

Vision Statement

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,
συνεργος meaning
working together

Yellowstone Presbytery Leadership Cabinet

Tuesday, March 13, 2018 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Conference Call

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of God. – Ephesians 4:11-13

10:00 Convene
approval of docket, approval of minutes from
February 6, 2018.

Dwelling In The Word

10:30 Stated Clerk Search Committee report

10:45 review of March Presbytery Meeting

11:00 planning for May Presbytery Meeting

12:00 Higher Ed Grant Forms – Susi
Co-Presbyter Report – George & Kathy
Whitworth Fellows – Kathy
Lay Leader Training – George & Kathy

The following are part of written reports or have no action
at this time:

Personnel Committee – Susi
Insurance – Jack
Oswego property – Susi/Paul
Geyser Administrative Commission Report – Susi
Rep/Nom Committee - Susi
Finance Report
Pastor Possibilities/Search Updates – George
St. Timothy – George, Jack & Ron Hanson
Child Protection Policy
Facebook Page Administrators

1:00 Dismissal

Mark 8:1-10

¹In those days when there was again a great crowd without anything to eat, he called his disciples and said to them, ²"I have compassion for the crowd, because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat. ³If I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way - and some of them have come from a great distance." ⁴His disciples replied, "How can one feed these people with bread here in the desert?" ⁵He asked them, "How many loaves do you have?" They said, "Seven." ⁶Then he ordered the crowd to sit down on the ground; and he took the seven loaves, and after giving thanks he broke them and gave them to his disciples to distribute; and they distributed them to the crowd. ⁷They had also a few small fish; and after blessing them, he ordered that these too should be distributed. ⁸They ate and were filled; and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. ⁹Now there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away. ¹⁰And immediately he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha.

Summary of Feedback from March 2 & 3, 2018 Presbytery Meeting

Note, we did not make certain that people knew from the beginning of the meeting that there was a feedback form. In May we must ensure to tell people about it at the beginning on Friday. Because of this we received 6 forms.

Susan Barnes – St. Andrew

No response to the questions.

This was written at the bottom of the page – We have many people who are hard of hearing. Putting 4 groups in the sanctuary to discuss on Sat morning meant people couldn't hear because it was too loud. I moved our group. A member of a different group told me he couldn't hear. I think we need to make sure we can include hearing impaired people.

Teresa Kendall – Deer Lodge

Take away from Rob Hagan's workshop – culture of generosity example from Paul @ Barrow AK

Info from Presbyterian Foundation that would be helpful – monthly calendar of year-long focus on generosity “how to” resources for increasing generosity.

Stan Ott take away – 1 think small, micro groups; 2 think big moonshots; 3 think action

John Patterson take away – kinds of testimonies – called to faith, through suffering to new life, through your life

Saturday morning take away – helpful to review and hear stories. 1 care about the individual; 2 listen, listen, listen

Loved-Called-Equipped-Sent; I would like to learn more about the next step churches are taking.

Growing Young, I would like to learn more about I am starting a small group that studies/responds to the book. A visit from an intern this summer.

Would you be interested in a Growing Young discussion group – Diane White & Charlie Brown & I are talking about a conference call once a month.

Margee Smith – Lewistown

Stan Ott Plenary take away – I took lots of notes. I appreciate the info available on line. Lots of ideas – People Eyes.

John Patterson take away – Wow! Lots of ideas to share with new pastor. Loved the intergenerational ideas and having a year-long topic.

Saturday Morning – thoughts on concentrating on individuals in our church and individualism. Thankful Fellows and Kristin were here.

Loved-Called-Equipped-Sent; I would like to learn more about Oh so much! I would like to take the time to look at Stan Ott's website.

Growing Young, I would like to learn more about people eyes will see the video

Growing Young discussion group – not at this point. Will be in contact if we do.

Training Resources – as we have a new pastor, we will be working on thoughts

What did you find positive? Enjoyed the people, the worship and the networking with other churches.

Julie Boksich – Big Hole

Stan Ott take away – Stan's review of last year's session was great! His new information: 1) think small 2) think big 3) act gave new inspiration to me and a renewal of hopefulness. My takeaway: One thing we will actually do is give more time to word-share-prayer to make better relationships.

John Patterson take away – This workshop gave an actual "blueprint" of how John's church put Stan Ott's message into action. My take away: work with our Pastor and Session to determine how to incorporate some ideas & plans! First Plan: A Session Retreat!

Saturday morning take away – Listen

Loved-Called-Equipped-Sent; I would like to learn more about what other churches (such as First Presbyterian – Bozeman) are doing to "Equip" and "Send" disciples.

Growing Young – I would like to learn more about bringing young people (30 somethings) to group activities in the Big Hole.

Growing Young group – yes – Pastor Mary Davis or Session Clerk Julie Boksich

Training or Resources – More – workshops/mini-conferences that could possibly serve as a "mini-retreat" for sessions

Positive – everything I attended was positive. The Holy Spirit moving through the group is amazing.

Paul Helland – Miles City

The Friday service is too late (even if its on time). It is often 8:30-9:00 pm when I get to my hotel. I am not suggesting the meeting start earlier. It seems to be a long afternoon & evening for me & likely is for others also. Could it be @ 6:00 pm?

Unsigned – this must have come from someone on the cabinet because it was the original form with the numerical ratings. Written comments were:

Training and Resources – how to talk to younger gen. like the students did at the plenary. That was very informative.

Presbyterian Foundation materials requested – having power point available will be great

Resources for Loved-Calle-Equipped-Sent – keep reminding us about some of these things and ideas as we go along.

Positive – good meeting – great comradery – warm & friendly – energizing

**Application for Geller Center Funds for Educational and Leadership Development Projects
Synod of the Rocky Mountains**

The Geller Center Fund originated in 2011 as residual from the sale of the Geller Center at Colorado State University. Monies from the fund were previously restricted for the use for Western National Leadership Training (WNLT) events. Since that program has been dissolved, the funds have been approved by Synod Assembly for educational and leadership development projects that benefit all members, laity and clergy, of the Synod.

The Review Committee may consider more than one project for approval in any funding year but the total amount approved for any funding year will not exceed \$15,000.00 This restriction honors the wishes of the Synod Assembly that this be an ongoing, long-term fund. All funds must be used within the application year.

A group of presbyteries may apply for more than one project in a funding year but no more than one project from the same group of applying presbyteries will be approved for a funding year. Any presbytery may be involved in projects that include different presbyteries in the same funding year.

Requirements for application:

1. The project must involve at least two presbyteries in the Synod of the Rocky Mountains.
2. All applications for a specific year must be submitted before November 1 of the previous year.
3. Recipients agree to provide a description of the project outcomes within a reasonable amount of time once the project is completed. This will be shared with presbyteries and the Synod Assembly as part of the evaluation process and with the hope that the project will encourage and inspire similar dreams.
4. **Please respond to the following on no more than two pages, using a 12-point font, single-spaced:**

Describe the project to be funded and how the applicant(s) are invested with its progress.

Provide a basic budget that depicts how the Geller funds will be used. Include all sources of funding.

Describe the goal and hoped-for accomplishments of the project, and how it will benefit the presbyteries and Synod. How does this project align with the mission of the Synod and the apply presbyteries?

The Presbyteries of Yellowstone and Glacier will offer a daylong workshop, conducted by communications professionals on the Presbyterian Mission Agency staff. The workshop will provide tips and techniques to help churches communicate more effectively with their community. The workshop will also offer insights and guidelines on creating a communications plan for congregations, discuss the “do’s and don’ts” of media relations and “pitching” stories to local media. Participants will learn proven techniques for using social media tools like Facebook and Twitter and leave with tips that will make their communications more effective and help increase outreach. Participants will also learn about using social media for live-streaming events. Participants will learn how to create excitement and energy in their congregation by using simple, but powerful communication tools. They will explore how to effectively tell the story of the congregation without having a huge budget or dedicated communication specialists.

Some questions that will be explored:

- *What do you want your community to know about your church?*

- *Are you looking for ways to share God's love through social media?*
- *Does your church have a well-thought out communications plan — for both internal and external audiences?*

The workshop will be held at FPC in Helena on Thursday September 27 from 9:00 – 3:30. Lunch and all materials will be provided. We expect to have about 30 participants from the two presbyteries. Participants will pay \$25. Because participants may be coming from locations all over Montana, they will be reimbursed for mileage at .545/mile. Participants will provide their own lodging if applicable.

	Expenses	Income	Notes
Communication fee	1000		To Mission Agency
Mileage	6000		
Catered Lunch	360		\$12/person
Participant Fee		750	\$25/person
Copying and Misc	500		
Grant Income		7110	
Totals	7860	7860	

Date Prepared January 20, 2018

Project Title Communication Workshop

Amount Requested \$7,110.

Project Coordinator Marsha Anson Phone (406) 871-2135

Email marsha.glacierpresbytery@gmail.com

Presbytery Glacier

Contact Person Marsha Anson Phone (406) 871-2135

Email marsha.glacierpresbytery@gmail.com

Presbytery Yellowstone

Contact Person George Goodrich Phone (406)570-2937

Email ghgoodrich@aol.com

Presbytery Yellowstone

Contact Person Kathy Goodrich Phone (406)579-4747

Email kagoodrich@aol.com

This proposal was reviewed and approved by the designated Review Committee members of this Synod (the Synod Assembly Moderator, a Synod Assembly member, and a Synod staff person) after consultation with, and approval of, the Synod Staff Forum.

Moderator, Synod Assembly Signature

Synod Staff Signature

Date of approval _____

Amount approved _____

Date funds disbursed: _____

Date project completion information received: _____

Notes:

On our YP ski retreat last weekend, I suddenly became aware across the room and from input from a few other students that Billy (names of students changed) and John, from different towns, got into a minor fight on Friday night. I brought them together, sat down with them and listened, especially attentive to the visibly traumatized one, as the three of us talked. As they felt listened to, respected, and cared for, they began to settle down. Then over the weekend Dave Thompson, pastor at FPC Billings; Heather Mclean, adult volunteer from Billings; and I spoke about the love of God for each of us, imperfect as we are. God desires to love others and this world through *us* all our lives long, in whatever calling and way God gifts us, including students. By Sunday breakfast, Billy and John were friends, *choosing* to sit on either side of me at the table.

Why does Dave Thompson drop everything to focus on leading and organizing a youth retreat for about 40 kids? *Why* do elder Russ Kline and Lee Weber arrive early and stay late, cooking and cleaning every meal for these kids and leaders? *Why* does Jim Tarr ski with the kids and play the drums in the Sunday worship service? *Why* do I “sleep” on the floor for two nights and prepare talks as faithfully as I can? *Why* do all the adults give up a rest-up weekend to be with kids many of whom are struggling with sad and complex lives?

Because we are God’s loved & called, gifted and equipped disciples, SENT to join in this, Christ’s mission. That these students will experience, know the love of God for them, coursing through *us* and know God’s love and calling and purpose for *their* own lives! Thanks to all who participated. God was beautifully at work!

We are all impacted by the combativeness, tragedies & uncertainties in our culture and world along with transitions and challenges in our presbytery, churches and the personal lives of pastors, their families as well as leaders. Amidst the many clamoring and competing messages and issues, may we *remember* and *remind* ourselves and each other,

***WHO and WHOSE we are and
*WHY God has called us for God’s purposes,**

just as the Israelites did year after year, telling and retelling each other the truths and stories from scripture and of God’s mighty acts, goodness, faithfulness and *hesed*/lovingkindness

May we be aware of the ‘tyranny of the urgent’, of the many tasks, where anxieties or issues, as pressing as they may be, can distract us from “Keeping the main thing the main thing”.

As Stan Ott put it,

As God’s disciples/disciple communities we are

***Loved and called, gifted and equipped and -> sent to join Christ in Christ’s mission
For God’s glory and the sake of the world God loves***

Leadership Cabinet

a. Evaluated and Set five priorities for 2018 to help us live out our presbytery vision –

1. Evaluated/assessed what progress made on 2017 goals.
2. Seeks to always Ask: Where are we, how are we aligning our priorities, work, funds with our Vision? and what may the Holy Spirit be doing now in YP, Larger Church, our culture and world?
3. Please see the Leadership Cabinet report for these goals and action steps.
4. The LC has established a team to collect stories of the Holy Spirit’s work among us to share.

b. Planning, equipping, networking for our three Presbytery Meetings

1. March 2-3 – St Andrew, Billings
2. May 4-5 – Federated Church of Harlowton
3. Nov 2-3 – First Presbyterian Church, Bozeman
4. Improved sound for conference calls; explore Live stream, esp. if weather is threatening.

c. **Budget** - The funds raised for the support of our ministry and position for 2017 surpassed \$39,000! We are so deeply grateful for God's provision and your prayers, encouragement, prayers and the sacrificial giving, which are so very humbling.

Opportunities and concerns for 2018-2019 Budgets and beyond- Projected income and expenses;

1. Synod grant is gone; we receive a final \$12,652. 10 for 2018. Implications are far reaching.
2. Might changes in tax code impact charitable giving for presbytery and churches?
3. Sharing God's vision and Telling the stories of God at work, & God's opportunities. It is these that per capita supports. Per Capita interpretation and education with leaders and churches.
4. Explore other sources of income?
5. Systematic way to identify those across the presbytery with the gifts of apostle & evangelism.
6. Sharing the Good News daily and where are we to start new worshipping communities?

d. **Establishing an operation Personnel sub group of LC**

1. Staffing in 2018 with funding decline from Synod / Stated Clerk Search... There are a variety of options for staffing in the future... Dan Holland is working on projection of expenditures for 2019-2020.
2. Reviews for all presbytery staff..

e. **Mission Development?** How might we better motivate, strengthen leaders and churches in both a missional mindset/orientation and in what been understood as "Mission"?

Possibility of Presbytery mission trips? And/or churches partnering in mission, on trips?

Identify who in our presbytery might be passionate and gifted to lead this for the presbytery. This is a gift and passion for Jack Bell.

f. **Current Presbytery Partnerships:** Glacier, Wyoming presbyteries; Whitworth; Synod relationships; Lutherans and Methodists

g. **Church property**

1. Geysers Church – The Cabinet agreed with Geysers Admin. Commission that after exhausting a variety of options for both Yellowstone, or Glacier, and trying continue the ministry, then explored if there waws a nucleus to start a new ministry, recommending the sale of this property appears the only choice left.

2. Oswego Land: Paul Hellend and Susi Ennis are representing us to determine interest in purchase by the Tribe or by local property owners.

h. **Insurance Questions:** Jack Bell is ably moving us forward; George is drafting answers to the required questions .

PMT [CoM] – Pray!

In the PCUSA, we have a shortage of qualified PCUSA pastors available, who understand ministry in the 21st century, and who would even consider a rural or part-time call. With the pivotal importance of many pastoral transitions underway and several approaching in the next 1-4 years, there is a great deal needed from the Stated Clerk, Dave Thompson and the entire PMT, and us as Co- GP's – networking, meeting with and educating sessions and PNC's, equipping existing church members to discover, develop their sense of being called and gifted by the Holy Spirit, and help equip them to do the ministry, reference checking, preaching in churches without pastors, phone conversations with leaders in churches as well as serious candidates who have important questions. With the uncertainties, anxieties and extra workload in a congregation without a pastor, sometimes, unresolved questions, concerns, conflicts, power plays or frustrations surface. Depending on the leadership, spirit and skills of both church leaders and presbytery staff and PMT, these can be times of growth in faith and for the body of disciples, or potentially become divisive or discouraging.

- a. **Develop and offer Lay Training approach and opportunities** with Whitworth's online Video materials combined with PMT guidance, oversight, and mentoring;

Explore if/how clusters can support and collaborate. Get funding and promote it.

- b. **Help Churches obtain pastors**
- c. Pastoral care, support, equipping of pastors and families. Future retreat.
- d. We, the Stated Clerk and PMT are hard at work on a large list of things to do, policies being worked on, challenges and upcoming transitions in some churches
- e. Good News! Mary Davis is now serving the Church of the **Big Hole**; Garrett Mostowski was examined by the PMT for examination by the presbytery to be considered for call to **Miles City**; **Jordan** is talking with a potential candidate; **Dillon** has begun its search; **Lewistown** is welcoming Diane White as its interim; **Hysham** and **White Sulphur Springs** are searching and getting by for the present with pulpit supply; **Philipsburg** will be served by the UMC in its next pastoral rotation after Sally Ralston retires this summer.

Stated Clerk Search and Training - Pray

a. **Support the committee in its search** – Kathy is staff for this Committee Jody McDevitt, Chair, Paul Helland, Debbie Funke & Don Holland.

Cluster and Cohort Gatherings

a. These are crucial for health and effectiveness of both pastors & churches and for sharing, embodying and preserving the Christ-like respectful culture, unity and vision of Yellowstone Presbytery.

How to share and educate and strengthen?

- 1. Integrating New pastors? Integrating lay leaders?
- 2. Discuss and assess effect of departing pastors?

b. **Individual Clusters**

- 1. White Sulphur Prayer Cluster –Next cluster retreat is Friday, 4/6 in Harlowton; 10AM
- 2. Billings – Regrouping. Next Meeting – Thursday afternoon, March 8 at 4:00 PM.
- 3. Miles City –Solid, but missing Leon. Next meeting, 3/7 in Miles City.
- 4. Butte – 3/112 is next scheduled meeting

c. **Whitworth Preaching/Teaching Cohort**

Camping and Youth

- 1. The Presbytery Child Protection Policy - first draft having been submitted to Leadership Cabinet and PMT.
- 2. Foundational listening, assessing and equipping needs.
 - a. **How to help churches** understand, care for and reach youth in their church and community in love, with the gospel?
 - b. How help churches understand and disciple children, parents and youth
 - c. How best equip pastors, leaders to understand the facts and transformational insights in *Growing Young* research including March presbytery presentation/ interactive workshop by Whitworth Fellows and Presbycats, and Westminster Spires staff)

2. **Winter Retreat in Billings, 2/23-25. Went extremely well!** Young people from Billings, Butte and Manhattan attended the retreat hosted by FPC-Billings. Thanks to Curt for his work on this. And to Bill Gladdery & Jessica Jones from Butte; Kristin Kochner & Jim Tarr, from Billings; Matt Muehleman, Presbycat & Manhattan youth leader; Dave Thompson, Heather Mclean and George who spoke; Russ Kline and Lee Webber and their team of cooks or helpers including Jody Ferested; and the FPC Billings congregation for welcoming us all into the worship service on Sunday morning.

3. **Summer Camp**

- 1. Recruiting summer and longer term staff
- 2. Revamp the camp date and tasks

Dates for Summer 2018 for Westminster Spires

Staff Training: Thursday, July 5 – Saturday, July 7. Curt and George lead

Elementary Camp: Sunday, July 8 – Thursday, July 12. George is main speaker.

Junior High Camp: Sunday, July 15 – Friday, July 20. George is main speaker

Senior High Camp: Sunday, July 22- Friday, July 27. Katie Emery and Will Johnson speak.

Please also check out **Rockhaven Camp**, a ministry of First Presbyterian Church of Bozeman

d. **Fall Retreat** Evaluate it from past years and for the future with youth team and pastors/ youth leaders. Set dates and place now....

Whitworth Fellows –We have 2 teams of 2 this summer

a. Fellows 2018 - rReturning fellows: Joel Schroeder & Luke Ekstrom; New fellows: David Henderson and Daniel - Roberts; Much more to share in May.

b. K & G have been in touch with them & will meet with the 2018 fellows by Skype

c. YP must Raise money to cover stipend contribution and expenses.

d. George & Kathy Plan and travel for orientation in Spokane in March/April.

e. Finalize placement of two for the summer

f. Plan the preaching/ministry schedule for two Bozeman-based fellows serving and further education, equipping and dreaming about Growing Young

g. Retreat and summer schedule for training

Train our GA Commissioners and YAAD– Kathy does this, in consultation with Stated Clerk.

St. Timothy's Chapel

1. G and others Attend Board Meeting on January 15 in Anaconda.

2. Budget to be approved by Cabinet and Presbytery (at May meeting)

3. By-laws / standing rule updates to be approved by Cabinet

4. YP has been providing them with subsidized help from a Co-GP, Treasurer, Stated Clerk, &, bit from Office Manager. We can no longer afford to cover admin. personnel costs & will need reimbursement.

5. Help them in securing pastors for summers of 2018-19 as requested; Help the Chapel rethink its wedding policy.

Office Logistics:

Susan Seibert continues to ably assist us and all as the Office Administrator. **Check out the website for answers to your questions: www.yellowstonepcusa.org; or call the presbytery office: 406-586-7706.**

Personal Update – We continue to be very grateful to God for the call to serve and partner with you and body here as together we serve Christ and his mission.

We enjoyed a wonderful family reunion/ 90th birthday celebration for George's mom, happily settled in her new apartment. Continuing prayers are appreciated for George's brother, Tom, following his Traumatic Brain Injury from an October car accident. For grace, hope, healing and return to more "normal" ministry, family and community sooner not later. We thank God for some signs of progress.

Since we had our 40th anniversary this past year, we are spreading out times for reflection and celebration over the year. We recommend it!

Goodrich Study Leave trip to Israel – We have saved the funds and time, for 3 years to finally travel to Israel.

This Whitworth Univ. trip is led by NT scholar Dr. Jim Edwards, world circumstances permitting. We will be out of the office June 1 – 8. The beginning of the trip falls during our end of May "off" time.

Update to LC to our 3-18 CoGeneral Presbyter Report George & Kathy Goodrich

We wish to publicly thank the St. Andrew Church for so warmly hosting the meeting of presbytery at the beginning of the month... It was a good meeting with plenty accomplished in a unity of the Holy Spirit, including:

- A. We examined (for ordination and installation) and welcomed Garrett Mostowski to become the new pastor for the Miles City Congregation, when the way be clear. He was subsequently elected by that congregation 3-4 and will begin his service in August.
- B. We welcomed Diane White as Interim Pastor at FPC-Lewistown. Grateful for her saying “yes” and God bringing her from Southern California!
- C. We welcomed Rob Hagan from the Foundation who shared a two-hour seminar on creating a culture of generosity in our congregation and presbytery – a key resource for giving development. Email him if you wish his powerpoint.
- D. We hosted two of the Whitworth Summer Fellows, Joel Schroeder and Luke Ekstrom ('17 & '18). Joel preached our evening worship service (Eph 4:11-16); Luke and Joel, with Kristin Kochner, summarized research and spoke with the presbytery on how to create church environments/cultures more inviting to young people, better at discipling younger generations – another often asked for resource & a component of our “Growing Young” Emphasis. An informative handout was distributed. Megan Dupuis, (FPC Butte, Camp staff) wrote a letter on this topic which Kathy read.
- E. We offered three resource seminars:
 1. Stan Ott spoke with us, giving us an overview from his 2 day conference with us 2-17 and further content and application, including : transformative power of Word-Share Prayer and microgroups (handouts); Think Small: One person, 1-1 ministry may help change the world; Think Big: Reach for the seemingly impossible but impossibly significant, Heath’s *The Power of Moments*; & Think & take action: Jesus told his disciples to go...make disciples... not only reflect and discuss; 9/10 Americans will choose slow death over change.
“Loved and called, gifted and equipped and -> sent to join Christ in Christ’s mission. For God’s glory and the sake of the world God loves.”
 2. How FPC-Bozeman has incorporated the Stan Ott discipleship material during their Year of Call– *“Loved and called, gifted and equipped and -> sent to join Christ in Christ’s mission. For God’s glory and the sake of the world God loves.”* Thanks to John Patterson, elder at FPC-Bozeman, for leading & Teresa Kendall for taking notes on the ideas and input during discussion time. Handout online
 3. *“The process and patterns by which Christians grow to maturity in Christ.”* George lead this seminar drawing on studied patterns of Christian growth by noted Church leader-writers through the centuries. Handout.
- F. We heard reports from our Camping and Youth Team, fresh off a successful ski weekend and preparing for summer camp. Please publicize and recruit kids and their friends. See the scheduled dates in the camp report or in our CoGP report for presbytery which follows.
- G. We received a financial report which, while much trimmed, signals God’s provision and blessing.
- H. We celebrated the memory of the elders in our congregations and pastors who joined the Church Triumphant in 2017 in the necrology report so tastefully developed by Ben Larson, St. Andrew.

- I. We moved the A/C forward, approving beginning the process to sell the Geysers Church, which sadly closed in the last two years.
- J. Additionally, we covered other business presented by the Pastoral Ministry Team, which is working HUGE right now;
- K. Leadership Cabinet is providing solid leadership and goal-based mission.

Thanks to all who attended and participated and served! We definitely worked in this meeting to fulfill several of our LC Goals: 1,2,3!

In the week since Presbytery,

the two of us have been struggling with illnesses that have sapped our energy and focus and caused us to postpone some of our travel plans. In each case, when feeling up to it, we have tried to participate by phone.

Kathy has been leading our effort to interface with and orient by skype the four Whitworth Fellows who will be among us this summer, George joining in. She is also having conversations with churches committed to studying, exploring and taking steps in 'Growing Young' who might be interested in have fellows lead a training and have conversations with them this summer.

George has been particularly busy with PMT details regarding individual congregations and pastors. Both of us have had conversations, EP ref. checked and been close to the Jordan Church as they internet-interviewed a distant candidate to be their pastor. Kathy is working with Debbie, Jim Tarr and others on new or updated policies & processes.

Regarding insurance, George and Debbie have read and given input regarding latest figures updating the insurance needs and coverage of the presbytery, working with Dan, Jack and Curt.

Kathy has been busy with her portions of the work and several meetings of Stated Clerk Search Committee. We are very grateful for God's answer to prayer and clear guidance in the unanimous recommendations of the Committee. Jody expressed things well about process and Jim and Melissa in her report to the LC.

Both of us have been involved with Debbie Blackburn and Susi in thinking through and planning the Stated Clerk transition, while being grateful for *all* Debbie accomplished in her two short years as clerk.

Our prayer efforts on behalf of the presbytery are foundational and continue to be a joyful challenge.

We heard from Marsha Anson that she submitted a grant request to the Synod for funding to help cover a large portion of costs for a communications training for Glacier and Yellowstone, proposed to be held Sept./ 27 9 – 3:30 in Helena. This would be run by staff from Louisville. See separate sheet. More to follow on our call.

We attend Synod Staff Forum in Denver March 14 – 16. George leads this meeting as leadership rotates.

As previously agreed, both of us are "off" from the 15th-31st of each month. George leaves on Friday to visit his mom in Virginia for nine days. Kathy will be remaining in Montana and is available in "emergencies."