

**Yellowstone Presbytery Meeting  
February 22-23, 2013  
Billings 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church  
Billings, Montana**

**12-001 – Call to Order** – Moderator Don Holland called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m. Don offered the opening prayer.

**12-002 – Procedural Motion** – The Stated Clerk moves the following Procedural Motion:

1. That the roll for this meeting be established by completed Registration Sheets.
2. That written and oral requests for absences received by the Stated Clerk be approved.
3. That any Corresponding members present be seated.
4. That the Presbytery grant the Moderator the authority to give privilege of the floor to persons, other than Members or Commissioners, for the purpose of reporting to this meeting.
5. That the Moderator and the Stated Clerk be empowered to make adjustments to the Agenda during the meeting, as may be necessary, to provide for efficiency in reporting.

ü Presbytery voted to approve the above motion.

**12-003 – Roll Call** – The following people filled out registration sheets for.

Church	Minister Member	Elder Commissioner	Others Present
Anaconda	Mary Davis	Linda Smith	
Big Hole	Dick Davis	Unexcused	
Billings, First	Dave Thompson	Carol Harr	Robert Culbertson, HE Jack Bell
Billings, St. Andrew	Aline Russell	Ben Larson	Jim Tarr, Vocations Curt Kochner, C&Y
Bozeman	Jody McDevitt Dan Krebill	Suzanne Bratsky PW	
Butte	Harlan L. Rounds	Todd Erickson	Ron Hanson, Stated Clerk
Colstrip	Unexcused	David McNay	Darlene McKay
Deer Lodge	Vacant	Unexcused	
Dillon	David Andrew	Unexcused	
Ennis	Jean Johnson	Lucyann M. Ennis	
Forsyth	Unexcused	Gayle Holland	Don Holland YP Moderator
Geyser	Editha McKay	Unexcused	
Harlowton	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Hysham	Paul Cannon	LaVon Adair	
Jordan	Monte Massar	Claudia Stanton	Leila Massar Thomas F. Stanton
Lewistown	Jed Cauffman	Unexcused	

Manhattan	Debbie Funke	Debbie Blackburn	
Miles City	Excused	Unexcused	
	Excused		
Phillipsburg	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Poplar	Susan Ennis	Dona Gudgell	Donald W. Gudgell
Roy	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Stanford	Editha McKay	Dixie Youderian	Bonnie Soulsby
Terry	Leon Rathbun	Gary Pfiefler	Lois Pfiefler
West Yellowstone	Vacant	Unexcused	
White Sulphur Springs	Excused	Excused	
Wolf Point	Unexcused	Unexcused	

**Also Present:**

TE John Dyce  
 TE Freeman McCall  
 TE George Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter  
 TE Kathy Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter  
 TE Susan Thomas  
 TE Doug Johnson  
 RE Ben Larson  
 TE Neva Rathbun  
 Rev. Kim Woeste

**12-004 - Adoption of the Docket** – The Docket was approved with several adjustments.

**12-005 – Opening Worship/Dwelling in the Word** – Kathy led the section. Her scriptural selection was Luke 19:1-10. She posed three questions for discussion by small groups of 2-4 people.

**12-006 – Installation of the Moderator and Vice Moderator** – Jody presided over the installation of the following officers. Moderator of Presbytery – Don Holland; Vice – Moderator of Presbytery – Jed Cauffman and Moderator of the Leadership Cabinet – Leon Rathbun. Following the installation Jed publically thanked Jody and asked others to share their appreciation with her also, which many did.

**12-007 – Resourcing the Presbytery** – Kathy and George led this section. The assembly was divided into three groups. The material used was from the ENGAGE GOSPEL – A publication of the PC (USA) which was written by Rev's. Ray Jones and David Loleng. Both Ray and David have visited and resourced the presbytery within the past few years. Discussions in the three groups focused on the first chapter which is titled "Engaging Your Story". The groups discussed the elements of Luke 19:1-10 in three different contexts. George closed this section with a personnel testimony.

**12-008 – VSTF Presentation** – Jody, Paul, Curt and Linda kicked this section off with a short Skit. Dan followed with a presentation on what a Covenant Community gathering might look like. Following the comments by Dan, Kathy presentation of a sheet on Constancy – Artistry and the tension between many elements such as between security and freedom or form and openness. Dan followed with a map showing three groupings of Covenant Communities. Debbie Blackburn then presented the rationale for a Strategic Vision Serving Structure for the presbytery. George then outlined a proposed new Structure for the presbytery. Following a short time for people to digest the material they were given an opportunity to raise questions and make comments. These comments/questions were recorded on newsprint.

**12-009 – Recess for Dinner** – At this point a blessing for the evening meal was given. The meeting was then recessed until 8:30 a.m. tomorrow morning.

**12-010 – Evening Worship** – Worship opened at 7:00 p.m. Presbytery Moderator Don Holland delivered the message. The title of his message was "We Don't need to Worry". Dave Thompson presided over Communion and Ron Hanson presented the Necrology Report (**See Stated Clerks**

**Report, Attachment C).** The music for the worship service was provided by Paul Cannon, piano; George Goodrich and Dave Thompson, guitar; Monte Massar, mandolin and Leila Massar, bass.

### **Saturday February 23, 2013**

**12-011 – Opening Worship -** Following a continental breakfast provided by members of Billings 1<sup>st</sup> Church, Worship/Dwelling in the Word convened at 8:30 a.m.

**12-012 – Hearing what the Holy Spirit is doing in 1<sup>st</sup> Church of Billings, the Hysham Church and St. Andrew Church of Billings –** Members and pastors from the three churches shared what is happening in their churches.

**12-013 – Vision Structure Task Force Report (Continued) –** Discussion continued on the proposed new structure. People shared their concerns and ask questions on how the new structure would work. All comments were tape recorded and were to be transcribed and given to the Task Force. In addition Kathy recorded peoples comments on newsprint for later use by the Task Force.

**12-014 - Co-General Presbyters Report –** George presented his portion of the report. He spoke to his deep desire to cultivate a disciple making culture in Yellowstone Presbytery. Kathy followed with her portion and mentioned that the GA Evangelism Conference will be held in Montana in April of 2014 and that she and George are on the Planning Team. Their report is included as **Attachment A**. Paul offered a prayer of thanks and safety during their sabbatical.

**12-015 – Leadership Cabinet –** Leon presented the written report and highlighted several items (**See attachment B**). He then called people’s attention to the recommendations of the Leadership Cabinet regarding the proposed Amendments to the PC (USA) Constitution. Following some discussion the presbytery voted as follows:

Ü Amendment 12-A, YES; Amendment 12-B, NO; Amendment 12-C, NO; Amendments 12-D.1 through 12-D.9, YES; Amendment 12-E, YES; Amendment 12-F, YES; Amendment 12-G, YES; Amendment 12-H, YES; Amendment 12-I, YES and Amendment 12-J, YES. Following the vote Leon mentioned that Amendment 12-1 (The Heidelberg Catechism would be dealt with at the June meeting of presbytery.

**12-016 – Docket Extension –** Presbytery voted to extend the Docket by 30 minutes.

**12-017 – Committee on Ministry –** Neva presented a written report which the presbytery voted to accept. She also announced the offering at last evenings worship service was \$870.00 and would be put in the Clergy Emergency Fund.

**12-018 – St Timothy’s –** Ron presented his written report. He requested approval of the change in the Standing Rules of the committee as follows:

#### Article III –Members

St Timothy’s Chapel is a specialized ministry and not a constituted congregation, nor is the summer pastor installed. Thus there is no category of communicant membership as there is in a constituted Christian congregation with an installed pastor. Membership of the Chapel Committee consists of seven (7) Presbyterians from the area, of whom up to three (3) shall be area Presbyterian pastors. One of the seven shall be elected chair of the Committee. In addition, there shall be up to three (3) seven (7) members committed to the Chapel ministry from the area non-Presbyterian congregations: and up to (4) representatives of the donor family. The summer pastor(s), representatives of Yellowstone Presbytery, and other members of the donor family may attend meetings in an ex-officio capacity without vote. The positions of treasurer and calendar secretary are ex-officio without vote.

Nomination and election to the Chapel Committee is only as described in Article V of these Standing Rules. No individual member of the Chapel Committee is authorized to act on his or her own without prior permission of the entire committee. All action normally begins in sub-committees which is then recommended to the entire Chapel Committee in meeting which provides authorization unless prior exception has been granted.

**Rational for these changes** - This coming year we will begin preparation for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St Timothy. We will need to find additional members for the committee who know the Chapel well, and its ministry programs, have been active in Chapel programs and who are able to attend a number of the summer services. It is difficult for many of our Presbyterian members to be active in Chapel affairs. The pastors on the Committee have so many significant responsibilities at their own churches that it is hard for them to attend meetings and impossible to attend services. The same is true for some of the other Presbyterian committee members. There are a number of folks who live ( at least in the summer ) in the Georgetown Lake

area who love the Chapel and its ministry, attend summer services on a fairly regular basis and wish to be more active in supporting the Chapel. They are not necessarily Presbyterians but otherwise meet all of the requirements for voting membership on the Committee. We will continue to have the same number of Presbyterians on the Committee but this change will allow us to add up to four more ecumenical voting members. Additionally, the Book of Order G-3.0106 provides that "A council may delegate aspects of its tasks as it deems appropriate provided that those entities remain accountable to the council" (i.e. Yellowstone Presbytery).

Reasons for the second change are as follows: We no longer have a calendar secretary on the committee and those duties, as well as others, are taken care of by the recording secretary. Also, the recording secretary as well as the treasurer, if they meet the eligibility requirements should be active voting members of the Committee.

ü Presbytery voted to concur with the above change.

Ron then presented the budget for St. Timothy's Chapel for 2013. The budget included Income of \$27,525 and Expenditures of \$27,525.

ü Presbytery voted to approve the budget and accept the report.

**12-019 – PW** – Suzanne presented the PW 2012 report and noted two up-coming events, the Spring Gathering in Bozeman on April 12-13 and the Synod PW meeting in Cheyenne WY on June 28 and 29.

ü Presbytery voted to accept PW's report.

**12-020 – Mission** – Paul commented on his written report. He stated that the committee is looking for a Hunger Action Enabler. Jody thanked the committee for the grant for a mission trip to Belize to build two houses. The Presby-Cats, plus others from across Montana, will be making the trip in two weeks.

ü Presbytery voted to accept the report.

**12-021 – Vocations** – Jim announced that Candidate Cathy McLean is ready for Ordination and is awaiting a call. Jack B is making progress toward becoming a Commissioned Ruling Elder.

ü Presbytery voted to accept the report.

**12-022 - Higher Education** – Bob presented a written report highlighting activities at MSUB, Rocky and the parish based program at Bozeman 1<sup>st</sup>. He posed the question of how Higher Education fits into the proposed structure for the presbytery that is being developed.

**12-023 – Camping and Youth** – Curt Presented the report and high-lighted the results of the Fall Retreat (36 youth) and the Winter Retreat (48 youth) as well as the schedule for the 2013 camping program.

ü By consensus, the report was accepted by the presbytery.

**12-024 – Stated Clerk** – Ron presented a written report (**Attachment C**), which included the Necrology Report, on his recent activities and requested approval of the minutes of the November, 2012 presbytery meeting minutes and the December, 2012 Special meeting.

ü Presbytery voted to approve the presbytery meeting minutes of November, 2012.

ü Presbytery voted to approve the Special presbytery meeting minutes of December, 2012 with the correction that TE Mary Davis and TE Dick Davis were present.

ü By consensus, the report was accepted by the presbytery.

**12-025 – Adjournment** - The Meeting was adjourned with prayer until the next meeting which is scheduled for June 14-15, 2013.

**Ron Hanson, Stated Clerk**