowstone Presbytery.

**20-024.** The meeting opened with prayer by the moderator RE Russ Kline.

(Clerk note; since this was a special called meeting of the presbytery and not a stated meeting there is no record of excused absences since membership in this meeting is considered voluntary for pastor members.)

**20-025. Roll call** was done by email confirmation with commissioner elders present from the following churches:

### **Elders**

FPC Anaconda, CRE Veva Larson

FPC Billings, RE Sandi Shoenberger, RE Russ Kline (LC & Moderator)

FPC Bozeman, RE Ric Tieman, (LC Treasurer)

FPC Butte, RE Chuck Wright

Big Hole, RE Julie Boksich (Vice Moderator)

FPC Bozeman, RE Suzanne Bratsky, (Also Voting Member LC)

Jordan, RE Bev Harbaugh

Manhattan, RE Debbie Blackburn (Co Moderator PMT)

Stanford, CRE Margee Smith

### **Members of the Presbytery**

MWS Susi Ennis, MWS Susan Thomas, MWS Jamie Schmeling, MWS Mary Davis, MWS Dan Krebill, MWS Dick Davis, MWS Garrett Mostowski, MWS Teresa Kendall, MWS Rusty Craig HR.

### **Guests with voice:**

RE Kevin Shuttleworth, RE John Leland, MWS Chuck Carlson.

### **Staff:**

MWS George Goodrich (Co-GP), MWS Kathy Goodrich (Co-GP), RE Jim Tarr (Stated Clerk), RE Mellissa Bell (Asst. Stated Clerk)

A quorum was declared by the stated Clerk

Meeting balance check; RE's and CRE's 12, MWS 12

**20-026. It was voted** to give voice to the visitors, and PNC Members of the Butte church.

The dwelling in the word was on Colossian's 38: 1-4 and led by RE Russ Kline. The word was read 2 times and opportunity for commentary was granted the assembly. After the discussion a prayer was offered by Russ Kline.

**20-027.** Chuck Carlson was introduced by PMT Co-moderator, Debbie Blackburn and then he offered some information about his background as well as where his ministry had taken him and the ways and places, he has served the church.

The Rev Dr Carlson was then examined by the Presbytery with input from the members of the Butte church. After his dismissal from the meeting.

➤ **The following motions** presented by the PMT were **approved** as follows:

The Pastoral Ministry Team voted & recommends that Yellowstone Presbytery approve Rev. Chuck Carlson, H.R. to serve as Interim Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Butte and for membership in Yellowstone Presbytery.

The Pastoral Ministry Team voted & recommends that Yellowstone Presbytery approve the Interim Pastor Agreement between the First Presbyterian Church, Butte and Rev. Chuck Carlson.

**See Exhibit A** for supplemental information supplied by the PMT at the meeting.

After the vote the **Butte PNC** was complimented for doing good work on this selection process and a prayer was then offered by the Rev Susi Ennis.

**20.028. Julie Boksich** announced to the meeting that the next meeting of the presbytery will not be in the Big Hole but will be another Zoom Meeting and more details will follow. The theme for the meeting “A growing commitment to Christ “will expand on previous equipping with a goal of “How to Grow Fellowships”. She requested input from the body before the meeting to help with the planning.

**20.029. Kathy Goodrich** advised the churches to become familiar with the recently passed Care Act and determined if any of the available support would be beneficial to a church. She understood applying for assistance would not encumber church property, for example. She advised the Board of Pensions also is providing some relief to churches regarding the dues and they should be contacted if a church needs help. She also notes the Presbyterian Disaster Relief program is sending out information that might be helpful in tying all the support activities of the church together so a church can access them easily.

**20-030. Prayer requests** were made by Jamie’s secretary and for Diane White’s grandson.

**20-031. The meeting closed** with prayer by CRE Seeker, Church Wright at 1:20 PM

**Next Stated Meeting** of the Presbytery, May 15, 16 2020 via Zoom

Jim Tarr

Stated Clerk

**These minutes were reviewed and approved, May 15, 2020**

Jim Tarr

Stated Clerk

Attachment, Exhibit A. Rev Carlson, statement of faith and contract terms

**Exhibit A:**

Statement of Faith, *BY the Rev. Chuck Carlson*

We love because God first loved us. The created order is bathed in this love. God stands over the chaos and breathes life and order into the universe as well as in our lives. We know God through the general revelation of the created order. "The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork" (Psalm 19:1). We know God the Father in the traditional language as Creator, Sustainer, Ruler, the sovereign power over nations and creation throughout history.

Humanity, created in the image of God, is the object of God's love. Created finite and dependent, God builds into us a need for emotional and relational connection. Our fulfillment and happiness reside in recognizing that need and turning to God in obedience and trust to guide our lives. God extends love and invites it in return from us.

The story of humanity is one of rebellion and resistance to the sovereignty of that love. In the account of Adam and Eve we identify with human efforts to usurp God's love, taking on the prerogative of God's role. We are inclined by nature to be the master and not the servant. Human history is an account of the result of this prideful attitude resulting in wars and broken relationships with one another as well as our relationship with God. We make ourselves God's enemies.

Through Jesus Christ God embraces our sin and brokenness. God's 'Yes' to us, Jesus shows us the face of God. Through the mystery of the incarnation, the unique God-Human, Jesus Christ, is God's bridge through the cross for our redemption. In Christ God is reconciling the world to God's self (2 Corinthians 5:18-19). Though we have turned away from God, in Jesus Christ God takes the initiative and turns toward us by taking on our sin, praying on the cross, "God forgive them for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:24). All sin against another human being is a sin against God and God's love.

The Church is made up of those who have received by faith the invitation of God through Jesus Christ to be part of his body. We are justified by Christ, not by anything we do. We bring nothing but our sin and brokenness. The mission of the Church is Christ's mission, not ours. In one sense, the Church is the continuing incarnation of Christ in this world, his Holy Spirit indwelling those who by confession of faith have renounced their sin and rebellion, laid down their arms, and submitted to the salvation and Lordship of Christ's wisdom and guidance to do his will as his servants.

That Church, born of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, now bears witness to Christ in this world. Reflecting his love and grace, the Church proclaims the gospel in word and deed. Witness the action of Christ through the Church's proclamation of the gospel of salvation, through its healing ministry, in the cup of cold water given to the thirsty, the hungry fed, by being the conscience of society, offering a prophetic

word in defense of the oppressed and marginalized of this world, all that we do a witness to Christ's living, sustaining voice and hands for those who have no voice. By being faithful to Christ's ministry, the Church has the potential to break from its cultural captivity and represent the mind, authority, and ministry of Jesus in this world. We have been given the mind of Christ. Scripture proclaims, "But we have the mind of Christ" (1 Corinthians 2:16).

God's means of spiritual formation is grounded in the authority and witness of the Bible. There God speaks through the Holy Spirit to human needs, instructs and illuminates our thought as Scripture testifies to God's work in the world. The Bible points us to Jesus Christ who is the Living Word (John 5:39). As such it is God's unique authoritative witness to God. The Word and the Spirit center our lives.

The sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper considering God's covenant with us in Jesus Christ are a means of grace. Affirming the Holy Spirit's current presence at work in our lives, through them we meet the living Christ through the Spirit, binding us, the Church, in covenant to our Lord. Through baptism, particularly infant baptism, we emphasize God's grace and our incorporation into Christ's body prior to anything that we have done. By participation in the Lord's Supper, we meet Christ's real presence through the Holy Spirit in the partaking of the Bread and the Cup.

Through creation, the redemptive love of Jesus Christ and the indwelling presence and activity of the Holy Spirit in the church and world, we know and experience God through the interrelationship of the Trinity as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

#### **Agreement for the interim pastor FPC Butte, MT:**

#### **DRAFT CONTRACT FOR TEMPORARY PASTORAL**

The following contract between the session of First Presbyterian Church of Butte and the Rev. Chuck Carlson is for the purpose of providing Temporary Pastoral services as a part-time interim pastor to the Church through April 7, 2021. The contract is to begin on April 8, 2020.

#### **DUTIES:**

The pastor will be responsible to (Exceptions may be allowed during COVID-19 restrictions):

- moderate the session and congregational meetings
- serve as Head of Staff
- lead worship and preach at regular Sunday services
  - using technology (e.g., PowerPoint, ZOOM or other technology), as appropriate, especially during the COVID-19 restrictions
- arrange for substitute preachers on any Sundays not present
- call on sick and home-bound
- provide administrative leadership
- officiate at weddings and funerals
- lead new member classes
- work with committee chairs
- represent the church in dealing with outside organizations

- pray for the church

The congregation and session will be responsible to:

- support the pastor in his/her ministry
- provide regular financial compensation according to the terms outlined below
- provide a performance review to the pastor at least annually
- pray for the pastor during this contract period
- negotiate goals for contract period

During the length of this agreement, the pastor will be accountable to the presbytery. It is understood that the pastor will participate in the quarterly temporary pastors meeting sponsored by the presbytery. Should the Temporary Pastor have any serious differences or difficulties with any former pastor of this congregation, the matter will be immediately referred to the presbytery. It is understood that the pastor will not be involved in any way with the Pastor Nominating Committee, except to facilitate that committee's regular reports to the session and the congregation. Any concerns or suggestions about the congregation's search for a new pastor shall be carried to the presbytery liaison. It is understood by all parties that the pastor under contract may not be considered for the installed pastoral position in this congregation.

This agreement may be terminated by either party (session or pastor) upon 30 days written notice.

This agreement may be extended in one to 12-month periods, upon written notice to, and the approval of, the presbytery. It is understood that the pastor will participate in any training/discussions sponsored and/or requested by presbytery and will participate in an exit interview conducted by presbytery.

**TERMS:**

The pastor is employed on a part-time basis, serving approximately 32 hours per week, and the annual compensation is shown in the following table.

<b>Effective Salary</b>		<b>Reimbursable Expense</b>	
Cash Salary	\$37,578	Automobile Expense (IRS effective rate for 2020 is \$0.575/mile)	\$2,200
Housing Allowance	\$10,560	Business/Professional Expenses	\$400
Dental Insurance Allowance	\$960	Continuing Education	\$600

Effective Salary Total	\$49,098	Book Allowance	\$440
		Total Reimbursable Expense	\$3,640

- Board of Pensions Post-Retirement Service Dues will be 12% of Effective Salary: \$5,892
- Total Package Annual (Effective Salary +Reimbursable + Board of Pensions): \$58,630
  - Total Package 4/8/2020 – 12/31/2020: \$42,800
- 4 weeks of Paid Vacation per year including 4 Sundays
- The fifth Sunday of a month will be paid time off
- 2 weeks Paid Continuing Education including 2 Sundays cumulative for 3 years

**APPROVALS:**

The session approved this contract and its conditions on \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: (clerk of session) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to accept the terms of this contract.

Signed: (pastor) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The presbytery approved this contract and its conditions on \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: (pastor) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Signed copies to be given to 1) the minister, 2) the clerk of session, 3) the presbytery and 4) the minister’s presbytery of membership/care (if other than the presbytery of this congregation).*

**End of Exhibit A.**