



## Leadership Team (Board of Directors/Board of Trustees)

### 2017 Minutes

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**PRESBYTERY OF YUKON LEADERSHIP TEAM  
REGULAR MEETING**

January 14, 2017

CONVENE

Leadership team chair Rev. Piper Cartland, convened a special teleconference meeting of the Leadership Team at 10:04 am with prayer.

ROLL

**Members Present:** Rev. Piper Cartland, Rev. Israel Nelson, Ruling Elders (RE) Jan Burger, Bob Christensen, Mark Wartes; PW moderator Barb Brown, and ex-officio members Executive Presbyter Rev. Curt Karns and Stated Clerk RE Sharon Rayt

**Absent/Excused:** Rev. Henry Woodall, REs Merle Apassingok, Elizabeth Hollingsworth, Ron Illingworth, Arlayne Knox, Beulah Nowpakahok,

A quorum was declared.

AGENDA

**2017 Budget Recommendations:** When the 2017 budget was adopted, it included a \$30,000 income line, from special funds already held as determined by the Leadership Team. Bob Christensen, Curt Karns, Mary Kron, and Sharon Rayt met on December 15<sup>th</sup>, and came up with the following proposal:

1. The interest line can be raised from \$18,000 to \$24,000, reducing the “need” to \$24,000. This is based on information received from the Foundation.
2. Use the \$4,063 in the Bicentennial Prospectus fund. This was originally for 4-wheelers for the villages which were purchased. The money now in the fund has been re-deposited when vehicles were sold as pastors left and there are no immediate plans to buy any 4-wheelers.
3. Use \$10,000 from the ‘Arctic Area Presbytery Meeting’ fund. If we want a meeting off the road system, we can find other ways to make it happen such as people/churches paying their own way, mileage tickets, special donations, and have a bit left in the fund for those who really need it.”
4. The balance of the \$18,000 to come out of the ‘Candidate Under Care Travel’ fund. This would leave that fund at approximately \$5,000 which should cover any expenses in the near future.

It is also recommended that the \$27,678 remaining from Mary Jane Landstrom’s bequest be held to help cover the \$32,643 difference between the budget and expected income in case the anticipated underspending doesn’t happen. The Leadership Team **APPROVED** the recommendation that the proposal be brought before presbytery as a way of balancing the budget. Bob Christensen will present the recommendation at presbytery.

**Seminary Intern Request**

A seminary intern may be the way to help presbytery with young adult leadership development. A young adult leader or someone with experience in young adult leadership would be more effective than our current model. The proposal includes restarting the Y.E.S. (Youth Exploring Service) project. A coordinator is needed to provide structure for the Y.E.S. program. The right individual may be also recruited to serve as the young adult, social media person.

Many internships are nine months, but Curt would like the person for a year. Presbytery has close to \$43,000 in the internship fund. The goal is not to spend the entire amount, but to keep at least half of the \$43,000. Seminaries

Presbytery of Yukon Leadership Team  
January 14, 2017 Regular Meeting

need to be contacted. By **CONSENSUS**, the LT granted Curt Karns and Israel Nelson the authority to explore the proposal.

### **February 2017 Presbytery Docket**

- Regional Meetings: First block of time after lunch
- Proposal Amendments to the Constitution presentation: Second block of time in the afternoon. Piper Cartland, Curt Karns, and the clerk will designate presenters of the proposed amendments.
- Renewal and Healing Event Report
- Committee on Preparation for Ministry: Examination for commissioning for Friday
- Gambell Church Project
- Rob Hagan: one hour workshop on Saturday morning. Presentation ideas include: education on virtual giving and social media. What are other ways to give?

### **Presbytery Theme Verse**

In light of the reconciliation event, the Leadership Team by **CONSENSUS**, approved a recommendation to designate II Corinthians 5:18 as the upcoming meeting's theme verse: "All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation." Psalm 65:9 ("You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it"), was designated as the theme verse for the 2017 fall stated meeting.

### **Ruling Elder Testimony topic**

Approved by **CONSENSUS**: *Tell how you see the theme verse lived out within the context of your ministry. Or, if it is not, how can the presbytery help?*

### **Renewal and Healing Event**

Rev. Karns provided background information on the upcoming event in Utqiagvik (formerly Barrow). The Utqiagvik Session took the initiative to draft a letter asking PCUSA leadership to apologize to Alaskans Natives for the trauma caused by the boarding schools and to deliver a repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery. The event is scheduled in February, just prior to Kivgiq. The Native Ministries Committee, Utqiagvik Presbyterian Church, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (ASRC), and the North Slope Borough have all been involved in planning the event. Dorothy Bekoalak has been invited to apply Christian teaching, as it relates to healing. The ASRC gave presbytery a \$10,000 grant to help cover the costs of sending a representative from each of the presbytery's churches. Curt and a contingent of folks from various entities in Utqiagvik will travel to Louisville this week to discuss with denominational leaders the history and to help set a course of action.

### **Annual Church Visitations**

Discussion revealed that the purpose of the visits were not easily understood, nor was what was to be done with the information gathered during the visits. Rev. Karns commented that the goal is to listen to sessions and visit with the congregation, to help give us a better sense of how we can be more relational and responsive. The next step is to obtain a list of partnerships, determined what visits have happened, and what visits are in the pipeline.

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 am, with Rev. Curt Karns leading in the closing prayer



Sharon Rayt  
Stated Clerk

**PRESBYTERY OF YUKON**  
**Leadership Team Regular Meeting**  
**February 23, 2017**

CONVENE

Leadership Team chair Rev. Piper Cartland convened a meeting of the team at 6:50 pm with prayer at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Anchorage, Alaska. Singing to the Lord served as the opening devotional.

ROLL

**Members Present:** Revs. Piper Cartland, Israel Nelson, and Henry Woodall; Ruling Elders (RE) Merle Apassingok, Jan Burger, Bob Christensen, Ron Illingworth, Arlayne Knox, Beulah Nowpakahok, and Mark Wartes; and ex-officio members Rev. Curt Karns, Mary Kron, and RE Sharon Rayt

**Members Absent:** Barbara Brown, RE Elizabeth Hollingsworth

**Others Present:** Nancy Olzack, Merrill Lynch Financial Advisor

A quorum was present

AGENDA

• **Merrill Lynch Investments**

Nancy Olzack provided an update on the market under the current presidential administration, highlighted presbytery's Investment Policy and gave an overview of presbytery's investments and performance. Investments are divided amongst three accounts:

- Working Capital (short term): cash account, very liquid
- General Investment (5-10 years): investments in large companies, bonds. Dividends and interest from these investments are deposited in the cash account.
- Long term capital (10+ years): all stocks; provides great opportunities for stock appreciation, dividends and interest, but there is greater risk. Money managers are used to manage these accounts. Two of the managers try to ensure that investments are socially responsible. Israel Nelson reported that three stocks do not adhere to presbytery's socially responsible investment guidelines. Ms. Olzack provided assurance that these stocks will be sold.

• **Seminary Intern Proposal** – Curt Karns

The intent for hiring a seminary intern to be employed by presbytery is two-fold: 1) advance presbytery's work of providing leadership development among young adult Christians and 2) serve as the director of Project Y.E.S. (Youth Exploring Service), a teen, peer-evangelism ministry in the arctic. Project Y.E.S. would be restarted at Chapel in the Mountains and Kuukpik Presbyterian Church, if these churches still request it. It would be beneficial to explore the potential for using peer evangelism to spread Project Y.E.S. to two other congregations in the Native Ministries region of presbytery and to the road system region.

The intern would receive an annual stipend, complying with seminary stipend requirements and the realities of the cost of living in Alaska. The proposal's budget assumes \$1,500/month for 9 months. United Protestant Church in Palmer has a vehicle which may be used on the road system. Air travel may be secured through gifts of airline miles.

Funding would come from a variety of sources:

- \$43,742 Mathes Internship Fund + \$3,400 in the Project Y.E.S. Fund. The goal is to use only half of the internship fund, with the remaining balance used in the following year for this or another project.
- Donations solicited by the Stewardship Committee
- Love offerings and other support from congregations benefiting from this work.

The Leadership Team **APPROVED** the recommendation to move the project forward. Several folks should be co-opted to assist the exec in moving this proposal along. The next step would be to approach the seminaries.

Presbytery of Yukon  
February 23, 2017 Regular Meeting

• **Presbytery docket**

The Leadership Team **APPROVED** the motion that presbytery approve the docket as amended:

- Recognition of Rev. Alice Green's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on July 21<sup>st</sup> – insert before the Stated Clerk's report on Friday morning. Opportunity will be provided over the lunch break for folks to tell stories and meet with Alice.
- Commissioning Service – move from the Friday evening worship service to Saturday morning's service.
- Trustee's Report – move to immediately after Saturday's lunch recess.
- Opportunity for extending gratitude to all who served the presbytery – led by Henry Woodall

Regional meetings on Friday afternoon will hopefully generate more interest in mission on the regional level.

MOMENT OF GRATITUDE

As the makeup of the Leadership Team (LT) will change upon the adjournment of the presbytery stated meeting, Curt Karns extended gratitude to LT members who have given of their faithfulness.

FINANCES DISCUSSION

Increasingly churches are just paying per capita. Discussion ensued on how to interpret and financially support the spreading of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm with a hymn serving as the closing prayer.



Sharon Rayt  
Stated Clerk

**PRESBYTERY OF YUKON**  
 Leadership Team Special Meeting  
 May 2, 2017

CONVENE

Leadership Team chair Rev. Piper Cartland convened a teleconference meeting of the team at 10:06 am with prayer. The teleconference was the first Leadership team meeting under the new structure.

ROLL

**Members Present:** Revs. Piper Cartland and Henry Woodall; Ruling Elders (RE) Merle Apassingok, Jan Burger, Bob Christensen, Clyde Kaneshiro, Paula Long, and Miranda Rexford-Brown; ex-officio, nonvoting members: Executive Presbyter Rev. Curt Karns, and Ruling Elders Treasurer Joseph Brock, Synod Commissioner Ron Illingworth, and Stated Clerk Sharon Rayt

**Members Excused:** Rev. Israel Nelson

**Others Present:** Financial Secretary Mary Kron, Rev. Neill McKay - pastor University Community PC and Bingle Camp Board member

A quorum was declared.

AGENDA

The agenda was **APPROVED** as amended:

• **Annual Corporation Business**

- Election of Corporation Officers: Motion to elect Piper Cartland as President; Miranda Rexford-Brown as Vice-President, Sharon Rayt as Secretary, and Joseph Brock as Treasurer was **APPROVED**.
- Appoint check signers: Motions to appoint Piper Cartland, Joseph Brock, Mary Kron, and Sharon Rayt as check signers on the Credit Union 1 and Merrill Lynch accounts and to remove anyone not named, were **APPROVED**.
- Adopt document signatory resolution: Motion to adopt the following resolution was **APPROVED**:  
*"BE IT RESOLVED, that Piper Cartland the President, Miranda Rexford-Brown the Vice-President, Sharon Rayt the Secretary or Joseph Brock the Treasurer; are authorized and empowered to sign any and all documents, conveyances, earnest money agreements, escrow instructions, closing statements, mortgages, hypothecations, promissory notes and any such other instruments in writing of whatsoever kind or nature that may be deemed necessary and proper to sell, convey, mortgage, encumber and manage any property owned by, on behalf of the corporation, and to affix the corporate seal thereto as may be required."*
- Designate representative(s) with Merrill Lynch trading and fund/security distribution authority: Motion to designate Joseph Brock and Sharon Rayt with the aforementioned authority was **APPROVED**,

• **Appoint moderator the LT's Property Committee:**

Motion to appoint Israel Nelson as the Property committee moderator was approved by **GENERAL CONSENSUS**.

- **Savoonga Fuel Tank:** The current practice of carting fuel oil to the church on a 4-four wheeler to fill the day tank is not working; it is too difficult for the elderly trustees and younger folks are not always available to assist. A tank for the church at the tank farm will need to be installed. Curt Karns and Israel Nelson will discuss via teleconference.
- **Bingle Camp Report:** Neill McKay reported that the Bingle Camp Board met yesterday and decided to put this summer's camp program on hiatus, thus giving the Board time to discern the camp's future.
  - Camp director Steve Spencer worked hard last year, but stopped working and taking a paycheck. Steve never communicated with the Board after the 2016 camping season was over.
  - There is no continuity on the Board; it is not fully staffed, and those on board are basically new folks.

- The Board has been unable to locate all the accounting records, some of which may still be in the possession of former treasurer Rev. Claude Klaver.
- Neill McKay tried to pull together a fundraiser for the camp to get things moving, but received no help from anyone outside University Community PC (UCPC). UCPC is the only PCUSA church supporting the camp. Ron Illingworth reported that New Hope may be interested in partnering.

#### Bingle Camp future

- Despite the cancellation of the 2017 camping program, volunteers will work on planned facility maintenance and infrastructure upgrades this summer. Renting out the facilities to various groups will continue: UCPC women's retreat, Rawhide program, and Lutherans.
- Rev. McKay sees two options for moving forward:
  - a. Partner with Love INC – giving access to 25 other Fairbanks churches for programming aspects.
  - b. Plant a church in the Harding Lake area for the April-September season and staffing it with an interim (or CRE) each summer. This person would also serve as the camp director. This option may lead to a viable 1001 worshipping community.
- The Leadership Team was committed to lending its support to Neill McKay and other members of the camp Board as it moved forward in discerning the camp's future. By **GENERAL CONSENSUS**, the LT directed LT members Ron Illingworth, Curt Karns, and Henry Woodall to confer with the Bingle Camp Board. Ecumenical colleagues may be able to provide insight.
- It was suggested that the matter be added to the road system's agenda.

Henry Woodall led in a prayer for the camp.

#### • **Leadership Development Fund Request**

A Brazilian friend of Neill McKay has asked if the presbytery has any funds which can be tapped to enable him to return to seminary. Discussion on the request and the intent of the Presbytery's Leadership Development Fund ensued. Since the individual has no official relationship with the presbytery, and the fund was designated for people residing in presbytery, there was a **GENERAL CONSENSUS** that the request be denied.

#### • **Presbytery Finances**

The exec reported that giving from the churches is way down. Presbytery has a bit of reserves but we need to look at our future viability. The Stewardship Committee will meet and report back to the LT at its summer meeting.

#### • **Gambell Presbyterian Church-Community Center Building Project**

##### Grants:

- Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation has recently approved a grant request for \$99,000 which will cover at a minimum, the cost of the sprinkler system installation.
- Presbytery has submitted a \$300,000 grant request to the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust. Murdock's program manager assigned to the project and the exec are planning a site visit in late May.

##### Construction:

- The 2017 construction season will run from July – August. Only three teams have signed up to work this summer, so more teams will be needed if the project is to be completed by the fall of 2018.
- The construction superintendent has withdrawn his name for consideration. Project director Dennis Berry is seeking other candidates.
- Mary Kron reported that when Marion Porter died, Alaska Airline miles for one person were donated from the estate to the presbytery. Mary suggested that the mileage be used by someone preferably from Utqiagvik, to make maximum use of the gift.

Presbytery of Yukon Leadership Team  
May 2, 2017 Special Meeting

Fall 2018 stated presbytery meeting host:

Motion to consider Gambell Presbyterian Church's offer to host the fall 2018 presbytery meeting, if the way be clear (construction completed) was approved by **GENERAL CONSENSUS**.

- The **next meeting** will be face-to-face, on July 22<sup>nd</sup>, following Rev. Alice Green's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration on the 21st. Piper Cartland, Curt Karns, and Sharon Rayt will determine whether the July meeting will be a regular meeting or a retreat.

ADJOURN

Merle Apassingok shared a prayer concern. The meeting adjourned at 11:20 am with Curt Karns leading in the closing prayer.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharon Rayt', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sharon Rayt  
Stated Clerk



**PRESBYTERY OF YUKON**  
 Leadership Team (Board of Directors)  
 Special Meeting  
 May 22, 2017

CONVENE

In the absence of Leadership Team (LT) chair Rev. Piper Cartland, Presbytery moderator Rev. Israel Nelson convened a teleconference meeting at 7:09 pm with an opening prayer.

ROLL

**Members Present:** Ruling Elders (RE) Merle Apassingok, Jan Burger, Bob Christensen, Paula Long, Rev. Israel Nelson, and Miranda Rexford-Brown; ex-officio, nonvoting members: Executive Presbyter Rev. Curt Karns, and Ruling Elders Treasurer Joseph Brock, Synod Commissioner Ron Illingworth, and Stated Clerk Sharon Rayt

**Members Excused/Absent:** Rev. Piper Cartland, RE Clyde Kaneshiro, Rev. Henry Woodall, Mary Kron

**Others Present:** Rev. Neill McKay - pastor University Community PC and Bingle Camp Board member  
 A quorum was declared.

AGENDA

This meeting was called for the purpose of acting on two items of business concerning Bingle Camp.

**Fall 2017 presbytery meeting**

It has been proposed that the Leadership Team accept an invitation to hold the fall presbytery meeting at Bingle Camp. Accepting the invitation would necessitate moving the meeting date from October to August, as the buildings are not heated. The facility is underutilized by the presbytery's churches. Approving the proposal would showcase the camp and bring more of the presbytery leadership into the process of renewing the camp's vision. Discussion ensued. A major drawback is the lack of planning time. Motion was **APPROVED** to schedule next summer's Leadership Team meeting at the camp, in coordination with camp's Board, with the possibility of holding the fall 2019 presbytery meeting at the camp.

**Bingle Camp worshipping community proposal**

Rev. McKay has begun reaching out to the Harding Lake community and has proposed that a seasonal church for local residents be established, to run from mid-April through mid-summer. The camp's chapel is barely used, and there is no mainline Protestant presence in the area. Some funding is available from the national church under the 1001 New Worshipping Community's (NWC) program. An initial \$7,000 grant would provide seed money for set up, with additional funds available each of the following two years. The NWC pastor/worship leader could also serve as Bingle Camp's program director during the week. The University Community PC session (UCPC) stepped up to be the sponsoring congregation. Rev. McKay volunteered to do the grassroots work, but asked that a liaison be appointed to facilitate communication with the Leadership Team. The initial funding grant application, which is due in July, requires the endorsement of the Leadership Team. Motion to establish a New Worshipping Community at Bingle Camp and to name Jan Burger as communication facilitator between UCPC and the Leadership Team was **APPROVED**.

**Fairbanks Korean PC status report**

Rev. Karns outlined the church's history. Neill McKay reported that CRE Cody Ryu is returning to Seattle in September; the church cannot afford to pay him a salary. Even though the church is not on a good financial footing, the church nevertheless called a non-PCUSA individual to serve as pastor, without following Presbyterian procedures for calling a pastor. The Administrative Commission is meeting tomorrow to consider next steps. Neill has made a pledge to Cody that presbytery would stand with him

Presbytery of Yukon Leadership Team  
May 22, 2017 Special Meeting

to see him through his oral examinations and ordination. Neill reported that there is great joy at the church, with 15 attending worship.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm with Curt Karns leading in the closing prayer.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sharon Rayt", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sharon Rayt,  
Stated Clerk

**PRESBYTERY OF YUKON**  
 Leadership Team (Board of Directors) Retreat  
 July 21-22, 2017  
 Trinity Presbyterian Church

**Friday, July 21, 2017**

CONVENE

Following the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration of Rev. Alice Green, Leadership Team chair Rev. Piper Cartland, convened the meeting at Trinity Presbyterian Church at 2:20 pm with an opening prayer.

ROLL

**Members Present:** Revs: Piper Cartland, Israel Nelson, Henry Woodall; Elders Merle Apassingok (Fri. only), Jan Burger, Bob Christensen, Clyde Kaneshiro, Paula Long; ex-officio, nonvoting members:

Executive Presbyter Rev. Curt Karns, Elders Treasurer Joseph Brock and Stated Clerk Sharon Rayt

**Members Excused:** Elder Miranda Rexford Brown, ex-officio member Commissioner to Synod Ron Illingworth

**Others Present:** Financial secretary Mary Kron, Rev. Joseph Reid (Fri.), Steve Spencer (Sat.)

A quorum was declared.

MOMENT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

In response to Rev. Alice Green's comment that she had never been elected presbytery moderator, the LT by **CONSENSUS** appointed Rev. Alice Green as honorary moderator at some point during the fall 2017 presbytery meeting (if the way be clear.)

AGENDA

The agenda was **APPROVED**, as distributed.

CLERK'S REPORT

- Minutes of the LT's May 2, 2017 and May 22, 2017 special meetings were **APPROVED** as distributed.
- Presbytery granted the Leadership Team authority to celebrate the Lord's Supper at its retreat.

TIME OF SHARING

As the retreat is the first face-to-face meeting of the Leadership Team under its new configuration, time was allotted for introductions.

NATIVE MINISTRIES REPORT

Native ministries moderator Merle Apassingok presented the report via telephone from Gambell, which was fogged in.

- Committee leaders have met regularly via teleconference since the committee's first meeting last November. A face-to-face meeting is scheduled for August 20-21, 2017 in Anchorage. NM leaders are trying to recruit an elder from each of the nine congregations, to attend the event.
- Native Ministries is working towards building up leadership in its congregations and developing healing ministries in communities afflicted by addictions, suicide, and other social issues. Merle expressed gratitude to Rev. Karns for his assistance.

### ORDER OF THE DAY - Healing Ministry Report

Utqiagvik PC pastor Rev. Joseph Reid presented a report via telephone while on vacation. Joseph provided a summary of his lengthy written report on what is happening and why. The apology delivered by former stated clerk Rev. Gradye Parsons was a meaningful event for the people of the North Slope.

One of the discussions all along, was not just about the apology but how to address the healing which is needed on the slope. In a call to action, Utqiagvik PC, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation (ASRC), the North Slope Borough (NSB) and the Presbytery, through Native Ministries, is working on putting together a faith-based approach to bring about the healing from substance abuse and other social ills on the slope north, starting in Utqiagvik. In addition to his duties as pastor, Rev. Reid has been hired as a part-time consultant to begin working on developing a faith-based initiative. Borough lawyers reviewed the agreement to ensure there was no conflict of interest. The NSB is not shy about using faith-based terminology verbally or in the agreement. Clarity will be needed about boundaries to prevent conflicts of interest which may affect non-profit status.

The idea has been well received in the community. North Slope entities want participation by the presbytery. This will be an ecumenical movement, which is new on the North Slope. A series of meetings was held with major Christian Church pastors in Utqiagvik in May. There was great support for visiting the other seven villages and hosting events in those communities. Other Christian Churches will be invited to become participants in an interfaith group. Time will be docketed at the October meeting for a report.

### RECESS

The Leadership Team recessed at 3:53 pm, for a twenty minute break.

### EXECUTIVE PRESBYTER'S REPORT

Highlights of the written and oral report:

**Seminary intern proposal** - It was too late to apply for a seminary student to come on board this fall as staff. If the Leadership Team determines that an intern should be hired for 2018, a job description should be written by October, with the application submitted to the seminaries by December 1<sup>st</sup>. It was suggested that an email be circulated to the pastors.

**Earth Care Ministry** - The exec is joining with Rev. Irvin Porter, PC(USA) Associate for Native American Congregational Ministry, to give a presentation at the Presbyterians for Earth Care National convention, September 25-29, 2017 at Menucha Camp in Oregon. The presentation will be on the PC(USA)'s renunciation of the Doctrine of Discovery and its ramifications for earth care ministry. Western culture has rationalized the exploitation of both the people and the land, even though exploitation is not biblical.

Yukon Presbyterians for Earth Care (YPEC) have been mostly dormant for the past year, but plans to revitalize their leadership by sending a few individuals from the different regions to the national convention: Rev. Neill McKay, Rev. Britt Johnston, Doreen Simmons, and possibly Tiffany Immigan. Revs. Israel Nelson and Britt Johnston are the current co-moderators of YPEC

The exec is on a national task force following up on the renunciation of discovery and healing ministry. A major response to substance abuse will be presented at next year's General Assembly. It is an exciting moment when the Holy Spirit brings the pieces together.

**Denominational leaders** - Five denominational leaders (soon to be six – Evangelical Covenant Church) have formed a mutual support group. Execs, bishops or superintendents of the Presbyterian (USA), ECLA Lutheran, United Methodist, Episcopalian, and Orthodox Church meet as their schedule allows.

- The group is exploring how to form a common ‘lay academy’ for teaching quality classes to adults. This is not intended to replace the movement by the indigenous people to raise up indigenous leaders. There was a **CONSENSUS**, that this was a good idea. Getting the word out is critical.
- Denominational leaders will publish in early August an op-ed piece in the Alaska Dispatch News calling on Alaska’s governmental leaders to recognize that ‘earth care’ and ‘people care’ must be held hand-in-hand to plan for a sustainable future. It calls for the development of an Alaskan plan for becoming a part of the solution in dealing with climate change and asks that new development of fossil fuels not be pursued until such a plan is developed. The group recognizes that they do not speak for their churches or members, but as a group of concerned Christians.

### **St. Lawrence Island**

- A mini-revival was held in Savoonga, when a few Gambell elders joined the exec and Rev. Leisa Carrick, in an effort to provide encouragement.
- Gambell PC has seen its worship attendance increase by 27% since October, by modeling Anchor PC’s practice of serving food in association with Sunday worship.
- Elder training will be offered to, not just CRE candidates, but for anyone interested. Rev. Henry Woodall will provide training in August in Gambell, with Rev. Piper Cartland and Rev. Leisa Carrick offering training in Savoonga at a later date.

### **Church visitations**

- The exec’s goal has been to plan a significant visit with each congregation annually. This past year, Curt has visited each church except for Chapel in the Mountains. Rev. Neill McKay will accompany Curt for a visit to Anaktuvuk Pass this fall.
- Annual visitations by Presbytery leadership have not been as successful. In years past, the Committee on Ministry, Mission in Action, and Interpretation and Stewardship would sometimes join forces to secure information. The LT chair will initiate conversation with Ministry Commission and Stewardship Committee leaders, before bringing a status report to the Leadership Team.

**Pastors to pastors** - Curt travels to Fairbanks nearly every month to gather the interior pastors as a support group. The southcentral pastors group and unassigned pastors’ cluster groups are self-led. Leaders in the villages are lonely, and there is no good way to provide support for pastors/CREs in the Native Ministries region.

**General health of the presbytery** - There is rejoicing over signs of improved health in some of the congregations afflicted by serious conflict over the years. However, not all congregations are showing improved health. In response to the exec’s question of how can we come alongside each other, Henry Woodall stressed the importance of building fellowship, sharing ideas, teaching, encouraging, and telling the story when something works, at presbytery meetings.

**Decreasing assets** - Presbytery’s decreasing assets has made it harder to obtain grants for the Gambell building project. Funders are asking what the presbytery is doing to build up its assets. It is incumbent for the presbytery to have a plan in place.

**Long Range View Towards Presbytery Staffing** – The Vision and Strategy Working Paper called for the development of an indigenous church in Native Ministries’ congregations, and a commitment to the

six 'Great Ends of the Church.' The exec questioned whether now is the time to explore ways of being proactive by putting Native leadership on presbytery program or administrative staff?

**Personnel Committee Appointment** – Ronda McKay (University Community PC), class of 2020, will replace Kay Sanders. Two additional appointments still need to be made.

### ROAD SYSTEM MINISTRIES

Not understanding its purpose and how the ministry differs from presbytery, the road system has lacked focus. Native Ministries was at this point a couple years ago but has since honed its vision and developed a set of guidelines. Guidelines developed by native ministries will be sent to each pastor and commissioner before presbytery convenes in October, to serve as a possible model for the road system. Piper Cartland and Henry Woodall will formulate the questions to help the region get on track. The call to the October presbytery meeting will include language asking commissioners to come prepared to answer the following questions at the regional meeting:

- Is there something your congregation is doing that could be expanded outside your own church?
- What can the churches do better together than separately?

The road system will next meet via teleconference on August 22, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

The Delta church is exploring the 'simple church' movement whereby folks come together for a meal, worship, and simple liturgy. Other interested churches are welcome to attend the August event in Delta Junction.

### MISSION STATEMENT REVIEW

The current statement, as adopted in 2012, is deficient in that it omits any reference to the work of God. After discussion, the Leadership Team approved by **GENERAL CONSENSUS**, sending the following proposed statement to presbytery for approval (additions are underlined): *The Presbytery of Yukon seeks to bear witness in the world to the saving and transforming grace of God by caring for and connecting local ministries in the service of the triune God and of all God's creation.*

### DINNER RECESS

The Leadership Team recessed for dinner at 6:00 pm at a local restaurant.

## **Saturday, July 22, 2017**

### RECONVENE

Piper Cartland reconvened the meeting at 9:00 am with an opening prayer and lead in the joyful singing of *Holy, Holy, Holy*.

### FINANCES DISCUSSION

Bob Christensen reported for the Stewardship Committee:

- **Financial review:** A committee composed of Jan Burger, Joseph Brock, and Bob Christensen completed a review of the 2016 financial records and found the records neat and in good order.
- **2018 budget:** The committee, met a couple times and submitted for the LT's consideration, two budget proposals. Line items under each budget proposal total \$346,626
  1. 2018 per capita: \$143.09; Fair Share: \$89.54. Mission and per capita expenses were broken out. 50% of exec's compensation are included in per capita expenses; CRE training included under mission expenses.

2. 2018 per capita: \$187.20; Fair Share: \$45.43. Mission and per capita expenses were broken out. 100% of exec's compensation included in per capita; CRE training included in per capita.

Discussion ensued. The LT approved by **GENERAL CONSENSUS** the following recommendations

- Have a unified budget and eliminating per capita at the presbytery level
  - Calculate a per member cost, based on a total budget figure. 2016 membership was 1490
  - Develop a chart, showing the actual \$\$\$ amounts at different percentage levels of giving for congregations, e.g., 25%, 50%, 75%, 100%, etc. with a minimal level of giving at 10% of the church's income.
  - Provide each church with a pledge form
  - Establish better communication with the churches
- **Consolidation of corporation and operating financial records:** In the 70's, the Synod managed everything. After mission church properties were transferred to the presbytery, Board of National Mission funds used to maintain the properties, were handed over to the presbytery. At the time, mission property funds were kept separate. Presently, Yukon is the only presbytery within the Synod to maintain two sets of financial records. Two sets of records have created confusion, especially among granting agencies. There was a **GENERAL CONSENSUS** that the financial records be unified.

According to Mary Kron, the investment earnings will be easier to distribute if the books are combined. Generally, there is no requirement that interest be distributed, except for grant earnings. Most of the earnings should go into the operating fund. Mary stressed the importance of keeping an inflation proof fund.

The Leadership Team **DIRECTED** the Stewardship Committee to come up with a recommendation for presbytery approval, on how to distribute interest.

#### ORDER OF THE DAY: Bingle Camp Report

Board member Henry Woodall reported that the camp is not offering any camps this summer, but is open for rentals. Significant capital improvements are being taken care of this summer.

Communication between Director Steve Spencer and the old board was not healthy - there is no agreement on exactly what happened and who was at fault. The Board of Directors has seen a complete turnover. Presently, the board has eight members, with Henry Woodall serving as convener, and CRE Rich Mauer of the Delta PC also serving on the board. Neill McKay has resigned from the board. The board met face-to-face in early June, followed by a teleconference in early July. Another face-to-face meeting is scheduled for August 14<sup>th</sup>, at which time officers will be elected.

There is good energy now, and Steve is willing to work with the new board. The Board has hired Steve through the summer for \$4,500, to help shepherd the capital projects. The camp's budget will be next to nil by the end of summer. Darcey Sharp continues to serve as the camp/retreat center's caretaker. What remains unresolved is the staffing patterns needed.

Steve Spencer joined the meeting via telephone and reported on this summer's activities:

- A volunteer team worked on the retreat center to make it more handicap accessible and on the camp's upper bath house which had mold issues and no privacy in the showers.
- Another team set down new concrete pilings for the chapel foundation.
- A third work team is scheduled after the departure of two rental groups.

- A skeleton crew of cooks and lifeguards has been secured to assist rental groups utilizing the camp this season.
- The Soundwaves concert went well. There has been conversation about scheduling a concert again next year, with the possibility of bringing in a team to lead a worship service after the concert. Henry Woodall reported that the beach was redone and that the area behind the chapel was made into a parking lot. The thousands of dollars of dirt work required for the project was donated through the Soundwaves project.
- Work needs to be done to secure the proper finances. Presbytery is the camp's #1 supporter, but funds will be needed from other sources. A minimum of \$50,000 needs to be raised.

After the telephone conversation ended, Henry Woodall reported that presbytery needs to be intentional about

- Re-asserting our interest in the camp. University Community PC has been an integral partner.
- Entering into a good conversation with Steve Spencer about boundaries and responsibilities
- Securing more community involvement, especially from University Community PC, and possibly from First Fairbanks PC.

#### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Leadership team will be held via teleconference on Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. Planning for the October presbytery meeting will be the major item on the agenda.

#### WORSHIP

Jan Burger read Psalm 67 before Piper Cartland led in the prayer, presided over the celebration of the Lord's Supper, and led in the closing prayer. All joined in the joyful singing of *To God Be the Glory*.

#### ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:13 pm.



Sharon Rayt  
Stated Clerk



## PRESBYTERY OF YUKON

Leadership Team (Board of Directors) Special Meeting  
August 26, 2017

### CONVENE

Leadership Team (LT) chair Rev. Piper Cartland, convened a teleconference of the Leadership Team at 9:02 am. Rev. Israel Nelson led in the opening prayer.

### ROLL

**Members Present:** Revs. Piper Cartland, Israel Nelson, and Henry Woodall; Ruling Elders (RE) Merle Apassingok, Jan Burger, Bob Christensen; ex-officio, nonvoting members: Executive Presbyter Rev. Curt Karns, and Ruling Elders Treasurer Joseph Brock, Synod Commissioner Ron Illingworth, and Stated Clerk Sharon Rayt

**Members Excused (E)/Absent (A):** Ruling elders Clyde Kaneshiro (A), Paula Long (E), RE Miranda-Rexford Brown (A)

**Others Present:** Financial Secretary Mary Kron  
A quorum was declared.

### DOCKET

On motion, the docket was **APPROVED** as distributed.

### AGENDA

#### • **Leadership Team Committees:**

- Personnel Committee Appointments
  - Merle Apassingok (Gambell PC)..... Class 2019
  - Rhonda McKay (University Community PC)..... Class 2020
  - Sandy Haldane (Immanuel PC) ..... Class 2020
- Stewardship Committee Report
  - The unified budget proposal will be posted on the website after income projections have been completed and the Personnel Committee has met.
  - Mary Kron has created a 2018 church apportionment chart, based on a 2016 membership count of 1490 members and a proposed budget of \$346,626
  - Mary Kron presented a recommendation on how to distribute investment earnings:  
*Based on the consideration of the following goals:*
    1. *An adequate reserve is kept to insulate against market loss.*
    2. *Some funds need to be “inflation proofed” or we have an obligation for a grant to receive interest*
    3. *Long term, we hope to be able to help fund operations with earnings from investments.*

*The following funds receive monthly interest at the rate of the highest interest MDC held (currently 1.54% annually):*

- *Hillcrest Loan Fund*
- *Property Maintenance and Insurance Fund*
- *Lay Leadership Training (Earl Jackman)*
- *Internship Fund (Mathes)*
- *Immersion Project*
- *Heiserman Grant*
- *Morris Evangelism Fund Grant*
- *Merchant Fund Grant*

*The Undistributed CF Earnings and the Gains minus fees Funds be combined to form one reserve against market loss. All earnings and gains not distributed to the above funds to go into this fund until it reaches 15% of the monies invested in the market.*

*This proposal to be effective retroactively to January 1, 2017 (except where distributed interest has already been spent) and reviewed at the beginning of 2018.*

Recommendation that presbytery approve the proposed investment earning distribution plan was **APPROVED** by general consensus. Per Mary Kron, this policy will take some work to implement. Mary hopes that in the future, modifications will go forward, rather than retroactively.

- A plan for building up assets in the future, through the Presbyterian Foundation's planned-giving navigator should be ready in October. Bob Christensen suggested that time be docketed at February's presbytery meeting for a presentation by Rev. Rob Hagan.

- **October Presbytery Meeting Planning**

- Docket – On motion, recommended business for the docket was **APPROVED**:
  - Regional Meetings: Two hours before dinner on Friday. Regions needing additional time would have the opportunity to meet through dinner. Regions report back on Saturday
  - Leadership Team reports and recommendations
    - Amend mission statement
    - Personnel Committee
    - Stewardship Committee
    - Property Committee
  - Executive Presbyter report
  - Rev. Mark Frey, Board of Pensions representative
  - Committee Reports
    - Native Ministries – Faith based healing initiative
    - Ministry Commission – a minimum of two hours will be needed for examinations, etc.
    - Nominating Committee – report on Friday, nominations and elections on Saturday.
  - Bingle Camp Report – 20 minutes
  - Elder Testimonies
- Theme Verse – At its January 14, 2017 regular meeting, the Leadership Team designated Psalms 65:9 as the fall meeting's theme verse: *"You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it"*. The LT saw no need to change the theme verse.
- Ruling Elder Testimony Topic – **APPROVED** by general consensus: *Tell how God has provided enrichment to your church in ways you did not anticipate.*

- **Other Business**

- Native Ministries: **APPROVED** by general consensus, a recommendation to receive a full report at the LT's October meeting on Rev. Joseph Reid's contract with the North Slope Borough and the proposed faith-based healing initiative. Presbytery needs to move fast, but will need to spend sufficient time at the upcoming meeting to discuss the proposal. Merle Apassingok reported that Gambell and Savoonga may eventually be involved in a faith-based solution to healing.

## ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 am with Jan Burger leading in the closing prayer.



Sharon Rayt, Stated Clerk

**PRESBYTERY OF YUKON**  
 Leadership Team Regular Meeting  
 First Korean Presbyterian Church, Anchorage  
 October 5, 2017

CONVENE

Piper Cartland convened the meeting at 7:05 pm with prayer. Members were asked to identify one thing that impedes their gratefulness and one thing for which they are grateful

ROLL

**Members Present:** Ruling Elders (RE) Jan Burger, Bob Christensen, Clyde Kaneshiro and Paula Long; Revs. Piper Cartland, Israel Nelson, and Henry Woodall; ex-officio, nonvoting members: Executive Presbyter Rev. Curt Karns, and Ruling Elders Treasurer Joseph Brock, Synod Commissioner Ron Illingworth, and Stated Clerk Sharon Rayt

**Members Excused/Absent:** RE Ida Olemaun, RE Miranda Rexford-Brown

**Others Present:** RE Lucy Apatiki (Native Ministries' moderator-elect)

RE Ida Olemaun was recently elected Native Ministries (NM) moderator, replacing RE Merle Apassingok who completed his one year term as moderator.

A quorum was declared.

CLERK'S REPORT

Minutes from of the Leadership Team's July 21-22, 2017 retreat and August 26, 2017 special meeting were **APPROVED**, as distributed.

AGENDA

**Presbytery Docket**

- Leadership Team (LT) Report: the council chair will report of the LT's decision to unify the budget and present the proposed mission statement revision for presbytery's consideration.
- Schedule time for Yukon Presbyterians for Earth Care and Bingle Camp reports.
- Native Ministries will need an hour to present two major proposals which will help move the new healing ministry program forward.
- Designate time after the convening of presbytery to grant Rev. Alice Green, moderator emeritus status. Alice will be asked to lead in the opening prayer. .

**Ministry Commission**

- Utqiagvik pastor Reid is working as a consultant with the North Slope Borough to help set up the new ecumenical, healing ministry. People have raised concerns as to how Joseph can serve as pastor, while serving as a consultant. The Utqiagvik session has wholeheartedly endorsed Joseph's work, but understands that Joseph needs to fulfill his pastoral duties. Session does not know what amount of contracting work is considered appropriate. Joseph has asked presbytery to step in and provide oversight.
- Annual Visitations: Henry Woodall reported that the Ministry Commission would like to assume the responsibility of overseeing the visitations.

**Bingle Camp**

Board President Henry Woodall reported that the board of directors has met a couple more times since the last report. Steve Spencer, with all of his the institutional knowledge, will remain as the camp's director and be paid \$1,500/month. The board is taking steps to institute more checks and balances and getting their financial house in

Presbytery of Yukon  
Leadership Team October 5, 2017 Regular Meeting

order. The board is anticipating a full schedule for 2018. The directors are seeking a person from University Community PC to serve on the board. Richard Mauer serves as treasurer; a bookkeeper may need to be hired. Mary Kron will be asked to review the books.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm with prayer.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sharon Rayt", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sharon Rayt  
Stated Clerk