

Presbytery of Yellowstone
Special Meeting –October 4, 2013
Minutes

The Presbytery of Yellowstone met in a Special Meeting on Friday October 4, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. at 1st Presbyterian Church in Billings, Montana.

13-056 – Call to Order --Moderator, Don Holland called the meeting to order. Jed Cauffman offered the opening prayer.

13-057 – Purpose of the Meeting – Moderator Don announced the purpose of the meeting as it was stated in the Call for the meeting as follows:

Special Meeting of Yellowstone Presbytery

A Special Meeting of Yellowstone Presbytery has been called by Moderator Don Holland for Friday October 4, 2013. The meeting will be held at 1st Presbyterian Church in Billings, Montana and will convene at 1:30 p.m.

The first purpose of the meeting is to examine Rev. Susan Barnes for membership into Yellowstone Presbytery. Rev. Barnes is being considered for a call to the St Andrew Presbyterian Church of Billings, Montana.

The second purpose of the meeting is to authorize, should the way be clear, Yellowstone Presbytery’s Committee on Ministry to work with Rev. Barnes and the St. Andrew Presbyterian Church of Billings, Montana to set a date for the Installation Service and to establish an Administrative Commission to conduct that Installation Service. No other presbytery business shall be transacted at this meeting.

/s/ Ron Hanson
Stated Clerk
Presbytery of Yellowstone

13-058 – Roll Call – Moderator Don Holland announced that attendance would be recorded based on completed Registration Slips but, for the benefit of Rev. Barnes, asked those present to state their name, whether they were a Teaching Elder or a Ruling Elder and which church they were from. The following people registered for the meeting:

Church	Minister Member	Elder	Others Present
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Commissioner			
Anaconda		Linda Smith	
Billings, First	David Thompson`	Sharon Brady	
Billings, St. Andrew			Jim Tarr (Vocations)
			Sandy Welch
Butte			Ron Hanson (Stated Clerk)
			John Clark
Dillon	David Andrew		
Forsyth		Gayle Holland	Don Holland (Moderator)
Hysham	Paul Cannon		
Lewiston	Jed Cauffman		
Manhattan		Debbie Blackburn	

Also Present:

Neva Rathbun
Leon Rathbun

(Note – Other members from the St. Andrew Church were also present but did not fill out Registration Slips).

13-059 – Quorum – Ron announced that a quorum was present.

13-060 - Approval of the Docket – Don read the docket for the meeting. Presbytery voted to approve the Docket.

13-061 – Introduction of Rev. Susan Barnes – Neva introduced Rev. Barnes and provided a few background comments on her as well as COM’s work with her in the process.

13-062 – Statement of Faith – Rev. Barnes read her Statement of Faith. Written copies were made available to those present.

13-063 – Sermon - Rev. Barnes, with Neva Rathbun participating, presented a sermon which was based on Luke 10:25-37. The title for her sermon was “Gods Lawful Limits”.

13-064 – Examination of Rev. Barnes – Those present had copies of Rev. Barnes answers to the 9 questions COM asks of all prospective members of the presbytery. Members asked her a series of questions to which she responded.

Ü Presbytery voted to arrest the examination. At this point Rev. Barnes and her husband were excused.

13-065 – Motion and Discussion – On behalf of COM, Neva moved to grant membership, with concerns, to Rev. Susan Barnes into Yellowstone Presbytery as pastor of the St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, if the way be clear, and to authorize the Committee on Ministry to work with Rev. Barnes and the St. Andrew Church to arrange for an Installation Service for Rev. Barnes. A lengthy discussion, focusing on the concerns of COM, followed. Ron then clarified who was entitled to vote.

ü Presbytery voted to approve the above motion.

At this point Rev. Barnes and her husband were invited back into the Sanctuary and greeted with a standing ovation. The decision of the presbytery was announced by Moderator Don Holland.

13-066 – Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned with a closing prayer offered by Rev. Barnes.