

Yellowstone Currents

A Newsletter of Yellowstone Presbytery

September 2018

This last month I was keenly aware of the power of prayer when Curt unexpectedly found himself with pneumonia and in the hospital. At such times, you find yourself focused on the immediate. What is new from the doctors? How are oxygen levels and heart rates? When is the next breathing treatment/blood draw/xray/round of therapy? What nurse is on this evening? You pray with every breath, but have little presence of mind for much concentrated prayer. In such times, we rest on the prayers of the communion of saints around us. We continue to be so thankful for Curt's recovery and so grateful for all of your prayers.

Remembering a great season of camp. .



Elementary Camp - Westminster Spires 2018

Upcoming Events

- Aug. 31 – Sept. 2 Highland Holy Days at Westminster Spires sponsored by St. Andrew Presbyterian
- Sept. 11 Leadership Cabinet Billings 10 a.m.
- Sept. 13 PMT Bozeman
- Sept. 15 Sexual Misconduct/Boundary Training FPC Billings 10 am – 2pm
- Sept. 27 Communication Strategy Workshop FPC Helena
- Sept. 29 Sexual Misconduct/Boundary Training FPC Bozeman 10 am – 2pm

Presbytery Meetings for 2018:

- Nov. 2 – 3 First Presbyterian, Bozeman

Mandatory Sexual Misconduct Training for Yellowstone Presbytery

What Is the Training? Every three years, pastors within the bounds of Yellowstone Presbytery are required to complete an ethical and boundary training event. This training will address issues of risk management in terms of ministry and workers in the church.

Where Will It Be Offered? Two locations are being offered (you need to only choose one):
Billings on Saturday, September 15, 2018 at First Presbyterian Church (13th Street W. & Poly Drive) 10-2
Bozeman on Saturday, September 29, 2018 at First Presbyterian Church (26 West Babcock) from 10-2

Who is Invited? Clergy and Commissioned Ruling Elders within Yellowstone Presbytery are required to have this training every three years. We also invite session members, children's and youth volunteers, child care workers, etc. to join us.

Who Will Be Presenting? Mark Bassingthwaighte is an attorney who travels extensively conducting trainings on ethics and misconduct around the nation. As a Risk Manager with ALPS, a legal malpractice insurer, Mark is responsible for developing and delivering new risk management products and services, risk management consulting, and law firm risk evaluations. In his 20 years with the company, Mark has conducted over 1,200 law firm risk management assessment visits, presented numerous continuing legal education seminars throughout the United States and written extensively on risk management. Mark received his J.D. from Drake Law School and is a member of the First Presbyterian in Billings.

How Much Will It Cost? For Presbyterian Clergy and Presbyterian Commissioned Lay Pastors: Free All non-Presbyterians or non-clergy: \$25 per person (this fee includes lunch)

How Do I Register? See the presbytery website (www.yellowstonepcusa.org) for a registration form or contact Dave Thompson (cell: 406-696-4913). Please register by September 5.

Communication Strategy Workshop

Yellowstone and Glacier Presbyteries are very pleased to offer a one-day Communication Strategy Workshop on Sept 27 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 535 North Ewing, Helena.

Some of the questions that will be explored include:

What do you want your community to know about your ministry?

Are you looking for ways to communicate through social media?

Does your congregation have a communication plan for both internal and external audiences?

This workshop is designed for pastors, youth leaders, session members, administrators and volunteers who participate in communications about your congregation and its ministries.

Experts from the Presbyterian Communication Network will lead this workshop.

The fee to attend is just \$12/person. Lunch and all materials are provided.

A mileage reimbursement is available to those who attend from one of our congregations or new worshipping communities.

Contact Marsha Anson (406)871-2135 or marsha.glacierpresbytery@gmail.com to register.
Registration Deadline is Sept. 24.

Please share this opportunity with those in your congregation who are responsible for communications. We are very grateful to the Synod of the Rocky Mountains for providing a grant for this workshop!

*George and Kathy Goodrich, Co-General Presbyters, Yellowstone Presbytery
Leadership Cabinet, Yellowstone Presbytery
Marsha Zell Anson, General Presbyter/Stated Clerk for Glacier Presbytery*

Yellowstone Presbytery Clusters

Our clusters typically meet each month. If you have not been a part of a cluster and would like to explore the idea of joining in, please contact one of the following coordinators.

Miles City Cluster - Neva Rathbun (msrev@midrivers.com)
Billings Cluster – Dave Thompson (pastordave@fpcbillings.org)
Butte Cluster - Teresa Kendall (teresakendall@mac.com)
White Sulphur Cluster - Debbie Funke (funkepastor@yahoo.com)

Remember our Round of Prayer as we keep our churches, ministries, and leaders in prayer:

Sunday, Sept. 2: PresbyCats Higher Education Ministry, 1st Presbyterian Bozeman
Harlowton Federated Church, Harlowton, Pastor Vicki Waddington
Sunday, Sept. 9: Rev. Kim Woeste, Campus Minister, Rocky Mountain College, Billings
Sunday, Sept. 16: Rev. Dwight Welch, United Campus Ministry, MSU Billings
Theological Education Fund
Sunday, Sept. 23: Rev. Doug Johnson, Billings Clinic Pastoral Care, Billings
Sunday, Sept. 30: Rev. Marcia Muir, Chester United Methodist Church, Chester, MT

Please send news and announcements to Susan Thomas at ckochner@mcn.net.