

**Presbytery of Yellowstone - ZOOM Stated Meeting  
February 11-12, 2022**

**Friday, February 11, 2022**

**22.0062. Opening of the Meeting**

The Presbytery of Yellowstone met on Friday and Saturday, February 11-12, 2022, beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Friday. Some attended in person, and some attended via Zoom. The meeting opened with prayer by the Acting Moderator RE Russ Kline. The theme for this meeting was: **"From Lament to Hope."**

**22-0063. Roll Call: (as taken from the registration forms and emails, not as taken verbally or visually)**

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

Anaconda	CRE Veva Larson, RE Sean Larson (commissioner), RE Cal Boyle (St. Timothy's), RE Linda Smith (guest)
Billings First	RE Sandi Schoenberger (Commissioner), RE Russ Kline (LC Moderator), RE John Reed (commissioner)
Billings St Andrew	RE Jim Tarr (Commissioner), RE Curt Kochner (guest), RE Betty Whiting (guest), RE Ben Larson (guest)
Big Hole	RE Sandy Cleary (Commissioner), RE Julie Boksich (LC)
Bozeman	Excused
Butte First	RE Chuck Wright (Commissioner), Karolee Larson (Guest: Inquirer)
Colstrip	Excused
Deer Lodge	RE Marilyn Thomas (Commissioner)
Dillon First	A
Ennis	A
Forsyth Federated	A
Hysham Community	RE Waine Milmine (Commissioner)
Jordan	RE Bev Harbaugh (Commissioner)
Lewistown First	RE Melissa Bell (Commissioner & Vice Moderator)
Manhattan	RE Stephanie Bergstrom (Commissioner), RE Debbie Blackburn (guest)
Miles City	RE Caroline Fleming (Staff: Stated Clerk)
Phillipsburg St Paul's	A
Poplar First	A
Stanford First	CRE Margee Smith, RE Bonnie Soulsby (commissioner)
Terry Community	RE Nancy Pehl (Commissioner)
White Sulphur Sp.	A
Wolf Point First	A

**Minister Members**

David Andrew (absent), Jim Bell (present), Priscilla Bell (absent), Ashley Birk (present), Davis Bierschwale (present), Charley Blom (absent), Kimberly Briggs (present), J P Carlson (absent), Chuck Carlson (present), Warren (Rusty) Craig (present), Dick Davis (excused), Mary Davis (present), John Dyce (absent), Wenda Fry (absent), Debbie Funke (present), George Goodrich (present), Kathy Goodrich (present), Steven A Hundley (absent), Doug Johnson (present), Lowell Johnson (absent),

Teresa Kendall (present), Dan Krebill (absent), Brent Long (present), Freeman McCall (absent), Jody McDevitt (absent), Sherwood McKay (absent), Marcia Muir (absent), David Murchie (absent), Sally Ralston (absent), Neva Rathbun (present), Mary Grace Reynolds (present), Harlan L Rounds (absent), Jamie Schmeling (present), Deborah Schmidt (absent), Susan Thomas (present), David Thompson (present), Daniel Triller (excused), Kim Woeste (present)

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

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

**RE Moderators 2021, Voting Members also listed with their churches above:**

RE Melissa Bell (Presbytery Vice Moderator), Russ Kline (LC Moderator)

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

RE Russ Kline, LC Moderator (present), RE Julie Boksich (present)

**Corresponding members seated:**

MWS Rob Hagan (Presbyterian Foundation), MWS Christine Long (Board of Pensions)

**Staff with Voice:** RE Caroline Fleming (Stated Clerk)

**Excused:** RE Ric Tieman, LC/Treasurer

**Quorum/Balance check:** Voting 18 RE's, Voting 19 MWS.

**A quorum** was declared present.

**22-0064. Procedural Motion:** The Stated Clerk moves the following Procedural Motion: (Attachment A)

1. That the roll for this meeting be established in two ways:
  - a. By email to [caroline@yellowstonepcusa.org](mailto:caroline@yellowstonepcusa.org) if you are attending via Zoom
  - b. By registration form provided at the meeting if you are attending in person.
2. Call in or Zoom attendees shall indicate in their 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 all requests for excused 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.

**Action Item:** The motion was seconded and passed.

**22.0065. Protocol Motion:** The Stated Clerk moves the following be established as protocol for everyone participating in this meeting: (Attachment A)

1. Start the meeting with your microphone muted and stay in the muted position until called upon or recognized to speak.
2. Have your first and last name and entity you represent in your Zoom participant identification. For example: *Caroline Fleming, Stated Clerk*. (In ZOOM the 3 dots on your picture screen can be clicked and you can rename yourself and the Church or entity you represent.)
3. When you have the floor, please say your name and the entity you represent each time you speak.
4. When voting, if not using a voice vote of "Yes" or "No," please use the "raise hand" feature if participating Zoom and raise your hand if attending in person. We will count these votes then ask phone-only participants to unmute their phones and vote verbally.
5. During recesses and/or breaks, please to keep your computers on. You can turn off your video, but please leave your audio setting on to hear when the meeting reconvenes. You may log off when long recesses are planned or if you must leave the meeting for any reason.

**Action Item:** The motion was seconded and passed.

**22.0066. Dwelling in the Word** was based on Jeremiah 29: 1-7. After reading the passage, presbyters went into small groups to discuss the passage and its meaning. Ideas that were shared from the small group discussion included the need to get outside of ourselves, holding on to hope, guiding others through troubled times, and trying new things. Our congregations need to grieve for the past that won't return than let go and move forward. It was noted that in our current time of exile due to COVID, we are still called to listen carefully for God's voice and continue to do God's work as we move forward. Exile periods can lead to times of innovation and creativity.

**22.0067. Announcement of workshop choices:** Attendees will choose from two workshop opportunities following the scheduled break:

1. "Seeking Peace and Prosperity of the place to Which God Has Sent Us" led by Karolee Larson and Kathy Goodrich
2. "Resourcing One Another" led by Jamie Schmeling

People attending workshop #1 will stay on the main meeting Zoom link. People attending workshop #2 will click on the link Jamie provided on the docket.

BREAK for 15 minutes followed by 1-hour workshops

**22.0068. Business Meeting Part 1** Presbyters were called to reconvene by acting Moderator Russ Kline at 3:50 p.m.

**Action item:** A motion was made to approve the agenda as posted on the presbytery's website (Attachment B). The motion was seconded, and it passed.

### **22.0069. Co-General Presbyter's Report**

George Goodrich thanked the personnel sub-committee of the Leadership Cabinet for their work through the transition time following Susan Seibert's departure and for their work on presbytery's personnel policies. He reported that the 2021 camping season was a success. His concerns include the growing clergy shortage in the country, and how we train lay leaders to lead churches. Quoting

Zechariah, "Return to me, and I will return to you," George raised the question of how we hear God's plan for renewal, how do we tap into that plan, and how can we connect with God on a deeper, more spiritual way? He is available to travel and will be happy to visit churches in the presbytery and preach if needed.

Kathy Goodrich reiterated George's thanks. She noted that our culture is so hungry for hope these days. The question is, how can the Church embody that hope for people? The answer includes a wholehearted inclusion of God in our lives. New ways for us to be the church include experimenting with new ways of meeting and studying together. The presbytery is encouraging the formation of small groups with the goal of 5 new small groups being formed by spring. Points of celebration include Kimmy Briggs completing the New York City Marathon in November, Mary and Dick Davis going to be grandparents in 3 months and moving to Missoula the first of March, Goodrich's daughter Jillian back to work at MSU, Ashley Birk serving the Bozeman church, Mary Grace Reynolds serving Ennis, and both Kathy's and George's mothers are well.

#### **22.0070. Pastoral Ministry Team (PMT) Part 1 (Attachment C)**

A request was received from the session of First Presbyterian Church of Anaconda to allow Cal Boyle to serve a seventh year as elder on session due to a lack of people interested this year. Some people are interested and available for the 2023 class but are not eligible or ready to serve in 2022. Without Cal, Anaconda would only have 3 elders on session.

**Action:** PMT recommends to Presbytery that Anaconda allow Cal Boyle to serve an additional term of one year on their Session. The motion passed.

#### **22.0071. Leadership Cabinet Report (Attachment D)**

**Action:** Leadership cabinet nominates Jody McDevitt to serve as Moderator of presbytery's Representation & Nomination Team for 2022. The motion passed.

#### **22.0072. Camping and Youth Ministry Team (Attachment E)**

Curt Kochner reported on the success of the 85<sup>th</sup> year of camping at Westminster Spires and thanked all who served as staff: Kimmy Briggs, George Goodrich, Daniel Triller (Spiritual Leaders), Kara Todd (Program Director), and those who served as counselors and counselors in training. Raising up new counselors is continual work for the team. A fall windstorm felled 30 trees at the camp, but thankfully no buildings or wires were hit. Renewing insurance is becoming difficult, especially with the recent fires.

Offering taken at tonight's worship service is given for camp scholarships. Curt noted that no camper is ever turned away due to inability to pay the fees.

#### **22.0073. Presbyterians for Earth Care**

Betty Whiting of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church reported on an overture that is before General Assembly this year entitled "The Time Is Now To Speak Up." She asked people to read and discuss the overture and find ways to become involved. St. Andrew Presbyterian Church has been a part of Presbyterians for Earth Care for years and engages in recycling, gardening and pollenating, among other projects. For more information contact Betty at [bettywhiting@bresnan.net](mailto:bettywhiting@bresnan.net) or Jody McDevitt at [Krebill.mcdevitt@gmail.com](mailto:Krebill.mcdevitt@gmail.com). For more information on the overture and an article by Mike Ferguson on the General Assembly website under [presbyearthcare.org](http://presbyearthcare.org).

## 22.0074. Stated Clerk Report (Attachment A)

### A. Omnibus Motion

1. The draft minutes of the Presbytery meeting of November 5-6, 2021 be approved as published on the presbytery website.
2. The draft minutes of the Special Presbytery meeting of January 18, 2022 be approved as published on the presbytery website.
3. 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; RE Gary Slagel, RE Sharla Helland, MWS Dan Krebill, RE Llyod Mandeville, HR Sally Ralston.
4. 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 if they have not done so already.
5. The Financial Review completed in 2021 by Debbie Blackburn and Dan Holland be received and that Debbie and Dan be commended for their work.
6. The number of Teaching Elders (MWS) to Ruling Elders (RE) stands at 31 to 31, therefore the voting members are in balance.

NOTE: As of January 1, 2022 there were 35 Ministers of the Word and Sacrament (MWS) on the rolls of Yellowstone Presbytery, however, only 31 of these live within the bounds of the presbytery. On the same date, 22 churches were authorized to send one commissioner to presbytery meetings, plus one church (First Presbyterian Church of Billings) authorized to send two commissioners to presbytery meetings based on the size of their congregation.

Additionally, there are 2 Commissioned Ruling Elders serving particular congregations in the presbytery with vote and 6 Ruling Elders authorized to vote based on their leadership roles within the Presbytery. The net result is that there are 31 local MWSs and 31 REs and CREs authorized to vote on business before the Presbytery. Therefore, no MWS/RE imbalance exists in Yellowstone Presbytery for 2022.

**Action:** The Stated Clerk moved the Omnibus Motion be approved. The motion was seconded and passed.

### B. The Stated Clerk reported the following:

- that she is working with churches to complete their annual reporting for 2021. Church reports are due online no later than February 17 when the portal for reporting will close.
- The 2022 presbytery directory is nearly completed. The Clerk will send out the latest version to everyone very soon.
- Pollard (Paul) Cannon has been removed from the ministry rolls. He joined a Baptist church in Hillsville VA in May 2021.

## 22.0075 Presbyterian Foundation

Rob Hagan encouraged churches to review their budgets to see if they match the church's vision. He is available to help pastors look at their church's budget. He also encouraged pastors and CREs to consider applying to the Foundation's Church Financial Leadership grant program for help in attending financial literacy and leadership events.

Ben Haden, Presbyterian Foundation Vice President, and Rob will lead an online seminar titled "It's Greek to Me" on March 24 at 11:00 a.m. mountain time. Email Rob for information on registering.

Rob is available to come to Montana and meet with churches and pastors about investing. Rob stated that the Foundation has "fossil free" investments through the New Covenant Fund. Contact Kathy Goodrich if you would like Rob to meet with you.

## 22.0076. Announcements and Prayer

1. This year is the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Westminster Spires
2. Deer Lodge is celebrating 150 years this year. They will hold a celebration on June 12.
3. John Patterson requested referrals for summer counselors for Rock Haven Camp of Bozeman Church.
4. Hearty thank you to Russ Kline for his willingness, eagerness and faithfulness as the Vice Moderator of Presbytery, Moderator of Presbytery and now Moderator of leadership Cabinet.
5. Dave Thompson reviewed plans for the evening worship service.

**22.0077. The meeting recessed** to reopen with worship at 7:00 PM. Dave Thompson offered prayer with thanks for our time together and the upcoming evening meal.

**22.0078. Worship:** Presbytery reconvened for worship at 7:00 p.m. Kimmy Briggs preached a message of hope entitled "Hope in Strange Places." Dave Thompson was installed as Presbytery's Moderator and Melissa Bell was installed as Vice Moderator. Delegates to General Assembly Teresa Kendall and Jim Tarr were commissioned. The 2021 necrology report was read. We celebrated Holy Communion together and accepted an offering for camp scholarships.

### Necrology Report:

Ruling Elders:	Name	Ordination	Date of Death
Billings First	Bill Dimich	29-May-02	14-Mar-21
	Barbara Muir	14-Feb-84	22-Sep-21
	Joann Corning	31-Jan-71	19-Nov-21
Bozeman First	Joyce Armour	22-May-94	3-Jan-21
	Everett Lensink	16-Feb-64	16-Dec-21
	Jan Peace	4-Jan-81	9-Dec-21
Deer Lodge First	Betty Lou Thompson	30-Jan-83	29-Jun-21
Dillon First	Larry Chambers	1-Jan-96	2-Sep-21
	Susy McCall	1-Jan-98	18-Jan-21
	Joan McDougal	1-Jan-72	19-Oct-21

Forsyth United	Dorothy White	12-Feb-06	29-Apr-21
Hysham Community	Joan Cunningham	2-Feb-03	31-Aug-21
Jordan Community	Kenneth Fogle	1-Jan-75	25-Mar-21
Lewistown First	Ted Hageland	27-Dec-70	30-Jul-21
	Jim Mitchell	1-Feb-18	1-Sep-21
	Ted Murray	31-Dec-67	18-Oct-21
Miles City First	Alice Spear Bankey	30-Dec-73	18-Oct-21
	Tamera Cain	16-Sep-72	27-Apr-21
	Delores Lathrop	12-Jan-14	23-Sep-21
	Paul (Casey) Stengel	12-Jan-14	20-Apr-21
Stanford First	James A. Hubble	9-Feb-75	21-Nov-21
White Sulphur Sp.	Arnold (Arnie) Blair	5-Apr-64	13-Sep-21
Wolf Point First	Douglas Baker	5-Jan-86	9-Jun-21
Ministers of Word & Sacrament			
	Paul Krebill	16-May-52	19-Feb-21
	William Swanson	24-Jun-56	13-Jun-21

### **Saturday, February 12, 2022**

**22.0079. Reconvene and Opening Prayer** Moderator Dave welcomed everyone back at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 12. Kochner led presbyters in opening prayer.

**22.0080. Dwelling in the Word** Curt shared scripture passages of hope with those present (Attachment I). Small groups discussed how we can help others come to the hope in God that we know. Ideas shared included: if we continue to see the future as the same as our past, we are doomed; trying to see newness each day is a challenge; We have to go where people are, to their "sanctuaries,"-they aren't coming to ours; looking back on one's life, a person can often see that after the struggle goodness came.

As we struggle in this time, we seek a new ministry chapter together.

**22.0081. Announcement of workshop choices:** Attendees will choose from two workshop opportunities following the scheduled break:

1. "Good Things Come in Small Groups" led by Dave Thompson
2. "Resourcing One Another" led by Jamie Schmeling

People attending workshop #1 will stay on the main meeting Zoom link. People attending workshop #2 will click on the link Jamie provided on the docket.

BREAK for 15 minutes

**22.0082. Presbyters were called to reconvene for Business Meeting Part 2** by Moderator Dave Thompson following the workshops and break.

**22.0083. Pastoral Ministry Team (PMT) Part 2:** (Attachment C)

PMT Moderator Kimmy Briggs introduced Karolee Larson who came before presbytery to be interviewed as a candidate for ministry. Karolee was questioned concerning the following:

- a. what excites her about ministry
- b. what she sees as her most daunting challenge right now
- c. what have been her most enjoyable and most challenging class
- d. where she envisions the church needs to be going in this time

- e. what she believes her sense of call might look like after graduation
- f. what she sees as growth and change in herself since starting her ministry journey
- g. how has she encountered Jesus on her journey

Following the interview, Karolee was moved to a private room to allow for discussion.

**Action:** PMT recommends that Karolee Larson (Butte) be approved as a Candidate in the ordination process. With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Karolee was brought back to the meeting and given a charge by Kimmy. Debbie Funke closed the interview with prayer.

**22.0084. Financial Report:** (Attachment F) In Treasurer Ric Tieman's absence, George gave a brief overview of the financial report. We have over \$1,000,000 invested, with many of those funds restricted for particular use. Some funds were pulled from reserves in 2021 to cover expenses, but not as much as were originally budgeted. George noted that "we continue to exist on faith." With no questions raised, the financial report was concluded.

BREAK for 15 minutes

**22.0085. Board of Pensions:** Christine Long, our Church Consultant with the Board of Pensions, introduced herself and shared information about the Care Navigation Program, a new program available at no additional cost that gives members access to personal care coordinators. Members should receive new I.D. cards soon. Christine urged any involved with the Board of Pensions to check the BOP website for updated information. She is available to assist congregations and presbytery with benefit information for salary packages, including information for those in "split" service to 2 denominations. Her contact information is [clong@pensions.org](mailto:clong@pensions.org) 215-704-7360.

#### **22.0086. Announcements**

- a. Caroline Fleming reminded everyone to register their attendance with an email to her at [caroline@yellowsotnpcusa.org](mailto:caroline@yellowsotnpcusa.org). She also asked people to send any evaluation concerning the meeting to her.
- b. Moderator Dave announced a goal of starting five new groups in the Presbytery by spring.
- c. **Next Stated Meetings: May 6-7, 2022 and November 4-5, 2022**

#### **22.0087 Closing**

**Action:** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 p.m., The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Moderator Dave Thompson closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Caroline Fleming Stated Clerk  
Presbytery of Yellowstone



**Attachment A****Stated Clerk Report for the Presbytery Meeting  
February 11-12****Procedural Motion**

The Stated Clerk moves the following Procedural Motion:

8. That the roll for this meeting be established in two ways:
  - a. By email to [caroline@yellowstonepcusa.org](mailto:caroline@yellowstonepcusa.org) if you are attending via Zoom
  - b. By registration form provided at the meeting if you are attending in person.
9. Call in or Zoom attendees shall indicate in their 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.
10. That all requests for excused absences received by the Stated Clerk be approved.
11. That any Corresponding members present on the call phone be seated.
12. 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.
13. 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
14. 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.

**We will be meeting both in person and via Zoom.**

**Any who wish to travel to Billings are welcome to do so. We will meet in person at Billings First Presbyterian Church, 2420 13<sup>th</sup> Street West. Please bring your laptop or iPad or tablet with you.** The Clerk will have registration forms available for those who attend in person. You can also find registration forms in the presbytery website at [yellowstonepcusa.org](http://yellowstonepcusa.org) if you wish to fill in your registration form before you arrive.

**If you plan to attend the meeting via Zoom, you are welcome to do so. PLEASE be sure you register your attendance with an email sent to [caroline@yellowstonepcusa.org](mailto:caroline@yellowstonepcusa.org)** By now most of you are familiar with how to participate in a Zoom meeting. As a reminder and for those new to a Zoom meeting, the Stated Clerk offers the following information from Leadership cabinet:

To join the meeting you will need the following:

- A computer (ideal) with a microphone and camera/video capacity. (An iPad, tablet or smartphone can also work.
- Internet access. Wi-Fi will work but wired is best for good quality.
- The Zoom application for your computer, phone or laptop. You can access the Zoom app on either Google Play or the Apple Store. You will look for a blue square with rounded corners

that displays a white camcorder. You want Zoom for cloud meetings. You will be asked to “run” or download the application when you “join a meeting.”

- The docket and documents on the Yellowstone Presbytery website [http://www.2021feb11-12-pres meeting \(yellowstonepcusa.org\)](http://www.2021feb11-12-pres-meeting (yellowstonepcusa.org)) If possible, we recommend reading what you can before the meeting begins.
- If you do not have access to a computer or the Internet, and you cannot ask a friend or colleague for help, you can join by phone.

*The Clerk anticipates that a number of people will be in the Zoom meeting together. Because of this, I ask that you mute your microphone unless you are called on to speak. Doing this will help eliminate feedback, minimize background noise and help us all move through our time together more easily.*

**The Stated Clerk moves the following be established as protocol for everyone participating in this meeting:**

6. Start the meeting with your microphone muted and stay in the muted position until called upon or recognized to speak.
7. Have your first and last name and entity you represent in your Zoom participant identification. For example: *Caroline Fleming, Stated Clerk*. (In ZOOM the 3 dots on your picture screen can be clicked and you can rename yourself and the Church or entity you represent.)
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**Omnibus motion.**

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4. 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 if they have not done so already.
5. The Financial Review completed in 2021 by Debbie Blackburn and Dan Holland be received and that Debbie and Dan be commended for their work.
6. The number of Teaching Elders (MWS) to Ruling Elders (RE) stands at 31 to 31, therefore the voting members are in balance.

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### Stated Clerk Activity

1. I participated in a 5-week Bible study led by the Stated Clerk of the PC (U.S.A.) that focused on fear and hope and the future.
2. I removed Pollard (Paul) Cannon from the minister rolls after verifying that he joined the membership of Hillsville Baptist Church in Virginia as of May 1, 2021 (G2.0509 (c)).
3. I worked with Ric Tieman and Debbie Blackburn to update the year-end Necrology, Mission Pledge, and Annual Minister Report forms for posting on the presbytery's website.
4. I sent the Necrology, Mission Pledge, and Annual Minister Report forms to all clerks of sessions by both email and the U.S. postal service. In the same email and mailings, I sent information to all clerks of sessions about accessing their year-end reports on the Office of the General Assembly (OGA) website. I continue to work with any who request assistance. *The OGA report portal closes and locks to churches on February 17, so I asked all clerks to submit reports on or before February 14<sup>th</sup>* to allow for any problem with submission.
5. I worked with a team consisting of Julie Boksich, Russ Kline, Gail Beckham and Kathy Goodrich to plan a retreat for all members, outgoing members and incoming members of our 4 presbytery teams. It was held on January 13.
6. I met twice with my Stated Clerk mentor.
7. I attended a training via Zoom on property issues.
8. I updated the 2022 Presbytery Directory with information I have received to date and sent the 2022 Directory to the presbytery's email list. I have received several corrections and will be re-sending the directory to everyone following the presbytery meeting. Updating is a continual process that is never fully completed.

I have attended all meetings of Presbytery, Leadership Cabinet and Pastoral Ministry Team and have recorded minutes as required.

Caroline Fleming  
Stated Clerk  
Yellowstone Presbytery

**ATTACHMENT B**

**Yellowstone Presbytery Stated Meeting  
and Interactive Mini-Conference.  
February 11 & 12, 2022  
1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church, Billings and via Zoom\***

**“FROM LAMENT TO HOPE”**

- 1:15 pm Dwelling in the Word Jer. 29: 1 - 7** Karolee Larson and Kathy Goodrich.
- 1:55 Regather** to hear Insights from each group
- 2:15 pm Announcements – Workshop choices**
- 2:20 BREAK**
- 2:30 Workshops (choose one):** **NOTE: All workshops are via Zoom**
1. “Seeking Peace and Prosperity of the Place to Which God Has Sent Us” Karolee Larson and Kathy Goodrich
  2. “Resourcing One Another” Jamie Schmeling & others
- 3:30 Workshops end. Log back into main zoom by 3:45 to rejoin meeting**
- 3:30 pm BREAK**
- 3:45 pm Business meeting Part 1**
- 3:45 Co General Presbyters’ Report
  - 4:10 Pastoral ministry Team (PMT) Report Part 1
  - 4:20 Leadership Cabinet Report
  - 4:35 Camping & Youth Ministry Team – Evening offering for Camp Scholarships
  - 4:45 Presbyterians for Earth Care – Betty Whiting
  - 4:50 Stated Clerk’s Report: Omnibus Motion – VOTE
  - 5:00 Presbyterian Foundation – Rev. Rob Hagan
- 5:05 pm** Announcements, grace & dinner recess
- 7:00 pm** ***Worship with communion broadcast live on FPC’s Facebook page***  
Preaching, Rev. Kimmy Briggs, Pastor, FPC, Lewistown  
Installation of Presbytery Moderator and Vice Moderator  
Commissioning of Delegates to General Assembly  
Necrology Report  
Tonight’s offering is for Westminster Spires Camp Scholarships
- 8:15 pm** RECESS for the evening. Reconvene @ 8:30 am via zoom (or @ FPC with laptop)

**Saturday, Feb. 12:**

- 8:30 am**      **Reconvene, Opening Prayer**  
**Dwelling in the Word** Hope with Curt Kochner  
8:50 Breakout groups
- 9:30 am**      Regather in large group to share
- 9:45 am**      **Workshop announcement & BREAK**
- 10:00 am**      **Workshop Choices:    NOTE: All workshops are via Zoom**  
1. Good Things Come in Small Groups    Dave Thompson & others  
2. Sharing of Resources for Lent, Easter and Beyond -    Jamie Schmeling & others
- 11:00**      **Workshops end, BREAK**
- 11:15 a.m.**      **Business meeting Part 2**  
11:15    PMT Report Part II
- 12:00**      4 MINUTE STRETCH BREAK  
12:05      Budget & Finance Report  
12:20      Board of Pensions Report - Rev. Christine Long
- 12:40 p.m.**    Announcements
- 12:45      Closing Prayer & Adjourn  
**2022 PRESBYTERY MEETINGS: May 6-7 & November 4-5**

**ATTACHMENT C****Pastoral Ministry Team's Report  
February 2022**

**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.**

**Information Items**

PMT approved the contract between MWS Mary Davis and Church of the Big Hole.

PMT is working on policies and procedures around the preparation process for ordination, validated ministries, and boundaries training.

PMT received the following email communication between Esther Berg and Stated Clerk of the Rocky Mountain Synod, Lynn Smit. It is included for your information.

**From Esther Berg**  
Greetings Ms. Smit,

I wanted to follow up before I file anything.

I was about to file, when I received an email from the Presbytery of the Yellowstone

requesting a meeting with me. I accepted and put that filing on hold.

During that meeting, it was apparent that we had two very different interpretations of the Book of order. I certainly never intended to be "in violation" as the Presbytery claims, which is why I consulted two people who are considered constitutional experts to understand the actions of my Presbytery back in 2010 and 2017, and continued to follow the advice from the then stated clerk of YP - whom they are now saying "was wrong" - but they seem to be slightly compassionate that I couldn't have known anything else since they have blocked all 4 attempts I have made to transfer membership and haven't responded to any other texts, calls or emails until recently.

Since you are the Synod state Clerk, it seems to me that it would be easier to simply have your interpretation, rather than waste everyone's time on a remedial case. I will certainly abide by your interpretation (even if it is against me) because I am too tired to try to fight this on a GA level. If you would be willing to simply answer the bolded question.

***Does being removed from the rolls mean - your name is off the list as amember or you have lost your ordination?*** They are interpreting G2-0508 as I am no longer ordained. My understanding was that of G-2.0509 that to be removed from ordination, there had to be a process that actually included me.

Since that did not happen, I assumed I was still ordained, just "off the rolls." which was the interpretation of the YP Clerk at the time of the action in 2009. I have an email from the then Stated Clerk Ron Hanson - the last communication I received from YP, BEFORE the action, where he lays out my options and says, "Keep in mind that even if Yellowstone Presbytery were to drop you from membership you would still have the option of seeking membership in this or another presbytery at a later date."

YP says if I want membership, I have to start the ordination process over again. (The heinous reason I was dropped from the roles - continuing in a ministry that is not validated - is because I started a mission from scratch in the Philippines - we have an orphanage that rescues children being trafficked, and a mission center that works with the poor in health, disaster relief, job training, etc. as well as daily bible studies in two languages. YP felt they couldn't adequately supervise such an endeavor and it would be inappropriate for me to be my own boss.)

Again, I am just trying to save us all the trouble of a remedial case.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely Esther Berg

### **Lynn Smit's Reply**

Dear Ms. Berg

There are three ways a TE loses his/her ordination:

1. Renouncing jurisdiction
2. Requesting to be removed from the exercise of ordained ministry

### 3. Being removed by a presbytery after three years on the inactive roll

All three of these require that the former TE discontinue any ministry and the designation of MWS shall not be used. All this can be found in the current edition of the BOO G-2.0507, 0508, 0509. Also, in the 2007-2009 BOO (which would have been the edition at the time your name was deleted from membership) G- 11.0406c says "If at the end of three years the minister has not been restored to active membership or member-at-large, the presbytery shall delete that person's name from the appropriate roll of the presbytery and may give that person a certificate of membership to a particular church. (G-6.0600)"

While a presbytery should be accurate in communicating what these situations mean, it is still incumbent upon the TE/MWS to know the BOO. and polity of the church. The time to dispute the original decision of the Presbytery of Yellowstone to remove you from the rolls has passed. Your only recourse was to apply to be reinstated which the Presbytery of Yellowstone has sole discretion to approve. A presbytery "may" approve reinstatement but is not required to reinstate a former TE/MWS.

To be specific, you are not ordained in the PCUSA and may not use the designation of MWS as it applies to any ministry. The Presbytery of Yellowstone cannot transfer a nonmember to another presbytery or denomination as you are no longer under the jurisdiction of the PCUSA.

#### **Items for Action**

PMT recommends that Karolee Larson (Butte) be approved as a Candidate in the ordination process.

PMT recommends to Presbytery that Anaconda allow Cal Boyle to serve an additional term of one year on their Session.

Kimmy Briggs, Moderator  
Pastoral Ministry Team, Yellowstone Presbytery

#### **ATTACHMENT D**

#### **Leadership Cabinet Report - Revised 2/7/22 Yellowstone Presbytery February 11-12, 2022**

Leadership Cabinet met in December, January and February. We also had a zoom retreat via with PMT, Camping and Youth and Rep/Nom Ministry teams. We reflected on Isa 43:1-7, 18 - 21. Letting go of some past things. God is doing a new thing. Hope!

The vision statement directs us to gather together for God's glory and spiritual synergy. We have kept this in mind as we plan Presbytery meetings and work towards being disciple-making, disciple-sending leaders and churches. A major vehicle since Jesus and his followers, involves creating small groups in our churches, neighborhoods, and throughout our Presbytery.

We desire to equip and encourage one another for living out our whole vision as Christ's disciples in the context in which we are sent.

## EQUIP & ENCOURAGE

- Welcomed new LC/Presbytery Vice Moderator Melissa Bell.
- Received regular reports from Co-Presbyters.
- Reflected on feedback from our November Presbytery conference and then the leadership retreat as we planned the February Presbytery conference and discussed priorities and opportunities for 2022.
- Appreciated Co-Presbyters by giving them a \$1000.00 bonus. 2021 was a year of many unexpected and urgent demands on several fronts beyond the hours for which they are paid.
- Appointed Rev. Dan Krebill as representative to Montana Association of Christians (MAC)

## OTHER BUSINESS

- Received report from 2020 Financial Review Taskforce. Affirming, no recommendations.
- Received regular reports from personnel subgroup as they moved through important work and in the rewriting of the personnel handbook.
- Instructed by our legal counsel, to be in compliance with employment law, paid Susan Seibert \$8,885.52 for accumulated unused vacation.
- Set the March 2022 meeting date for leadership cabinet.
- Started the visioning process for 2022.

Motion to Presbytery for February 11/12 2022:

- Nominate Jody McDevitt for Moderator of Rep/Nom.

Russ Kline, Moderator on behalf of Leadership Cabinet

## ATTACHMENT E

### Presbytery Report for Camping and Youth

#### February 2022

Planning for Westminster Spires Camp 2022 is well underway!

#### Camp Dates for 2022

Revamp the Camp	June 3-5
Staff Training	July 6-9
Elementary Camp	July 10-14
Junior High Camp	July 17-22
Senior High Camp	July 24-29

#### How you can help:

- Invite students to consider camp in 2022
  - 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 from your church went to camp last summer, have them help get the word out to your church and wider community by telling stories, showing pictures of their experience at camp
  - o If you haven't already, be sure to make the dates above available to your churches and families, as the new year is often when families begin planning their summer vacations and



travels.

- 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, June 3-5
  - o Help us get camp ready for summer
- Consider attending camp yourself sometime! It's a lot easier (and more authentic) to invite kids to camp if you or someone from your church has seen it for themselves.

Prayer Requests:

- o Pray that the word gets out and that students join us this summer
- o For rounding out our staff and counselor team

Also: Annual Ski Trip - FPC Billings was planning on hosting a ski weekend Feb 25-27th (ski at Red Lodge), however, due to scheduling conflicts, that trip has been postponed for the time being. We'll send out Presbytery wide email and announcement if in fact a new date is found.

Thanks all,

Daniel Triller  
Pastor - FPC Dillon  
Camping and Youth Moderator

**Presbytery of Yellowstone PCUSA  
Statement of Financial Position  
As of December 31, 2021**

**Accrual Basis**

	<b>Dec 31, 21</b>	<b>Dec 31, 20</b>	<b>\$ Change</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
<b>Checking/Savings</b>			
<b>1000 · Checking and Savings</b>	264,825	279,359	(14,534)
<b>1020 · St Timothy Checking 1961</b>	2,500	2,500	0
<b>1030 · St Timothy Checking 3686</b>	2,500	2,500	0
<b>1050 · New Covenant 5737</b>	110,989	69,153	41,837
<b>1100 · St Timothy Endowment Funds</b>	537,775	456,107	81,668
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	918,589	809,618	108,971
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	918,589	809,618	108,971
<b>Other Assets</b>			
<b>1850 · Beartooth Electric Co-op</b>	1,244	1,338	(94)
<b>1900 · Char Rem Trust 0931</b>	159,233	90,911	68,322
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	160,477	92,249	68,229
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1,079,066</b>	<b>901,867</b>	<b>177,200</b>

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**These statements have not been audited, reviewed or compiled**

**Presbytery of Yellowstone PCUSA**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
**As of December 31, 2021**

**Accrual Basis**

	<b>Dec 31, 21</b>	<b>Dec 31, 20</b>	<b>\$ Change</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>			
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	17,684	11,123	6,561
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	17,684	11,123	6,561
<b>Equity</b>			
<b>3100 · General Funds</b>			
<b>3100.1 · Administrative</b>	255	8,255	(8,000)
<b>3100.2 · Admin Support</b>	51,477	51,477	0
<b>3100.3 · Program</b>	43,824	43,824	0
<b>3100.4 · West Yellowstone Funds</b>	18,348	41,312	(22,964)
<b>3100.9 · Unrestricted</b>	(131,045)	(30,172)	(100,873)
<b>Total 3100 · General Funds</b>	(17,141)	114,696	(131,837)
<b>3200 · Designated Funds</b>			
<b>3200.01 · Camp Scholarships</b>	1,280	1,454	(175)
<b>3200.02 · Clergy Emergency Fund</b>	1,757	1,757	0
<b>3200.03 · Equip &amp; Encourage</b>	43,069	50,569	(7,500)
<b>3200.04 · Evangelism Grant</b>	1,250	1,250	0
<b>3200.05 · Higher Education Grant</b>	17,947	21,447	(3,500)
<b>3200.06 · Linda Hofer Education</b>	19,386	18,907	479
<b>3200.07 · Partnership Spendable Funds</b>	2,390	1,390	1,000
<b>3200.08 · Peace Making Offering to YP</b>	5,128	4,644	485
<b>3200.09 · Presbyter Discretionary Fund</b>	1,200	1,200	0
<b>3200.10 · Presbyter Study Leave</b>	850	150	700
<b>3200.11 · Presbytery Continuing Education</b>	3,596	3,717	(121)
<b>3200.12 · Revamp Camp</b>	8,786	11,893	(3,107)
<b>3200.13 · Rural Ministry Grant</b>	1,070	1,070	0
<b>3200.14 · Social Justice</b>	6,469	6,469	0
<b>3200.16 · St Timothy's MM #1</b>	2,500	2,500	0
<b>3200.17 · St Timothy's MM #2</b>	2,500	2,500	0
<b>3200.18 · Triennium Fund</b>	5,294	5,294	0
<b>3200.19 · Yell Pres Funds Await Cab Actio</b>	49,878	0	49,878
<b>Total 3200 · Designated Funds</b>	174,350	136,211	38,139
<b>3300 · Restricted Funds</b>			
<b>3300.1 · St Timothy Endowments</b>	537,775	456,107	81,668
<b>3300.2 · Char Rem Trust</b>	159,233	90,911	68,322
<b>3300.3 · Partnership Funds Principle Amt</b>	45,408	44,000	1,408
<b>Total 3300 · Restricted Funds</b>	742,416	591,018	151,399
<b>Net Income</b>	161,757	48,820	112,937
<b>Total Equity</b>	1,061,383	890,744	170,639
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>1,079,066</b>	<b>901,867</b>	<b>177,200</b>

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**Presbytery of Yellowstone PCUSA**  
**Total All Classes**  
**January through December 2021**

	<u>Jan - Dec 21</u>	<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
<b>4001 · Administrative Support</b>	40,725	35,000	5,725	116%
<b>4002 · Camp Income</b>	27,072	21,000	6,072	129%
<b>4003 · General Mission Pledge</b>	27,973	28,840	(867)	97%
<b>4004 · Per Capita Income</b>	80,550	82,458	(1,908)	98%
<b>4005 · Interest Income</b>	1,631	0	1,631	100%
<b>Total RECEIPTS</b>	<u>177,951</u>	<u>167,298</u>	<u>10,653</u>	<u>106%</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	177,951	167,298	10,653	106%
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>CAMPING &amp; YOUTH</b>	26,946	36,130	(9,184)	75%
<b>LEADERSHIP CABINET</b>	5,780	11,950	(6,170)	48%
<b>MT ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES</b>	3,000	3,300	(300)	91%
<b>PASTORAL MINISTRY TEAM</b>	2,041	10,200	(8,159)	20%
<b>PERSONNEL EXPENSES</b>	124,293	128,611	(4,318)	97%
<b>PRESBYTERY EXPENSES</b>	19,698	23,516	(3,818)	84%
<b>PRESBYTERY OFFICE</b>	10,490	9,790	700	107%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>192,248</u>	<u>223,497</u>	<u>(31,249)</u>	<u>86%</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	(14,297)	(56,199)	41,902	25%
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Other Income</b>				
<b>OTHER RECEIPTS</b>				
<b>Transfers from Admin Fund</b>	8,000	4,761	3,239	168%
<b>Transfers from Admin Support</b>	0	26,000	(26,000)	0%
<b>Transfers from Program Fund</b>	0	5,438	(5,438)	0%
<b>Transfers from W Yellowstone</b>	22,964	20,000	2,964	115%
<b>Total OTHER RECEIPTS</b>	<u>30,964</u>	<u>56,199</u>	<u>(25,235)</u>	<u>55%</u>
<b>Realized Gain(Loss)</b>	259	0	259	100%
<b>Unrealized Gain(Loss)</b>	(3,452)	0	(3,452)	100%
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<u>27,771</u>	<u>56,199</u>	<u>(28,428)</u>	<u>49%</u>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	27,771	56,199	(28,428)	49%
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>13,474</u></u>	<u><u>0</u></u>	<u><u>13,474</u></u>	<u><u>100%</u></u>