

Special Meeting of Yellowstone Presbytery

A special meeting of Yellowstone Presbytery has been called by PMT with the support of Leadership Cabinet for Tuesday, April 7, 2020.

The meeting will be held by Zoom and will **convene at noon.**

The Zoom connection information will be sent by separate email.

The purpose of the meeting is to examine the Rev. Chuck Carlson to serve as Interim Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Butte, Montana and membership in Yellowstone Presbytery. The Interim Pastor Agreement will also be need to be approved.

After completing the business noted above there will be an optional time of informal sharing of ideas and prayer between pastors and congregational leaders.

Signature info _____

Personal Spiritual and Informational Biography Chuck Carlson 10-5-17

Born and raised in Great Falls, Montana, my formative spiritual experience was grounded in my family and their participation in the First English Lutheran Church and the First Presbyterian Church, both in Great Falls. It was in that context I became aware of the transcendent love of God through church and family.

A family move to the Denver area, Littleton, Co. to be specific, my relationship with the First Presbyterian Church of Littleton guided me through high school years. My mind was active in searching for understanding and meaning both within and outside the church.

Attending the University of Colorado in Boulder, it was in the summer between my Freshman and Sophomore year that I made my commitment clear regarding Christ and the church. I became regular in attendance at the First Presbyterian Church of Boulder, Co. The sermons and scripture came alive for me as I began to experience the draw and presence of the Holy Spirit toward God's grace in Jesus Christ through worship, reading scripture and participation and fellowship in the university Christian college group.

The summers between Sophomore through Senior year I participated in a Christian Musical group from Los Angeles that took me into the Caribbean islands including Haiti and Jamaica, to Asia during the Viet Nam war, and southern Europe. In Thailand, Hong Kong, Taipei, Manilla, to name a few, we engaged the wounded from the Viet Nam war in hospitals, under the auspices of the U.S. Military also performing on military bases and through various Christian mission agencies in local community venues. Sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ through our witness of music and evangelism in those contexts initiated a profound influence upon my life.

The year following graduation I played electric bass in a Christian rock group for a year. It was during that time I experienced a clear call to Christian ministry. While co-leading a high school group at Corona Presbyterian Church in Denver, I met my wife, Betty, who at the time was teaching English at East High School in Denver.

Now married, I made my way to Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary under care of Denver Presbytery. Graduation took place in 1974 and a subsequent call as Assistant Pastor to the First Presbyterian Church of Helena, Mt. The senior pastor, removed due to moral charges after six months, I was the lone pastor of that church for the next year and a half.

In 1976 I took a call to the Park Boulevard Presbyterian Church in Oakland, Ca. The first four years I served as an Associate and the final two and a half as the interim.

From there I received a call to be pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Bellingham, Wa. I was there for eight years. By then we had four children, twin girls, another daughter and a son who now is a Presbyterian pastor residing in Bozeman with his wife and family and is currently on staff at a Lutheran Church.

The next call that I received was to be pastor head of staff at The Little Church on the Prairie in Lakewood (Tacoma area), Wa. I pastored there for sixteen and a half years.

From there I received a call to the First Presbyterian Church of Champaign, Il. For the last two and a half years I have served as that church's interim head of staff in addition to nine and a half years prior as associate. It has been one of the joys of my ministry life serving this large multi-cultural church as well as the most challenging.

My Presbytery involvement has been varied and meaningful. In San Francisco Presbytery I was moderator of the Youth Ministry, coordinating Bay Area wide joint church youth group retreats at Westminster Woods Camp each year. I served on the Youth Committee of Glacier Presbytery while I was in Helena as well.

In the former North Puget Sound Presbytery I served on COM as member and moderator for two years of a six year term as well as that Presbytery's Nominating Committee.

During my tenure in Bellingham I also served as Moderator of the Social Ministries Division of the Synod of Alaska NW for six years, one of the great experiences of my higher judicatory service.

While in Olympia Presbytery I also served on COM for six years and one year as Moderator in addition to other committee assignments. I was also a GA commissioner during that time, serving as Vice-Moderator of the Ordination Standards Committee of GA in 2002.

My time in Champaign I have served The Presbytery of Southeastern Illinois on COM for six years and the Nominating Committee for the remaining time.

As I mentioned, my Master of Divinity degree is from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. I earned my Doctorate of Ministry Degree at Fuller Theological Seminary in 1986. My thesis was written on a study of "Church Growth and Spiritual Renewal". I might add that I learned that a church may have church growth without spiritual renewal and spiritual renewal without church growth.

Recently, I spent two years with the Franciscans at the Chiara Center in Springfield, Illinois, receiving certification as a Spiritual Director after a two year study program ending in 2014.

Through all that God has blessed me to do, Christ has been central. My Christian experience is a continuing journey, "predestined to be conformed to the image of Christ" (Romans 8:29), through the crucible of self-awareness and a corresponding Christ-awareness shaping character, heart, relationships and ministry.

I look forward to meeting all of you in Yellowstone Presbytery.

Chuck Carlson 253-223-6398 169 Mission View Drive, Lakeside, Montana 5992

Statement of Faith

We love because God first loved us. The created order is bathed in this love. God stands over the chaos and breathes life and order into the universe as well as in our lives. We know God through the general revelation of the created order. "The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork" (Psalm 19:1). We know God the Father in the traditional language as Creator, Sustainer, Ruler, the sovereign power over nations and creation throughout history.

Humanity, created in the image of God, is the object of God's love. Created finite and dependent, God builds into us a need for emotional and relational connection. Our fulfillment and happiness resides in recognizing that need and turning to God in obedience and trust to guide our lives. God extends love and invites it in return from us.

The story of humanity is one of rebellion and resistance to the sovereignty of that love. In the account of Adam and Eve we identify with human efforts to usurp God's love, taking on the prerogative of God's role. We are inclined by nature to be the master and not the servant. Human history is an account of the result of this prideful attitude resulting in wars and broken relationships with one another as well as our relationship with God. We make ourselves God's enemies.

Through Jesus Christ God embraces our sin and brokenness. God's 'Yes' to us, Jesus shows us the face of God. Through the mystery of the incarnation, the unique God-Human, Jesus Christ, is God's bridge through the cross for our redemption. In Christ God is reconciling the world to God's self (2 Corinthians 5:18-19). Though we have turned away from God, in Jesus Christ God takes the initiative and turns toward us by taking on our sin, praying on the cross, "God forgive them for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:24). All sin against another human being is a sin against God and God's love.

The Church is made up of those who have received by faith the invitation of God through Jesus Christ to be part of his body. We are justified by Christ, not by anything we do. We bring nothing but our sin and brokenness. The mission of the Church is Christ's mission, not ours. In one sense, the Church is the continuing incarnation of Christ in this world, his Holy Spirit indwelling those who by confession of faith have renounced their sin and rebellion, laid down their arms, and submitted to the salvation and Lordship of Christ's wisdom and guidance to do his will as his servants.

That Church, born of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, now bears witness to Christ in this world. Reflecting his love and grace, the Church proclaims the gospel in word and deed. Witness the action of Christ through the Church's proclamation of the gospel of salvation, through its healing ministry, in the cup of cold water given to the thirsty, the hungry fed, by being the conscience of society, offering a prophetic word in defense of the oppressed and marginalized of this world, all that we do a witness to Christ's living, sustaining voice and hands for those who have no voice. By being faithful to Christ's ministry, the Church has the potential to break from its cultural captivity and represent the mind, authority, and ministry of Jesus in this world. We have been given the mind of Christ. Scripture proclaims, "But we have the mind of Christ" (1 Corinthians 2:16).

God's means of spiritual formation is grounded in the authority and witness of the Bible. There God speaks through the Holy Spirit to human needs, instructs and illuminates our thought as Scripture testifies to God's work in the world. The Bible points us to Jesus Christ who is the Living Word (John 5:39). As such it is God's unique authoritative witness to God. The Word and the Spirit center our lives.

The sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper in light of God's covenant with us in Jesus Christ are a means of grace. Affirming the Holy Spirit's current presence at work in our lives, through them we meet the living Christ through the Spirit, binding us, the Church, in covenant to our Lord. Through baptism, particularly infant baptism, we emphasize God's grace and our incorporation into Christ's body prior to anything that we have done. By participation in the Lord's Supper, we meet Christ's real presence through the Holy Spirit in the partaking of the Bread and the Cup.

Through creation, the redemptive love of Jesus Christ and the indwelling presence and activity of the Holy Spirit in the church and world, we know and experience God through the interrelationship of the Trinity as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

DRAFT CONTRACT FOR TEMPORARY PASTORAL

The following contract between the session of First Presbyterian Church of Butte and the Rev. Chuck Carlson is for the purpose of providing Temporary Pastoral services as a part-time interim pastor to the Church through April 7, 2021. The contract is to begin on April 8, 2020.

DUTIES:

The pastor will be responsible to (Exceptions may be allowed during COVID-19 restrictions):

- moderate the session and congregational meetings
- serve as Head of Staff
- lead worship and preach at regular Sunday services
 - using technology (e.g., PowerPoint, ZOOM or other technology), as appropriate, especially during the COVID-19 restrictions
- arrange for substitute preachers on any Sundays not present
- call on sick and home-bound
- provide administrative leadership
- officiate at weddings and funerals
- lead new member classes
- work with committee chairs
- represent the church in dealing with outside organizations
- pray for the church

The congregation and session will be responsible to:

- support the pastor in his/her ministry
- provide regular financial compensation according to the terms outlined below
- provide a performance review to the pastor at least annually
- pray for the pastor during this contract period
- negotiate goals for contract period

During the length of this agreement, the pastor will be accountable to the presbytery. It is understood that the pastor will participate in the quarterly temporary pastors meeting sponsored by the presbytery. Should the Temporary Pastor have any serious differences or difficulties with any former pastor of this congregation, the matter will be immediately referred to the presbytery. It is understood that the pastor will not be involved in any way with the Pastor Nominating Committee, except to facilitate that committee's regular reports to the session and the congregation. Any concerns or suggestions about the congregation's search for a new pastor shall be carried to the presbytery liaison. It is understood by all parties that the pastor under contract may not be considered for the installed pastoral position in this congregation.

This agreement may be terminated by either party (session or pastor) upon 30 days written notice.

This agreement may be extended in one to 12 month periods, upon written notice to, and the approval of, the presbytery. It is understood that the pastor will participate in any training/discussions sponsored and/or requested by presbytery and will participate in an exit interview conducted by presbytery.

TERMS:

The pastor is employed on a part-time basis, serving approximately 32 hours per week, and the annual compensation is shown in the following table.

Effective Salary

Cash Salary	\$37,578
Housing Allowance	\$10,560
Dental Insurance Allowance	\$960
Effective Salary Total	\$49,098

Reimbursable Expense

Automobile Expense (IRS effective rate for 2020 is \$0.575/mile)	\$2,200
Business/Professional Expenses	\$400
Continuing Education	\$600
Book Allowance	\$440
Total Reimbursable Expense	\$3,640

- Board of Pensions Post-Retirement Service Dues will be 12% of Effective Salary: \$5,892
- Total Package Annual (Effective Salary +Reimbursable + Board of Pensions): \$58,630
 - Total Package 4/8/2020 – 12/31/2020: \$42,800
- 4 weeks of Paid Vacation per year including 4 Sundays
- The fifth Sunday of a month will be paid time off
- 2 weeks Paid Continuing Education including 2 Sundays cumulative for 3 years

APPROVALS:

The session approved this contract and its conditions on _____

Signed: (clerk of session) _____ Date: _____

I agree to accept the terms of this contract.

Signed: (pastor) _____ Date: _____

The presbytery approved this contract and its conditions on _____

Signed: (pastor) _____ Date: _____

Signed copies to be given to: 1) the minister, 2) the clerk of session, 3) the presbytery and 4) the minister's presbytery of membership/care (if other than the presbytery of this congregation).