

Our Vision

Yellowstone Presbytery – guided and sustained by Scripture, the Holy Spirit, and prayer--is a community rooted in the love of Jesus Christ.

We will . . .

Gather Together

for God's glory and spiritual synergy*.

Equip and Encourage

disciple-making congregations and leaders for living the Gospel . . . intentionally becoming more like Christ; ably sharing our faith; impacting our communities; worshipping in loving response to God; and mutually supporting and training leaders.

Go Out

to join Christ in Christ's mission in our communities, Montana, and the world . . . embodying and sharing Christ's Good News; loving and serving, as we are commanded, in our words, actions, and relationships.

*** Synergy: from the Greek *syn-ergos, συνεργός* meaning "working together"**

Presbytery of Yellowstone Leadership Cabinet

September 1, 2015

1st Presbyterian, Bozeman, MT

Gathering Together

9:30 Fellowship

10:00 Opening prayer & lighting of Christ candle

Roll call, quorum, approval of docket

Approval of minutes of May 12 and June 12, 2015√

Dwelling in the Word – (Kristin)

Equipping and Encouraging

10:30 **Spiritual and Vision Implementation**

LC 2015 Goals – (Jody)

Including Stated clerk search report(Jody for Neva)√

Including Presbytery Sunday report (Teresa/Kristin)

11:00 Review team for structure (Debbie)

Fulfilling our personnel function √

Co-opting process for personnel, b & f

Organizational Responsibilities

11:15 Presbytery meetings

Feedback from June meeting

New worshipping communities (Jack)

November meeting planning (Susi)

11:45 Correspondence from connectional church

5 peacemaking affirmations (GA) √

Response to climate change (New Covenant)

12:00 **LUNCH**

12:30 UPDATES

Budget & Finance (Dan)

Personnel (Jed)

Rep./Nom. (Jody, for Debbie F.)

Camping & Youth (George, for Curt)

Rural Ministry/Whitworth (Kathy)

Synod of Rocky Mountains (Ron & Kathy)

PDA/Deer Lodge (Teresa)

1:15 1st Bozeman Real Estate Team

1:30 FOR DISCUSSION & ACTION

Finance transfers (Dan) √

Mildred Church (Ron) √

Intermountain board (George) √

1:45 Report of Co-General Presbyters

Report of Stated Clerk

Going Out

2:00 Closing prayer (including prayer for our ministries in higher education AND St. Paul's, Philipsburg & Rev. Sally Ralston)

Action items

**Presbytery of Yellowstone
Leadership Cabinet (LC) Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2015
First Presbyterian Church, Billings**

Moderator Jody called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Present were:

Jody McDevitt
Debbie Blackburn
Susi Ennis
Dave Kimball
Jed Cauffman
Teresa Kendall (by phone)
Dan Holland (part of the meeting)

Also present:

George Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter
Kathy Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter
Ron Hanson, Stated Clerk
Jack Bell
Kristin Willett

1. **Opening Prayer** – The opening prayer was offered by Jody.
2. **Christ Candle** – Jody lit the Christ Candle and read the litany of the Christ Candle.
3. **Quorum** – It was determined that a quorum was present.
4. **Docket** – The docket was approved as amended.
5. **Minutes of April 14, 2015** -
√ The LC voted to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2015 meeting.
6. **Dwelling in the Word** – Jody led Dwelling in the Word focusing on Colossians 3:12-17. There was a time of sharing what this Scripture is saying to each of us about living in community.
7. **Review Team** – Debbie mentioned that some questions had come up about the Personnel function of the Leadership Cabinet. Ron indicated that the LC is the Personnel “Committee” (under new structure).
8. **LC Goals for 2015** – Jody mentioned how important it is that action items have a specific person assigned to each item. It was suggested that Susan Thomas send out a monthly email asking for input for the electronic newsletter. Dave will work with Susan T regarding newsletter distribution questions. Kristin offered to help George with the Facebook page. Susi and Debbie are to encourage PMT to consider planning a pastor retreat. George will do some research on how the Presbytery could offer or assist with training for spiritual direction.
9. **Stated Clerk Search** – The task force will meet again on May 14, 2015.
10. **Planning for June Presbytery meeting** – Vera White will be with us in White Sulphur Springs. We would like for Vera to have four or five hours on the docket (Friday afternoon and Saturday morning). It was suggested that the various reports to Presbytery take place immediately following worship on Friday afternoon (for about 45 minutes). It was decided that Vera would meet (for lunch) with the Leadership Cabinet and the NWC Task Force at the close of the Presbytery meeting on Saturday. Jody has prepared a bulletin insert on Vanuatu to be distributed to congregations. The offering at the Presbytery meeting will go to cyclone relief for Vanuatu. George offered prayer for the June meeting.

- 11. Higher Education Ministries Updates** - Ron Kirby (MSU-B), Kim Woeste (Rocky Mountain College), and Dan Krebill (Presby Cats) joined the meeting and presented reports on the activities of their ministries during the recently completed academic year.
- 12. Lunch** – The LC took a short break for lunch. Jody offered prayer for the meal.
- 13. Higher Education Ministries Grant Requests** - Dan, Kim, and Ron each reviewed their specific grant requests. It was pointed out that the Higher Education Fund will be depleted in about 2.5 years at the current rate of funding.
 - ✓ The LC voted to approve the three grant requests for the 2015-2016 academic year as requested: Rocky Mountain College Chaplaincy (\$1800), United Campus Ministry at MSU-Billings (\$10,000), and First Presbyterian Church Bozeman (\$5,000 for Presby Cats). Jody will notify the recipients and ask Dan Holland to work with Sheryl Hallin.
- 14. Covenant with Rocky Mountain College** – George, Kathy, and Dave will work with Kim on updating the covenant between Yellowstone Presbytery and Rocky Mountain College.
- 15. Financial Reports** – George reviewed the Program Budget and reiterated the need for Presbytery to communicate with churches about how mission pledges are used. It was noted that the \$10,000 Rural Ministry Grant represents funds from PC(USA) to be used in 2016. YP should be receiving other funds to help with 2015 expenses for Whitworth Fellows. It was agreed that Debbie would contact Dan Holland about various questions, especially balance sheet items (Convocation and Funds Awaiting Cabinet Action).
- 16. Vanuatu Cyclone Response** - Jody reported that the \$5,000 from YP had been wired as well as an additional \$2,000 from FPC Bozeman. It is hoped that the bulletin inserts, to be distributed at the Presbytery Meeting, will encourage other congregations or individuals to respond.
- 17. Presbytery Sunday** – Teresa and her group have gathered many good ideas for the event.
- 18. New Worshiping Community Task Force** - Jack Bell reported that he has not yet met with the people who volunteered to serve on this group but he will contact them by email.
- 19. Extending the Docket** – It was agreed by consensus to extend the docket for 30 minutes.
- 20. Representation Nominating Ministry Team** – Debbie and Jed suggested three names to be considered for the vacancy on this ministry team. Jody will make contact to see if one of these people will agree to serve.
- 21. Peace Institute Grant Request** – Susan Barnes had sent a grant request for \$1,500.
 - ✓ The LC voted to approve \$1,000 from the Peace Making Offering Fund for the Peace Institute Grant.
 - ✓ The LC voted to approve \$500 from the Social Justice Fund for the Peace Institute Grant.
- 22. Intermountain** – George reported that the current Program Budget does not include any funds for Intermountain. Also the covenant between YP and Intermountain needs to be reviewed. Susi will work with George on reviewing the covenant.
 - ✓ The LC voted to donate \$1,000 to Intermountain for 2015 using the funds that had been budgeted for convocation.
- 23. Discernment Policy** – The policy needs to be updated to reflect current Book of Order citations. The PMT will be working on this.
- 24. Co-General Presbyters Report** – George and Kathy reviewed their report. The two fellows from Whitworth will be staying with them this summer but will spend some of their time visiting churches within the Presbytery.
- 25. Presbytery of Inland Northwest Grant to GA** – Preaching in the West Restricted Fund.
 - ✓ The LC voted to be a co-signer in partnership with the Presbytery of Inland Northwest, supporting the application for a GA Restricted Fund Grant, “Preaching in the West” (See Attachment A).
- 26. Stated Clerk Report** – Ron reported that he continues to work on the Administrative Manual. Bids for the Mildred Church property are due by June 3, 2015. Copies of certificates from the upcoming Boundary Training need to be given to Ron. Ron attended the recent Board of Pensions meeting in San Diego. The LC commented again that YP would like to have BOP offer a retirement/clergy tax seminar in Montana.

Ron will send a letter to YP churches to see who would like to view the DVD for church treasurers.
27. Next Meeting – The next regularly scheduled meeting of the LC is September 1, 2015 in Bozeman.
28. Adjournment – Jody gave the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Attachment A

Hearts and Mindset Set on Christ: Spiritual Formation and Preaching Enrichment for Pastors
Partnership in Grant
To Yellowstone Presbytery Leadership Cabinet, May 12, 2015

For Action:

To be a co-signer in partnership with the Presbytery of Inland Northwest, supporting the application for a GA Restricted Fund Grant, "Preaching In The West":

The Presbytery of the Inland Northwest (PIN) is in formal covenant partnership with Whitworth University, a historically and pervasively Presbyterian institution of Higher Education. Through a grant from the Lilly Endowment, the University has established the Office of Church Engagement (OCE) in order to utilize its resources (facilities, finances, personnel, and relationships) in support of churches to deepen and expand the effectiveness of their ministries. Working together, PIN and OCE are soliciting partnerships with 15 Presbyteries in the Western United States to develop a project entitled "Hearts and Minds Set on Christ: Spiritual Formation and Preaching Enrichment for Pastors". The project proposal envisions a three pronged approach to serving pastors:

- 1) Funding to support the establishment each of 2 years of Presbytery specific cohorts of pastors who desire to pursue intentional growth and integration of their own spiritual formation with the enrichment of their skills in preaching and teaching the Bible, including special attention to younger generations under 30;
- 2) Funding 8 pastors per Presbytery to attend the Whitworth Institute of Ministry (WIM) each summer 2016 and 2017 (up to 120 pastors total); and
- 3) Funding for the electronic delivery to each Presbytery of specific instruction in preaching skills and the application of scripture as a primary tool in spiritual transformation to be used by those who attend the preaching cohort at WIM as well as others who cannot.

The result of the "Hearts and Minds set of Christ" grant will be the establishment of the Preaching Academy, one of several Academies structured in partnership between PIN, OCE, Yellowstone and other western Presbyteries, working collaboratively to strengthen PCUSA pastors, ministries and mission in the Western United States.

This will provide for up to 8 pastors/CRE's to receive substantial grant funding.

Presbytery of Yellowstone
Leadership Cabinet Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2015
First Presbyterian Church, White Sulphur Springs

Moderator Jody called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

Present were:

Jody McDevitt
Debbie Blackburn
Susi Ennis
Dave Kimball
Teresa Kendall
Dan Holland

Also present:

George Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter
Kathy Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter
Ron Hanson, Stated Clerk
Jack Bell
Debbie Funke
Lanny Rounds

1. **Opening Prayer** – The opening prayer was offered by Jody.
2. **Quorum** – It was determined that a quorum was present.
3. **St Timothy's Chapel** – Ron presented information regarding the roadway near St Timothy's Chapel. If the current road is moved, Yellowstone Presbytery would need to provide an easement for a portion of the St Timothy's property to allow for the new road.
 - ✓ The LC voted to approve that Yellowstone Presbytery will grant an easement of St. Timothy's property for a new road and authorized Ron Hanson to sign the easement document and petition for the abandonment of the old road on behalf of Yellowstone Presbytery..
4. **Mildred Church Property** – Ron reported that bids were due on June 3, 2015 and that five bids were received. Ron recommended that the property be awarded to the high bidder. The usage of the funds will need to be determined by the Leadership Cabinet at a later date.
 - ✓ The LC voted to award the Mildred property to the high bidder (\$9,112.75) and to ask Mark Parker to draw up the deed and award the bid.
5. **Representation/Nominating Ministry Team** – Debbie Funke and Lanny Rounds (from the Rep/Nom Ministry Team) were seeking feedback from the LC regarding some of the responsibilities of the Rep/Nom Team. One particular question centered on the Personnel function of the LC. It was reported that Jed Cauffman has agreed to be the point person on the LC for Personnel. It was believed by the LC that it is not the responsibility of the Rep/Nom Ministry Team to nominate any persons who are to be Co-Opted by the LC for various tasks.
 - ✓ The LC voted to have two additional members of the LC be assigned the task of serving with the Personnel point person (to carry out Personnel responsibilities of the LC).
6. **Next Meeting** – The next regularly scheduled meeting of the LC is September 1, 2015 in Bozeman.
7. **Adjournment** – Jody gave the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Leadership Cabinet Goal for 2015	Recent progress	Action items for near term	Persons assigned
<p>Improve communication within and beyond the presbytery</p>	<p>Yellowstone Currents, Susan Thomas, editor, up again! Tom Long flyer sent to Glacier Pby</p>	<p>Get people in the habit of sending announcements to Susan T. for Currents <i>Increase list for distribution</i> Remember to send announcements to Glacier for events <i>Encourage churches to resend</i> Develop ideas for Presbytery Sunday (Oct 11)</p>	<p>Dave K. will work with Susan T. on distribution questions, and encourage Susan to send an "Any news?" email prior to compiling Currents. Kristin will help George with Facebook Task team initiated 4/14 - Teresa</p>
<p>Focus on spiritual nurture of pastors and leaders</p>	<p>Cluster coordinators are taking leadership</p>	<p>Encourage PMT to think about a retreat <i>Grant opportunity?</i> <i>Spiritual directors network?</i></p>	<p>Susi and Debbie will take this idea to PMT George will investigate.</p>
<p>Building community in the presbytery</p>		<p>Ideas for Presbytery Sunday (see communication goal) Rural Ministry Initiative <i>Have a mission service oppty before presbytery meeting?</i> <i>Fellowship of clusters?</i></p>	<p>Teresa and task force Kathy</p>
<p>Make & carry out staff transition decisions (Stated Clerk)</p>	<p>Job description written Salary terms determined Advertisements</p>	<p>Receive applications ✓ Review applications ✓ Interview ✓ Recommend to presbytery Presbytery vote to hire Send new clerk to training in Portland Oct 2015</p>	<p>Stated Clerk Searchers, Neva Rathbun, chairperson</p>

(Goals and assignments updated in May 2015 for Sept 2015 LC meeting)

Jody McDevitt

From: Ron Hanson [hanson_ron@bresnan.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2015 7:41 AM
To: Jody McDevitt
Subject: FW: [ALLMGBS] Five Peacemaking Affirmations - Deadline Change
Attachments: 5 Affirmations - Informational Document.pdf; 5 Affirmations Letter from Gradye.pdf

Jody – This may be something for the Sept. Leadership Cabinet meeting.

Ron

From: Angie R. Stevens [mailto:Angie.Stevens@PCUSA.ORG]
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2015 7:35 AM
To: ALLMGBS@LISTSERV.PCUSA.ORG
Subject: [ALLMGBS] Five Peacemaking Affirmations - Deadline Change

Good afternoon,

The communication below is sent on behalf of Gradye Parsons, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly:

Dear Presbytery Leaders, Mission Committee Members, and Peacemaking Committee Members:

Due to the understandable priority on the Inclusive Marriage Amendment and Belhar Confession voting processes, as well as other serious matters, many presbyteries have not been able to give attention to the Five Affirmations for Peace Discernment endorsed by the 221st General Assembly (2014) (*Minutes*, 2014, Part I, pp. 861ff).

Therefore, the previously established deadline has been extended in order to further the intent of the 221st General Assembly (2014) and empower our presbyteries to advise the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy (ACSWP) to produce a version of the Five Peacemaking Affirmations that speaks for the wider church. Clearly, whether or not a presbytery takes these advisory votes is entirely up to each presbytery. The peace discernment process was intended by the 219th General Assembly (2010) to be a participatory one and hence was slated to be completed and submitted to the 222nd General Assembly (2016).

The ACSWP has reviewed the situation and the number of requests to extend the deadline for responses. This deadline had been moved from July 1 to July 31—to have a public update at the Big Tent gathering. The ACSWP, now with the agreement of the Peacemaking Program, has made two recommendations at its June meeting:

1. The tabulation of votes by presbyteries should remain open up to next year's General Assembly, aided by the on-line process developed by the Office of the General Assembly.
2. Alternative language and comments by presbyteries will be read DURING the process of writing and revising the report this Fall. Thus, ACSWP will use a more “rolling” process, with its drafting team reading responses as they come in through October 1, though initial drafting work will begin as planned in August.

In order to assist this advisory voting process, a four-page summary of the background to each of the five affirmations was distributed at the end of last year, and an on-line response form and webpage were posted by my office. Admittedly, this was not a usual constitutional amendment process and some presbyteries have

referred it to study groups rather than ask for all presbyters to provide their thoughts. The reports from these study groups are valuable and welcome, and include some congregational reports, though the assembly's invitation was to all members of all presbyteries to get the widest reading of how fourteen years of war had affected our church's thinking about peacemaking.

Information on the Five Affirmations can be found at: <http://oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/ga221/peace-discernment/> and <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/peacemaking/peace-discernment/>.

Given the seriousness and persistence of violence in so many forms, and Jesus' call for us to be peacemakers individually and as the body of Christ, I encourage you to consider whether this extension of the report deadline would allow your presbytery to engage with this process.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to seeing some of you at Big Tent!

In Christ,

Gradye Parsons

If you have any questions about the Five Peacemaking Affirmations, please contact Chris Iosso, Alonzo Johnson or Carl Horton.

Thank you!

Angela Stevens

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Ecclesial & Ecumenical Ministries
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FIVE PEACEMAKING AFFIRMATIONS FOR PRESBYTERY DELIBERATION

As part of the process of peace discernment begun by the General Assembly in 2010, then following 9 years of war in Afghanistan and Iraq, the 221st General Assembly (2014) approved five affirmations for discussion, debate, and voting in the presbyteries. These affirmations were derived from work by 65 presbytery and congregational study groups and two consultations, one with seminary ethicists and one with Presbyterian college and university faculty, campus ministers and chaplains, and students.

This brief document contains the key action of the General Assembly and summarizes the background rationales for each of the five affirmations. The goal is to make this process as inviting as possible for presbytery discussion and voting. For those interested, the full set of study material is posted online: https://www.pc-biz.org/PC-Biz.WebApp_deploy/%28S%28xjl1wbkkr51fzvuydpivwj3%29%29/IOBView.aspx?m=r0&id=4795 and is also available from the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program. Presbyteries may wish to schedule information sessions on the affirmations before they vote, or may simply distribute this resource and announce the voting in advance.

Here is the action of the Assembly:

"Process of Discernment for Presbyteries: As the next stage in a six-year process of discernment, the 221st General Assembly (2014) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) directs the Stated Clerk to send to each presbytery, electronically and in print, the following five affirmations and supporting rationale with the request that they discuss and take an advisory vote on each affirmation and send the results of those votes, along with a summary of the floor discussion, back to the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy by July 1, 2015, to help guide the preparation of a report on peacemaking directions for the 222nd General Assembly (2016).

"The affirmations for churchwide discussion and advisory vote:

"1. We affirm that peacemaking is essential to our faith in God's reconciling work in Jesus Christ, whose love and justice challenge hatred and conflict, and whose call gives our church a mission to present alternatives to violence, fear, and misused power.

"2. We confess our complicity in the world's violence even as we pray for the Spirit's courage to "unmask idolatries," to speak truth about war and oppression, to stand with those who suffer, and to respond to acts and threats of violence with ministries of justice, healing, and reconciliation.

"3. We reclaim the power and authority of Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace and Reconciler, who proclaims God's reign, who inspires the prophetic church, [by] forgiving, healing, and undoing violence, and who overcomes evil through the cross and resurrection.

"4. We seek to understand the nonviolent revolutions and armed struggles of our time by drawing on the traditions of Christian pacifism, just war, just peacemaking and active nonviolence, and by cultivating moral imagination through prayer, study, and engagement with friends and enemies. Even as we actively engage in a peace discernment process, we affirm our responsibility of continuing the long tradition of support by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for our sisters and brothers who serve in the U.S. military, veterans, and their families.

"5. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves earnestly to seek and promote loving, nonviolent responses to conflict in our daily lives, in our communities, and in our world, to risk calling our nation back from the practices of empire to the highest ideals of our heritage, and to practice boldly the things that make for peace."

THEOLOGICAL BASIS: The title of the full General Assembly report is “Risking Peace in a Violent World.” It invokes both the Brief Statement of Faith, acknowledging not only a “broken and fearful world,” but a violent one, and the Confession of 1967’s prophetic phrase, “This search [for peace] requires that the nations pursue fresh and responsible relations across every line of conflict, even at the risk to national security, to reduce areas of strife and to broaden international understanding” (*Book of Confessions*, 9.45). Each explanatory section includes Biblical, ethical, and historical analysis.

“Peace discernment” is the name given to a 6-yr. process of updating the peacemaking vision of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The process was initiated by seven presbytery overtures on the 30th anniversary of *Peacemaking: The Believers’ Calling* (1980). A Steering Team was charged with a twofold mandate to “seek clarity as to God’s call to the church regarding nonviolence as our fundamental response to the challenges of violence, terror, and war,” and to examine “ministries of peacemaking and justice-seeking that honor the Gospel, the history of the church, and the movement of the Holy Spirit...” to develop recommendations for new policy and action (*Minutes*, 2010, p. 69). The study document, *Encountering the Gospel of Peace Anew*, contained questions to explore not simply the effectiveness of the church’s peacemaking work and its threefold offering, but the basic nature and scope of the Gospel’s mandate for peacemaking. (<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/peacemaking/peace-discernment/>)

STATUS OF THE AFFIRMATIONS AND POSSIBLE MODIFICATIONS: The affirmations clearly build on each other, but presbyteries can decide whether to consider the five as a set or vote on them individually to assess the degree to which they may, or may not, represent that presbytery’s views. The five proposed affirmations honor the range of viewpoints within the church while testing new directions; *they are not statements of policy but propositions for serious debate*. We respectfully ask presbyteries to make time on their busy dockets to consider the affirmations.

Our Presbyterian process values differences of opinion as efforts to speak the truth in love under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Voting is part of the work of the body to build consensus over time, and Presbyterians do not usually see unanimity or total agreement as necessary for decision. We take corporate stands, believing that the church as a body should not be silent, *and* at the same time we affirm that “God alone is Lord of the conscience...,” making space for dissent. It is for those reasons we would like to see the vote tallies, but it is up to each presbytery to determine how to report, and some may wish to approve their own affirmations or amend the ones presented here. If a presbytery develops one or more affirmations of its own, we would appreciate a brief statement of rationale to explain the position or amendment. For example, if a presbytery thinks that “Christian pacifism” conflicts with the line about supporting the military—both added by the General Assembly—it could add, subtract, or move its own viewpoint.

The wording of this summary background piece draws freely on the language of the full report and all sources quoted are documented in the online footnotes. Leaders of presbytery discussions are urged to be familiar with the cases made in each section.

1. Summary of Rationale for First Affirmation:

This affirmation would support the understanding in *Peacemaking: The Believers' Calling* that working for peace is not only an individual matter (such as conscientious objection) but a call of the whole Christian community, including those opposed to all war and violence and those who use categories of the "Just War" or justifiable war tradition. Former chief of chaplains, Kermit Johnson, in opposing nuclear warfare, writes, "Like pacifism, it [Just War] is rooted in the commandment: 'Thou shalt not kill.' It is a presumption against violence, 'the presumption in favor of peace and against war.'" Thus faithful Presbyterians may differ on whether there can be justified force, whether war is inevitable, and what the range from policing to maintain social peace to organized military campaigns may be. The point is: it is our responsibility to deal with these questions. Further, it is not enough to repeat old answers, but it is important to know what they have been. For example, strong majorities of the PCUSA presbyteries in 1936 and 1938 voted to remove Just War language from the Westminster Confession, though not attaining the supermajority necessary for constitutional change. This voting process recalls those votes prior to the adoption of *The Book of Confessions*. The full rationale section itself summarizes alternatives to violence and war in General Assembly social witness policy, particularly since WWII, and notes the support of more than 50% of PCUSA congregations for The Commitment to Peacemaking and the Peacemaking Offering at some point since 1980.

2. Summary of Rationale for Second Affirmation:

This affirmation asks us to be "honest patriots," owning our responsibility for the horrific consequences of the Afghan and Iraq wars, while recognizing the ways that structural and cultural violence permeate our society and those of others. The emphasis here is on honestly counting the costs of what we have done, and in the spirit of the Brief Statement of Faith, to consider whether we have succumbed to idolatries in our efforts for security and justice. The final clause of this affirmation, which speaks of how to respond to violence, was added by the General Assembly and is given support in the background to affirmations four and five. The word, "complicity," has both conscious and unconscious dimensions, and recognizes how embedded we all are in social structures that include unjust relationships. Prophetic self-criticism, apology, and repentance are basic parts of Christian life. This affirmation applies those principles not only to the large scale and deliberate violence of war, but to the roots of war. Members of presbyteries may want to look at the definitions of violence and of "structural violence," or forms of oppression that can prompt violence or self-destructiveness. As a church in the United States, how do we stand before not only the peoples of the countries that have suffered so much more than we, but before the Lord of history? Does this affirmation help us so stand?

3. Summary of Rationale for Third Affirmation:

This affirmation focuses on Jesus Christ in relation to war and violence and proposes a new emphasis for Reformed Christians, without denying our traditional linkage of the New Testament witness with Old (and some New) Testament justifications of force. This

affirmation says it is essential to look at how the words and example of Jesus cohere with the rest of the “Gospel of Peace,” and suggests more attention to the earliest centuries of the church when Christians had no public power and largely chose nonviolence. Stating clearly that our faith is not based on scholarly reconstructions of Jesus’ life—of which there are many—nonetheless the preponderance of scholarship supporting a nonviolent interpretation of Jesus’ ministry bears attention. This affirmation does not answer the specific question of how much peace or nonviolence were the goal or method of Jesus’ ministry, and does not try to fit Jesus into a programmatic script. Yet it would urge the church not to get too far away from his example, lest we be coopted too easily into war for reasons of state or economic interest.

4. Summary of Rationale for Fourth Affirmation:

This affirmation proposes that our church’s social and ethical teaching give more attention to the nonviolent techniques of social change that have been more productive than violence in a surprising number of cases. That list would include the fall of the Berlin wall and other nonviolent transitions in Eastern Europe, the nonviolent revolution in the Philippines, the painstaking achievement of peace in Northern Ireland, the dramatic transformation of South Africa, and the initial successes of the Arab Awakening. In these cases many non-pacifists chose nonviolent tactics for their effectiveness in mobilizing people. Clearly there have also been incredibly savage wars and instigated religious/ethnic tensions, with some countries funding forces in other countries as “proxies” for their interests. These point to the weakness of international diplomatic structures and difficulties of protecting minorities within countries, many of whom have become refugees. The General Assembly added a sentence that could apply to all five affirmations, expressing concern for those in the military and veterans, and also added the category of “Christian pacifism” as well as nonviolence as a force for social change. The import of this affirmation is to diversify further the alternatives to force available for the church.

5. Summary of Rationale for Fifth Affirmation:

As amended by the General Assembly, this affirmation emphasizes that nonviolent methods should be chosen first in our personal and corporate efforts to resolve or transform conflict, and that on the national level our country should pursue international relations based less on military superiority and unilateral force. The background rationale here looks at the differences between national interests and principles (such as respect for universal human rights); it challenges the practices of “empire” on practical and even “realist” grounds, emphasizing the “soft power” of ideals and example, particularly in facing new kinds of global crisis (such as environmental disaster). The rationale also provides a range of “things that make for peace:” truth and reconciliation commissions, interfaith cooperation, accompaniment and nonviolent intervention, increased teaching of peacemaking. Three illustrative examples are given in conclusion: the Reformed village of Le Chambon sheltering Jews during WWII, a personal witness that prevented a mass shooting, and an international agreement to remove chemical weapons from Syria in 2013. This affirmation, then, would seek alternatives to military violence at every level.

Jody McDevitt

From: george@yellowstonepcusa.org
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2015 10:31 AM
To: kagoodrich@aol.com; deb4cats@aol.com; Jody McDevitt; hanson_ron@bresnan.net
Subject: Fwd: Colleagues in Fossil Fuel States
Attachments: Forwarded Message

The attached is an interesting letter from Mike Cole, EP in New Covenant Presbytery. Might be worth a little discussion at a cabinet meeting... Thoughts?

George

Dear Friends:

I don't know how it is for you in your presbytery, but the actions of the 2014 GA awakened a lot of folks in our presbytery to the possibility that the next GA might divest from fossil fuel in 200 corporations, which employ many Presbyterians and would send a very divisive message to our members. A gathering of GP's and Stated Clerks in the Synod of the Sun following the General Assembly meeting determined that we ought to initiate a network of folks who are equally concerned about climate change AND the impact of divestment on many of our sisters and brothers.

I have convened a group of 16 from across the Synod to research alternative means of engaging climate change, write a consultation document, sponsor a symposium and develop overtures to support alternative means of addressing climate change. This group is creatively titled: Faithful Alternatives to Divestment from Fossil Fuel. The 16 of us are very diverse theologically, politically and scientifically. We have learned from one another and profited from being challenged on our viewpoints. In many ways we have experienced a transformation and want to expand that transformation into the PCUSA at large.

The first fruits of our labors are attached:

* A 13 page summary of the background and viability of faithful responses to climate change (including divestment) - There are 7 pages of appendices

* A Flyer announcing a Symposium in Houston, October 2-3 from 2 pm - 3pm - Keynote speakers are Dr. Katherine Hayhoe and Marshall Saunders (both well known among those who accept the science of climate change)

We need your help in getting the word out about this Symposium, particularly since MRTI will be with us do offer a couple of "listening sessions." This is a great opportunity for folks to come together before GA, learn from one another and build networks of PCUSA members around ideas and approaches that energize them. To be clear, our group does not favor divestment, but we are proposing alternatives that are workable, realistic and unifying.

I hope you will do three things:

* Pass this information to whoever oversees your communications for wide distribution

* Share this information with whomever you believe would be interested in it.

Mike Cole, General Presbyter, Presbytery of New Covenant



*Faithful Alternatives to Fossil Fuel Divestment Symposium



October 2-3, 2015
Houston, TX

A Call to Engagement: Faithful Responses to Climate Change

Breakout Sessions

- ◇ ABCs of Climate Change
- ◇ Theological and Ethical Foundations
- ◇ Alternative Energy Sources for addressing Climate Change
- ◇ Pricing greenhouse gas emissions to motivate behavioral change and transition to future energy sources –
- ◇ Reducing energy consumption as individuals and institutions
- ◇ MRTI Presentation and Listening Sessions

- Keynotes— Dr. Katherine Hayhoe & Marshall Saunders
- MRTI Presentation and Listening session
- Industry Perspective
- Breakout sessions
- Planning Overtures to GA
- Networking to Engage Climate Change

Symposium Registration: Eventbrite.com—Faithful Alternatives to Divestment from Fossil Fuel

Hotel Registration: Marriott Westchase Hotel—(713) 978-7400—listed under “Presbytery of New Covenant October”

Registration & Meals: \$45

Hotel: Marriott Westchase - \$105 (taxes included)
2900 Briarpark Dr, Houston, TX 77042

Symposium Location: Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church
11612 Memorial Dr, Houston, TX 77024

Phone: 713-526-2585

E-mail: cwalker@pbyofnewcovenant.org

*A Network of the Synod of the Sun



Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Balance Sheet as of July 31, 2015

Thursday, August 20, 2015

Page 1 of 2

Account #	Account Name	Beginning Balance	YTD Balance
Assets			
1.00.1010.0000	Checking Account #3133214	53,375.64	79,351.36
1.00.1020.0000	Petty Cash	22.18	22.18
1.00.1030.0000	Money Market #129013355	184,514.11	184,643.96
1.00.1031.0000	St Timothy M. M #1 #3531961	4,046.53	3,895.88
1.00.1032.0000	St. Timothy MM #2 #129013686	2,526.22	2,468.13
	Total Current Assets	\$244,484.68	\$270,381.51
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	254,311.80	246,967.98
1.00.1070.0000	St Timothy Chapel #2 52006024	102,460.72	99,499.78
1.00.1075.0000	Bozeman Campus 000104537	57,651.62	58,049.32
1.00.1080.0000	Partnership Fund MM 129013793	45,230.52	45,246.43
	Total Principal Restricted	\$459,654.66	\$449,763.51
	Total Assets	\$705,477.04	\$721,482.72
Liabilities			
2.00.2120.1000	Payroll - Federal	618.02	2,877.22
2.00.2120.2000	Payroll State	81.00	329.00
2.00.2120.2145	Employee Retirement Liability	0.00	896.94
2.00.2140.0000	G. Goodrich Flex Plan	(0.53)	(0.53)
2.00.2141.0000	S. Seibert Flex Plan	(0.37)	(500.37)
	Total Payroll Liabilities	\$698.12	\$3,602.26
2.00.2500.0000	Pentacost Offering	0.00	175.80
2.00.2550.0000	GA Mission Pledges	0.00	324.00
2.00.2565.0000	GA One Great Hour	0.00	525.99
2.00.2570.0000	GA Christmas Joy	0.00	125.00
2.00.2572.0000	GA Theological Education	0.00	25.00
2.00.2650.0000	Synod Mission Pledges	0.00	575.00
	Total Liabilities	\$698.12	\$5,353.05
Fund Balance			
3.01.2700.0000	Unreserved Fund Balance	0.00	8,035.65
3.02.2800.0000	General - Administrative	8,255.07	8,255.07
3.03.2805.0000	General - Program	37,136.97	37,136.97
3.04.2700.0000	General - Restricted Admin.	45,587.77	45,587.77
	Total General Fund Balance	\$90,979.81	\$99,015.46
3.19.2815.0000	Camp Scholarship Camp. & Youth	576.56	1,503.56
3.27.2825.0000	Clergy Emergency Fund COM	1,786.00	115.00
3.32.2832.0000	Convocation	1,000.00	1,000.00
3.39.2840.0000	Linda Hofer Education	10,584.93	10,559.93
3.43.2845.0000	Equip and Encourage	36,830.44	34,330.44
3.47.2850.0000	Partnership- Available COM	1,698.97	1,714.88
3.49.2700.0000	Co-General Presbyters' Discretionary	1,546.94	1,546.94
3.51.2855.0000	Peace Making Offering Mission	1,214.19	264.19
3.56.1220.0000	Special Offering Other Fund	60.30	240.45
3.63.2870.0000	Revamp Camp -Camp. & Youth	380.95	545.95
3.65.2825.0000	Springhill Funds	15,000.00	15,000.00
3.67.2875.0000	St. Timothy's Money Market #1	4,046.53	3,895.88

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Balance Sheet as of July 31, 2015

Thursday, August 20, 2015

Page 2 of 2

Account #	Account Name	Beginning Balance	YTD Balance
3.68.2877.0000	St Timothy Money Market #2	2,653.38	2,595.29
3.71.2880.0000	Vanuatu Relief Fund	0.00	688.00
3.75.2885.0000	Social Justice	11,032.17	5,662.02
3.85.2850.0000	Westminister Spires Camp Upgrades Balance	3,066.70	1,843.43
	Total Designated funds	\$91,478.06	\$81,505.96
3.37.2800.0000	Funds Awaiting Cabinet Action Balance	3,760.00	5,760.00
3.69.2825.0000	Triennium Balance	4,887.07	4,887.07
3.86.2850.0000	Grant - Evangelism Balance	1,250.13	1,250.13
3.90.2910.0000	Higher Education Grant Fund	57,651.62	53,049.32
3.92.2920.0000	St. Timothys #1 (PC USA) Found	254,311.80	246,967.98
3.93.2921.0000	St. Timothys #2 (PC USA) Found	102,460.72	99,499.78
3.94.2930.0000	Partnership Fund Principal COM	43,999.71	43,999.71
	Total Restricted Fund Balances	\$468,321.05	\$455,413.99
3.35.2840.0000	Deer Lodge Restricted PDA Grant Balance	0.00	6,321.26
3.64.2825.0000	Rural Ministry Grant Balance	0.00	19,673.00
3.66.2850.0000	West Yellowstone Funds Balance	54,000.00	54,000.00
3.80.2850.0000	Workshop Balance	0.00	200.00
	Total Fund Balance	\$704,778.92	\$716,129.67
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$705,477.04	\$721,482.72

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Treasurer's Report as of July 2015 for General Fund (Administrative)

Thursday, August 20, 2015

Page 1 of 3

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
Income					
4.01.1000.0000	Per Capita Presbytery Inc.	908.96	51,239.20*	54,250.00	3,010.80
4.01.1010.0000	Per capita Synod	156.74	8,835.81*	9,700.00	864.19
4.01.1020.0000	Per capita GA	194.30	10,952.49*	11,900.00	947.51
	Per Capita	\$1,260.00	\$71,027.50*	\$75,850.00	\$4,822.50
4.01.1821.0000	Block Grant - Administrative	2,287.50	16,012.50	27,450.00	11,437.50
	Synod Partnership Funds	\$2,287.50	\$16,012.50	\$27,450.00	\$11,437.50
4.01.1900.0000	Administrative Support	2,350.00	23,269.51*	30,000.00	6,730.49
	Total Other income	\$2,350.00	\$23,269.51*	\$30,000.00	\$6,730.49
4.01.4005.0000	Transfer-Springhill Fund	0.00	0.00	13,000.00	13,000.00
4.01.4010.0000	Transfer-W. Yellowstone	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
4.01.4020.0000	Transfer-Gen.Admin Fund	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
4.01.4030.0000	Transfer-Restricted Admin Fund	0.00	0.00	18,063.00	18,063.00
	Transfers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35,063.00	\$35,063.00
	Total Income	\$5,897.50	\$110,309.51*	\$168,363.00	\$58,053.49
Expense					
5.01.2840.0000	COM/Vocation Meetings	501.50	2,220.21	5,200.00	2,979.79
5.01.2845.4000	COM/Vocation Other Expenses	0.00	475.94	1,100.00	624.06
5.01.2846.4000	Pastoral Discernment Team	0.00	317.75	0.00	(317.75)
	Pastoral Ministry Team	\$501.50	\$3,013.90	\$6,300.00	\$3,286.10
5.01.3401.3500	Nomination Meetings	0.00	0.00	150.00	150.00
5.01.3401.4000	Nominations Other	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00
	Committee on Nominations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
5.01.4301.3500	St. Tim's Meetings	0.00	77.50	250.00	172.50
5.01.4301.4000	St. Tim's Other	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00
	Com. on St Timothy's Chapel	\$0.00	\$77.50	\$300.00	\$222.50
5.01.5201.3500	Delegate's Meetings	0.00	0.00	350.00	350.00
5.01.5201.4000	Delegates Other	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00
	Delegates to Other Bodies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
5.01.6700.3800	Medicare/Social Security	267.73	1,937.61*	3,242.00	1,304.39
5.01.6700.8100	Work Comp Insurance	0.00	0.00	375.00	375.00
5.01.6700.8200	Unemployment Taxes	5.05	17.97	150.00	132.03
	Payroll Taxes	\$272.78	\$1,955.58	\$3,767.00	\$1,811.42

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Treasurer's Report as of July 2015 for General Fund (Administrative)

Thursday, August 20, 2015

Page 2 of 3

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
5.01.7001.4000	Per Capita GA Expenses Misc	0.00	14,012.74*	14,013.00	0.26
5.01.7002.4000	Per Capita Synod Expense Misc	0.00	11,396.50*	11,397.00	0.50
	Per Capita	\$0.00	\$25,409.24*	\$25,410.00	\$0.76
5.01.7301.1100	Admin Mgr Benefits	0.00	1,500.00*	1,500.00	0.00
5.01.7301.6600	Admin Mgr Salary	2,038.23	13,597.63	23,634.00	10,036.37
5.01.7301.7800	Admin Mgr Travel	9.37	9.37	120.00	110.63
5.01.7301.8100	Admin Mgr FLEX Plan	0.00	0.00		
	Admin. Manager	\$2,047.60	\$15,107.00*	\$25,254.00	\$10,147.00
5.01.7302.3100	Housing	1,666.66	11,666.62	20,000.00	8,333.38
5.01.7302.3600	GP Lodging	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
5.01.7302.3700	GP Meals	149.48	721.11*	1,050.00	328.89
5.01.7302.4000	GP Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	700.00	700.00
5.01.7302.4001	Miscellaneous Expenses - Kathy	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
5.01.7302.4900	GP Pension	1,277.52	6,350.37	19,217.00	12,866.63
5.01.7302.6600	Salary Exp.	626.58	4,386.06	7,519.00	3,132.94
5.01.7302.7300	Study Leave	0.00	0.00	700.00	700.00
5.01.7302.7500	GP Telephone & Conference Calls	211.33	780.54	1,500.00	719.46
5.01.7302.7800	GP Travel	0.00	2,996.93	7,500.00	4,503.07
5.01.7302.8100	FLEX Plan Expenses Exp.	0.00	0.00		
	General Presbyter	\$3,931.57	\$26,901.63	\$60,686.00	\$33,784.37
5.01.7304.3700	Stated Clerk Meals	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00
5.01.7304.4000	Stated Clerk Miscellaneous	48.46	212.24	500.00	287.76
5.01.7304.4900	Pension Exp.	320.50	2,564.00*	3,846.00	1,282.00
5.01.7304.6600	Stated Clerk Salary	971.24	6,798.68*	11,655.00	4,856.32
	Stated Clerk	\$1,340.20	\$9,574.92*	\$16,051.00	\$6,476.08
5.01.7306.6600	Treasurer Salary	590.42	4,132.94*	7,085.00	2,952.06
	Treasurer	\$590.42	\$4,132.94*	\$7,085.00	\$2,952.06
	Personnel	\$7,909.79	\$55,716.49	\$109,076.00	\$53,359.51
5.01.7601.3500	Council Meetings	0.00	1,636.41*	1,500.00	(136.41)
5.01.7601.4000	Council Other	0.00	258.00	500.00	242.00
5.01.7601.8100	Legal	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
5.01.7801.3500	Task Force Meetings	51.67	51.67	500.00	448.33
	Leadership Cabinet	\$51.67	\$1,946.08	\$3,500.00	\$1,553.92
5.01.7901.3500	Presbytery Meetings	0.00	3,950.83	7,600.00	3,649.17

**Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Treasurer's Report as of July 2015 for General Fund (Administrative)**

Thursday, August 20, 2015

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Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
5.01.7901.4000	Presbytery Other	0.00	165.45	700.00	534.55
Presbytery Expenses		\$0.00	\$4,116.28	\$8,300.00	\$4,183.72
5.01.8201.2400	Office Copies & Postage	73.52	474.70	1,200.00	725.30
5.01.8201.2600	Equipment Exp.	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
5.01.8201.3200	Insurance Exp.	0.00	1,289.56*	750.00	(539.56)
5.01.8201.4000	Office Miscellaneous	(23.11)	(199.81)	460.00	659.81
5.01.8201.6100	Rental -Office	325.00	2,415.00	4,200.00	1,785.00
5.01.8201.7400	Office Supplies	155.48	763.36	1,800.00	1,036.64
5.01.8201.7500	Office Telephone & Conference Calls	0.00	728.16	2,500.00	1,771.84
Presbytery Office		\$530.89	\$5,470.97	\$11,110.00	\$5,639.03
Total Expense		\$9,266.63	\$97,706.04	\$168,363.00	\$70,656.96
Difference		(\$3,369.13)	\$12,603.47	\$0.00	

* = Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Treasurer's Report as of July 2015 for General Fund (Administrative)

Thursday, August 20, 2015

Account # Account Name

Page 1 of 1
Annual Budget
Remaining

	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
<i>Income</i>				
Per Capita	\$1,260.00	\$71,027.50*	\$75,850.00	\$4,822.50
Synod Partnership Funds	\$2,287.50	\$16,012.50	\$27,450.00	\$11,437.50
Total Other income	\$2,350.00	\$23,269.51*	\$30,000.00	\$6,730.49
Transfers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35,063.00	\$35,063.00
Total Income	\$5,897.50	\$110,309.51*	\$168,363.00	\$58,053.49
<i>Expense</i>				
Pastoral Ministry Team	\$501.50	\$3,013.90	\$6,300.00	\$3,286.10
Committee on Nominations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Com. on St Timothy's Chapel	\$0.00	\$77.50	\$300.00	\$222.50
Delegates to Other Bodies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Payroll Taxes	\$272.78	\$1,955.58	\$3,767.00	\$1,811.42
Per Capita	\$0.00	\$25,409.24*	\$25,410.00	\$0.76
Admin. Manager	\$2,047.60	\$15,107.00*	\$25,254.00	\$10,147.00
General Presbyter	\$3,931.57	\$26,901.63	\$60,686.00	\$33,784.37
Stated Clerk	\$1,340.20	\$9,574.92*	\$16,051.00	\$6,476.08
Treasurer	\$590.42	\$4,132.94*	\$7,085.00	\$2,952.06
Personnel	\$7,909.79	\$55,716.49	\$109,076.00	\$53,359.51
Leadership Cabinet	\$51.67	\$1,946.08	\$3,500.00	\$1,553.92
Presbytery Expenses	\$0.00	\$4,116.28	\$8,300.00	\$4,183.72
Presbytery Office	\$530.89	\$5,470.97	\$11,110.00	\$5,639.03
Total Expense	\$9,266.63	\$97,706.04	\$168,363.00	\$70,656.96
Difference	<u>(\$3,369.13)</u>	<u>\$12,603.47</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	

* = Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date

**Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Treasurer's Report as of July 2015 for General Fund (Program)**

Thursday, August 20, 2015

Page 1 of 2

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
Income					
4.01.1210.0000	General Mission Pledge	6,801.00	19,738.50*	22,450.00	2,711.50
		\$6,801.00	\$19,738.50*	\$22,450.00	\$2,711.50
4.01.1420.0000	Summer Camp Fees	4,914.00	7,214.00*	11,000.00	3,786.00
4.01.1430.0000	Winter, Summer, Fall Events	0.00	1,472.00	4,000.00	2,528.00
4.01.1440.0000	Rental of Camp Facilities	200.00	400.00	8,000.00	7,600.00
		\$5,114.00	\$9,086.00	\$23,000.00	\$13,914.00
4.01.4090.0000	Transfer from Reserves	0.00	0.00	8,750.00	8,750.00
		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,750.00	\$8,750.00
		\$11,915.00	\$28,824.50	\$54,200.00	\$25,375.50
Program Transfers					
Total Income					
Expense					
5.01.1351.2400	Copies & Postage Exp.	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
5.01.1351.3200	Insurance	0.00	3,535.00*	4,600.00	1,065.00
5.01.1351.5700	Publicity	0.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
5.01.1360.1200	Camp Caretaker	291.67	2,041.69	3,500.00	1,458.31
5.01.1360.1400	Camp Staff	11,572.38	11,572.38*	9,000.00	(2,572.38)
5.01.1360.2900	Food	2,920.94	2,920.94*	3,250.00	329.06
5.01.1360.4000	Miscellaneous Exp.	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
5.01.1360.6200	Rental Equipment-Rafting	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
5.01.1360.7400	Supplies	276.56	364.04*	300.00	(64.04)
5.01.1360.7490	Swimming	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
5.01.1360.7710	Transportation-Bus	112.50	112.50	800.00	687.50
5.01.1360.8300	Utilities: Westminister Spires	321.27	1,539.25	2,750.00	1,210.75
5.01.1380.6010	Triennium	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
5.01.1390.4000	Events Miscellaneous	0.00	1,358.00	5,000.00	3,642.00
5.01.1395.4000	Admin Travel & Meals	0.00	0.00	400.00	400.00
		\$15,495.32	\$23,443.80*	\$33,750.00	\$10,306.20
5.01.2849.7700	Committee on Ministry-Training	0.00	435.49	1,000.00	564.51
5.01.2852.4000	Emergency Career Counseling Exp.	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
5.01.2853.4000	Vocations-Other	0.00	0.00	1,700.00	1,700.00
		\$0.00	\$435.49	\$3,700.00	\$3,264.51
5.01.3180.4000	Western Leadership	500.00	500.00	1,000.00	500.00
		\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
5.01.5851.4000	MAC Membership Miscellaneous	0.00	3,500.00*	3,500.00	0.00

Thursday, August 20, 2015

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
 Treasurer's Report as of July 2015 for General Fund (Program)

Page 2 of 2

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
5.01.5852.4000	MAC Representation Misc	0.00	0.00	250.00	250.00
	Mt. Association of Churches	\$0.00	\$3,500.00*	\$3,750.00	\$250.00
5.01.7903.4000	Convocation Exp	0.00	1,000.00*	1,000.00	0.00
5.01.7950.4000	Presbytery Program Other	138.03	138.03	1,500.00	1,361.97
5.01.7960.4000	Cluster Meetings	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
5.01.7970.4000	Allocated GP Salary	625.00	4,375.00	7,500.00	3,125.00
	Presbytery Expenses	\$763.03	\$5,513.03	\$12,000.00	\$6,486.97
	Total Expense	\$16,758.35	\$33,392.32*	\$54,200.00	\$20,807.68
	Difference	(\$4,843.35)	(\$4,567.82)	\$0.00	

* = Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Treasurer's Report as of July 2015 for General Fund (Program)

Thursday, August 20, 2015

Page 1 of 1

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
	Income				
	Pledge	\$6,801.00	\$19,738.50*	\$22,450.00	\$2,711.50
	Camp Income	\$5,114.00	\$9,086.00	\$23,000.00	\$13,914.00
	Program Transfers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,750.00	\$8,750.00
	Total Income	\$11,915.00	\$28,824.50	\$54,200.00	\$25,375.50
	Expense				
	Camping & Youth	\$15,495.32	\$23,443.80*	\$33,750.00	\$10,306.20
	Pastoral Ministry Team	\$0.00	\$435.49	\$3,700.00	\$3,264.51
	Leadership Cabinet	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
	Mt. Association of Churches	\$0.00	\$3,500.00*	\$3,750.00	\$250.00
	Presbytery Expenses	\$763.03	\$5,513.03	\$12,000.00	\$6,486.97
	Total Expense	\$16,758.35	\$33,392.32*	\$54,200.00	\$20,807.68
	Difference	(\$4,843.35)	(\$4,567.82)	\$0.00	

* = Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date

Jody McDevitt

From: Dan Krebill
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2015 4:14 PM
To: 'Ron Hanson'; 'Debbie Blackburn'; Teresa Kendall (teresakendall@mac.com); George Goodrich (ghgoodrich@aol.com); Kathleen Goodrich (KAGoodrich@aol.com); Jody McDevitt; Susan Seibert; Sheryl Hallin (at Presbytery)
Subject: heads up on FPC Bozeman property

Hi Presbytery leaders,

Tomorrow, 7/29, our church newsletter will include an article about negotiations that have been underway for the last couple of months related to the possible sale of a portion of the property that the church owns. Since the sale of church property requires the approval of the presbytery, I wanted to make sure you're aware of this as it becomes public. I think that the article, appended below, does a good job of summarizing where we're at. As you'll read, we are not far enough along in the process yet to even schedule a special congregational meeting, and consequently submit a request for a special meeting of the presbytery. The hoped for time line would have us holding such meetings in late August or September. I will do my best to keep you informed as this moves ahead. I would be more than happy to talk with any of you about this matter and answer any questions you may have. Here is the article:

Session considering sale of property to develop a parking lot

The session has entered into negotiations with a local party interested in purchasing part of the church's property located north of the church building at 24 South Willson Avenue. The part that is being considered for sale is the historic office building and the property on which it is located as well as a small section of the current parking lot. The church would retain ownership of the majority of the parking lot. This would be developed into a newly designed parking lot with 19 parking spaces that would be exclusively for church use.

Some background for this proposal: In mid-May the church was contacted by a local party of 2 architects expressing interest in purchasing the building with the understanding that the church would desire to retain the parking lot. Our 24 South Willson Building Management Team met to consider the request and then met with the interested purchasers to find out more. The result of those conversations led our team to bring a recommendation to the session at its June meeting to enter into negotiations. With that authorization to negotiate, the session determined that in order for such a purchase to be acceptable it must include a number of requirements:

- the elimination of the debt on the mortgage the church obtained for the purchase of this property 2 ½ years ago;
- a boundary change approved by the City of Bozeman so that the church would have full ownership of the portion being retained as a parking lot;
- the design and construction of a new landscaped parking lot that would be exclusively for church use; and
- the purchase would be subject to approval by the congregation as well as by the Presbytery of Yellowstone.

The session finds this proposal to be attractive because it will meet our long term goal of having an exclusive church parking lot much sooner than the current plan that projected that reality 12-15 years in the future. The elimination of the long-term mortgage debt is also very appealing. Additionally, all expenses related to this purchase will be paid by the purchasers. And finally, this sale would release our church from the office property management needed to generate revenue to pay off the mortgage. The interested purchasers have a strong record of historic restoration in downtown Bozeman. They are interested in renovating the current building and supplementing it with complementary additions that will enhance the beauty of this part of the historic downtown. The purchasers intend to honor all rental agreements with our existing tenants.

The request for a boundary change with the city is currently under review. Once that is complete, a buy-sell agreement will be prepared by our attorney. When that agreement is acceptable to the session, a mailing with complete details will go to our membership to ensure full understanding, and a special meeting of the congregation will be called to vote on the recommendation to sell. Upon the congregation's approval, the request for approval by the presbytery will go before it at a special meeting. Contingent on the necessary approvals, the sale could be completed by late summer or early fall.

Members of the team authorized by the session to negotiate on its behalf are prepared to talk with anyone from the church who wants more information or who has questions about this project. They are Chuck Poremba, Donna Beck, Ric Tieman, Mike McCormick, Lloyd Mandeville and Dan Krebill.

Dan

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“God sends forth his love and faithfulness” (TNIV) *As we write, the Psalm in the daily lectionary for this day, August 24, is Psalm 57. It is a psalm thought to be written by David when he was on the run from Saul. As such, it is appropriate for those of God’s people who find themselves hard-pressed, worried, weary. But in the middle of the Psalm, is a word of faith, hope, strength, and love for all of us: “God sends forth his love and his faithfulness,” 57:3b.*

*As we begin another season in God’s service, amidst the blessings and provisions, the tragedies, conflicts and suffering, may we not only **look** for the promised signs of God’s love and faithfulness in our live and the life of the presbytery, the leadership cabinet and the congregations, and in our world. May we prayerfully ask to be willing to **BE transformed** to be more like Christ and **BE** the Christ-shaped lives and community indwelt by the Holy Spirit through which God gifts God’s love and faithfulness to each other and out in mission from all of us into the world!*

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 keeping us focused on our vision, sowing a vision for mission.

Mission and Ministry in the Clusters: We have four strong clergy clusters – Butte, White Sulphur, Billings and Miles City. Each cluster is dwelling in the word, praying with and for one another, deepening relationships, and exploring God’s calling for their cluster or beyond. (Note particular focus on our vision & LC goals 2 & 3)

- 1) The White Sulphur Springs has become a locus for prayer ministry and spiritual formation ministry, and has both lay and clergy membership. Beginning to discuss future retreat offerings for the cluster churches and the presbytery. This cluster met for a prayer retreat and focused prayer for congregations in the region in Lewistown on July 17 (Whitworth fellows attended as part of their Lewistown visit) as well as by conf calls. Debbie Funke is coordinator.
- 2) The Billings Cluster had the Whitworth fellows join the clergy CRE’s in attendance at the June meeting. Trustful sharing and support is occurring in this group, but there are growing pains. Next gathering: August 27; Mary Davis is coordinator.
- 3) The Miles City Cluster has yet to pick a theme to offer have asked and are attending. Neva Rathbun is coordinator; Next gathering – September 3.
- 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. Rusty Craig is coordinator; next meeting will be in late September
- 5) Positives of the clusters
 - a) Growing commitment, **beautifully deepening trust** in the groups, meetings and with each other.
 - 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.**
 - e) **Some mentoring** is happening in a way that nips potential PMT problems in the bud.
 - f) **Increased connections, communications and hopefully collaborations between pastors in regions.**

Mission in Task Forces:

- 1) To further live into our vision, let’s continue to prayerfully ask what needs we are discerning, how the Spirit may be leading us to help the presbytery develop disciplemaking leaders, congregations, and ministries, who join in Christ’s mission. Areas in which people have already expressed need or interest:
 - a. College/Campus ministry – All underway. Presbycats’ wide outreach, visibility and relational approach on campus and facebook, events, bearing fruit. Five peer leaders, up from three.
 - b. 1001 – New Worshipping Communities. After 3-7-15 Presbytery vote to explore and moved towards starting at least 1 NWC in YP in the next year, Jack Bell convenes this new Task Force. This aspect of mission and equipping was prominent in our June presbytery meeting. *Vera White, PCUSA staff for this ministry, was our resource person and preacher for the June presbytery meeting. A brief organizational meeting was held for those interested immediately following the June meeting in White Sulphur Springs. **It will be important that we now provide intentional follow up to build upon this training interest, guidance and momentum.***

Leadership Cabinet ideas? Guidance for BOTH existing congregations and possible NWC's?

- c. Nurturing Young Disciples – This, along with ministry to/with children AND their families, was one of the primary needs, concerns and opportunities arising from the Whitworth Fellows' research and conversations in 10 of our congregations and communities. Kathy continues to hear stories, receive requests from pastors & congregational leaders for resourcing and/or consulting for better, more fruitful ministry in this area.
- d. Strengthening, equipping rural congregations in discipling, missional ministry. See DREAM grant, preaching and spiritual formation grant.

PMT (formerly CoM) We continue to be involved in pastoring pastors and resourcing PMT & churches, particularly those in pastoral transition or some contention (See ongoing communications from PMT):

- a) Tom Long seminar on July 25 was well-attended by our clergy, followed by fellowship lunch. See August Currents for a summary.
- b) Churches searching for pastors – **Terry is calling a new pastor – The Rev. Katie Emery(ELCA), arriving by Oct 1 we think**; Jordan has a temporary Lutheran CRE, Jeff Bolstad.
- c) Churches wrestling with their relationship to the denomination: **Stanford and Geyser**. PMT is working closely with these churches, but the ministry is now very fragile in both congregations, with membership seriously eroding in both churches. Jack Bell has preached for Stanford through much of the summer to a shrinking attendance. Geyser has taken a break from worship over the summer and clerk met with PMT. Pastoral Teams from the PMT continue to work with both congregations. Your sincere prayers are requested.
- d) **Veva Larson** will be commissioned as a CRE in the Big Hole Churches at 4:00 PM on Sunday, September 20 in Anaconda. This is a service of the presbytery and all are invited.
- e) The differences in our denomination and culture regarding same sex behavior and marriage are being experienced and handled in a variety of ways, from relatively amicable arrangements to agree to disagree to deep divisions or rumblings on the part of at least some in some congregations as to various ways to respond or express their convictions, including whether to remain. Some sessions are/have discussed their response and developed policies. This is requiring quite a bit of informal and formal time, listening, attention, prayer, consultation, visits on the part of Co-GP's, PMT and Pastoral Teams.
- f) **Commissioned Ruling Elder training was offered this summer** in Spokane July 20-23 @ Whitworth University. CRE's received free admission to Whitworth Institute for Ministry.
- g) Church closing this year: **Roy**. Some real estate details are still being hammered out. Now waiting for their action. Pastor Tom Mooring had a heart attack.
- h) We have been confidentially pastoring pastors and their family members & preaching in congregations.
- i) **The PMT is also sending to the Leadership Cabinet a proposal** for input to PMT and collaboration on for intentional focus, searching and developing those called to service as CRE's for service in Yellowstone Presbytery.

The REQUIRED Three-Year Boundary Training was offered May 16 in Billings and 23 in Bozeman. Mark Bassingthwaite, from FPC, Billings, is an attorney who travels extensively conducted the trainings on ethics and misconduct patterns. Every clergy and CRE in Yellowstone Presbytery is REQUIRED to have such training every 3 years so Yellowstone Presbytery. Dave Thompson, moderator of the PMT, has determined that all of our clergy are now in compliance, either by attending one of the workshops or viewing the material by DVD.

Camping and Youth: This continues to be a vibrant, discipling and outreach mission of the presbytery through this Ministry Team. Fifty traditional campers and additional non-traditional campers were served this summer. The eight college-age staff were excellent leaders. George was the Bible Study leader for the Elementary and Senior High Camps; David Andrew led the Junior High studies. Curt Kochner was the Co-Director for each of these camps and offered quality leadership training to the staff during orientation.

- 2) **Curt Kochner and Susan Thomas** continue to give heavily to this ministry in countless ways. Many Thanks!

- 3) **Camp Staff End-of-season cook-out:** George and Kathy, with Curt and Susan, hosted a camp staff reunion-recap cook-out at the Goodrich's home on Saturday, August 22.
- 4) **Camp DVD's portraying the Westminster Spires camping ministry 2015 will be available shortly. Please share with not only families but congregations in the fall to celebrate what God has done, educate about camp and plant seeds for ALL ages and church leaders.**

NOTE – request from Presbytery of Inland Northwest and Whitworth's Office of Church Engagement to partner in support of in grant request in preaching and spiritual formation. The PMA of the PCUSA will determine the awards of these grants on or about September 25, 2015. If award, this grant will provide our pastors/CRE's access to substantial grant monies in 2016 or 2017 to participate in the "Hearts and Minds Set on Christ: Spiritual Formation and Preaching Enrichment for Pastors". See attachment.

The Emerging Partnership with Whitworth University for Rural Ministry Thank you all for welcoming Mirra and Joel and Terry as they have been with us this spring and summer.

Phase 1 for research and development. Whitworth fellows, Joel Sivis and Mirra Matheson, were with Yellowstone Presbytery June 1 – August 15, thanks primarily to grants from Whitworth's Office of Church Engagement. **They will be joining us at the June presbytery meeting.**

Based out of Bozeman, they listened, observed, asked questions, built relationships as they: met with George and Kathy; attended 2 pastor cluster meetings, part of a PMT meeting, our June Presbytery and training with Vera White; attended Sr. High Camp @ Westminster Spires; met regularly with George and Kathy; met via Skype with Whitworth staff; met with WU Prof Stacey Keogh; stayed in homes and visited 10 of our congregations and communities. They were listening and learning about God's not only the realities, strength and challenges of each, but also possibilities, missional dreams and callings God has or might have for congregations.

At the end of the summer they met for 2 days with George and Kathy and Terry McGonigal in MT to share and discuss findings and together evaluate and explore possibilities for next summer.

1. Their findings and feedback is as varied as the wide range of communities and congregations they visited which they shared back with each pastor.

2. The responses from both pastors, congregational leaders who interacted with them and from the fellows was that this was a very worthwhile, stretching and valuable experience. They were unabashed in saying they felt that out of the 38 fellows, they had the BEST fellowship!

3. Phase 2. They are highly supportive of many aspects (albeit a first time learning for all) and recommend WU place several teams of fellows here next summer. They will not only be involved in that process but both are wondering if God might be calling them to return next summer as part of that contingent!

More details are in a longer separate report. A few themes are:

Many congregations do not broadly know or perhaps have a mission. J & M perceive several could use help exploring God's call and defining a clear vision/mission for their ministry.

All want to do more or better with ministry to children and youth and families or college students.

Congregations need more funding and a WIDE range of creative ways that might be accomplished.

Underlying many areas is the need for a better understanding of and intentional discipling as part of the culture and practices of congregations.

There are WONDERFUL people across this amazing state. The Spirit of God is at work.

The research, networks and unfolding opportunities will then inform the Grant administrators (in YP and WU) in

collaboration with the 2 bodies towards detailed planning for **phase 2** with more fellows for summer of 2016.

The Presbytery Transition: Transition continues for us and presbytery. We are grateful to all of you who are answering God's call, investing your gifts & time in this mission.

- a) George is the staff resource for the Stated Clerk Search Committee for the Presbytery being chaired by Neva Rathbun. The search team has interviewed several quality candidates and hopes to nominate a candidate to the presbytery in September.
- b) George is serving with Jody McDevitt and others on a task force interfacing with Glacier Presbytery to explore, map the possible coordination and collaboration of future ministries. The thought is to launch a shared website to inform of the resources and ministries available in both presbyteries.
- c) Periodically we keep up with e-mail through the month. George's new work e-mail address: george@yellowstonepcusa.org.

Communication Susan Thomas sends out Yellowstone Currents the beginning of every month! She, George & Kathy continue to work together. Please submit news of ministry, mission developments, opportunities in your congregations and clusters to her or us a few days before the end of the month: ckochner@mcn.net.

Rep/Nominating Ministry Team: George & Kathy both resourced this Team in April, seeking to cover the many responsibilities in our 2 short weeks. They have several names for vacancies, are working on processes and forms. Nominations for RE commissioner and a youth advisory delegate for the 2016 GA are **due to this team by September 15, 2015**.

Funding for 2015: several mission interpretation and fundraising emphases:

- a) The group met via phone to discuss both presbytery day and interpreting mission here and asking for support for it. See notes from this call. The program/mission budget for the presbytery has received little emphasis for some time.
- b) Our fundraising efforts for 2015 are going well – and we are VERY GRATEFUL to God and the friends and congregations of Yellowstone Presbytery who were able to contribute. The goal: \$40,000, is ambitious and we are already at \$28,000. We would be most grateful if you would consider making our ministry a line item in your mission budget this year, or certainly in 2016, after the needs of your congregation.
- c) The Yellowstone-Whitworth Rural Ministry Initiative, will call for the presbytery to raise money in 2015 and in 2016. New DREAM initiatives such as this can sometimes be more attractive to those who have not previously given, for new monies or to those outside the church.
- d) See Synod and per capita recommendation in bold under b below.

Service to the Larger Church includes:

- a) George has been asked to lead the morning Bible Study at WNLT again (September 30-October 2 – ESTES PARK, CO) See the presbytery website for brochure.
- b) Kathy, along with Ron, is serving as Yellowstone Commissioner to the Synod Assembly and its TF for reviewing WNLT. We met July 14-15 in Denver and meet again in October.
Synod – Several items of note included –
 1. Exploring merger options in separate conversations with the Synod of the Pacific and Synod of the Southwest (Ron has been a part of these);
 2. David Ezekiel has taken a 9 month appointment at San Francisco Seminary in Evangelism; Synod meets via conf call in September to discuss staffing;
 3. **Synod** voted to reduce Synod Per Capita from \$5.75 to \$3.50 as their programmatic and staffing needs are decreased, thus giving presbyteries the option of retaining this amount for the presbytery's needs without increasing per capita on congregations. **It is our recommendation that the LC seriously consider this option for Yellowstone in order to meet our needs without asking more from congregations this year.**

- c) **George resigned from the Board of the Intermountain Children's Services** as of the end of term in June, 2015. He have served for 11 consecutive years and been greatly enriched by my participation. He will work with Jody McDevitt to come up with a new representative to nominate to the IMCH Board.
- d) George serves on the Board of Trustees for Rocky Mountain College, This Board needs and deserves more focused time than he has to give. Kim Woeste's and other's input has been that he has an important voice and influence at this pivotal time and he is needed and should remain.
- e) Kathy serves on the Board of Trustees for Whitworth University, and on its Academic Affairs Com.
- f) George and Kathy continue to serve on the Synod Staff Forum. We meet Sept 2-4. Ask, if interested.

Our Developing Ministry:

- a) George: I have completed the work for my spiritual direction certification program. Through the training I formally worked with six pastors in spiritual direction. I hope to develop this ministry in coming months. Anyone want to try spiritual direction/companioning or know someone who might benefit from it?
- b) We are also receiving invitations to speak on clergy/lay leadership retreats in the Synod.
- c) Kathy is partway through her formal training with the Barnabas Leadership Group to be a trainer and coach to work with presbyteries and groups of leaders in enhancing "your leadership capacity and caring for your soul." This integrated approach utilizes a cohort and coaching model. Ask her about this....

Further, several leaders and congregations have asked Kathy to come and work with them to equip and implement "Sticky Faith" approach in congregations. That includes spiritual formation for children, teens, parents and adults in congregations. Ask her about this....

Upcoming equipping events in the region include:

1. **Highland Holy Days. St Andrew Church in Billings is hosting its annual retreat at Westminster Spires Camp, September 11-13;** Theme: 'Pilgrims in the Wilderness', Revs, Dick and Mary Davis and Rev. George Goodrich are the featured speakers. Call St, Andrew Church for details.
2. **WNLT** Sept 30 - Oct 2 Estes Park. See Presbytery and Synod websites. Creative worship, Marcia McFee. George leads Bible Study/Dwelling in the Word.
3. **The Annual polity Conference**, hosted by the General Assembly will be held in Portland, OR, October 9-12. See the pcusa.org for details.
4. **The Montana Association of Christians Annual Gathering** will be held in Great Falls, on Friday and Saturday, October 23-24, 2015. Themes on justice ministry and spirituality will be featured.

Other responsibilities to the Leadership Cabinet – and some odds and ends

Kathy continues to work on aspects of our grants, in touch with and reporting to National offices, Whitworth as well as PDA. Some aspects involve us both.

George met with Dan Holland, resource person on the LC for Budget and Finance, on August 14, to rough out a draft presbytery budget for 2016.

George is the staff resource to the Mission Emphasis Planning Team for the November presbytery meeting.

Over the summer we have both had conversations with Teresa Kendall, Linda Smith, JP Carlson and PDA regarding the tragic shootings and PDA's grant to support immediate and longer term ministry in the communities.

Yellowstone Presbytery Family updates -

The Community Presbyterian Church in Jordan, MT celebrated its 100th anniversary on August 15th. Five previous pastors and interns, including Dick Davis, Neva Rathbun, Tim Lanham, Caroline Fleming and Dan Krebill, brought greetings. George participated in offering the pastoral prayer and installing elders.

We are pleased to announce the **Baptism of Levi Parker Willett**, third child of Kristin and Brandon Willett, who co-pastor the First Presbyterian Church of Miles City. George was honored to perform the baptism and preach on Sunday, August 16 in the morning worship service.

Congratulations again to **Teresa Kendall and Tom Gomola on their wedding** Memorial Day weekend.

Family Life Updates - and please keep sharing yours.

As we celebrated our 38th anniversary, we counted SO many ways God has blessed, grown, guided us. We are overflowing with gratitude for family, friends, and amazed at how God has allowed us to join in his mission, catching glimpses of holy, lifegiving, redemptive work. We are looking forward to some time with both kids and their families this fall as our parent's needs this summer rearranged some summer plans.

George's Dad's 90th birthday celebration with most of the extended family was a precious, priceless time together. He was better than he has been in a while in energy and interacting with each one, including ALL 3 great grandchildren. Tough decisions and transition as his parents felt he needed to move to assisted living and not back to their apartment.

After 2 hospitalizations (no one knows how he survived either) Kathy's dad is at home on hospice with most of his systems failing and the cancer spreading. Several visits this summer and more these next months are important. It appears he has weeks to live. While he/they have done much good planning, we are learning that there is and will be a lot to be handled.

Charlie Goodrich is such a bright, delightful little soul and was the ring bearer in 2 weddings this summer (toddled all the way down both aisles without incident!!) Chip works for Enterprise and a master at helping anyone calling him save money on their car rental. Staci student teaches this fall.

Gillian completed her first of 2 years of her Masters (with teaching assistantship) in Spanish/Spanish Lit. Peter has new, increased responsibilities with Chipotle.