

ü Note actions taken by Council or recommendations to Presbytery

**Presbytery of Yellowstone  
MINUTES  
April 9, 2010**

The Council of the Presbytery of Yellowstone met at First Church in Bozeman on April 9, 2010.

**Attendance was as follows:**

Elder Fran Babcock (Council Moderator)  
Elder Debbie Blackburn (B&F)  
Rev. Mary Davis (Vocations)  
Elder Ted Williams (Presbytery Moderator)  
Elder Dave Kimball (Higher Education)  
Elder Linda Smith (Representation)  
Cal Boyle (Saint Timothy's)  
Rev. Neva Rathbun (CoM)  
Susanne Bratsky (Presbyterian Women Co-Moderator)  
Rev. George Goodrich ( Co-General Presbyter)  
Rev. Kathy Goodrich (Co-General Presbyter)  
Ron Hanson (Stated Clerk)  
Elder Ric Tieman (Vision Task Force)  
Kirk Kocher (Vision Task Force)

**Absent:**

Elder Jim Moses (Mission)  
Rev John Dyce (Transformation Rep)  
Elder Connie Townsend (Nominations)

- 1. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 9:30 by Moderator Fran Babcock. George Goodrich led us in a Liturgy for Gathering as God's Council in Christ. The Liturgy included the lighting of the Christ Candle and served as the opening prayer.
- 2. Vision Task Force Report/Presentation** – Ric and Kirk and Debbie presented background information on the process. Kirk used Corinthians 12: 12-19 as the foundation for imagining what the presbytery should be. Our reality is that we are diminished by distance. The proposal is to create a profile of each congregation on how they Gather, Equip and Go out. The second step would be to do the same thing for the presbytery. Kathy shared a video describing what it means to be a disciple. Next, the team used a handout listing passages from Matthew and Luke on being and making disciples and asked each to respond to the question "What is the Holy Spirit saying to you and to the Council and presbytery in these passages?" An open discussion on being a disciple followed. Next, Kathy handed out a paper titled "The Continuum of Christian Commitment and Growth".
- 3. Gathering Together for God's Glory and Spiritual Synergy** – Kathy handed out and commented on the findings from the Visioning exercise at the February meeting of presbytery.
- 4. Meeting Dates** – **The next meeting of Presbytery will be on May 21-22 in Lewistown with Geyser, Stanford and Roy assisting.**
- ü **MSC to hold a joint meeting with Glacier Presbytery on November 5th and 6th in Helena. Linda Valentine is scheduled to be in attendance.**
- 5. Equip and Encourage** – Debbie talked about the findings from the Gathering group in Billings. They decided to form a sub- committee on Technology.
- 6. Higher Ed** – Dave presented a verbal report. Kim Woeste has a strong support group at MSU Eastern and is using students as assistants. Kristie in second year at Rocky and is developing well. MSU is developing a scholarship program. Dave was reminded that Synod meets in June and it would be important to inform Synod of the Scholarship Program.

7. **COM** – Neva shared the following decisions made by COM. First, COM interviewed/examined Rev. Marsha Muir for membership into Yellowstone Presbytery and recommended she be examined by the presbytery at the next presbytery meeting that she is able to attend. COM approved the request from the Church of the Big Hole to move Rev. Dick Davis from the position of Temporary Supply to Stated Supply. COM appointed Caroline Fleming as Moderator of the Jordan Church.
8. **Personnel** –It was noted that a camp caretaker is needed at Westminster Spires.
9. **PW** – Suzanne presented a written report and commented on the three upcoming events.
10. **Vocations** – Mary commented that some people are taking classes towards becoming a CLP. They seem to believe they are in the CLP program but they have not filled out an application to the CLP program yet. Mary has reminded them but to no avail.
11. **Council Minutes of Jan 22, 2010 and February 22, 2010**
  - ü **Council voted to approve the minutes of January 22, 2010 as corrected. The corrections being some spelling errors.**
  - ü **Council voted to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2010 meeting as printed.**
12. **Camping and Youth** – Fran Highlighted the Report Cathy McLean sent in.
13. **Camp Facilities** – A written report from Brent Long, Chair for the camp facilities subcommittee, was handed out and read. George then got Brent on the phone to answer questions that the Council had. The following questions were among those posed: (1) Has there been an analysis of available funds for the new well?; (2) What is the estimated cost of drilling the well?; (3) Is a new spring box a viable option and if so what are the associated costs of going that route? (4) What is the timeline and projected budget for all work needed to run the camp safely and legally with whatever water supply is chosen?; (5)The work will probably be done this summer- Will that activity be a detriment to the camp activities?. It is no apparent that any Pro Bono work is going to happen. There will be a committee meeting on Monday. Council recommended that different options, and their associated costs, be developed. It was noted that the session of FPC Bozeman had voted the monies previously set aside for Westminster Spires but no one is sure of the details of that action.
14. **Mission** - No Report
15. **ST Timothy's** – The annual Cleanup day is set for June 6<sup>th</sup>. The summer worship services will begin on June 13<sup>th</sup>. The last two Sundays in June and the first Sunday in July are still open for conducting services. The committee is working with Arco on redoing the parking lot. Arco has offered to provide a lump sum payment to the Chapel if the Chapel would do the work.
16. **Odds and Ends** –
  - Directory** – Moderators need to review and correct the listings for their committees.
  - Vouchers** - Sheryl has requested that each moderator review the vouchers for their committees and make sure they are correct before signing them.
  - Convocation** – Registrations need to be sent in soon.
  - Council meetings** - The following dates were set for future council meetings:
  - ü **Saturday, April 24, 2010 – Lunch, Joint council meeting with Glacier Presbytery.**
  - ü **Friday, June 18, 2010 – Billings, St. Andrew.**
  - ü **Friday, August 27, 2010 - Bozeman 1<sup>st</sup> Church.**
  - ü **Friday, September 24, 2010 – Billings 1<sup>st</sup>.**
17. **Vision Team Part 2: Reframing the question, “How to best fulfill our vision for Discipleship & Mission”.**

George introduced the session. Kirk discussed change and growth and how it relates to risk taking. George handed out three structure diagrams [ of a future structure] for the presbytery. The first being the existing structure, the second being a possible transition structure and the third being a general proposed future structure (a goal). A discussion followed on the financial implications of our existing structure. George handed out several sheets showing the amounts of money he and Kathy have raised each year since they arrived, the amounts of their yearly compensation and the amount remaining in the reserve account at the end of each year. Currently there is a balance

of \$56,400+ in Restricted Administrative account. Next, Kathy presented a survey sheet for our consideration and response. The intent of the survey is to assess how well we are doing in implementing our Vision statement. Ric mentioned that Survey Monkey could be used for such a survey.

**18. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Kirk at 3:33pm.