

Yellowstone Conference Board of Trustees 2017 Annual Report

The Yellowstone Conference Board of Trustees met four times since last year's Annual Report. Two times face to face and two meetings via Mavis/Zoom.

Funding: This past year the Trustees have continued to help fund The Whole Church Initiative lead by our Conference Vital Congregations Developer, Rev. Jeremy Scott.

Mission Shaped Futures: The conference trustees has a representative on the Asset, Property, and Legal Working Group. We are currently thinking through the questions that need to be asked as we move forward with our new future.

Financials: The 2016 year end financials still need to be audited. As of December 31, 2016, total net assets were \$1,338,086, up from the previous year due to the market conditions and distributions. The balance of the General Fund was \$644,307 and the Church Vitalization Endowment Fund had a balance of \$693,779 (restricted funds). Loan balances as of 4/3/17 were: Grace United Methodist Church (Billings), \$63,303; Evangelical United Methodist Church (Billings), \$25,960; and Flathead Lake United Methodist Camp \$28,746. All loans are paying as agreed. Assets are invested with Rocky Mountain United Methodist Foundation, and Methodist Helping Methodist (Rocky Mountain United Methodist Foundation).

Properties: The process for the discontinuance of Anaconda United Methodist Church in Anaconda, MT will be presented to the 2017 Annual Conference. Lemhi United Methodist Church in Lemhi, ID is still for sale.

Loans: A loan application was received, reviewed, and approved for the Flathead Lake United Methodist Camp for the amount of \$130,000 to assist with the remodel of their camp manager housing.

Parsonage Standards: During this past year, our work has concluded on the Clergy Housing Handbook (Parsonages) for the Yellowstone Conference. The handbook covers parsonage standards, furnishings, maintenance, forms, checklists and other resources/ information. It was sent out through email and posted on the conference web site for local church review. It is before the conference as petition #401R at the 2017 annual conference.

Statement of Relationships: The Conference Trustees are responsible for renewing the relationship with Health and Welfare Institutions every Quadrennial (4 years). This last year we were able to renew five of the nine Statements needed for renewal. We are still trying to collect the final four.

New Members: We have three new members to the Board of Trustees. These individuals are Terrill Guidi (lay person) from Kalispell, Monte Cooper (lay person) from Bozeman, and Loween Peterson (lay person) from Billings.

Respectfully Submitted, *Jim Barth, President –Yellowstone Conference Board of Trustees*