

Yellowstone Presbytery Annual Stated Meeting
March 6-7, 2015
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
Billings, Montana

15 - 001 – Call to Order – Outgoing moderator Jed Cauffman, TE, called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m. and offered the opening prayer. He introduced Dan Krebill, TE, who is serving as temporary clerk for this meeting at the invitation of Stated Clerk Ron Hanson, RE, who is undergoing cataract surgery today. Sandy Welch, RE, welcomed the presbytery to St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. Susan Barnes, TE, has laryngitis and is unable to speak a welcome.

15 – 002 – Roll Call - The clerk called the roll and ensured that all present were introduced. The following people filled out registration sheets for the meeting.

Church	Teaching Elder Minister Member	Ruling Elder Commissioner	Others Present
Anaconda	JP Carlson	Linda Jo Smith	
Big Hole	JP Carlson	Unexcused	
Billings, First	Dave Thompson	Chris Eriksen	Jack Bell, CRE Robert Culbertson
Billings, St. Andrew	Susan Barnes	David Kimball	Curt Kochner Ben Larson Guy C. Glenn Pat Dickensheets
Bozeman	Jody McDevitt Dan Krebill	Suzanne Bratsky Fred Dickensheets	
Butte	Harlan L. Rounds	John Leland	
Colstrip	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Deer Lodge	Teresa Kendall	Barb Paull	
Dillon	David Andrew	Carol Simonsen	Merry Lee Hooks
Ennis	Excused	Excused	
Forsyth	Cathy McLean	Unexcused	
Geyser	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Harlowton	Catherine Card	Unexcused	
Hysham	Paul Cannon	Waine Milmine	Joleanna Cannon Karen VanHaele Sharon Milmine
Jordan	Vacant	Claudia Stanton	
Lewistown	Jed Cauffman	Kevin M. Kepler	

Church	Teaching Elder Minister Member	Ruling Elder Commissioner	Others Present
Manhattan	Debbie Funke	Eleanor Mest	Debbie Blackburn
Miles City	Brandon Willett Kristin Willett	Caroline Fleming	
Phillipsburg	Unexcused	Jan Christensen Jim Christensen	
Poplar	Susi Ennis	Unexcused	
Roy	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Stanford	Unexcused	Bonnie Soulsby	Dixie Youderian
Terry	vacant	Gary Pfiefle	
White Sulphur Springs	Excused	Excused	
Wolf Point	Unexcused	Unexcused	

Also Present or Excused:

TE George Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter

TE Kathy Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter

TE Susan Thomas

TE Neva Rathbun

TE Leon Rathbun

TE Brent Long (Excused)

TE Mary Davis

TE Priscilla A. Bell

TE James G. Bell

Rev. Kim Woeste, chaplain at Rocky Mountain College

TE Terry McGonigal, corresponding member from the Presbytery of Inland Northwest

15-003 – Procedural Motions – Upon a motion by the clerk, the presbytery approved the following actions:

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, and
6. That all reports received at this meeting be accepted.

15 – 004 – Approval of the Docket – The docket was approved with a note that Saturday’s session begins at 8:30 a.m.

15 – 005 – Worship - Worship was led by Merry Lee Hooks, RE. During this worship Moderator Jed Cauffman, TE, conducted a service of installation of Debbie Blackburn, RE, as moderator, and Teresa Kendal, TE, as vice moderator. After prayer and singing, Curt Kochner, RE, led the presbytery in dwelling in the word, focusing on John 20:19-23.

15 – 006 – Resourcing the Presbytery - Susan Ennis, TE, introduced “mission” as the focus of this meeting. Jody McDevitt, TE, shared a presentation on, “Why Mission?”

15 - 007 – Break - The presbytery took a break at 3:08 p.m.

15 - 008 – Reconvening - Moderator Debbie Blackburn reconvened the meeting at 3:28 p.m. as Paul Cannon, TE, graced the presbytery with some piano music. Susi Ennis, TE, continued the presentation on mission, with the goal to consider the passions that God has given us individually and collectively to pursue mission. Three people - Curt Kochner, RE, Jack Bell, CRE, and Terry McGonigal, TE from Whitworth University, each shared their passion for mission. The presbytery then broke into its geographic clusters to discuss and strategize what mission God is calling you to in your area. Highlights of the clusters’ discussions were shared with the whole presbytery.

15 – 009 – Institute for Peace Studies - Cindy Kunz from the Institute for Peace Studies of Rocky Mountain College addressed the presbytery with an update on its latest efforts. She shared the news that Dr. Lawrence F. “Larry” Small, Sr., who was one of the founders of the institute, died this past weekend.

15 – 010 – Co-General Presbyters’ Report - George and Kathy Goodrich shared highlights of their written report ([Attachment A](#)).

15 – 011 – Leadership Cabinet – Jody McDevitt, TE, shared highlights of its written report ([Attachment B](#)) with a focus on the goals established for 2015: (1) Improve communication within and beyond the presbytery; (2) Focus on spiritual nurture of pastors and leaders; (3) Build community in the presbytery; (4) Make and carry out staff transition decisions (particularly the search for our next stated clerk). The following actions were approved by the presbytery:

- ✓ That the Presbytery of Yellowstone be a chartering organization of the Montana Association of Christians, the successor organization to Montana Association of Churches (MAC).
- ✓ That October 11, 2015, be designated as Presbytery Sunday, to celebrate our bond in the Spirit, serving Christ’s mission together, and that all congregations be encouraged to participate in this celebration

15 – 012 – Pastoral Ministry Team – Dave Thompson, TE, shared highlights of the PMT written report ([Attachment C](#)). In addition to the written report, the following action was recommended to the presbytery regarding the closing of the Presbyterian Church in Roy, Montana with the following rationale: (1) The Roy church has been served by Tom Moring, a non-Presbyterian pastor, for the last 15 years. (2) They have more non-Presbyterians than Presbyterians attending. (3) The church has not been active in Presbytery for years. (4) They feel that continuing as a community church better serves their needs and better reflects who they truly are and what they are hoping to be. The Roy church has assets of \$20,000: property, buildings, and contents (an appraisal was recently received); and \$32,000 Cash assets remaining in a checking account.

- ✓ Presbytery voted to close the Presbyterian Church in Roy, Montana on March 31, 2015, with regret, if the way be clear. The Roy church will make a final payment to Yellowstone Presbytery in the amount of \$5,000.
- ✓ It was voted to send a letter from the presbytery, written by the PMT moderator and stated clerk, to express our regret as well as for appreciation for past collaborative ministry that we celebrate with them, as well to communicate our openness to the possibility of shared ministry in the future.

15 - 013 – Representation/Nominations Ministry Team – Debbie Funke, TE, presented a report nominating Gary Slagle, RE, for election to the Permanent Judicial Commission Class of 2020.

- ✓ Presbytery voted to elect Gary Slagle after nominations from the floor were invited with none forthcoming.

15 – 014 – Stated Clerk Nominating Committee - Neva Rathbun, TE, moderator of this committee presented the position description and terms of call for the stated clerk position.

- ✓ Presbytery voted to approve the position description for the Stated Clerk ([Attachment D](#)).
- ✓ Presbytery voted to approve the terms of call for the stated clerk ([Attachment E](#)).

15 – 015 – Announcements –

- Mary Davis, TE, invited the presbyters to their home after worship this evening for fellowship.
- Dan Krebill, TE, thanked the presbytery for its grant support of the upcoming Presby Cats spring break mission trip. In appreciation, he gave out chocolate bars from the group's recent fund raiser.

15 - 016 – Dinner - Moderator Debbie led in prayer for our meal and recessed until 8:30 a.m. after evening worship during which the necrology report will be shared (**Attachment F**).

15 -017 – Worship – Worship was led by CRE Jack Bell. TE Dick presided over Communion and TE George presented the Necrology report (**Attachment F**).

15 - 018 – Reconvening - Moderator Debbie reconvened on Saturday, March 7, 2015, at 8:35 a.m. Linda Smith, RE, led us in opening worship, Terry McGonigal, TE, shared a meditation, and then Susi Ennis, TE, led us in Dwelling in the Word. Moderator Debbie Blackburn, RE, concluded the worship with prayer. Moderator Debbie, RE, announced that the offering received last evening was \$812 that will go toward scholarships for campers at Westminster Spires Camp.

15 - 019 – Voting on the Proposed Constitutional Amendments - Jody McDevitt, TE, moderator of the Leadership Cabinet, presented a recommendation that a prepared written ballot will be used for the voting on the G.A. amendments and that it will be a secret ballot. This was approved.

Jody then indicated that there will be speakers to introduce each of the amendments that will be followed by discussion and debate.

After presentations and thorough debate, secret ballots were distributed to ruling elder commissioners and members of the presbytery. Moderator Debbie Blackburn, RE, appointed Carol Simonsen, RE, Susan Thomas, TE, and Dan Krebill, TE, as vote tellers.

After a break, the vote tallies were reported as follows:

		Affirmative	Negative	
14-1	Confession of Belhar: On Amending the <i>Book of Confessions</i> (Item 13-01)	40	4	Pass
14-A	Renunciation of Jurisdiction: On Amending G-2.0509 (Item 06-05)	5	39	Fail
14-B.1	Final Assessment: On Amending G-2.0607 (Item 06-12, Recommendation 11)	43	1	Pass
14-B.2	Accommodations: On Amending G-2.0610 (Item 06-12, Recommendation 12)	42	2	Pass
14-C	Child Protection Policy: On Amending G-3.0106 (Item 08-14)	43	1	Pass
14-D	Minimum Composition of a Presbytery: On Amending G-3.0301 (Item 06-06)	27	15	Pass
14-E	Interreligious Stance: On Amending G-5.0102 (07-02, Recommendation 2)	39	4	Pass
14-F	Marriage: On Amending W-4.9000 (Item 10-02)	19	25	Fail

George Goodrich, TE, addressed the presbytery expressing pastoral concern for those who are hurt and disappointed by the results of the voting. He encouraged mutual respect and encouragement for all members of the body.

15 -020 - Camping and Youth Ministry Team - Curt Kochner, RE expressed appreciation for the offering received at last evening's worship service. He shared highlights from the written report. Brochures for the coming camp season were distributed. He pointed out that the current special-use permit with the Forest Service terminates on December 31, 2015.

- ✓ The presbytery voted to proceed with the submission of an application to renew our Special-Use Permit with the Forest Service.

15 -021 - Good News from Churches - Cathy McLean, CRE, shared about what is happening at the church in Forsyth. Claudia Stanton, RE, shared about what is happening at the Community Presbyterian Church in Jordan, particularly related to the sudden departure of the Lutheran lay pastor who had been serving the congregation. Jed Cauffman, TE, led a time of prayer for these two congregations.

15 – 021 – New Church Development - Upon a motion made by Jack Bell, CRE, the presbytery voted to direct the Leadership Cabinet to a form a task force to explore planting a new congregation somewhere within Yellowstone Presbytery—said report shall be presented for action to the full presbytery no later than one year from now.

15 - 022 - Presbyterian Women report was presented by Merry Lee Hooks, RE, who shared highlights from the written report including summary of where the money raised by PW goes.

15 – 023 - St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel Committee. Debbie Blackburn, RE, pointed out the written report that was submitted.

15 – 024 Stated Clerk's Report - Dan Krebill, TE, shared a report that was prepared by Stated Clerk Ron Hanson, RE (**Attachment F**). The following actions were approved by the presbytery.

- ✓ The minutes of the presbytery meeting of November 8, 2014 were approved with a correction. (RE Dave Kimball was present as the Commissioner from St Andrew).

Presbytery authorized 2 additional church sessions to elect another ruling elder commissioner, following the order that churches are listed in the presbytery directory. Should an imbalance remain in subsequent years the order that churches are listed in

the directory continually to be sequentially be followed to create a Teaching Elder/non-Teaching Elder Balance.

0652

15 - 025 – Thank You - It was voted to heartily thank St. Andrew Presbyterian Church for its wonderful hospitality during this meeting.

15 – 026 – Westminster Spires - Upon a motion made by Lanny Rounds, TE, presbytery voted to encourage sessions in the presbytery to make a special financial gift to Westminster Spires Camp recognizing the 80th anniversary of our camp ministry in this location, ideally by the June meeting.

15 – 027 – Announcement - Jody McDevitt, TE, shared invitations to 2 continuing education events coming up in Montana, as well as information about the Parliament of the World's Religions that will be taking place in Salt Lake City in October.

15 – 028 – Adjournment - Moderator Debbie Blackburn, RE, adjourned the meeting with the singing of a hymn followed by a prayer led by Vice Moderator, TE Teresa Kendall at 12:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Krebill, RE, clerk *pro tem*

Ron Hanson
Stated Clerk

Attachment A

March, 2015 Co-General Presbyter Report

George and Kathy Goodrich

Romans 12:1-2: "I appeal to you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." When we offer ourselves in responsive, thankful worship, the Holy Spirit renews us with the mind of Christ. The verse is both a call to personal commitment to God and a challenge to offer ourselves together for our renewal of our mind of Christ as the united Body of Christ. May it be so for us.

Emerging Mission in the New Structure: The new structure presented that the mission and ministry of the presbytery would emerge in the clusters and in new task forces under the umbrella of the Leadership Cabinet, which was responsible for sewing a vision for mission.

A. Mission and Ministry in the Clusters: We now have four strong clergy clusters – Butte, White Sulphur, Billings and Miles City. Each cluster is dwelling in the word, deepening relationships, and exploring God’s calling for their cluster. So far:

1. The White Sulphur Springs has become the locus for prayer ministry, the first cluster to offer to its churches in particular and to the presbytery as a whole a Saturday retreat on Spiritual renewal and Prayer. 40-plus people from nine different churches attended. The event was written about enthusiastically by GA reporter, Mike Ferguson, ([link](#)).
2. The Billings Cluster is beginning to form plans to offer a similar retreat for its churches on the theme of Stewardship. The profound and trustful sharing and support is occurring in this group.
3. The Miles City Cluster has yet to pick a theme to offer. But there is a clear need for pastor support in eastern Montana. Pastors from other denominations are attending.
4. The Butte Cluster: This group wrestles deeply with the issues of the day. They are concerned for the cohesion of the presbytery and for justice.
5. Positives of the clusters
 - a. Growing commitment to the groups, meetings and each other in the group.
 - b. Spiritual Growth and formation of those involved in this mutual discipleship.
 - c. The emerging training retreat format in partnership with the presbytery.
 - d. Regularly meeting now. All seem to be going to a new level.

A. Mission in Task Forces:

1. Peacemaking Fellowship – After a year of discerning, A peacemaking fellowship emerged out of this year’s Convocation. Freeman McCall, Jody McDevitt and Merry Lee Hooks are the leaders. Clearly the Holy Spirit is leading.
2. To further live into our vision, let’s be asking what needs we are discerning to help the presbytery develop disciple making leaders, congregations, and ministries, who join in Christ’s mission. Areas in which people have already expressed need or interest:
 - a. College / Campus ministry – Ukirk.
 - b. 1001 – New Worshipping Communities.
 - c. Nurturing Young Disciples... One elder: the Equipping done at the presbytery meeting in Butte was one of the best presbytery meetings in years.
 - d. Strengthening, equipping rural congregations in disciple making, missional ministry.
 - e. The whole area of Mission and talking with Jack Bell who would be willing to work with a task force to develop Mission in the Presbytery.

PMT (formerly CoM):

- a. We continue to be involved in pastoring pastors and resourcing churches, particularly those in pastoral transition or some contention:
 - a. Churches searching for pastors – **Terry** is actively searching; **Jordan** has a temporary Lutheran CRE who is doing a great job after the sudden departure of the previous CRE.
 - b. Churches wrestling with their relationship to the denomination: **Stanford and Geyser**. Some other congregations are dissatisfied with GA's actions in 2014 and are trying to determine their response. This dissatisfaction varies in intensity. And the result of presbytery's voting on the Amendments in March will significantly impact Yellowstone Congregations, regardless of which way the controversial votes go. George and other members of the Pastoral Team with Cabinet Moderator, Jody McDevitt, met with the two churches on January 20, 2015. It seems that pastoral relationships are being re-established between these congregations and the presbytery.
 - c. Church closing this year: **Roy**. Reporting a per capita of about 27, but in reality about 10 Presbyterians and then a growing number of independent attenders. The PMT will bring a report that the Roy church had building and financial assets of about \$53,000, with much work to be done to upgrade their building. A settlement amount of \$5,000 was determined by negotiation to be paid to the presbytery. The agreement will be presented to the Presbytery for approval in March. The church will close as a PCUSA church on March 31, 2015. Members wishing to remain PCUSA will transfer their membership to FPC Lewistown.
 - d. We have also been confidentially pastoring of pastors and preaching in congregations
- b. Expect the Three-Year Boundary Training to be offered on May Billings and in Bozeman. A lawyer, associated with FPC-Billings will present. Every clergy and CRE in Yellowstone Presbytery will be required to attend one of these workshops.
- c. J. P. Carlson was installed as pastor in Anaconda on Sunday, January 11th at 4:00 PM; and on January 18th at 4:00 PM in the Big Hole. Check out the pictures **on the Yellowstone Presbytery Facebook page**.
- d. On February 24, at the request of the PMT the Presbytery observed a **Day of Prayer and Fasting** specifically for the Stanford and Geyser and Terry Congregations and for the churches of the presbytery in general. Thank you to those able to prayerfully observe this day.

Emerging – Divisions in Congregations: We, with the PMT, are increasingly aware that the issues of the day and the actions of the 221st General Assembly in 2014 are fraying the unity of Yellowstone Presbytery congregation's and congregations in every presbytery.

LEADERSHIP CABINET
Presbytery of Yellowstone
Report to Presbytery March 2015

The Leadership Cabinet has held 2 meetings so far in 2015, on Jan. 14 and Feb. 11. We are still in our first year under the presbytery's new structure and organizational vision. This is the way we work:

1. We establish annual goals for the Leadership Cabinet.
2. We attend to the tasks before us.
3. Teams of persons follow through on our goals and tasks. These teams are made up of persons from the Leadership Cabinet AND persons from the presbytery. THANK YOU to all who have said *YES, I WILL* when we have called!

2014 Goals	2015 Goals
Improve communication within and beyond the presbytery	Improve communication within and beyond the presbytery
Focus on spiritual nurture of pastors and leaders	Focus on spiritual nurture of pastors and leaders
Plan meaningful presbytery meetings	Build community in the presbytery
Make and carry out staff transition decisions (co-general presbyters)	Make and carry out staff transition decisions (stated clerk)

What has Leadership Cabinet done in 2015?

1. We have been listening to the Review Team as they have been listening to the presbytery regarding our new structure. **We voted to extend the Review Team for 6 months to allow more time for feedback.** Members of the Review Team are Debbie Blackburn, David Andrew, Jim Tarr, and Gayle Holland.
2. We recruited a **Search Committee for Stated Clerk**, which has already begun its work. The committee is moderated by Neva Rathbun and includes Dan Holland (who is on LC), Debbie Funke, and Terry Johnson. Target date: before Oct 9-11 training meeting in Portland.
3. We chose a **theme for the 2015 meetings of presbytery, Mission!** and assigned a task team to make plans for this theme. Thank you to those who are putting their heads and hearts together on this!

4. We **developed a plan for the discussion and voting on constitutional amendments**, designed to help us listen well to one another, respect one another, and remain in loving fellowship with one another when we disagree.
5. We assigned several amendments to appropriate ministry teams in the presbytery, asking the teams to advise a positive or negative vote on the amendments. **We voted to recommend “yes” votes on these amendments: 14-1 (Confession of Belhar) and 14-E (Interreligious stance)**

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(these will be voted upon along with other amendments)

6. We are **in conversation with Glacier Presbytery** regarding the future relationship between the two presbyteries. Glacier will not be hosting a convocation in 2015.
7. We set dates for future presbytery meetings:
June 12-13, 2015, in White Sulphur Springs
November 6-7, 2015, in Lewistown
8. We voted to have the **offering at the March 6, 2015 presbytery meeting be for Scholarship Fund for Westminster Spires Camp.**
9. We **approved a grant request from the Presby Cats collegiate ministry** at MSU-Bozeman, from the Equip and Encourage fund, for \$2500 for a spring break mission trip.
10. We **discussed the presbytery’s policy with regard to payment of per capita to synod and General Assembly**, in cases where congregations do not pay. After considerable discussion, we took no action to change to our policy, which is to comply with the Book of Order and pay the per capita assigned to the presbytery. We recommitted ourselves to working with congregations to help them have their voices heard in the denomination.
11. We voted to **recommend to Presbytery that Yellowstone Presbytery be a chartering organization of the Montana Association of Christians**, the successor organization to Montana Association of Churches (MAC). **MOTION**
12. We reviewed the 2014 financial reports and gave thanks to God that our financial resources are stretching farther than we earlier anticipated. Specifically, **the presbytery was able to retain over \$50,000 in reserves that our 2014 budget anticipated being spent.**

In discussions of our 2015 Goals, a proposal emerged for

PRESBYTERY SUNDAY OCTOBER 11, 2015

On this date, we hope all congregations of our presbytery will celebrate Yellowstone Presbytery. We hope that the day will **BUILD COMMUNITY** and **IMPROVE COMMUNICATION** while we consciously

FOCUS ON SPIRITUAL NURTURE as a presbytery (3 of 4 goals!). We are looking for people who would serve on a task team to develop ideas and resources for congregations.

MOTION: That October 11, 2015, be designated as Presbytery Sunday, to celebrate our bond in the Spirit, serving Christ's mission together, and that all congregations be encouraged to participate in this celebration.

0657

Treasurers Narrative Report

Yellowstone Presbytery
Budget & Finance
March 6-7 Presbytery Meeting

Our report has several attachments, which serve to supplement this narrative. The attachments are:

- 2014 Year-end balance sheet (Included below)
- 2014 Year-end Administrative P&L
- 2014 Year-end Program P&L
- January balance sheet
- January Administrative P&L
- January Program P&L

We are pleased to report that various cost cutting measures as well as greater than anticipated income allowed us to finish 2014 by utilizing far fewer reserves than had been budgeted. On behalf of the Leadership Cabinet I welcome any questions or comments at the contact information you will find below.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Holland, (for the Leadership Cabinet)

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2014

Friday, January 23, 2015

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Account #	Account Name	Beginning Balance	YTD Balance
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Assets

1.00.1010.0000	Checking Account #3133214	55,684.24	53,375.64
1.00.1020.0000	Petty Cash	22.18	22.18
1.00.1030.0000	Money Market #129013355	184,271.83	184,514.11
1.00.1031.0000	St Timothy M. M #1 #3531961	4,143.22	4,046.53
1.00.1032.0000	St. Timothy MM #2 #129013686	2,597.40	2,526.22
Total Current Assets		\$246,718.87	\$244,484.68

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1.00.1040.0000	Beartooth Electric Coop	1,337.70	1,337.70
Total Other Assets		\$1,337.70	\$1,337.70
1.00.1065.0000	St Timothy Chapel #1 52001085	237,050.29	254,311.80
1.00.1070.0000	St Timothy Chapel #2 52006024	98,376.65	102,460.72
1.00.1075.0000	Bozeman Campus 000104537	73,986.51	57,651.62
1.00.1080.0000	Partnership Fund MM 129013793	45,198.24	45,230.52
Total Principal Restricted		\$454,611.69	\$459,654.66

Total Assets \$702,668.26 \$705,477.04

Liabilities

2.00.2120.1000	Payroll - Federal	705.58	618.02
2.00.2120.2000	Payroll State	1,471.00	81.00
2.00.2140.0000	G. Goodrich Flex Plan	(0.37)	(0.53)
2.00.2141.0000	S. Seibert Flex Plan	(0.21)	(0.37)
Total Payroll Liabilities		\$2,176.00	698.12

Total Liabilities \$2,176.00 \$698.12

Fund Balance

3.02.2800.0000	General - Administrative	12,861.10	8,255.07
3.03.2805.0000	General - Program	39,223.95	37,136.97
3.04.2700.0000	General - Restricted Admin.	45,587.77	45,587.77
Total General Fund Balance		\$97,672.82	\$90,979.81

3.19.2815.0000	Camp Scholarship Camp. & Youth	935.71	576.56
3.27.2825.0000	Clergy Emergency Fund COM	1,840.00	1,786.00
3.32.2832.0000	Convocation	0.00	1,000.00
3.39.2840.0000	Linda Hofer Education	10,584.93	10,584.93
3.43.2845.0000	Equip and Encourage	40,480.44	36,830.44
3.47.2850.0000	Partnership- Available COM	1,666.69	1,698.97
3.49.2700.0000	Co-General Presbyters' Discretionary	2,150.00	1,546.94
3.51.2855.0000	Peace Making Offering Mission	606.55	1,214.19
3.56.1220.0000	Special Offering Other Fund	0.00	60.30

3.63.2870.0000 Revamp Camp -Camp. & Youth		0.00	380.95
3.65.2825.0000 Springhill Funds		15,000.00	15,000.00
3.67.2875.0000 St. Timothy's Money Market #1		4,143.22	4,046.53
3.68.2877.0000 St Timothy Money Market #2		2,724.56	2,653.38
3.75.2885.0000 Social Justice		10,789.89	11,032.17
3.85.2850.0000 Westminster Spires Camp Upgrades Balance		(912.91)	3,066.70
			0659
Total Designated funds		\$90,009.08	\$91,478.06
3.37.2800.0000 Funds Awaiting Cabinet Action Balance		1,760.00	3,760.00
3.69.2825.0000 Triennium Balance		2,387.07	4,887.07
3.86.2850.0000 Grant - Evangelism Balance		1,250.13	1,250.13
3.90.2910.0000 Higher Education Grant Fund	73,986.51	57,651.62	
3.92.2920.0000 St.Timothys #1 (PC USA) Found		237,050.29	254,311.80
3.93.2921.0000 St. Timothys #2 (PC USA) Found		98,376.65	102,460.72
3.94.2930.0000 Partnership Fund Principal COM		43,999.71	43,999.71
Total Restricted Fund Balances		\$458,810.36	\$468,321.05
3.66.2850.0000 West Yellowstone Funds Balance		54,000.00	54,000.00
		Total Fund Balance	\$700,492.26
			\$704,778.92
		Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$702,668.26
			\$705,477.04

Attachment C

Pastoral Ministry Team
Presbytery Report
March 7, 2015

The purpose of the Pastoral Ministry Team is to come alongside of churches, sessions, and pastors to provide encouragement, support, and training as we work together to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. The PMT recently welcomed three new members to our team who include Charlie Brown (Lewistown), Chris Eriksen (First Billings), and the Rev. JP Carlson (Anaconda/Big Hole).

No action is needed by the PMT, but several items of information for the Presbytery are included below.

1. Boundary/Sexual Misconduct Training will be held in two locations this May. First Presbyterian Billing will host the training on Saturday, May 16 from 10 AM- 2 PM. First Presbyterian Bozeman will host the training on Saturday, May 23 from 10 AM - 2 PM.

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2. This training is **required** for Teaching Elders within Yellowstone Presbytery every three years. For those unable to make this training, please talk with Ron Hanson about alternative training possibilities. The training is free and will include lunch at both locations.

3. Representing our presbytery at the annual Western Regional Board of Pensions Consultation in San Diego on April 25-26 will be Ron Hanson (Stated Clerk), Dave Thompson (Chair of the PMT), and possibly George Goodrich (Co-General Presbyter). The purpose of this annual consultation is to provide input to the Board of Pensions and to learn of all the ways the BOP can provide help and assistance to those in our presbytery.

4. Jack Bell, current Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) at First Billings, has made himself available to share about the CRE program with churches in our presbytery. Jack is more than happy to talk with pastors, sessions, or congregations about ways the CRE program can benefit local congregations. Jack can be reached by cell phone at (406) 698-7040.

5. The Rev. Dan Krebill (First Bozeman) and TE Jim Tarr (St. Andrew Billings) will be representing the PMT in regards to several amendments that will come before our presbytery at this meeting. These amendments have been recommended to us by the Leadership Cabinet of our presbytery to provide clarity, input, and consideration of vote.

6. CRE Learner Veva Larson (Anaconda/Big Hole) will be meeting with the PMT to finalize the steps in the CRE commissioning process. If the way be clear, Veva will be examined for CRE status at our June Presbytery meeting in White Sulphur Springs.

7. Whitworth Grant: Our PMT is working with Whitworth University in Spokane to begin a summer internship program whereby Whitworth students will work in churches within our Presbytery. These students will offer help in a variety of ministry areas and in turn learn valuable ministry skills from pastors and congregations within our bounds. More about this exciting program will be made available in the coming months.

I am grateful for a dedicated group who serve as members of the Pastoral Ministry Team:
The Rev. David Andrew RE Debbie Blackburn

RE Charlie Brown
The Rev. Susi Ennis
RE Gayle Holland
RE Charlie Mandeville
RE Jim Tarr

The Rev. JP Carlson
RE Chris Eriksen
The Rev. Dan Krebill
RE Linda Smith
The Rev. Dave Thompson

Respectfully Submitted, The Rev. Dave Thompson, Chair

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Attachment D

**STATED CLERK
PRESBYTERY OF YELLOWSTONE
POSITION DESCRIPTION**

ACCOUNTABILITY: The Stated Clerk is accountable to the Presbytery Leadership Cabinet with a cooperative relationship with the General Presbyter as Head of Staff. The Leadership Cabinet, in conjunction with the General Presbyter, shall be responsible for the performance evaluation.

PURPOSE: Perform all duties prescribed in the Book of Order and the Standing Rules of the Presbytery pertaining to documents and records. Responsible for all the communication to other governing bodies of the actions of the presbytery as assigned to the Stated Clerk.

Facilitate meetings of the presbytery.

MODE OF ELECTION AND TERM: The Stated Clerk shall be elected by the Presbytery for a three-year term as prescribed in the Standing Rules, and shall not serve for consecutive terms, full or partial, for more than six years.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Stated Clerk shall have the duties and responsibilities set forth in the Book of Order and the Presbytery's Administrative Manual, as well as the following duties:

1. PRESBYTERY SUPPORT AND MEETINGS:

- a. Attend all meetings of the Presbytery, recording accurately and publishing regularly the transactions of the Presbytery, and maintaining an accurate record of the attendance of Teaching Elders and Elder Commissioners at all meetings of the Presbytery.
- b. Maintain an accurate roll of the particular churches of presbytery, as well as of the teaching elders, commissioned ruling elders in pastoral service (CREs), certified Christian educators, clerks of session and treasurers.
- c. In cooperation with the Leadership Cabinet and presbytery staff, prepare a proposed docket for stated meetings of the Presbytery.
- d. Send to each teaching elder, commissioned ruling elders in pastoral service and each

clerk of session due notice of all stated and special meetings of the Presbytery, together with the docket and supporting documents.

- e. Support the Leadership Cabinet in making arrangements for meetings of the Presbytery, e.g., sites, meals, meeting rooms and equipment.
- f. Notify those elected or appointed to a Presbytery office, ministry team, commission, or unit of their selection.
- g. Serve as parliamentarian for presbytery with reference to the Standing Rules of the

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Presbytery, the Book of Order and Robert's Rules of Order.

- h. Update and maintain the Administrative Manual.

2. RECORDS, REPORTS AND ROLLS:

- a. As custodian, maintain all ecclesiastical and historical records of the Presbytery.
- b. In support of and in cooperation with ministry teams and Commissions,
 - i. maintain the roll, records, and files of inquirers and candidates under the care of presbytery.
 - ii. process all calls, contracts, dissolutions, and transfers of Teaching Elders, providing for the orderly reception and dismissal of Teaching Elders within the bounds of the Presbytery.
 - iii. Provide such advisory services as may be required by Presbytery ministry teams or relating to judicial process.
- c. Prepare and present in writing to each meeting of the presbytery a report of appropriate matters coming to the attention of the Stated Clerk since the prior meeting.
- d. At the proper time, supply each church with forms for their annual reports and receive the same.
- e. Exercise responsibility for the presbytery's annual review of session records of particular churches.
- f. Prepare and forward the reports of the Presbytery required by the Synod and General Assembly.

3. TRAINING AND ORIENTATION

- a. Support orientation for new Ruling Elder commissioners and Teaching Elder members to presbytery.
- b. Support orientation for commissioners to Synod and General Assembly.

4. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. May annually attend the meetings of the Stated Clerks' Conference.
- b. Serve as an interpreter of the Book of Order, Administrative Manual, and, in cooperation with the General Presbytery, the policies and actions of the presbytery regarding polity and constitutional issues to the presbytery, to its Leadership Cabinet, ministry teams, commissions, units and staff, and when requested to do so, to the congregations, sessions and members of the presbytery.
- c. Process all ecclesiastical correspondence from governing bodies, referring it to the Leadership Cabinet and appropriate ministry teams, commissions or units of presbytery and process all matters relating to judicial cases and procedures.

- d. Process all legal transactions of presbytery upon action of the trustees of the presbytery as a corporation of Montana.
- e. Serve as the secretary of the presbytery Leadership Cabinet and Pastoral Ministry

Team and any Disciplinary ministry teams and administrative commissions which may be appointed.

- f. Notify Clerks of Sessions of the Presbytery of the per capita assessments on an annual basis.

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- g. Attend annual Synod minute review usually in April in Denver.

- h. Maintain and work from a tickler file assuring presbytery's compliance with all legal and ecclesiastical matters.

- i. Perform all such other duties, functions, and services as may be assigned by the presbytery from time to time.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE STATED CLERK

SKILL SETS, EXPERIENCE AND AREAS OF EXPERTISE

The Stated Clerk shall possess:

- In-depth knowledge of the workings of the denomination, the requirements of the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order.
- Strong interpersonal skills as a skilled manager who demonstrates warmth, patience, care, concern and competence in a people-intensive environment.
- Ability to demonstrate a cooperative, flexible spirit as a team player.
- Ability to exercise discretion with sensitive and confidential information.
- Ability to manage a number of activities at one time and be extremely detail oriented.
- Ability to work with others and instill a collegial relationship with the presbytery staff, presbytery Leadership Cabinet, presbytery ministry team volunteers and members of the churches within the presbytery.
- Good written, verbal and technological communication skills.
- An ability to provide reports, documents, letters in a timely and completed manner.

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

- Is committed to Jesus Christ, informed by the Scriptures and guided by the Book of Confessions and the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- Is committed to the stated Mission of the presbytery and to the Short-Term Mission Priorities.
- Appreciates the theology and ethics shaped by the sexual, familial, social, economic, cultural, and political diversity of our denomination and presbytery. *
- Possesses a commitment to and a genuine sense of, the connectional nature of the Presbyterian Church and demonstrates this commitment to the local churches, Synod, and General Assembly.
- Possesses personal integrity, spiritual wholeness, broad intellectual interests, humor and humility.

***(See Book of Confessions** The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A): Part 1, Preface, pg. xv, 2007; **Book of Confessions** The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.): Part 1, Preface, pg. ix, 2014.

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Terms of Call
Stated Clerk
Yellowstone Presbytery
March 6-7, 2015 Presbytery Meeting

The Stated Clerk Search Task Force submits the following terms of call for approval:

This is a one-quarter time salaried position with annual compensation of \$11,655 and an annual pension plan contribution of \$3,846. There are also expense reimbursements of up to \$550.

Respectfully submitted March 6/7, 2015
Stated Clerk Search Task Force
RE Terry Johnson
RE Dan Holland
TE Deb Funke
TE Neva Rathbun, Mod.

Attachment F

Stated Clerks Report
February, 2015

For Information:

Since November 1st of last year I have been a participant in the following meetings and activities:

- Attended and finalized the minutes for the November 2014 presbytery meeting.
- Attended and finalized the minutes for two Pastoral Ministry Team meetings.
- Attended and finalized the minutes for one Leadership Cabinet meeting.
- Attended the Convocation in Bozeman.
- Participated in the Installation Service for Rev. JP Carlson at the Church of the Big Hole.
- Assembled and mailed the 2014 reports to the session clerks for their action.

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- Assembled the 2015 Teaching Elder/Non-Teaching Elder Balance Report and the 2014 Necrology Report (See attached).
- Assembled the 2014 presbytery minutes and forwarded them to Synod for their review.
- Continued to work on the presbytery's Manual of Administrative Operations. All materials have been assembled and I am now scanning paper copies and inserting them into the document.
- Continued to work with our attorney Mark Parker on the advertisement and sale of the Mildred Church property.

For Action:

- I hereby request approval, with corrections if need be, of the November 8, 2014 presbytery meeting minutes.
- I recommend that two additional church sessions be authorized to elect another commissioner to presbytery. I further recommend that the sequence of churches for electing another commissioner follow the order that churches are listed in the Directory. Should an imbalance remain in subsequent years the order that churches are listed in the directory continually to be sequentially be followed to create a Teaching Elder/non-Teaching Elder balance.

TEACHING ELDER/NON-TEACHING ELDER BALANCE

As of January 1, 2014 there were 39 Teaching Elders (TE's) on the Rolls of Yellowstone Presbytery. However, only 36 of these TE's were living within the bounds of the presbytery. On this same date there were 23 churches authorized to send a Commissioner to Presbytery meetings, plus 2 churches authorized to send two Commissioners to presbytery meetings, and cast a Vote. Additionally, there were 4 Ruling Elders who were moderators of Presbytery Ministry Teams or other units of the presbytery as well as 3 Non-Teaching Elder Pastors who were authorized to vote at Yellowstone Presbytery meetings.

The net result is that there are 36 local Teaching Elders and 34 Non-Teaching Elders authorized to vote on business before the Presbytery.

Therefore, a Teaching Elder/Non-Teaching Elder imbalance currently exists in Yellowstone Presbytery. This possibility is a result of our new structure and was pointed out last year.

Proposal: In order to bring the Non-Teaching Elder authorized voter numbers in balance with the Teaching Elder voter numbers I recommend that two additional church sessions be

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authorized to elect another commissioner to presbytery. I further recommend that the sequence of churches for electing another commissioner follow the order that churches are listed in the Directory. Should an imbalance remain in subsequent years the order that churches are listed in the directory continually to be sequentially be followed to create a Teaching Elder/non-Teaching Elder balance.

YELLOWSTONE PRESBYTERY NECROLOGY REPORT – 2014

Church	Elders Name	Ordination Date	Date of Death
Anaconda	Ann Hawkins	February 1985	Sept. 2014
	Walter Frank Smith	March 25, 1990	October, 2014
Billings First	Florella Halverson	January 10, 1980	May 21, 2014
	Lewis Hammermeister	February 5, 1978	August 7, 2014
	Floyd Creekmore	October 26, 1986	September 27, 2014
	Ellen Ward	1966	August 14, 2014
	Michelle Reed	August 8, 2010	October 11, 2014
	Jean Castberg	??	October 13, 2014
Billings, St. Andrew	Harriet Whearty	April 21, 1963	May 15, 2014
	Ray Whearty	January 13, 1957	December 21, 2014
Bozeman First	Betty McClure	January 3, 1982	July 10, 2014
	Donna Mandeville	January 6, 1974	December 22, 2014
Deer Lodge	Ada Holt	February 23, 1964	August 31, 2014

	Audrey Nissen	January 25, 1981	April 24, 2014
Dillon	Carl Love	February 17, 1980	May 15, 2014
Forsyth	Russell K. Fillner	January 1962	October 9, 2014
Hysham	Ramsey Adair	February 18, 1968	February 3, 2014
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Jordan	Donald C. West	April 26, 1959	August 31, 2014
Poplar	William Beck	March 4, 1973	August 27, 2014
Terry	John “Lum” Latimer	1977	September 12, 2014
Wolf Point	Geneva Allen	January 1993	March 29, 2014
	Margie Slennes	January 1962	September 14, 2014

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