

REPORT OF THE STATED CLERK

PRESBYTERY OF YUKON

2024 Fall Stated Meeting/Meeting of the Corporation

October 11-12, 2024

Actions and information from February 2, 2024 through October 10, 2024

ACTION ITEM:

Recommendations for Action by the Stated Clerk

1. Approve the minutes of the February 9-10, 2024 Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Yukon/Meeting of the Corporation.

INFORMATION PROVIDED FOR INCLUSION IN THE MINUTES

Leadership Team actions and key talking points:

The Leadership Team serves as the Presbytery's Board of Directors and Board of Trustees. A record of annual proceedings will be posted on the Presbytery of Yukon's website as minutes become available.

1. Stewardship

- a. Approved a **reimbursement/approval form** to be used by committees to approve expenditures. Large sums should be approved by committee chairs, the Treasurer and the LT. [May 20, 2024]
- b. Created (a small starter to) an **endowment fund** for the **Gambell Church** and Community Center. [May 20, 2024]
- c. **Consolidate, zero out, or repurpose the following funds** to improve financial clarity and flexibility, as listed below. [June 20, 2024]
 - *Mission Moving – transfer this \$20,000 into unrestricted per fund description.*
 - *Gambell Leadership Fund – expired, transfer all funds into unrestricted.*
 - *Barrow Healing Event – zero out; may require permission of Arctic Slope Regional Corporation Foundation or Ukpeaġvik Iñupiat Corporation to do so.*
 - *Peacemaking – zero out, funds into unrestricted.*
 - *YES Program – zero out, funds into unrestricted.*
 - *Stewardship Celebration & Stewardship Training – merge accounts, designated for stewardship training and resources.*
 - *Arctic Academy – zero out, funds into unrestricted.*
 - *Native American Youth & Village Youth Travel – merge accounts, designated for travel, programs, or other needs for Native Youth.*
 - *COVID-19 Ministries Grant – zero out, apportion funds to mission expenses of Presbytery.*
 - *Synod Youth Travel & Transformation Grant – zero out once/if General Assembly*

Office permits; recommend Executive Presbyter contact General Assembly.

- *Village Partnership Synod Grant – apply funds to Gambell.*
- *P. Light Alaska Native School – apply funds to Gambell.*
- *Small Congregational Support (Merchant Fund) – apply funds to Gambell.*
- *Trustee Fund (Schaffer) – apply funds to Gambell.*
- *Alice Green Memorial – memorial fund has been expended; delete account*
- *Gambell Audio/Visual – zero out, transfer into unrestricted funds but requested to defray costs of Gambell maintenance.*

- d. **Eliminated the following designated funds:** Hillcrest Fund, Special Mission Projects, Undistributed Earnings, and Excess Undistributed Earnings. Actions to un-designate accounts and a move to proper accounting practices make these designated funds superfluous, incongruous, or difficult to manage. [September 19, 2024]
- e. Approved the **2025 budget to be presented to the Presbytery for a vote.** [September 19, 2024]

2. Presbytery Staffing

- a. Confirmed that the Minister of Word and Sacrament co-chair of the Executive Board will be the person that **Rev. Matt Schultz and his congregation** reach out to regarding issues that would normally be addressed by his wife (Rev. Elizabeth Schultz), who is the Executive Presbyter. [May 20, 2024]
- b. **Financial Secretary Rachel Graham** resigned her position, pending the hire of a new Financial Secretary [May 20, 2024]. Rachel's last day was June 25, 2024. [August 15, 2024]
- c. Affirmed the need for an **employee in the physical Presbytery office**, rather than an out-of-state contractor in the role of **Office Administrator**. [May 20, 2024]
- d. **Office Administrator, Melissa O'Malley** was given employment to June 25, but **chose to end her employment** on May 28. [August 15, 2024]
- e. **Adam Lees was hired** as Financial Secretary effective March 25, 2024 and was approved to also fill the Office Administrator position, effective **July 1**. This will increase his overall hours to 30 per week, which makes him eligible for Board of Pensions benefits. Adam's new title is **Administrator of Finance and Operations**. [August 15, 2024]

3. Presbytery Meetings

- a. **Fall 2024 Stated Meeting** October 11-12.
- **Theme: *Trust in the Lord with all your heart.***
 - **Scripture: *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6 (NRSV)***
 - Worship will be before dinner on Friday
 - Extra-Presbytery events include

- **Native Ministries** meeting and hosted dinner
 - **Executive Board** meeting, 8:00 – 9:30 am, Friday, October 11
 - **New elder training**
 - **Sexual Misconduct Prevention/Boundaries Training**
- b. Discussed the challenges of moving to an **annual in-person Presbytery meeting** supplemented by more frequent virtual meetings in order to reduce costs. The Board agreed to **seek broader input** from the Presbytery. [June 20, 2024]

4. Miscellaneous

- a. **Proposed bylaws changes, pending approval by a vote of Presbytery at a future stated meeting of the Presbytery of Yukon:**
- Change the name of the **Leadership Team** to **Executive Board of Directors**. Executive Board of Directors is more descriptive of its role and matches the State of Alaska's designation for this body. [May 20, 2024]
 - Change the term "**moderator**" to "**chair**" when referring to positions other than the Moderator of Presbytery and Moderator-Elect of Presbytery. This will standardize these terms throughout the document. [September 19, 2024]
 - Add the **Property Committee Chair** or a co-chair as a member of the Leadership Team/Executive Board. [May 20, 2024].
 - Restructure the **Stewardship and Investment Committees** to be subcommittees of the **Budget and Finance Committee**, and include the **chair of the Budget and Finance Committee** as a member of the Leadership Team/Executive Board instead of the chair of the Stewardship Committee. [May 20, 2024].
- b. The **slate of officers for the Presbytery of Yukon, Inc.**, are Executive Board members, as follows: [May 20, 2024]
- President, Rev. Leisa Carrick
 - Vice President, Commissioned Pastor (CP) Marjorie Poggas
 - Treasurer, CP Joseph Brock
 - Secretary and Registered Agent: Ruling Elder (RE) Doreen McNeill
 - Directors: RE Ron Illingworth, RE Bob Christensen, CP Lucy Apatiki, Rev. Piper Cartland, RE Dennis Rogers, Rev. Luke Jones
- c. Accepted the **resignation of Moderator-Elect, RE Dennis Rogers**. [August 15, 2024]
- d. Allow **CP Lois Hildenbrand** to sell **jelly and jam** in the Narthex at University Community PC during the October 11 and 12 Presbytery meeting to benefit the **Christian Motorcyclists Association's [Run for the Son \(RFS\)](#)**.

5. Judicial Process:

- a. **Investigating Committees (IC)**. The Book of Order, Church Discipline governs discipline in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and Presbytery of Yukon bylaws further govern disciplinary procedures. An IC shall have 3 to 5 members and may take no more than 1 year to complete their confidential investigation and file charges, if warranted, with the Presbytery of Yukon's Permanent Judicial Council. An offense is any act or

omission by a member of a congregation or a minister of the Word and Sacrament that is contrary to the Scriptures or the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

- **An IC was appointed in response to an allegation of offense** received by the Stated Clerk on November 27, 2023. The investigation is on-going.
- **An IC was appointed in response to an allegation of offense** received by the Stated Clerk on May 22, 2024. The investigation is on-going.