

## Yellowstone Presbytery Stated Meeting

May 4,5, 2018, Federated Church, Harlowton, MT

**18 – 0501** – Call to Order -1:05 PM, CRE Jack Bell, Moderator, opened the meeting with prayer. Pastor Vicki Waddington Pastor of the Federated Church of Harlowton welcomed the Presbytery and offered some music as the presbytery was being assembled.

**18 – 0502** – Roll Call – RE Jim Tarr, Stated Clerk, called the roll. Those who filled out registration sheets (in person or by email) are listed as present. Those who emailed or texted they were unable to attend are listed as excused.

### Ruling Elder Commissioners Present:

Anaconda- Cal Bayle-John P. Lombardi	Hysham – Wayne Milmine
Big Hole- Sandy Cleary	Jordan – absent
First Billings – Chris Eriksen	Lewistown- Margee Smith
St Andrew – Sandy Welch	Manhattan – (Excused)
Bozeman – John Patterson	Miles City – Verna Viall
Butte – absent	Philipsburg - absent
Colstrip - absent	Poplar – absent
Deer Lodge - absent	Stanford – Ray Soulsby
Dillon – Terry Johnson	Terry – Gary Sperline
Ennis (Madison Valley) – absent	White Sulphur Springs – absent
Forsyth -Gayle Holland	Wolf Point – absent
Harlowton – absent	

### Teaching Elder Members of Presbytery:

David Andrew (absent), Roderick Blair (absent), Susan Barnes (present) , Paul Cannon (present), James Bell (absent), JP Carlson (absent), Priscilla Bell (absent), Jed Cauffman (excused), Paul Cousins (absent) Jody McDevitt (present), Warren Craig (absent), Sherwood McKay (absent), Dick Davis (excused), Cathy McLean (excused), Mary Davis (excused), Marcia Muir (absent), John Dyce (absent), Sally Ralston (present), Katie Emery (present), Susi Ennis (present), Neva Rathbun (present), Debbie Funke (excused) Harlan L Rounds (excused), George Goodrich (present), Bill Swanson (absent), Kathy Goodrich (excused) Susan Thomas (present), Doug Johnson (absent), David Thompson (present), Jean Johnson (absent), Larry Vandecreek (absent), Lowell Johnson (absent), Vicki Waddington (present), Teresa Kendall (present), Steve Weber (present), Dan Krebill (present), Kim Woeste (absent), Paul Krebill (absent) Brent Lo(excused) Freeman McCall (absent), Diane White (present)

**Other Voting Members:**

Jack Bell (moderator) (CRE- Stanford) [present] Jim Tarr (Stated Clerk) (Synod Commissioner) [present] Ron Hanson (Moderator St Timothy's Chapel) [present] Curt Kochner (Moderator Camping) [present] Veva Larson (CRE- Anaconda) [absent], Julie Boksich (Leadership Cabinet), (present) Suzanne Bratsky (Moderator PW) [excused] Robert Shy (CLP – Colstrip) [absent] Paul Helland (RE – Leadership Cabinet) [present] Dan Holland (RE –Leadership Cabinet) [present]

**Staff and Others Present:**

Rev Jamie Schmeling(RCA), Miles City, MT(seated)[present], Rev. George Goodrich(CoGP), Rev. Kathy Goodrich(CoGP)[present], Melissa Perrault-Baumann (assistant stated clerk) [present], Don Holland RE-Forsyth, [present], Sharon Milmine, RE-Hysham[present].

**18-0503-** A Quorum was declared, Docket for meeting was approved with a few minor changes, none of which required advance notices. Timing of a report on the mission trip to Miami by Presbycats was changed. The meeting theme was “Loved & Called-Gifted-Equipped-Sent-(Part 3) with a particular focus on Ephesians 4:11-13.

➤ **The procedural motion was adopted as follows:**

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 and marked as excused.
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.

**18-0504-Worship service and Dwelling in the word:** We did Word-Prayer-Share on Luke 10:1-12 led by Rev. Teresa Kendall.

**18-0505- Installation of Stated Clerk:** Newly elected stated clerk Jim Tarr was presented in an installation service using the ordination questions in the Book of Order for Ministry in the PCUSA and prayer and laying on of hands. After the installation Jim introduced Melissa Perrault – Baumann to the Presbytery as the new assistant stated clerk.

**18-0506-Equipping and Encouraging, Part 1:** Focus of this segment was on developing people eyes and contained a skit along with breakout groups working on the skill sets required such as show respect, don't interrupt, and how to listen.

**18-0507- Report on mission trip:** Rev. Dan Krebill Co Pastor at FPC Bozeman led a group called Presbycats from the University of Montana on a mission trip to Miami FL. The trip had received some financial help from Yellowstone Presbytery. Theme “Seeing the face of God in the city” and so they went to several different venues during the trip. A kosher kitchen, a LGBTQ Store, the Riverside House pre-release Center, a 1<sup>st</sup> Methodist Church of Miami homeless service facility. And Door Ministries. Posting to Facebook kept families and churches informed as the trip progressed.

**18-0508- PMT Report:** The PMT report is attached, Exhibit C. Rev Dave Thompson Moderator of the committee gave the floor to Dan Krebill to talk about the Board of Pensions presenting possible future training at a Presbytery meeting by Mark Fry possibly at our November Meeting.

Dave acknowledged Rev. Sally Ralston who is about to retire July 31, 2018 and thanked her for her service both to her church and to the Presbytery. Sally was given the floor to speak and a prayer was offered.

- It was Moved and seconded **and voted** that Sally Ralston be moved to Honorably Retired status after July 31, 2018 and will remain in the bounds of the Yellowstone Presbytery.

**18-0509- Westminster Spires Camp:** Curt Kochner RE Moderator reported on the camp plans for this summer and provided application forms for participants to take to their home churches. Non PCUSA Church member children are eligible to apply for camp and camp scholarships. RE Sandy Welch was given floor to appeal for volunteers to work at the Westminster Spires Re-Vamp the Camp event June 1,2,3, 2018.

**18-0510- Co-General Presbyters reports:** Report of the Co-GP’s is attached to these minutes, Exhibit G. The Appeals were made for Prayers for the Jordan Church PNC effort, for the Whitworth Fellows program which will work within the Presbytery again this summer with just 2 Fellows returning. Churches wishing for help in Growing Young are asked to help with some financial assistance to the fellowships as they need an additional \$800.00 to complete the work.

Whitworth College is currently waiving the \$300.00 fee for the CRE training program and we were advised of the need to get engaged in this opportunity.

Scholarships for mission trips may be available and applications are wanted. Churches are to let the Leadership Cabinet know if they need help.

July 23 to 27 are the dates for the Whitworth Conferences and one of the 1001 new worshipping communities will be presenting at the conference.

Rev. Dan Krebill was given floor to brief the Presbytery on the work to update our insurance coverage.

**18-0511- Meeting recessed** with Worship and Dinner put on by the Federated Church of Harlowton.

**18-0512- Meeting reconvened at 8:10 AM May 5th:** RE John Patterson led the fellowship in “Dwelling in the Word” 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 16:1-13 During which the breakouts were 3 people doing word-share-prayer on this scripture.

**18-0513- Part B Christ sends us out into our communities.** Co GP Kathy Goodrich led a discussion about Dorothy and the Wizard of OZ story. “We are not in Kansas”, we are in a new place and need to see the

correlation as we get placed in this new opportunity. Kathy introduced some churches with good news relating to this subject.

TE Diane White gave a talk on how she sees and does things in Lewistown, seeing people where they are and engaging them in conversations, finding out about community needs, seeing what is happening, going to sporting events, talking with other pastors, police, store owners, radio stations, and what she calls indolent curiosity. How does your church fit with the needs discovered? What are your gifts, assets, talents that can be applied? Then you “Collaborate”.

Then we heard from 3 other churches including the community food bank housed in the Federated Church of Harlowton, A Suicide prevention training program funded by the Harlowton church, the struggle with this and them mentality found on the reservation community in Poplar, MT, opportunities in Bozeman where FPC Bozeman takes full responsibility for the Rockhaven Camp and all its activities and Presbycats a college to church connection they have established.

**18-0514- St Timothy’s Chapel Report:** RE Ron Hanson reported on the St Timothy’s Chapel’s need for changes in rules and procedures and the Leadership Cabinet’s proposed changes which were in the meeting packets.

- **It was voted unanimously to adopt the change to the Standing Rules of St Timothy’s Chapel as revised in the attached document, Exhibit E.**
- **It was also voted to change the policy standards for St Timothy’s Chapel as indicated in the attached document, Exhibit F.**

**18-0515- Previous Minutes:**

- **Minutes of the Stated Presbytery Meeting March 2,3 2018 where approved. Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Presbytery April 3, 2018 were approved with one minor typographical correction made.**

**18-0516- Special election.** The Leadership Cabinet proposed that TE Teresa Kendall be placed on the Rep/Nom committee.

- **It was voted to add TE Teresa Kendall to the nominating committee class of 2018.**

**18-0517- GA commissioners:** We commissioned RE John Patterson(Present), TE Dick Davis(Excused), and YAAD Tamara Lucht (Absent) to go to the General Assembly 223 representing Yellowstone Presbytery. The commissioning involved recognition of the challenges to be faced, prayer and laying on of hands.

**18-0518-** Meeting summary was presented by Rev Susan Thomas and involved thanking the Federated Church community of Harlowton, MT for their hospitality.

**18-0519- Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned with prayer at 11:59 AM MDT.

**18-0520-** Next Meeting: Next meeting of Yellowstone Presbytery will be November 2-3, 2018 at FPC Bozeman, MT

(Minutes approved by email vote of the Presbytery on March 14, 2019)

Jim Tarr

Stated Clerk

**Attached: exhibit A. LC Report, Exhibit B.PMT Report, Exhibit C. Camping Report, Exhibit D. PW Report, Exhibit E. St Timothy's Chapel Standing Rules with Revisions indicated, Exhibit F. St Timothy's Policy Statement with revisions indicated, Exhibit G. Co General Presbyters report.**

## Exhibit A

Leadership Cabinet Report  
Yellowstone Presbytery  
May 4 & 5, 2018  
Harlowton Federated Church, Harlowton MT

*The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. – Ephesians 4:11-13*

In 2018 we will continue our focus on “Equipping and sending the gifted into ministry”. Since the March 2018 Presbytery Meeting the Leadership Cabinet has met twice. In those meetings we discussed and worked on a wide range of things based on our vision and 2018 goals. These discussions have included the following actions.

A. Appointed Jim Tarr to be Temporary Stated Clerk from the end of Debbie’s term on March 31, 2018 until the Called Presbytery Conference Call where he was elected by the Presbytery on April 3, 2018. Following the Stated Presbytery Conference Call, we dismissed the Stated Clerk Search Committee with the thanks of the Leadership Cabinet.

B. Approved changes to the signatures required on bank accounts at Big Sky Western Sky Bank.

C. Continued to plan for this Presbytery meeting. For this meeting we are continuing to focus on:

- How can we develop our “People Eyes” to see others as Christ sees them?
- How can we REALLY listen well?
- How can we not miss out on hearing God’s calling and sending us to join in Christ’s mission in our communities?
- How can we better equip and motivate our congregations to move outside the church building? To listen to, to serve, to care for, and to reach those who are unchurched, church-damaged, millennials, and to “Grow Young”.

D. Continued our work to establish a Personnel team as a sub-group of the Leadership Cabinet. Leadership Cabinet members of this team are CRE Jack Bell, RE Paul Helland. Rev. Diane White has joined Jack and Paul on this sub-committee.

E. Continued work with our Guide One Insurance agent, in person and remote that has taken place over many months. We have received updated information on our current coverage levels, evaluations and recommendations for ongoing coverages and/or new coverage needed. We continue to work with the agent to identify levels, any additional coverages and the costs recommended. We are expecting several thousand dollars increase.

F. Have continued to create an appropriate Child Protection Policy for the Presbytery with an eye toward having it updated and in place before the 2018 Westminster Spires season. Curt Kochner and Cynthia Kessler, camp staff, have worked hard on this policy along with George Goodrich and Suzanne Bratsky, former head of camping.

G. Received a report from the St. Timothy's Chapel and the budget of St. Timothy's Chapel. We concurred with the changes to their Standing Rules.

H. Kathy and George presented their Co-Presbyter's Report. God has been blessing this Presbytery in many ways. Those places searching for pastoral leadership have seen candidates coming forward (see both George and Kathy's report to the Presbytery and the PMT report for details).

I. Established a Standing Rules sub-group of the Leadership Cabinet. The purpose of this sub-group is to look at the Standing Rules of the Presbytery and discern what is working and what needs to be changed for our Presbytery to function efficiently and properly. This sub-group will bring proposed amendments to the Leadership Cabinet for their concurrence and then the proposed amendments will be brought before the Presbytery for approval. At this time the members of this sub-group are Jim Tarr, Stated Clerk; Melissa Perrault-Baumann, Assistant to the Stated Clerk; Dan Krebill, Minister of Word and Sacrament; Debbie Blackburn, former Stated Clerk; and Kathy Goodrich, co-Presbyter. An additional Ruling Elder has been asked to prayerfully consider being a member of this team.

J. Concurred with the appointment of Melissa Perrault-Baumann as Assistant to the Stated Clerk.

Announcements for the Presbytery from the Leadership Cabinet

K. The date and location of the remaining 2018 Presbytery meeting is November 2 & 3, 2018 and will be at First Presbyterian Church in Bozeman.

L. The Yellowstone Currents is the newsletter of this Presbytery where we share what God is doing in our midst. If your congregation has something fun to share like mission activity or some special speaker coming up and the like; please send the article to Susan Thomas.

Requested Action of the Presbytery:

M. Due to a vacancy on the Rep/Nom committee due to a resignation, the Leadership Cabinet would like to place into nomination the name of Teresa Kendall, Minister of Word and Sacrament in Deer Lodge, for a one year term in the Class of 2018.

As a reminder, here are the 2018 Goals the Leadership Cabinet has adopted for the Presbytery.

### **Yellowstone Presbytery Leadership Cabinet Goals for 2018**

*The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.* Ephesians 4:11-13

1. Encourage and emphasize discipleship among the people of Yellowstone Presbytery.

--Continue to model Dwelling in the Word or Word-Share-Pray at Presbytery meetings, at all ministry team meetings, and clusters; encouraging sessions to include this in the life of their congregations.

--Extend Stan Ott's training by planning a video visit from Stan during the March presbytery meeting and offering a study guide to his resources.

--Provide *Growing Young* resources and training for leaders and congregations at each Presbytery meeting in 2018. This may be as short as a 5 minute announcement or as long as a 45-60 minute workshop. Sharing how *Growing Young* is impacting the Presbytery and individual congregations.

--Provide Elder or Leadership resources and training for leaders and congregations at each Presbytery meeting in 2018. This may be as short as a 5 minute announcement or as long as a 45-60 minute workshop.

--Equip Lay Leaders/CREs in congregations through providing specific programs including the Whitworth Leadership Training through their Office of Church Engagement. Also provide disciple mentors for leaders in congregations as needed.

2. Support the spiritual nurture of pastors and leaders across the presbytery.

--Offer support to the PMT as they plan for a pastor's retreat to be held in 2019. This support would include the encouragement of pastors to attend the retreat through announcements and emails.

--Encourage prayer for one another, including use of the presbytery prayer calendar.

Determine how many churches are using the Prayer Calendar; in what ways do they use it? How do we encourage the use of the calendar? (Email and encourage use of it)

--Ask Pastors/Leaders how the Presbytery can nurture and encourage their spiritual journey. (How do we do it better?)

3. Foster community in the presbytery.

-- We will continue to encourage and support presbytery clusters.

--We continue to support Presbytery Sunday on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in October (Oct. 14, 2018) by providing ideas and resources.

--Support Leadership subcommittee efforts to share stories from around the presbytery at meetings or in the Currents. Encourage each Leadership Cabinet



member to think about or find a story to share at a Presbytery meeting or in the Currents.

4. Support Presbytery staff by establishing and strengthening the Personnel ministry sub-group. Ensure that this sub-group can:

--Provide clear job descriptions and job expectations for staff members

--Plan for timely and consistent reviews as appropriate, i.e. 30 day, 60 day, 90 day, 6 month, or annually.

--Ensure that the newly hired Stated Clerk is equipped as she or he begins their ministry in the Presbytery.

5. Examine staffing patterns and budget in light of the changes in synod support and determine if adjustments are needed. At the June Leadership Cabinet meeting be prepared to look at what our funding options and budget options look like and begin to formulate a plan for 2019.

2/19/18

## Exhibit B

Pastoral Ministry Team

Presbytery Report

May 4-5, 2018

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. Sexual Misconduct/Boundary Training

Dates have been set for our mandatory Sexual Misconduct/Boundary Training for September 2018. Two dates have been set with the understanding that all TEs and CREs will attend one of these two sessions. This training is also available for others in the church including Ruling Elders, Sunday school teachers, child care workers, and other volunteers in the church. Mark Bassingthwaighe, a member of FPC Billings and one who has conducted extensive trainings on these subjects nationally, will be our presenter. Lunch will be served. More information about the training will be forthcoming.

First Presbyterian in Billings: Saturday, September 15, 2018 from 10-2 PM

First Presbyterian in Bozeman: Saturday, September 29, 2018 from 10-2 PM

B. The Rev. Dan Krebill will provide a Board of Pensions testimonial update to the Presbytery.

### C. The Retirement of Sally Ralston

After years of serving the Presbyterian Church in Philipsburg and the Methodist churches in Drummond and Hall, the Rev. Sally Ralston will be retiring this summer. We will provide some time at our meeting to recognize Sally and to show her our appreciation of her years of service to these churches, our Presbytery, and the United Methodist Conference.

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

RE Charlie Brown TE JP Carlson TE Susi Ennis

RE Chris Eriksen RE Gayle Holland TE Doug Johnson

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

## Exhibit C

### Revamp camp report

Are you ready to spend a weekend in the woods? Listen to the babel of Rock Creek? Smell the smoke from a campfire at night while roasting Marshmallows? If you said yes, mark your calendar for June 1-3, 2018. It is time for Revamp the Camp.

Revamp the Camp is our gift to the children participating in Westminster Spires Church Camp. We will spruce up the camp for all our campers.

We are asking for volunteers to paint, clean and repair our buildings. Also, clear brush that has fallen on our paths. If it is not too cold clear, debris from the creek that flows thru the camp. (This will help reduce the mosquito issue.)

Volunteers can spend the night in the cabins over the weekend. If you are unable to come up for the whole weekend, then come up for a day.

Meals will be provided. (Please RSVP so we know how much food to purchase.)

If you are unable to participate, a financial donation would be greatly appreciated. (This will cover the cost for food, cleaning & repair supplies and paint.)

Sandy Welch

Cell 406-861-1691, Email [SandraWelch406@gmail.com](mailto:SandraWelch406@gmail.com)

I want to share a Prayer that my Grandfather wrote years ago. He was a poet at heart.

When the old year is just about over  
With its' gladness and sadness and care  
There's a wonderful solace and comfort  
In the silent communion of prayer  
When you have searched for the sun without ceasing  
And the showers continue to fall  
There's a heavenly lift in this wonderful gift  
That God has extended to all  
From the Magic of prayer there comes power  
That will minimize all of your care  
And you'll gather new hop when you are able to cope  
With the trouble that once brought despair  
So lift up your heart to the heavens  
There's a loving and kind father there  
Who offers release and comfort and peace  
In the silent communion of prayer

**JR van Gelder**

## Exhibit D

### PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

February 20, 2018

In the year to come we will answer this question: “What does it look like to be a person deeply embedded in a community and a neighborhood and also have a global consciousness and impact?” (Courtney E. Martin-Seven Questions to end 2017 and start 2018 with intention.) This is what it will look like: We will support the Annual Fund of the Mission of Presbyterian Women. These funds, in partnership with PC(USA) , address far flung needs and the communities in which we live. We especially are concerned about children and promoting children’s literacy in connection with the PC(USA)’s Educate a Child initiative.

We are hosting Kathy Lundberg, PW Representatives to Global Exchange to Indonesia to present at The Spring Gathering on March 23 in Billings and 24, in Bozeman. The title of the talk is “Building Bridges of Understanding,” “... so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other’s Faith, both yours and mine.” (Rom. 1:12) She met women and children whose lives were impacted by the community center in Ciliwung, Jakarta. Horizons January/February 2018.

Join us as we go to The Churchwide Gathering of PW, August 2-5, 2018 in Louisville, Kentucky. Watch for updates on the PW Web site at [presbyterianwomen.org](http://presbyterianwomen.org).

We use the 2017-2018 PW/Horizons Bible Study, Cloud of Witnesses-The Community of Christ in Hebrews.

Merry Lee Hooks, Moderator February 20, 2018

## **Exhibits E & F**

### **St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel Committee (STMCC) Report to Yellowstone Presbytery June – 2018**

#### **Information -**

The STMCC has not met since the last report was sent to presbytery. The next meeting of the STMCC is set for May. Pastors for the 2018 season are:

Rev. Andrew Mullins – June 3, 10, 17, 24.

Rev. Will Scott - July 1, 8, 15,

Rev. Dr. Daren Hofmann – July 22 & 29

Rev. Dr. Lewis Galloway August 5, 12, 19 & 26.

#### **Action items -**

**Standing Rules** – The Standing Rules for the STMCC were adopted in 1965 and have been amended in minor ways twice (in 2002 and in 2013). The Leadership Cabinet has reviewed the Draft and is in favor of the proposed changes. Each proposed change is supported by rationale in the document except for the membership numbers of the committee which is included below.

“When the Draft was prepared the proposed local area membership was shown as a ?. Since then we have done some additional thinking on both the definition of the local area and the membership numbers. As far as we know the local area has never been defined. We have always assumed that it included Anaconda, Butte, Deer Lodge and Philipsburg. Regardless exceptions have been made in the past and no doubt will be made in the future.

Regarding Ministers in the local area there are currently 5. Two are retired and are no longer interested in serving on the STMCC. Two are nearing retirement and one does not feel called to serve on the STMCC. In light of this it seems prudent to change the label of ministers to ministers/CRE's and change the number to 2.

Regarding Presbyterian members, the current Standing Rules call for 7 – we currently have 4. Also we have 3 Ecumenical members and 1 family member. Obviously it is important to have a majority of Presbyterians on the committee. Finding additional Presbyterians to serve on the committee is questionable. Most service oriented Presbyterians are already active in their own church. Therefore the proposal is to change the number of Presbyterians on the committee to 5”.

**The STMCC moves the following draft of the Standing Rules for the STMCC for approval by Yellowstone Presbytery.**

## **Standing Rules**

### **St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel**

#### **Suggested changes to Standing Rules**

*(Items crossed out to be eliminated. Items underlined to be added)*

#### **Article I-Name of Organization**

The name of the organization is St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel. Its affairs are administered by the St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel Committee in Cooperation with the Presbytery of Yellowstone of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

#### **Article II-Statement of Mission**

St Timothy's Chapel has been established as original papers show: (1) To provide an inspiration setting for Sunday worship for a 12 week summer period ending Labor Day a selected number of weeks during June, July and August for vacationers, summer residents, and interested persons from Georgetown Lake and wider environs; (2) To provide a setting for wedding services Christian weddings and other Christian services subject to the guidelines of the Chapel Committee; (3) To provide a place, subject to prior scheduling, for religious retreats and conferences, church related meetings, small concerts, and other events in keeping with this mission statement; (4) To make the facilities available ecumenically to other Christian groups, subject to the guidelines and scheduling of the Chapel Committee;(5) To provide a distinctively Christian setting for meditation for the many persons who visit the chapel area during weekdays.

#### **Change Rationale:**

-Adds flexibility to the number of services. At the request of worshipers we have held services through August which amounts to 13 weeks.

-Services other than weddings may be held—such as approved baptisms and memorial services.

-Phrase "the many" is unnecessary

#### **Article III-Members**

St Timothy's Chapel is a specialized ministry and not a constituted congregation, nor is the summer pastor installed. Thus, there is no category of communicant

membership as is the case in a duly constituted Christian congregation with an installed pastor.

Membership of the Chapel Committee consists of seven (7) up to 5 Presbyterians from the area of whom up to 3 2 shall be a Presbyterian pastor/CRE. One of the 7 5 presbyterians shall be elected chair Moderator of the Committee. In addition, there shall be up to seven (7) (4) ecumenical/Family members committed to the ministry from area non-Presbyterian congregations; and up to four (4) representatives of the donor

Family, **only one of which shall be a voting member**. Attention shall be paid to achieving an appropriate balance between men and women members. The summer pastor(s), representatives of the Yellowstone Presbytery, and other members of the donor family may attend meetings in an ex-officio capacity without a vote. The position of Treasurer and calendar secretary are is ex-officio without vote.

Nomination and election to the Chapel Committee is only as described in Article V of these Standing Rules. No individual member of the Chapel Committee is authorized to act on his/her own without prior permission of the entire committee. All action normally begins in sub-committees which is then recommended to the entire Chapel Committee in meeting which provides authorization unless prior exception is made.

**Change Rationale:**

- Membership number is adjusted to reflect actual availability of qualified persons to fill the membership categories and to equalize the number of Presbyterians and ecumenical members.
- Finding a treasurer outside of the committee is nigh unto impossible.
- Entire committee implies a unanimous vote rather than a majority vote.
- Gender balance is always sought on Presbyterian committees but actual balance may vary from year to year due to availability.
- Since the Chapel currently operates as a committee of the whole, the requirement for action to begin in sub-committee (or any *ad hoc* committees) can be eliminated or kept as is -- allowing for the exception as noted in anticipation of creating these committees per Article VI.



#### **Article IV – Worship Services and Meetings**

Worship services consistent with the Presbyterian tradition are held on Sunday mornings during the summer. The Chapel is also available for such activities as outlined in Article II.

Funerals are not held at the Chapel. Baptism or the Lord's Supper are not observed in the summer Sunday morning services. Any exception would require the prior approval of both the Chapel Committee and the Presbytery of Yellowstone. Other denominations than Presbyterian may hold baptisms and Communion if in keeping with accepted practices of denominations involved. Christian Memorial services may be conducted at the Chapel when in keeping with the accepted practices of the denominations involved. A columbarium niche, if available, may be purchased from the Chapel for the deposit of ashes. Christian Baptisms may be conducted at the Chapel when in keeping with the accepted practices of the denominations involved.

The Lord's Supper may be celebrated during Sunday morning services with the required approval of the Chapel Committee and the Presbytery of Yellowstone. The Chapel Committee meets at least three times during the calendar year at pre-set times either in person or including one meeting as a conference call.

Additional meetings may be called at the initiative of the chair of the Chapel Committee and/or at least two Committee members with a minimum of 10 days prior notice to the entire Committee. A quorum shall include at least three Presbyterian members of the Committee. Email votes are authorized.

At the three preset meetings the agenda shall include review of previous committee minutes, financial report, communications from Presbytery, schedule up-date and reports on pending matters. The winter meeting (1) shall be the Annual Meeting and shall include approval of an annual budget; selection of the summer pastor(s); organist, and custodian; and approval of an annual report to the Presbytery of Yellowstone. The late spring/early summer meeting (2) shall include review of chapel use guidelines; summer calendar; publicity for the chapel program; decision on a summer benefit concert for area public services or other special events; orientation of the summer pastor(s) as needed. The late summer

meeting (3) shall include an evaluation of the summer program using established criteria; election of committee members and officers; review of sub-committee assignments; review of the upkeep needs of the Manse, Chapel and grounds. A conference call, or email vote, may be used to take into account individual member needs and driving distances provided adequate subject material is provided well ahead of the conference call or email vote.

**Change Rationale:**

- Add phrase : “Worship Services” to title to reflect other permitted services.
- Memorial services are a natural accompaniment to the columbarium.
- Baptisms reflect the Chapel commitment to welcoming all into the love and protection of the Lord. The assembled family and guests who are present pledge to guide and nurture the baptized.
- A conference call takes into account individual member needs and driving distances.

**Article V- Governance and Elections**

The oversight of St Timothy’s Memorial Chapel is vested in St. Timothy’s Memorial Chapel Committee which consists of persons as described in Article III. The Chapel in its work is guided by the Form of Government of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

*Replace Nominating Committee paragraph with:* The Chapel Committee as a whole will serve as a nominating committee for the position of summer pastor and Chapel Committee officers.

Chapel Committee members, unless elected to an unexpired term, are customarily elected for a 3 year term. Members are arranged as equally as possible in up to 3 classes so that term expirations will not disrupt continuity in the work of the Chapel Committee. Other nominations may be made from the floor. Non-attendance of three consecutive regularly scheduled terminates membership on the committee.

The Personnel Committee, The Chapel Committee, prior to the winter meeting reviews possibilities for the position of summer pastor(s). Before submitting a name to the Chapel Committee, the willingness of the candidate to serve shall be ascertained. Suggestions for summer pastor(s) may be received from other committee members or interested persons. The approved candidate(s) shall be reported to the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Yellowstone for

concurrence. The expectation is that the Pastors shall be affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A) and in good standing with the same. Following approval by the Committee on Ministry, the pastor in question must secure similar approval from the presbytery in which he/she holds membership. Appointments are for a given year but may be continued at the discretion of the Chapel Committee.

#### **Article VI – Sub-Committees**

There shall be sub-committees of the Chapel Committee which, however titled, shall provide oversight for the following areas: Nominations; Personnel; Program (including worship, special programs, weddings; and other uses) Building and Grounds (including custodian); Finance and Investments (including budget reports) and Publicity. Sub-committee membership shall be by three year terms arranged in classes. All Sub-committees shall have job-descriptions. The Chapel Committee as a whole will serve as a nominating committee for the position of summer pastor and Chapel Committee officers.

The chair Moderator of the Chapel Committee may appoint ad hoc sub-committees to carry on certain work of the Chapel. Sub-committees meet periodically at least annually (occasionally even by telephone conference calls are permissible) to fulfill their job. The sub-committee chair or someone designated by him or her is to report at each meeting of the Chapel Committee. Standing and *ad hoc* committees shall be established as needed by the Chapel Committee.

#### **Article VII – Budget and Finances**

References to Rev Anderson and Rev McCabe seem out of place in a Standing Rules. More appropriate to history documents.

St. Timothy's and the house for the summer pastor(s) were a gift by the members of the John W. Bowman family of Sterling, Illinois, working with Rev. Dr. H.R. Anderson as advisor, organizing pastor and first summer pastor and Rev. Dr. Joseph McCabe. Within several years of its opening in 1965 it was self-supporting. Income is derived from Sunday offerings during the summer, use fees from weddings, receptions, conferences, and other events approved by the Chapel Committee, special designated and undesignated gifts administered as invested

funds by the Chapel Committee, the income from Trust Funds given by the donor family and administered by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation, earnings paid to the Chapel Committee through the Presbytery of Yellowstone.

An annual budget for the Chapel program is approved at the beginning of each calendar year and monitored during the year by the committee. The annual audit/financial report is approved by the Chapel Committee, and audit a financial review is arranged for, and a copy of that financial review is provided to the Presbytery of Yellowstone. The minimum standards of financial procedures as outlined in the form of Government shall be observed. The budget indicates the remuneration for the part-time summer staff needed for the program. The pastoral remuneration includes free use of the manse.

### **Article VIII – Governing Rules**

Where the Standing Rules do not provide the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) provides guidance. At meetings of the Chapel Committee or its sub-committees, parliamentary procedures is to be followed in accordance with Robert's Roles of Order. For more specific information on these procedures see the official job descriptions.

Where these Standing Rules do not provide, the Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (USA) provides guidance. At all meetings of the Chapel Committee (as well as at all sub- and *ad hoc* committees), it is expected that business will be conducted decently and in order -- and with the use of Robert's Rules of Order, if the chair so directs.

### **Change Rationale:**

- "Customarily" allows for flexibility in availability of desired members.
- "Other nominations..." is not relevant to this paragraph.
- Striking "non-attendance..." allows for flexibility in member circumstances and acknowledges that all members can be informed by email as well as solicited by email for comments and approvals as needed.
- The Chair or his/her designate is the most appropriate person to discuss membership with a candidate to assure full understanding of the role. All Chapel Committee members are to suggest possible candidates.

### **Article IX – Amendments**

The Standing Rules may be amended upon 30 days written notice (which shall include a copy of the proposed amendments and its rational) by a majority of those present at a meeting of the Chapel Committee. Amendment is to have concurrence of the Presbytery of Yellowstone.

A provision of these Standing Rules may be suspended by the Chapel Committee if a demonstrated need is shown and for a specific period. Such action shall be fully recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

### **Article X – Gen**

The following are the official papers of the Chapel Committee and provide guidance on questions not specifically dealt with in the Standing Rules: (1) The History of St. Timothy's Chapel; (2) Job Descriptions for the Sub-Committees and the Paid staff; (3) Descriptions of the Chapel's Sunday Worship (i.e. Bulletin).; and (4) Description of the Manse and surrounding Area.

### **Change Rational:**

- Adding the Bulletin describes our Sunday Worship. The rest is not needed since pastors are returning most every year. For new pastors we can provide adequate information from other sources including our website.

### **Proposed changes 4/4/2017**

**Financial Procedures Document** – Like the Standing Rules, the Financial Procedures document needs to be reviewed and most likely changed. A draft of potential changes has been prepared and sent to the Leadership Cabinet for their consideration. However they have not responded.

**The STMCC Moves the approval of the following draft of the Financial Procedures Document.**

## **FINANCIAL PROCEDURES FOR ST TIMOTHY'S MEMORIAL CHAPEL PRESBYTERY OF THE YELLOWSTONE ACCOUNTS**

- St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel of the Yellowstone Presbytery checking account (to be maintained at an Anaconda bank). This account is used to pay for all routine and usual expenses incurred by the Chapel in conducting its ministry program.
- St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel Fund #1 (John W. & Crete Dillon Bowman Fund 1, Account 52-0010-85 with the Presbyterian Foundation). Income from this trust, received on a quarterly basis, is to be used specifically for maintenance and program expense of St. Timothy's Chapel. It's understood that this is a donor-restricted account.\*
- St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel Fund #2 (John w. & Crete Dillon Bowman Fund 2, Account 52-0060-24 with the Presbyterian Foundation). Income from this fund is to be used for maintenance and program expense of St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel, and in particular, for the placement and compensation of the summer minister of St. Timothy's. If the Chapel no longer exists, or the income available is more than sufficient to provide for the purposes set forth above, then such income or excess may be used for corporate purposes of the Presbytery of the Yellowstone. It's understood that this is a donor-restricted account.\*
- St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel Fund #3. Significant contributions and specified donations, past and future, will account for the majority of this fund. Fund #3 will be the principle source of funding for St. Timothy's long-range plan. It is designated as donor restricted and may be drawn down as needed to supplement on-going annual expenses of the Chapel nor otherwise covered. Fund #3 will include all investment instruments such as stocks, C.D.'s, money market funds etc. that are currently held by the Chapel Committee.

\* the donor restrictions for Fund 1 and Fund 2 are not the same.

### **PROCEDURES**

The Presbytery Council Leadership Cabinet shall designate a sub-committee of two from its members (not more than three), and the Chapel Committee shall designate a subcommittee of two of its members (not more than three). These four people who will be known as the St. Timothy's Chapel Financial Management Group (Management Group for short). The Management Group will have the responsibility to review and recommend to presbytery develop the annual and multi-year budget for the Chapel in accordance with the Chapel's annual and long-range plan. This budget will be submitted annually to the Chapel Committee for its concurrence and to the Council for its approval.

The Management Group will also have the responsibility to develop the investment procedures for Fund #3 to include the types and amounts of investment in the various financial instruments that are available. The goals and objectives of the St. Timothy's Chapel Committee will be considered by the

Management Group in making their decisions. The Management Group will meet as often as is necessary to complete their responsibilities but it is anticipated that two or three meetings per year will be sufficient.

The treasurer of St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel Committee will serve as an assistant treasurer to the treasurer of Yellowstone Presbytery with authority only for St. Timothy's funds. The assistant treasurer will have day-to-day responsibility for handling disbursements from the St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel checking account. The assistant treasurer will be co-signatory's on the checking account. Two signatures will be necessary on all checks.

Income from Funds 1 & 2 will be transferred by the treasurer of Yellowstone Presbytery directly into the Chapel checking account. Earnings from Fund #3 will be reinvested in Fund #3 unless needed to satisfy payment obligations of the Chapel program. On a regular basis the treasurer, or Annually, the assistant treasurer, will provide a report on the balance and activity of Fund #3 to the Management Group and the Yellowstone Presbytery. Significant non-budget, unanticipated needs not otherwise covered by insurance or the Long Range Plan must will be taken up with the Presbytery Council Leadership Cabinet. Performance and earnings reports for Funds 1 & 2 should be sent on a timely basis by the Presbyterian Foundation to agents of both the Presbytery and the Chapel committee assistant treasurer.

The assistant treasurer will be responsible for reconciling the checking account and provide the account balance on a monthly basis to the treasurer and Chapel Committee moderator. A The report will comparing actual to budget expenditures. may be required on an as-needed basis by the treasurer or moderator.

Offerings, rental fees and miscellaneous sales income will be deposited directly into the checking account for use in meeting approved budget expenditures. Significant contributions and specified donations will be placed in Fund # 3.

## **BUDGET**

St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel Committee will prepare a budget proposal for review and approval by the Management Group at their January meeting. The Management Group will complete their work and approval in order to have the budget ready for submittal to the Presbytery Council at their Annual (February) meeting. This budget will be for the next three calendar years. The St. Timothy's budget will be integrated into the Yellowstone Presbytery budget. A long-range plan will be provided to Presbytery by St. Timothy's, as necessary, to enhance understanding and knowledge of the vision that the Chapel

Committee has for the mission and ministry of the Chapel. This long-range plan ultimately must be approved by Presbytery since it guides and determines the budgeting process.

The treasurer and assistant treasurer will supply a complete financial report to the Chapel Committee and the Management Group to facilitate the budgeting process. It is understood that income from Funds #1 and 2 will be used first to satisfy obligations of the Chapel and that if this is insufficient then income or principle from Fund #3 may be required. Any income from Fund#3 that is not needed to meet current obligations will be reinvested in Fund #3.

The budget for St. Timothy's will reflect an estimate of income from all sources including fees, offerings, Presbyterian Foundation earnings, any interest earnings not connected with the Presbyterian Foundation, sales and any miscellaneous sources of income. The budget (which includes the manse) will show all estimated disbursements necessary to conduct the ministry work and program activities of St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel. These will include ministerial, custodial, musical and administrative salaries as well as all expenses connected with operation and maintenance of the chapel and the manse. The expenses for the manse may be shown as separate line items for ease of administration. Additionally the budget will contain a section for multi-year major capital and maintenance expenditures connected with up-keep of the facilities and implementation of the long- range plan for the ministry of St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel. Funding for this portion of the budget may come from income that is excess to the on-going operation of the ministry as well as principle from Chapel Fund #3. In the future, fund-raising may be necessary to complete the long-range vision. Approval for any fund raising program needs to be approved by the Presbytery.

(Approved by the Council of the Presbytery of Yellowstone, April 26, 2002)

Revised 29Apr02

Revised 26Jan06

Draft 5/4/2018



## Exhibit G

### **Co-General Presbyters Update Yellowstone Presbytery George & Kathy Goodrich May 2018**

**What we are all doing here?:** At the beautiful Easter Service in Hysham, we were **about** to baptize a baby boy. His older sister (about 5 years old), spoke up to explain, “Mommy says, “M” is like a baby calf and we are putting God’s brand on him!” To all of you pastors and leaders in Yellowstone Presbytery, who are teaching, preaching, living, leading and passing on the faith, what you are doing is **so** worthwhile. All of us, together in Christ, indwelt by the Spirit, are making a difference, generation to generation as we make disciples and disciple-making congregations and are sent out to join Christ in Christ’s mission here and around the world.

#### **Encouraging Signs Across the Presbytery:**

1. **The Stated Clerk Transition: Grateful!** Grateful to Debbie Blackburn for her two plus years of extraordinary service as stated clerk to the presbytery. Masterful job! And we are grateful for Jim Tarr (elder St. Andrew) willing to be nominated and to Melissa Perrault-Baumann (elder Lewistown) for being willing to assist him. LC appointed him as acting Stated Clerk as of April 1, standing for election at the presbytery meeting, Tuesday, April 3 (during a recess in LC meeting). Extensive training took place the last two weeks of March as Debbie, George, Kathy, Susan and Sheryl worked on parts of this; Jim will attend training by the denominational leadership in May. We are very grateful for the work and wisdom of the Stated Clerk Search Committee and their unanimous decision regarding this team of Jim and Melissa going forward.

2. **PMT: Churches are receiving pastors.** God is providing! Big Hole, Miles City, Philipsburg, White Sulphur Springs, and Lewistown have received or will definitely be receiving new pastors in the near future. Dillon still has the wonderful interim with Steve Webber during their search; Jordan recently suffered a disappointing set back when the only candidate withdrew. Prayers for Jordan, please. Hysham is searching but has received no matches. The session is meeting to consider raising the salary figure they are able to offer. Hysham reports real joy in the gifted pulpit supply preaching they are receiving. And Colstrip will be without clergy after Robert Shy departs December 31. Please continue to pray.

3. **Whitworth Fellows and Growing Young:** The Fellows, Kristin Kochner and *Growing Young* equipping & conversations were helpful and thought provoking at the March Presbytery. Two from last year have asked to return again (Luke Ekstrom and Joel Shroeder). Several churches have already signed up to have the fellows preach, share the “Growing Young” ideas and dream how that church is being called to implement this, and help in other ways, such as with VBS and counseling at camp. Joel and David Hendricks, sensing they are called to ministry, will be placed as student pastors in the Jordan church for the summer preaching, pastoring and much more, learning about rural ministry. If your church *is committed to*: a. reading *Growing Young* and b. seriously exploring it’s implications for your congregations and would like to get on the fellows’ schedule this summer, please contact us! The Fellows are here June 1 - August 15.

4. **Camp - Expecting an amazing summer:** Westminster Spires Camp is fully staffed with many of the quality staff members from past summers returning for the 2018 season. All are college-age or graduates and dedicated in Christian faith. Curt Kochner continues to work tirelessly to make this ministry/mission possible and coordinates logistics. George will be

the speaker and spiritual resource for the elementary and junior high weeks. Rev's Katie Emery (ELCA pastor in our Terry church) and her husband, Rev. Will Johnson, will again be the speakers for senior high week. Our four Whitworth fellows will also participate as staff for portions of the summer camping season.

***Please encourage not only your campers and all children and families in your churches, but pray for “Jesus’ people eyes”. Seek out and invite other kids in your neighborhoods and communities to attend, with some scholarship help if that is needed!*** Brochures have gone to all attendees of the winter ski retreat and of camp last summer; and been mailed to all the congregations.

Our May presbytery offering will go to our Westminster Spires camp scholarship fund for this vital mission.

**5. St. Timothy’s Chapel:** The presbytery’s relationship with St. Timothy’s Chapel on Georgetown Lake is being rekindled after strain due to misunderstandings. Jack Bell has joined the chapel board. George has attended and also been in closer contact with board members. St. Tim’s presented by-law changes and its budget to the Leadership Cabinet at its April meeting. We are back on track and grateful for the work of the Leadership Cabinet and Debbie Blackburn.

**6. Presbytery Meetings:** The mini-conference model, content, resourcing and life together we are experiencing as a presbytery are being favorably received. Kudos to the planning teams. Several churches had non-commissioner lay folks attending who commented excitedly on how helpful the meetings are for them! Years ago, a ruling elder commented, as presbytery was ending, “I feel like I have been on a retreat!” That’s the goal. Presbytery meetings: Resource-full, Relevant, Vision- giving, Collegial, Inspirational, equipping, empowering and connecting. Yup.

**7. This Presbytery Meeting- General Theme: “Jesus’ People Eyes – seeing the people and the world around us from God’s perspective and with God’s incarnate, active love.”** George is presenting on how to understand God’s leading and how to hear, pay attention to God’s “voice” in our lives as we live out the Gospel in our personal contexts and communities. Kathy - Christ sends us out into our communities. Why? How can we better pay attention there, see with *Jesus’* people eyes? Where do I/we start? Hearing and learning from stories from other churches. Now, like Dorothy and Toto, we are no longer in Kansas but in OZ in our rapidly changing culture and world. What does this mean? The Implications? Tools, next steps.

### **Opportunities and some challenges:**

**1. Lay Training.** In living out our vision and response to requests from several congregations/sessions and lay leaders and as a partner with Whitworth University, we can offer training using their online Commissioned Ruling Elder/Pastor curriculum which can be customized. We have been working with the PMT on this important area. Talk with one of us if you want further information.

**2. Insurance:** We and Leadership Cabinet have been working since 2017 to ensure our insurance coverage is adequate and updated. Our current yearly insurance bill is about \$8,000 to insure the presbytery and camp. We could increase our coverage of all entities to higher and recommended levels for about another \$4,000 a year. The leadership Cabinet has determined that the suggested increases in insurance coverage are warranted. George, with others, is drafting the applications and submitting them on May 9<sup>th</sup> to our insurance agent, Central Montana insurance in Lewistown, MT, for final quotes.

**3. The Budget:** We are deeply grateful for God’s continued provision and your contributing to this body of believers and your sacrificial generosity. The decrease in Synod funding we

have been receiving impacts us even more significantly next year. But again, God has been faithful in providing and had a loving hand on this presbytery. See Dan Holland's report.

Recently, the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly and the Exec. Committee of the Presbyterian Mission Agency are asking this year's General Assembly for a per capita increase of 39 percent from 2018 to 2019 and another 7 percent from 2019 to 2020, from \$7.73 to \$11.45. This would be an increase of almost \$6,324 for Yellowstone based upon our close to 1,700 members. In mid April, a large, and growing, number of presbyteries signed a letter to the 2018 GA explaining their concern with both *the process* that did not consult with congregations, synods and presbyteries which already must provide more and more of the equipping and support that the GA level used to offer, and *the negative impact* this would have on them and their congregations. This could occur along with Yellowstone's yet to be finalized increased insurance costs to properly protect ourselves in today's world and realities.

**4. Child Protection Policy:** We, and all those in leadership in the presbytery, are committed to honoring the sacred trust and mission entrusted to us by God in ministry to children and youth. We want to ensure each one is treated with respect, care, and God's love and to provide for safety. We have been working, since 2017, with leaders from Camping & Youth (Curt Kochner and Cynthia Kessler) and the Leadership Cabinet on a policy, which should soon be ready for consideration and action by the Leadership Cabinet and then the Presbytery. This will guide churches in their ministry to children and youth and guide the staff at camp Westminster Spires. We have been working with input from our insurance carrier, the guidelines presented by the PCUSA and the realities of our small-church contexts.

**5. Clusters:** Quite a few have had adversity and extra challenges, and like many in our country, are feeling somewhat overwhelmed. After devastating droughts and fires last summer, it has been a long, record-breaking winter. All four pastor clusters are functioning, and again, we invite you to participate for prayer, sharing, collegial support, dwelling in the Word, lectionary preaching ideas, and being Christ's voice and heart for your colleagues in ministry.

**6. Mission trips:** We and the Leadership Cabinet would like to know of and connect those churches/leaders dreaming about/planning mission trips. Please let us know. Thank you.

**7. Personnel:** LC has prioritized and reconstituted a Personnel sub-group for a host of important reasons. A very heavy workload. New Stated Clerk and Assistant Stated Clerk. Funding challenges. George turned 65 (no plans to retire yet) Personnel Policy needs a review & update.

**8. Personal** - We worked almost all of March with the work required for the Stated Clerk training/ transition and PMT/church needs, and extra time in April as well. We will be out of the presbytery from May 10 – June 8 for family visiting (March trip had to be cancelled) and weddings, (mostly on our off time) followed by study leave in Israel. We are looking forward to learning not only about Bible times and contexts, but also gaining insights into the complexities of the current situation there on this trip led by a NT scholar from Whitworth University (9 days of official study leave, our first trip).

Thank you for your concern and prayers for George's brother with his traumatic brain injury (7 months ago). He is making progress and finally able to return part-time to his Sr. pastor position! We are thanking God and praying for complete healing and recovery.