

# **Quarterly Newsletter** for Presbyterian Women Leaders

Download this resource at www.presbyterianwomen.org. Select About PW, then select Quarterly Newsletter.

May-July 2017

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 saves thousands of dollars, meets by videoconference

## By Susan Jackson Dowd

The Churchwide Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women met March 2, 2017. For the first time in PW history, the CCT conducted the biannual board meeting by videoconference. The estimated savings to the national budget is \$30,000. When the CCT voted last fall to conduct the meeting telephonically, there was a healthy amount of skepticism, and the vote margin was slim. After the meeting, board member evaluations were positive.

Staff were tasked with finding a platform that would work best for the call and with training for CCT members. Committee meetings were conducted via Zoom (the videoconferencing tool) prior to the full board meeting. Reports and meeting information were posted to the CCT's shared Google site for review before the meeting.

Though two two-hour calls were scheduled for the meeting, the CCT completed business during the first call. Jane DeFord, synod rep from the Synod of the Trinity, offered an opening devotion. Moderator Carol Winkler closed the meeting with a litany of thanksgiving for synod representatives who are completing their service on the CCT (see photos and caption at right).

The next CCT meeting will be at the Hampton Inn in Louisville, Kentucky, August 30–September 3, 2017.

## Administration Committee

• The CCT received a letter from Racial Ethnic and Women's Ministries, Presbyterian Mission Agency, relaying a \$5,000 gift for the 2018 Churchwide Gathering and a \$4,000 gift to the Mission Pledge.

## Antiracism Committee (ARC)

- ARC will conduct antiracism training at PW's fall 2017 board meeting.
- Suggested readings have been provided for the Churchwide Gathering bookstore: Waking up White by Debbie Irving; What Does It Mean To Be White by Dr. Robin DiAngelo; Same Kind of Different as Me by Ron Hall; Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly; Bright Light Dark Night by Stephen Edmond; and Into White by Randy Pink.
- The CCT will send a letter to organizers of the national Women's March on Washington to request that the movement be inclusive of all women.

## **Communications and Funds Development Committee**

• The price of the Bible study has increased from \$8 to \$10 per copy (English, Spanish and ecumenical editions). The



The Churchwide Coordinating Team celebrated the service of six synod representatives whose terms end this summer. They are Susan Barlow, Synod of Lincoln Trails; Sarah Ford, Synod of Living Waters; Charlotte Hasselbarth, Synod of the Northeast; Jane McGookey, Synod of the Covenant; Cecilia Moran, Synod of the Pacific; and Kay Olson, Synod of Lakes and Prairies. These women have served faithfully and contributed their many talents to the leadership of PW in the PC(USA).

large print has increased from \$12 to \$15. The increase takes effect with the 2017–2018 study. This does not affect the price of the Horizons magazine subscription, so subscribing is the most economical way to get the study!

- The 2017–2018 Bible study, Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews by Melissa Bane Sevier is now available. Supplemental resources will be available in late spring/early summer.
- Hebrews for Everyone by N. T. Wright is a Mission Pledge giving incentive. Give \$50 or more to receive a copy. See page 7 for more information.
- Upcoming Bible studies:
  - 2018–2019, God's Promises (working title) by Amy Poling Sutherlun
  - 2019–2020, Ten Commandments (working title) by Eugenia Gamble

See "CCT," page 3.

Don't miss what's inside! • Highlights from the spring CCT meeting • News from PWCs, PWPs and PWSs • Churchwide Gathering news • PW101.2 • Mission opportunities • PDA trainings • Moderator's Message • and lots more!

# Two PW Disaster Preparedness "Train the Trainer" trainings being held this summer

#### By Beth Snyder, associate for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Two PDA/PW Disaster Preparedness "Train the Trainer" trainings are scheduled for this summer. They are open to all women of the church. The cost of the training is covered by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Applications are online at www.pcusa.org/pda; click ACT and Volunteer. Email completed applications to beth.snyder@pcusa.org, fax to 502.569.5704 or mail to PDA,



## Making necklaces for sisters in Indonesia

## By Kathy Reeves, PW mission associate



PW's 2017 Global Exchange participants will be gifting women in Indonesia with yarn necklaces during the Exchange, September 12–29, 2017. We will need lots of necklaces! Please consider participating by making necklaces for our sisters in Indonesia. Instructions are in the last newsletter, available online at www.presbyterianwomen.org/

about. Questions? Contact Kathy Reeves, 844.797.2872 or katharine.reeves@pcusa.org.

# PW 101.....

## Help for those new to PW!

If you are reading these words, you are probably a PW leader and know all things PW! But many of our faithful are unaware of some of the finer points of their amazing organization. That's why we began a "PW 101" series in the last newsletter. Each idea in the series is presented in such a way that newsletter editors and PW leaders can paste into their own documents/presentations. If you are so moved to share an idea or two that you think should be part of this series, please email carissa.herold@pcusa.org.

## PW 101.2: PW Circles and their Leadership

Presbyterian Women meet at the congregation level in "circles." No matter what the activities, as long as women meet to build community, support mission, nurture faith and/or work for justice and peace, those women are forming a "circle." No matter how many or how few activities a women's circle undertakes, if they do it on behalf of the PW Purpose (see last newsletter), they are a PW circle. Leadership in single-circle groups at the congregational level ideally consists of a moderator (to provide leadership to the circle and ensure communication among the members and with the congregation and session); a secretary/historian to record the work of the circle; and a treasurer to maintain the financial records of the circle. But PW is flexible! Circles don't have to be called circles and a team can have leaders who "wear more than one [leadership] hat."

100 Witherspoon St., Rm. 3620, Louisville, KY 40202. You must attend the entire eight-hour training to be certified, commissioned and reimbursed. For more info, call 502.569.5806.

June 23, 2017, 8 AM to 5 PM EST First Presbyterian Church, Battle Creek, Michigan

This training precedes the PWS of the Covenant Gathering, June 23–24. The registration deadline is June 9. This training is open to all women in the Synod of the Covenant. Email Jane McGookey, mcgookey@gmail.com, for gathering info.

July 6, 2017, noon to 5 pm pst • July 7, 8 AM to noon pst Chapman University, Orange, California

This training precedes the PWS of Southern California/ Hawaii summer conference, July 7–9. The registration deadline is June 23. All women in the synod are invited. Email Karen Dwight, Idwight@roadrunner.com, for more.

## CPJ offering free Sweat Free tees

Blue

Compassion, Peace and Justice is offering up to 200 free t-shirts (per order) from their remaining Sweat Free inventory at the Presbyterian Distribution Center (shipping not included). Sizes and colors available on a first-come, firstserved basis. Shirts are 100% organic cotton and were produced by a women's sewing cooperative in Nicaragua. Order from PDS (800.524.2612). Let the CSR know that you are taking advantage of this special and that you'll only be responsible for the shipping costs. Shirts available are:

White 743600332-CS 743600332-CM 743600332-CL 743600332-S 743600332-M 743600332-XL 743600332-XXL 743600332-XXXL 7436506332-CS 7436506332-CM 7436506332-CL 7436506332-XL 7436506332-XXXL Natural 7436505332-CS 7436505332-CL 7436505332-XXXL

**Key** (for example) CS=Child's small L=Adult large

## PW in the Congregations ..... St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, PW retreat



Happy ladies at the PWC retreat January 16–17! From left: Betty Hope, associate pastor Sarah Chancellor-Watson, Kathy Randall and Sarah Whicker. —Photo by Kate Elkins

## March 2017 CCT meeting highlights, cont'd from 1

- The Bible Study Committee met in March and selected the proposal from Lynn Miller for a 2020–2021 Bible study on lament.
- #GivingTuesday, #GratefulMonday and year-end giving raised an additional \$2,500 for the Mission Pledge, PW's annual fund. The committee will focus on increasing individual giving to the Mission Pledge.
- PW, in partnership with Racial Ethnic and Women's Ministries, will host a meet-and-greet this summer at Big Tent in St. Louis.
- The committee is developing a celebration/giving opportunity called PW Founders' Day, which will coincide with the anniversary of the 1988 national PW business meeting.
- The Horizons Editorial Committee met March 28 by videoconference.

## **Finance Committee**

• A current budget report/statement of financial position, as well as revenue figures for 2014, 2015, and 2016, were presented to the board.

## Inclusive Community Committee

- The committee conducted three conference calls prior to this CCT meeting regarding the September 2016 Young Women Representatives' Report. Action items include committee reassignment to ensure better representation, a job description review, a mentoring plan, and proposals for recruiting and participation.
- Synod reps are educating coordinating teams on the new PW Manual: A Guide for PW Groups and provided feedback on their experiences.
- A Synod Moderator Network has been established. The first call was February 28. The moderators decided to meet every two months by phone, with a face-to-face meeting at the 2018 Churchwide Gathering. The next call is April 25.

## Justice and Peace Committee

- Members of the committee participated in the 2018 UN Commission on the Status of Women. For more on CSW61, see www.unwomen.org/en/ csw/csw61-2017.
- Members were encouraged to attend and spread the word about Ecumenical Advocacy Days held each April in Washington, DC. Financial as-

sistance is available through PW's Leadership Development Program. See https://advocacydays.org.

- A bookmark summarizing PW's justice and peace work will be updated.
- J&P plans to expand the Courageous Conversations program, suggesting topics for certain months with accompanying suggestions for action and resources.
- The CCT continues to support the PC(USA) Educate a Child initiative. Together in Action Days in May will again be around the issue of children's literacy, including youth in the scope of the program. This will be held during Children's Book Week, May 1–7, 2017. See www.presbyteri anwomen.org/justice.

## **Mission Relationships Committee**

- The CCT approved the Bay Area Anti-Trafficking Coalition and Puente Community Resource Center, Pescadero, California, as USAME 2016 projects selected for PW extra giving opportunities.
- Fourteen representatives from 12 synods will participate in the Global Exchange to Indonesia, September 12–29, 2017. The scripture for the exchange: Rom. 1:12: "so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine."
- USAME 2019 will be hosted by Geneva and Cuyuga Syracuse PW in the Synod of the Northeast. The moderatorial team will appoint a chair and national planning team.
- World Mission's Mother's Day Card program is being discontinued. PW leaders can still encourage PW to send gifts to Healthy Women Healthy Families through the ECO E052136.
- The Creative Ministries Offering Committee met February 23–25 to select 2017 Thank Offering recipients. Fifteen grant recipients were selected. The total amount awarded will be \$382,500. See the July/August issue of *Horizons* for a full report.

## **PW Financial Matters**

## PW Giving, first quarter 2017

Mission Pledge	\$ 233,256.65
Birthday Offering	133,298.51
Thank Offering	30,590.35
Honorary Life	38,965.57
Together in Service	2,046.00

#### Moderator's Message .....

Thank you PW in the congregations, presbyteries and synods for the opportunities to be with you and to learn from you. In every visit I have learned something spectacular that I wanted to share with others. I wish I could pack you up in my backpack and take you with me but instead, I will use this column to share some of the many stories, ideas and possibilities I hear and see.

I am often asked how to get women involved in PW. I have shared many times my story of being "loved into PW." PW circles are opportunities for women to be in community with one another. A "circle" is a small group that gathers to provide an inclusive, caring community of women. It is where faith is nurtured and growth takes place, where women are challenged and reach out to others, where Christian leadership is born, nurtured and sent forth.

One "circle" gathers in the church kitchen to share their culinary skills, have conversation and reach out to others. They prepare dinner for themselves as well as leftovers. The leftovers are packed up and frozen, ready to be delivered to a family who needs to be supported. It may be a new baby or a member recently released from the hospital. What about the new folks who have visited the church and haven't joined yet, have no local family support and could use a gesture of kindness? These women are ready with their leftovers. What a great opportunity!

Another "circle" of women—the Wine and Horizons circle—gather in a home/ local food establishment/bookstore and talk about the articles in Horizons. Their conversations have led them to respond to needs in their communities, often including women who can't be involved in a monthly Bible study. One group arranged for women recently released from incarceration to be the custodians in several of the churches in their community. It connected the women and empowered them all in unique ways.

As graduation draws near for young women in our churches, I offer this idea. What about one or more scholarships for high school girls? Invite them to your spring Birthday Offering celebration. Present them with the scholarship for what is next in their life—college or job opportunity. But don't stop there. Keep in touch over the next few years with an occasional note/ card, a church bulletin, a picture of church activities, a restaurant gift card, a care package. The young woman who seeks a job rather than college might appreciate a lunch date to see how things are going or an invitation to join your circle. You are building a lifelong relationship and when they are ready, maybe they will create that community of women known as a new PW circle.

-Carol Winkler

May–July 2017 • Presbyterian Women Quarterly Newsletter • Page 3

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

## Giving an Honorary Life Membership this summer?

PW's Honorary Life Membership program is more than a pin, it's a program. Funds derived from Honorary Life Memberships support women's leadership development. HLM recipients join a community of women and men who have demonstrated service to the church. Download an order form from www.presbyterianwomen.org/giving or email jung.winner@pcusa.org. **Note:** 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 and memorial certificates are also available (amount at the discretion of the donor) and that they are a thoughtful way to recognize service or celebrate the life of a faithful servant. Email jung.winner @pcusa.org for additional information.

#### Are you a woman in the PC(USA)?

You are eligible to receive a \$500 grant from PW. Want to strengthen your leadership skills by going to a leadership event? Apply today: presbyterianwomen.org/leadership.

## PW planned giving

A planned gift to PW ensures that the mission and purpose of Presbyterian Women is carried into the future for new generations of Presbyterian women and their sisters and brothers in Christ. The Presbyterian Foundation currently holds more than 70 endowment funds that benefit local and national Presbyterian Women programs. These funds were established by women who wanted to support the activities of PW for generations to come. To learn more about estate planning options, contact Rhonda Martin, 844/797-2872, ext. 5596; Rhonda.martin@pcusa.org.

## Your gifts to PW's annual fund truly make a difference

The denomination and the world depend on a strong, generous PW. And since only Presbyterian women support PW, your generosity truly makes a difference. To give to the Mission Pledge, PW's annual fund, send a check to PW, Inc, Remittance Processing—Giving, PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh PA 15264-3652, "Mission Pledge" in the notes line of the check, or give online at www.presbyterianwomen.org/ missionpledge. Please note that presbyteries and synods will be credited for all individual gifts.

## Join longtime PW partner in Offering of Letters

Each year, Bread for the World chooses a legislative emphasis that can make a real difference to people struggling with hunger and poverty. People write letters and present them as an offering to God before mailing them to Congress. Supported with prayer, these letters are a bold witness to



God's justice and mercy. This year, forces in Congress will be pushing to dismantle or cut funding for many of the programs that help hungry and struggling people in our country and worldwide. Join Bread's Offering of Letters. Learn more at www.bread.org.

## In Celebration envelopes now available

During times of the celebration of life, make available In Celebration envelopes. These envelopes provide an easy way for loved ones to direct their gifts to PW in honor or memory of a beloved Presbyterian woman. PWR17202, free.

## Churchwide Gathering

## Plan now to attend the Churchwide Gathering, August 2–5, 2018

The 2018 PW Churchwide Gathering will be held August 2–5, 2018, at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky. Rooms start at \$144/night, suites start at \$159, not including taxes; registration is \$425.

#### Is there a song in your heart?

Consider writing the Gathering theme song! PW would love to hear your song that embodies the Gathering theme, "Arise, shine, your light has come" and/or Isaiah 60. Mail submissions by August 1, 2017, to Darci McKinnon, darcimckinnon@gmail.com. Details at www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering.

#### Don't miss a bit of news!

PW celebrates its 30th anniversary in 2018, too! Beginning March 30, 2016 (30 months before the Gathering), those on our email list began receiving a series of "Gathering Quest" emails to help them prepare, promote and plan for the 2018 Gathering. Be sure you are on our email list so you don't miss one bit of news about the Gathering! Email patricia .longfellow@pcusa.org. Meanwhile . . .

## She's a horse, of course!

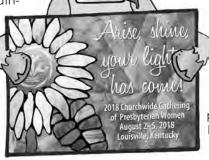
Minnie (the Moose) was PW's "moose-cot" for the 2015 Churchwide Gatherina. She was an excellent spokesmoose for PW and enjoyed her travels to gatherings, regional and churchwide! Although Minnie is making plans to attend the 2018 Churchwide Gathering, she is leaving mascot duties behind for a time. Louisville (the home of the 2018 Gathering) is often referred to as Derby City, thanks to historic Churchill Downs and

the horse farms that dot the Kentucky countryside. That's why the 2018 mascot for the CWG is a lovely filly. But she remains unnamed! Send your ideas to carissa.herold@pcusa.org!

#### Silent Auction items needed

Gathering! Email patricia As you make plans to attend the 2018 @pcusa.org. Meanwhile . . . Churchwide Gathering, consider contributing something for the Silent Auction. Dig out the paintbrush, knitting needles, or kistkas and make a PW-inspired piece. Proceeds will ben-

.....



efit the Mission Pledge, PW's annual fund. More to come! And, congregation, presbytery and synod gathering planners, here's a head's up! The 2018 Churchwide Gathering pro-

motion packet, which brims with great ideas, is in the works! Have a spark of inspiration related to the theme of the Gathering? If so, share with carissa. herold@pcusa.org and you may see your idea in the promotional pack, once it becomes available!

Finally, order Save the Date magnets (item CWG18029, free) from PDS, limit 50.

.....

# Cuba a fertile mission field for PWCs

In November, while on Covenant PC Austin's 34th mission trip to Cuba, participants stayed at their sister church in Luyano, located in one of the barrios of Havana. The picture at right is of Raquel Cardona leading Luyano's Sunday School class using the *Horizons* Bible study *Come to the Waters* in Spanish. Joy Durrant brought along six Spanish versions of the 2016– 2017 study *Who Is Jesus?*, and says, "Raquel was excited to receive the new study because they were just completing the *Come to the Waters* Bible study. While we were there, Luyano hosted a presbytery meeting; the remaining five new Bible study books were easily and gratefully disseminated to other churches in Cuba."

PW from other congregations also have been supporting mission in Cuba for many years. In the photo at top right, a girl at New Jerusalem Methodist Church in Hougin, Cuba, participates in a community building exercise led by Nanette LaFors, Lower Providence Presbyterian Church, Eagleville, Pennsylvania, who joined members of several churches from Pennsylvania for a Living Waters installation in January 2017.

At right, Ann van Horn, Mary Monsted, Martha Beveridge and Laura St. Clair, from St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian in New Orleans, pose at Matanzas Central Presbyterian Church in Cuba, where they renewed Southern Louisiana's Living Waters covenant in November 2016. They and two others also visited sister church El Fuerte in Cardenas, where they inspected water systems that they had helped install.



## PW in the Synods and Presbyteries

## Synod of Southern California/Hawaii

Submitted by Anita Coleman

*Ripples* is here! The official newsletter of PW in the Synod of Southern California/ Hawaii, *Ripples* strengthens connections between our PWCs, PWPs and all P-Dubs in between! *Ripples* can be found at https://pwsynod.wordpress.com? 2017/04/03/ripples-is-here/.

## **Mission Presbytery**

Submitted by Judy Harris, past moderator Mission Presbytery celebrated "Our Hats" at our Mo Ranch spring gathering. Two hundred seventy ladies gathered to hear keynote speaker Nancy Reeves urge women to change, hats, and even remove hats imposed by others. Twenty workshops reflected the theme. New officers were installed, including Moderator Sharon Carson, of Pilarim PC, San Antonio. Host church Grace Round Rock threw a Mad Hatter's Tea Party. Participants wore hats and gloves, enjoyed teas and desserts and were entertained by a magician. Nearly \$4,000 was given in memory of Kelly Allen, a Mission Presbytery pastor who passed away in 2016, but had a special interest in the Interfaith Welcome Coalition, a group of churches in San Antonio that welcome newly released immigrant families along their

route to new homes in the US. Families are greeted at the bus depot and receive backpacks to help them along the journey. The Gathering included March 25 so everyone received an orange ribbon and learned more about the significance of wearing orange on the 25th of each month.

## Hispanic/Latina American PW

Submitted by Elizabeth Torres The coordinating team of Hispanic /Latina Presbyterian Women (MHLP) welcomes to our team Rev. Magdalena García as volunteer advisor and Rev. Margarita Reyes, who is chairing our search committee.

The MHLP CT are busy sending out our revised bylaws, approved at Encuentro last year. We will be meeting to plan Encuentro 9, which will be held in 2019.

All around the states and Puerto Rico the women are gathering and having their regional Encuentros (Gatherings). And many of us are enthusiastically studying the Horizons Bible study, ¿Quien es Jesús?

## Synod of Boriquen

Submitted by Danilie Hilerio-Villanueva PW in Northwest Presbytery, as well as PW in Southwest Presbytery held their annual assemblies in January and February, respectively, installing their coordinating teams and introducing the ¿Quién es Jesús? Bible study.

.....

PW in San Juan Presbytery carried out their annual assembly earlier this year with a visit from Churchwide Moderator Carol Winkler and PW Executive Director Susan Jackson Dowd. During the assembly, PW in San Juan approved a resolution to hold a silent protest/walk requesting the resignation of Guaynabo's mayor, who settled a lawsuit for sexual harassment charges with taxpayer money. PW from the Northwest and Southwest Presbyteries joined them on April 5, 2017.

## AL/MS Women's Conference

The AL/MS Women's Conference, which is sponsored by PW in the five presbyteries in Alabama and Mississippi, will be held at Covenant Presbyterian, Huntsville, Alabama, July 19–21. Its primary focus will be on the upcoming Horizons Bible study. Melissa Bane Sevier, author of the 2017–2018 Horizons Bible study, will be the Bible study leader. Speakers/ staff include Lynn Miller, author of the 2020–2021 Horizons Bible study; Dee Koza, renowned speaker and worship leader; workshop leaders (and PW staff) Susan Jackson Dowd and Katharine Reeves; and Judy Persons, PW vice moderator for mission.

May–July 2017 • Presbyterian Women Quarterly Newsletter • Page 5

# Together in Action, Courageous Conversations, CSW

## Together in Action for Antiracism

Though PW has not designated a day or week as a Together in Action day or week for antiracism, we can always take action on important issues and take inspiration for action from others.

**Trinity Presbyterian Church** Oklahoma City sponsored citywide Racist Anonymous meetings for 10 weeks this spring. The average attendance was 20. Rev. Ron Buford, African American pastor and founder of Racists Anonymous, says, "It's time to pull the cover off racism rather than blaming each other and trying to figure out which of us is the most racist. Can we rid the nation and perhaps the world of racism? Let's build an infectious movement of people who will pledge their lives to being mindful of our own racism, being mindful of our powerlessness to rid ourselves of racism without each other, and consciously turning it over to a higher power."

Share your stories of antiracism work; email yvonne.hileman@pcusa.org.

## Online Antiracism Digital Library curated by CCT rep

Did you know that Anita Coleman, synod representative to CCT from the Synod of Southern California/Hawaii maintains an antiracism digital library? The Anti-racism Digital Library (ADL), dedicated to the victims of the 2016 Charleston AME church shooting, is a research and development initiative that aims to be a clearinghouse for antiracism resources.

Collections such as "A Mote in Minerva's Eye," "Comfort Women," "Presbyterian Women," "Progressive Christians Uniting," "The Intercultural Church," and "OC Cities for CEDAW: Reclaiming Ourselves," showcase people, regions, and communities.

Anita says, "They are a microcosm of our larger world, representing different geographical origins and culture, language group and faith traditions. Other collections such as 'Antiracist Identity,' 'Racial Imagination,' 'American Identity,' 'Christian Imagination' and 'Intersectional Invisibility' offer new language for fuelling the human imagination with concepts and categories that describe essential humanity. Collections bring together resources created by diverse people, groups and projects that are adapting antiracism to help and build inclusive and caring communities."

Funding from the PW in the Synod of Southern California /Hawaii and the Center for Applied Research on Human Services, San Jose State University, is gratefully acknowledged. Information about how you can join and contribute is available at http://endracism.info.

To get started right away, click on the link to this quick, informal and anonymous survey of "What is Antiracism?" http://tinyurl.com/antiracedlpoll.

## Commission on the Status of Women

Twenty-one Presbyterian women, including 11 sponsored by the PC(USA)'s Office of Young Women's Leadership Development, attended the 61st session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women in March. Read reflections on PW's justice and peace blog, pwpcusa.typepad.com/jandp/.

## Looking Ahead to October

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month; Presbyterian Women urges PW groups and congregations to hold Courageous Conversations about all aspects of gender-based violence, not just violence in the home but in workplaces and public spaces, as well. Break the silence in congregations about VAWG (violence against women and girls) in all its forms: intimate partner violence, sexual violence, child abuse, human trafficking, date rape, harassment and more. Learn more at www.presbyterian

women.org/justice.

## Justice and Peace Calendar

#### June

- 11 Intercultural Church Sunday
- 18 Father's Day
- 25 Orange Day

## July

- 2 Immigration Sunday
- 4 Independence Day
- 25 Orange Day Mission Pledge materials mailed

## August

- 6 Hiroshima Day
- 19 World Humanitarian Day
- 25 Orange Day
- 27 Public Education Sunday Thank Offering materials mailed

#### September

- 2–4 Labor Day Weekend in the Pulpit 4 Labor Day
- 21 International Day of Peace
- 21–27 Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence
- 23 Native American Day
- 25 Orange Day

For a complete calendar, including links to resources, see www.presbyterianwomen .org/justice.

## Presbyterian Women in the Synods .....

## PWSNE support YAVs, host vice mod, celebrate new PWC

- In PWSNE news (submitted by Charlotte Hasselbarth):
- PW in the Synod of the Northeast (PWSNE) works closely with the Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) Program coordinator in Louisville to support YAVs. In 2014 we started offering grants to YAVs whose home was in our synod. In 2016 we expanded to include YAVs who were stationed in our synod. So far we have given out 13 \$500 grants to YAVs from our synod and four \$350 grants to YAVs stationed in the Northeast. YAVs must apply for the grants, but nothing is required in return. We receive communication from the YAVs and hope to invite some to speak at PW events. We're continually working on this grant program to strengthen the relationship between YAVs and PWSNE. To learn about the process, see https://pwsne.org/young -adult-volunteer-yav-support-grant/.
- In September, CCT Vice Moderator for Mission Relationships Judy Persons toured New York State from Albany to Buffalo (the Erie Canal Corridor). She visited five PWPs. Judy spoke at three PWP fall gatherings—Albany, Geneva and Western New York—and the joint annual PWP retreat of Utica and Cayuga-Syracuse. It was wonderful to expose so many women to someone from the Churchwide Coordinating Team.
- A new PW group, Presbyterian Women's Fellowship in Westminster Presbyterian Church in Albany, New York has been formed. This congregation has a large number of people from Africa. This group is currently made up of mainly of women who have emigrated from Africa to the United States. At this time, the group's mission is supporting families from Africa as they get settled in the Albany area.

# 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 a gift subscription. You also may send a separate taxdeductible 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 thankyou 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.

Carol Adamson Ellaine R. Amend Joan Anderson Debra Bacon Carolyn Beatty Frela D. Beck Hagar Benitez Esther Black Nancy Blair Ida Lou Broughton Thylis Chambless Judith Conn Trudy Cooke Sherrida Crawford Gretchen Denton Joyce Dotson Virginia Elting Erin Focke Dr. Catherine Dorsey Gaines Linda Gueringer Rev. Mary En Hanke Bobbie Wells Hargleroad

## **Bible Study Call for Proposals**

The 2017 Presbyterian Women Churchwide Coordinating Team's Bible study committee will meet in

March 2018 to choose the author and theme of the 2021–2022 PW/Horizons Bible study. Potential authors are invited to propose a theme and submit an outline and sample lesson (one of the nine lessons that will make up the study) to the committee for their consideration. Authors must demonstrate



knowledge of the Bible and related writings, knowledge of and commitment to Reformed theology, experience teaching Bible study, clear understanding of women's issues in the wider church and in the PC(USA), commitment to and use of inclusive language, active membership in the church, and working knowledge of Presbyterian Women. Deadline for proposals is January 31, 2018. Contact Betsy Ensign-George, PW associate editor, for more information: betsy.ensign-george@pcusa.org; 844/797-2872; or 100 Witherspoon St., Louisville, KY 40202-1396.

Roberta Harkins Hendrika Harris Lois Hawkins Alice Hill Pam Hodges Jovce Holmes Lynn Hughes Dr. Catrelia Hunter Abegail Johnson Peggy Johnson Sharon Kaiser Barbara H. Lee Jeannie H. Long Joan Mace Jane Martin Rev. David Marx Karen Matsushima Lou Maver Gene Gault McEvoy Ruth Mehl Wilma Mitchell Linda W. Morris Bonnie Nasr Mary Sibyl Page

Linda Passwaters Virginia Ritchie Bonnie Ruggiero Maureen Searing Helen H. Shears Darv Shenefelt Sandra L. Sibley Patricia (Pam) Snyder Women's Association, Southminster Presbyterian Church, Prairie Village, KS Barbara Taylor Mary Jane Tenny Janet Terwilliaer **Robert Tollefson** Suzan Wang Martha S. Watkins Wheat Ridge Presbyterian Church, Wheat Ridge, CO Ruth W. Williams Nancy Williamson Carol Winkler Mertie Woolcock Alice F. Wyatt

## Bible Study.....

## PW's Bible study premium: Hebrews, for Everyone

In 2014, Bible study participants were given the opportunity to support Presbyterian Women and receive (with a minimum \$50.00 gift) a copy of N. T. Wright's book, *Paul, for Everyone: 2 Corinthians.* 

Spring forward to 2017 and support Presbyterian Women's Mission Pledge with a minimum gift of \$50.00 to receive N.T. Wright's book, *Hebrews, for Everyone!* 

Send your gift of \$50.00 or more with a note that includes your name and address and indicates that you would like to receive N. T. Wright's book on Hebrews to:

Presbyterian Women Giving P.O. Box 643652 Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652

## About Hebrews, for Everyone

Writing in an approachable and anecdotal style, Tom Wright helps us to find our way around the letter to the Hebrews, one of the most challenging writings in the New Tes-



tament. He acknowledges that people often find it difficult, because some of the ideas it contains are strange to us. Yet, like meeting a new friend, Wright helps us to find Hebrews full of interest and delight, with a powerful message that comes home to the church of today and tomorrow just as much as it did to the church of yesterday.

-Review from book's back cover

Read thoughtful articles on being Presbyterian in the May/June 2017 issue of *Horizons* magazine! Not a subscriber? Call 866.802.3635.

## PW Marketplace\*.....

## Clearance sale!

Order The following while they are available!

- Becoming the Beloved Community antiracism resource packet; with DVD, study guide, and Thoughtful Christian material; item PWR10045; was \$24.95, **now \$14.95**
- Becoming the Beloved Community antiracism resource packet, no DVD; item PWR10046; was \$14.95, now \$7.00
- Annie, the Kitchen Queen; item HZN06304; was \$10, now \$5

## Gathering planners/treasurers, take note!

Does your PWC, PWP and PWS have an account set up with Presbyterian Distribution Service? If you do, terrific! That means you can (with your moderator team and your treasurer's blessing) order resources from PDS without having to provide a personal credit card number! Returns are accepted for 90 days so you can order resources (cost and free) to make available (for sale or to be given) at your gatherings or circle meetings. To learn more, contact Octavia Craig at octavia.craig@pcusa.org.

## PC(USA) engages communities ...

Hands and Feet is a new initiative to highlight and strengthen local and national efforts by the PC(USA) to facilitate change and communicate God's love. The project

builds upon grassroots, community work that congregations, mid-councils, and the national office are doing. Work is underway via Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery to engage mission and ministry projects on the ground in St. Louis, site of the 223rd GA (2018). See www.pcusa.org/handsandfeet.

#### Faith Questions curriculum now 10% off. Order from store.pcusa.org.

## Shop AmazonSmile and help PW!

Amazon donates to PW in the PC(USA) when you shop http://smile.amazon.com/ch/80-0473061.

Order items with numbers from PDS: 800.524.2612 or www.store.pcusa.org. Prices do not include shipping/ handling (10% of order total, \$5.25 minimum, \$65 maximum).

.....

# Here's Dear Horizons Reps, Reps' Springtime has sprung

Corner

Springtime has sprung and, with a quick glance at the PW calendar, it's easy to see that regional gatherings are springing up like tulips. What a wonderful image! Thank

you, Horizons reps, for springing into action. Your ministry of promoting Horizons is inspiring. And if you are not a Horizons rep but plan to attend a regional gathering, show your support of your rep's efforts to promote all things Horizons! That may mean subscribing to the magazine for yourself or giving a gift subscription to a seminarian, a new member, your neighbor's niece, your pastor, or your session (hint)! And that undoubtedly should include making sure your Horizons rep is fortified with coffee and cookies—it's tough to be so dedicated and tireless!

If you are on a gathering planning team and wish to invite a Horizons rep to your gathering, well, what a great idea! If you are unsure who is serving in that role, contact Patricia Longfellow at patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org.

#### A bit of fine print, a big benefit

Horizons magazine enjoys an amazingly dedicated readership. The reason is clear: the magazine connects Presbyterian women one to another while exploring issues of faith, leadership, justice and peace, mission, and so much more. Keeping Horizons on the horizons is not inexpensive so every new subscription, renewal, gift subscription, and promotion (thank you, Horizons reps!) is a yes! for Presbyterian Women's flagship publication.

Occasionally, a reader or her family member must cancel a subscription, often because of a major life transition. Losing faithful readers is never easy but one way to continue to show support for PW and its publication is to give a bit more by waiving a refund. The cost of a refund is more than just the dollar amount of the refund. The current *Horizons* refund policy is printed inside each issue: "Due to the prohibitive costs associated with issuing refunds, refunds for amounts under \$10 will be automatically donated to the publishing mission of Presbyterian Women unless the subscriber requests otherwise within six months of the last issue received." Waiving a refund altogether is big benefit to PW.

## Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews Bible study resources\*\*

ANL

amazon

smile

This year's Horizons Bible study, Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews, approaches Hebrews through nine major themes: In Community with Jesus Christ; In Community with the Living God; In Community with the Living Word; In Community with God's Messengers; In Community with the Tradition of the Past; In Community with the Reality of the Present; In Community with the Hope of the Future; In Community with the Household of Faith; and In Community with All the Saints. The study was written by pastor and educator Melissa Bane Sevier (Suggestions for Leaders by Sung Hee Chang). Melissa's prayer for us is that study groups and circles develop an understanding of the book of Hebrews and a stronger sense of community through this study. *Horizons* subscribers received their copy with the March/April



magazine. Remember that that is the most cost-effective way to receive the Bible study—with a subscription to Horizons!

- Cloud of Witnesses Bible study, English—HZN17100, \$10
- Cloud of Witnesses, Spanish—HZN17110, \$10
- Cloud of Witnesses, ecumenical—HZN17102, \$10
- Cloud of Witnesses, large-print—HZN17150, \$15
- Cloud of Witnesses workshop for leaders—HZN17101, free\*\*\*
- Cloud of Witnesses, companion DVD—HZN17103, \$20
- Cloud of Witnesses, audio download—HZN17172, \$15
- Cloud of Witnesses charm/pendant—HZN17300, \$10
- Cloud of Witnesses poster-HZN17410, free
- Cloud of Witnesses 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 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. \*\*\*Free downloads may be found at www.presbyterianwomen.org (on the *Horizons* Bible study pages).