

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.