

**Presbytery of Yellowstone – ZOOM Stated Meeting  
May 21,22, 2021**

**21-0031. Opening of the Meeting**

The Presbytery of Yellowstone met on Friday and Saturday, May 21,22, 2020, Via Zoom format at 9:30AM on Friday with prayer by the Moderator, RE Julie Boksich. The theme for this meeting was:

***“Reconnecting our Churches with our Communities: Moving out into our Communities as Jesus did.”***

**20-0032. Roll Call: (as taken from the registration forms and not as taken verbally or visually)**

**Ruling Elder Commissioners and Other RE’s and visitors**

Anaconda	CRE Veva Larson (PMT), Linda Smith (Delegate)
Billings First	RE Russ Kline (LC), RE John Reed (Delegate), RE Carla Bracken (Delegate).
Billings St Andrew	RE Ben Larson (Delegate)
Big Hole	RE Larry Boksich (guest), RE Julie Boksich (Moderator), RE Sandy Cleary (Delegate)
Bozeman	RE Ric Tieman (Treasurer), Suzanne Bratsky (LC)
Butte First	RE Chuck Wright (Delegate), Karalee Larson (Candidate)
Colstrip	A
Deer Lodge	RE Marilyn Thomas (Delegate)
Dillon First	A
Ennis	A
Forsyth Federated	A
Hysham Community	RE Wayne Milmine (Delegate)
Jordan	RE Eva Twitchell (Delegate)
Lewistown First	A
Manhattan	RE Debbie Blackburn (PMT Co-Moderator), RE Stephanie Bergstrom (Delegate)
Miles City	A
Phillipsburg St Paul’s	A
Poplar First	A
Stanford First	CRE Margee Smith
Terry Community	RE Nancy Pehl (Delegate)
White Sulphur Springs	A
Wolf Point First	A

**Minister Members**

David Andrew (absent), Jim Bell (absent), Priscilla Bell (absent), Kimberly Biggs (present), David Bierschwale (absent), Charley Blom( present), J P Carlson(present), Chuck Carlson (present), Paul Cannon (absent), Dick Davis (absent), Paul Cousins (absent), John Dyce (absent), Brent Long (absent), Jody McDevitt (present), Warren (Rusty) Craig (present), Sherwood McKay (excused), Mary Davis (excused), Steven A Hundley (excused), Marcia Muir (absent), Sally Ralston (absent), Neva Rathbun (present), Debbie Funke (present), Harlan L Rounds (absent), Jamie Schmeling (present), George Goodrich (present), Bill Swanson (absent), Kathy Goodrich (present), Susan Thomas (present), Doug Johnson (absent), David Thompson (present), Larry Vandecreek (absent), Lowell Johnson (absent), Teresa Kendall (present), Kim Woeste (absent), Dan Krebill (Present), Freeman McCall (absent), Daniel Triller (present), Wenda Fry (absent), Deborah Schmidt (absent)

**Commissioned Ruling Elder Members also listed with RE's above.**

CRE Veva Larson (present) CRE Margee Smith (present)

**RE Moderators 2021, Voting Members:**

RE Julie Boksich (Moderator), Debbie Blackburn (PMT Co Moderator)

**RE Leadership Cabinet Voting Members also listed with churches above:**

RE Julie Boksich (present), Ric Tieman, Treasurer (present), Susanne Bratsky (LC), Russ Klein (LC)

**Corresponding member for meeting seated:**

MWS Shannon Keiser, (guest speaker), MWS Rob Hagan (Presbyterian Foundation)

**Staff with Voice:**

RE Jim Tarr (Stated Clerk), RE Mellissa Bell (Asst Stated Clerk)

**Balance check:** Voting 16 RE's, Voting 12 MWS.

**Presbytery of Yellowstone – ZOOM Stated Meeting**

**21-0033. A Quorum was declared** by the Stated Clerk from the visual attendance.

**21-0034.** The Rev. Jamie Schmeling offered a prayer for the Dwelling in the word, which was on 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 20 vs,16-21. The presbytery meditated on these words and participated in a word-Prayer-small group time of reflection after the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading. After a brief break the morning program began on the topic and theme of the meeting>

**21-0035.** The Presbytery was privileged to hear from the Rev. Shannon Keiser who among many things is engaged in the communities in which she resides. This ZOOM meeting was being recorded so churches who wish to learn how and move the fellowships forward in this way of being church can review the presentations and get engaged in the process. The outline of the overall sessions is attached as **Exhibit A**. These sessions include breakout rooms and small task group interaction and prayer with a review of key things discerned reported to the body.

**21-0036.** Candidate Karalee Larson offered a prayer for the lunch break. The Presbytery reconvened at 1:32 PM with a prayer by the Moderator, RE Julie Boksich.

**21-0037. The clerks report Exhibit B.** included Procedural, Zoom, and Omnibus motions were reviewed, and this included a motion to approve the minutes of the March 6, 7 2021 meeting be adopted.

- It was voted to approve the clerk's motions as indicated in exhibit B.

**21-0038. The Co-GP report** was reviewed and is included as **Exhibit C**. Take time to read scripture, some devotional readings, and pray. This concept was discussed as well as a review of some books which are relative to the times in which we are now living. Kathy closed with a request that someone consider taking on the task of re starting the reporting and publishing the Presbytery Newsletter "Yellowstone Currents" which has been out of circulation for over a year now.

**21-0039. The PMT report** was reviewed by Rev. J.P. Carlson and is attached as **Exhibit D**. J.P. pointed out the presbytery boundary training will be on June 5<sup>th</sup> and will be led by Rev Beth McCall the GP of Glacier

Presbytery. The call for a special meeting of the presbytery on June 3, 2021 that may include a call for a new Pastor and the installation of the next Stated Clerk was announced.

**21-0040. The Stated Clerk search committee report** was presented by the Rev. Jody McDevitt and is attached as **Exhibit E**. RE Caroline Fleming was presented to the Presbytery as the selected Nominee for this position. Each recommendation in the report was voted on separately as follows:

- **I was voted** That Ruling Elder Caroline Fleming of Miles City be elected for a 3-year term as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Yellowstone, beginning June 1, 2021.
- **It was Voted** That Standing Rule S4.05 be set aside to allow for a short delay between election and installation. The first sentence of S4.05 reads,

*The stated clerk shall be elected by the presbytery at the last stated meeting at which the term of the incumbent expires and shall assume office upon installation at the close of said meeting.*

- **It was Voted** That the installation of Caroline Fleming as Stated Clerk be held as the first order of business of a special presbytery meeting called for June 3, 2021.
- **It was voted** That the terms of the call be:
  - 1/3-time non-exempt position with flexible hours
  - Annual salary of \$19,500. A portion of this may be allocated to a retirement savings account.
  - Travel and professional expenses to be reimbursed.
  - Continuing education - prorated for part-time employment in accordance with the Presbytery's Personnel Policy
  - Vacation - prorated for part-time employment in accordance with the Presbytery's Personnel Policy
  - All other provisions of the Presbytery Personnel Policy, including the Family Leave Policy
  - A 3-month probationary period, as described in the Presbytery Personnel Policy

A performance review led by the Personnel Committee of the Leadership Cabinet will be held before December 1, 2021. At that time, the employee will be eligible for a \$500 increase in annual salary.

- **It was Voted** That Ruling Elders James Tarr and Melissa Bell be thanked for their three-plus years of service as Stated Clerk and Assistant Stated Clerk and retired with the gratitude of the presbytery for their faithful servant leadership.

**21-0041. Leadership cabinet** report was presented by Rev. Teresa Kendall and is attached as **Exhibit F**. Teresa reviewed the names of the members of the Cabinet and announced there will be a retreat at the June meeting where the cabinet will reflect on needs of the presbytery going forward. The Cabinet is involved in planning every meeting of the presbytery and what programs to be presented. The functions of all committees and commissions are reviewed by the Cabinet and assistance offered when needed. Included in the report to the Presbytery are the reports of two commissions who are engaged in the sale of church properties and are shown here at the end of the LC report. The committee presented the following which were moved:

- **It was voted** to approve the appointment of the Rev. Jody McDevitt as moderator of the Rep/Nom Committee.

**It was announced** the LC approves the call for a special meeting of the Presbytery on June 3, 2021 and will work with the PMT on the call items for the meeting.

**21-0042. Treasurer report was presented as Exhibit G.** by RE Ric Tieman and was as posted on the website. At this time the Presbytery is in sound financial conditions all financial obligations are being met.

**21-0043. Camping and Youth Report Exhibit H.** was presented by Rev Daniel Triller and special guest Caleb the newest addition to the Tiller family. We rejoice in the planned reopening of the camping program for 2021.

**21-0043. Rob Hagan of the Presbyterian Foundation** was given the floor to announce his position and how he is available to help the churches in the presbytery. He explained they were helping with building a culture of giving which included Legacy Giving. Coming up is the Stewardship Kaleidoscope Event Sept 13 to 16 which will include special presentations by Todd Bolsinger and author whose books we have discussed at previous Presbytery meetings. Another conference will be held on Legacy Giving October 13 and 14, 2021. For details refer to the foundation website or call Rob and he will provide all the needed information. I

**21-0043. The stated clerk report** is attached as stated at the opening. During the report the Omnibus motion was reviewed and:

- **It was voted to approve** the Omnibus Motion included in the Stated Clerk Report.

The clerk advised the presbytery of a motion to be made after review by the Presbytery from the session of St Andrew Presbyterian Church who is asking approval for an encumbrance. This is a vote of the Presbytery which is required by the Book of Order G-4.0206 a. After the following report a vote was taken as follows:

- **It was voted to approve** the following motion from St Andrew Presbyterian Church, Billings, MT who requests the Presbytery of Yellowstone approve a loan in the amount not to exceed \$35,000 for roof repairs and replacement of one roof top furnace. Motion, as approved, will also permit the encumbrance of the real property if needed.

**21-0044 The PW report** was presented by RE Suzanne Bratsky where she discussed the “What I learned from Women” program talking about women who are identified in scripture. Currently there are 12 groups in churches of this Presbytery involved in this study. A Gathering in Louisville is planned for Aug 5, 2021 and the next Church Wide gathering of PW is now planned for Aug 4-5, 2024 in St Louis.

**21-0045.** The meeting recessed to reopen with Worship at 7:00 PM. The worship included a group from FPC Billings providing instrumental music and a sermon by Rev. Shannon Keiser. The offering from this worship was dedicated to go for camp scholarships.

**21-0046.** The meeting reconvened at 8:30 AM with a dwelling in the word led by Rev Jamie Schmeling on John 20: vs 19-22. Breakout sessions with word, prayer, share time was held while we dwelt upon this scripture. This dwelling was closed with a Prayer by Julie Boksich.

**21-0047.** Shannon Keiser led the fellowship in a continuation of her presentations which are the theme of this meeting. We then went out into our communities and listened to people we encountered,

thinking of the concepts she presented. As we discussed what we heard we then reflected on a key to how we are to prepare for this going out into community effort. These included the following key steps:

1. Read Scripture before going out.
2. Pray every day.
3. Walk 10-2 as best time to be out.
4. Pray for those you see as you walk and get out at least once a week.

A prayer for Shannon and her ministry was offered at the conclusion of her presentation.

**21-0048.** RE Russ Klein Offered the closing prayer a 3:40 PM on Saturday May 22, 2021.

Next Meeting will be a special meeting **June 3, 2021.**

Next Stated Meeting will be held **Nov 5,6, 2021** and will hopefully be in person at a location to be announced.

Respectfully Submitted

Jim Tarr

Stated Clerk

Attached are:

Exhibits A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H

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# Reconnecting our Churches with our Communities: Moving out into the community as Jesus did

Shannon Kiser  
Fresh Expressions US



## **SESSION 1: HOW THE CHURCH CAN RECONNECT**

What is really happening in our communities and the larger culture?  
What are the implications for mission and ministry?

Together, we will explore how to better understand the cultural disconnection that the church faces, and see how other churches have found ways to reconnect with a changing world.



## **SESSION 2: ATTENDING TO THE COMMUNITY AROUND US**

How do we reconnect with the community our church inhabits?  
How can we take on a posture of curiosity that leads to unlocking new ways of connecting?

We will explore how "Contextual Intelligence" leads to mission and ministry that is more aligned to the changing culture. We will prepare to engage a practice of immersing and listening in our own communities.



## **SESSION 3: NEIGHBORHOOD LISTENING**

What can we discover by observing and listening?  
What does God want to show us?

Your church teams will spend some time in your own community practicing some of the principles we've been working on in previous sessions. You'll be bringing back your observations and reflections to our last session to consider what God might be revealing to you, and what that could mean for your church.



## **SESSION 4: WHAT ARE OUR UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES?**

What are some natural connecting points for your congregation?  
How might you be uniquely positioned to be a blessing in and among your community?

We will debrief what you have discovered in your exploratory listening session. We will explore some of your unique passions, assets, and opportunities. And we will explore possibilities for how the Spirit may be inviting you to enter into incarnational mission in your community.



## FRIDAY AM: DWELLING IN THE WORD

### 2 Corinthians 5:16-20a (NRSV)

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us."

- What do you like about this passage?
- What surprises you about this passage?
- What troubles you about this passage?
  
- What do you notice about the ministry that God has given us?
- What is the role of an ambassador? What might it mean to be an ambassador of Christ? What might that look like concretely today?
- How are you convicted/challenged when you hear that God is making God's appeal through us?
- How are you encouraged/excited when you hear that God is making God's appeal through us?
  
- What is the Spirit inviting you to do/change/apply as a response to this Word?

#### PRAY:

After all in your group have had an opportunity to share about the passage, each person shares 1 personal request for prayer. Pray for one another briefly before group time ends.





## SESSION 1: HOW THE CHURCH CAN RECONNECT

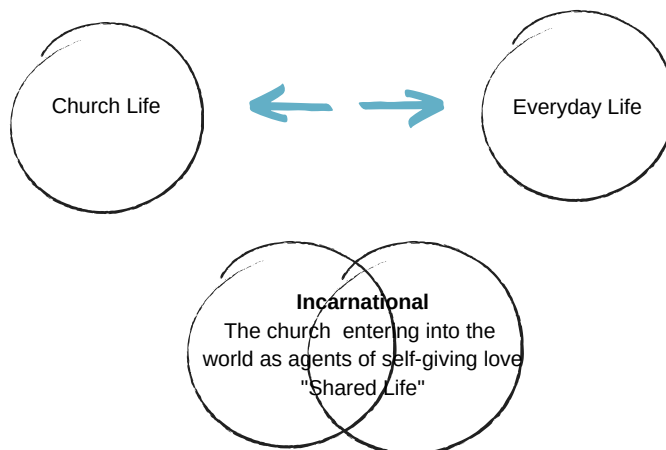
**The Problem: An increasing disconnect between the church and the world around us.**

**There is a gap between the Incarnation and the way we do church.**

### **2 Corinthians 5: 9-12**

In Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. *So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us.*

"The ways Jesus goes about loving and saving the world are personal; nothing disembodied, nothing abstract, nothing impersonal."--Eugene Peterson, "The Jesus Way"



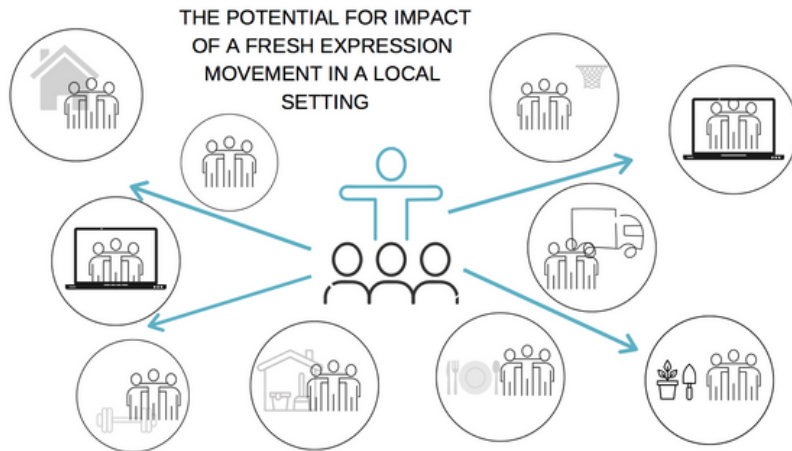
Incarnational: closes the "proximity gap."



Any Church can do this!

- Not dependent on a pastor
- Not dependent on a large congregation
- Not dependent on a large budget
- Not confined only to urban contexts

It takes seriously the everyday people of God and the natural connecting points you have with the networks, needs, and neighborhood of your local setting.





## FRIDAY PM: DWELLING IN THE WORD

### 2 Corinthians 5:16-20 (The Message Version)

**16-20** Because of this decision we don't evaluate people by what they have or how they look. We looked at the Messiah that way once and got it all wrong, as you know. We certainly don't look at him that way anymore. Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life emerges! Look at it! All this comes from the God who settled the relationship between us and him, and then called us to settle our relationships with each other. God put the world square with himself through the Messiah, giving the world a fresh start by offering forgiveness of sins. God has given us the task of telling everyone what he is doing. We're Christ's representatives. God uses us to persuade men and women to drop their differences and enter into God's work of making things right between them. We're speaking for Christ himself now: Become friends with God; he's already a friend with you.

- What is the Spirit saying to you as you encounter this passage afresh (or anew)?
- What does it mean to you that we are Christ's representatives?
- Is our call to "persuade" people into belief, or into something else? What is the something else?
- What strikes you about this last phrase: "Become friends with God; he's already a friend with you?" What does that mean to you? What might that mean for a church on mission?



## SATURDAY AM: DWELLING IN THE WORD

### John 20:19-22 (NRSV)

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

- What do you like about this passage?
- What surprises you about this passage?
- What troubles you about this passage?
  
- What does it mean to you that Jesus met the disciples in their fear? What might it mean for you today? What might it mean for your church?
- What do you notice about Jesus' presence and posture?
- What does it mean that Jesus sends his disciples AS the Father has sent Jesus? What does it mean to you to be sent in this way? What does it mean for your church to be sent this way?
  
- What is the Spirit inviting you to do/change/apply as a response to this Word?

#### PRAY:

After all in your group have had an opportunity to share about the passage, each person shares 1 personal request for prayer. Pray for one another briefly before group time ends.



## SESSION 2: ATTENDING TO THE COMMUNITY AROUND US

"Most people do not listen with the intent to understand; they listen with the intent to reply." --Stephen R. Covey  
Listening for mission requires us to listen to understand...not listen to respond, fix, or target.

What is the value to listening deeply to our community and the culture around us?

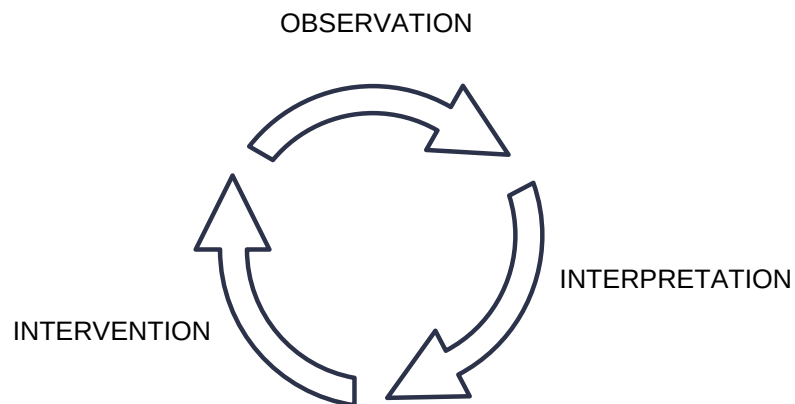
A posture of curiosity/listening/discovery

PRACTICING CURIOSITY, LISTENING, DISCOVERY:

What did this example reveal to you about this cultural moment?

What are the implications for the church?

What are the implications for mission?



OBSERVATION: What can I learn?

INTERPRETATION: What are the myriad of ways I can interpret what I've learned? How do I make meaning of my observations?

INTERVENTION: What is God uniquely inviting us to do to be an incarnational presence in the world, a sign and foretaste of the kingdom of God?



## SESSION 3: NEIGHBORHOOD LISTENING

### **STRIP AWAY YOUR ASSUMPTIONS**

Don't start with the assumption that you already know all about your community. Take the humble posture of learning and listening. You may want to pray before you strike out, asking for God to give you eyes to see and ears to hear what God wants to show you.

### **CHOOSE A LOCATION**

Where do you need to go to pay attention and learn more?

Identify a place or multiple places in your community where you want to focus some time and energy observing, and if possible, interacting. It may be places you go regularly, but now commit to go with a heightened awareness and curiosity as you try to see the people there with new eyes. Or, it may be a place which is unfamiliar and you want to get to know.

### **WALK OR DRIVE OR BIKE AROUND**

We suggest you go out in pairs and begin to notice basic things like...

- Who is here and who is not here?
- What do I notice about the rhythms or realities of this place?
- What flyers or signs do I see?
- Are people talking with each other or alone?
- What else?

Then begin to pay attention more deeply through observation, and perhaps, some casual conversations with people in the community:

- What do you notice people seem to care about?
- What do you notice people don't seem to care about?
- Where do you notice or hear or see the laments of the community?
- What do you hear your community longing for?
- Where do you see evidence of your community celebrating/appreciating and what are they celebrating/appreciating?
- What are natural connecting points or places in your community?
- What are evidences of isolation and disconnection in your community?

### **PRAY AS YOU GO**

Pray for the people you see, the businesses you pass, the servers who take care of you, the situations you pass by. Prayer does not have to be a bow-your-head, talk-in-big-church-words kind of experience. Pray aloud if you wish, or pray silently if you prefer. Pray as you notice things on the ground, children playing, workers working, cars driving by. You can even offer to pray with someone if the opportunity presents itself. This takes some discernment and thoughtful reading of social cues, but if the Spirit prompts you to offer to pray with someone...take a chance and do it.

### **FOSTER CONVERSATION**

Try asking curious questions if the opportunity arises for a conversation with someone.

- What's it like to be...a mom, a farmer, a waiter, a bartender, a senior citizen...in this community?
- What would make this community better?
- What do you really love about this community?
- What brings people together in our community?
- What are some of the biggest challenges you face in our community?
- What could increase the joy, fun, community, connection, or belonging in our town?

## HOW TO KEEP LISTENING AND OBSERVING AFTER THIS MEETING

**Observe and participate in an online community:** Follow a Facebook group, join Nextdoor neighborhood, etc. If you are on Facebook, go to groups and then search near you. In a quick search of Montana groups, I found all kinds of groups depending on interest area, and this is just a few of the options out there:

- Montana-tude
- Montana free stuff
- Montana gardeners community
- Moms Mingle Montana
- Montana Rail Fans
- Foraging Montana
- Montana River People
- Montana Off Road

As you listen in the digital networks, what can you discover. Pay attention to:

- What are the hot topics of the community?
- Where do you see support and encouragement?
- What creates and fosters connection among this community?
- What are the common hopes and fears among this community?
- What does this group reveal to you about your community?

**Continue to prayer walk/drive in your community:** Develop a rhythm each week of praying and connecting in your community. If a handful of people from your church are committed to doing this same practice, develop a time where you share what you're hearing, reflect on common themes that are emerging, pay attention to what or who is breaking your heart, and pray for God to guide you to your unique opportunities for mission.



## SESSION 4: WHAT ARE OUR UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES?

### DEBRIEF:

What did you discover as you focused on paying attention in your community?

What surprised you?

What encouraged you?

What broke your heart?

Where did you see signs that God is already present in your community?

Where did you see pain points in the community?

If the good news of the gospel were to be embodied here, what would actually feel like/taste like/look like good news among to the people or a subculture of people in my community?

### DISCOVERING YOUR UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES:

There is no need to compete with other churches or try to be something you are not. Build on who you are and what you have.

What are your passions? *Cooking? Off-roading? Hiking? Movies? Baseball? Card games? Volunteering?*

What do you know that could be a connection point with your community? *Fixing stuff? Parenting preschoolers? Making flies for fly-fishing? Creating a family budget?*

Who do you know? *Where are your networks of connection outside of church that you already have?*

What do you have? *A bonfire field, a group of retirees with a lot of free time, an old barn, a basketball hoop in a church parking lot, access to a church kitchen, etc.*

How might you address a pain point or longing in your community with your unique qualities/skills/resources?

And how could this be a ministry WITH people, not just TO or FOR people?

### **2 Corinthians 5: 9-12**

In Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us.



## **Exhibit B: Stated Clerk Report**

### **Clerk Report for the Presbytery Meeting May 21, 22, 2021**

**Procedural Motion** - The Stated Clerk moves the following Procedural Motion:

1. That the roll for this meeting be established by email to;  
[statedclerk@yellowstonepcusa.org](mailto:statedclerk@yellowstonepcusa.org)
2. Call in or Zoom attendees shall indicate in the email if they are a Member, Minister of Word and Sacrament, Elder Commissioner, Other Member with vote according to the presbytery standing rules, or guest.
3. That written requests for absences received by the Stated Clerk be approved.
4. That any Corresponding members present on the call phone be seated.
5. 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.
6. That the Moderator and the Stated Clerk be empowered to suggest and adjust the agenda during the meeting, as may be necessary, to provide for efficiency in reporting, and
7. That all reports received at this meeting be accepted and if not supplied to the presbytery office in advance an electronic copy shall be supplied to the office of the stated clerk and the presbytery office immediately following the meeting in .DOC or .EXL format only.

**Rules for This Zoom Meeting- The Stated clerk Moves** the following be established as rules of conduct of all participants at this meeting:

1. All those present at the meeting shall gain practical skills needed to turn on the video and audio functions in Zoom as soon as possible as the meeting begins and to keep their audio microphone in the muted position until called upon or recognized to speak.
2. All attendees who do not have their name attached to the screen showing who they are, will identify who they are and who they represent before speaking. (In ZOOM the 3 dots on your picture screen can be clicked and you can rename yourself and the Church you represent)
3. The Moderator shall designate who can or cannot share documents before the meeting begins and all documents need to be posted in advance on the presbytery website or available to share will all at this meeting in digital format. (This means no paper handouts will be available to participants during a virtual meeting.)
4. Attendance by phone only with no video will be subject to these same rules and must remain muted unless addressed to speak. When speaking, a phone call attendee must state name and church connection before addressing the body.

5. Attendees when voting shall indicate in favor or opposed only when ask for a vote. Votes are cast by using the hand symbol in Zoom or visually raising of the hand and holding it until the vote can be counted. Phone in only participants will unmute and vote verbally after the visual votes are cast and before the determination of the vote is completed.
6. During recesses and/or breaks attendees are to keep their computers on, turn off their video, but not the audio setting so they can hear when the meeting reconvenes. Log off when long recesses are planned or if an attendee must leave the meeting for any reason.

**Omnibus motion. The Stated Clerk moves the following items be approved:**

1. **The minutes** of the Presbytery meeting March 5,6, 2021 draft, be approved as published on the Presbytery Website.
2. The treasures report is be accepted as presented.
3. The following committee reports, if filed, will be reported as received if submitted to the Stated Clerk before the meeting begins as written:
  - a. Camping and youth
  - b. Presbyterian Women
4. The report of the Stated Clerk Search committee be received as posted on the Website.
5. The Co-GP report be accepted as presented.
6. The PMT report be accepted as presented or posted.
7. The LC report be accepted as presented or posted.
8. The report of the administrative commission working on the sale of the Federated Church of Harlowton property be received, if presented.
9. The report of the administrative commission working on the sale of the McAllister Property be received, if presented.
10. The minutes of this meeting shall report that there has been no call for a meeting of the Presbytery's PJC this year to date and that the following former members are still eligible to serve if needed; MWS Dan Krebill, RE Lloyd Mandeville, MWS Sally Ralston.  
HR
11. That the clerk reminded the Presbytery that there remains **4 Churches** in this Presbytery that **do not** have their Child and Youth Protection Policy either completed and/or on file at the Presbytery Office. **Churches were to complete this action By June 1, 2019.**
12. The churches who currently have a Child and Youth Protection Policy are encouraged to consider adding provisions to protect their elderly and developmentally disabled persons with similar protections.
13. That the clerk reported there are 3 churches who have presented their church records for review and 19 are yet to be completed this year or before the November 2021

meeting of the Presbytery. **This motion will also allow the Session Clerks of the churches** who are unable to attend this meeting, to send electronic copies for review to the Stated Clerk via email for review after this meeting.

**14. End of Motion.**

The above motions will be made at the opening of the May 21,22, 2021 meeting and will be in the meeting packet for review before the meeting begins.

The office of the Stated Clerk has attended all meetings of the Presbytery and as required the office also attended all meetings of the PMT and Leadership Cabinet and recorded actions taken at those meetings which were held since March 2021 to the present time.

The clerk was actively involved in helping the new Stated Clerk get information need to make the transition efficient. The Stated clerk was in communication with the Stated Clerk Search Committee, the Personnel Committee, and the Proposed new Stated Clerk regarding the transfer of records and information needed by the Clerk Elect to make the transition as smooth as practical. I am confident the process will go forward with all the cooperation needed to keep the Presbytery functions operating smoothly during the period of transition. This Stated Clerk will work with the new clerk for as long as needed to make sure this smooth transition happens.

The clerk participated in signing of the modified agreement with the sales agreement for the sale of the Harlowton Church property.

The clerk completed actions and records needing changed by the PCUSA Clerk portal.

The clerk attended the ZOOM meeting of the Stated Clerks of the Synod of the Rocky Mountains April 26, 2021 and helped welcome a few new clerks. Our minutes remain deficient is getting the Church Record reviews completed and getting a review of the financial records completed. At the least the process has started but is not completed annually as required.

Jim Tarr

Stated Clerk

Yellowstone Presbytery

## **Exhibit C: Co-GP Report**

**Co-GP Report to Leadership Cabinet, Yellowstone Presbytery, George & Kathy May 11, 2021**

### **Reflections, Questions, Observations, Unlearning and Re-learning, God's Invitations and Opportunities**

In these times, we need to cultivate the gifts and practices like the Tribe of Issachar, “those who [1] *had understanding of the times*, [2] *to know what Israel ought to do*”. (1 Chr. 12:32). [*Contextual Intelligence*, Leonard Sweet & Michael Beck.]

Individually and jointly, we have been adapting and making time to prayerfully wait on God, reflecting, seeking to listen to the Spirit as to what God may be up to? What the Spirit may be saying and guiding us to do and be. We know each of you have as well and we have asked and sought the Lord together.

In the midst of the swirling currents and circumstances, with a dizzying rate of change and challenges, God is calling us to recognize that we, like Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery, are at the top of Lemhi Pass where we can no longer “Canoe the Mountains” as we have canoed the rivers in flatter territory up to now.

Furthermore, like Lewis and Clark and the Corps, even the ways we have come to understand and been able to pursue our mission, to discern who are the best equipped to scout and lead for this new terrain and season, need to be reassessed, down to the root intentions of our sacred mission. It must be reinterpreted, adapted, contextualized for the new realities of where God has placed us *now*. [Tod Bolsinger's, *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*.]

In such times, how are we to make sense of things, to love God, one another and all others well, just as Jesus loves us? This is Christ's command and THE way the world knows we are Christians.

What does it look like in practice to “keep the main thing the main thing” which is Jesus Christ and the Good News, growing more in love and like him, making disciples and joining in his mission?

*Since we did our usual comprehensive overview report last month, below we have listed some of our musing, thinking of the present and future over the last 14 months.*

### **Strategic Questions, Reflections and Planning for Yellowstone Presbytery Leadership:**

- 1) How has the pandemic and other shifts and forces such as the “Us vs Them”, divisiveness and culture of contempt over the last 14 – 18 months changed:  
our culture, communities, churches, relationships, us, ...

- 2) How has the pandemic changed the ways Yellowstone Presbytery does ministry?
- 3) What new opportunities/possibilities are/might emerge now and in the hybrid era?
  - A. Being less building centric and limited, and scattered and decentralized in smaller groups in homes, various locations & more focused on listening to, serving, loving in the community.
  - B. Being less limited by geography (internet = connecting with almost anywhere) People travel or move and still attend or visit a congregation or attend a group.
  - C. Being less time bound.
- 4) What are some of the losses, tensions, frustrations?
- 5) What new ministries are emerging / might emerge opportunistically in the Hybrid era?
- 6) What systemic changes might we make to support existing work that should continue, or be adapted, or start?
- 7) What are ways which sustain and develop deeper generosity practices in disciples?  
What are the financial implications and new patterns and practices in an age of hybrid ministry?

**During the Pandemic YP has adapted in a range of ways, including-**

- 1) **Adapted to a hybrid form of meeting, in person for some and most by zoom.**
  - a. All LC, PMT, Presbytery and committee meetings were handled by zoom or cell phone.
  - b. Results:
    - i. Better participation because travel time and costs were diminished
    - ii. Meetings could be quickly called and held
    - iii. Some things have been diminished or lost in not being physically present.  
How have you been affected? Thoughts?
- 2) **GP's shifted focus, adapted priorities, expanded capacities with unlearning and relearning, and curtailed travel**
  - a. New and ongoing adaptation of priorities and capacities to live our vision included:
    - i. researching changing realities of all kinds and sharing facts, changing laws and advice, new ways of leading and being church, adapting mindsets and systems to be more flexible and responsive in changing conditions
    - ii. networking locally, state-wide, denominationally and nationally in various networks  
Kathy has attended, as able, the zoom meetings of Mid Council Leaders via zoom
    - iii. resourcing/training/equipping leaders and pastors regarding new opportunities such as for grants of various types, new virtual opportunities and how's, times to share questions, best practices, insights.
    - iv. Discerning the times and where the Spirit is at work, adapting, experimenting
    - v. Increased need for deepened, authentic, safe community and connections  
pods of various sorts, prayer cluster expanded, Montana Clergy group (ecumenical) George was asked to convene – continuing strong after a year
    - vi. Increased need for spiritual support and pastoral care of pastors, their families and church leaders
    - vii. Being available for a wide range of needs of pastors and leaders as there are more rough patches, painful losses and encounters and conflict and anger and outbursts experienced by leaders and in churches.

**KEY** – Many things spotlighting the immature state of discipleship and spiritual maturity in some folks in our congregations as it seems the loud voices, media and values of our contentious culture is more formative than the mindset/attitude of Christ (Phil. 2) Christian discipleship, relationships and practices as they have been experienced up to now. Sobering, is damaging the witness of the church, leading to large numbers of pastors leaving the ministry (29% of pastors in credible survey said they have, are or have seriously considered leaving the pastorate), and to God’s opportunities for repentance, and DEEP change.

viii. Learning and ongoing adapting of new technology and social media skills

ix. Prayer, prayer and gratitude and more prayer.

- b. Relied on long-established relationships and trust, which we could do for a while.  
Deepened some existing relationships, developed some new ones with folks in the presbytery and as PMT interviewed pastor candidates and other ways
- c. Preached and led worship in some churches by zoom/ others in person and by Facebook
- d. Worked exclusively from home, on cell phone, computer and internet, sometimes small 1-1 or tiny groups. Travel picking up a little the last months as COVID scarce or gone from many more rural MT counties now.
- e. Study of our current and future needs as a presbytery staff, congregations, leaders, physical and/or virtual office is being discussed. Laptop computers for all staff as opposed to \$5,000 per year in rental and other costs?

**3) Pandemic Addressed:**

- i. GPs worked closely with other Montana Denominational Heads to synchronize and coordinate efforts.
- ii. Presbytery equipped Churches initially to:
  - 1. Follow Covid guidelines from state and local governments, the PUCSA resources, with information posted to website and in zoom seminars, small group settings. (Kathy led this effort)
  - 2. Listened, listened, prayed and reflected and listened, to you all, PMT and leaders in the presbytery and its churches and ministries.
  - 3. Helped churches navigate going on Zoom or Facebook for virtual worship and helped to move toward hybrid worship
  - 4. Offered encouragement and a “with you in this” presence, listening, prayer, making connections, suggestions...
  - 5. Encouraged, offered options and resources and left as much as possible to the sessions of the local church to figure out *in their context*...
  - 6. CRE Equipping and fellowship happens once a month by Zoom, led by JP Carlson and George
- iii. Presbytery Meetings
  - 1. The planning team, staffed by Kathy, worked strategically to transition the meetings from in-person to *virtual* equipping, fellowship, worship, business gatherings and to listen as to what are root needs and opportunities.
  - 2. We were able to take advantage of experts who were available from around the country, who were much more readily available on shorter notice because they did not have to travel.
  - 3. Participation was generally up across the presbytery because of the convenience of zoom.
  - 4. Travel and lodging expenses were saved for presbytery & churches...

5. Regional meetings – in person and virtual for equipping and fellowship, begun prior to the pandemic gathered people safely and less expensively.
- iv. The Morphing of Regional Clusters (vehicle for fellowship, study, prayer, spiritual growth, mutual support, relationships & connections):
  1. The three of the four regional clusters folded... In person & traveling was instrumental; but with the increasing pace of life in general some were already fading before the pandemic. The Prayer Cluster in Central MT continues virtually. It had already adapted to primarily phone meetings and expanded to include a few others interested in their focus.
  2. Emerging MT Clergy Discernment Gathering weekly Zoom (George Leads) – 11 of our clergy, retired and actively serving attend regularly (Susi Ennis still attends); 10 other ecumenical or PCUSA out-of-presbytery pastors also attend regularly.
  3. Jim Edwards, prof-retired in NT at Whitworth joined us for a session, and the group would welcome him back & others.
  4. Gathering Elements (Model for on-going ministries?)
    - a. Biblically, Lectionary focused
    - b. Guided study and collegial support in large and small groups.
    - c. Prayer and support for each other
    - d. Meeting weekly in prescribed time of 1 hour and 20 minutes.
    - e. One leader (George) with Spiritual Direction experience. Pastor's voiced that it is nice to be led after leading so much themselves.
    - f. Some talk of an in-person retreat. Some visiting each other when traveling. Ecumenical relationships viewed as a plus
  5. Effectiveness noted:
    - a. Lutheran Bishop is asking that we help establish a second ecumenical Pastor Group.
    - b. Our Model is being adopted by the UMC Men in the Northwest for interest-group fellowships

4. **Ideas, Possible options: “We are a reformed church, always reforming...”**

- a. **As we are guided by our Presbytery Vision Statement, how are we to embody it now? Ongoing evaluation of it as a part of our practice.**  
Are our supporting initiatives, program and structure what best facilitates and support the Vision?
- b. **Research trends emerging in culture & churches and presbytery ministry** across the country and our region.
- c. **Identify and convene those with the gifts, callings, passion to explore and form “Fresh Expressions of Faith” which may be tethered to an existing church, or on their own.**  
Younger generations & those outside the church are NOT “returning” to what damaged them or what is foreign to them. They are most likely to attend something new, highly relational.
- d. **All Presbytery Meetings and committee meetings be hybrid.**
  - i. Regional meetings for equipping and fellowship be hybrid.
  - ii. Continue to ‘zoom in’ resource folks, not have them in person unless close by.
  - iii. Include a brief element in technological training in each meeting, or perhaps periodically for those needing it, to equip and inspire local pastors and congregations as to what can be possible and how.

- iv. Continue to rethink how meetings are hosted/purposed/etc. Keep reforming
- e. **Once or twice a year have hybrid presbytery-wide retreats** for worship and community, but focus on getting together.
- f. **Presbytery Mission:**
  - i. Form virtual relationships with churches and pastors elsewhere
    - 1. Such as Paul and Lydia Nshangwe and or a Zimbabwe Church and pastor (Lydia) is first female moderator of their presbytery!
    - 2. Across racial lines with a presbytery, such as Atlanta.
    - 3. Create an interested team to interface with these other entities on behalf of the presbytery.
  - ii. Jackie Harada and her virtual Sunday School be expanded through the presbytery, and hybrid as the classes move back to meeting in person
  - iii. VBS. Hybrid so that youth leaders can zoom in for a teaching time while locals plan the activities
  - iv. Explore and develop closer ties with the Dakota Presbytery, particularly those congregations within our bounds. How best support Poplar and Wolf Point in this?
  - v. Continue to interact with PCUSA Synod of the Rocky Mountains Presbyteries to find others who are leaning into the Hybrid way of meeting and ministry.
  - vi. Continue and expand CRE equipping for preaching, pastoral care and church leadership in our context.
- g. **Continue the MT Clergy Gathering** and create other virtual venues; retreat once a year when travel is less restricted.
- h. **Update personnel policies and staff job descriptions to** reflect new emerging virtual and distanced ways of operating along with ministry and changes in employment laws.
- i. **Plan to steward resources and the earth**
  - i. What staffing do we need, and /or afford to accomplish the presbytery ministry?
  - ii. Be strategic about travel
  - iii. Friend-raising / stewardship planning for presbytery and churches.
  - iv. Rely more and more on website to communicate and resource and train people to use it.
- j. **Other Ideas????**



**Pastoral Ministry Team's Presbytery Report May 2021**

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

**Boundary Training** has been scheduled for 2021. There are two options to attend by Zoom – Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> or Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Presenting will be Rev. Dr. Beth McCaw, the General Presbyter of Glacier Presbytery and Professor at Dubuque Seminary. Clergy and Commissioned Ruling Elders within Yellowstone Presbytery are **required** to have this training every three years. We also invite session members, children's and youth volunteers, childcare workers, etc. to join us. Information for registering has been sent out and can be found on the Presbytery website.

**A group of CREs, CREs in training**, and those discerning whether or not the CRE path is for them, have been meeting monthly via Zoom since March of this year. Our meetings typically take place the first Tuesday of each month from 9:30-11:00am. The meeting consists of Dwelling in the Word (usually the lectionary gospel passage for that week), sharing/prayer, and a discussion about preaching based on the book, "A Little Handbook for Preachers: Ten Practical Ways to A Better Sermon by Sunday," by Mary S. Hulst. Our next Zoom session is scheduled for Tuesday, June 1st, 9:30-11:00am. Anyone interested in the CRE program is welcome. George Goodrich and JP Carlson are the co-facilitators. Please contact JP Carlson, [rev.jpcarlson@gmail.com](mailto:rev.jpcarlson@gmail.com), for further details.

J P Carlson and Debbie Blackburn, Co-Moderators  
Pastoral Ministry Team, Yellowstone Presbytery

5.10.21

## Exhibit E. Stated Clerk Search Committee

### Stated Clerk Search Committee Report

May 2021

We are blessed to nominate **Ruling Elder Caroline Fleming** as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Yellowstone for a three-year term beginning June 1, 2021. The actions the presbytery needs to take to confirm this nomination are on the second page of this report.

#### **Our process**

The Stated Clerk Nominating Committee began meeting in January 2021 and met 11 times by Zoom. We reviewed and updated the job description and application for the position and created an ad for use in the presbytery and beyond. We did this in consultation with the Leadership Cabinet and the Presbytery. We appreciate the shared outreach of congregations and church leaders, which helped spread the word that we were seeking a new Stated Clerk.

We were grateful to receive three fine applications from well-qualified individuals. Our Interviews with all three helped us discern the particular needs of the presbytery at this time.

#### **Qualifications of our nominee**

Caroline Fleming offers a wealth of experience at First Presbyterian Church of Miles City as deacon and elder. In 1980 she was asked to speak at the Federated Church of Forsyth, beginning a long ministry of preaching at PC(USA), Methodist, American Lutheran, and UCC congregations throughout eastern Montana. She was moderator of the presbytery in the 1990s, and most recently served as moderator of the Representation/Nominations Team. She has been our elder commissioner to the General Assembly twice, and currently is a member of the synod Permanent Judicial Commission. It is hard to think of a role in the church that she hasn't served with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love—and a sense of humor. Her application for Stated Clerk stated, *“After a great deal of prayer and consideration as well as discussions with several people, I decided to apply for the position of Stated Clerk because I love God, love the Church of Christ, and feel called to serve the people of God for as long as I am able to do so.”*

In her work career, Caroline was the Executive Director of Custer Network Against Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault (CNADA) for 20 years, retiring in 2018. In this position, she wrote and administered grants, hired and supervised staff, managed financial details, and oversaw daily operations, including responding to victims of domestic and sexual violence. She brings broad and deep work experience, big picture vision and attention to detail, and a strong work ethic to the position of stated clerk.

Caroline combines a good command of the Book of Order with the ability to gently teach others. She is a knowledgeable and efficient administrator, an excellent communicator, a fine preacher, and a friend and mentor to pastors. She already has the trust, respect, and love of countless Presbyterians, and we are confident that she will be an excellent stated clerk.

#### **Personal information**

Caroline is originally from Pittsburgh, PA where her family history is very deep, and where, as people often used to say, “Presbyterians are dense.” At least they were saying that when she left the east as a young adult, crossed the Mississippi for the 1<sup>st</sup> time, and never went back save for family visits. She and Jack Fleming have been married for 21 years and together have two sons, two daughters, and, most fun of all, three grandsons ages 18, 16 and 8 and one granddaughter aged 19 months.

## Motions for the Presbytery May 21, 2021

1. That Ruling Elder Caroline Fleming of Miles City be elected for a 3-year term as Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Yellowstone, beginning June 1, 2021.
2. That Standing Rule S4.05 be set aside to allow for a short delay between election and installation. The first sentence of S4.05 reads,  
  
*The stated clerk shall be elected by the presbytery at the last stated meeting at which the term of the incumbent expires and shall assume office upon installation at the close of said meeting.*
3. That the installation of Caroline Fleming as Stated Clerk be held as the first order of business of a special presbytery meeting called for June 3, 2021.
4. That the terms of the call be:
  - 1/3-time non-exempt position with flexible hours
  - Annual salary of \$19,500. A portion of this may be allocated to a retirement savings account.
  - Travel and professional expenses to be reimbursed
  - Continuing education - prorated for part-time employment in accordance with the Presbytery's Personnel Policy
  - Vacation - prorated for part-time employment in accordance with the Presbytery's Personnel Policy
  - All other provisions of the Presbytery Personnel Policy, including the Family Leave Policy
  - A 3-month probationary period, as described in the Presbytery Personnel PolicyA performance review led by the Personnel Committee of the Leadership Cabinet will be held before December 1, 2021. At that time, the employee will be eligible for a \$500 increase in annual salary.
5. That Ruling Elders James Tarr and Melissa Bell be thanked for their three-plus years of service as Stated Clerk and Assistant Stated Clerk and retired with the gratitude of the presbytery for their faithful servant leadership.

Faithfully submitted by the Stated Clerk Search Committee,

Jody McDevitt, moderator

Carol Brown

Chuck Carlson

Debbie Funke

Andy Pehl

Kathy Goodrich, staff

## **Exhibit F: Leadership Cabinet Report**

### **The Report of the Leadership Cabinet to Yellowstone Presbytery for its Meeting May 21-22, 2021**

**According to the Presbytery's Standing Rules:** S5.04 The leadership cabinet shall be responsible for the coordination of the presbytery's mission and its program, ...

**In light of our granted responsibilities we offer the following report.**

**Meetings:** The Leadership Cabinet met twice by zoom since the last meeting of the presbytery on April 13, 2021 beginning at 9:00AM (Teresa Kendall, Moderator) and again on May 11, beginning at 9:30 AM (presbytery moderator Julie Boksich moderating in Teresa's absence).

### **The April 13 Meeting entertained the following discussions and actions:**

1. **Kathy and George Goodrich, CoGP's,** reported and led an extensive discussion on the current and coming changes in culture and ministry, which are emerging as consequences and opportunities from the pandemic.
2. **The Presbytery Meeting Planning Team recommended and the Leadership Cabinet agreed:**
  - a. To invite the Rev Shannon Kiser, Fresh Expressions, to resource the May Presbytery meeting to present and lead theory and exercises in "community exegesis" for our presbytery churches.
3. **Initial discussion on resourcing and equipping for presbytery and local congregations on the topics of Race and Culture...**
4. **Higher Education Grant Request Forms and cover letter** were reviewed and sent to the traditional three ministries supported by the presbytery. Other Congregations with proximity to colleges and universities were noted and invited to submit proposals for launching campus ministries.
5. **The Harlowton Church: The Administrative Commission, charged with the Sale of the Harlowton Church Building** Reported its progress.
6. **Financial reports were received. Financial reports from St Timothy's Chapel were requested.**
7. **The Stated Clerk reported** on the progress of congregations in developing child protection policies; on the need to develop a more effective process for reading and approving congregational and session minutes; the Office of the GA wants to receive documentation on the establishment of our presbytery geographical boundaries (George has since provided this); preparations are being made to train and transfer the stated clerk responsibilities to the new stated clerk, yet to be nominated.

### **At the May 11, the Meeting of the leadership Cabinet:**

1. **Much discussion around an Acts 1:1-11 Dwelling in the Word and discerning the Holy Spirit's leading, strengthening and gifting for the work of ministry.**
2. **George and Kathy continued the discussion towards discerning the future ministries, opportunities and threats to the presbytery.** They encourage us to remain rooted in our traditions, discerning of the Spirit's work in the present, and reaching in Christ for the future.

**It was decided that the next meeting of the Cabinet on June 8 would be a hybrid meeting (in person and virtual) at the Goodrich's' home in Bozeman.**
3. **The Plans for and preparation responsibilities for the next presbytery meeting,** featuring the Rev. Ms. Shannon Kiser were discussed and assigned.

4. **The report of the Stated Clerk Search Committee** was represented and Elder Caroline Fleming, Miles City, is the nominee from the Committee. Starting and training logistics were discussed.
5. **Higher Education Grants:** A process for receiving virtually proposals to be videoed and submitted by the submitting ministries was discussed and adopted.
6. **The Personnel Committee Chair, Chuck Carlson,** reported on the process by which the whole committee will review and consider changes being recommended to the personnel policies by a reviewing HR specialist, Associated Employers.
7. **Ric Tieman, Treasurer submitted the financial report:** Discussion was held as to the employment logistics of employing the new stated clerk.
8. **Jim Tarr, Stated Clerk reported:**
  - a. **Rep/Nom** will be advised that a new commissioner from the presbytery to the Synod Assembly will be needed next year.
  - b. **It was decided to recommend to Rep/ Nom that the delegates to the General Assembly in 2020 from the presbytery be renominated for the GA in 2022 as they did not get the full GA experience of an in-person GA .**
9. **Other Business:**
  - a. It was decided that the offering from the coming presbytery meeting would be dedicated to the Westminster Spires Camp Scholarship Fund.
  - b. The process for submitting reports to the office prior to LC and Presbytery meetings was discussed.

### **Status Report of the Commission to Sell the McAllister Church and Property – May 21, 2021**

The commission members are Ruling Elder Charlie Mandeville (Bozeman), Ruling Elder Bob Beekman (Ennis), and Teaching Elder Dan Krebill (commission moderator). Jan Beekman has participated in the commission meetings as well.

A series of 6 meetings have been held, beginning on November 19, 2020, including some with Realtor Rikki Dilschneider of Ennis. After consulting with a local title company, it became clear that a property survey was needed to establish the boundaries. That survey has been completed. It also became clear that in order to gain clear title to the property, an attorney would be needed. Attorney Mark Parker from Billings was consulted, and he advised that a quiet title action was needed in Madison County to establish the needed clear title. That quiet action is underway at the moment. Once clear title has been established by the court, the property will be listed for sale. It is hoped that the sale can be completed in the second half of 2021. Once the sale is underway, the commission will take up the matter of distribution of the sale proceeds as instructed by the presbytery.

Submitted by Dan Krebill

May 21, 2021

**Report of the Commission to Sell the Harlowton Church Property:**

**Harlowton Administrative Commission – Interim Report to Yellowstone Presbytery May 21-22, 2021**

**The Administrative Commission:** Lloyd Mandeville, Moderator; Jim Bell, Jim Tarr, George Goodrich, *ex officio*.

**The Task:** The Administrative Commission was tasked by Presbytery to work with the Big Sky Conference of the United Methodist Church to assume ownership and management of the building of the Federated Church in Harlowton; and to sell the building to a suitable buyer or give it to an appropriate non-profit entity.

**The Update:**

- A. An agreement is being drawn by legal counsel for the Presbytery between Yellowstone Presbytery and the Big Sky Conference to sell the building and split the profit equally after incurred expenses have been paid.
- B. A buyer who hopes to turn the church building into a low-income hostel for travelers had agreed to purchase the building for \$100,000. When it was determined that radon mitigation was needed and costs determined, the buyer offered to pay \$95,000 and assume the costs for radon mitigation. Our Ac and the UMC team agreed.
- C. No settlement date has been established, but hopefully the sale will happen this month after some title clarification is completed.
- D. Julie Woodard, our relator in Harlowton, has been excellent.

Submitted by Lloyd Mandeville Moderator

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Presbytery of Yellowstone PCUSA  
Balance Sheet  
As of April 30, 2021

	Apr 30, 21	Dec 31, 20	\$ Change
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Checking/Savings</b>			
1000 · Checking 3214	114,100.63	92,988.27	21,112.36
1010 · Money Market 3355	140,621.60	140,588.70	32.90
1015 · Partnership Fund MM 3793	45,395.78	45,389.71	6.07
1020 · St Timothy Checking 1961	4,911.76	2,500.00	2,411.76
1030 · St Timothy Checking 3686	2,856.00	2,500.00	356.00
<b>1050 · New Covenant 4537</b>			
1051 · Higher Education	21,446.87	21,446.87	0.00
1052 · Other Designated Funds	46,757.81	47,705.81	-948.00
<b>Total 1050 · New Covenant 4537</b>	<b>68,204.68</b>	<b>69,152.68</b>	<b>-948.00</b>
1060 · Vanco Clearing Account	0.00	392.00	-392.00
<b>1100 · St Timothy Endowment Funds</b>			
1110 · St Timothy Chapel #1 1085	351,057.03	343,307.99	7,749.04
1120 · St Timothy Chapel #2 6024	115,344.84	112,798.78	2,546.06
<b>Total 1100 · St Timothy Endowment Funds</b>	<b>466,401.87</b>	<b>456,106.77</b>	<b>10,295.10</b>
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>842,492.32</b>	<b>809,618.13</b>	<b>32,874.19</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>842,492.32</b>	<b>809,618.13</b>	<b>32,874.19</b>
<b>Other Assets</b>			
1850 · Beartooth Electric Co-op	1,337.70	1,337.70	0.00
1900 · Char Rem Trust-Deferred	90,911.14	90,911.14	0.00
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>92,248.84</b>	<b>92,248.84</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>934,741.16</b>	<b>901,866.97</b>	<b>32,874.19</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>			
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
<b>Accounts Payable</b>			
2000 · Accounts Payable	3,745.04	1,250.00	2,495.04
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>3,745.04</b>	<b>1,250.00</b>	<b>2,495.04</b>
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>			
<b>2100 · Payroll Liabilities</b>			
2110 · Federal Liabilities	690.32	641.34	48.98
2120 · State Liabilities	111.97	108.20	3.77
2140 · Flex Plan Payable	-200.00	0.00	-200.00
2150 · Retirement Payable	279.10	354.12	-75.02
2160 · Health Insurance Payable	1,018.24	1,001.18	17.06
<b>Total 2100 · Payroll Liabilities</b>	<b>1,899.63</b>	<b>2,104.84</b>	<b>-205.21</b>



Presbytery of Yellowstone PCUSA  
Balance Sheet  
As of April 30, 2021

	Apr 30, 21	Dec 31, 20	\$ Change
<b>2200 · Other Current Liabilities</b>			
2200.01 · GA Pentacost Offering PC999999	0.00	393.00	-393.00
2200.02 · GA Mission Pledges	0.00	1,114.70	-1,114.70
2200.03 · GA Peacemaking PM999999	0.00	365.00	-365.00
2200.04 · GA One Great Hour OG999999	0.00	165.00	-165.00
2200.05 · GA Christmas Joy CJ999999	0.00	1,584.00	-1,584.00
2200.06 · GA Theological Education TE99...	0.00	100.00	-100.00
2200.09 · GA Other Donation	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
<b>Total 2200 · Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5,221.70</b>	<b>-5,221.70</b>
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>1,899.63</b>	<b>7,326.54</b>	<b>-5,426.91</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>5,644.67</b>	<b>8,576.54</b>	<b>-2,931.87</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>5,644.67</b>	<b>8,576.54</b>	<b>-2,931.87</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
3001 · Retained Earnings	2,546.38	0.00	2,546.38
<b>3100 · General Funds</b>			
3100.1 · Administrative	8,255.07	8,255.07	0.00
3100.2 · Admin Support	51,477.07	51,477.07	0.00
3100.3 · Program	43,824.18	43,824.18	0.00
3100.4 · West Yellowstone Funds	41,311.90	41,311.90	0.00
3100.9 · Unrestricted	18,647.66	-30,172.45	48,820.11
<b>Total 3100 · General Funds</b>	<b>163,515.88</b>	<b>114,695.77</b>	<b>48,820.11</b>
<b>3200 · Designated Funds</b>			
3200.01 · Camp Scholarships	1,744.24	1,454.24	290.00
3200.02 · Clergy Emergency Fund	1,756.99	1,756.99	0.00
3200.03 · Equip & Encourage	47,569.14	50,569.14	-3,000.00
3200.04 · Evangelism Grant	1,250.13	1,250.13	0.00
3200.05 · Higher Education Grant	23,446.87	21,446.87	2,000.00
3200.06 · Linda Hofer Education	18,906.65	18,906.65	0.00
3200.07 · Partnership Spendable Funds	1,390.00	1,390.00	0.00
3200.08 · Peace Making Offering to YP	4,797.55	4,643.53	154.02
3200.09 · Presbyter Discretionary Fund	1,200.14	1,200.14	0.00
3200.10 · Presbyter Study Leave	150.00	150.00	0.00
3200.11 · Presbytery Continuing Education	3,716.92	3,716.92	0.00
3200.12 · Revamp Camp	11,892.69	11,892.69	0.00
3200.13 · Rural Ministry Grant	1,070.28	1,070.28	0.00
3200.14 · Social Justice	6,469.45	6,469.45	0.00
3200.16 · St Timothy's MM #1	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00
3200.17 · St Timothy's MM #2	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00
3200.18 · Triennium Fund	5,293.52	5,293.52	0.00
<b>Total 3200 · Designated Funds</b>	<b>135,654.57</b>	<b>136,210.55</b>	<b>-555.98</b>
<b>3300 · Restricted Funds</b>			
3300.1 · St Timothy's Endowments	456,106.77	456,106.77	0.00
3300.2 · Char Rem Trust	90,911.14	90,911.14	0.00
3300.3 · Partnership Funds Principle Amt	43,999.71	43,999.71	0.00
<b>Total 3300 · Restricted Funds</b>	<b>591,017.62</b>	<b>591,017.62</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>36,362.04</b>	<b>51,366.49</b>	<b>-15,004.45</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>929,096.49</b>	<b>893,290.43</b>	<b>35,806.06</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>934,741.16</b>	<b>901,866.97</b>	<b>32,874.19</b>

Presbytery of Yellowstone  
Program Budget vs. Actual  
January through April 2021

	Jan - Apr 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
4002 · Camp Income				
4002.1 · Summer Camp Fees	890.00	6,000.00	-5,110.00	14.8%
4002.2 · Event Fees	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
4002.3 · Rental of Camp Facilities	800.00	12,000.00	-11,200.00	6.7%
4002.4 · Gift Income	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
4002.5 · Other Camp Income	7,000.00			
<b>Total 4002 · Camp Income</b>	<b>8,690.00</b>	<b>21,000.00</b>	<b>-12,310.00</b>	<b>41.4%</b>
4003 · General Mission Pledge	14,217.60	28,840.00	-14,622.40	49.3%
<b>Total RECEIPTS</b>	<b>22,907.60</b>	<b>49,840.00</b>	<b>-26,932.40</b>	<b>46.0%</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>22,907.60</b>	<b>49,840.00</b>	<b>-26,932.40</b>	<b>46.0%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>CAMPING &amp; YOUTH</b>				
6100 · Camping Expenses				
6101 · Activities	570.00	1,150.00	-580.00	49.6%
6102 · Food	0.00	3,500.00	-3,500.00	0.0%
6103 · Supplies	0.00	800.00	-800.00	0.0%
6104 · Transportation	0.00	900.00	-900.00	0.0%
6106 · Salaries & Wages	1,358.64	16,080.00	-14,721.36	8.4%
<b>Total 6100 · Camping Expenses</b>	<b>1,928.64</b>	<b>22,430.00</b>	<b>-20,501.36</b>	<b>8.6%</b>
6110 · Triennium	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00	0.0%
6120 · Special Events	0.00	3,500.00	-3,500.00	0.0%
6200 · Admin Camping Expenses				
6201 · Advertising & Marketing	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
6203 · Liability Insurance	5,026.00	5,500.00	-474.00	91.4%
6206 · Utilities	349.69	3,000.00	-2,650.31	11.7%
<b>Total 6200 · Admin Camping Expe...</b>	<b>5,375.69</b>	<b>8,700.00</b>	<b>-3,324.31</b>	<b>61.8%</b>
<b>Total CAMPING &amp; YOUTH</b>	<b>7,304.33</b>	<b>36,130.00</b>	<b>-28,825.67</b>	<b>20.2%</b>
<b>LEADERSHIP CABINET</b>				
6301 · Intermountain Childrens Ho...	0.00	750.00	-750.00	0.0%
<b>Total LEADERSHIP CABINET</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>750.00</b>	<b>-750.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>MT ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES</b>				
6401 · MAC Membership	0.00	3,000.00	-3,000.00	0.0%
6402 · MAC Representation	0.00	300.00	-300.00	0.0%
<b>Total MT ASSOCIATION OF CHURC...</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3,300.00</b>	<b>-3,300.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>PASTORAL MINISTRY TEAM</b>				
6501 · Training	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
6502 · Congregation Ministry	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
6503 · Emergency Career Counsell...	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
6504 · Other PMT Program Expense	0.00	1,700.00	-1,700.00	0.0%
<b>Total PASTORAL MINISTRY TEAM</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,700.00</b>	<b>-4,700.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>PERSONNEL EXPENSES</b>				
6602 · General Presbyter				
6602.1 · Salary	2,863.52	8,198.00	-5,334.48	34.9%
<b>Total 6602 · General Presbyter</b>	<b>2,863.52</b>	<b>8,198.00</b>	<b>-5,334.48</b>	<b>34.9%</b>
6604 · Payroll Taxes	105.03			
<b>Total PERSONNEL EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,968.55</b>	<b>8,198.00</b>	<b>-5,229.45</b>	<b>36.2%</b>
<b>PRESBYTERY EXPENSES</b>				
6702 · Cluster Meetings	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
6705 · Presbytery Other Exp	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total PRESBYTERY EXPENSES</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,100.00</b>	<b>-2,100.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

Presbytery of Yellowstone  
Program Budget vs. Actual

05/18/21

January through April 2021

Accrual Basis

	Jan - Apr 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>PRESBYTERY OFFICE</b>				
6801 - Copies & Postage	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
6806 - Bank Service Charges	1.54			
<b>Total PRESBYTERY OFFICE</b>	1.54	100.00	-98.46	1.5%
<b>Total Expense</b>	10,274.42	55,278.00	-45,003.58	18.6%
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	12,633.18	-5,438.00	18,071.18	-232.3%
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Other Income</b>				
<b>OTHER RECEIPTS</b>				
Transfers from <del>Program</del> Funds	0.00	5,438.00	-5,438.00	0.0%
<b>Total OTHER RECEIPTS</b>	0.00	5,438.00	-5,438.00	0.0%
<b>Total Other Income</b>	0.00	5,438.00	-5,438.00	0.0%
<b>Net Other Income</b>	0.00	5,438.00	-5,438.00	0.0%
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>12,633.18</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>12,633.18</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



Presbytery of Yellowstone  
Administrative Budget vs. Actual  
January through April 2021

	Jan - Apr 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
4001 · Administrative Support	4,755.00	35,000.00	-30,245.00	13.6%
4004 · Per Capita Income	73,703.39	82,458.00	-8,754.61	89.4%
4005 · Interest Income	346.95			
<b>Total RECEIPTS</b>	78,805.34	117,458.00	-38,652.66	67.1%
<b>Total Income</b>	78,805.34	117,458.00	-38,652.66	67.1%
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>LEADERSHIP CABINET</b>				
6303 · Cabinet Meetings	0.00	3,000.00	-3,000.00	0.0%
6304 · Accounting Fees	1,958.00	6,000.00	-4,042.00	32.6%
6305 · Legal Fees	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
6306 · Task Force Meetings	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
<b>Total LEADERSHIP CABINET</b>	1,958.00	10,500.00	-8,542.00	18.6%
<b>PASTORAL MINISTRY TEAM</b>				
6505 · Nom/St-Tim/Delegate Mtgs	0.00	700.00	-700.00	0.0%
6506 · PMT Meeting Expense	0.00	5,500.00	-5,500.00	0.0%
<b>Total PASTORAL MINISTRY TEAM</b>	0.00	6,200.00	-6,200.00	0.0%
<b>PERSONNEL EXPENSES</b>				
<b>6601 · Admin Manager</b>				
6601.1 · Salary	12,629.04	30,887.00	-18,257.96	40.9%
6601.2 · Retirement	0.00			
6601.4 · Travel Reimb	135.24	500.00	-364.76	27.0%
<b>Total 6601 · Admin Manager</b>	12,764.28	31,387.00	-18,622.72	40.7%
<b>6602 · General Presbyter</b>				
6602.1 · Salary	3,470.80	10,805.00	-7,334.20	32.1%
6602.2 · Housing	6,800.00	20,400.00	-13,600.00	33.3%
6602.3 · Retirement	1,116.40	9,432.00	-8,315.60	11.8%
6602.4 · Insurance	4,015.04	12,000.00	-7,984.96	33.5%
6602.5 · Meals Reimb	5.44	1,350.00	-1,344.56	0.4%
6602.6 · Travel Reimb	0.00	8,000.00	-8,000.00	0.0%
6602.7 · Telephone	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00	0.0%
6602.8 · Discretionary Fund	0.00	2,700.00	-2,700.00	0.0%
6602.9 · Study Leave	0.00	700.00	-700.00	0.0%
<b>Total 6602 · General Presbyter</b>	15,407.68	66,887.00	-51,479.32	23.0%
<b>6603 · Stated Clerk</b>				
6603.1 · Salary	4,418.72	13,256.00	-8,837.28	33.3%
6603.2 · Retirement	1,320.00	3,960.00	-2,640.00	33.3%
6603.5 · Discretionary Fund	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
<b>Total 6603 · Stated Clerk</b>	5,738.72	17,716.00	-11,977.28	32.4%
<b>6604 · Payroll Taxes</b>	1,310.13	4,423.00	-3,112.87	29.6%
<b>Total PERSONNEL EXPENSES</b>	35,220.81	120,413.00	-85,192.19	29.3%
<b>PRESBYTERY EXPENSES</b>				
6703 · Per Capita Expense	18,281.48	17,916.00	365.48	102.0%
6704 · Presbytery Meetings	0.00	3,000.00	-3,000.00	0.0%
6705 · Presbytery Other Exp	595.00	500.00	95.00	119.0%
<b>Total PRESBYTERY EXPENSES</b>	18,876.48	21,416.00	-2,539.52	88.1%
<b>PRESBYTERY OFFICE</b>				
6801 · Copies & Postage	0.00	600.00	-600.00	0.0%
6802 · Insurance	1,229.00	700.00	529.00	175.6%
6803 · Office Supplies	32.42	2,000.00	-1,967.58	1.6%
6804 · Rent	2,070.00	4,140.00	-2,070.00	50.0%
6805 · Computer & Telephone Ex...	893.98	2,250.00	-1,356.02	39.7%
6806 · Bank Service Charges	2.00			
<b>Total PRESBYTERY OFFICE</b>	4,227.40	9,690.00	-5,462.60	43.6%
<b>Total Expense</b>	60,282.69	168,219.00	-107,936.31	35.8%
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	18,522.65	-50,761.00	69,283.65	-36.5%

Presbytery of Yellowstone  
 Administrative Budget vs. Actual  
 January through April 2021

	Jan - Apr 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Other Income</b>				
<b>OTHER RECEIPTS</b>				
Transfers from Admin Fund	0.00	4,761.00	-4,761.00	0.0%
Transfers from Admin Support	0.00	26,000.00	-26,000.00	0.0%
Transfers from W Yellowstone	0.00	20,000.00	-20,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total OTHER RECEIPTS</b>	0.00	50,761.00	-50,761.00	0.0%
Unrealized Gain(Loss)	-1,255.98			
<b>Total Other Income</b>	-1,255.98	50,761.00	-52,016.98	-2.5%
<b>Net Other Income</b>	-1,255.98	50,761.00	-52,016.98	-2.5%
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>17,266.67</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>17,266.67</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## **Presbytery Report for Camping and Youth**

*May 21, 2021*

Westminster Spires Camp is officially a go! Overall, we're encouraged by the rate of vaccinations and relatively low COVID case counts here in Montana and we're confident that we'll continue on a trajectory that will allow for a safe camping experience in 2021.

### Upcoming Dates

Revamp the Camp	May 28-30
Staff Training	July 7-10
Elementary Camp	July 11-15
Junior High Camp	July 18-23
Senior High Camp	July 25-30

Planning is well underway. Hiring of Camp Counselors is taking place. Registration is open.

Curt Kochner and George Goodrich will both be present for the duration of all three camps. At the moment, Daniel Triller is scheduled to be the Camp Speaker for Elementary, with George speaking at both Junior and Senior High.

### Prayer Requests and How you can help:

- Invite students to camp!
  - o In those conversations, remind students and parents of what makes our camp great: Beautiful location, lots of adventure and great experiences, very reasonable cost, and most importantly, an emphasis on relationships, community and encouraging students to grow in their love and knowledge of Christ.
  - o If students or families are unsure or on the fence, reach out to Daniel, Curt or George and we can set up a phone call, zoom call and answer any questions they may have.
- Recommend Camp Counselors
  - o If you know of college students or young adults who could serve as camp counselors, please pass their name and contact info along.
- Attend Revamp the Camp or come visit camp sometime!
  - o Help us get camp ready for summer or come during one of our camps for a day so that you can see what it's like in action
- Pray
  - o Pray that the word gets out and that students join us this summer
  - o For rounding out our staff and counselor team
  - o For speakers and their preparation and that messages would draw students closer to Christ
  - o That God would do more than we could ever ask or imagine this summer ☺

Thanks all,

Daniel Triller  
Pastor – FPC Dillon  
Camping and Youth Moderator

**End of Minutes:**

**Minutes approved November 5, 2021**