

Presbytery of Yellowstone
First Presbyterian Church, Lewistown, MT.
2-3 November 2012
Committee on Ministry Report

Since last report, the CoM has had four (4) face to face meetings and one (1) Conference Call meeting. Listed below you will find the most recent actions taken by the CoM, including those actions proposed/recommended for your support on the floor of Presbytery. Following these items you will find a summary of Presbytery authorized actions by the CoM.

“Introduction to Dismissal Agreement for West Yellowstone”, the “Dismissal and Release Agreement for West Yellowstone Community Protestant Church Draft”, the “Proposed Minimum Salaries for 2013”, and “Retired Clergy and Clergy-at-Large Guidelines” (adopted by CoM) documents can be downloaded from our website, www.yellowstonepcusa.org . Please bring a copy of each document with you. They are important pieces for discussion and/or approval.

We give thanks to the Pastoral Team, David Andrews, TE, Debbie Blackburn, RE, John Clark, RE, and George Goodrich, TE; for Freeman McCall, TE Retired; for the Resolution Team, Dick Davis, TE serving as Moderator, Blackburn, Tom Cotton RE, Mike McCormick RE, and Goodrich, as well as to the session and members of Community Protestant Church of West Yellowstone for your time in seeking God’s guidance through this process. It is with sadness that we bring the Dismissal and Release Agreement Draft before the Presbytery and recommend its approval.

CoM recommends the proposed 2.5% increase in Minimum Salaries for 2013 for your approval.

One of the goals of the CoM is to complete the committee’s portion of the supplement to the Presbytery’s Manual of Administrative Operations. On 19 October 2012 the “Retired Clergy and Clergy-at-Large Guidelines” document was adopted by the CoM. It may be used as a teaching guide for current TEs, CREs, Retired TEs and TEs-at-Large, for sessions as well as congregations. We suggest that all current TEs, CREs, Retired TEs, and TEs- at-Large keep a copy of this document in your files, and that a copy be kept in the manual of operations book of each session/congregation.

The CoM discussed the proposed Policy on Sexual Misconduct by the Personnel Committee, at the 19 October 2012 meeting. Pending suggested changes, the CoM encourages Presbytery to approve the policy. We thank Caroline Fleming for serving as a consultant on behalf of the CoM along with members of Personnel Committee for your time and development of this document.

OTHER Actions by CoM and other Information:

At the request of the Leadership Cabinet, CoM reviewed questions asked of clergy candidates entering the Presbytery of Yellowstone especially question #9. Following discussion CoM

- P** voted to replace Question #9 with the following question. “What are your views on our Denomination’s Ordination Standards and the current debate on Christian marriage”?
- P** voted to add the following wording to the top of the list of questions. “As you answer the following questions please cite scriptural and Book of Confessions references to inform your answers”.

- P** Approved Terms of Call Compensation contract between CRE Cathy McLean, and Federated Church of Forsyth. (See Attachment #1) Cathy graduates in May from Dubuque Theological Seminary.

CoM interviewed/examined Rev. Aline Gaston-Russell, via Skype for “fit” for St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Billings, MT for the Interim pastor position.

- P** CoM approved Rev Aline Gaston-Russell for fit and membership to Presbytery of Yellowstone pending the PNC’s decision to offer her a call as Interim Pastor. (See attachment #1 A) Thank you David Thompson, TE, for serving as Moderator of Session, and to Russ Kline serving as Liaison during this time period.

P Approved candidates Rev. Kristin Willett and Brandon Willett for “fit” for the Miles City church.

P Approved members for the Presbytery of Yellowstone Administrative Installation Commission for the Rev. Kristin and the Rev. Brandon Willett at First Presbyterian Church, Miles City, MT., on Sunday, October 28 at 4:00 P.M. (Terms of Call can be found on our Website under Presbytery Meetings and Minutes Library “August 24, 2012, Special Called Presbytery Meeting”. (See Attachment #2 for a list of Presbytery Administration Commission for their Installation Service.) Shortly after the Presbytery Meeting, Brandon Willett, requested permission to be ordained by his Presbytery of Care, Presbytery of the Grand Canyon. Permission was granted by Ron Hanson, Stated Clerk, and Brandon was ordained on Sunday, September 30, 2012 at the Scottsdale, Arizona, Pinnacle Presbyterian Church.

Caroline Fleming, appointed Moderator for the Jordan session, informed CoM that the training for Monte Massar had been completed and that Monte was ready to serve as Moderator. Thank you, Caroline, for your faithfulness in serving Community Presbyterian Church of Jordan as moderator and for going the extra mile in training Massar to serve as Moderator.

P By consensus Com, (August 24, 2012, meeting at St. Andrews in Billings) appointed Monte Massar, an ELCA certified Synodical Associate in Ministry, to serve as Moderator of the Community Presbyterian Church session in Jordan, Montana, effective September 1, 2012.

P Exit interviews were completed with Rev. David Schneider, Interim, and with the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Miles City, MT., by RE Gayle Holland and TE Neva Rathbun. Schneider left Miles City on July 6, 2012. He has since requested permission to labor outside the bounds of the Presbytery of Yellowstone and has requested his transfer of membership from Presbytery of Yellowstone to the Presbytery of Grace. On 19 Oct. 2012, CoM granted permission for Rev. Schneider to labor outside the bounds of Presbytery and approved transfer of his membership to the Presbytery of Grace, contingent on his membership being received by Grace.

Five Teaching Elders and one Certified Ruling Elder participated in the “Sexual Misconduct and Boundaries” workshop held at the Yogo Inn in Lewistown on Thursday, October 25, 2012. Three still need to complete a workshop this year and two in 2013. Not quite 100% but getting there.

Members of the Committee on Ministry include: The Revs. Priscilla Bell, Dick Davis, Jim Kidd, David Thompson, & Neva Rathbun and Ruling Elders Debbie Blackburn, John Clark, Jenice Fugere, Gayle Holland, Russ Kline, & Linda Smith. We have received and accepted a resignation from Robert Shy, Jr. (CLP) effective August, 24, 2012. Others completing their terms(s) in 2012 include TE Priscilla Bell, RE Gayle Holland, RE. Russ Kline.

As Moderator of Com, I thank each one of you for your time, your love and care for congregations and for your faithfulness in serving the Lord in this way. I appreciate all of you very much.

Submitted: 10, 31.2012

By Rev. Neva Rathbun, Moderator

Committee on Ministry

Presbytery of Yellowstone

Attachment #1

Terms of Contract, Certified Ruling Elder
Contract Agreement with Cathy McLean, CRE
Federated Church of Forsyth
Starting Date 01 July 2012

\$23,134	Base Salary
5,000	Auto Allowance
1,000	Continuing Education
100	Community Involvement
300	Book Allowance
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\$29,234	

This compensation package is based on 32 (thirty-two) hours per week which includes scheduled office hours and Sunday Worship.

Additional mileage for visitation to be paid upon receipt of voucher.
Rental housing and utilities will be paid by the Federated Church.
Pension not applicable at this time.

Termination clause: This contract may be terminated by either party upon 60 days notice prior to the desired date of termination. The request shall be written stating the reason or reasons for the desired termination.

Attachment #1 A

Terms of Contract between Session of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Billings, MT.,
and Rev. Dr. Aline Gaston Russell as Interim Pastor

Relationship effective from August 1, 2012 through July 31, 2013 at $\frac{3}{4}$ time and may be extended for limited time period with concurrence of the Session, the Interim Pastor, and the CoM . . .

Special circumstances: The interim time commitment will consist of taking 2 days off per week for the $\frac{1}{4}$ time off.

Terms of Compensation:

Salary	\$22,133
Housing	11,200
Effective salary	33,333
Pension @ 32.25%	10,750
Continuing Ed.	400
Auto-Vouchered at Fed. Rate	<u>1,000</u>
	\$45,483

Moving expense – one time as required 2,000
Vacation – 4 weeks including 4 Sundays
Family leave as per established policy
of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Attachment # 2

CoM on behalf of Presbytery of Yellowstone approved the following persons to serve as the Administrative Commission for the purpose of Installation of the Rev. Kristin Willett and the Rev. Brandon Willett:

RE Arlene Corbin	First Presbyterian Church, Miles City
RE Chaplain Jeff Harada	First Presbyterian Church, Wolf Point
RE Claudia Stanton	Community Presbyterian Church, Jordan
TE Jody McDevitt	Moderator of Presbytery of Yellowstone
	First Presbyterian Church, Bozeman
TE Susan Ennis	First Presbyterian Church, Poplar
TE George Goodrich	Co-Gen. Presbyter, Bozeman
TE Leon Rathbun	Moderator of Leadership Cabinet
	Community Presbyterian Church, Terry
TE David Thompson	First Presbyterian Church, Billings

The Installation service took place at 4:00 P.M. Sunday, October 14, 2012, at First Presbyterian Church in Miles City, MT. **Welcome to First Presbyterian Church and to the Presbytery of Yellowstone.** An offering received for the designated Linda Hofer Fund totaled **\$556.00**. This fund was established by the Presbytery on September 17, 1984, in honor of the memory of the Rev. Linda Hofer who was killed in a horseback riding accident.