

Please see our report to Presbytery in May... Priorities of the Leadership Cabinet are clearly listed and activities for addressing those priorities.

Stan Ott and Discipleship Equipping / Congregation-Revitalizing Principles

- a. DVD's have been distributed and sessions and churches encouraged to watch them and implement principles.
- b. The Resourcing time at Presbytery featured a taste
- c. A "must" to be emphasized with **each** pastor/session & cluster in the coming year.

Clergy Clusters – All four are meeting and reasonably attended for this time of year. Billings has reignited and Dave Thompson is convening this gathering. Coming dates:

- a. Miles City / Eastern Cluster will meet at the Miles City Church on June 13 at 10:00 AM. Neva Rathbun convenes.
- b. White Sulphur Springs / Mid-Montana Cluster will meet June 15 in Harlowton at 10:00 AM. Debbie Funke convenes.
- c. Billings Cluster will meet on June 15 at FPC, Billings at 10:00 AM. Dave Thompson convenes.
- d. Butte / Western Cluster meets on June 19 at FPC- Butte at 10:00 AM. Teresa Kendall convenes.

The Preaching Cohort for 2016-17 has concluded its life, with all 10 original participants active. The Cohort plans to reorganize at Whitworth Institute for Ministry (WIM) July 24-28 in Spokane for the theme "Teaching the Bible for Spiritual Formation." We expect to have at least 8, perhaps 10, participants again for the coming year. Jed Cauffman and the Willetts are leaving the presbytery but all would like to continue by skype. Steve Weber has also indicated interest in joining.

For 2017-2018 Equipping will include teaching as well. Yellowstone cohort plans to set some 1 – 1.5 hour conf calls for dwelling in the word and mutual sharing on some of the lectionary passages between regular meetings.

Whitworth Fellows, 2017 arrived June 1 and we have enjoyed a rich orientation time them for the ministry for the summer. You will hear directly from 2 of them Tuesday!

- a. The main work will be helping churches in the congregation understand and implement the six principles from the book, ***Growing Young***.
- b. ***Joel Shroeder & Britt Williams*** joined the work in Lewistown as of Sunday morning, June 4.
- c. ***Kristin Elliot and Luke Ekstrom*** will be traveling the presbytery to interested congregations to hear about life and ministry in the congregations and helping the churches engage the growing young processes.
- d. All four Fellows will join the camp staff at Westminster Spires for orientation and at least one week of camping ministry.
- e. Each will take the spiritual gifts inventory and be encouraged to learn about and reflect on spiritual gifts, including as it is a part of the Growing Young Initiative, and to further discover, develop and deploy their gifts.
- f. The program dates are June 1 – August 15, 2017.

The Third Way –referring to a term used in the early church. Kathy just met with the leadership of Whitworth’s Office of Church Engagement (OCE) who want us (and our interested congregations) to partner with them in a new Lilly grant whose focus is on equipping disciples in congregations to learn about, go deeper, in the community of a cohort, learning about the faith, the practice of spiritual disciplines and then select from a track as they will seek to live intentionally as disciples in the vocations and callings God has given them. The details should be available shortly.

Mission Co-Workers Visiting Yellowstone and Glacier Presbyteries in August! Charles and Melissa Johnson will be visiting (August 8-14) Dillon, Butte, Billings, and Stanford within our presbytery. The Johnsons serve Chosefu Theological College in Zambia which teaches pastors agriculture as well as theology so that their ministry is more holistic in addressing needs of the rural communities where they will be called.

Dillon-Monday, August 7 & Tuesday, August 8

Billings-Wednesday, August 9

Butte-August 10

Stanford-N/A-we’ll head to Great Falls after our presentation

FPC Great Falls-Friday, August 11 & Saturday, August 12 (fly rods packed, Steve)

Churches in Transition:

- A. We are strongly focused on assisting the churches in pastoral transition:
 - 1. Jordan – search in process
 - 2. Big Hole (Three Congregations) – MIF completed, search in process
 - 3. Miles City – PNC will be elected on Sunday, June 11. George orients PNC, Mon., June 12.
 - 4. Lewistown – Jed just announced his departure in the fall. Searching for an Interim.

- B. George has a call into the CLC to:
 - a. Ask about emerging trends for pastoral staffing of small, rural congregations which are:
 - a. Unable to afford full-time or even part-time pastors.
 - b. Finding difficulty attracting quality candidates.
 - b. Ask about CLC and seminary plans to provide for coming pastoral shortages due to wave of coming retirements.

- C. CRE recruiting development and training needs to be prioritized.

George will likely be having some light hernia surgery in June, which will impact his schedule for a time. As his surgical consult is at 11:00 AM on Tuesday during the LC meeting, he will bring an update after he joins the meeting...