

Vision Statement

Yellowstone Presbytery--
guided and sustained by
Scripture, the Holy Spirit,
and prayer---is a
community rooted in the
love of Jesus Christ.

We will . . . **Gather
Together** for God's
glory and spiritual
synergy*

Equip and Encourage

disciple- making
congregations and
leaders for living the
Gospel...intentionally
becoming more like
Christ; ably sharing our
faith; impacting our
communities;
worshipping in loving
response to God; and
mutually supporting and
training leaders.

Go Out to join Christ in
Christ's mission in our
communities, Montana,
and the world...
embodying and sharing
Christ's Good News;
loving and serving, as
we are commanded, in
our words, actions, and
relationships.

*Synergy: from the
Greek syn-ergos,
συνεργος? meaning
working together

Yellowstone Presbytery MINI - CONFERENCE & STATED MEETING Via ZOOM technology Friday & Saturday, May 15 & 16, 2020

**Friday May 15 : 11-1:30 p.m. & 4-6 p.m. with breaks!
Saturday 9-12 with break**

What Could Book-of-Acts-Inspired Churches Become Post Quarantine? Living & Writing Acts 29

***Despite its tragedies, the virus gives us many
disguised opportunities for
spiritual, ministry and mission growth and resets!***

Mini- Conference for ANY in our presbytery! ALL invited!

Click to Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4065867706?pwd=ZkFEYXBubnFyYWtiS1lJQ2RzcU10dz09> Meeting ID: 406 586 7706

Password: 406 586 77

One tap mobile +16699006833,,4065867706#,,1#,726854#

Dial on any phone - 1 669 900 6833 or 1 301 715 8592 when
prompted enter Meeting ID 406 586 7706 then Password 726854

NOTE: Password different from joining via computer above

Friday, May 15 11 – 1:30 1st of 3 segments
**10:40 OPTIONAL - ZOOM lesson/review for any new
or desiring Zoom training.**

See our Zoom meeting instructions, posted 5/14

11:00 Conference/Meeting begins

Welcome & instructions, introductions – Roll
Prayer

Omnibus motion - Vote

Opening music & prayer,

Word-Share-Prayer Acts 2:1-21, 36-47

in large & break out groups

Break -

Sharing of ideas, discussion on first century church
& Acts - examples for us today

Offering – Supporting God's ministry & mission in YP
Presbytery's Pastor Emergency Fund & Urgent Plumbing
repairs @ Westminster Spires Camp - mail to YP office:
P.O. Box 1254, Bozeman, MT 59771

1:30 Announcements, Recess until 4 – 6 pm

4 - 6 pm Reconvene 2nd of 3 segments See next page

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Friday 4 – 6 pm

4 - 6 pm Reconvene 2nd of 3 segments Zoom info same
4 See our Zoom meeting instructions, posted 5/14

See our Zoom meeting instructions, posted 5/14

Brief Presentation, conversation & break out groups,
Acts & Reset –Living/Writing Acts 29

5:05 Break

5:10 Brief reports:

Co-General Presbyters Report

PMT Part 1 CRE Seeker, Jeff Harada, FPC, Wolf Point

Vote

Commissioning GA commissioners and YAAD

Leadership Cabinet Report

6 Recess until Sat. @ 9 am

Saturday, May 16 9 am – noon 3rd of 3 segments

Zoom join info same as Friday's on page 1

Reconvene

See our Zoom meeting instructions, posted 5/14

9 Welcome & instructions, introductions

Music & prayers,

Word-Share-Prayer Acts 8:19-30

Large Group and Breakout Groups - Acts and Reset
webinar – Discussion, sharing, prayer

Offering – Supporting God's ministry & mission in YP
Presbytery's Pastor Emergency Fund & Urgent Plumbing
repairs @ Westminster Spires Camp – mail to YP Office
P.O. Box 1254, Bozeman, MT 59771

10:50 Break

11:00 - Final reports and items for action

PMT Part 2 - Includes Rev. Cathy McLean -> Hon.

Retired **Vote**

Camping & Youth -

Geyser Admin. Commission – Prayer/**Vote**

Harlowton –Closing of Federated church Prayer/**Vote**

Stated Clerk Report-

New Business -

11:50 Announcements, Upcoming things, Summary

12 Adjourn

Next Stated Presbytery Meeting – Nov. 6 & 7, FPC,
Miles City

**Presbytery of Yellowstone – Stated Meeting
March 6,7, 2020**

20-000. Opening of the Meeting

The Presbytery of Yellowstone met on Friday and Saturday, March 6, 7, 2020, at First Presbyterian Church in Billings, Montana. Moderator, MWS Susi Ennis convened the meeting at 10:10 AM on Friday with prayer. The theme for this meeting was “The Adventure God Has for You” Centered and Soaring, Part 2. There was a morning workshop “Packing for the Journey” which was led by Rev. Susi Ennis. Topic of the morning session was “How do we empower people to take their spiritual gifts, experiences, talents, and abilities to use them for the kingdom”. This session was one of the three work session conducted during this meeting.

20-001. Roll Call: (as taken from the registration forms and not as taken verbally)

Ruling Elder Commissioner

Anaconda	A
Billings First	Sandi Schoenberger
Billings St Andrew	Sandy Welch, visitors—Virginia Allen, Curt Kochner, Gail Kimball, Betty Whiting, Patty Johnson
Big Hole	Sandy Cleary, Julie Boksich (LC)—visitor, Larry Boksich
Bozeman First	John Patterson, Donna Beck (Clerk of Session), Suzanne Bratsky (LC)—visitors Frank Schurz, Chuck Beck
Butte First	Chuck Wright (Seeker)
Colstrip	Gail Beckham
Deer Lodge	Lisa Cole
Dillon First	A
Ennis	A
Forsyth Federated	A
Harlowton	A
Hysham Community	Waine Milmine—Visitors Sharon Milmine, Dana Cunningham (Session Clerk)
Jordan	Bev Harbaugh (Session Clerk)
Lewistown First	CRE Margee Smith
Manhattan	Debbie Blackburn (PMT Co-Moderator)
Miles City First	A
Phillipsburg St Paul’s	A
Poplar First	Wanda Kirn (Session Clerk)
Stanford First	A
Terry Community	Nancy Pehl
White Sulphur Springs	Pam Jackson (Session Clerk)
Wolf Point First	A

Minister Members

David Andrew (absent), Jim Bell (absent), Priscilla Bell (absent), J P Carlson(present), Paul Cannon (absent), Dick Davis (present), Jed Cauffman (excused), Paul Cousins (absent), John Dyce (absent), Brent Long (present), Jody McDevitt (present), Warren (Rusty) Craig (absent), Sherwood McKay (absent), Cathy McLean (excused), Mary Davis (absent), Steven A Hundley (excused), Marcia Muir (absent), Sally Ralston (absent), Susi Ennis (present), Garrett Mostowski (present), Neva Rathbun (present), Debbie Funke (present), Harlan L Rounds (excused), Jamie Schmeling (present)George Goodrich (present), Bill

Swanson (absent), Kathy Goodrich (excused), Susan Thomas (present), Doug Johnson (excused), Sarah Logemann (present), David Thompson (present), Larry Vandecreek (absent), Lowell Johnson (absent), Vicki Waddington (absent), Teresa Kendall (present), Kim Woeste (Present), Dan Krebill(present), Paul Krebill (absent), Freeman McCall (absent), Diane White (absent), Daniel Triller (present), Wenda Fry (absent), Deborah Schmidt(absent)

Commissioned Ruling Elder Members:

CRE Margaret Smith, Veva Larson (excused),

RE Moderators 2020, Voting Members:

Russ Kline (present), Debbie Blackburn (PMT Co Moderator)

RE Leadership Cabinet Voting Members:

Julie Boksich (present), Ric Tieman, Treasurer (present)

Corresponding member for meeting seated:

Rev. Dwight Welch, Rev. Stan Ott (Guest Speaker via Zoom), RE Mark Frey (Board of Pensions) (Cascade Presbytery), RE Lynn Smit (Synod Stated Clerk) (Plains and Peaks Presbytery), RE, Chaplan, Jeff Harada FPC Wolf Point.

Staff with Voice:

RE Jim Tarr (Stated Clerk),

Visiting recognized with voice:

RE Ben Larson (Session Clerk), RE Ric Tieman (Treasurer), RE Susan Gibb, RE Janet Kline, Alan Smit,

Balance check: Voting RE's 19, Voting MWS 16.

20- 002. Session 1. "Packing for the Journey" was led by MWS Susi Ennis who was snubbing for Co GP Kathy Goodrich who was excused as ill.

This session was a review of the spiritual gifts presentation a few years back and adding a current review of the importance of identifying those gifts within our fellowships. The focus was ("How do we empower people to take their spiritual gifts, experiences, talents, and abilities to use them for the Kingdom?)

The session included sharing and personal attention to the process and importance of the gift's analysis process.

20-003. A quorum was declared after the roll call was verified.

20-004. The moderator Susi Ennis had opened the business section of the meeting with prayer and gave floor to Rev. Dave Thompson to give a welcoming message, facility directions, and food service arrangements. He specifically called attention to a banner hanging on the chancellery rear wall that was given to the church by MWS Susan Barnes, former pastor at St Andrew Presbyterian Church, Billings, MT.

20-005. The docket was approved, and the following procedural motion was approved:

Procedural Motion - The Stated Clerk moved the following Procedural Motion:

1. That the roll for this meeting be established by completed Registration Sheets.
2. That written and oral requests for absences received by the Stated Clerk be approved.
3. That any Corresponding members present be seated.
4. That the Presbytery grant the Moderator the authority to give privilege of the floor to persons, other than Members or Commissioners, for the purpose of reporting to this meeting.
5. That the Moderator and the Stated Clerk be empowered to make adjustments to the Agenda during the meeting, as may be necessary, to provide for efficiency in reporting, and
6. presbytery office in advance an electronic copy shall supplied to the office of the stated clerk and the presbytery office immediately following the meeting.

20-006. Co General Presbyter George Goodrich gave the charge and oath of office to RE Russ Kline as moderator and RE Julie Boksich as vice moderator of the Presbytery, who were then recognized and prayed for with a laying on of hands. Russ then offered a prayer for the work of the meeting that followed. Julie led the gathering in a dwelling in the word and word/prayer/share time over the scripture John 21: 1-12

Session 2.

Rev. Ott presented a complete written outline of his presentation in advance of the presentation, but his talk was focused on reviewing certain key points from our Meeting in Lewistown

- a. Friends off the road.
- b. Friends of the heart.

And the three commitments a church must make.

- c. A commitment to Christ
- d. A Commitment to the Body of Christ
- e. A commitment to the work of Christ in the world.

Our Commitment to the Body, was presented in more detail in this session and after hearing his explanations the participants spent time in word/share/prayer breakout groups which covered all three of the commitments.

20-007. MWS George Goodrich resented the Co-GP report (**Exhibit A.**) and gave particular emphasis on the following:

1. We are all connected to each other.
2. What does God expect of us when we meet?
3. Please pray for each other and an appeal to use the prayer list on the website that was created by RE Curt Kochner.

20-008. RE Dr John Patterson gave a talk on what churches might consider as a response to the CoVid Virus threat we now face. Many good suggestions were explained to help our fellowships navigate this threat. He also pointed out the PCUSA Website is posting a lot of good information on how to deal with this virus while we fellowship and worship.

20-009. MWS J.P. Carlson presented a report of the PMT. Exhibit B. He indicated Lanny Rounds will be recognized as Honorably Retired at the meeting at the Church of the Big Hole. The floor was given to RE Chuck Wright who explained how he came to the conclude he needed to seek a commission as a CRE. He also explained to educational training in which he is now engaged.

- **It was voted** to recognize that Rev. Harland Rounds will be recognized as Honorably Retired.
- **It was voted** to install RE Chuck Wright as a seeker in the CRE training program of the Yellowstone Presbytery.
- **It was Voted** to dissolve the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Cathy Mclean and the Forsyth Church, by vote of their session March 31 and with an effective date of December 31, 2019.
- **It was voted** to dissolve the commission of CRE Margee Smith at the Lewistown Church Home care ministry. (A voice indicated the PMT and Church in Lewistown will possibly need to evaluate how the impact of the loss of Margee will affect this ministry.)
- **It was voted** to commission CRE Margee Smith to be installed as pastor of the Stanford Church and to share her ministry with the Methodist church in Denton, MT. (The Methodist DS having previously approved this agreement).
- **It was voted to** create an administrative commission to install CRE Margee Smith as pastor of the Stanford Church on March 21, 2020 at 1:30 PM, as follows:

MWS Susi Ennis

MWS Kathy Goodrich

MWS Susan Thomas

MWS Jody McDevitt

RE Charlie Brown (Lewistown)

RE Ray Soulsby (Stanford)

RE Debbie Blackburn (Manhattan)

RE Russ Kline (Moderator of Presbytery)

RE Jim Tarr (Stated Clerk of Presbytery)

RE Melissa Bell (Assistant Stated Clerk of Presbytery)

RE Linda Bradley (Lewistown)

20-010. MWS Danial Triller presented the camping and youth report. (**Exhibit C.**) he announced the success of the winter ski retreat in Bozeman and made an appeal to the churches to get more youth interested in the summer camping program.

20-011. LC Moderator MWS Teresa Kendall gave the meeting a first reading of the nomination of MWS Jodi McDevitt to a 3-year term on the Representation/Nominating Committee.

20-012. Mark Frey of the Board of Pensions was recognized, and he gave a brief talk on the Healthy Pastor Healthy Congregation Program of the Board of Pensions. He explained how to get information

and help if interested in getting access to this funding. \$10,000 grants are still available. (FYI, the Lewistown Church is participating now in this Presbytery)

20-013. We recessed for dinner fellowship and worship with communion. During the worship the necrology report was presented by George Goodrich. Special remembrance was made of the Rev. Jean Johnson who served the church in Madison Valley for many years and CRE Jack Bell who was pastor at the Stanford Church. Our Presbytery was blessed to have their ministry among us, and they will be missed. The Rev. Susi Ennis gave the sermon.

During the service two mission teams were commissioned, recognized and prayed for their serving God in this manner. A Presbycat team was recognized by Rev. Dan Krebill and a youth group team from FPC Billings was recognized as heading to Zambia Africa. (After the meeting the Presbytery was notified these mission trips needed to be cancelled due to the CoVid Virus threat and travel restrictions.)

A special offering for the Spires Camp Scholarship Funds was collected in the amount of \$1,738.00

20-014. The Saturday morning session was opened with Prayer by Moderator RE Russ Kline

The morning session was focused on "Our Commitment to and Love of Jesus Christ". There were 3 break out sessions led by Rev. Jamie Schmeling, Rev George Goodrich, and Rev Susi Ennis

20-015. LC Moderator Teresa Kendall offered a second reading of the motion to elect Rev. Jodi McDevitt to the ep/Nom Committee for a term of 3 years.

- **It was voted that a unanimous ballot be cast** to elect the Rev McDevitt to a 3-year term on the Rep/ Nom Committee.

The planning team was recognized for their work in planning for this meeting. The team recognized with applause and thanks consisted of Kathy Goodrich, Julie Boksich, Jamie Schmeling, Teresa Kendall and Susi Ennis.

20-016. RE Ric Tieman Treasurer presented the financial report of the presbytery as of the end of 2019 and the report is attached as **Exhibit E**. Ric reported a trust from the estate of RE John Clark of the Butte Church came to the presbytery as one of the beneficiaries in the gross amount of \$120,671.64. Conditions on distribution will apply and will be reported as they occur. Initially the Presbytery received \$90,911.14. John was recognized by George Goodrich, Dan Krebill, and Dick Davis for his dedication and service to this Presbytery.

20-017. Rev Kim Woeste gave a report on the relationship and importance of the covenant relationship the College has with the PCUSA and this Presbytery. She quoted some of the history of the relationship and recognized George Goodrich as currently serving on the college's board. She made note that the chaplaincy function welcomes mission gifts from the member churches in the Presbytery as well as being grateful for support received in the past.

20-018. The Stated Clerk Report is attached as **Exhibit D**. The minutes of the November 1, 2, 2019 meeting where approved as recorded and the Minutes of the December 13 phone call meeting were approved with a correction proposed adding "at this time" by the Rev, Jamie Schmeling regarding her installation service.

20-019. Suzanne Bratsky gave a report on the Presbyterian Women function of the church. She made note of the gathering planned for August 5-8, 2021 in St Louis, MO. Theme of “Rejoice in Hope”.

20-020. RE and Stated Clerk of the Synod advised the presbytery on the work of the Synod and that the overture regarding the Boundary between Glacier and Yellowstone Presbytery has been recorded and is on PC Biz as overture 27.

20-021. It was announced the May 14,15 Presbytery Meeting at the Church in the Big Hole will have a pre – gathering May 13 in the evening when we can have some fun activity.

RE Ben Larson announced the opportunity to gather following this meeting at St Andrew Presbyterian Church to hear a talk on the “Stations of the Cross” being held at the Labyrinth outside.

The meeting adjourned with prayer by Moderator Russ Kline .at 11:30 AM.

The session clerks from FPC Billings, FPC Bozeman, The Church in the Big Hole, White Sulphur and Jordan attended the church record review meeting.

19-075. The next meeting of Yellowstone Presbytery will be held at the Church in the Big Hole, Melrose MT May 14, 15, 2020.

Jim Tarr

Stated Clerk

Attached: Exhibits A, B, C, D, E.

Exhibit A. CO GP Report.

George & Kathy Goodrich General Presbyters’ Report Yellowstone Presbytery March 2020

How are we as Jesus’ disciples to LIVE and LEAD in times of rapid seismic shifts and polarization, in times of fear and fragmentation? Such challenges are, and have always been, God’s opportunities, just as the Chinese character for *crisis* is made up of their 2 characters for *danger* and *opportunity*! Historically, God’s people HAVE been in such times before. But it is a first for most of us. As the Holy Spirit applies Scripture, the lessons of those who have gone before us, and insights from listening in our contexts, we have hope that God will lead and transform us in the times and places where we are called and sent.

God has always been the present, powerful “Way-Maker and Promise-Keeper” * for God’s people in the past. Will we pray for and cultivate the trusting faith that God will be and do the same for us? (*Stephy Nobles-Beans, Assoc. Chaplain for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Ministry, Whitworth Univ.)

1. Keeping the main thing the main thing-The main thing, our center of reality, is **Jesus Christ (1)**

2. Listening well, with God's mind and heart, is essential to leadership in these times. (2)

3. Staying rooted AND adapting/shifting, responsive to the Holy Spirit in changing contexts.

Our March 6 & 7 mini conference *Taking the Adventure God Has for Us* themes and workshops continue to address this and better equip you and your congregation. Please share the flyer & invite ANY interested in your church.

We and the Leadership Cabinet continue to see the vision statement of the presbytery as offering clear guidance and priorities for the presbytery, leading us to focus on helping equip and strengthen pastors and churches in their discipleship and joining in Christ's mission in such times... Toward that end, we see...

a. The continued focus on offering Stan Ott's training and materials at presbytery meetings as imperative, foundational and transforming.

- a. Growing commitment to and love for:
Jesus Christ - the Body of Christ - the work of Christ in the world.
- b. Practicing the transferable concepts under each of these "4 Great's of Jesus".
- c. The Presbytery planning team of the LC, Russ, Julie, Susi, and Kathy, seeks to listen to churches and leaders to serve and equip! Thanks to them!
- d. It is even more essential in these times for leaders, as well as all disciples, to BE the people of God, like filled reservoirs, before we DO the work of the people of God. This adaptation of Stan Ott's admonition is also in the words of Bernard of Clairvaux":

The {one} who is wise, therefore, will see his {her} life as more like a reservoir than a canal. The canal simultaneously pours out what it receives; the reservoir retains the water until it is filled, then discharges the overflow without loss to itself...Today, there are many in the church who act like canals. The reservoirs are far too rare... You must learn to await this fullness before pouring out your gifts. Do not try to be more generous than God. - Bernard of Clairvaux, 1090-1153, French Abbot

b. Strengthening Pastors and Leaders

- a. The revamping of clusters, per Stan's suggestion, as something to be explored – using internet /Go to Meeting more as more cost efficient and time-friendlier. We have both attended clusters virtually in January/February. Thoughts?
 - b. Youth Ski Retreat, February 28-March 1 in Bozeman.
 - c. Offer more retreat-meetings like the January Leadership retreat in our home in Bozeman...
Discernable benefits?
Clergy and leader retreats?
 - d. Offering Spiritual Direction for pastors and lay leaders (George).
- c. Supporting the large number of our churches with no pastor or searching for a pastor by preaching, worshipping and being present and prayerful; equipping and supporting search committees, sessions, deacons...; possible internship in rural/small town ministry**

- d. Equipping elders to preach and lead and as potential CRE's.
- e. Encouraging networking and partnerships in outreach, mission and service; sharing ideas and questions, establishing a new worshipping community (we are still seeking God's leading)
- f. Exploring possible collaborations.
- g. Discerning together with you God's opportunities as to how we find Christ, adapt/shift, discern the way forward following Christ in the unsettled culture now: racism and violence; partisan politics and incivility; corona virus and the disruption it is likely to be in the economy and in our lives...

We believe in God's call and purpose for our disciple communities to be *thermostats* for the Way and Ways of Christ, not thermometers of our fallen natures, culture or past mistakes. Rather, we are intended to be contrast communities/lights/havens of understanding, respect and Christian love across differences both within ourselves and for our communities. Therefore, we are exploring, discussing various ways we can better focus on and equip ourselves to be salt and light, drawing upon gifts within and without our body. We both are following colleges and universities which, expecting a restless fall, are planning various training and responses.

- h. **Presbytery Staffing Restructuring and financial developments:**
 - a. LC & its Personnel subgroup, considering its response to the challenge for our May meeting.
 - b. Three questions: 1) What structure best serves the presbytery mission? 2) How are the Goodrich's and staff being led? 3) How pressing is the financial situation?

Personal – We are grateful for many blessings in the lives of family in MT, including Emerson Anne Goodrich born in December! George's mom recently fell and broke her hip and is very frail and fragile, ready for heaven. Prayers welcomed as our mothers' increasing challenges and needs take more time both in person and remotely.

1. *Resilient Faith: How the Early Christian 'Third Way' Changed the World*, Gerald Sittser, p. 173-4.
2. Excerpted in Scott Cormode's article A Share Story of Future Hope @ <https://fullerstudio.fuller.edu/a-shared-story-of-future-hope/> from Cormode's *The Innovative Church: How Leaders and Their Congregations Can Adapt in an Ever-Changing World* to be published Sept. 2020

Exhibit B. PMT Report.

Pastoral Ministry Team's Presbytery Report March 6-7, 2020

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.

- A) Updates from the PMT since the last Presbytery meeting. (November 1,2, 2019)
The PMT voted to approve the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between First Presbyterian Church of Butte and MWS Harlan Rounds. The PMT approved the stated supply contract for another year between MWS Mary Davis and the Church of the Big Hole. The Stated Clerk has sent letters to MWS David Andrew and MWS Paul Cannon per the vote of Presbytery in November 2019, and those letters were received. The church in Butte is in the process of searching for an Interim pastor. The Lewistown Church has elected a Pastor Nominating Committee.
- B) Approving RE Chuck Wright (FPC Butte) as a seeker in the CRE Program.
PMT recommends to Presbytery to approve RE Chuck as a seeker in the CRE Program.
- C) Approving HR status for MWS Harlan Rounds. PMT recommends to Presbytery to approve Honorably Retired status for MWS Harlan Rounds.
- D) Dissolution of pastoral relationship between MWS Cathy McLean and the Federated Church of Forsyth (pending congregational vote on March 1, 2020). PMT requests that the Presbytery vote to approve the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between MWS Cathy McLean and the Federal Church of Forsyth effective December 31, 2019.
- E) CRE Margee Smith – approval of covenant (see attached) and commissioning to First Presbyterian Church of Stanford. Approval of Administrative Commission for commissioning service. PMT recommends to Presbytery to approve the covenant for pastoral service between CRE Margee Smith and the First Presbyterian Church of Stanford effective January 1, 2020. PMT requests that Presbytery approve the administrative commission for the commissioning service for CRE Margee Smith.

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

02.19.20

Exhibit C.

Report to Presbytery from Camping and Youth presented at March 6-7, 2020 meeting

The Camping and Youth Committee met a couple months ago (January 12th) over the phone to meet and learn more about our camping ministry in general. Given that a handful of people on our committee are new and/or have never been to camp, this conversation allowed our committee to learn more and ask questions of Curt Kochner (camp director) and George Goodrich. Going forward we are trying to figure out how to best work together and support Curt

as Director. One of the primary ways we can do this is to simply get the word out to our youth, churches and greater communities. Westminster Spires is a special camp and with its highly relational intergenerational and Christ-centered focus, it has a lot to offer and we'd love to invite more students to be a part of it with us. As for how the larger Presbytery can help, we simply ask that you help us get the word out and promote it and share it with those in your churches.

Thanks,

Rev. Daniel Triller, Moderator of Camping and Youth

Exhibit D. Stated Clerk Report

Stated Clerk Report November 2019 to March 2020

Minutes of the November 1,2, 2019 Presbytery meeting were prepared, reviewed and posted.

Meeting of the PMT November 14 was attended and minutes recorded. Reviewed and later approved.

Meeting of the Presbytery December 13 was attended, minutes taken, reviewed and Posted to the website. The Stated Clerk prepares a draft docket for moderators of the presbytery for each meeting.

Work of the Stated Clerk is extensive in December as letters and invoices are mailed to each church pastor and session clerk to begin the process of getting the year end reports and statistics completed and reported to the PCUSA. New clerks get elected and contact information all need to be updated. The Stated Clerk also develops a per capita invoice for each church and helps them schedule a payment plan when the impact of this cost to the church is difficult for some to handle as a single payment. This function also tracks the necrology reports from each church so that at the March meeting we can recognize the elders who have passed away during the year 2019.

A retreat of new and former members of the LC and the PMT met at the Goodrich's home in Bozeman January 9 and 10 and the Stated Clerk attended and offered a report on the office function of the Stated Clerk and containing ideas for future goals and changes to this office. Minutes of the PMT portion of the meeting were taken and reported back to the PMT members. The Stated Clerk could not take minutes of the LC meeting because it was held simultaneously to the PMT meeting. Time was spent with the acting treasurer to get new signatures for bank accounts needing changed due to the resignation of the Presbytery treasurer.

The necrology report was worked on and churches contacted who had not yet reported.

Meetings of the LC February 11 meeting and PMT meeting February 13 were attended and a preliminary docket for the March 6,7 meeting was prepared. Minutes of the PMT meeting were prepared and sent to the Moderatos to review. Minutes of the LC meeting were prepared and sent too the Moderator for review.

Jim Tarr
Stated Clerk

Exhibit E. Treasurers Report.

Insert PDF copy of file here

End of Minutes March 6,7, 2020

Reviewed May 14,15, 2020 meeting

Approved _____

Jim Tarr

Stated Clerk

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Special meeting Yellowstone Presbytery, April 7, 2020, 12:00 Noon Via Zoom Teleconference Call

20-023. This meeting was duly called by the PMT with approval of the Leadership Cabinet to conduct an examination of the Rev. Dr Chuck Carlson, HR, to a position as Interim Pastor, to approve the Interim Pastor Agreement at FPC Butte, MT and to accept him into membership in Yellowstone Presbytery.

20-024. The meeting opened with prayer by the moderator RE Russ Kline.

(Clerk note; since this was a special called meeting of the presbytery and not a stated meeting there is no record of excused absences since membership in this meeting is considered voluntary for pastor members.)

20-025. Roll call was done by email confirmation with commissioner elders present from the following churches:

Elders

FPC Billings, RE Sandi Shoenberger

FPC Butte, RE Chuck Wright

Big Hole, RE Julie Boksich (Vice Moderator)

FPC Bozeman, RE Suzanne Bratsky, (Also Voting Member LC)

Jordan, RE Bev Harbaugh

Manhattan, RE Debbie Blackburn (Co Moderator PMT)

Stanford, CRE Margee Smith

Members of the Presbytery

CRE Veva Larson, RE Russ Kline (Moderator), RE Ric Tieman, LC (Treasurer), MWS Susi Ennis, MWS Susan Thomas, MWS Jamie Schmeling, MWS Mary Davis, MWS Dan Krebill, MWS Dick Davis, MWS Garrett Mostowski, MWS Teresa Kendall, MWS Rusty Craig HR.

Guests with voice:

RE Kevin Shuttleworth, RE John Leland, MWS Chuck Carlson.

Staff:

MWS George Goodrich (Co-GP), MWS Kathy Goodrich (Co-GP), RE Jim Tarr (Stated Clerk), RE Mellissa Bell (Asst. Stated Clerk)

A quorum was declared by the stated Clerk

Meeting balance check; RE's and CRE's 12, MWS 12

20-026. It was voted to give voice to the visitors, and PNC Members of the Butte church.

The dwelling in the word was on Colossian's 38: 1-4 and led by RE Russ Kline. The word was read 2 times and opportunity for commentary was granted the assembly. After the discussion a prayer was offered by Russ Kline.

20-027. Chuck Carlson was introduced by PMT Co-moderator, Debbie Blackburn and then he offered some information about his background as well as where his ministry had taken him and the ways and places, he has served the church.

The Rev Dr Carlson was then examined by the Presbytery with input from the members of the Butte church. After his dismissal from the meeting.

➤ **The following motions** presented by the PMT were **approved** as follows:

The Pastoral Ministry Team voted & recommends that Yellowstone Presbytery approve Rev. Chuck Carlson, H.R. to serve as Interim Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Butte and for membership in Yellowstone Presbytery.

The Pastoral Ministry Team voted & recommends that Yellowstone Presbytery approve the Interim Pastor Agreement between the First Presbyterian Church, Butte and Rev. Chuck Carlson.

See Exhibit A for supplemental information supplied by the PMT at the meeting.

After the vote the **Butte PNC** was complimented for doing good work on this selection process and a prayer was then offered by the Rev Susi Ennis.

20.028. Julie Boksich announced to the meeting that the next meeting of the presbytery will not be in the Big Hole but will be another Zoom Meeting and more details will follow. The theme for the meeting “A growing commitment to Christ “will expand on previous equipping with a goal of “How to Grow Fellowships”. She requested input from the body before the meeting to help with the planning.

20.029. Kathy Goodrich advised the churches to become familiar with the recently passed Care Act and determined if any of the available support would be beneficial to a church. She understood applying for assistance would not encumber church property, for example. She advised the Board of Pensions also is providing some relief to churches regarding the dues and they should be contacted if a church needs help. She also notes the Presbyterian Disaster Relief program is sending out information that might be helpful in tying all the support activities of the church together so a church can access them easily.

20-030. Prayer requests were made by Jamie’s secretary and for Diane White’s grandson.

20-031. The meeting closed with prayer by CRE Seeker, Church Wright at 1:20 PM

Next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery, May 15, 16 2020 via Zoom

Jim Tarr

Stated Clerk

These minutes were reviewed and approved _____

Jim Tarr

Stated Clerk

Attachment, Exhibit A. Rev Carlson, statement of faith and contract terms

Exhibit A:

Statement of Faith, *BY the Rev. Chuck Carlson*

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

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

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

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

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

That Church, born of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, now bears witness to Christ in this world. Reflecting his love and grace, the Church proclaims the gospel in word and deed. Witness the action of Christ through the Church's proclamation of the gospel of salvation, through its healing ministry, in the cup of cold water given to the thirsty, the hungry fed, by being the conscience of society, offering a prophetic

word in defense of the oppressed and marginalized of this world, all that we do a witness to Christ's living, sustaining voice and hands for those who have no voice. By being faithful to Christ's ministry, the Church has the potential to break from its cultural captivity and represent the mind, authority, and ministry of Jesus in this world. We have been given the mind of Christ. Scripture proclaims, "But we have the mind of Christ" (1 Corinthians 2:16).

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

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

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

Agreement for the interim pastor FPC Butte, MT:

DRAFT CONTRACT FOR TEMPORARY PASTORAL

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

DUTIES:

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

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

- pray for the church

The congregation and session will be responsible to:

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

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

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

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

TERMS:

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

Effective Salary		Reimbursable Expense	
Cash Salary	\$37,578	Automobile Expense (IRS effective rate for 2020 is \$0.575/mile)	\$2,200
Housing Allowance	\$10,560	Business/Professional Expenses	\$400
Dental Insurance Allowance	\$960	Continuing Education	\$600

Effective Salary Total	\$49,098	Book Allowance	\$440
		Total Reimbursable Expense	\$3,640

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

APPROVALS:

The session approved this contract and its conditions on _____

Signed: (clerk of session) _____ Date: _____

I agree to accept the terms of this contract.

Signed: (pastor) _____ Date: _____

The presbytery approved this contract and its conditions on _____

Signed: (pastor) _____ Date: _____

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

End of Exhibit A.

Leadership Cabinet Report
Yellowstone Presbytery
May 15-16, 2020
Zoom meeting

The Leadership Cabinet has been meeting often in regular and additional meetings in March, April, and May to support one another and our churches during the CoVID-19 pandemic. We have done the following:

GATHER TOGETHER

We begin with Prayer and Dwelling in the Word at each of our meetings. Much of our time together at the beginning of our meetings has also been spent checking in with each other. Everyone's experience of the CoVID-19 pandemic is unique and every community is struggling with changing conditions and new information.

EQUIP & ENCOURAGE

- Leadership Cabinet voted to provide a matching fund for Yellowstone Presbytery churches. This fund would be available to recover some of the cost of setting up on-line technology for worship, Bible study, small groups, etc. The "Dream Team" for this fund consists of Suzanne Bratsky, Ric Tieman, and Debbie Blackburn.
- George and Kathy Goodrich have been filtering through many documents, webinars, and other resources, choosing the best ones for us, and having them posted on the Presbytery's website.
- Financially, the Presbytery is doing well. Per Capita payments have been made early and some churches have been willing/able to contribute again. As Leadership Cabinet and PMT meet on-line, transportation reimbursement has dropped significantly. Ric Tieman applied for \$25,750 from the Paycheck Protection Program for Presbytery salaries.
- Leadership Cabinet has tried to get a "balcony view" of life with CoVID-19 along with "listening on the floor." We want to discern the things to which God might be calling our churches and encourage innovation, **and** equip churches to be able to do new things that open up for them. "The church is not empty; the church is deployed."
- The feedback we received at our April meetings was that many of our churches were adapting to the new restrictions, trying new things, and caring for one another. We also know that many grieve - "People don't resist change. They resist loss."
- The May meeting of the Presbytery was changed to an on-line meeting rather than in-person. The planning team is working creatively under this new framework. The planning team has asked that those who attend the meeting watch the movie "Acts." The Presbytery will reimburse three copies of the movie if there is no access to Amazon Prime.
- Leadership Cabinet is looking to have special teams for this season to address the following:
 - 1) Technology and social media
 - 2) Connection and care for one another
 - 3) Discipleship and formation
 - 4) Serving children, youth, and families
 - 5) Serving our communities

6) Economic needs and food sustainability

Other business:

- The Geysers Commission has entered into a process for an on-line auction. Please read Geysers report.
- Funds for Higher Education are available and a team of Ric Tieman, Suzanne Bratsky, George Goodrich, and Debbie Blackburn will have the application form ready by May 21st.
- General Assembly has moved to gathering on-line over pre-arranged dates of June 19th and 26th-27th. They will only present essential work to the commissioners.

Pastoral Ministry Team's Presbytery Report May 15-16, 2020

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 two items for consideration by the Presbytery at this meeting.

- A) Approving RE Jeff Harada (FPC Wolf Point) as a seeker in the CRE Program.
PMT recommends to Presbytery to approve RE Jeff Harada as a seeker in the CRE Program.
- B) Approving HR status for MWS Cathy McLean.
PMT recommends to Presbytery to approve Honorably Retired status for MWS Cathy McLean.

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

05.07.20

Wolf Point Police Department

May 1, 2020

Pastoral Ministry Team

SUBJECT: Application to Seek CRE

Dear Pastoral Ministry Team,

Thank you for the opportunity to apply for the Commissioned Ruling Elder. As an Elder at the First Presbyterian Church in Wolf Point, I have served the last 11 years at the Church, serving the Congregation in the Pulpit. It has been my personal goal and professional objective to seek the approval of the PMT to become a Seeker, under the Blessings of Almighty God.

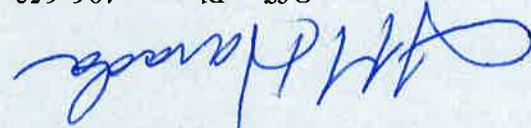
My background statement in regard to the First Presbyterian Church in Wolf Point is fairly basic, as I was born into this Church, were I was Baptized as a baby, Confirmed as a high school student, and became a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Wolf Point in September 2003. As a youth, I attended Sunday School, and I was "drugged" to Church, as my Father, Ben, was very active in the Church, serving as an Elder and Deacon. My Mother, Myrie, was a member of Presbyterian Women's group, and was one of the Church ladies who compiled an extremely popular cookbook.

My brief statement of Faith is;
I believe in the Love of Almighty God, I put my all my Faith in the Holy Word of the Bible, and my Trust in the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
I believe Jesus died on the Cross, and was resurrected on the 3rd Day, and He is Risen indeed.
I believe in the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Baptisms.
It is my goal to Serve Jesus, our Lord and Savior to teach people about the Love of Almighty God!

I respectfully request the PMT for approval to enter the CRE program.

The Session at the Wolf Point FPC supports my seeking status, and I can provide that communication at your request.

Thanks for your assistance in the commission program. It has truly been an awesome Bible educational experience, and has been humbling and rewarding to Serve the Church.



Police Chief
201 4th Avenue South
Wolf Point, MT 59201

Office Phone: 406-653-1093 Fax: 406-653-1693 email: wppolice@nemont.net

Stated Clerk Report March to May 2020

His has been an interesting and transitional time in the life of the church because in March everything began to change after the actions of the Government shutting down our right to assemble. This was made possible by the establishment of the War Powers Act to stop the spread of the COVID -19 pandemic. After the church was restricted from assembly it became important to hold some special meetings of the Cabinet and PMT to coordinate with and help the churches make these adjustments.

LC met March 20 and continued March 25 to deal with issues due to the above change impacts. Minutes of this meeting were taken, and drafts submitted to the Moderator. Minutes of the Jan 11, retreat meeting was approved at this meeting.

The LC met again April 1st and minutes were prepared, sent out for review, and minutes of the LC meeting March 20-25 were approved.

The MT

The Corporate report was prepared and mailed after numerous attempts to do the on-line filing the system did not work for me.

Presbytery Minutes review process requires the clerk to review our meeting minutes and check them against the requirements for content required by the Synod and the Book of Order. Is review process take several hours as all documents are checked for needed content and forms filled out indicating what is missing.

During 2019 we have the following deficiencies in our minutes:

- The Church minutes were not reviewed by the Stated Clerk.
- Not all minutes were signed and attested and this was not noted on all the on-line copies.
- The Presbytery had not recorded an independent audit of the financial records had been completed.
- The dates and places of the next meeting was not provided at the special meetings.
- The report of the Synod commissioners and record review meetings was not recorded as well as the actions taken by the Presbytery to correct the deficiencies in the 2018 records.
- The membership role of the PJC was not recorded along with the names of former members subject to being called to serve.
- The meetings or lack of meetings of the PJC were not recorded.
- The completion of the requirements for all staff to have signed the documents relating to the Presbytery Sexual Harassment Policy and results of the background checks having been completed was not recorded
- The establishing a record that all the churches in the Presbytery now have in place a Child and Youth Protection Policy has not been completed.

The LC Zoom meeting of April 21 was attended and minutes prepared. Minutes of the March 20-25 meeting were reviewed and approved.

The Synod Clerk conference review of our Presbytery meeting minutes was held on April 23rd. Our Presbytery minutes continue to have deficiencies.

The clerk attended a meeting of the PMT May 6, 2020 and a meeting of the LC on May 12, 2020.

A draft docket for the May meeting was prepared along with a call to a Zoom Conference Connection and instruction via email. Since the Presbytery has no standing rules concerning the conducting of virtual meetings, the clerk will follow the guidelines prepared by the GA Stated Clerk for conducting Stated meetings in this format until the Presbytery adopts rules in our Standing Rules.

The Stated clerk was given advise from the Leadership Cabinet to provide an Omnibus Motion for approval of the Presbytery and the motion will cover procedural and well as specific rules for the conducting this virtual meeting.

The Clerk will move the following motions:

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
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 supplied to the office of the stated clerk and the presbytery office immediately following the meeting.

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.
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 6,7, 2020 be approved as published on the Presbytery Website.
2. The minutes of the special meeting of the Presbytery April 7, 2020 be approved as published on the website.
3. The treasures report be accepted as presented.
4. The minutes of this meeting are to reflect that the statistical report of the presbytery indicates we had 1, 626 members as of December 31, 2019 and a copy of the report which was in the meeting package be accepted as presented.
5. The minutes of this meeting shall reflect the Presbytery has conducted a required annual review of its insurance and found it acceptable.
6. The minutes of this meeting shall reflect that a team has been selected consisting of RE Debbie Blackburn and RE Dan Holland to review the financial records of the Presbytery and report their findings to the Leadership Cabinet.

7. The congregational members of the Harlowton Federated Church who are Presbyterian will become members of Yellowstone Presbytery after July 1, 2020 until such time as they join another church.
8. 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
9. That the clerk reported there are **7 Churches** in this Presbytery that **do not** have their Child and Youth Protection Policy either completed and/or on file at the Presbytery Office.
10. That the clerk reported there are 5 churches who have presented their church records for review and 18 yet to be completed this year at the meeting in November. **This motion will also allow the Session Clerks of the churches** who might be unable to attend the meeting in November, to send electronic copies for review to the Stated Clerk via email for review after this meeting.
11. The report of the PMT to the Nov 1,2 meeting contained a motion to move the Rev. Jed Kauffman to the Presbytery of Los Ranchos in California. It is to be recorded as a part of this meeting that this action is approved with an effective date of Nov 2, 2019.
12. End of Motion.

The above motions will be made at the opening of the next meeting and will be in the meeting packet for review before the meeting begins.

End of report.

Jim Tarr
Stated Clerk

2019 Presbytery Statistical Report

Presbytery	Yellowstone		
Address	PO Box 1254, Bozeman, MT 57971		
Phone	406-586-7706	Fax	406-556-0979
Email	yellpres@yellowstonepcusa.org		
Web Site	www.yellowstone.pcusa.org		

Membership

Prior Active Members	1527	Adjusted membership	1515
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Gains		Losses	
Certificate	12	Certificate	5
Youth Professions	16	Deaths	46
Professions & Reaffirmations	55	Deleted for any Other Reason	21
Total Gains	83	Total Losses	72
Total Ending Active Members	1526		

Baptisms		Average Weekly Worship Attendance	796
Presented by Others	20	Female Members	953
At Confirmation	0	Friends of the Congregation	282
All Other	15	Ruling Elders on Session	130
		Do you have Deacons? Yes / No	9 / 8

Age Distribution of Active Members

25 & Under	114
26 - 40	154
41 - 55	151
56 - 70	387
Over 70	553
Total Age Distribution	1359

People with Disabilities

Hearing impairment	101
Sight impairment	26
Mobility impairment	69
Other impairment	76

Christian Education

Birth - 3	30	Grade 7	19
Age 4	29	Grade 8	25
Kindergarten	25	Grade 9	12
Grade 1	27	Grade 10	15
Grade 2	30	Grade 11	14
Grade 3	35	Grade 12	7
Grade 4	27	Young Adults	34
Grade 5	19	Over 25	298
Grade 6	31	Teachers/Officers	105
		Total Christian Education	782

Racial Ethnic

Asian/Pacific Islander/South Asian	6	Native American/Alaska Native/Indigenous	23
Black/African American/African	2	White	1320
Middle Eastern/North African	2	Multiracial	3
Hispanic/Latino-a	3		
		Total Racial Ethnic	1359

Financial Data

Annual Income	2,647,952	Mission Expenses	242,257
Annual Expenses	2,259,177	Personnel Expenses	1,269,691
		Facilities Expenses	381,418

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Presbytery Team appointed by Leadership Cabinet: George Goodrich, Jamie Schmeling, and Dan Krebill

Motion: *That the Yellowstone Presbytery vote to close the Federated Church in Harlowton on June 28, 2020, at the request of the Federated Church and that the details be finalized and reported to the Leadership Cabinet and the Presbytery after proposed agreement has been reached with the MountainSky Conference of the United Methodist Church.*

The Methodists have taken the proper lead in this venture. The general plan that is being worked out is as follows:

- A. **The Congregation would like to give the building to the School District** (Which has shown interest) for a Head Start Program to be based in the building. The Methodist Trustees are in general agreement with this plan so as not to have to care for a decaying building. No one is likely to buy the building in Harlowton; the school district and town continue to decline. The Church would like to leave the building as a legacy to the town as a parting gift. The Food Pantry, which uses space in the downstairs of the Church, would likely continue.
 - a. **To be clarified: Will the school district take title to the church building? Hopefully, yes.**
 - b. **To be clarified: Will the MountainSky Conference retain the Manse to serve the three other UMC congregations currently served in the charge?**
- B. **The Methodist District believes that all the internal materials** may be given to Church families or to members or agencies in the community who may find value or use for them. **We agree.**
- C. **Records:** Clerk Susan Bealy indicates they have records from the Presbyterian Church of the Federation going back to about 1902, which she will send on to us for us to send on to the PCUSA Historical Society in Philadelphia. I am unclear as to how the minutes of the federated church should be handled. **We have suggested that all minutes may be forwarded to the Presbyterian Historical Society for preservation and electronic access.**
- D. **There are likely to be some funds left over from the church accounts** following closure. The Church would like to make donations to such missions and agencies as Intermountain, or a local Christian Radio Station, which we think is a great idea. **We are proposing that some of the remaining funds should rightly go to the UMC District and the Yellowstone Presbytery for on-going mission and new church development. Proportions for any distribution have not been established as yet.**
- E. **The Closing Worship Service is scheduled for June 28, 2020,** but may have to be adjusted due to Covid-19 complications and State directives. Patty Agnew, in the UMC District Office is interfacing with the church for planning that service. The presbytery has been invited and will be included in the leadership of this service

Possible Questions:

- A. If the presbytery does not enter prominently into negotiations with the Church leadership and the UMC District to secure a sizable settlement from the property, ***are we setting some precedent for other Churches that may leave the denomination?*** After consulting with Deborah, I think not...
 - a. **This is a sad closure, not an acrimonious** spilt from which an on-going church will emerge.

b. The dying wish of the church is to seed new life and mission in Harlowton.

- B. **Is the Church likely to launch a new, independent church in the building?** Not likely with any of the current congregation who are tired and exhausted. If the school district were to lease space for a new church, that would not likely involve current membership, and that would be School District business.
- C. **Would we want to use the building for a new church in Harlowton?**
- i. Very doubtful, especially in a post-Covid-19 age when church plants are likely to be in house and more virtual.
 - ii. And we have no one in the wings with a vision to lead one. Nor is such a plant part of our current thinking.
- D. **What if the school district decides not to accept the building,** or in the near future decides to sell? Should the UMC District and the Presbytery be named as beneficiaries to such a subsequent sale as the building would not being used for the intended donated use?
- E. **What if an emerging new church would like to rent or purchase the building from us,** if the gifting to the School District falls through? We think, "Yes."

Next Steps:

1. **We copy** in on all e-mails with the church and the Methodist District. **We are awaiting a response from the UMC DS on when and how to pursue negotiations.**
2. **We review and input to the proposal the District and the Church are drawing up for closure and dispersal of property.** This may not be finalized due to Covid-19 until after the proposed closure date, but will be accomplished. That this team concur with, the Leadership Cabinet concur and recommend the proposal to the presbytery for its approval.
3. **We plan for representatives from the presbytery to attend and participate in the service of closure on Sunday, June 28, 2020,** or on whatever date is finally determined.

Pastoral Ministry Team's Presbytery Report May 15-16, 2020

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 two items for consideration by the Presbytery at this meeting.

- A) Approving RE Jeff Harada (FPC Wolf Point) as a seeker in the CRE Program.
PMT recommends to Presbytery to approve RE Jeff Harada as a seeker in the CRE Program.
- B) Approving HR status for MWS Cathy McLean.
PMT recommends to Presbytery to approve Honorably Retired status for MWS Cathy McLean.

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

05.07.20

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Treasurer's Report
Presbytery of Yellowstone
Budget & Finance
May 15-16, 2020 Presbytery Meeting

This report has nine pages of attachments, including this page. All reports represent four months ending April 30, 2020.

The Consolidated Fund Activity Report shows begging balance, receipts, disbursements and ending balance for each Fund (page 2).

The first fund (3.01) is the general operating budget for both Program and Administration. Receipts exceeded Disbursements and are consistent with last year.

The Emergency Fund was used to provide reimbursement for medical expenses for one member.

Investments at the Foundation for St. Timothy's (3.92 and 3.93) reflect a decrease in stock market prices.

The Balance Sheet with Period Activity column showing four months (pages 3 & 4).

Asset account number 1.00.7075 has been retitled to "New Covenant Higher Ed & General 104537" to reflect that this investment still contains spending from the Higher Education fund (3.90). From 2005 through 2019 the Higher Education spending came from the General Checking account and was not transferred to the Money Market. These monies have wisely been left in the New Covenant fund since investment returns have far exceeded the money market rate. The difference between the Fund (3.90) and the Asset (1.00.1075) reflects the \$40,840 spent from Checking (1.00.1010).

The balance sheet reflects the Payroll Protection Program (PPP) account (2.00.3000) that provides coverage for payroll, benefits, and rents for eight weeks. A significant portion will be forgiven after the end of the program and any amounts not used for payroll, benefits, and rents will be paid back. No costs are anticipated with this loan because it will become a grant.

The Program Budget with Year-to-Date, annual budget, and remaining budget (pages 5 & 6).

Income is consistent with past years and meeting expenses are less, in part, due to video conferencing.

The Administrative Budget is in the same format as Program Budget (pages 7 - 9).

Per Capita has only one source so it will be posted to one account; accounts 4.01.1010 and 1020 will no longer be budgeted separately.

Fifteen checks totaling \$3,910.32 have been outstanding over two years; six of them for over 10 years. They have been canceled and the total counted as income to the Administrative budget in account 4.01.9999.

Respectfully submitted,

Ric Tieman, Treasurer 406-595-1250 treasurer@yellowstonepcusa.org

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**Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Consolidated Fund Activity Report as of 04/30/2020**

Tuesday, May 05, 2020

Page 1 of 1

Account #	Account Name	Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers/JE's	End Balance
3.01.2700.0000	Unreserved Fund Balance	4,389.16	103,019.26	70,690.37	0.00	36,718.05
3.02.2800.0000	General - Administrative	8,255.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,255.07
3.03.2805.0000	General - Program	35,531.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	35,531.63
3.04.2700.0000	General - Restricted Admin.	47,268.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	47,268.17
3.06.3000.0000	Charitable Remainder Trusts Balance	90,911.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	90,911.14
3.19.2815.0000	Camp Scholarship Camp. & Youth	454.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	454.24
3.27.2825.0000	Clergy Emergency Fund COM	1,460.00	0.00	1,800.00	0.00	(340.00)
3.39.2840.0000	Linda Hofer Education	18,906.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	18,906.65
3.43.2845.0000	Equip and Encourage	35,305.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	35,305.26
3.47.2850.0000	Partnership- Available COM	1,834.51	6.77	0.00	0.00	1,841.28
3.49.2700.0000	Co-General Presbyters' Discretionary	450.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	450.14
3.50.2875.0000	Co-General Presbyters' Study Leave Balance	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
3.51.2855.0000	Peace Making Offering Mission	4,097.28	92.41	0.00	0.00	4,189.69
3.63.2870.0000	Revamp Camp -Camp. & Youth	5,527.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,527.17
3.64.2825.0000	Rural Ministry Grant Balance	1,070.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,070.28
3.66.2850.0000	West Yellowstone Funds Balance	41,311.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	41,311.90
3.67.2875.0000	St. Timothy's Money Market #1	1,510.03	5,985.90	5,995.93	0.00	1,500.00
3.68.2877.0000	St Timonthy Money Market #2	1,637.16	2,029.38	2,166.54	0.00	1,500.00
3.69.2825.0000	Triennium Balance	3,793.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,793.52
3.72.2872.0000	St. Timothy #3 New Covenant Fund Balance	22,160.17	130.43	142.30	0.00	22,148.30
3.75.2885.0000	Social Justice	6,469.45	35.28	0.00	0.00	6,504.73
3.86.2850.0000	Grant - Evangelism Balance	1,250.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,250.13
3.90.2910.0000	Higher Education Grant Fund	24,446.87	1,965.11	0.00	0.00	26,411.98
3.91.2915.0000	Presbytery Continuing Education	3,716.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,716.92
3.92.2920.0000	St.Timothys #1 (PC USA) Found	309,662.49	(46,548.75)	5,985.90	0.00	257,127.84
3.93.2921.0000	St. Timothys #2 (PC USA) Found	104,983.89	(15,781.27)	2,029.38	0.00	87,173.24
3.94.2930.0000	Partnership Fund Principal COM	43,999.71	2.23	0.00	0.00	44,001.94
Total		<u>\$820,552.94</u>	<u>\$50,936.75</u>	<u>\$88,810.42</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$782,679.27</u>

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Balance Sheet as of April 30, 2020

Tuesday, May 05, 2020

Page 1 of 2

Account #	Account Name	Previous Period Balance	Period Activity	YTD Balance
Assets				
1.00.1010.0000	Checking Account #3133214	77,201.59	22,598.90	99,800.49
1.00.1030.0000	Money Market #129013355	140,499.69	11.52	140,511.21
1.00.1031.0000	St Timothy M. M #1 #3531961	4,487.36	(2,987.36)	1,500.00
1.00.1032.0000	St. Timothy MM #2 #129013686	2,512.79	(1,012.79)	1,500.00
	Total Current Assets	\$224,701.43	\$18,610.27	\$243,311.70
1.00.1040.0000	Beartooth Electric Coop	1,337.70	0.00	1,337.70
	Total Other Assets	\$1,337.70	\$0.00	\$1,337.70
1.06.3000.0001	Charitable Remainder Trust - John Clark	90,911.14	0.00	90,911.14
	Total Restricted	\$90,911.14	\$0.00	\$90,911.14
1.00.1065.0000	St Timothy Chapel #1 52001085	260,126.38	(2,998.54)	257,127.84
1.00.1070.0000	St Timothy Chapel #2 52006024	88,189.83	(1,016.59)	87,173.24
1.00.1072.0000	St Timothy #3 New Covenant 1000040001	22,148.30	0.00	22,148.30
1.00.1075.0000	New Covenant Higher Ed & General 104537	65,251.98	0.00	65,251.98
1.00.1080.0000	Partnership Fund MM 129013793	45,372.83	2.23	45,375.06
	Total Principal Restricted	\$481,089.32	(\$4,012.90)	\$477,076.42
		\$798,039.59	\$14,597.37	\$812,636.96
Liabilities				
2.00.2011.1500	Board of Pensions	2,714.26	(2,714.26)	0.00
2.00.2011.1830	Republic Services	15.50	0.00	15.50
2.00.2016.1474	Goodrich, George	502.05	(502.05)	0.00
2.00.2031.0800	UI Tax Program	13.20	(13.20)	0.00
	Total Accounts Payable	\$3,245.01	(\$3,229.51)	\$15.50
	Advanced Pledge Payment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2.00.2120.1000	Payroll - Federal	0.00	590.36	590.36
2.00.2120.2000	Payroll State	0.00	96.00	96.00
2.00.2120.2145	Employee Retirement Liability	0.00	460.00	460.00
2.00.2141.0000	S. Seibert Flex Plan	105.56	168.00	273.56
	Total Payroll Liabilities	\$105.56	\$1,314.36	\$1,419.92
2.00.0000.0000	Accounts Payable/Vendors	102.24	(102.24)	0.00
2.00.2125.0000	Employee Roth Liability	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
2.00.2550.0000	GA Mission Pledges	1,194.70	(957.35)	237.35
2.00.2565.0000	GA One Great Hour	763.00	(228.08)	534.92
2.00.2570.0000	GA Christmas Joy	300.00	(300.00)	0.00
2.00.2572.0000	GA Theological Education	300.00	(300.00)	0.00
2.00.2575.0000	GA Other Donation	1,650.00	(1,100.00)	550.00
2.00.3000.0000	PPP 360420009992	0.00	25,700.00	25,700.00
	Total Liabilities	\$7,660.51	\$22,297.18	\$29,957.69
Fund Balance				
3.01.2700.0000	Unreserved Fund Balance	39,080.62	(2,362.57)	36,718.05
3.02.2800.0000	General - Administrative	8,255.07	0.00	8,255.07
3.03.2805.0000	General - Program	35,531.63	0.00	35,531.63
3.04.2700.0000	General - Restricted Admin.	47,268.17	0.00	47,268.17
	Total General Fund Balance	\$130,135.49	(\$2,362.57)	\$127,772.92
	Total Unrestricted Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
3.19.2815.0000	Camp Scholarship Camp. & Youth	454.24	0.00	454.24
3.27.2825.0000	Clergy Emergency Fund COM	1,460.00	(1,800.00)	(340.00)
3.39.2840.0000	Linda Hofer Education	18,906.65	0.00	18,906.65
3.43.2845.0000	Equip and Encourage	35,305.26	0.00	35,305.26
3.47.2850.0000	Partnership- Available COM	1,841.28	0.00	1,841.28

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Balance Sheet as of April 30, 2020

Tuesday, May 05, 2020

Page 2 of 2

Account #	Account Name	Previous Period Balance	Period Activity	YTD Balance
3.49.2700.0000	Co-General Presbyters' Discretionary	450.14	0.00	450.14
3.51.2855.0000	Peace Making Offering Mission	4,189.69	0.00	4,189.69
3.63.2870.0000	Revamp Camp -Camp. & Youth	5,527.17	0.00	5,527.17
3.67.2875.0000	St. Timothy's Money Market #1	2,040.93	(540.93)	1,500.00
3.68.2877.0000	St Timonthy Money Market #2	483.41	1,016.59	1,500.00
3.75.2885.0000	Social Justice	6,504.73	0.00	6,504.73
	Total Designated funds	\$77,163.50	(\$1,324.34)	\$75,839.16
3.06.3000.0000	Charitable Remainder Trusts Balance	90,911.14	0.00	90,911.14
3.69.2825.0000	Triennium Balance	3,793.52	0.00	3,793.52
3.72.2872.0000	St. Timothy #3 New Covenant Fund Balance	22,148.30	0.00	22,148.30
3.86.2850.0000	Grant - Evangelism Balance	1,250.13	0.00	1,250.13
3.90.2910.0000	Higher Education Grant Fund	26,411.98	0.00	26,411.98
3.92.2920.0000	St. Timothys #1 (PC USA) Found	260,126.38	(2,998.54)	257,127.84
3.93.2921.0000	St. Timothys #2 (PC USA) Found	88,189.83	(1,016.59)	87,173.24
3.94.2930.0000	Partnership Fund Principal COM	43,999.71	2.23	44,001.94
	Total Restricted Fund Balances	\$536,830.99	(\$4,012.90)	\$532,818.09
3.50.2875.0000	Co-General Presbyters' Study Leave Balance	150.00	0.00	150.00
3.64.2825.0000	Rural Ministry Grant Balance	1,070.28	0.00	1,070.28
3.66.2850.0000	West Yellowstone Funds Balance	41,311.90	0.00	41,311.90
3.91.2915.0000	Presbytery Continuing Education	3,716.92	0.00	3,716.92
	Total Fund Balance	\$790,379.08	(\$7,699.81)	\$782,679.27
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$798,039.59	\$14,597.37	\$812,636.96

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Treasurer's Report as of April 2020 (Program)

Tuesday, May 05, 2020

Page 1 of 2

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
Income				
4.01.1210.0000	General Mission Pledge	11,877.60	28,000.00	16,122.40
	Pledge	\$11,877.60	\$28,000.00	\$16,122.40
4.01.1420.0000	Summer Camp Fees	0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
4.01.1430.0000	Winter, Summer, Fall Events	2,254.00	2,000.00	(254.00)
4.01.1440.0000	Rental of Camp Facilities	250.00	12,000.00	11,750.00
4.01.1445.0000	Other Camp Income (Gifts)	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
4.01.1459.0000	Camp Other Income	399.92		
	Camp Income	\$2,903.92	\$21,000.00	\$18,496.00
4.01.4090.0000	Transfer from Reserves	0.00	9,230.00	9,230.00
	Program Transfers	\$0.00	\$9,230.00	\$9,230.00
	Total Income	\$14,781.52	\$58,230.00	\$43,848.40
Expense				
5.01.1351.2400	Copies & Postage Exp.	0.00	100.00	100.00
5.01.1351.3200	Insurance	5,232.00	7,292.00	2,060.00
5.01.1351.5700	Publicity	0.00	200.00	200.00
5.01.1360.1200	Camp Caretaker	1,333.32	4,000.00	2,666.68
5.01.1360.1400	Camp Staff	0.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
5.01.1360.2900	Food	0.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
5.01.1360.4000	Miscellaneous Exp.	0.00	200.00	200.00
5.01.1360.6200	Rental Equipment-Rafting	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
5.01.1360.7400	Supplies	399.92	600.00	200.08
5.01.1360.7490	Swimming	0.00	150.00	150.00
5.01.1360.7710	Transportation-Bus	0.00	900.00	900.00
5.01.1360.8300	Utilities: Westminster Spires	397.90	3,000.00	2,602.10
5.01.1380.6010	Triennium	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
5.01.1390.4000	Events Miscellaneous	2,249.00	3,500.00	1,251.00
5.01.1395.4000	Admin Travel & Meals	0.00	500.00	500.00
	Camping & Youth	\$9,612.14	\$38,442.00	\$28,829.86
5.01.2849.7700	Committee on Ministry-Training	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
5.01.2852.4000	Emergency Career Counseling Exp.	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
5.01.2853.4000	Vocations-Other	0.00	1,700.00	1,700.00
5.01.2854.4000	Congregation Ministry Misc	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Pastoral Ministry Team	\$0.00	\$4,700.00	\$4,700.00
5.01.3185.4000	Intermountain Childrens Home	0.00	750.00	750.00
	Leadership Cabinet	\$0.00	\$750.00	\$750.00

**Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Treasurer's Report as of April 2020 (Program)**

Tuesday, May 05, 2020

Page 2 of 2

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
5.01.5851.4000	MAC Membership Miscellaneous	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
5.01.5852.4000	MAC Representation Misc	0.00	300.00	300.00
	Mt. Association of Churches	\$0.00	\$3,300.00	\$3,300.00
5.01.7950.4000	Presbytery Program Other	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
5.01.7960.4000	Cluster Meetings	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
5.01.7970.4000	Allocated GP Salary	2,626.64	8,038.00	5,411.36
	Presbytery Expenses	\$2,626.64	\$11,038.00	\$8,411.36
	Total Expense	\$12,238.78	\$58,230.00	\$45,991.22
	Difference	<u>\$2,542.74</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Treasurer's Report as of April 2020 (Administrative)

Thursday, May 07, 2020

Page 1 of 3

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
Income				
4.01.1000.0000	Per Capita Presbytery Inc.	78,112.00	61,920.00	(16,192.00)
4.01.1010.0000	Per capita Synod	0.00	5,040.00	5,040.00
4.01.1020.0000	Per capita GA	0.00	12,888.00	12,888.00
	Per Capita	\$78,112.00	\$79,848.00	\$1,736.00
4.01.1900.0000	Administrative Support	6,203.90	35,000.00	28,796.10
4.01.1902.0000	Reimbursement-St. Tim's	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total Other income	\$6,203.90	\$35,000.00	\$28,796.10
4.01.4010.0000	Transfer-W. Yellowstone	0.00	1,312.00	1,312.00
4.01.4020.0000	Transfer-Gen.Admin Fund	0.00	8,255.00	8,255.00
4.01.4030.0000	Transfer-Restricted Admin Fund	0.00	44,588.00	44,588.00
	Transfers	\$0.00	\$54,155.00	\$54,155.00
4.01.2400.0000	Interest Income	11.52		
4.01.9999.0000	Outstanding checks written off	3,910.32		
	Total Income	\$88,237.74	\$169,003.00	\$84,687.10
Expense				
5.01.2840.0000	COM/Vocation Meetings	856.13	4,000.00	3,143.87
5.01.2846.4000	Pastoral Discernment Team	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
	Pastoral Ministry Team	\$856.13	\$5,500.00	\$4,643.87
5.01.3401.3500	Nomination Meetings	0.00	150.00	150.00
5.01.3401.4000	Nominations Other	0.00	50.00	50.00
	Committee on Nominations	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
5.01.4301.3500	St. Tim's Meetings	0.00	250.00	250.00
5.01.4301.4000	St. Tim's Other	0.00	50.00	50.00
	Com. on St Timothys Chapel	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
5.01.5201.3500	Delegate's Meetings	0.00	150.00	150.00
5.01.5201.4000	Delegates Other	0.00	50.00	50.00
	Delegates to Other Bodies	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
5.01.6700.3800	Medicare/Social Security	1,232.47	3,900.00	2,667.53
5.01.6700.8100	Work Comp Insurance	0.00	375.00	375.00
5.01.6700.8200	Unemployment Taxes	21.36	150.00	128.64
	Payroll Taxes	\$1,253.83	\$4,425.00	\$3,171.17
5.01.7001.0000	Per Capita GA Expenses	13,666.65	14,320.00	653.35
5.01.7002.0000	Per Capita Synod Expense	0.00	5,600.00	5,600.00
	Per Capita	\$13,666.65	\$19,920.00	\$6,253.35

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Treasurer's Report as of April 2020 (Administrative)

Thursday, May 07, 2020

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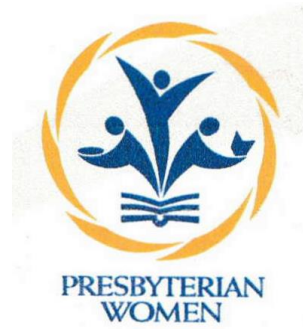
Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
5.01.7301.1100	Admin Mgr.Benefits	0.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
5.01.7301.6600	Admin Mgr Salary	12,450.00	26,850.00	14,400.00
5.01.7301.7800	Admin Mgr Travel	0.00	120.00	120.00
	Admin. Manager	\$12,450.00	\$30,470.00	\$18,020.00
5.01.7302.3100	Housing	6,666.64	20,000.00	13,333.36
5.01.7302.3600	GP Lodging	0.00	500.00	500.00
5.01.7302.3700	GP Meals	319.53	1,350.00	1,030.47
5.01.7302.4000	GP Miscellaneous	0.00	700.00	700.00
5.01.7302.4001	Miscellaneous Expenses - Kathy	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
5.01.7302.4900	GP Pension	5,427.77	15,922.00	10,494.23
5.01.7302.6600	Salary Exp.	3,531.04	10,593.00	7,061.96
5.01.7302.7300	Study Leave	0.00	700.00	700.00
5.01.7302.7500	GP Telephone & Conference Calls	1,042.27	1,500.00	457.73
5.01.7302.7800	GP Travel	1,431.18	7,500.00	6,068.82
	General Presbyter	\$18,418.43	\$60,765.00	\$42,346.57
5.01.7304.3700	Stated Clerk Meals	0.00	50.00	50.00
5.01.7304.4000	Stated Clerk Miscellaneous	0.00	500.00	500.00
5.01.7304.4900	Pension Exp.	961.44	3,846.00	2,884.56
5.01.7304.6600	Stated Clerk Salary	4,332.00	12,996.00	8,664.00
	Stated Clerk	\$5,293.44	\$17,392.00	\$12,098.56
5.01.7306.6600	Treasurer Salary	0.00	7,901.00	7,901.00
	Treasurer	\$0.00	\$7,901.00	\$7,901.00
	Personnel	\$36,161.87	\$116,528.00	\$80,366.13
5.01.7601.3500	Council Meetings	1,070.55	2,500.00	1,429.45
5.01.7601.4000	Council Other	0.00	500.00	500.00
5.01.7601.8100	Legal	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
5.01.7801.3500	Task Force Meetings	0.00	500.00	500.00
	Leadership Cabinet	\$1,070.55	\$4,500.00	\$3,429.45
5.01.7901.3500	Presbytery Meetings	1,380.60	4,500.00	3,119.40
5.01.7901.4000	Presbytery Other	0.00	520.00	520.00
	Presbytery Expenses	\$1,380.60	\$5,020.00	\$3,639.40
5.01.8201.2400	Office Copies & Postage	168.40	800.00	631.60
5.01.8201.2600	Equipment Exp.	0.00	200.00	200.00
5.01.8201.3200	Insurance Exp.	653.00	3,000.00	2,347.00
5.01.8201.4000	Office Miscellaneous	85.20	460.00	374.80
5.01.8201.6100	Rental -Office	2,070.00	4,200.00	2,130.00

Presbytery of Yellowstone - Bozeman MT
Treasurer's Report as of April 2020 (Administrative)

Thursday, May 07, 2020

Page 3 of 3

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
5.01.8201.7400	Office Supplies	101.87	1,500.00	1,398.13
5.01.8201.7500	Office Telephone & Conference Calls	983.49	2,250.00	1,266.51
	Presbytery Office	\$4,061.96	\$12,410.00	\$8,348.04
	Total Expense	\$58,451.59	\$169,003.00	\$110,551.41
	Difference	<u>\$29,786.15</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	



Presbyterian Women Report to Yellowstone Presbytery

May 2020

Save the Dates!! Presbyterian Women Churchwide Gathering will be held in St. Louis, Missouri, **August 5-8, 2021**. The theme for the Gathering will be "Rejoice in Hope". This seems like an appropriate theme for these pandemic times. Hope many of you are thinking about attending. Pray that we will not have to cancel the event even though it is a year from now. Visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering for downloadable jar wrappers or labels to make saving for the Gathering easy; a two-minute Gathering trailer to watch or share; and a down-loadable flier that you can customize with contact information for your PW group. PW Churchwide gathers are always fun, educational, inspiring and uplifting. Plan to attend. Start saving now.

Yellowstone Presbytery and Presbyterian Women have had several changes in our churches both in numbers of members and numbers of pastors. We do have some tremendous new pastor pairs and pastor singles for which we are very grateful.

East Cluster: Billings

FPC Billings has had a "banner year" with 15 new members in their 5 circles. Each circle added at least one new member! Their three primary mission projects are The Birthday Offering, Fellowship of the Least Coin and the Thank Offering and they also make contributions to missions at the local, national and international levels. Sunday morning coffee fellowship is provided by PW members. They also work with other committees to provide dinners and assistance to the Presbytery and other groups that meet in their church. Their Youth went to Triennium this past summer and took PW pillowcases with them to add to the collection that was being sent to Puerto Rico for hurricane victims. They raise funds from personal donations, working funerals, and a successful book sale. They are using the *PW Horizons Magazine Bible Study*, "Love Carved in Stone". They report that they thrive and grow because of the devoted leadership of the Circle Chairs.

Bozeman

First Presbyterian Church in Bozeman has 2 circles that are going well. There are approximately 13 women in each circle. They raise funds to give to many local groups that care for homeless high school kids and women and children in serious situations. We continue having an awareness of Trafficking of women and men. They use the *PW Horizons Bible Study* too.

Hysham has a Circle that also studies the *PW Horizon's Bible study*. They do funeral dinners and provide monies for kids to attend camp.

Terry has a circle and a new Pastor Jamie Schmeling who was newly installed in December.

West Cluster: Ennis

The seven women and 3 men who support PW/Ennis bring expertise to fundraising. A small town that swells to a larger one during the tourist season, PW baked goods and pie and ice cream have a tasty reputation among hungry fishermen and their families. This year we made \$2,700.00 between the Arts Council Celebration and the Fly Fishing Festivities. The distribution to Mission is as follows:

Caring and Sharing:

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (earmarked for Hurricane Dorian) and Living Waters for the World

Intermountain Children's Home, (funds and at request, Sheep Banner made and donated by member of congregation)

Church World-wide Service (earmarked for blankets)

Peace Place (Great Falls, Montana)

Ennis Community Children School

Charles and Melissa Johnson. (Presbyterian missionaries in Zambia)

Lazare' & Chantal Tshibuabua (Presbyterian missionaries in Congo - earmarked for Chantal's medical needs)

Funds sent for Christmas:

The Reverend Jean Johnson. (Rev. Jean deceased. The donation was applied to MVPC)

Madison Valley Bank Giving Tree

Interstate Giving Tree

Christmas Joy Offering PCUSA

2 local families in need.

Leaving \$713.99 for anticipated needs.

Other: Blood draw, Christmas Bazaar and crisis meals.

Anaconda

The Bible Study is *2018-2019 Horizons "Gods Promise: I Am With You"*. We meet once a month from September to May. Our projects often overlap with the Deacons of the church and it is hard to distinguish PW from Church.

The main fundraiser is the annual pasty sale which supports The Presbyterian Women's Mission Pledge, The Discovery House, (for children in jeopardy during court proceedings) The annual Christmas Tree, (dedicated to the school children in need of clothes, hats, gloves and sox's.)

Church of the Big Hole-Melrose, Glen, Wise River, Jackson

Church of the Big Hole has elected a ministry of hospitality, providing community to those in need where "word of mouth" is more relevant than the internet. The unique interdependence of those for whom place may be the deciding factor for well-being may also strengthen the sense of community. This awareness of one another's needs may take the form of inviting isolated folks to events and on occasion providing a cabin, meals and support as they find work. This echoes the purpose and mission of PW while demanding creativity.

Formal Bible Study is a cohesive force for The Church with the Big Name. The minister is in the process of consolidating prior PW Bible Studies to write a forward-looking focus for the PW of The Church of the Big Hole. The Grace of God has no boundaries.

Contributed by Suzanne Bratsky, Moderator PWP and
Merry Lee Hooks, Moderator West Cluster

Geyser Administrative Commission
Report to Presbytery
May 15/16, 2020

History

In 2017 after months of discernment on the part of the congregation of the Geyser Community Church, the congregation voted to close the church. The Presbytery appointed an Administrative Commission (AC) composed of MWS Susi Ennis moderator, RE Charlie Brown, RE Jim Tarr, staff Rev. George Goodrich, and RE Fern Kaiser from Geyser as a non-voting member of the commission to facilitate that closing.

The AC reached out to Glacier Presbytery to see if either of the PC(USA) churches in Great Falls might be interested in starting a new ministry in Geyser. When they said no, the AC reached out to other judicatories in the area to see if they were interested in using the church building to start new ministry in Geyser. The answer from the others was also no.

The following motions were made and passed at the March 3, 2018 meeting of Yellowstone Presbytery in regard to the property known as Community Church in Geyser:

Motion passed that the Geyser Administrative Commission be given permission to list for sale the property known as the Community Church in Geyser, and that the Geyser Administrative Commission be given permission to negotiate the sale price with any potential buyer keeping in mind the appraised value of the property. It is understood that the final sale of the property would be approved by the full Presbytery at a meeting of the Presbytery.

Motion passed to amend the motion to include that it is understood that the final sale of the property (Geyser) would be approved by the full Presbytery at a meeting of the Presbytery.

Over the years there were some inquiries and offers made, however, the offers were well below the appraise value and counter offers from the AC were not accepted.

In November 2019 the AC met with Jayson Shobe of [Shobe Auction and Realty](#). Jayson is a well-known businessman in the Lewistown community and comes with strong recommendations. His business has a proven track record. Jayson advised that the best way to proceed would be to hold an online auction. These auctions reach far beyond the borders of Montana. He said that it is surprising the number of people who do not live in Montana are interested in property here. He feels that the online format would reach a significant number of potential buyers.

2020 Actions

Exhibit A attached to this report is the format of the contract the AC would be signing with **Shobe Auction and Realty** once we can firm up the dates. The terms of the agreement are that Yellowstone Presbytery would offer the property for sale in an online auction. Bidding would start at 10,000.00. At this time, the dates are to be determined because of the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. As you can see there are conditions that address the costs for advertising, costs associated with closing the sale, and costs that may be incurred if the auction is unsuccessful. The agreement also tells us of the steps taken to complete the sale.

The Presbytery motion of March 2018 states that the final sale of the property be approved by the full Presbytery at a meeting of the Presbytery. At that time, it was believed that we would be following traditional business models for selling a property where an offer would be made by a buyer and we would negotiate toward an acceptance.

The path an auction takes is that the seller, Yellowstone Presbytery, agrees to accept an offer that meets the minimum bid amount which has been set at \$10,000.00 based upon the appraised value and Jayson's recommendation. In an online auction if the minimum bid is met the sale is binding. Also, the closing must be completed within 30 days.

Because of the nature of an auction, and the requirement that the Presbytery approve the sale of the property; the AC presents the following motions:

1. That the Geyser Administrative Commission be given permission to enter into an auction sale agreement with **Shobe Auction and Realty** to have an online auction of the property known as the Community Church in Geyser with a starting bid amount of \$10,000.00.
2. That should the online auction meet the minimum bid requirement, the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery be given permission to sign all documents necessary to complete the sale.

Exhibit B is a Q & A document that we hope will address any concerns that you might have before you consider the motions.

Report submitted by
MWS Susi Ennis, moderator
RE Charlie Brown
RE Jim Tarr
Staff Rev. George Goodrich
RE Fern Kaiser



Exhibit A

Jayson & Kyle Shobe, Auctioneers
408 West Main Street
Lewistown, MT 59457
Office: 406-538-5125 Cell:406-366-5125

Geysler, MT Presbyterian Church Auction Proposal

- 1.) Auction to be conducted by United Country - Shobe Auction & Realty in an "Online Only" format.
- 2.) Auction bidding to open on **date to be determined**.
- 3.) Auction bidding to close on **date to be determined**.
- 4.) Property previewing: by appointment with a church representative or by scheduled open house.
- 5.) Auction will be for one total lot, including all personal and real property.
- 6.) Property to be cleaned to showable condition at the expense of the Seller prior to public viewing.
- 7.) Advertising to be the expense of the Seller.
- 8.) Advertising to begin by **date to be determined**.
- 9.) Advertising budget not to exceed \$1500.00; due upon execution of the auction contract.
- 10.) Starting bid will \$10,000.00.
- 11.) If bidding does not meet the starting bid, a No Sale Fee will be \$1000.00.
- 12.) Seller to pay for title insurance and ½ of closing agent closing fee.
- 13.) Transaction Closing to be within 30 days following the close of the bidding.
- 14.) Commission will be 10% of the final bid.
- 15.) Buyer's premium of 3% will be added to the final bid to arrive at the total contract price.
- 16.) Buyer's premium is the property of the Auctioneers to pay the Internet Hosting fee.
- 17.) An Auction Contract will be generated and executed by Seller and the Auctioneers upon mutual agreement to auction date, time, terms and conditions.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayson Shobe

Kyle Shobe

February 21, 2020

Exhibit B
Question and Answer

Q: Who is Jayson Shobe?

A: Jayson Shobe is with Shobe Auction and Realty in Lewistown. Both Charlie Brown, a member of the AC, and Melissa Bell, assistant Stated Clerk know Jayson. They have both told us that he is a successful, upstanding businessman in Lewistown who is active in his own community of worship.

Q: Why an online auction?

A: Since the traditional way of selling a property has not been fruitful, this is an alternative suggested by Jayson Shobe of Shobe Auction and Realty.

Q: Will we receive a fair price for the property?

A: Yes, the Administrative Commission will set a minimum bid of \$10,000. When it was moved and passed the direction of the Presbytery was to “not give it away”. This minimum bid is based upon the appraisal and concurred with by Jayson Shobe.

Q: What costs will the Presbytery incur?

A: There will be a cost for Shobe Auction and Realty to advertise the online sale. The agreement caps the advertising budget at \$1500. The typical costs associated with the sale of a property will be taken from the proceeds upon completion of the sale.

Q: What if there is no minimum bid and the property is not sold?

A: We will still have the advertising cost of \$1500 and we will be required to pay Shobe Auction and Realty \$1000 for the work they have done on our behalf.

Q: Why does the agreement say “date to be determined”?

A: Due to the current situation with COVID-19, Jayson was unable to provide firm dates as of the writing of this report (May 7). Charlie Brown will be in touch with Jayson in the days before Presbytery to see if the situation is such that dates can be scheduled.

Q: Why are we being asked to approve this motion from the Administrative Commission?

A: When an auction takes place there is no negotiation. If the minimum bid is met then it is binding upon the seller to complete the sale. By approving this motion, the Presbytery is approving a sale which meets the conditions set by the motion of the March 2018 meeting.

Q: Who is representing the Presbytery with Shobe Auction and Realty and any potential bidders?

A: The members of the Administrative Commission will be representing the Presbytery in working with Shobe Auction and Realty. If a bidder wishes to view the property a member of the Administrative Commission will make the arrangements.

What Could Book-of-Acts-Inspired Churches Become Post Quarantine?



Video Learning Opportunities for *all* churches and members culminating in Presbytery-wide Zoom conference conversations and meetings May 15 & 16, 2020. Details coming

"The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who can't read and write, but those who can't learn, unlearn, and relearn."

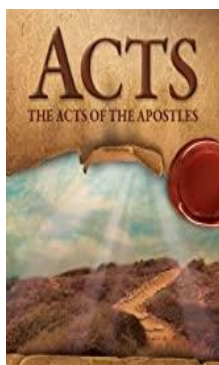
Alvin Toffler: futurist, author (*Future Shock*, *The Third Wave*), journalist, educator

Looking at the book of Acts, what might we need to learn, unlearn, or relearn? How might the Spirit want to move and live through us in new ways?

Because our circumstances are and will continue to change, equipping focuses on new & ancient ways to BE the body of Christ in order to join in Christ's mission.

"When people asked Jesus for a plan, he reminded them about their purpose [and identity]." Bob Goff (author, speaker, dreamer)

Please watch these 2 videos BEFORE our May 15/16 Presbytery conf & meeting, alone or with a *small* group, following physical distancing rules.



Acts: The Acts of the Apostles

[Amazon.com](#) Free with Amazon Prime; Amazon Rental: \$3.99

Don't have Amazon Prime? Can also purchase

Book of Acts (English) - YouTube

www.youtube.com > watch

FREE WEBINAR - RESET: Start Your Church Again After the Quarantine

Have you ever wished you could just start over? Despite its tragedy, the pandemic lockdown gives many of us the opportunity to do just that!

Practical lessons from the church over the centuries for reimagining our future!

Relaunching with a new sense of purpose; Best practices for small home gatherings;

<https://www.facebook.com/FExpressionsUS/> go to Videos & play Reset

Study Guide to help guide reflection & imagination for use with Acts and *Reset*
Will be emailed out and posted on our website under May meeting.

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April 20, 2020

Greetings from the Dream Team Task Group of Leadership Cabinet

Scholarship Application for Yellowstone Presbytery Churches

We have been tasked by the Cabinet to reach out to the congregations in Yellowstone Presbytery to offer you a Scholarship for Technology and Congregational Life. With all the recent changes in our lives, we know you are probably seeing changes in how you are doing worship etc. that cost extra money. We are asking **you** to develop a “wish list” for **your** church and congregation that will help you develop some new things that will allow you to function in this “physical distancing” world. **This help is to be available on a 50/50 basis.**

Give us an idea of the bigger mission of your church. Share with us the new ways God is calling the people in your church? Are you planning new outreach areas for connecting new people, how will you be connecting with the people that have been in your church for many years? How will you use this funding? Tell us about your dreams and why you need this funding?

We have developed a small list of things that you might put on your list, mainly to get **your juices** flowing. We want to hear your Dreams and Ideas. Some of our items have prices attached just for our information as we were working up the list.

The List:

- A ZOOM account \$150.00/year
- Curriculum for Vacation Bible School
- Help in the recovery from the cost of setting up technical assistance such as systems, processes, hardware, software, camcorders, and WiFi
- A church computer
- A Laptop or a Chromebook
- Internet connection to the church or Pastor’s dwelling or upgrade to current service
- External DVD
- Web sites

So what are your dreams and how can we help? Send them to Suzanne Bratsky at suzbratsky@gmail.com, call with your ideas (406-539-0211) or mail them to my home address: 521 W Arnold, Bozeman, MT 59715.

Ric Tieman, Debbie Blackburn and Suzanne Bratsky
The Dream Team Task Group, Leadership Cabinet

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Reset Your Church Again After Quarantine - Webinar
Individual or Small Group Study Guide

<https://www.facebook.com/204754663032053/videos/162459178441404/>

“Reset is to set again: back to the original factory settings; or to set differently. And so, God is setting us back to doing church like the first century Christians (our factory settings?) AND God is setting us to new things.”

Definition of *Reset* by Rev. Dr. Dee Stokes, pastor and former Div. I basketball coach

We are being offered, through the circumstances, changes and new realities, the opportunity to RESET – to go deeper and wider in our relationship with God, in how we make/grow as disciples in the body of Christ, and in joining Christ’s mission in our communities and world.

Isaiah 43:19: *“See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.”* (NIV)

Matt Lake – Senior Pastor at First United Methodist Church, Williamsport PA

1. Alvin Toffler: “The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who can’t read and write, but those who can’t learn, unlearn, relearn.”

Reflect: what we have learned that needs to be **unlearned** (i.e. is not bearing fruit, not working, was based on a way of life, of doing church...that has changed) or needs to be **relearned** (our core mission & calling lived, done in *new* ways, serving, connecting with new people)?

2. Psychologist and Organizational Theorist, Carl Weick, noted that when we are faced with unfamiliar situations, we regress to that we know best; we go back to, cling to, our most familiar tools rather than drop them.

Matt tells the stories of firefighters in 3 horrific wildfires who were reluctant to drop their heavy tools and backpacks, could not move quickly, and perished.

- Reflect: what your church considers to be ‘tools’ that are essential and cannot be dropped.

- What might be the ‘tools’, backpacks which should be dropped?

3. God's people are BOTH gathered AND Sent. "The future will be defined by BOTH/AND". This church is made up of BOTH the inherited, traditional church AND a wide range of smaller house church groupings of "fresh expressions" of the church, planted by a person or persons from the original church, who gather on their own as well as together with the more traditional church. Reflect on this.

The disciples understand and are equipped to be doing *their* ministry (Eph 4:11,12), not expecting the "do it for me, professional pastor/staff".

Further information about this church and another like this is share in the Resilient Church Academy Master Class and the Academy track on Transforming Congregations @ <https://resilientchurchacademy.com>

**Josmar Alvarez – District Superintendent in the United Methodist Church,
Lexington KY and Church Planter**

1. In the Book of Acts we find three elements in the church, meeting mostly in homes:
 - Witnessing—Proclaiming the Good News
 - Fellowship---with fellow worshipers and the community (Koinonia) Acts 2, 4, 5
 - Service/help---in the community, serving the poor

Reflect on these three elements of church. How do you see them in your community?
What is effective? How could you do it differently?

2. House Church and Church Building: The *first century church* met *both* in the temple *and* in the homes (Acts 2:42-47; 4; 5:42; 20:20). There are times one needs the church building; there are times when the church needs to be in the small community, a house church.

Reflect on ways you can begin small group house (zoom) church arrangements, with existing people and in community, and other ways of being church, not in “the building”.

3. Josmar underscored *the first century church was filled with the work of the Holy Spirit*. How is the Holy Spirit moving in your community? How are you asking the Spirit to fill and guide you?

Heather Jallad – Lead Cultivator, Fresh Expressions in North Georgia Conference, United Methodist Church, Community Engagement Pastor @ Mount Pisgah Church

This time is packed with possibility! As we look at the seasons there is NOW—Next—New

1. What can we do NOW to continue AND, simultaneously, to prepare for NEXT?

Reflect on what your church is doing now, how it is going (be realistic)? How your congregation/community is being cared for? Note her suggestions.

Reflect on what may not have been happening now and ask yourself if it is OK, can it be left behind?

2. What comes NEXT? Scarcity can bring clarity.
Reflect upon what adaptations have been made or will need to be made to lean into the future and be fruitful. How build community, disciple online? How will you go deeper rather than wider?

3. NEW means that we use the imagination we receive from the Holy Spirit.
Reflect: what would be different if you “started over” like the scattered church in Antioch with Gentiles? What NEW thing(s) is God saying to you?

4. What new ways, things will you try? Experiments are for learning.

How are you equipping, empowering, folks to identify passions and gifts, needs in your community/region, to love and serve communities –i.e. address food instability, neighborhood networks, healthcare, become a person of peace, help parents, businesses...?

Dr. Susan Harper –Former church history professor at Harvard, now American Bible Society

1. Church revivals often happen when people:
 - Seek transformation based on a reformist or restorational vision they perceive from scriptures
 - Leave behind habituations to status quo practices
 - Pray seriously together in community
 - Invite God’s Holy Spirit to lead and guide

2. The core Biblical narrative of God’s purpose is to dwell within a community of all people. What did that look like:

Garden of Eden in Genesis 1

Moving Tabernacle in Exodus 40

Temple in First Kings, II Chronicles, Ezekiel 10

Ecclesia now/future

3. What is “The Way” according to Jesus?
 - John 13 Love one another
 - John 15:12 Love each other as I have loved you
 - John 15:17 Love each other

“The only hermeneutic of the gospel is a congregation of men and women who believe in it and live by it.” (*Leslie Newbigin*)

Reflect on the ways that your church/community *models* “The Way” of Jesus, on how those outside your church, those not of the Christian faith, in your community would say they experience the way of Jesus in you, individually and as a community.

4. Radical Christianity modeled by the early church in Acts

Example of the church at Corinth:

“When you gather for worship, each one of you be prepared with something that will be useful for all: Sing a hymn, teach a lesson, tell a story, lead a prayer, provide an insight...Take your turn, no one person taking over. Then each speaker gets a chance to say something special from God, and you all learn from each other...This goes for all the churches---no exceptions.” 1 Corinthians 14:26-33 , *The Message*

Reflect: how might your church/community embrace these elements of Radical Christianity –story telling, sharing what God has said/done, teaching, taking turns.

5. Dr Harper provides 3 insights/opportunities to reset:

- To live the Word, not just read or know it
- In *Thick Community*, not just professionally orchestrated weekly meetings in “church” buildings
- Led by the power of the Holy Spirit

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**The Book of Acts & Reset Your Church Again After Quarantine
Study Guide for Individuals, Sessions, Small Groups...**

Watch - The Visual Bible's Acts: The Acts of the Apostles

which uses only the Biblical text

It is free with Amazon Prime or Rent for \$3.99 at amazon.com

Don't have Amazon Prime? You can also purchase the DVD at amazon.com

or

On YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hBEKAGnyIOk>

Individuals, Families, Sessions, other Small Groups... have a movie night. Use the following study guide as you watch, reflect, discuss in preparation for the Presbytery ZOOM Mini-Conference where we will be discussing Acts May 15 & 16, 2020.

Why Acts?

"The book of Acts is full of the energy and excitement of the early Christians as they found God doing new things all over the place and learned to take the good news of Jesus around the world. It is also full of the puzzles and problems that churches faced then and face today—crises over leadership, money, ethnic divisions, theology, and ethics, ..." [finding new ways of being church when some existing patterns had to be adjusted.]

N.T. Wright, Acts, 24 Studies for Individuals and Groups, p. 5.

When we study Scripture, we often take it in small passages. Yet, as we *Consider the Adventure God had for the early church* as presented in Acts, we can sometimes miss the complex challenges and choices, the depth and breadth of God's work through the Holy Spirit as the disciples entered into that adventure unless we take in the entire story at once. It is quite the adventure tale!

Make some popcorn and enjoy!

In addition to the following questions, please keep track of your musings, observations, and questions as the Holy Spirit prompts you. *(It can be helpful to write down the Scripture # where found).*

1. As you watch, *please keep a tally* of each location Luke, the physician disciple, writes about:
If a group/session is watching, assign each person what they will be tallying/noting to share)
 - a. When the Holy Spirit "fills" or is "poured out" on someone/a group and what occurs.
This book is often referred to as *The Acts of the Holy Spirit!*
 - b. "How their numbers were "increasing", "added to", "grew"

c. When something unexpected happened and they adapted.

When they faced an obstacle, crisis or persecution? Response(s)

d. A person/team/group “goes” or is “sent”, “scattered”

2. In what places, types of locations did the disciples and those who followed them, do their teaching, gathering with groups? (such as Acts 5:42, 10:22, 20:20...?)
Site scripture passages and stories.

3. What practices, rhythms, actions were part of the disciples’ lives?

4. Where was the gospel shared/spread, how and by whom?

5. Peter, Stephen, Philip and his daughters, Paul, a slave girl, a jailer, Priscilla and Aquila... each has been encountered/called by Jesus and goes and tells “God’s Big Story”, usually accompanied by

a. Their *personal* stories, encounters with Jesus

b. How has Jesus touched, encountered you? What is your Jesus Story?

c. How can you continue to be part of “the story”? What ideas is the Spirit stirring in you?

6. **NOW, we are living in and writing Acts 29!**

Were a modern-day Luke to write about you as *a* disciple, about you as a *community* of disciples, what would he record?

How are you, how is your church, being filled with the Spirit, living God’s Adventure (March presbytery mini-conference) in Acts 29 as God’s Big Story, God’s mission of redemption and restoration, unfolds?

7. Is there a person or 2 with whom you identify in Acts? Why?

Below is the 2nd movie/webinar to watch and reflect on AHEAD of our presbytery zoom mini-conference May 15-16:

FREE WEBINAR - RESET: Start Your Church Again After the Quarantine so you grow from this

Have you ever wished you could just start over?

Despite its tragedy, the pandemic lockdown gives many of us the opportunity to do just that!

This webinar, with a diverse panel of mainline pastors and a former Harvard professor, contains practical lessons from today, from Acts & the church over the centuries for reimagining our future!

How can you *relaunch* with a new sense of purpose?
Best practices for small home gatherings; and much more

<https://www.facebook.com/FExpressionsUS/>

Go to their Videos & play *Reset*

The **Study Guide for Reset** to help guide reflection, imagination and discussion *will be emailed out week of May 4 and posted on our website under the May Presbytery meeting.*

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