

ü Note actions taken by Council or recommendations to Presbytery

COUNCIL

Presbytery of Yellowstone

MINUTES

October 16, 2009

The Council of the Presbytery of Yellowstone met at First Church in Bozeman on October 16, 2009.

Attendance was as follows:

Elder Fran Babcock (Council Moderator)
Elder Debbie Blackburn (B&F)
Elder Susan Thomas (Presbytery Moderator)
CLP Phil Maxwell (Ministry-via phone)
Elder Vi Haigh (Representation)
Rev Paul Krebill (Higher Education)
Cal Boyle (Saint Timothy's)
Rev Neva Rathbun (Presbyterian Women Co-Moderator)
Rev. George Goodrich, co-General Presbyter
Rev. Kathy Goodrich, co-General Presbyter
Elder Ted Williams, Presbytery Vice Moderator
Elder Ric Tieman (Vision Task Force)
Kirk Kochner (visitor)

Absent:

Rev Mary Davis (Vocations)
Rev John Dyce (Transformation Rep)
Jim Moses (Mission)
Connie Townsend (Nominating)

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 9:40 by Moderator Fran Babcock. George Goodrich led us in a Liturgy for Gathering as God's Council in Christ's. The Liturgy included the lighting of the Christ Candle.
2. Approval of the Minutes – The minutes of the August 14, 2009 were approved with one correction. The correction being that Ted Williams was not listed as absent.
3. Approval of the Docket – The Docket was approved as printed.
4. 4. Vision Team Presentation – Debbie and Ric led the Council in a discussion of the three action components of the proposed Vision Statement of Yellowstone Presbytery (Gather Together, Equip and encourage, Go out). Susan shared her observations of the September 18-19 visioning retreat at the Mountain Top Retreat Center. Kirk shared some thoughts on the process of change from the Old to the New. The area between the Old and the New is a time of Transition in which creative tension exists. An inspiring discussion followed in which all those present contributed. Additional materials from the Retreat were handed out. These included the Asset Mapping exercise and the Brainstorming exercise. Moderator Fran expressed thanks on behalf of the Council to Debbie, Ric and Debbie Funke for all their work on the retreat.
 - ü MSC that the Proposed Vision Statement be recommended to Presbytery for their adoption.
5. Convocation – Fran announced the resignation of Mary Davis as Moderator of the Convocation Planning Team. Fran will ask Mary to reconsider her resignation.
 - ü MSC to have the Convocation, continue with the current Planning Team and hold the convocation in Anaconda.
6. Lunch - Susan offered the blessing.
7. Pastoral Team/COM - Phil commented that the Pastoral Team (PT) met with the Dismissal Team (DT) of Springhill on October 1, 2009. Zane Buxton, Synod Executive, was present. The PT proposed a financial settlement of \$200,000 with the property being given to Springhill Church. They offered \$36,000. The PT and DT

agreed on a settlement of \$75,000 which would be paid over a five year period. The PT will make that recommendation that the Springhill Church be dismissed to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, with their property for a financial settlement of \$75,000 which can be paid over a five year period. The PT Will set up conference calls on Tuesday and Thursday, the 20th and 22nd of this month, to explain the recommendation to members of the Presbytery. The settlement will be contained in a legal contract. Phil also mentioned that the COM recently took action to drop Rev. Esther Berg from the Inactive Roll and to schedule an examination of Rev. Dick Davis for membership into Yellowstone Presbytery..

8. Vouchers – Sheryl Hallin, Treasurer reported on how a voucher should be filled out.
9. B&F – Debbie presented initial information on the 2010 draft budget
10. Committee Reports –
 - Vocations – No report.
 - Representation – Vi reported that she has enough information to do her annual report.
 - Nominations – Connie reported that there is an imbalance on the Nominating Committee.
 - ü MSC to nominate Leon Rathbun for a 3 year term on the Nominations Committee.
 - Presbyterian Women – Neva reported on the upcoming events.
 - ü MSC to grant permission to PW to serve communion at the Spring Retreat and the Synod PW gathering.
 - Personnel – The committee met on September 24th to plan for the upcoming performance reviews.
 - Camping and Youth-Kathy provided a written report. She noted that there are no Funds for the Youth Triennium
 - Higher Ed. – Paul handed out “What’s Happening in Higher Education”. The Covenant of Understanding (# 7) between Yellowstone Presbytery and Rocky Mountain College was discussed.
 - ü Council voted to recommend the “Covenant” to Presbytery.
 - Mission – No Report.
 - St. Timothy’s – The Chapel is at a crossroads. Funds to stabilize buildings received from Southern Cross are needed. Attendance was down somewhat during the summer.
 - General Presbyter – George provided a written report.
11. Other Items -
 - The next meeting is set for January 22, 2010. There will be a conference call before then. Debbie and Ron will set up the call and notify all Council members.
 - Council discussed the Pastoral Teams recommendation to Presbytery. It was suggested that the recommendation be in two separate motions. The first motion would deal with dismissing the Springhill Church to the EPC. The second motion would deal with the amount of the financial settlement.
 - Susan, Ron and George were assigned the responsibility of finalizing the Docket for the upcoming presbytery meeting.
 - ü Council approved giving away materials from the closed Red Lodge Church to other churches in the presbytery on a first come basis.
 - ü Council approved reimbursing Jim Moses for the cost of food he purchased to host the council meeting before the meeting was moved from Anaconda to Bozeman.
12. Adjournment - George read a selection from Mark, Chapter 4 verses 35-41 and offered a closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 P.M.

