

**Presbytery of Yellowstone
Leadership Cabinet (LC)
August 4, 2020**

This was a regular meeting and was called via ZOOM at 10:00AM
Meeting opened with a prayer by Ric Tieman.

Present were:

MWS Teresa Kendall (Moderator)
RE Russ Kline
RE Julie Boksich
RE Suzanne Bratsky (joined PM)
RE Russ Kline
RE Ric Tieman
MWS Jamie Schmeling
Guest RE Debbie Blackburn (PMT Co
Moderator)

Absent and Excused:

MWS Susi Ennis
MWS Susan Thomas
MWS Diane White

Also, present:

George Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter
Kathy Goodrich, Co General Presbyter
Jim Tarr, Stated Clerk
Melissa Bell, Assistant Stated Clerk

1. A Quorum was declared, and an opening prayer was made by Julie.
2. The dwelling in the word was led by Jamie on Philippians 2:1-11.
3. Teresa led the gathering with a 1-minute each check-in time and a prayer.
4. **The Co General Presbyters** report by Kathy Goodrich who presented some observations:
 - a. What do our congregations need?
 - b. Our Pastors are now doing more work.
 - c. PMT needs o look at this issue.
 - d. Can churches use WIFI to help local schools practice distancing?
 - e. Planning team working on a having a special Presbytery meeting in September
 - f. Church community's need hope.
 - g. Needs to use more digital equipment to help more people cope.
 - h. Hearing our Pastors want to have a sharing event to share ideas.
 - i. How does the presbytery do things going forward?
 - j. More use of NT Wright book on Acts.
 - k. Transforming church going forward.
5. **Debbie Blackburn advised:**
 - a. How do we facilitate Matthew 25 churches?
 - b. Recommends Pittsburgh Seminary and Hunter Feral publications on Race, Justice, and communication.
 - c. Recommends 2 books: The "Color of Compromise" and "Rediscipling the White Church".

Conversation:

The Planning team recommends we deal with 9 basic spiritualities:

Who does God need you to be? Each person has a few of these areas:

- a. Naturalist –alive worshipping in nature
- b. Sensing - alive worshipping with all senses
- c. Traditionalist – liturgy and gathered worship
- d. Ascetic – solitude and peace and disciplines

- e. Activist – Confrontation and standing up for justice
- f. Caregiver – service and helping others in concrete ways
- g. Enthusiast – embrace mystery and the powerful stories
- h. Contemplative – who love adoration of God
- i. Intellectual – Through brain and ideas, study is passion

More team members needed to help with setting up the retreat. Suggested were, Kathy, Curt, Daniel, Jodi, Dan, and Jamie.

Goal: How do we communicate the call of Christ in these times?

6. Camping at Westminster Spires was cancelled this summer, but a staff training week was held to prepare for summer 2021. Goals for this year were still achieved. Ric Reported Rockhaven did try to open but had a possible Covid-19 case and closed. Plans are to have full programs next year at the camp.
7. Personnel: No report.
8. A special gathering of the Presbytery is being considered for September as a prelude to the fall meeting in November. The planning team will meet and decide what might be possible. Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri past CO Moderator of the General Assembly was contacted during the meeting and showed a positive response to helping and may join us for our September retreat.
9. Ric Tieman presented a treasurer's report and asked for directions:
 - **It was voted** to authorize payment of the budgeted amounts to the Intermountain Home (\$750) and to Mac (\$3000)
 - A recent purchase of Propane for the Spires camp which was first in 2 years was paid but was not all covered by the budget.
 - The Presbytery reimbursed general Assembly Expenses \$515. We had an unemployment claim filed which added a cost to the unemployment payables. The treasurer was advised to return an invoice from Ron Hanson and requested he file his expenses with the St Timothy Chapel's board for payment.
 - Ric is completing negotiations with a firm to do the accounts payable, monthly statements, and payroll functions of the Presbytery and at a possible 50% savings over our past method of handling these functions
10. The LC recommended the Geyser Commission handle the closeout of the Geyser accounts and decide how to thank Fern Keiser for all her help. In the near future the Leadership Cabinet needs to decide which account will receive the money from the sale of the property.
11. A follow-up letter was received from Dwight Welch of MSUB Campus Ministry and reviewed and commented on, but no decision was made if any help would be given at this time. A sub-committee of Russ, Susanne, Teresa, and George will review the letter and make a recommendation at the September LC meeting.
12. George, Teresa, and Jamie reported on the Harlowton Church closure service which was very well attended but a sad feeling of the group attending was expressed. A very small amount of leftover funds may be coming to the Presbytery.
13. The Presbytery team doing the Technology grants reported that 3 churches had officially applied so far, and they were:
 - a. Manhattan
 - b. Big Hole
 - c. Stanford
 - d. With 2 known pending Lewistown and Terry.
 - **It was voted** of the 50/50 grants to give a maximum of \$2,000 per applicant and a Minimum of \$400, to any applicant, including the 3 already received.

- The subcommittee will post the forms for the applicants to use on a link on the Presbytery website.
14. The planning team will meet to finalize plans for the September retreats and PMT will be invited to join in both days one of which they can conduct a regular meeting. Dates: Sept 10, 11.
 15. Teresa gave a talk about the GA experience, which was very positive, but not same as the normal when full committee meetings and overture voting are conducted, since due to the abbreviated format this could not be done.
 - **It was voted** to authorize the payment of expenses of all the delegates for holding the gathering in Billings at FPC Billings.
 - **It was voted** to recommend to the Presbytery that all the delegates to the 2020 GA be re-nominated as delegates to the 2022 General Assembly.
 16. **The next meeting** of the LC will be called for Sept 10 at 10:00 AM. (My notes indicated a zoom meeting would be considered but not all agreed)
 17. **A special Presbytery Gathering** or Special Meeting may be called for Sept 26, 2020 if the Planning team works out details and if PMT has any urgent needs. This is planned as a ZOOM meeting with attendees gathering in multiple areas at local churches.
 18. **Voted to adjourn the** meeting at 1:14 PM and a closing prayer by RE Russ Kline was offered.

Jim Tarr
Stated Clerk
Minutes approved Sept 10, 2020