

Yellowstone Presbytery Annual Stated Meeting
March 4-5, 2016
First Presbyterian Church
Billings, Montana

16 - 001 – Call to Order – Incoming moderator Teresa Kendall, TE, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and offered the opening prayer. Dave Thompson, TE, welcomed the presbytery to First Presbyterian Church of Billings. Jack Bell, CRE, offered prayer for George and Kathy Goodrich’s new grandson.

16 - 002 – Roll Call – Stated Clerk Debbie Blackburn, RE, called the roll and ensured that all present were introduced. The following people filled out registration sheets for the meeting.

Church	Teaching Elder Minister Member	Ruling Elder Commissioner(s)	Others Present
Anaconda	J P Carlson	Linda Jo Smith Karen Moses	
Big Hole	J P Carlson	Veva Larson (CRE)	
First Billings	Dave Thompson	Chris Eriksen	James Bateman
Billings, St Andrew	Susan Barnes	Sandra McKee	Curt Kochner (C&Y) Ben Larson
Bozeman	Jody McDevitt Dan Krebill	Suzanne Bratsky	
Butte	Harlan Rounds	Unexcused	
Colstrip	Robert Shy (CLP)	Unexcused	
Deer Lodge	Teresa Kendall	Unexcused	
Dillon	David Andrew	Matthew Yetter	
Ennis	Unexcused	Merry Lee Hooks	
Forsyth	Cathy McLean	Unexcused	
Geyser	Unexcused	Unexcused	
Harlowton	Excused	Unexcused	
Hysham	Excused	Unexcused	
Jordan	Vacant	Excused	
Lewistown	Jed Cauffman	Unexcused	

Church	Teaching Elder Minister Member	Ruling Elder Commissioner	Others Present
Manhattan	Debbie Funke	Eleanor Mest	Debbie Blackburn
Miles City	Brandon Willett Kristin Willett	Caroline Fleming	
Phillipsburg	Unexcused	Jim Christensen	Jan Christensen
Poplar	Susan Ennis	Bob Kelsey	
Stanford	Jack Bell (CRE)	Unexcused	
Terry	Katie Emery	Unexcused	
White Sulphur Springs	Jim Kidd	Pam Jackson	
Wolf Point	Jeff Harada	Unexcused	

Also Present or Excused:

TE George Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter (excused)

TE Kathy Goodrich, Co-General Presbyter (excused)

TE Susan Thomas

TE Neva Rathbun

TE Mary Davis

TE Richard Davis

TE Freeman McCall

TE Doug Johnson

Rob Hagan (Presbytery of Central Washington)

Mark Frey (Presbytery of Cascades)

Tom Gomola

Will Johnson

16 - 003- Procedural Motions – Upon a motion by the clerk, the presbytery approved the following actions:

1. That the roll for this meeting be established by completed Registration Sheets.
2. That written and oral requests for absences received by the Stated Clerk be approved.
3. That any Corresponding members present be seated.
4. That the Presbytery grant the Moderator the authority to give privilege of the floor to persons, other than Members or Commissioners, for the purpose of reporting to this meeting.
5. That the Moderator and the Stated Clerk be empowered to make adjustments to the Agenda during the meeting, as may be necessary, to provide for efficiency in reporting, and
6. That all reports received at this meeting be accepted.

16 - 004 - Quorum/Docket – A quorum was declared present and the Docket was adopted.

16 - 005 – Installation of Officers – Leadership Cabinet Moderator Jody McDevitt, TE, conducted a service of installation of Teresa Kendall, TE, as Presbytery Moderator, of Jack Bell, CRE, as Presbytery Vice Moderator, and of Debbie Blackburn, RE, as Stated Clerk.

16 - 006 – Worship – Susi Ennis, TE, led the presbytery in Dwelling in the Word, focusing on I Corinthians 12: 1-11. After a time of sharing, Susi closed this time with prayer.

16 - 007 – Faith Story Sharing- Jack Bell, CRE, gave some background information on sharing a faith story. JP Carlson, TE, shared his personal faith story. Jack then gave out a handout from Kathy Goodrich as well as a worksheet for developing your own faith story. The group split into groups of two or three people and everyone was given time to answer some of the worksheet questions. Then each person was able to share some of his or her story with another person.

16 - 008 – Board of Pensions – Mark Frey is our newly appointed representative with the Board of Pensions. He shared three things we might not know. There is a tax tips module on the website. Call to Health has more items on the menu this year. In 2017 there will be a plan redesign which will especially affect lay employees. Mark also expressed thanks for our participation in the Christmas Joy offering.

16 - 009 – Presbyterian Foundation - Rob Hagan is our Ministry Relations officer with the Presbyterian Foundation. The foundation is working to develop a culture of generosity. There are also workshops available on planned giving. Rob has various materials available on one of the display tables.

16 - 010 – Prayer and Announcements – Teresa offered prayer for Baby Goodrich. Susan Barnes, TE, announced that she has a table with some of her stole samples. She will make customized stoles when requested. The Whitworth papers (Minds and Heart Information) were handed out to Teaching Elders. Other announcements:

Turn in vouchers and registration forms

Work on Elder Commissioner Report

Deadline for ordering calendars through the Presbytery Office is March 21st

Choir Rehearsal will be at 6:30 tonight

The offering tonight will be for the Tumbleweed Program

16-011 – Break – The Presbytery took a break at 3:10 p.m.

16 -012 – Reconvening – Moderator Teresa Kendall, TE, reconvened the meeting at 3:30 p.m. She then introduced Jack Bell, CRE, who reviewed our Community Listening process. Jack also announced that he has copies of the video from Vera White’s presentation last June. Jack instructed people to pair up for going into the community. After everyone returned from their time of listening in the community, there was a time of sharing of experiences.

16 - 013 – Leadership Cabinet (LC) - Jody McDevitt, TE, shared highlights of the written report (Attachment A). She also referred to the Financial Reports (Attachment B) submitted by Dan Holland who was unable to attend this meeting. The following actions were approved by the Presbytery.

√ That Neva Rathbun, TE, be elected to the Representation/Nomination Ministry Team for the class of 2018.

√ That October 9, 2016 be designated as Presbytery Sunday.

Dan Krebill, TE, thanked the Presbytery for the grant to support the mission/study trip of Presby Cats to Northern Ireland during spring break. He also shared a brief slide show.

16 - 014 – Presbyterian Women report was presented by Mary Lee Hooks, RE. She highlighted the training opportunity that will be presented by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in June.

16 - 015 – Camping and Youth Ministry Team – Curt Kochner, RE, shared highlights from the written report. He reported that the Winter Retreat in Butte was a great experience, including worship with the Butte congregation on Sunday. The elementary camp slide show demonstrated the multigenerational aspect of camp. Curt reported that Junior High Camp will now include students who will be going into 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Dave Thompson, TE, announced that he will be taking a group of students to Triennium in July. After attending camp at Purdue, the group will also make a stop in Minneapolis on the way back.

16-016 – Tumbleweed Program – Sue Bentley and Karla Mahan of FPC Billings shared information about the Tumbleweed program which provides a place to stay as well as other services to many of the homeless youth in Billings. The program also has activities that help to teach skills to young people. Dave Thompson announced that FPC Billings would match the offering (which will be sent to the Tumbleweed program) received at tonight's worship service.

16-017 - Dinner - Dave Thompson, TE, offered prayer for Tumbleweed and for the evening meal. Moderator Teresa Kendall, TE, recessed the meeting.

16 - 018- Worship – Curt Kochner, RE, presented the necrology report (Attachment C). Rev. Katie Emery preached on I Corinthians 12:12-13. Dave Thompson, TE, presided over communion.

16 - 019- Reconvening – Moderator Teresa Kendall, TE, reconvened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. After prayer and singing, Dave Thompson, TE, led us in Dwelling in the Word, focusing on I Corinthians 12: 14-31. Dave closed this time with prayer.

16 - 020 – Peacemaking Affirmations – Dick Davis, TE, and Mary Davis, TE, led this time. They talked about the five peacemaking affirmations that were sent out by General Assembly peace discernment process. Then they had people break into small groups for discussion. There was a recommendation that the presbytery affirm these affirmations.

√ The presbytery voted (28 in favor, 1 against, 3 abstentions) to affirm these five affirmations.

16-021 – Seeds for Peace – Mary Davis, TE, and Dick Davis, TE, reported on the events that were held at St Andrew Billings Church. Their purpose is to train people in Dialogs for Deeper Understand and how to have Constructive Conversations. Those that have been trained are available to go to other communities and churches to model peacemaking. Mary will email out some information on a six week study around civility. Anyone interested in joining the group should contact Mary.

16-022 – St Timothy’s Chapel - Since Ron Hanson, RE, was not at the meeting, Debbie Funke, TE, presented the report from the nominating sub-committee of the St Timothy’s Chapel. The following names were presented for the class of 2018: TE Rusty Craig, RE Cal Boyle, and RE Zane Murfitt. Nominations from the floor were invited with none forthcoming.

√ Presbytery voted to elect TE Rusty Craig, RE Cal Boyle, and RE Zane Murfitt for the class of 2018 on the St Timothy’s Chapel Committee.

16-023 – Stated Clerk’s Report – Debbie Blackburn, RE, indicated that a written report was submitted (Attachment D). For informational purposes: The members of the Permanent Judicial Commission whose terms have expired within the past six years are RE Milan Combs (Class of 2014), RE Jim Babcock (Class of 2012), RE Don Holland (Class of 2012), and TE Freeman McCall (Class of 2012)

The following actions were approved by the presbytery.

√ The presbytery voted to approve the listed Presbytery meeting minutes:

- June 12-13, 2015 Presbytery meeting
- September 16, 2015 Special Presbytery meeting
- November 6-7, 2015 Presbytery meeting
- December 14, 2015 Special Presbytery meeting

√ The Presbytery voted to approve the authorization for eight church sessions to elect another commissioner to presbytery in order to bring the Non-Teaching Elder authorized voter numbers in balance with the Teaching Elder voter numbers. The eight churches are St Andrew, Bozeman First, Butte, Colstrip, Deer Lodge, Dillon, Ennis, and Forsyth.

16-024 – Synod Report – Susi Ennis, TE, reported that there will not be a WNLT in 2016. Any input of ideas (theme, format) should be given to Susi, George, or Kathy. Debbie Blackburn, RE, also reported that there are several overtures to 2016 GA asking to rescind the 2014 decision to mandate a reduction in the number of synods to 10-12. David Ezekiel, the Synod Executive, is now working ¼ time for the Synod. The next meeting of the Synod of the Rocky Mountains will be a conference call on Monday, March 7th.

16-025 – Break – The presbytery took a break at 10:20 a.m.

16-026 – Reconvening – Moderator Teresa Kendall, TE, reconvened the meeting at 10:45 a.m. Teresa reviewed some highlights from George and Kathy’s Co-General Presbyters’ Report (Attachment E).

16-027 – Intermountain – Linda Claddis reported on the history of Intermountain as well as some new programs for children. She emphasized that Intermountain strives to work with children in relationship. Teresa Kendall, TE, offered prayer for Intermountain.

16-028 – Pastoral Ministry Team – Dave Thompson, TE, began his report (Attachment F) by reviewing some recent actions of the Dillon Church. David Andrew, TE, shared some thoughts about his 7.5 years at Dillon. Several members of Presbytery expressed their thanks to David Andrew. Teresa Kendall offered prayer.

√ The Presbytery approved (by unanimous vote) to approve (with regret) David Andrew's request to dissolve the relationship between Pastor David Andrew and the First Presbyterian Church of Dillon.

There was a time of prayer for David Andrew and his wife Cady. Dave Thompson, TE, continued his report by advising of the commissioning of Jack Bell, CRE, on January 31, 2016. He also mentioned that PMT has been working with Mark Parker, an attorney in Billings, to transfer the deed of the Roy Presbyterian Church. Dave then asked Dan Krebill, TE, to report on the BOP seminars which will be held in Billings in late September. Dan handed out a flyer with information about the three seminars which will be held September 27th to September 30th. Each seminar will be limited to thirty people.

16-029 – Good News from Churches - Rev. Katie Emery reported that the youth group ministry in Terry is booming. She requested prayer for teachers that are needed in Terry. Jack Bell offered prayer for the Terry Church and for St Andrew Church.

16-030 – Announcements – Moderator Teresa Kendall, TE, reminded commissioners to complete their Report Forms to take back to their session meetings. The offering from last night's worship service was \$719. The next stated meeting of the Presbytery will be June 10-11, 2016 in Miles City, Montana.

16-031 –Adjournment - Moderator Teresa Kendall, TE, adjourned the meeting with prayer at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Blackburn
Stated Clerk

LEADERSHIP CABINET
Presbytery of Yellowstone
Report to Presbytery March 2016

“To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.”

1 Cor 12:7

2016 Goals
Emphasize disciple-making and forming in congregations and presbytery
Focus on spiritual nurture of pastors, leaders and potential leaders by understanding and using spiritual gifts
Build community in the presbytery, continuing to grow our communication
Clarify the covenant with Glacier and explore other partnerships for future collaboration

Teams/Task Groups

Thank you to the Review Team which channeled feedback regarding the presbytery structure to the Leadership Cabinet. (Debbie Blackburn, David Andrew, Jim Tarr, and Gayle Holland) This team has done its job and is now dismissed with gratitude.

Welcome to the “Seeds for Peace” Task Group which has recently formed. Based at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, this group has already held two productive meetings on Dialogues for Deeper Understanding and a third meeting focusing on the Peacemaking Affirmations of the PC(USA). We look forward to more reports from “Seeds for Peace.” Mary Davis is the contact person.

Welcome to the Communications Team, who have stepped forward to further our communications via newsletter, social media, etc. Kristin Willett, Jack Bell, Susan Thomas, and Susan Seibert (office) are on this team.

Continuing to serve:

Glacier-Yellowstone Covenant Team

Jody McDevitt, Debbie Blackburn, Teresa Kendall, George Goodrich

New Worshiping Communities Task Group

Jack Bell (chair), Jed Cauffman, Dan Krebill, Mary Davis, George Goodrich

Actions taken by the Leadership Cabinet on behalf of the presbytery, since Nov

1. Finance

- Received a report of a financial review for fiscal year 2014, completed 12/15/15.
- Received final financial reports for 2015. On the Administrative budget, the transfer of funds from reserves was WAY LESS than anticipated - \$1859.76 instead of \$35,063. On the Program budget, income exceeded expenses by \$5,897.01. GOOD NEWS ALL AROUND!

- Approved the updating of the clerk's name on any and all bank or investment accounts of the presbytery
- 2. Approved the establishment of a fund to support Commissioned Ruling Elder (CRE) training.
- 3. Approved a grant of \$3500 for the spring break mission/study trip of the Presby Cats to Northern Ireland
- 4. Approved Doug Johnson as the presbytery's representative on the board of the Institute for Peace Studies
- 5. Approved the March 2016 presbytery meeting offering to go to the Tumbleweed program for homeless youth in Billings
- 6. Encouraged the movement forward of a second summer with Whitworth Fellows. This summer, pairs of students will be placed at Manhattan, Anaconda/Big Hole, and Lewistown.
- 7. Discussed General Assembly Moderator Heath Rada's "Call to the Church." Re-forming the way we do church has been on Yellowstone Presbytery's agenda for a number of years.
- 8. Set a date for our second annual

PRESBYTERY SUNDAY
Sunday, October 9, 2016

Decisions requiring action from the presbytery

1. That **TE Neva Rathbun** be elected to the Representation/Nominations Ministry Team, class of 2018 **(MOTION)**
2. That October 9, 2016, be designated as **Presbytery Sunday**, to celebrate our bond in the Spirit, serving Christ's mission together, and that all congregations be encouraged to participate in this celebration. **(MOTION)**

2016 presbytery meetings:

Fri-Sat, June 10-11	Miles City
Fri-Sat, Nov 4-5	Butte

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2015

Wednesday, January 20, 2016

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Account #	Account Name	Beginning Balance	YTD Balance
Assets			
1.00.1010.0000	Checking Account #3133214	53,375.64	69,303.22
1.00.1020.0000	Petty Cash	22.18	22.18
1.00.1030.0000	Money Market #129013355	184,514.11	184,735.65
1.00.1031.0000	St Timothy M. M #1 #3531961	4,046.53	1,500.07
1.00.1032.0000	St. Timothy MM #2 #129013686	2,526.22	1,500.05
	Total Current Assets	\$244,484.68	\$257,061.17
1.00.1040.0000	Beartooth Electric Coop	1,337.70	1,337.70
	Total Other Assets	\$1,337.70	\$1,337.70
1.00.1065.0000	St Timothy Chapel #1 52001085	254,311.80	233,108.19
1.00.1070.0000	St Timothy Chapel #2 52006024	102,460.72	90,508.89
1.00.1075.0000	Bozeman Campus 000104537	57,651.62	58,136.05
1.00.1080.0000	Partnership Fund MM 129013793	45,230.52	45,257.66
	Total Principal Restricted	\$459,654.66	\$427,010.79
	Total Assets	\$705,477.04	\$685,409.66
Liabilities			
2.00.2120.1000	Payroll - Federal	618.02	630.26
2.00.2120.2000	Payroll State	81.00	68.00
2.00.2140.0000	G. Goodrich Flex Plan	(0.53)	(0.53)
2.00.2141.0000	S. Seibert Flex Plan	(0.37)	(0.37)
	Total Payroll Liabilities	\$698.12	\$697.36
2.00.2160.0000	Prepaid 2016 GP Expenses	0.00	2,573.34
	Total Liabilities	\$698.12	\$3,270.70
Fund Balance			
3.01.2700.0000	Unreserved Fund Balance	0.00	5,897.01
3.02.2800.0000	General - Administrative	8,255.07	8,255.07
3.03.2805.0000	General - Program	37,136.97	37,136.97
3.04.2700.0000	General - Restricted Admin.	45,587.77	45,587.77
	Total General Fund Balance	\$90,979.81	\$96,876.82
3.19.2815.0000	Camp Scholarship Camp. & Youth	576.56	968.56
3.27.2825.0000	Clergy Emergency Fund COM	1,786.00	175.00
3.32.2832.0000	Convocation	1,000.00	1,000.00
3.39.2840.0000	Linda Hofer Education	10,584.93	10,625.90
3.43.2845.0000	Equip and Encourage	36,830.44	32,330.44
3.47.2850.0000	Partnership- Available COM	1,698.97	1,726.11
3.49.2700.0000	Co-General Presbyters' Discretionary	1,546.94	1,413.90
3.51.2855.0000	Peace Making Offering Mission	1,214.19	724.23
3.56.1220.0000	Special Offering Other Fund	60.30	2,354.76
3.63.2870.0000	Revamp Camp -Camp. & Youth	380.95	545.95
3.65.2825.0000	Springhill Funds	15,000.00	13,140.24
3.67.2875.0000	St. Timothy's Money Market #1	4,046.53	1,500.07
3.68.2877.0000	St Timonthy Money Market #2	2,653.38	1,627.21
3.75.2885.0000	Social Justice	11,032.17	5,753.71
3.85.2850.0000	Westminister Spires Camp Upgrades Balance	3,066.70	80.27
	Total Designated funds	\$91,478.06	\$73,966.35
3.37.2800.0000	Funds Awaiting Cabinet Action Balance	3,760.00	3,500.00
3.69.2825.0000	Triennium Balance	4,887.07	7,387.07

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2015

Wednesday, January 20, 2016

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Account #	Account Name	Beginning Balance	YTD Balance
3.86.2850.0000	Grant - Evangelism Balance	1,250.13	1,250.13
3.90.2910.0000	Higher Education Grant Fund	57,651.62	58,896.05
3.92.2920.0000	St. Timothys #1 (PC USA) Found	254,311.80	233,108.19
3.93.2921.0000	St. Timothys #2 (PC USA) Found	102,460.72	90,508.89
3.94.2930.0000	Partnership Fund Principal COM	43,999.71	43,999.71
	Total Restricted Fund Balances	\$468,321.05	\$438,650.04
3.35.2840.0000	Deer Lodge Restricted PDA Grant Balance	0.00	6,112.38
3.64.2825.0000	Rural Ministry Grant Balance	0.00	12,313.37
3.66.2850.0000	West Yellowstone Funds Balance	54,000.00	54,000.00
3.80.2850.0000	Workshop Balance	0.00	220.00
	Total Fund Balance	\$704,778.92	\$682,138.96
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$705,477.04	\$685,409.66

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
 Treasurer's Report as of December 2015 for General Fund (Administrative)

Sunday, January 24, 2016

Account # Account Name

Page 1 of 1
 Annual Budget
 Remaining

	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
Income				
Per Capita	\$1,147.50	\$83,605.00*	\$75,850.00	(\$7,755.00)
Synod Partnership Funds	\$4,575.00	\$27,450.00	\$27,450.00	\$0.00
Total Other income	\$9,940.00	\$42,684.51*	\$30,000.00	(\$12,684.51)
Transfers	\$1,859.76	\$1,859.76	\$35,063.00	\$33,203.24
Total Income	\$17,522.26	\$155,599.27	\$168,363.00	\$12,763.73
Expense				
Pastoral Ministry Team	\$0.00	\$5,082.65	\$6,300.00	\$1,217.35
Committee on Nominations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Com. on St Timothy's Chapel	\$0.00	\$225.47	\$300.00	\$74.53
Delegates to Other Bodies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Payroll Taxes	\$271.63	\$3,295.02	\$3,767.00	\$471.98
Per Capita	\$0.00	\$25,409.24	\$25,410.00	\$0.76
Admin. Manager	\$2,089.32	\$25,127.79	\$25,254.00	\$126.21
General Presbyter	\$9,083.42	\$54,206.97	\$60,686.00	\$6,479.03
Stated Clerk	\$1,315.91	\$16,153.61*	\$16,051.00	(\$102.61)
Treasurer	\$590.42	\$7,085.04*	\$7,085.00	(\$0.04)
Personnel	\$13,079.07	\$102,573.41	\$109,076.00	\$6,502.59
Leadership Cabinet	\$0.00	\$3,137.95	\$3,500.00	\$362.05
Presbytery Expenses	\$0.00	\$7,456.78	\$8,300.00	\$843.22
Presbytery Office	\$436.02	\$8,418.75	\$11,110.00	\$2,691.25
Total Expense	\$13,786.72	\$155,599.27	\$168,363.00	\$12,763.73
Difference	\$3,735.54	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

* = Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
 Treasurer's Report as of December 2015 for General Fund (Program)

Sunday, January 24, 2016

Account # Account Name

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Annual Budget
 Annual Budget
 Remaining

	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
Income				
Pledge	\$10,572.50	\$35,931.00*	\$22,450.00	(\$13,481.00)
Camp Income	\$300.00	\$15,452.00	\$23,000.00	\$7,548.00
Program Transfers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,750.00	\$8,750.00
Total Income	\$10,872.50	\$51,383.00	\$54,200.00	\$2,817.00
Expense				
Camping & Youth	\$609.52	\$30,412.47	\$33,750.00	\$3,337.53
Pastoral Ministry Team	\$0.00	\$2,435.49	\$3,700.00	\$1,264.51
Leadership Cabinet	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Mt. Association of Churches	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,750.00	\$250.00
Presbytery Expenses	\$625.00	\$8,638.03	\$12,000.00	\$3,361.97
Total Expense	\$1,234.52	\$45,485.99	\$54,200.00	\$8,714.01
Difference	\$9,637.98	\$5,897.01	\$0.00	

* = Income/Expense exceeds amount budgeted to date

YELLOWSTONE PRESBYTERY NECROLOGY REPORT – 2015

Church	Elder's Name	Ordination Date	Date of Death
Billings First	Chuck Pemble	February 3, 1974	January 1, 2015
	Bill Woolston	February 4, 1973	March 23, 2015
	Jeanette Grooms	October 25, 1992	August, 2015
	Jim Wempner	January 17, 1962	September 26, 2015
Billings, St. Andrew	Marion Cain	January 29, 1989	January 6, 2015
	Jeane Bryant	January 30, 1972	February 9, 2015
Bozeman First	Tom Fellows	January 22, 1961	January 8, 2015
	Paul Weingart	January, 1971	July 7, 2015
Deer Lodge	Frances Helton	February 5, 1989	November 24, 2015
Jordan	Carl Harbaugh	January 1, 1981	January 25, 2015
Miles City	Wayne Lathrop		March 3, 2015
	Elizabeth (Betty) McCourt		April 28, 2015
	Bufford Griffin		August 11, 2015
Church of the Big Hole	James Eighorn	1970s	November 7, 2015

Stated Clerk's Report

February, 2016

For Information:

Since the beginning of the year I have participated in the following meetings and activities:

- Attended the January and February Leadership Cabinet meetings and prepared the minutes.
- Attended the January Pastoral Ministry Team meeting and prepared the minutes.
- Attended three session meetings and two congregational meetings in Dillon.
- Met with Mark Frey, Board of Pensions representative.
- Prepared some additional paper work for the Mildred property sale.
- Worked with PMT and Mark Parker's office on the deed transfer for the Roy Church.
- Sent correspondence to churches regarding the Property Tax Exemption Applications.
- Assembled the Necrology Report for (2015) attached.
- Assembled the 2016 Teaching Elder/Non-Teaching Elder Balance Report (attached).
- Had another meeting with Ron Hanson to receive various paperwork and documents.
- Met with Susan Seibert several times to go over office policies and procedures.
- Submitted six real property tax exempt applications on behalf of the presbytery.
- Began work on getting Stated Clerk name change on various financial accounts.
- Participated in several phone meetings for Presbytery meeting planning.
- For your information I have attached a copy of the Yellowstone Presbytery Statistical report for 2015.

For action:

- I hereby request approval, with corrections if need be, of the following minutes:
Minutes of the June 12-13, 2015 Presbytery meeting
Minutes of the Special Presbytery meeting on September 16, 2015
Minutes of the November 6-7, 2015 Presbytery meeting
Minutes of the Special Presbytery meeting on December 14, 2015
- I recommend that eight church sessions be authorized to elect another commissioner to presbytery in order to bring the Non-Teaching Elder authorized voter numbers in balance with the Teaching Elder voter numbers.

TEACHING ELDER/NON-TEACHING ELDER BALANCE

As of January 1, 2016 there were 43 Teaching Elders (TE's) on the rolls of Yellowstone Presbytery. However, only 40 of these TE's were living within the bounds of the presbytery. On this same date there were 23 churches authorized to send a commissioner to presbytery meetings, plus one church authorized to send two commissioners to presbytery meetings. There were 3 Non-Teaching Elder Pastors who were authorized to vote at Yellowstone Presbytery meetings. Additionally, there were 4 Ruling Elders who were authorized to vote based on their leadership roles within the Presbytery.

The net result is that there are 40 local Teaching Elders and 32 Non-Teaching Elders authorized to vote on business before the Presbytery.

Therefore, a Teaching Elder/Non-Teaching Elder imbalance currently exists in Yellowstone Presbytery.

Proposal: In order to bring the Non-Teaching Elder authorized voter numbers in balance with the Teaching Elder voter numbers I recommend that eight (8) church sessions be authorized to elect another commissioner to presbytery. According to our stated rules (S2.07), these commissioners would be eligible to vote beginning with the second meeting of the calendar year through the first meeting of the following year. As was approved at the March 2015 Presbytery meeting, the sequence of churches for electing another commissioner will follow the order that churches are listed in the Directory. In 2015 Anaconda and Billings First were authorized to elect an additional commissioner. The next eight churches in the directory are: Saint Andrew, Bozeman First, Butte, Colstrip, Deer Lodge, Dillon, Ennis, and Forsyth.

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Presbytery Report 2015

Presbytery Number	300796
Name	Yellowstone
<hr/>	
Address	PO Box 1254
City/State	Bozeman, MT 57971
Phone	406-586-7706
Email	yellpres@yellowstonepcusa.org
Web Site	www.yellowstone.pcusa.org
Fax	406-556-0979

MembershipPrior Active Members **1970****Gains**

17 & Under	2
18 & Over	46
Certified	10
Other	6
Total Gains	64

Losses

Certified	14
Deaths	50
Other	214
Total Losses	278

Total Active Members **1756**

Baptized	24
Other Participants	155
Total Adherents	1935
Female Members	852

Average Attendance **855****Affiliate Members** **101****Baptisms**

Child Baptisms	27
Adult Baptisms	5

Officers

Male Session	68
Female Session	83
Male Deacons	26
Female Deacons	79

Age Distribution of Active Members

	Male	Femaie
25 & Under	62	68
26 - 45	90	124
46 - 55	88	140

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56 - 65	340	126	214
Over 65	809	285	523
Total Distribution	1723	651	1069

People with Disabilities

Hearing	146
Sight	23
Mobility	60
Other	12

Christian Education

Birth 3	47	Grade 7	34
Age 4	44	Grade 8	30
Kindergarten	52	Grade 9	39
Grade 1	44	Grade 10	35
Grade 2	52	Grade 11	29
Grade 3	50	Grade 12	25
Grade 4	41	Young Adults	39
Grade 5	34	Over 25	317
Grade 6	43	Teachers/Officers	123
Total	1078		

Racial Ethnic Breakdown	Membership	Elders	Deacons	Male	Female
Asian	7	3	0	5	2
Black	0	0	0	0	0
African American	0	0	0	0	0
African	1	0	0	0	1
Middle Eastern	0	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	3	0	0	2	1
Native American	21	3	1	9	12
White	1578	119	86	461	809
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	1610	125	87	477	825

Potential Giving Units	1,178
Budgeted Income	2,192,312
Budgeted Expense	2,534,152

Receipts

Regular Contributions	2,133,043	Bequests	151,517
Capital Building Fund	140,345	Other Income	182,816
Investment Income	96,564	Subsidy or Aid	2,500

Expenditures

Local Program	1,945,005	Per Capital Apprt	79,033
Local Mission	176,776	Validated Mission	68,870
Capital Expenditures	254,285	Theological Fund	875
Investment Expenditures	6,600	Other Mission	51,325

Monday, February 22, 2016

Presbytery

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CoGeneral Presbyters' Report March, 2016 Yellowstone Presbytery George & Kathy Goodrich

How are we, as Christ's disciples and as communities of disciples, to think, speak and act like Christ in a culture of anxiety/fear and polarization?

1. Remember that as Christ's body, the church, we are "the called out ones", the meaning of the Greek, *ekklesia*, I Pet. 2:9. We are disciples of Christ FIRST, citizens of God's realm or Kingdom, not of a particular political party, candidate, ideology or culture. It is in the midst of these we are called to be lights, salty agents of God's mission of redemption, and reconciliation transformation.
2. We can pray for and choose faith in God and not give in to the anxieties and fears. II Tim 1:7, Mt. 6:25-34. Our God is sovereign in the midst of change and uncertainties, as so many passages and Psalms express such as Ps. 46.
3. Remember our identity and community is IN CHRIST and we are COMMANDED by Jesus to cultivate and exhibit the character of Christ, in how we treat all people and ESPECIALLY in how we think of, speak and live with one another in Christ's body, Mt. 5-7, Gal. 5, Eph. 4-5, Col 3... Jesus COMMANDED, and then empowered his VERY diverse disciples, then and today, by the 'dunamis' of the Holy Spirit, to love one another AS he has loved us (John 13:34-35)

"We must seek a radical new way of being the Church: loving those we disagree with – a potential gift to the world in bitter conflict." - The Archbishop of Canterbury, Austin Welby.

Actually, loving those we disagree with is not truly radical or new... Rather, it is Christ's way, the only way to be Church. It is the only way the Church - the local church, the national church, or the global church – evidences the life of Christ and the gospel, has the credibility of its high calling, and hangs together enough to accomplish its mission and authentically proclaim and demonstrate to the world what Christian Discipleship is.

We are different, were given different gifts (I Cor 12). As humans we will disagree. That is certain. However, can we do so as with self-discipline and authentic, Christ-like love? If Christ commands us to love one another in His Church, it must not only be imperative that we do so, it must also be possible to do so, enabled by the Holy Spirit. And the country, the world *needs* the Church again – to show how it is done.

How will we, in Yellowstone, as disciples, choose to follow the ways of Christ and be transformed so we embody the life and character of Christ? live the Love of Christ in our time together? How will we live God's love in the congregations we serve?

We are praying for ourselves and all of us and are eager to hear what God is doing and showing you as you pray and discuss this as congregations, clusters. Please share the stories with our Yellowstone community.

The Clusters, our structure regionally in the presbytery for community, mutual discipleship and mission among our pastors/CRE's, are all active and alive in Christ – and the pastors are alive to one another. Each cluster has its own convener and includes dwelling in the Word, sharing and support, and prayer. These are vital as isolation, burnout, lack of personal spiritual nurture and practices and lack of supportive community are among the obstacles to healthy pastoral leadership. White Sulphur cluster has adopted a vision for a mission specific to the cluster and in the presbytery that God is calling the cluster to pursue together. ***The Holy Spirit is at work among the participants of the cluster!***

The Clusters and their conveners:

- a. The Butte Cluster – Freeman McCall and Rusty Craig
- b. The White Sulphur Cluster – Debbie Funke – includes a few lay leaders
- c. The Billings Cluster – Mary Davis
- d. The Miles City Cluster – Neva Rathbun and Kristin Willett- includes some pastors from other denominations.

Suggested Next Phase for Clusters:

- a. Prayerfully consider in light of our vision statement: where the Holy Spirit is already at work? How is each pastor/session making disciples and disciple-making leaders in each congregation? How might they share spiritual gifts of leaders or groups to strengthen this work and the congregations in their cluster? The presbytery? What ministry they might offer to the larger presbytery? (See Leadership Cabinet goals below and in their report.)
- b. Prayerfully dream and seek to discern, in light of our vision statement: how God may be leading the cluster and the congregations they serve in mission together?

Leadership Cabinet Goals for 2015/2016: We made substantial progress as a Cabinet and staff in the pursuit of our adopted goals in 2015. With us serving only half-time, these provide important foci and prioritization for us all as Leadership Cabinet and presbytery.

Our Leadership Cabinet 2015 Goals categorically were:

Over all Value: Experimentation

- A. Communication
- B. Building Community
- C. Spiritual Nurture of Pastors and Leaders
- D. Stated Clerk Transition

For 2016 the Leadership Cabinet adopted the following goals, and the sub-points below indicate ideas raised at our meetings or options we hope the presbytery may consider.

- a. Emphasize **disciple-making and forming** in congregations and presbytery

Do you long to be more of who Christ intended you to be, do you want to become a better, more effective leader and develop better leaders in your congregation? While the quality of leadership does determine the reach and vitality of a congregation, “the quality of the church’s leadership is directly proportional to the quality of its discipleship.” (The Forgotten Ways: Reactivating the Missional Church, Alan Hirsch). Our leadership crisis is really about our discipleship crisis, what Dallas Willard refers to as “The Great Omission” in the American church today!

 - i. Discuss and pursue through clusters
 - ii. Offer resourcing – see separate handout
 - iii. Learn from congregations, presbyteries, groups doing this effectively
 - iv. Support PMT clergy retreat
- b. Build community in the presbytery, continuing to grow our communication
 - i. Emphasize and develop Clusters
 - ii. Develop Presbytery Sunday
 - iii. Support PMT’s clergy retreat
 - iv. Offer an Elder/lay retreat or several by clusters, or presbytery-wide.
 - v. Website and Facebook updating

- vi. Currents usage expanded.
- c. Focus on the spiritual nurture of pastors, leaders and potential leaders by understanding and using spiritual gifts. (Also see goals above)
 - i. Emphasize and develop clusters
 - ii. The development of a cohort (7/16 to 7-17) of interested pastors to pursue participation in the PCUSA grant, "*Mind and Hearts Set on Christ: Spiritual Formation and Preaching Enrichment for Pastors*". See separate handout.
 - iii. The identification and initial training of 1-2 more spiritual directors in the presbytery.
 - iv. The strengthening and equipping of pastors, plus church treasurers and clerks or personnel committee members, in partnership with the Board of Pensions through: The BoP seminars and consultations -
 - a. Mark Frey's seminar on Saturday, March 5, following the presbytery meeting – See flier and RSVP.
 - b. September 27-30, 2016 in Billings.
 - v. DREAM Grant, PCUSA and Whitworth grants towards Yellowstone Whitworth Rural Ministry Initiative: Supporting, strengthening our pastors, congregations and new ministry and mission possibilities and developing future leaders for Christ's Church in partnership. We have been working on this during the fall/winter. This is the second year and we just met with the six students (down from the 10 hoped for due to *high* demand stretching WU grant funds) placed in 3 Yellowstone parishes based on a variety of requirements. The need: to raise, find, vote the final \$6,000 for required stipends for these students. See separate handout.
- d. Clarify the covenant with Glacier and explore other **partnerships** for future collaboration (see goals above)
 - i. Work on existing partnerships with other presbyteries and Whitworth University

Camp– The annual winter ski retreat to be lodged at FPC, Butte, skiing at Discovery, is scheduled for February 26-28. George will be participating again. PLEASE publicize and invite folks. Speak to George or Curt for more details, go to link on center section of our website yellowstonepcusa.org.

New Worshipping Communities – Jack Bell, CRE, chair

Starting New Worshipping Communities: A Process of Discernment (2014) by the Presbyterian Mission Agency. This booklet was given to each person attending the last 2 presbytery meetings and is available for [Free download here](#).

AMUST see – excellent collection of free, downloadable resources and videos on 8 New Worshipping Communities which have sprung to life in Northwest Coast Presbytery over the last several years. <http://www.northwestcoast.org/learning-community>

Other Items to Report:

General Information: Please consult the presbytery website for updated information, forms, etc: www.yellowstonepcusa.org and the *Yellowstone Currents* edited by Susan Thomas with our sincere thanks!

Intermountain: For resources for churches such as teaching videos or Lenten children's sermons based on the lectionary from the chaplain go to <http://www.intermountainministry.org>

- a. JP Carlson has been enthusiastically chosen by the Intermountain to serve as our representative from Yellowstone Presbytery.
- b. At the Board meeting on December 3rd, George Goodrich received the Summit Award, the highest award Intermountain gives occasionally to staff or volunteers for service to the Agency. "I was humbled and delighted to be selected!"

Rocky Mountain College Board. George continues to represent the presbytery on the Board, and serves on the Church Relations and Student Affairs Committees.

Whitworth University: Kathy serves on the Board of Trustees and on its Academic Affairs Com. These are times of both challenge and opportunities, particularly for Christian colleges and universities on many fronts including emotional and mental health, racial tensions, costs,

Synod of Rocky Mountains: Kathy, along with Ron Hanson, serves as Yellowstone Commissioner and its TF for reviewing WNL.T. Meetings set for March and August.

God's provision and answer to prayer has resulted in the Goodrich's raising about \$41,000 against a budget of \$30,000 in 2015. **THANK YOU** for your care, prayers, encouragement and support as we partner together here in Christ's mission. We are *deeply* grateful, especially since our families' crises meant we could not donate much extra time to fundraising this year as we have in years past. 21 donating individuals and churches help us surpass our personal goal of \$40,000. 18 of those donors are within the presbytery.

In 2016, with losses in church membership in some congregations and a drop in projected income from per capita, we may need to raise additional funds

Personal

We remain SO very grateful for your kindness, prayers, support, cards and letters as we grieve our dads and celebrate their legacies and home going to be with Christ. Mere words are inadequate to convey how much you and this means on our ongoing journey in which we want to cooperate with Christ that we might grow more and more like him until we "graduate" to Christ's presence. God's Spirit was so very present during Kathy's Dad's services which we helped lead. Kathy's mom was blessed and touched and pleased. She is doing all right, riding on prayers and 50 years of walking with Christ through calm and rough seas. George's mom had a minor stroke in early December and is ok but it can be draining and complicating at times. Your prayers and your wisdom welcomed.

Other news, our daughter Gillian is on target to receive her Masters in Spanish Literature in May. And, Chip and Staci are having another little boy in March! Joy!

**Pastoral Ministry Team
Presbytery Report
March 4, 2016**

The purpose of the Pastoral Ministry Team is to come alongside of churches, sessions, and pastors to provide encouragement, support, and training as we work together to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

A. Motion Regarding David Andrew and the First Presbyterian Church in Dillon

At the congregation meeting of First Presbyterian Church of Dillon, Montana, on January 24, 2016, the Rev. David Andrew requested that the Presbytery dissolve the pastoral relationship between him and the church. At a special congregational meeting (per G-2.0901 & G-2.0902 of the Book of Order) on Sunday, February 7, the congregation voted to concur with David Andrew's request that the presbytery dissolve the pastoral relationship between them and the Rev. David Andrew by a vote of 37 in favor and 23 against, effective March 6, 2016. As a Presbytery we must vote on this dissolution request.

B. Jack Bell's (CRE) Commissioning Service was celebrated on Sunday, January 31 at the First Presbyterian Church in Stanford, Montana, with the following people participating:

Teaching Elders

The Rev. Jed Cauffman- Lewistown

The Rev. Teresa Kendall- Deer Lodge

Ruling Elders

Charlie Brown, Lewistown

Bonnie Soulsby, Stanford Jim
Tarr, St. Andrew Billings

C. Property Tax Requirements

All churches within Yellowstone Presbytery are required to submit the necessary paperwork through the state of Montana to keep their property tax exempt status. This paperwork needed to be completed by March 1, 2016. Each of our PMT church's contacted their congregational liaison to remind this of this requirement that is being mandated through the State of Montana Department of Revenue.

D. Roy Transfer of Deed

We are working with Mark Parker, an attorney in Billings, to transfer the deed of the Roy Presbyterian Church. We hope to have this process completed in the next several weeks.

E. New Pastor in Harlowton

We welcome the Rev. Roger Frederick, the new pastor serving the Federated Church in Harlowton. He is a Methodist pastor who also serves three other Methodist churches in the area.

F. Tax & Financial Training Coming in September

The Board of Pensions will be providing three seminars from September 27-30 at First Presbyterian Church in Billings. Dan Krebill is helping organize this event which will be highly beneficial to a number of pastors and church leaders within our congregation. Dan will be speaking at the presbytery meeting, providing more information about these seminars.

I am grateful for a dedicated group who serve as members of the Pastoral Ministry Team:

TE David Andrew	RE Charlie Brown	TE JP Carlson
TE Susi Ennis	RE Chris Eriksen	RE Gayle Holland
TE Dan Krebill	RE Veva Larsen	RE Linda Smith
RE Bonnie Soulsby	RE Jim Tarr	TE Dave Thompson

Respectfully Submitted,

The Rev. Dave Thompson, Chair