

Leadership Cabinet
Tuesday, July 11, 2023

Yellowstone Presbytery Leadership Cabinet met via Zoom for its scheduled meeting on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Cabinet members present:

RE Melissa Bell
RE Julie Boksich
RE Russ Kline, Moderator
CRE Karolee Larson
MWS Mary Grace Reynolds
MWS Jamie Schmeling
CRE Margee Smith
MWS Dave Thompson

Members excused:

MWS Ashley Birk

Others present:

MWS Kathy Goodrich, General Presbyter, RE Caroline Fleming, Stated Clerk.

1. **Opening:** Moderator Russ Kline called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and Kathy Goodrich led the team in opening prayer.
2. **Quorum:** A quorum was declared present.
3. **Docket:** Russ reviewed the docket, amending it to include a camping report from Dan Triller who would join the meeting mid-morning.
4. **Dwelling in the Word:** Cabinet members read Matthew 18: 15-20 and discussed how we treat unbelievers. It was noted we do not put them in leadership but do continue efforts to bring them to understanding. Talking one on one and starting with questions can be helpful. We are called to live into the loving patience of God. Russ closed the discussion with prayer.
5. **Minutes of May Meeting:**
 - ***Action:** It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the May meeting as written. The motion passed.
6. **General Presbyter's report:** Kathy reported that the PC (USA) has an acting interim Stated Clerk. She also noted the struggles with the new CLC system are ongoing. People are not finding the support they need to navigate the system. She asked for continued prayers for the churches and people of this presbytery and is excited about the CRE program being made available through Dubuque Seminary and the Synod of the Rocky Mountains. Prayers are appreciated for Kathy and her family as they have experienced many family losses recently. Members were asked to share any spirit sightings they had experienced recently.
7. **Treasurer's report: (Attachment A)** Treasurer Ric Tieman joined the meeting and reported June financial reports are not complete yet. Ric will send them to LC when he receives them from the accountant. He has moved investment funds into the New Covenant Balanced Growth funds, a good move considering that fund is growing while our former investment

fund has lost money in the same period. The McAllister funds have been dispersed. The presbytery portion has been placed in the evangelism account #3200.04. Less was spent from the Camp Scholarship Fund this year than expected. The presbytery is in good shape financially.

Ric continues working on the new website for the presbytery. People can view it at <https://zlcuckwl.elementor.cloud/> Enter 7947 where it asks for a PIN code to view the site.

- 8. June Presbytery Meeting Review:** The remote audio worked well. For those meeting in person, we will ask the speaker to step to the microphone to speak so he or she can be seen. The length of the meeting was good. It is suggested we offer at least one one-day meeting per year. People did miss having Communion as part of closing worship. The small groups worked well. The Spirit sightings were fun. We should continue them. While the hybrid worked well, those in the room had some hearing challenges. It is asked that people get reports to the Stated Clerk by on or before Monday the week of the meeting, so things have time to be posted.
- 9. November 3-4 Presbytery meeting planning:** The November meeting will be in person in Butte with a Zoom option available in case someone cannot travel, or weather doesn't allow for travel. Ordination and installation of Karolee Larson will be the last item on the schedule and will be part of the closing worship service. A luncheon will follow. The planning team for this meeting is Karolee Larson, Melissa Bell, Mary Grace Reynolds, Kathy Goodrich and Caroline Fleming. The personnel sub-committee may have a revised personnel policy to present.
- 10. Possible Dates for Retreat:** September 14-15 or October 19-20.
- 11. Camp report: (Attachment B):** Dan Triller joined the meeting and gave a report on summer camp. Thank you notes will be written to the churches and camp leaders for offering a wonderful camping experience to the young people. How to fill the void left by Kurt Kochner's departure as camp director is being discussed.

Moderator Russ Kline had to leave the meeting. Julie Boksich assumed moderator responsibilities.

- 12. Proposal from Dillon 1st Presbyterian Church: (Attachment C)** Daniel presented a proposal for a pastoral internship at the Dillon Church. The intern would experience care, training and exposure to pastoral ministry and gain understanding about the role of pastor in a local church, while nurturing a deeper relationship with God. A \$3,500 stipend is proposed, and the church is asking the presbytery to contribute \$1,500 to the program. Discussion about the innovativeness and value of such a program ensued, as well as taking funds from the Equip and Encourage account rather than the Higher Education account.

***Action:** A motion was made and seconded to approve funding the Dillon proposal for \$1,750 to be taken from the Equip and Encourage fund #3200.04. The motion passed with six affirmative votes.

- 13. Higher Education Grants:** We have received 3 grant applications totaling \$4033.00. Members agreed to hold a special meeting to discuss and make decisions about funding the applications. The special meeting of LC will be held August 1 at 1:30 p.m. We will ask applicants to be available to answer any questions members have.

14. New Church Discipline Section: Paige McRight, chairperson of the Rules of Discipline Revision Task Force, is willing to present to presbytery about the new Church Discipline section of the Book of Order. We will offer an educational session of 60 to 90 minutes via Zoom. Materials will be distributed ahead of the event. Some groups may wish to gather together at an area church for the presentation. Sessions could join as part of their Session meeting. We will record it for future use. We would like to require pastors and clerks to take part, but at least will strongly encourage them to do so. Kathy and Caroline will work with Paige to finalize plans for the event.

15. Stated Clerk Report: (Attachment D)

- a. Jamie and Caroline need to work on the property issue in Valley County.
- b. A boundary issue between Glacier and Yellowstone presbyteries concerning the Basin worshipping community has been raised. In 2021 Rocky Mountain Synod proposed a boundary change to G.A. The change was never accomplished. Synod will take the issue to the 2024 General Assembly in Salt Lake City.
- c. The Fairview Presbyterian Church is a member of the Presbytery of Northern Plains, though the church sits a few blocks within Yellowstone Presbytery. The town of Fairview is partly in North Dakota and Partly in Montana. Caroline will write a letter to Northern Plains and Tricia Dykers-Koenig stating that Yellowstone is fine with the Fairview church remaining in the Presbytery of Northern Plains.

16. Announcements:

- a. Jamie would like people to send her any pictures they have of her children as she has lost them off her phone.
- b. Prayer requests: Melissa's friend Leslie undergoing surgery, George's cousin Linda and husband David, Goodrich family who have experienced so many losses recently, George's friend who has A-Fib.

17. Future Dates: **Next LC meeting: September 12 (if there is no retreat in September)**
Retreat with PMT: TBA
Yellowstone Presbytery: November 3-4 in Butte

18. Closing: With no further business, Karolee closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Caroline Fleming, Stated Clerk

Leadership Cabinet Action Items		
Responsible Person(s)	Action Item	Due Date
<u>Ongoing Action Items</u>		
Personnel committee	Update Presbytery's Personnel Policy	Ongoing
Russ, Dave, Caroline, Jamie, Kathy	Continue work discussing how to encourage experimental ministry, training small group leaders, and helps for facilitating small groups.	Ongoing
Ric	Write up the technical needs to host a hybrid presbytery meeting for	ASAP
Jamie, Dave, Caroline	Create a monthly presbytery newsletter to communicate regularly with our churches and pastors.	No date set
LC members	Seek people with a passion for earth care who would work with St. Andrew in bringing concerns/ideas to LC and presbytery	ongoing
Russ	Serve as one on an LC sub-group addressing evangelism, bringing ideas for effective evangelism to LC and the presbytery	ongoing
Caroline & Jamie	Contact the state and Paul Helland for information about the land in Valley County and complete deeding it to the rancher within whose land it lies	Sept. 2023
Kathy and LC	Appoint a person to the Rocky Mtn College Board	June 2023
Kathy, Caroline, Jim Tarr, Mary Grace, possibly Ashley	Work on a response to the exegesis exam and committee's response to concerns raised that the presbytery could send to the PCC	No timeline set, but soon
	Create and send information on mission pledges and where the money goes to churches	No timeline
<u>New Action Items</u>		
LC members	Think about possible equipping topics including how to recognize gifts in others and help them share those gifts, doing evangelism that builds on Ron Pyle's storytelling workshop.	Ongoing
Kathy, Melissa, Mary Grace, Karolee & Caroline	Serve as planning team for the November Presbytery meeting	ASAP & before 11/3
Kathy, Caroline, LC	Write thank you notes to churches (Billings 1 st , Bozeman, Dillon, Ennis) and leaders who for their work in making camp successful this year.	ASAP
Caroline	Send J.P.'s video on LCM to LC members	Before 8/1
Kathy & Caroline	Finalize plans with Paige McRight for educational event on Church Discipline	September 1
Caroline	Write letter to Northern Plains concerning Fairview Church	ASAP

Treasurer's Report

June financials are not yet available but I can report that our New Covenant funds were transferred from NC Income Fund to NC Balanced Growth Fund on April 17th and has gained 2.85% as of today were-as the Income Fund lost 2.12 % over the same period.

I continue to learn the new website tools and have a rough layout available to view at <https://zlcuckwl.elementor.cloud/> Enter 7947 where it asks for a PIN code to view the site.

Please note this is *UNDER CONSTRUCTION* and I am using it as I learn the tools of this web service. The finished site will be influenced by your comments.

The site begins with header block with links to other sections

Our Vision is prominent with the **Who We Are** section to alongside; the photo carousel below is intended to have a photo of each of our 22 churches plus related ministries.

IN Prayer For is maintained in the back end as a table and can be expanded or scrolled to see future dates past the first ten. We may remove the older dates monthly to show the most current by default.

Church & Ministry Directory is also a table, and more entries can be selected the SHOW box, and be searched by any word, or can be scrolled with the Previous/Next buttons

Recent or Upcoming Meeting is the most current Presbytery Meeting entries that are loaded into the **Repository**. The full repository is accessed from the tab at the top of each page and also contains Forms, Leadership - Cabinet by year, Policy, and Presbytery Meetings by year. Click on the Red name of the folder to drill down. The last three meetings of Presbytery on in Home —> Presbytery-Meeting—> 2023

The **Our Blog** section near the bottom is an idea that we might consider pursuing; it would need to have a team of moderators assigned to it to review posts before they become public and it would be good if they could contribute content.

The site automatically sizes itself for tablets and smart phones. Try the link above with your smartphone.

Ric Tieman

(406) 595-1250

Yellowstone Presbytery Summer Camp 2023 Recap

Basics:

54 students attended

- Ranging from 3-9th grade
- 21 from Dillon, 2 Anaconda, 3 Columbus, 11 Billings, 11 Manhattan, 5 Hysham, 2 Ennis
- Nearly half of students received scholarships from their church or Presbytery

21 leaders served

- Ranging from 16yrs old to 80yrs old
- CIT's, Counselors, Cook(s), Nurse, Program Director, Speakers, Worship Leaders, Pastors
- Representing Dillon, Ennis, Billings, Lewistown

June 19-23rd (5 days/4 nights)

Freezing temps on a couple nights (there was frost on the windshield!) (immensely grateful for the students/leaders for making the most of the week the Lord had for us)

Highlights/Reflections:

I love the intergenerational nature of this camp! Both in terms of camper ages (ranging from 3-9th grade) makes for some fun dynamics (such as siblings all together), though the format admittedly has some downsides.

I especially love the intergenerational nature of the leaders!! I love having counselors who are not only college students, but also young parents, those who are retired, grandparents, etc. Whatever camp looks like in 2024, I hope this dynamic remains.

I think the speaking theme "Love Your Neighbor" (using *The Parable of The Good Samaritan*) really stuck. I think campers left with a much better understanding of what that looks like in everyday life. We also doubled down on the camp theme through "Good Neighbor" awards – giving shoutouts to campers who were loving their neighbors (other campers) at camp.

The testimonies (in my opinion) were incredibly powerful. Leaders we're not afraid to be vulnerable and share some of the tough stuff in their lives (all while sharing in an appropriate way – there were 3rd graders in the room, after all). What was particularly beautiful was watching the ways in which our leader's openness and honesty gave students to share their own struggles too (ex. I have a family member who struggles with addiction too ...). It allowed for powerful discussion during small groups afterwards. Maybe my favorite moment of camp was watching one counselor stay back with a camper for an extra 20-30min to answer his questions about the bible and God and life, while everyone else had transitions to s'mores and the campfire.

I think a meaningful camaraderie was built among the leaders. I imagine (I'm hoping!) many would be eager to return in 2024 (though maybe not for 3 weeks, but maybe for 1)

I also sense that there are some good ministry partnerships / opportunities ahead of us. (ex. the campers/leaders from Ennis came over for a youth group BBQ (mostly campers) at the Triller's house in Dillon last Friday night

Next Summer:

Westminster Spires calendar in July 2024 is cleared for us to use for camps (which is historically the case). We'll likely finalize and communicate dates to churches and families in the fall. How much cleanup is needed Aug/Sept 2023 and/or May/June 2024, I'm not sure ...

There will be some leadership gaps to fill (Curt as director, Kara as program director) long term. How we fill those roles for a 3-4 week commitment, not totally sure. To be continued ...

I've got a reservation held for us at Hyalite Youth Camp, August 1-8 (just in case ... doesn't hurt, I suppose)

Attachment C

2023 Higher Education Grant Request Yellowstone Presbytery – FPC Dillon

How are you an expressly Christian ministry? Please include your vision and goals. How do your staff/leaders and Christian students share the Good News of Jesus Christ informally, formally in relationships and programs, content...?

Our vision here at FPC Dillon is to be "a family of faith becoming transformed by the love of Jesus Christ." We do this as we *gather* together regularly for worship, *grow* in our love and knowledge of Jesus through word and prayer, *give* of our time, talents and treasure, and *go* into the world sharing Christ's love wherever we live, work, play, or learn.

Between myself as a solo pastor and our church leaders, we share the good news through our Sunday worship services, from the pulpit, through weekly bible studies and small groups, pastoral care, and outreach to our community.

As you seek to embody the Good News and join Christ in Christ's mission, how do you connect your love and service to Christ, connecting to the question above?

We aim to do all that we do in the name of Christ (Colossians 3:23-24). With our vision in mind "becoming transformed by the love of Jesus," our ultimate goal is to continue to point people to take their next step with Jesus, whatever that may look like.

How do you make disciples and disciple-making leaders to intentionally love and become more like Christ? Specifically describe the ways you:

Are guided and sustained by scripture.

Model and teach prayer,

Worship and encourage worship in student's lives.

All of our sermons and bible studies are guided and sustained by scripture, as we want people immersed in scripture as much as we can. We also aim to be rooted in prayer through a continually updated prayer list and a prayer warrior group of 16 people and counting.

Do you encourage students to not only worship at but build some relationships and become involved in a local congregation? If so, how?

We admittedly don't have any college students worshiping with us. However, our nursery coordinator, Tori Krieger, is a 2nd year student at Montana Western.

Please describe your weekly and monthly priorities, schedules, activities, programs of all types within and outside of the University context.

Here are a few things we offer: Sunday worship, weekly bible studies / small groups, music ministry (choirs), occasional service opportunities both inside and outside the church.

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your ministry?

While we as a church are growing younger, however we are not growing in terms of college students, so additional funds and resources towards this end would be appreciated.

How much are you requesting and what items will it be funding in your budget?

\$1500

Should we give you a grant, to whom should we write the check and where should it be addressed?

First Presbyterian Church of Dillon

FPC Dillon - Pastoral Internship

PURPOSE AND BENEFIT:

The purpose of this internship is to provide an atmosphere within a local church to train, equip, and affirm people for pastoral ministry. There are five potential benefits in considering this internship:

1. Receive a supportive and loving environment of a local church that assumes responsibility for the care, training, and education of the intern.
2. Receive practical understanding and training for the essential areas of pastoral ministry within the local church.
3. Gain an official church position approved by the church that can go on a resume reflecting ministry experience.
4. Opportunity for a local congregation to affirm an individual's gifts and calling.

5. Exposure to a pastor's schedule and responsibilities to help an individual evaluate their own calling.

DURATION:

Mid-August through Mid-May

COMPENSATION:

A stipend of \$3,500 (paid in monthly installments)

HOURLY REQUIREMENTS:

Approximately 6-10 hours week; no more than 32 hrs. monthly
(Sun: 9am – 12pm; Wed 2-7pm; other prep time flexible)
(Flexible to the intern's needs and availability)

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- Observe, learn and practice the following:
 - Worship service planning and leading
 - Preaching preparation and preaching 2-3x a year
 - Pastoral care: hospitals, visitation, member care, and membership classes
 - Memorial services
 - Leadership meetings (session, other committees, etc.)
 - Essentials of administration
- Monthly report to the session on personal progress
- Read and discuss with pastor the Practical Shepherding Pastoral Ministry Series

ATTACHMENT D

Stated Clerk Report

Some activities since our last meeting

- Signed final papers on May 16 to conclude the sale of the McAllister Church property.
- Met several times with the presbytery meeting planning team to plan the June Presbytery meeting.
- Transcribed minutes from the May Leadership Cabinet meeting
- Attended the May PMT meeting and transcribed minutes from that meeting.
- Attended and transcribed minutes for a special meeting of Presbytery held May 23 concerning a recommendation from PMT that Karolee Larson's status change from Candidate and CRE to certified ready to receive a call.
- Attended a webinar on the new CLC system.
- Worked with people from Butte and PMT to clarify terms of call being offered to Karolee.
- Worked on overture recommendations for Presbytery meeting.
- Updated the directory.
- Conducted an email vote concerning a recommendation from the Permanent Judicial Commission on the new Rules of Discipline. The recommendation was

that we concur with the proposed new rules. Unfortunately, we did not receive enough responses to be able to concur with the proposed new rules. I received 29 “Yes” votes and we needed 33. We did receive 2 abstentions, but they do not count toward the tally.

- Checked emails and responded to them and to any phone call nearly every day.
- Am working with Bob Kampfer, Stated Clerk of Glacier, concerning a boundary issue between our two presbyteries. Information about this is below in the item for discussion.

Item for discussion:

Email from Bob Kampfer, Glacier Presbytery Stated Clerk, Regarding the boundary between Glacier and Yellowstone presbyteries:

From: Stated Clerk Glacier Presbytery <clerk.glacierpresbytery@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 11:19 AM

To: Caroline Fleming <Caroline@yellowstonepcusa.org>

Subject: Synod Zoom

Caroline:

This GA/Synod boundary discussion Zoom concluded with a suggestion that the presbyteries with some boundary description situations to confer and ultimately recommend boundary settings to Synod for an overture to GA to clear up a lot of boundary questions.

Ours is with the Basin worshipping community being included in Glacier. Vicente, who was GA's boundary guy, suggested a dividing line being the Boulder River that is in Jefferson County (not the one in Park/Stillwater counties). Tricia Dykers-Koenig suggested that I contact you as the Yellowstone counterpart to get that discussion going.

Ultimately, each presbytery will have to consider what line to adopt, so I will take it to the Glacier cabinet if you will do likewise with Yellowstone's counterpart. This is preliminary, obviously. I knew we had taken on Basin but was not aware of the line-drawing that then had to occur.

Bob Kampfer

Information about Basin Worshipping Community & its history from Bob:

Ok-kee Kim was a Korean Presbyterian MWS who started collecting a worshipping community a few years ago in Great Falls and joined Glacier back then. He moved to Basin interested in the Radon health mines and carried on with a worshipping community there. One of his members provided a house which was remodeled to be a home for Ok-kee and his wife, with the front room being the worship area. He was still a member of Glacier, so we continued to support his efforts. Somewhere in the mix this was approved by GA, but with no boundaries set. Subsequently, Ok-kee's health failed and he retired, but the Basin Worshipping Community continued - I believe they are viewing it as a chapel function of FPC Helena.

So,..... We ended up discussing the need to agree on some kind of boundary adjustment to accommodate the Basin church.

Bob Kampfer

Monday (July 10) I found the following letter written by Lynn Smit. I am now tracking down whether anything went forward to G.A. about this issue.



Synod of the Rocky Mountains

1716 N. Main St. – Ste. A – Box 107

Longmont, CO 80501

January 13, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

Excerpt from the September 23, 2019 minutes of the Synod of the Rocky Mountains regarding the boundary changes between the Presbytery of Glacier and the Presbytery of Yellowstone.

Boundary Change – Glacier and Yellowstone A motion was made and seconded to send an overture to the General Assembly (2020) with a boundary change between the Presbyteries of Yellowstone and Glacier pending approval by the two presbyteries (Attachment F). Lynn Smit, Stated Clerk will serve as the Overture Advocate. The motion was APPROVED.

Attachment F

On Changing the Boundary Between the Presbytery of Glacier and the Presbytery of Yellowstone – From the Synod of the Rocky Mountains Recommendation The Synod of the Rocky Mountains overtures the 224th General Assembly (2020) to change the boundary between the Presbytery of Glacier and the Presbytery of Yellowstone by redrawing the boundary through Jefferson County, Montana, so that Jefferson County, Montana North of the Boulder River falls within the Presbytery of Glacier. Rationale The Presbytery of Glacier and the Presbytery of Yellowstone request this change in boundaries between the two presbyteries. The Presbytery of Glacier has established a ministry in Basin, Montana which currently is located within the bounds of the Presbytery of Yellowstone. The two presbyteries have agreed that this boundary change should be made so that the Presbytery of Glacier will be able to continue working with this ministry and assume all authority and liability for the ministry in Basin, Montana.

I certify that this is the correct information as approved by the Synod of the Rocky Mountains Assembly.

Lynn Smit

Stated Clerk

Synod of the Rocky Mountains