

ST. TIMOTHY'S MEMORIAL CHAPEL LONG RANGE PLAN

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel is to provide an inspirational setting for Christian worship. This is primarily accomplished through the summer ministry and outreach to the surrounding area. The Chapel is also available for weddings, religious retreats, concerts and other church related activities. There is an opportunity in the future to expand the mission by developing youth programs, summer camps, retreats, Bible studies, small group ministries and other such activities. Programs and events in cooperation with other churches in the area have exciting possibilities. These are visions for the future and with God's blessing some or all of them may be accomplished.

BACKGROUND

HISTORY - St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel is a memorial to Timothy Dillon Bowman who was tragically killed in an automobile accident while a college student in preparation for the ministry. His parents, John and Crete Bowman of Sterling, Illinois, and their other children paid for all legal, architectural, construction and furnishings costs related to the Chapel. The Chapel was dedicated in 1965.

The Chapel is located at the largely abandoned mining community of Southern Cross, overlooking Georgetown Lake, national forests and the continental divide. The Chapel sits on 20.26 acres. Included are the mine superintendent's house and the mine office building

Harrison Ray Anderson, long-time pastor of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago and a friend of the Bowman's, was the first pastor at the Chapel and arranged for the Chapel to be assigned to the Presbytery of the Yellowstone, Presbyterian Church (USA).

Currently the Chapel is open for twelve weeks during the summer, mid-June through August. Worship services are held each Sunday at 11:00AM. Dr. Harrison Ray Anderson was summer pastor from 1965-75, followed by Dr. Joseph McCabe and Dr. Calvin De Vries. Since then the Chapel has been served by two or three different pastors each summer.

MISSION AND PURPOSE OF THE CHAPEL - Early statements of mission in the files of the Chapel Committee indicate the desire to provide a meaningful opportunity for worship and witness in a geographical area noted for leisure and recreational opportunities. The area has a number of private summer homes and National Forest campgrounds, lodges and motels, a ski area and innumerable water and land based recreational opportunities. The striking interior of the Chapel, plus its setting in a magnificent view of mountains and forests, were intended to inspire the worship of God in regular Sunday worship as well as for times of private meditation.

From the early records specific purposes can be summarized as follows:

1. To provide an inspirational setting for Sunday worship for vacationers, summer residents and interested persons from a wide area and a place for personal meditation.
2. To provide a setting for wedding services.
3. To provide a place for religious retreats and conferences, church related meetings, music concerts and other events in keeping with this mission statement.

The Sunday worshipers do not constitute a congregation in an ecclesiastical sense. There is no communicant membership as in a constituted congregation nor is the summer pastor installed. Funerals are not held at the Chapel and if a baptism or the Lord's Supper were celebrated such an unusual need would require the approval of the Session of the Anaconda Presbyterian Church, as well as that of the Chapel Committee.

RELATIONSHIP TO THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—St. Timothy is a specialized ministry within the bounds of the Presbytery of the Yellowstone, Presbyterian Church (USA). Both the donors and Dr. Anderson, organizing pastor, wished to avoid an independent and unrelated chapel venture, desiring affiliation with the Presbyterian Church.

The normal and on-going relationship of the Chapel program to the Presbytery is through the St Timothy Chapel Committee. The Chapel Committee is a standing committee of the Yellowstone Presbytery. Its membership consists of seven Presbyterians from the area, of whom up to three shall be Presbyterian pastors. One of the seven is designated as moderator. In addition the Committee includes up to four representatives of the donor family, and up to seven ecumenical (non-Presbyterian) members. The summer pastor, representatives of the Yellowstone Presbytery and other members of the donor family may attend meetings in an ex-officio capacity without vote.

The Committee reports annually through the moderator to Yellowstone Presbytery. Reports include data on program usage, summer pastors and a financial report indicating current income and expenditures and such other information as Presbytery may appropriately desire.

FINANCES The establishment of the program and physical assets of the Chapel were cared for, as described earlier, by the John Bowman family of Sterling, Illinois. At the beginning of the Chapel operation administrative costs were provided by the Presbytery, in part from its per capita apportionment from congregations. The goal from the outset was that St. Timothy be financially self-sufficient. This has now been achieved through offerings, use fees, private gifts and the establishment of restricted endowment funds for the manse and Chapel property (including furnishings and maintenance).

Chapel income is under the care and supervision of the Chapel Committee with a treasurer who keeps all financial records and reports at each meeting of the Committee. The St. Timothy Chapel Committee treasurer is an Assistant treasurer of Yellowstone Presbytery. Specific uses or restrictions of gifts are carefully followed. Committee expenses are paid for by the Presbytery's per capita budget.

SUMMER PASTORS - Summer pastors are engaged under a written contract for a twelve-week period, mid-June through August, or divided as the Committee may decide. From the outset it was assumed that a pastor carrying all or a major part of the summer Sunday responsibility would have their ordination credentials in the Presbyterian Church and affiliated with a specific Presbytery. Exceptions are made when emergency or other needs require a Sunday substitute, with the Committee making such arrangements in the centrist Protestant tradition.

Since Presbyterian pastors are not independent agents but members of a specific Presbytery and accountable to it, the home Presbytery of a pastor and the Presbytery into which a pastor enters for pastoral activity, both have the right of review. The expectation is that pastors are loyal to the Presbyterian Church, not divisive, but ecumenical in temperament, with evident abilities in leading worship and preaching. Presbytery and the Chapel Committee have a mutually consultative relationship on pastors.

The contractual understanding between the Chapel Committee and the summer pastor has been that their responsibility is for the Sunday worship. Summer pastors are not available for weddings, baptisms or funerals, except in genuine emergencies and then only with permission of the Session of the Anaconda Presbyterian Church. Emergency counseling for tourists or campers is part of the summer pastor's responsibility.

The manse for the summer pastor was purchased in 1976, after having been rented for such use for several years. It is located on Montana Highway 1 (13903 Route 1 West), about three miles from the Chapel. Dr. McCabe, second summer pastor, secured just over one-half the cost through private donations. The Bowman family guaranteed the balance. Gifts toward the house cost (approximately \$40,000) were restricted to that purpose, as are gifts designated for manse maintenance. Pastors and families are expected to provide the same interior care of the manse and its furnishings and of the lawn that would be provided in one's own home. Major maintenance or utility repair or replacement is cared for by the Committee.

RECENT ACTIONS - In 1999 the St. Timothy's Chapel Committee established a long range planning committee to study the future of St Timothy's. In 2000, Yellowstone Presbytery's Council, assigned a task force to work with the Chapel Committee to more clearly define the operating relationship between the Presbytery and the Chapel Committee. This proposed long-range plan is an outgrowth of both of the above actions.

The original Long Range Plan for St. Timothy's Memorial Chapel, approved by Yellowstone Presbytery in 2002, envisioned an expansion of its facilities and its ministry. Several projects listed in that Plan have been accomplished. These accomplishments are:

First, the property has been expanded by the acquisition of land from the Southern Cross Company. The attached plot map shows the current land ownership. As part of that land transaction the Mine Office Building and the Mine Superintendent's Home were also acquired.

Secondly, the rerouting of the access road from the front of the Chapel has been basically agreed to by Southern Cross and Atlantic Richfield and should be completed in 2014. However, since it has not been completed it is retained as part of this plan.

This updated Long Range Plan identifies other specific projects and their schedule for completion. The impetus for updating the Long Range Plan is the upcoming 50th Anniversary of the Chapel in 2014.

The projects listed below, and on the attached spreadsheet, follow. They are presented in four groups ó Facilities, Ministry, Maintenance and Funding.

Facilities:

- **Road Relocation** - The existing county road presently runs between the Chapel and the parking lot. During the summer months recreational and other traffic is disruptive to our worship services. Noise and dust are the major problems although increased vehicular traffic is creating a safety concern as well. Additionally, the close proximity of the public road has increased our upkeep and maintenance costs. This action is necessary to protect the spiritual atmosphere, aesthetics and the physical well-being of the Chapel and associated facilities.
- **Columbarium** – Interest has been expressed for a columbarium. A company who builds these facilities has been contacted and designs have been received and reviewed. Space is available for the structure and having it on-site would expand the ministry of the Chapel.
- **Labyrinth** – St. Timothy's is not only a place for worship, weddings and concerts but it is also a place for meditation. The addition of this facility would greatly enhance the meditation for the many people who visit the Chapel. In addition to the Labyrinth there is also a need to develop, and make available, other devotional materials. The current site plan provides a location for a Labyrinth though some concerns exist about that location since it is in a traffic area. The hope is to be able to create the foot-print for the Labyrinth while heavy equipment is on site redoing the road.
- **Reroof the Chapel** – Currently the Chapel has a cedar shake roof. The roof is nearly 50 years old. Additionally, since the chapel is in a forested environment the cedar shake roof presents a risk of loss from a forest fire. The plan is to replace the roof with a fire proof man made material that resembles the cedar shakes. This offers added fire protection while retaining the original design of the Chapel.
- **Mine Office Building** – The original thought was to refurbish this building and use it for small group meetings and retreats, including youth retreats. The building has received a fair amount of vandalism and there is concern as whether the cost of renovation may be beyond the current financial ability of the Chapel. The current thought is to offer it for salvage.

- **Renovate the Mine Superintendents Home** – Currently the house is cleaned out and secured. A useable structure offers many opportunities for added ministry of the Chapel. Some of the opportunities, (i.e. a retreat house, a place for group meetings, a place for youth and small group retreats, an added space for wedding events). There is a question if the existing well for the chapel could also supply this house. There are undoubtedly other uses not yet identified. Historic Preservation Funds may be available to fund part or all of this renovation work.

There is one other idea which has been talked about but is not currently a project in the Long Range Plan. The idea is to sell the Manse and build a new Manse on site. There is room on site if the Mine Office Building were to be salvaged. As with the Superintendents Home, the water supply situation would need to be resolved and the ground over the old mine tunnel would have to be stabilized.

Ministry:

Beyond the projects of the Long Range Plan there are some ideas to expand the ministry program of the Chapel. These include:

- Holding Joint summertime services with area churches. Many churches face smaller attendance during the summer months. Inviting area churches for 2-3 joint services could be an uplifting event for all.
- Special Music at the summer services. In August of 2012 a flutist provided special Music for the worship service. There is no reason why this could not be part of the Worship service at least 4-6 times during the summer.
- Rev. Boulton has provided a mid-week study for interested folks during the summer. Finding the right material for these events is difficult but the mid- week study should be continued.
- Other?

Maintenance:

While maintenance needs are not really part of the Long Range Plan they need to be documented someplace. Following is a list of maintenance projects that should be completed before the 50th Anniversary of the Chapel.

- Unplug the drain by the Fellowship door (done 2013).
- Tuck point all of the rockwork around the Chapel (Done 2013).
- Stabilize the deck at the Manse (done 2013).
- Fix the large brass plaques by the front entrance (done 2013).
- Numerous other maintenance projects are identified in the committee members notebook.

Funding:

To accomplish this Long Range Plan requires additional funding. While funding exists for maintenance and general upkeep the committee is concerned about the funding of the Chapel operations in perpetuity. For this reason a major fund raising effort is felt to be necessary. The thought is to combine the fund raising effort with the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Chapel (July 2015). Plans are underway to accomplish that.

The following spreadsheet list the capital projects, their estimated costs and a suggested schedule for completion.

Long Range Plan Projects, Costs and Schedule

| Project | Cost | Schedule |
|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Road Relocation | \$80,000 | 2014 |
| Columbarium | \$50,000 | 2014 |
| Labyrinth | \$25,000 | 2014 |
| Fund Raising | \$5,000 | 2014+ |
| Chapel Roof | \$80,000 | 2016 |
| Mine Office Building | \$0 | 2016 |
| Superintendents House | \$150,000 | 2016 |

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