



# Quarterly Newsletter

## for Presbyterian Women Leaders

Download this resource at [www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org). Select *About PW*, then select *Quarterly Newsletter*.

May-July 2016

Notice: PW's website is being redesigned and addresses may change as the new site is launched. Thank you for your patience.

Presbyterian Women Churchwide .....

### Churchwide Coordinating Team picks up steam at February meeting

By Yvonne Hileman

The Churchwide Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA), Inc., met February 18–22, 2016, in Louisville, Kentucky. At this meeting, CCT engaged in further strategic planning for the 2015–2018 triennium, building on what was begun at the fall 2015 meeting. The task group assigned to take that initial planning a step further (by setting target dates and identifying measures of success) reported on their work and asked the CCT to develop objectives for each goal area. Goal areas are:

- Witness and Advocacy
- Leadership Training
- Finances and Fundraising
- Communications
- Growth

CCT also had the opportunity to meet the interim director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, Tony de la Rosa, via Skype. He spoke of the need to focus on diversity in the church in order to adequately serve all of God's people.

At this meeting, CCT members generously gave \$2,336 to PW's annual fund, the Mission Pledge. Then CCT committees met to discuss the work of the CCT.

#### Administration Committee

- At the request of the Administration Committee, PW staff is still in consultation with the Presbyterian Foundation regarding a collaborative agreement.
- A revised handbook was approved.

#### Antiracism Committee

- The CCT approved purchase of the Jane Elliott documentary *A Class Divided*, which shows her using the famous "Blue Eyes, Brown Eyes" exercise in a classroom, and its sobering result.

- Topics for committee research
  - Systemic racism (school-to-prison pipeline, redlining)
  - Models for antiracism awareness education
  - Intergenerational perceptions of racism
  - Immigration and discrimination
  - Racism and health care
  - CSW and global perspectives on violence and racism
  - Racism and poverty
  - Multimedia resources
- The committee will meet by conference call between now and the September CCT meeting.

#### Communications Coordination/ Funds Development

- Staff and committees continue to coordinate efforts in order to most effectively use PW's communications assets to promote the work and mission of PW. These assets include social media (Facebook, blogs, Twitter, Pinterest); *Horizons* magazine; e-blasts; the PW website (new one to launch this summer) and the quarterly newsletter.
- PW's ability to provide regular, focused e-blasts to our constituency has improved and become more cost-effective. One of the keys to effectively disseminating information this way is the continued collection of names for the PW databases. All PW leaders are asked to provide email addresses to [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org), so that the national office does not miss reaching critical leaders with important information.
- PW's "Think Again" poster series is a huge hit. The number of downloads exceeds anything viewed on our website in the past 12 months.



Photos by Yvonne Hileman

CCT member Catherine Warren chats with Carl Horton of the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program during the Mission Fair portion of the spring 2016 CCT meeting. Representatives of many of the church's program offices set up tables at the Presbyterian Center to give CCT members an opportunity to meet them and talk about how PW can support the work of the church more specifically, and how these offices might resource the work of Presbyterian Women. CCT member Cecilia Moran and staff member Carissa Herold are also pictured, center.

- Eugenia Gamble's proposal for a Bible study on the Ten Commandments has been chosen for study year 2019–2020.
- PW staff are assisting with planning the annual meeting of the International Committee of the Least Coin being held in Louisville in October 2016. See page 2 for more.

#### Creative Ministries Offering Committee

At its February 22 meeting, the CMOC evaluated 71 Thank Offering grant

See "CCT," page 3.

Don't miss what's inside! • Complete list of Bible study resources • Looking ahead to God's Promises • Essay on gun violence • New PW logo resources • Ferncliff mission trip • additional mission opportunities • and lots more!

## Mission partners enable Presbyterian Women to aid mothers and families

### New Together in Service partner: Knitting4Peace

At its most recent board meeting, the CCT approved a partnership with Knitting4Peace.

#### Items needed

- Mittens (for all ages)
- Baby blankets
- Baby bibs and booties
- Wash cloths
- Hats (for all ages)
- Shawls and scarves
- Peace Pals (knit and crochet girl and boy dolls)
- Quilted sleeping mats
- Blankets of Peace for Pine Ridge Indian Reservation



Ship your items to Knitting4Peace, 2600 Leyden St., Denver, CO 80207. Every delivery costs between \$0.10 and \$3.00 per item, so donations to help with those expenses are appreciated. For more, see [knitting4peace.org](http://knitting4peace.org). Contact Kathy Reeves at [katharine.reeves@pcusa.org](mailto:katharine.reeves@pcusa.org) if you have questions.

### Healthy Women Healthy Families now year-round

Healthy Women Healthy Families is a year-round PC(USA) ministry supporting Presbyterian partner churches' programs around the globe that promote health, education and development of women and children. You may be familiar with the program's annual Healthy Women Healthy Families Mother's Day Project. Presbyterians honor women in their lives with cards and donations that provide prenatal and essential obstetric services, trauma healing and psychosocial support, early-childhood health and nutrition programs, health and hygiene education, fistula repair surgery, disease prevention services and more to families in need.

Now the program is offering assorted note cards (five designs, blank inside), in sets of 25. Use these cards to

### Together in Service

#### Presbyterian Women, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in partnership

##### PW visit Ferncliff and PDA in Arkansas

Twenty-one women from 10 states around the U.S. participated in the nationally sponsored PW mission trip to Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center in March. At Ferncliff, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) fields calls from around the country and Church World Service assembles disaster-response kits for those in need. The women toured the facilities, assembled hygiene kits and took disaster response training.

They brought with them more than 1,100 hygiene kits and related supplies. Participant Rita Hooper says, "All of those kits were inspected to make sure they had the 'right stuff'—nothing more, nothing less. After the kits were processed, they were picked up and taken to Shreveport the very next day to help families affected by flash floods!"

In 2004, Ferncliff received a \$200,000 Birthday Offering grant from PW to build an 8,000-square-foot building that serves as a warehouse for PDA and

Church World Service. Ferncliff's 1,200-acre campus lies 10 miles west of Little Rock. Its facilities also include the Eco Center, a 5,600-square-foot straw-bale building made possible by a \$100,000 Birthday Offering grant to Synod of the Sun in 2012 for its Solar Under the Sun program.

According to Judy Persons, CCT vice moderator for mission relationships, MRC's strategy is to allow more women to have affordable mission experiences. Another trip is scheduled for October 24–28, 2016. Those interested should contact Kathy Reeves at [katharine.reeves@pcusa.org](mailto:katharine.reeves@pcusa.org)

##### PDA offers training to PW in synods

Storms. Floods. Hurricanes. Fires. Disasters bring chaos to hundreds of thousands of lives every year and have lasting effects. Join one of three Disaster Preparation Training events being held in June by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance especially for Presbyterian women. These events are train-the-

support, inspire, and encourage your friends and loved ones.

Visit [pcusa.org/hwhf](http://pcusa.org/hwhf) or call 800.728.7228, ext. 5279, to learn more or to place your order. Questions? Contact [stephanie.caudill@pcusa.org](mailto:stephanie.caudill@pcusa.org) or call 800.728.7228, ext. 5279. Learn more at [pcusa.org/mothersdayproject](http://pcusa.org/mothersdayproject). Give throughout the year at [www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/E052136](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/E052136).



### Apply now for Global Exchange to Indonesia

The 2017 Global Exchange is scheduled to take place in Indonesia, September 12–29, 2017. The theme of this Global Exchange is "Building Bridges of Understanding," inspired by Romans 1:12: "... so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine." The cost will be \$5,000 per person, including round-trip air and land transportation. The deadline for applications is August 15, 2016. Participants will be selected at the September PW board meeting. Questions? Email [katharine.reeves@pcusa.org](mailto:katharine.reeves@pcusa.org). Download the application at [www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org).

### International Committee of FLC to meet in Louisville

The International Committee of the Fellowship of the Least Coin (ICFLC) will meet in Louisville, Kentucky, October 12–21, 2016. The committee members will also participate in Church Women United's conference, being held in Louisville, October 13–15. There will be a worship service on Sunday, October 16 at 3 PM in Caldwell Chapel at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the founding of FLC. PW has been called the midwife for FLC, since PW's predecessors helped with FLC's founding.



Toni Spieth, Virginia Champlin and Bligh Jones

trainer events designed to give women the tools needed to conduct disaster preparedness workshops for churches, presbyteries and communities. These events are being held in conjunction with the following PW synod gatherings:

- PW in the Synod of Lakes and Prairies June 18, noon–5 PM; June 19, 8 AM–noon Ramkota Hotel, Sioux Falls, SD
- PW in the Synod of Mid-Atlantic June 8, 1–5 PM; June 9, 8:30 AM–12:30 PM Massanetta Springs, Harrisonburg, VA
- PW in the Synod of Rocky Mountains June 10, 9 AM– 5 PM MST Laramie Comm. College, Cheyenne, WY

Applications are on line at [www.pcusa.org/pda](http://www.pcusa.org/pda). Click "ACT" and "Volunteer." Email applications to [beth.snyder@pcusa.org](mailto:beth.snyder@pcusa.org), or FAX to 502.569.5704.

**CCT meeting highlights**, *continued from page 1*

applications and awarded \$510,000 to 22 worthwhile recipients—14 U.S. ministries and 8 international ministries. The committee chose Psalm 36:7, “How precious is your steadfast love, O God!” as the theme for this year’s offering. See page 4 for more on the 2016 offering.

**Justice and Peace Committee**

- Two J&P committee members participated in Ecumenical Advocacy Days in Washington, D.C., in April, providing a PW presence at this important advocacy training event.
- Wanda Beaumann represented the CCT at the UN Commission on the Commission on the Status of Women in March. See the May/June issue of *Horizons* for more on CSW 2016.
- To support the CCT’s triennial focus on children’s education, PW is observing Together in Action Days in May around the topic of children’s literacy. These days run concurrently with Children’s Book Week, May 2–8, 2016. See resources at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/justice](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/justice).
- J&P worked on communication goals, pledging to contribute stories that support committee and CCT goals of witness, justice and communication. The committee

urges all PW to join us in telling the stories of PW and our work. Help us put faces with issues!

- The Justice and Peace Committee reaffirmed PW’s commitment to racial justice by continuing to participate in the Black Lives Matter movement and to continue to work for inclusion. See [www.presbyterianwomen.org/justice](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/justice) to download the “‘Why Black Lives Matter?’” flier, courtesy of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan.
- CCT will respond as a board to ESPN’s censorship of a committee member’s public witness on Game Day at Baylor University.
- Members of the committee study issues for which they recommend action. These issues include gun violence, immigration, eco-justice, mental health, food justice, violence against women, rape culture and related issues. Stay tuned for more.

*“CCT meeting” continued on page 5*



Sharon Wakamoto, synod rep, SoCal/Hawaii; Nancy Long, synod rep, Mid-Atlantic; and Toni Spieth, synod rep, Mid-America, at work on strategic planning during the spring 2016 CCT meeting. They are in a breakout session tasked with fleshing out one of the overall goals for the triennium.

**PW in the Synods** .....

**Regional PW events in the Synod of the Northeast**

**By Charlotte Hasselbarth, Synod Rep**

During the last two non-CWG or Synod Triennial years, PW in the Synod of the Northeast (PWSNE) held PW Presbytery Partnership Group (PPG) Gatherings. Our synod was divided geographically into Presbytery Partnership Groups for the purpose of dispersing synod grant money at the regional level. PW followed suit only in that we had PW Presbytery Partnership Gatherings during the “off year.” Our synod is geographically large, so locations for these gatherings were chosen to keep the need to stay overnight at a minimum. PWSNE provided start-up funds for these events. The PWSNE Coordinating Team chose the theme and each group planned their own program. These gatherings were well-attended. However, in some PPG groups, not all the PWP’s chose to be involved.

Our synod has now eliminated the Presbytery Partnership Groups. Our

coordinating team (CT) has decided to support the regional event concept. The difference is that the activity need not be a gathering and the regional groupings are voluntary. The PWSNE CT offered funding of up to \$500 to any group of four or more PWP’s that want to plan a regional event this year. The money will come from our Leadership Development Fund.

Plans are being made by five PWP’s across New York State to host CCT Vice Moderator for Mission Relationships Judy Persons for a five- to six-day tour, starting Tuesday, September 13, 2016. She will spend time with women in each presbytery. This will coincide with an annual retreat that two neighboring PWP’s have had for many years. PWSNE will cover Judy’s travel expenses to and from New York State. Additional expenses will be covered by the PWP’s involved. Other PWP groupings can plan an event that works for them.

**PW Financial Matters**

**Final giving figures for 2015**

Mission Pledge	\$1,197,465
Birthday Offering	\$605,463
Thank Offering	\$702,883
Honorary Life	\$117,641
Together in Service	\$18,464

**Shop Amazon? Shop AmazonSmile!**

Support PW each time you shop Amazon. Use the link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/80-0473061> and Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase to PW!



**Upcoming PW gatherings**

- Synod of Living Waters**—June 8–11, Franklin, TN
  - Synod of Mid-Atlantic**—June 9–12, Massanetta Springs, VA
  - Synod of the Covenant**—June 10–11; Theme: Though Many, One (Eph. 4); Watch for details at [www.pwsoc.org](http://www.pwsoc.org).
  - Synod of Lakes and Prairies**—June 15–18, Sioux Falls, MN
  - Synod of Alaska Northwest**—June 16–18, Wasilla, AK; Theme: One Body, One Spirit; Speakers from three organizations that work with those who are homeless or in transition.
  - Alabama/Mississippi Women’s Conference**—July 13–15, Birmingham
  - Synod of Southern California/Hawaii**—July 15–17, Chapman, CA
  - Synod of the Sun**—July 21–23, Fort Worth
  - Synod of South Atlantic**—October 21–23, St. Simons Island, GA
  - Synod of the Southwest**—October 28–30, Scottsdale, AZ
- Email [yvonne.hileman@pcusa.org](mailto:yvonne.hileman@pcusa.org) to have your event listed.

## Many opportunities to changes lives, support mission through Presbyterian Women!

### Expect PW's annual fund materials in the mail in July

One need only consider the sheer number of ministries that Presbyterian Women has touched the world over to truly appreciate Presbyterian women's unflinching commitment to living into God's call to care for God's people. As we continue to share our gifts with worthy ministries near and far, please remember to support PW's annual fund, the Mission Pledge. Your gift (of any size)—given through your circle, over and above your circle gift, in your estate plans—is crucial to the work of Presbyterian Women. Give now to support PW's witness in the world. Give through your circles or send gifts (name of your presbytery and "Mission Pledge" in the memo line) to: PW Remittance Processing, PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652. Give on line at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/missionpledge](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/missionpledge). As you fulfill your pledges, remember that \$5 or \$10 or \$20 is not what it used to be. Please consider increasing your gift to reflect today's economy.

### Giving an Honorary Life Membership this spring?

Presbyterian women have hearts for mission, and often seek ways to economize in other areas of life so they have more to share for causes dear to their hearts. But sometimes saving a bit here or there can inadvertently impact the ministry of PW. For example, before you re-gift an Honorary Life Membership pin, consider: PW's Honorary Life Membership program is more than a pin, it's a program. Funds derived from Honorary Life Memberships are used for PW leadership training costs, support of leadership development events for women and training leaders for mission interpretation and support. Also consider, HLM recipients join a community of women and men who have demonstrated service to the church. By conferring this honor, each is recognized and remembered into perpetuity as they join the ever-growing HLM roster of those who faithfully serve. If you have an HLM pin that is no longer worn and can be repurposed for another recipient, please complete the HLM order form and indicate that a pin is not needed. You will receive a certificate and the

satisfaction of knowing that your \$95 will go further in providing leadership development opportunities. Do remember that recognition certificates are available (amount at the discretion of the donor) and that memorial certificates, also at the discretion of the donor, are a thoughtful way to celebrate the life of a faithful servant. Email [jung.winner@pcusa.org](mailto:jung.winner@pcusa.org) for additional information.

### Thank Offering 2016 will change lives



Thank Offering 2016 promotional materials will mail in early August. Your generous contribution to the Thank Offering of Presbyterian Women makes a huge difference in the lives of those touched by the ministries funded. **Harambee Chicago Summer Program** is one of 22 recipients chosen this year for funds from the 2015 Thank Offering. This program trains youth from low-income, single-parent families to develop the skill of tuckpointing, a technique of repairing and enhancing the appearance of aging bricks. They spend six weeks practicing tuckpointing by providing this service to low-income homeowners in their own neighborhoods. They earn a stipend while participating in this program and learn employment skills such as interviewing. Such training enables youth from low-income homes to become self-sufficient, productive and proud.

Help PW meet and exceed its Thank Offering goal of \$500,000. See [www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank) for more information, and email [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org) if you do not receive your offering materials by the end of August.

### Churchwide Gathering

#### The Gathering Quest has begun!

#### Save the date for the 2018 Churchwide Gathering of PW

The 2018 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women will be held August 2-5, 2018 in Louisville, Kentucky. That is also the year that PW celebrates its 30th anniversary! Beginning March 30, (March was 30 months from the Gathering) those on our email list began receiving a series of emails to help them prepare, promote and plan for the 2018 Gathering.

#### What we know so far

The PW Share Challenge makes it easy for you to share the emails with others (and perhaps add your own sentence or two about the Gathering because, let's face it, not every PW knows about the Gathering). Simply use the Forward button, located at the bottom of the page, to share the Gathering email with a friend or friends. One randomly

chosen person who forwards the email will receive a small token of appreciation and perhaps a bit of celebrity on the next email. There will be (here's that number again!) 30 29 opportunities to share and be chosen!

We suggest you save a dollar a day for 30 months for Gathering expenses. Subsequent Gathering emails will include a savings based on this savings plan. Start today!

Because 2018 is also the 30th anniversary of PW, each email will include a 30th Anniversary Challenge question about something in PW's 30-year history. For example, the first email had a question about 1988, the first year

of PW—Where was the 1988 Churchwide Gathering held?—plus bonus questions: Which two predecessor organizations joined to become Presbyterian Women in 1988? Who was the first moderator of PW (elected in 1988)? Visit [www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org) for an answer sheet to fill out and bring to the Gathering.

And be sure you are on our email list so you won't miss one bit of news about the Gathering! Email [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org) and urge all your friends to get on the list, too. Meanwhile, clip and share the save-the-date card widely.



**CCT meeting highlights**, from page 3

**Leadership Development Grant Committee**

- The committee agreed to provide a \$12,000 grant to Encuentro VIII. This grant will help cover scholarships for that gathering. PW is providing staff time to help with registration.

**Mission Relationships Committee**

- The Mission Relationships Committee has chosen Knitting4Peace as a new Together in Service partner. See page 2 for more information.
- The Ferncliff Hygiene Kits Mission Opportunity was March 28–April 1. (See page 2 for more.) The committee plans another Ferncliff visit for October 24–28.
- The 2017 Global Exchange will take place in Indonesia. This exchange will provide a strong interfaith education opportunity, as well as an oppor-

tunity to build a partnership with Indonesian Christian women.

- PW remains in partnership with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for disaster preparedness trainer training. For information on becoming a trainer, contact [katharine.reeves@pcusa.org](mailto:katharine.reeves@pcusa.org).
- Mission Relationships and Justice and Peace convened for a joint session on poverty and mission partnerships. Because PW and mission coworkers are working on some of the same

issues, Frank Dimmock, poverty alleviation catalyst for the PC(USA), urged PW to support (and, thus, partner) with mission coworkers in their work.



CCT members Kay Olson, Judith Jerry, Sarah Ford and Cheryl Pennington load hygiene kits to be taken to Ferncliff in late March during a CCT-sponsored trip. For more on that trip, see page 2.

PW Connections .....

**It's all about supporting healthy children and families**

**Educate a Child toolkit available from the PC(USA)**

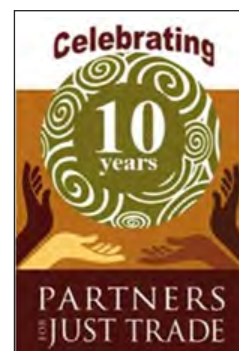
A free toolkit to help congregations get started with or improve already-existing direct service and advocacy related to education is available at [www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/child/toolkit](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/child/toolkit). To join the PC(USA)'s Educate a Child network, Go to <https://nationaleac.wufoo.com/forms/educate-a-child-transform-the-world> to fill out a brief network survey with information about yourself (share only as much as you feel comfortable). Email Ginna Bairby at [ginna.bairby@pcusa.org](mailto:ginna.bairby@pcusa.org) with questions.

**2016 national hunger and poverty priorities**

Ending hunger and poverty in the United States requires addressing systemic or root causes. Fair wages and policies that make possible a just food/farm system—in which everyone has the means to feed self and family—are critical. PW in the PC(USA), the PC(USA)'s Washington office and the Presbyterian Hunger Program have come together to encourage action on these priorities.

**Partners for Just Trade turns 10**

Partners for Just Trade, which began as an initiative of the Presbyterian Hunger Program, is celebrating its 10th anniversary. This fair trade organization, which began with promoting products from Peruvian artisans at local and regional sales is now a successful nonprofit organization in partnership with more than 25 artisan communities in four countries! Learn more about PJT, its products, stories about the artisans, information about fair trade—and purchase beautiful items and set up a mission fair—with a visit to [www.partnersforjusttrade.org](http://www.partnersforjusttrade.org)!



**222nd General Assembly (2016) and PW**

During the 222nd General Assembly (June 2016), the General Assembly will vote on PW, Inc.'s placement in the Presbyterian Mission Agency Organization for Mission (item 10-06, Amendments to the Organization for Mission). Placement in the organization for mission recognizes Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA), Inc., as a corporation related to the General Assembly and allows PW the possibility of corresponding membership to the General Assembly, which is the subject of item 3.07, Amendment to Standing Rule B.3.a.—Presbyterian Women. Corresponding membership will provide voice on the floor of General Assembly for the PW national moderator or her designee. Go to PC-Biz ([www.pc-biz.org](http://www.pc-biz.org)) to watch these items as they move through the assembly process.

## Working on behalf of children, families for a more just and peaceful future

Excerpts from a Marian Wright Edelman essay first published in December 2015

*"I am co-sponsoring [a bill that] would impose necessary controls without unduly curtailing the use of firearms for legitimate sport shooting or hunting. . . . Basically this legislation would only subject deadly weapons to the same control we have always imposed on automobiles, liquor or prescription drugs. . . ."*

—Robert F. Kennedy, May 2, 1967

With the echo of gunshots ricocheting across the country, it sounds like a reasonable plea [that] a responsible lawmaker might make today. This . . . was written just over a year before [Robert Kennedy] would be assassinated by a gun on June 6, 1968. Since [his] and Martin Luther King's 1968 deaths, more than 164,000 children have died from gun violence in America—three times more than all the American soldiers killed in action in the Vietnam War and every [war] since.

Very little has changed. Mass shootings have become the new normal. After a new mass shooting makes headlines, our national discussion of gun violence feels and sounds like a broken record. The President expresses his outrage that these tragedies continue to happen and calls on the public to push legislatures to do the right thing. Members of Congress release proposals without a clear time-table for a vote or a path to passage. Public support for gun safety measures swells. The gun lobby pushes back, accusing those who seek reform of politicizing tragedy while continuing their relentless work to loosen restrictions on the deadly weapons that continue the carnage. Broken families and communities struggle to pick up the pieces . . . nothing seems to change, and everyday Americans . . . grow numb to the tragedy and continue their lives until the next mass shooting inevitably occurs and the cycle repeats itself.

Lessons from America's public health history point us to what we can do now

to stop the carnage. The public health approach has been credited with a range of achievements, including adding 25 years to the life expectancy of people in the United States in the 20th century, and a revolution in vehicle safety, better designed roads and increased enforcement of laws to get drunk drivers off the roads.

[P]ublic health professionals believe the same approach can help end today's epidemic of gun violence . . . A recent study found that a Connecticut law that expanded background checks to all handgun purchases helped achieve a 40 percent reduction in gun homicides during the first 10 years following the law's enactment.

Polling consistently shows a vast majority of Americans, including a large majority of gun owners, support expanding background checks to cover all gun sales—yet Congress has not yet demonstrated its capacity to act on such a simple, life-saving measure. As a result, guns can be purchased without background checks from unlicensed private sellers and over the internet with no checks at all.

If we truly want to end the cycle of death and violence from guns, we must stop being numb and doing nothing in the face of tragedy. And we should stop normalizing growing gun violence by selling [guns] over the counter as if they were toasters or fishing poles. All of us—Democrats, Republicans, and independents, gun owners and non-gun owners—must stand up and demand every day that our leaders treat gun violence in America as the public health epidemic that it is and take the steps necessary to save the lives of thousands of our children, families and all those victimized by relentless, preventable gun violence.

*Marian Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund. For more, see [www.childrensdefense.org](http://www.childrensdefense.org).*

### Will you opt for the download version of this newsletter?

In this age of careful stewardship, more and more communications happen by email and the internet. Printing and mailing this newsletter has become very expensive. If you are able to download the electronic version of this newsletter, please contact Patricia Longfellow at [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org) to be taken off the print distribution list. Do be sure that she has your current email address. CAUTION: If you have opted out of (unsubscribed to) any PW emailings, you will not receive notice of the newsletter's posting. Carefully consider your choices. And if you know of others who would appreciate being on our email distribution list, urge them to notify Patricia.

## Justice and Peace Calendar

### May

- 1 May Day (day for solidarity with workers)
- 2–8 PW Together In Action Days/Children's Literacy; National Book Week
- 14 World Fair Trade Day
- 14 USPS Stamp Out Hunger Drive
- 25 Orange Day
- 26 Memorial Day

### June

- 12 Disability Inclusion Sunday
- 19 Men of the Church Sunday
- 25 Orange Day

### July

- 3 Immigration Sunday
- 4 Independence Day
- 25 Orange Day

### August

- 6 Hiroshima Day
- 7 Affordable Housing Sunday
- 19 World Humanitarian Day
- 25 Orange Day

### September

- 5 Labor Day
- 21 International Day of Peace
- 23 Native American Day
- 25 Orange Day
- 25–O.1 Week of Action Against Gun Violence

See more at [www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/pw/justice/](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/pw/justice/).

## PW support for children's literacy

PW urges action around children's literacy during the week of May 2–8 and other times of the year. Try one of these:

- Community Story Hour (host it at your church and read aloud to children of the community; may be a one-time event or ongoing).
- Roving Readers (form a group of volunteers who go to community centers, hospitals and other sites to read aloud to children).
- Community book drive (for children who don't have books at home)
- Lending library for families; emphasis on books with positive messages, empowering stories, etc.
- Gifts to PW's Thank and Birthday Offerings, which frequently give grants to education programs
- Volunteer at a local library (help for a day, or on a regular basis).
- Contact schools; volunteer to help children who are falling behind.
- Supply nutritious snacks at story hours, cushy chairs, warm hugs—things hungry children need.
- Donate books to hospitals, schools, community centers and more.

Find links to resources at [presbyterianwomen.org/justice](http://presbyterianwomen.org/justice). Share your story with PW; [yvonne.hileman@pcusa.org](mailto:yvonne.hileman@pcusa.org).

## Supporting the publishing mission of Presbyterian Women, one *Horizons* reader at a time!

Tucked into the new *Horizons* subscription card and renewal letter is an opportunity to add extra \$\$ over and above the subscription price to lend support to the publishing mission of Presbyterian Women. The ongoing response just confirms what everyone in the church already knows: Presbyterian women—and *Horizons* readers, in particular—never miss an opportunity to care much and give generously!

You may donate each time you renew, subscribe or give

Julia Acheampong  
Barbara Andrews  
Martha R. Aston  
Jane H. Barton  
Sandra K. Baxter  
Frela D. Beck  
Tena Behling  
Kate Beveridge  
Audrey Blackledge  
Elizabeth Branch  
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Marilyn V. Brower  
Mary Elizabeth Brundage  
Isabell Buffat  
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Sally Cecil, Central PC, Paris, TX  
Laura Cheifetz

PW, Cherry Hill PC, Dearborn, MI  
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a gift subscription. You also may send a separate tax-deductible gift at any time, "Gift to publishing mission" in the memo line, to Publishing Mission, Presbyterian Women, Inc., PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652. A special thank-you to the following supporters! This list reflects gifts to the publishing mission of PW processed from January 1 through March 31, 2016. Many have given to other ministries of PW and they are thanked, too, but are not listed below.

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Jean Souter  
Sarah Stover  
Ruth S. Sweet  
Margaret Veneman  
Donna Waterman  
Marylee E. Whelan  
Sharon Williams  
Bettina Zvanut

## Promoting PW .....

### Think Again posters sparking new conversations

PW's *Think Again* posters have generated a lot of conversation and enthusiasm—a lot! The hope—challenging PW “stereotypes”—is, according to emails from around the country, becoming a reality. The poster series came out of a CCT brainstorming session to find new ways to promote PW and all the wonderful things that PW does. The object of the posters is to draw attention to a stereotypical view of PW on the front, then contrast that with a photo (and text on the website) that shows who we really are and all of the amazing things we accomplish. The posters are first



announced in an e-mail blast to everyone in PW's email database. They are also posted on PW's website. Make sure you have an email address on file with the PW offices in Louisville so you are among the first to see each poster as it is introduced! **Note:** If you have opted out of (unsubscribed from) a PW e-mailing, you will not get any emails from PW in the PC(USA). Email Patricia Longfellow (patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org) to be sure you receive the notices. You may download the posters from the PW website. They are available in two sizes: 8.5" x 11" and 11" x 17" and in a version that uses less ink. For information about how to get them printed at your local print shop, email laura.lee@pcusa.org. See PW's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/presbyterianwomenpcusa> for posts you can share.

### Susan Wyman receives *Come to the Waters* art quilt



Susan Wyman, ordained elder, deacon and active PW in Newton, Kansas, was randomly chosen from hundreds of entries to receive the art quilt created by Debbie Paris and inspired by the *Come to the Waters* Bible study by Judy Record Fletcher. She is a former PWP moderator, current PWP historian and PWS secretary. She looks forward to the 2018 CWG!

## Bible Study .....

### Looking ahead to God's Promises

Field testing takes place between August and December every year. Groups receive a draft of the study along with evaluation forms to complete as they make their way through each lesson. All evaluation forms are sent to the Bible study author, who uses feedback to edit and rewrite her work. Field testing is the best way for your voice to be heard as new Bible studies are developed. PW circles, Bible study groups, and coordinating teams have all made excellent field testing groups. What about your group? Apply today! Contact Betsy Ensign-George (844.797.2872, ext. 5366, or [betsy.ensign-george@pcusa.org](mailto:betsy.ensign-george@pcusa.org)) for the application form. Apply by May 6.

## PW Marketplace\* .....

### New PW logo items!

The following PW logo items will soon be available at PDS; 800.524.2612, or [store.pcusa.org](http://store.pcusa.org).

- The PW spiral notebook with zippered pouch features a clear, easy-glide, zippered pouch to store writing necessities such as pens, business cards and note paper! Measures 5.25" x 7.25". Item PWR16415, \$5
- The PW blue bandana is a fun way to promote your PW ministry! The bandana measures a generous 22" x 22". Wear it as a scarf, use as a basket liner or part of a display. Item PWR16424, \$5. The PW bandana is also available in orange. Why orange? Because orange is the color for the campaign to end violence against women and girls. Wear this bandana on Orange Day (the 25th of each month); when you work to raise awareness (and funds) for a local domestic abuse shelter; speak to groups about what they can do to end violence against women; or in solidarity with women worldwide. Item PWR16425, \$5
- Neatly store your identification card, cash and coin, in the blue PW keyring/zippered pouch. Includes two zippered pockets and a key ring that tucks into one of the pockets. Item PWR16421, \$5
- Keep your PW materials together in one place with the PW messenger bag! The light-weight royal blue and black bag measures 13.5" x 12" x 3" and includes a front zipper pocket, double pen pockets, an adjustable shoulder strap, Velcro zipper closure, side mesh pocket, headphone port, and carry handle. Item PWR16422, \$15
- PW's ecologically friendly jar gripper (made of recycled tires!) reads "Get a grip! Join PW!" Item PWR16426, \$1.00
- Proudly display your PW pride as you rest your smart phone or digital music (mp3) player in the attractive PW smart-phone holder! Item PWR16420, \$4
- PW/Gathering pens. Item PWR16310, 30 cents each

### Resource catalog

The 2016 summer/fall *Resources for Presbyterian Women* catalog is soon-to-be available as a download (item PWR16002, free) and as a printed item (item PWR16001, free).

### Fellowship of the Least Coin devotional

The Fellowship of the Least Coin's booklet, *Circle of Prayer*, volume 23, is now available. Item PWR16466, free. Volume 22 is still available, item PWR14466, free.



### Dear Horizons Reps,

Thank you for providing the skirts and other amusing (and tremendously creative) ways to promote *Horizons*! We recently unearthed a charming song submitted by an unnamed PW, sung to the tune of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame."

*Take a look at Horizons, you'll be glad that it's there.  
Resources, ideas and news abound. Missions and people  
and even a prayer, so we'll root, root, root for Horizons, if  
you do, you will cheer. Then it's twenty-five bucks you'll  
gladly give up, for it has no peer!*

While a subscription is \$24.95, that's much less melodic, hence the (temporary, for the sake of art!) markup!

And do continue to submit names and addresses of new readers who you think may enjoy *Horizons* once they get an opportunity to sample it. Send your list to [carissa.herold@pcusa.org](mailto:carissa.herold@pcusa.org) and she will see that they receive three issues of the magazine and a reminder to renew.

### Consignments!

Planning to have resources for sale at your gathering? If so, you may choose to consign resources. Doing so will require either a PDS account (e.g., your PW group or church) or a credit card. Call Presbyterian Distribution Service, 800.524.2612, and ask for Octavia; she will help you with your order. (And feel free to contact Carissa or Jung Ju in the PW offices; they are always happy to work with you in gathering planning. All orders, however, are to be processed through PDS, so do remember to provide PDS account information or a credit card number.) Note that consignment orders are open for no more than 90 days, so plan to order accordingly. And feel free to price your items a little bit extra to help with shipping.

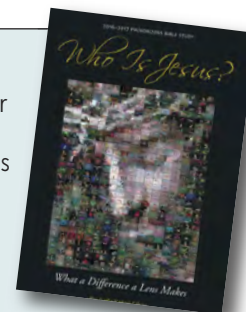
### Presbyterian Women Warehouse Sale!

Equipping the saints for life today—and tomorrow!—can include sharing resources that, although not so new, can still bring the good news to others! That's why PW is offering a variety of good things at discounted prices (many free, just pay shipping!) through the PW Warehouse Sale. Go to PW's website or email [carissa.herold@pcusa.org](mailto:carissa.herold@pcusa.org) to learn more.

\* Although infrequent, price and availability are subject to change without notice. Shipping/handling are 10% of order total, \$5.25 minimum, \$65 maximum.

## Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes Bible study resources

Welcome to the 2016–2017 PW/*Horizons* Bible study, *Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes*. Author Judy Yates Siker invites you to join her on "a journey to expand our understanding of who Jesus was and is—a journey of our hearts and minds, a journey that we will take together." Each of the study's nine lessons explores the question "Who is Jesus?" through a particular theological lens. Who is Jesus . . . according to Mark? . . . according to Matthew? . . . according to Luke? . . . according to John? . . . according to Paul? . . . according to Hebrews? . . . according to the noncanonical gospels? . . . according to the Abrahamic faiths? . . . according to contemporary cultural interpretations? (See ordering information below.)



- *Who Is Jesus?* Bible study, English—HZN16100, \$8
- *Who Is Jesus?* Bible study, Spanish—HZN16120, \$8
- *Who Is Jesus?* Bible study, ecumenical—HZN16102, \$8
- *Who Is Jesus?* Bible study, large-print—HZN16150, \$12
- *Who Is Jesus?* workshop for leaders—HZN16101, free\*
- *Who Is Jesus?* study, companion DVD—HZN16103, \$20
- *Who Is Jesus?* study, audio download—HZN16172, \$15
- *Who Is Jesus?* charm/pendant—HZN16300, \$10

- *Who Is Jesus?* poster—HZN16410, free
- *Who Is Jesus?* bulletin cover—download only, free\*\*
- Additional helps for each lesson available in *Horizons* magazine and on the PW Bible study blog (see [www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org) for the link). Call 866.802.3635 to subscribe (and receive next year's Bible study free with your subscription). Plus, receive access to the digital edition of *Horizons* with your subscription.

Order Bible studies and most supplementary materials by calling 800.524.2612 or visiting [www.pcusa.org/store](http://www.pcusa.org/store).

\*\* Free downloads may be found at [www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org) (on the *Horizons* Bible study pages).





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