

**Presbyterian Women's
2018 Churchwide Gathering
Promotional Packet**



**Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory
of the LORD has risen upon you.**

—Isaiah 60:1



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Produced in 2017 by Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Inc.

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INTRODUCING!

Meet Lilly the Filly, the mascot of the 2018 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women!





LETTER FROM THE CHAIR OF THE GATHERING PLANNING TEAM



Dear Presbyterian Women,

“Let’s go back to Louisville for the Gathering!” The national leadership of Presbyterian Women has heard and responded to that frequent request. On behalf of the PW Churchwide Coordinating Team and Gathering planners, I am honored to invite you to the 2018 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women, which will take place in Louisville, Kentucky, August 2–5, 2018.

We will center ourselves around the theme, “Arise, shine, your light has come!” based on Isaiah 60:1. Presbyterian Women has been shining its light for 30 years (and for many years before that in our predecessor organizations). We will celebrate our history, reflect on how we are living out PW’s mission now, and plan for a rich and exciting future. Participating in the 2018 Gathering will give each of us the opportunity to share our ideas and interests while we worship, share fellowship, renew friendships, make new friends and learn about how we can share God’s light with the world.

The beautiful Galt House on the banks of the Ohio River will house the activities and provide lodging for the Gathering. Come enjoy traditional activities such as worship services, workshops, *Horizons* Bible study highlights, justice and peace events, local tours, a silent auction and synod lunches, along with a variety of new activities. The Gathering offers something for everyone—from someone who’s curious what PW is about to someone who can proudly say she’s been with PW for its 30-year history!

Join us at the 2018 PW Gathering as we “arise and shine!” Invite other women to join you for a wonderful four days of fun, fellowship and inspiration. I look forward to seeing you in August 2018 in Louisville!

Blessings to each of you,

Mary M. Martin

Mary M. Martin
Chair of the 2018 Churchwide Gathering Planning Team



What is the theme of the 2018 Churchwide Gathering?

The theme is “Arise, shine, your light has come!” based on Isaiah 60:1.

When is the 2018 Churchwide Gathering?

The Gathering begins on Thursday, August 2, 2018, and concludes on Sunday, August 5, 2018.

Where will this Gathering be held?

The Gathering will be held all under one roof at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky. Optional tours and events will visit local Presbyterian, mission-focused and cultural sites, but there’s more than enough planned in the Galt House to keep you busy for the whole Gathering!

Who attends the Gathering?

Christian women (and a few men and children!) from across the country and around the world come together for this triennial event. Past Gatherings have included people of all ages and from more than 20 countries.

What happens at the Gathering?

Lots! Join in worship—enjoying uplifting music and gifted preachers—with sisters in faith from around the country and the world. Find inspiration in the plenary (large group) sessions, which highlight everything from Bible study to mission projects. Learn about your areas of passion and key issues in the world today through educational opportunities (forums and workshops) led by inspiring speakers. Get excited about the future of Presbyterian Women at the Business Meeting, where PW’s 2018–2021 leaders will be elected, a budget will be finalized and programmatic emphases will be chosen. Witness the installation of the newly elected leaders of PW’s 2018–2021 Churchwide Coordinating Team. Visit the many exhibits. Shop in the marketplace and bookstore. Take in some of the interesting and fun Louisville sights.

How much will the Gathering cost?

Full registration is \$425. Hotel, travel and some meals are additional.

Is there a discount if I only attend part of the Gathering?

Daily registration is \$125 per day.

What hotel accommodations are available?

Housing and programming are all under one roof at the Galt House. Rooms start at \$144 per night; suites start at \$159 per night, for one to four persons per room, plus tax. These discounted rates will apply three nights before and after the Gathering.

Are transportation services available?

For full-service air travel assistance, contact Roger Roy, Global Travel Alliance, at 505/867-2829 or gtaror@yahoo.com.

Are scholarships available?

A limited number of leadership development grants will be available to help with Gathering costs. Watch www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering and check the Gathering registration booklet (mailing with the November/December 2017 issue of *Horizons*) for more information. Consider applying for (or donating to!) scholarships through your PW in the Congregation, Presbytery or Synod.

When should voting representatives be available for the Business Meeting?

The Business Meeting will begin Wednesday, August 1, at 7 PM and will conclude by 5 PM on August 2. Voting representatives travel on August 1.

What else can you tell me about the theme?

The 2018 Gathering is an opportunity to “arise and shine,” reflecting on the healing, prophetic, compassionate Light of the world. “Arise, shine, your light has come!” invites us to explore possibility, growth and radiance, empowered by God.

Where can I get more information?

The Gathering web pages (www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering), the PW Facebook page (www.facebook.com/presbyterianwomenpcusa), the Gathering registration booklet (mailing with the November/December 2017 issue of *Horizons*) and, of course, every issue of *Horizons* magazine!

Louisville, here I come! When can I register?

Registration opens on January 15, 2018. Look for a registration booklet with the November/December 2017 issue of *Horizons* magazine. (Not a subscriber? Call 866/802-3635 or visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons.) Register by May 1, 2018 to receive an early registration incentive gift.

What materials are available to promote the Churchwide Gathering?

Use this promo pack for lots of ideas! Also, call 800/524-2612 or visit www.pcusa.org/store to order a supply of

- registration books (CWG18001) and
- save-the-date magnets (item CWG18029; limit 50).

And, of course, your story about what the Gathering means to you is one of the most powerful tools. Share your story with someone who has never been and invite her!



BEFORE THE GATHERING

Gathering Planning Timeline

2017

July

A year and one month until the Gathering! Save just \$90.00 a month (\$22.50 a week) from now until January 2018 and you'll have the cost of registration covered when registration opens.

Do you have a song in your heart? Perhaps one that embodies the Gathering theme ("Arise, shine, your light has come!") and/or Isaiah 60:1. If so, share your suggestion for the Gathering theme hymn! By **August 1, 2017**, submit your song by email to darcimckinnon@gmail.com. See next page for more details.

August

Plan to promote the Gathering at fall synod and presbytery gatherings and PWC meetings!

Start creating or collecting items to donate to the silent auction at the Gathering. See next page for details.

September

Start planning your Louisville getaway! Visit <https://louisvilleky.gov/government/city-events/see-more-attractions> for ideas on how to spend extra time in Louisville.

October

Visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering for the most up-to-date information about the Gathering. Then send an email to PW friends, sharing some of the reasons you found online that they may want to attend the Gathering!

November

Gathering registration booklets are available. Order yours (and a few for friends!) and start making your plans for the Gathering. Visit www.pcusa.org/store or call 800/524-2612 and request item CWG18001.

December

Merry Christmas! Give the gift of the Gathering to someone you love or ask someone you love to give you this gift!

2018

January 15

Registration opens!

Save just \$25 a week from now until the Gathering and you'll have the cost of your hotel bill, extra meals and excursions covered!

February

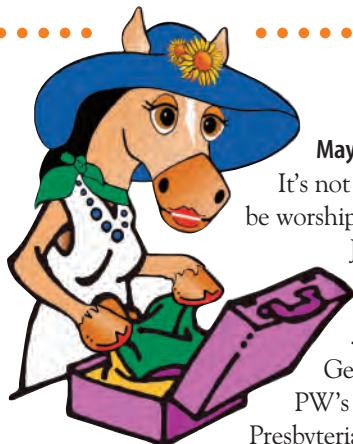
Ask your valentine to skip the flowers and give you the gift of the Gathering!

March

After you've registered for the Gathering, start making notes about which of the many possibilities you want to pursue! Donating to or shopping at the silent auction, participating in a justice and peace event, meeting Mission Partners, donating gift cards, or joining a book discussion group are only some of the possibilities!

April

Find out who in your congregation, presbytery or synod is attending the Gathering. Maybe you'll want to drive together or meet at the airport for your flight. If you haven't contacted Roger Roy with Global Travel Alliance for assistance with your flight, contact him soon: 505/867-2829 or gtaror@yahoo.com.



May

It's not too late to register for the Gathering! There will be worship, community, education, fun and much more.

Join us! Register by May 1 to receive an early registration incentive gift.

June

Get your green on! Friday, August 3, will be PW's Justice Day at the Gathering and on that day Presbyterian women are asked to wear green. June is the perfect time to crochet a green scarf, design and make t-shirts for everyone in your group who is planning to attend, dig deep in your closet or sock drawer, purchase something new (fair trade is best) to find that perfect (green) extra-special something to show that you are committed to PW's work for justice and peace!

July

Gift cards, gift cards, gift cards! Now's the time to collect gift cards for the Gathering gift card offering from your PW sisters who are unable to attend the 2018 Churchwide Gathering.

August

Finalize your plans, water your potted plants and double check that you've packed your most comfortable shoes! It's time to go!



Gathering Theme Song

Is there a song in your heart? Are you movin' your feet?
Arise, shine, and tap to the beat!

We're lookin' for a theme song. Will you create one and send it along?

Experienced songwriters, budding musicians, we await your creative submissions.

Your own tune or familiar melody* is a must, then we may sing it together come next August!

** Must be a melody in the public domain—that is, a tune that does not require permission and/or license fee to use.*

Presbyterian Women is seeking a theme song that enhances the “Arise, shine, your light has come!” theme for the 2018 Churchwide Gathering! Submissions should consist of original words and music (or original words to a tune in the public domain) that reflect the Gathering theme and scripture. Theme song submissions may also include *you* (or someone else) singing your song!

Submissions must be theologically sound, in keeping with the Reformed tradition, and must use inclusive language.

Submissions will not be returned and there will be no remuneration. PW retains all rights, but the author/compose will be created.

Submissions

- Submissions must be received no later than August 1, 2017. Please email words and music to darcimckinnon@gmail.com. **Be sure to include your name and phone number in the email.**
- You may also submit performances of your submission on YouTube (optional). Be sure to email the link to the video when you submit words and music to darcimckinnon@gmail.com.
- If you prefer, you may mail your submission to:

PW Gathering Theme Song
c/o Darci McKinnon
1804 Courtney Lane
Edmond, OK 73013



Silent Auction

The 2018 Gathering will include a silent auction, full of exquisite handmade creations, vacation packages, jewelry and other enticing items. And better yet, all proceeds will benefit the Mission Pledge, Presbyterian Women's annual fund!

You can contribute in two ways—donating items before the Gathering and/or bidding at the Gathering!

Donated items should be new (nothing used, please) with a minimum value of \$50. Smaller items can be grouped into a basket. To donate an item to the auction, please contact Judy

Persons (jpcREATEPW@gmail.com), Rhonda Martin (rhonda.martin@pcusa.org or 844/797-2872, ext. 5596) or Carissa Herold (carissa.herold@pcusa.org or 844/797-2872, ext. 5322). Items should be shipped to the PW offices before the Gathering or hand-delivered to the auction area at the Gathering. Forms and information about the silent auction are available at www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering. Check the Gathering registration booklet and program book for more details on when, how and where you can bid to benefit the Mission Pledge!



Gathering Tote Bags

Keeping in mind good stewardship, Gathering registrations will not include a Gathering tote bag. Pack your favorite souvenir tote bag (or just a big purse!) and be ready to fill it with Gathering goodies.

If no Gathering is complete for you without a tote bag, never fear! For only a small fee, you can add a tote bag to your registration. A limited number of these tote bags will be available for sale at the Gathering, so order one when you register!



BEFORE THE GATHERING

"Arise, shine, your light has come!" Logo Wear

In the age of customization, even your Gathering t-shirt can be custom-made! Presbyterian Women has created the "Arise, shine, your light has come!" logo as well as images of our 2018 Churchwide Gathering mascot, and from there, it's up to you!

Go to www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering and download the Gathering logo (black-and-white or color) and the permission letter, then let a local screen printer work some magic in creating your custom logo item. Or create an iron-on transfer on your home computer! (You can purchase the materials at an office supply or craft store.) Create your own personalized item, complete with your name. Or get together with your PW group (in the congregation, presbytery or synod) to create an item that identifies you as a group. Add the Gathering logo to t-shirts, jackets, scarves, tote bags, hats, shawls, anything!

We're eager to see what you and your PW group (in the congregation, presbytery or synod) do with that logo!

Don't forget to take pictures of the creation process! Share them with other groups in your presbytery or synod. And post your pictures on social media (like Facebook or Twitter)! Or send them to yvonne.hileman@pcusa.org for posting.

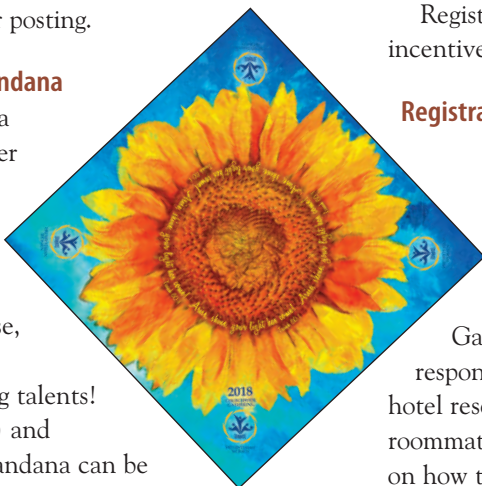
2018 Churchwide Gathering Bandana

How many ways can you wear a bandana or scarf? Have you ever repurposed a bandana for, say, a table setting or banner? Thanks to the 2018 Churchwide Gathering bandana, you can (if you choose, of course) flex your creative tying/wrapping/quilting/braiding talents!

Generously sized (22" x 22") and vibrantly colored, this lovely bandana can be worn in many ways or even incorporated into a table setting or other craft idea. At the center of the 2018 Churchwide Gathering bandana is a radiant sunflower with words from Isaiah ("Arise, shine, your light has come!") encircling its center.

Order item CWG18030 from Presbyterian Distribution Service, 800/524-2612 or www.pcusa.org/store; \$7 plus shipping.

Are you willing to share your styling of the bandana for the good of all? Send Carissa Herold (carissa.herold@pcusa.org) a short description of how you wear, style or display the bandana (with a photo, if possible).



One Small Gift

A gift card offering will be received at the Gathering. Watch for more details in the fall of 2017.

Gathering Registration

Registration (by mail and online) will open January 15, 2018. While registration will close for a short window before the Gathering, you may register on-site at the Gathering.

The Gathering registration booklet will be available in November 2017

- from Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery moderators;
- with the November/December 2017 issue of *Horizons*;
- as a free download on www.presbyterianwomen.org;
- from the Church Store, 800/524-2612 or www.pcusa.org/store; item CWG18001.

The booklet will contain all the information you need for selecting program options (educational opportunities, mission tours, etc.), making hotel reservations and generally planning your Gathering experience.

Register by May 1, 2018 to receive an early registration incentive gift!

Registration Options

Full registration—\$425

One-day registration—\$125

Housing

All sleeping rooms will be at the Galt House, where Gathering programming will take place. Attendees are responsible for making their own hotel reservations and finding roommate(s). Information on how to make reservations will be in the Gathering registration booklet.

Rooms start at \$144 per night, suites start at \$159 per night; one to four persons per room, plus tax. These room rates also will apply three nights before and after the Gathering. Make it a vacation!



TWENTY-THREE WAYS TO PROMOTE THE GATHERING



How To Spread the Word

We need your help to bring together Presbyterian women for the fun, nurture, education, leadership development, Bible study and so much more that makes up the Gathering! Word of mouth is the best way to encourage others to attend, so share your enthusiasm and share it often!

Use and adapt the following suggestions and resources to promote the Gathering. Customize them with any information that will appeal to your audience.

Include the dates, location and Gathering web address in each and every one of your promotions. And don't forget that you can add the logo to any of your communications—see the art reproduction page or visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering.

This Gathering web page will also have the most up-to-date details to include in your Gathering promotions. Visit often!

Say It!

1. Tell your friends that you are going to the Gathering. If you have attended a Gathering before, tell them about your experience; if you haven't, encourage them to go on the adventure *with* you!
2. Invite five friends to go to the Gathering. Make it a point to say "Would you think about joining me at the Gathering?" to just five women you think may be interested—a newly retired woman, a longtime friend who always looks through your Gathering souvenirs, a young woman who's new to PW!
3. Make announcements at PW and church meetings about the Gathering. Be sure to share the date, location, theme, cost and your personal testament about why you attend the Gathering. Urge people to talk with you if they have questions.
4. Recruit your pastor to help spread the news. Provide her or him with basic information, and make sure s/he knows who is the contact person in your church for additional information.

Act It Out!

5. Don't be skit-ish! Recruit two friends to help you (or three friends, if you have stage fright!) perform the skit on page 22 at meetings to promote attending the Gathering.
6. Develop your own skit to promote the Gathering. (And send it to Carissa Herold, carissa.herold@pcusa.org, so she can share it with other dramatists!)

Write It!

7. Send notes to five friends, inviting them to attend the Gathering. Download the Gathering logo (from www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering) to add to your stationery, or order PW logo notecards (PWR01010a; \$9 plus shipping for a package of 25) or postcards (PWR01011a; \$4 plus shipping for a package of 50). Order by calling 800/524-2612 or visiting www.pcusa.org/store.
8. Write an article for your church newsletter about why the Gathering is important. Talk about your favorite events and programs at the Gathering, friends made or church/PW group work that began from inspiration at the Gathering. Be sure to include the Gathering website (www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering) and the dates and location for the Gathering. Send copies to your presbytery and synod office, and let them know they can use the copy in their newsletters! (Please also email a copy to yvonne.hileman@pcusa.org; PW may use your story for promotions, newsletters or blogs.)
9. Send a note to women whom you know through PW. (See p. 9 for a sample note.) And don't stop with women in your congregation; look for other familiar names in your presbytery and synod directories.
10. Write a news release for your local newspaper, radio station and cable talk show host. Use information from this packet, and provide the names of local women who will be attending the Gathering.

Pass It Out!

11. Provide fliers at every meeting you attend—in your circle, church, presbytery and synod. A flier is included in this packet and is downloadable from www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering.
12. Make your friends Gathering fans! Using the template and instructions on pages 16 and 17, make a Gathering fan for everyone at your next circle, presbytery or synod meeting.
13. Give out Life Savers (candy) at meetings and explain how offerings taken at the Gathering help improve and save lives throughout the world.
14. Make copies of the puzzles on pages 14 and 15 for a fun way to promote Gathering attendance.
15. Distribute Gathering "Save the Date" magnets (item CWG18029) at PW events; free, plus shipping (limit 50). Order by calling 800/524-2612 or visiting www.pcusa.org/store.



TWENTY-THREE WAYS TO PROMOTE THE GATHERING

Decorate It!

16. Create a bulletin board to promote the Gathering. Literally spell out “Attend the Gathering!” then add any resources, decoration, information or inspiration that you think will help. Tack up copies of the “Save the Date” magnet and flier, along with a way to get in touch with local attendees or the main contact for Gathering attendance in your congregation, presbytery or synod.
17. Use props to decorate a Gathering table or display case.
 - Interpret the “Arise, shine, your light has come!” theme with pictures of the many women who have committed to attending.
 - Louisville is known for the Kentucky Derby—maybe you’d like to use the horse clip art (see the art reproduction sheet) on invitations or promotions? Stuffed or ceramic horses at your next circle, presbytery or synod gathering, holding signs encouraging Gathering attendance?
 - Check Pinterest for fun interpretations of sunflowers, light or horses (like the friendly filly cupcakes suggested by <http://www.southernliving.com/kentucky-derby/triple-crown-horse-cupcakes-video>).
18. Add the Gathering logo to t-shirts, hats, scarves, pins, cell phone cases. Attendees are being encouraged to create their own Gathering-logo items to identify themselves at the Gathering. Work with your congregation, presbytery, synod and/or mission team, justice network to create a special logo item to make your group stand out. See page 6.



Like It, Tweet It, Forward It!

19. Are you receiving Gathering Quest emails each month on the 30th of the month? If not, email patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org and ask to be added to the email list. And when you receive a Gathering Quest email, forward the email to a friend or two or three! Once each month, someone who shares will receive a small PW token as a “thanks for sharing!” (Gathering Quest emails include a reflection on light, news about the Gathering, PW history questions, and each month features a puzzle. For fun or to share, print

the puzzle from the eblast (or one of the many others on www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering!) and make them available in your PW newsletter or to your circle members!

19. Visit PW’s Facebook page, especially the events section, where you’ll see the 2018 Gathering listed. Or go to www.facebook.com and search for “2018 Churchwide Gathering.”
21. Tweet your excitement for the Gathering! Tweet to @PWPCUSA or hashtag your tweets with #PWGathering and #2018ChurchwideGathering. Your followers will see your enthusiasm, and maybe retweet your tweet!
22. Watch, screen with your group or forward the link for the Save-the-Date Gathering Trailer. This minute-and-a-half long video includes images from the 2015 Churchwide Gathering to showcase the range of what happens at the Gathering. Available at www.presbyterianwomen.org or www.youtube.com/user/presbyterianwomen.
23. Start a crowd-funded Gathering registration for someone in your church who would like to attend, but can’t afford it. Go to www.gofundme.com (or another platform for collaborative fundraising) or keep track of financial commitments in a spreadsheet or notebook. Send emails to PW in your congregation, presbytery or synod to support this participant.





Announcement to speak and print*

Presbyterian women from around the globe will gather in Louisville, Kentucky, August 2–5, 2018, for the 2018 Churchwide Gathering. The theme, “Arise, shine, your light has come!,” is based on Isaiah 60:1. Inspiring worship, Bible study, thought-provoking speakers and workshops on mission, leadership and spiritual growth will provide nurture and challenge for all who attend.

This also will be a time for fun and renewal with sisters in Christ!

For more information, visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering.

**This can be a pulpit announcement, too.*

End with:

Want to know more?
Just ask me about it
after worship, and
I'll be happy to talk
with you about the
upcoming
Churchwide
Gathering of
Presbyterian
Women.



Invitation letter

Dear [name],

You're invited! Yes, you are invited to attend the 2018 Gathering of Presbyterian Women!

Please join me and hundreds of other Presbyterian women from around the globe who will be gathering in Louisville, Kentucky, August 2–5, 2018.

This will be a time of nurturing our faith and challenging ourselves as we explore the theme “Arise, shine, your light has come!” We will learn about mission opportunities, justice and peace issues and participate in Bible study. We will worship together, sharing our faith in song and prayer, and having fun! It also will be a time to enjoy all Louisville has to offer.

If you have any questions about the Gathering, please let me know, or visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering.

I hope you can join me!

Grace and Peace,
[signature]

Celebrating 30 Years

This Gathering promo pack offers lots of ways to promote the Gathering! Focus your promotion on whatever speaks to you and your group—

- the timeless appeal of Churchwide Gatherings,
- the 2018 Churchwide Gathering scripture, theme and logo,
- the playful mascot, encouraging you to gallop to the Gathering, and/or
- that 2018 marks 30 years of Presbyterian Women!

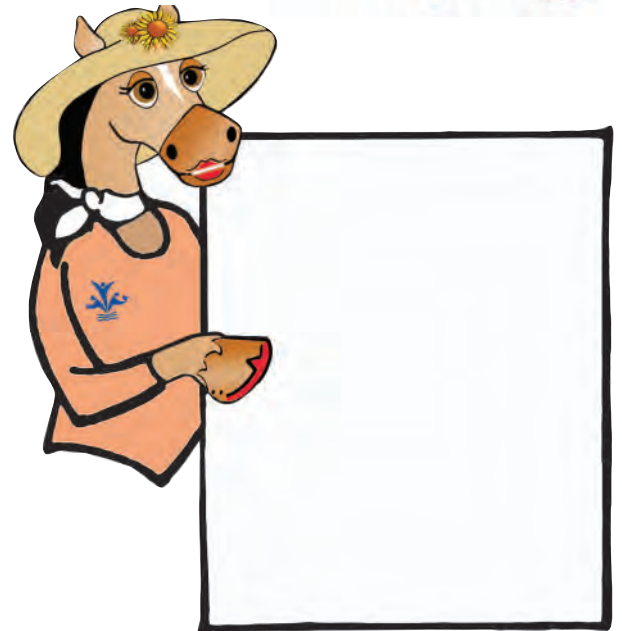
The first three angles appear throughout this packet, but here are a few ideas all about PW's 30th anniversary!

1. Throw a PW anniversary party with your circle!
2. Plan to attend an even BIGGER celebration at the 2018 Churchwide Gathering—and invite your friends!
3. Explore fun and creative ideas related to the 30th anniversary theme.
 - Create a bulletin board display, themed **PW: Celebrating 30 Years of Ministry and Mission! Let's take a stroll down Memory Lane, while planning a PW future!** Add a construction paper "road" with highlights of PW during this 30-year journey. Use clippings from newsletters, highlights of mission projects, reflections, photos. For the future, show the road winding into the sunrise. The PW Purpose could be a prominent building or the rays of the sun!
 - Start a new memory time capsule. Ask everyone in your circle to bring in mementos or items that can be put into a time capsule (with an explanation, of course). Consider photos, favorite prayers, tickets to a Gathering, Bible study reflections. Make time to collect and discuss items regularly throughout 2018, then make plans to open the time capsule at a future date.
 - The Think You Know PW? posters (available as free downloads from www.presbyterianwomen.org) are a great way to celebrate what PW has meant, does now and makes possible for the future.

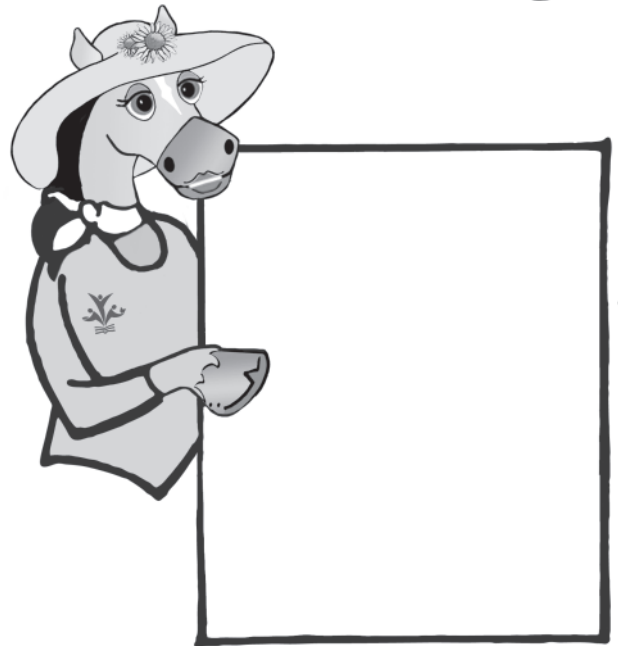
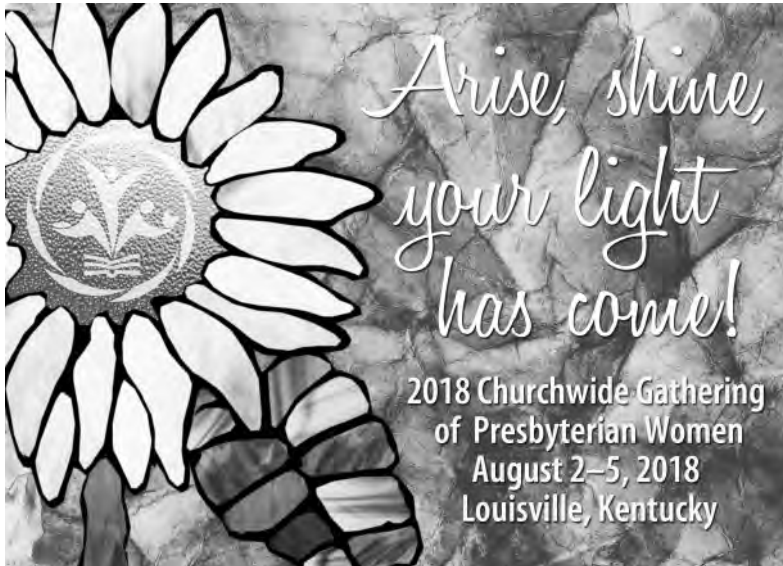
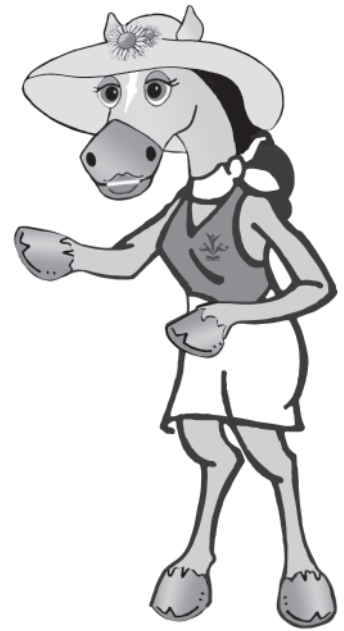
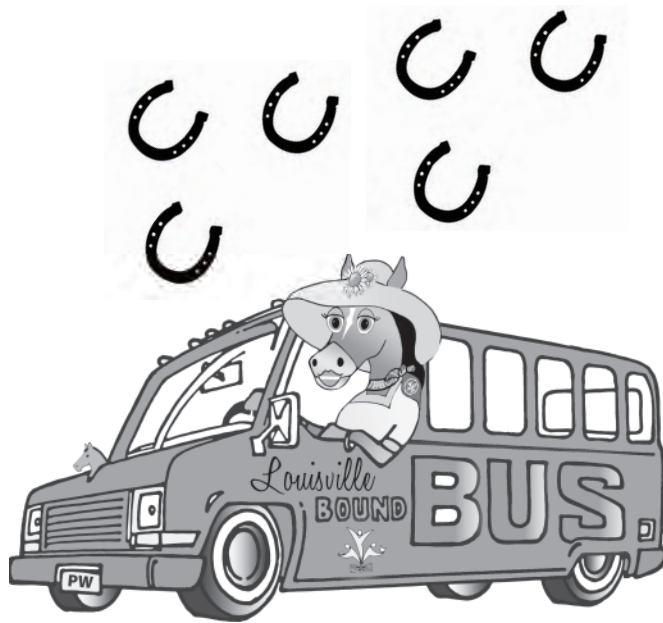
- The pearl is often considered the "gem" of note for 30th anniversary celebrations, at least in the west. A pearl-themed celebration (lots of white balloons!) might be a fun way to commemorate 30 years of PW. (You may want to explore the parable from Matthew 13:45: "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.")

4. Share reflections on what PW has meant to you and your dreams for PW. Want to share widely? Email carissa.herold@pcusa.org.
5. Follow the Gathering Quest emails for more information and great ideas. Each Gathering Quest includes at least one question about PW history during these 30 years. If you are not already receiving emails from PW, email patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org and ask to be added to the email distribution list.
6. Remember that a gift to the Mission Pledge, PW's annual fund, makes everything that PW does possible. To give, visit www.presbyterianwomen.org.
7. Order the PW History Exhibit Kit (item PWR15137) to learn more about the 200-plus years of Presbyterian women heritage, including PW's predecessor organizations and amazing individual women. Screen the video *200 Years of Presbyterian Women*, have display pieces printed for an exhibit, and add your own PW group's history to the exhibit.





PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN



Celebrate Presbyterian Women! Celebrate 30 years of Presbyterian Women!

2018 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women

Arise, shine, your light has come!

Isaiah 60:1

Attend because you want to . . .

- experience deep community and worship with more than 1,000 Christian women;
- discover how PW is engaged with the world—and how you can be, too;
- learn about current issues in the church and the world;
- explore mission opportunities;
- attend workshops on a variety of topics;
- meet international participants;
- participate in Bible study;
- visit the exhibit hall to connect, relax and shop;
- celebrate 30 years of Presbyterian Women!



**See you in Louisville for the
2018 Churchwide Gathering of PW!**



Come early and/or extend your time at the Galt House (at the special PW rate) and visit area attractions with your friends and family.

Registration booklets will mail with the November/ December 2017 issue of *Horizons*. Additional copies may be ordered by calling 800/524-2612 or going to www.pcusa.org/store; item CWG18001.

Registration opens January 15, 2018. Register by May 1, 2018 to receive a special early registration incentive.

Regular registration is \$425; one-day registration is \$125.

Check for updates in upcoming issues of *Horizons* magazine and at www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering.



Sudoku

		3				5		
		7	1	5			8	
	8		3	4	6			2
	5	4	6		3			8
3	1						4	5
7				2	5	6	1	
4				8	2	9	3	7
	3	5		6		8		
	7	2	9			4		

For answers, visit www.presbyterianwomen.org

Solve the Sudoku puzzle then solve the word problem! Copy the number in center square of each block of nine and fill in the blanks below. This will spell a word near and dear to the heart of PW! Here are some hints: 5=A, 1=H, 6=N

	A		H			N	
()	(5)	(8)	(1)	()	(4)	(3)	(6) ()

Download this (and many other resources!) at www.presbyterianwomen.org.

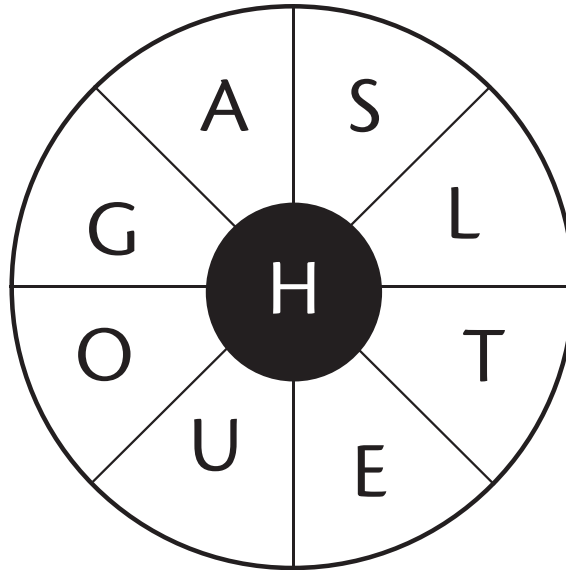


Word Wheel

Your aim is to create as many words of 4 letters or more using the letters in the word wheel only once in each word, and always including the letter in the center of the wheel. No proper names allowed! There are at least 17 6-, 5- and 4-letter words. There are only 3 7-letter words, and no 8-letter words.

Can you find 2 words made with the 9 letters? _____ *

* Hint: You'll be staying there for the 2018 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women!



7 LETTER WORDS

6 LETTER WORDS

5 LETTER WORDS

4 LETTER WORDS

Download this (and many other resources!) at www.presbyterianwomen.org.



Gathering Fan Template





Be a Gathering Fan!

Make a fan to show your excitement (and build excitement in others) for the 2018 Churchwide Gathering. (The template and instructions also are available at www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering.)

Materials

- 1 sheet of cardstock for each fan
- 1 sheet of printer paper for each fan
- A handle for each fan (Paint stirrers work nicely.)
- Spray adhesive
- Scissors

Instructions

1. Photocopy the fan graphic on page 16, making as many copies as you will make fans.
2. Following the instructions on the can of adhesive, spray the back side of the printout and attach it to the cardstock.
3. After you have attached the image to the cardstock, cut out the fan following the dotted line. (Cutting just inside of this line will give you a nice clean edge.)
4. Adjust your paint stirrer to the length you prefer and attach it with the spray adhesive.
5. Set fan aside and let the glue dry.

Black-and-white and full-color logos and graphics are available at www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering

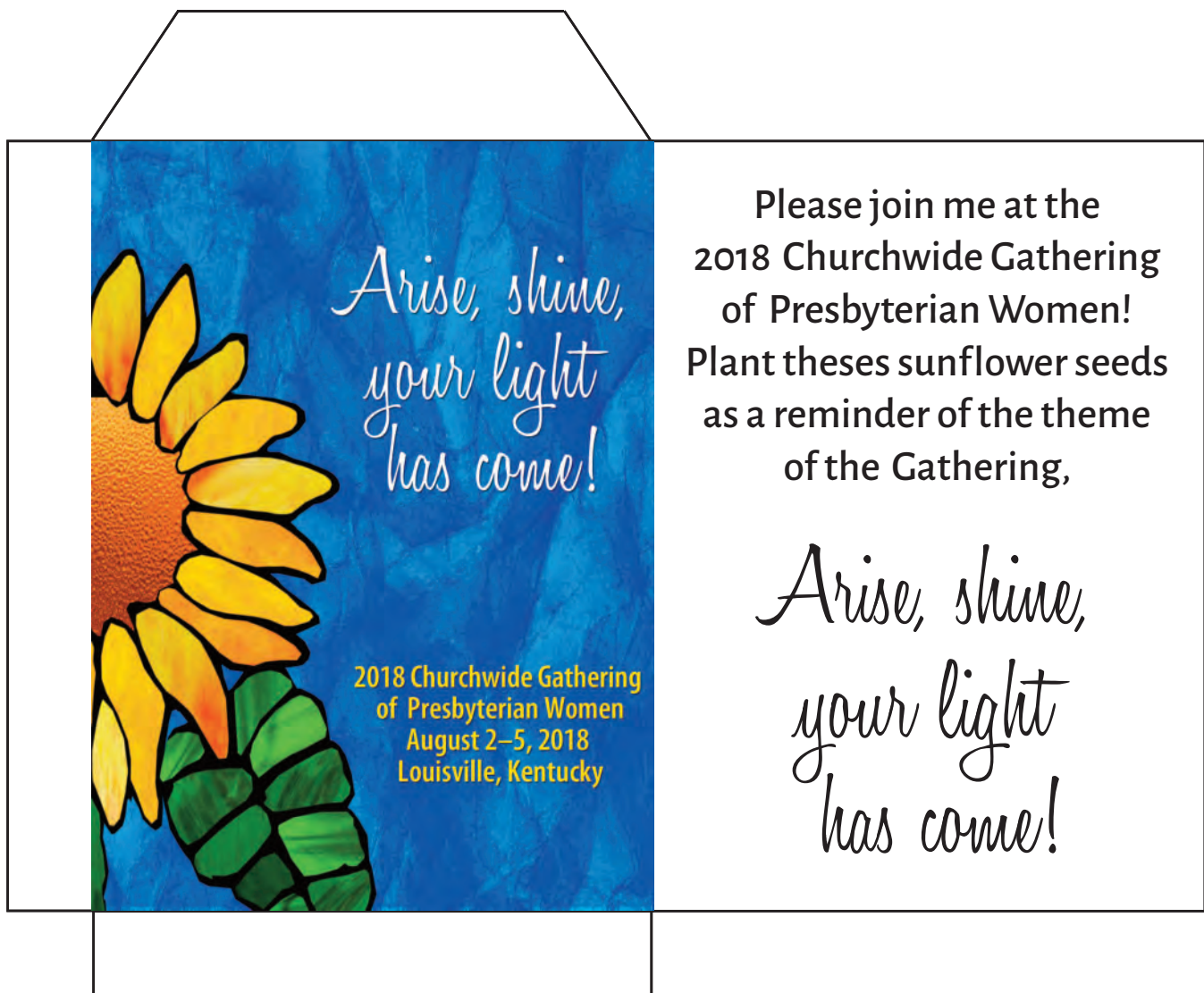


Seed Packet Template

The seed packet template below is available for you to cut, fold and fill. Add something special such as sunflower seeds (edible or to plant), Skittles or M&Ms or other sweet treats, or another fun idea! Add your own words to the packets and share with your circle or coordinating team, at your gatherings or even Sunday school. And here's a short reflection to share with the lucky recipients of the seed packet.

The theme for the Gathering is "Arise, shine, your light has come!" based on Isaiah 60:1. The 2018 Gathering logo features these words and a bright yellow sunflower against a bright sky.

The sunflower is a perfect symbol for Presbyterian Women. Presbyterian Women, like sunflowers, live for the Light. In fact, sunflowers are known to "follow the sun," turning toward the light, a phenomenon known as heliotropism. Sunflowers are native to North America but can now be found all over the world. There are several types of sunflowers—some tall, others short—but all sunflowers are hardy and serve as a reminder of the light.





Instructions for Fabric Sunflowers and Crocheted Sunflowers

Presbyterian Women Marilyn Collins and Joyce Booth offered their considerable expertise, creating the following instructions for making amazing fabric and crocheted sunflowers, respectively.

Use the following guides to make a field of sunflowers for you and your sisters! Wear them on your lapels, tag them to your totes, dress up your hats, make earrings and necklaces. Let your imagination transform the world from blah to sunflower special!

Warm thanks to Marilyn and Joyce!

Crocheted Sunflower

Supplies

- Worsted weight yarn in yellow
- Crochet hook, size G
- 3/4" button
- Scissors

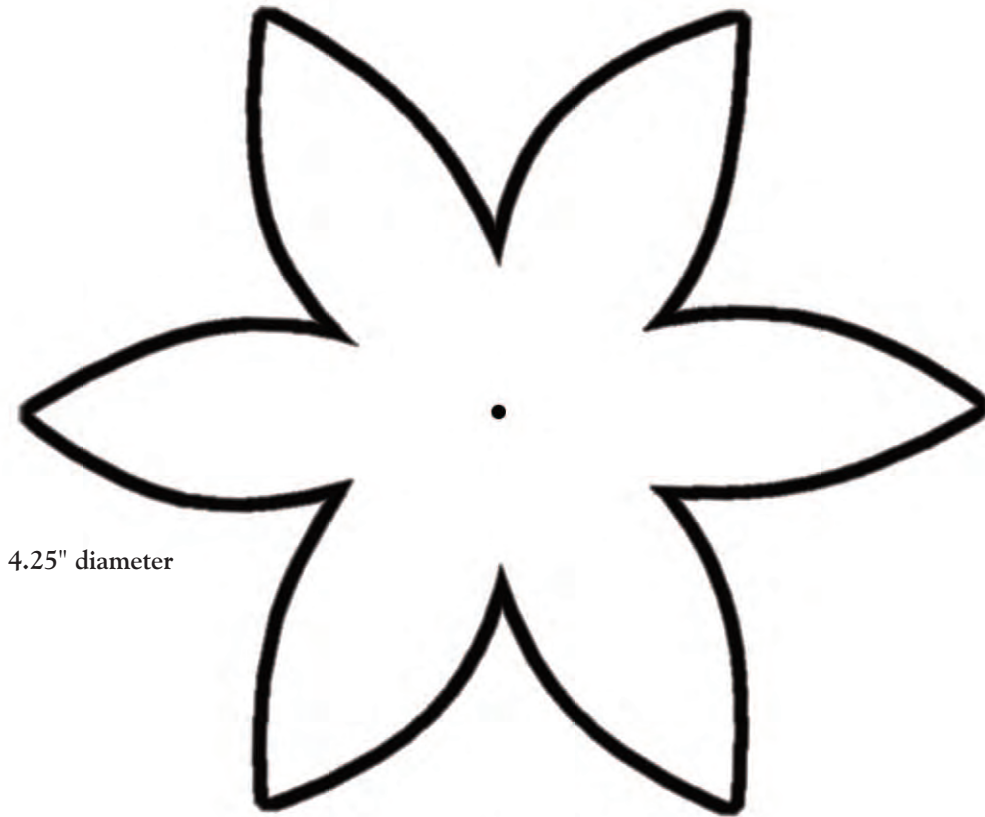
Steps

1. CH 4, join with SL ST to first CH to form ring.
2. 6 SC in ring. Join with SL ST to 1st SC.
3. 2 SC in each SC around (12 SC).
4. In next SC (SL ST, CH 2, DC, CH 3, SL ST in 3rd CH from hook, DC, CH 2, SL ST).
You've finished one petal!
5. Skip next SC and repeat between () for five more petals.
6. SL ST in same stitch as first petal and fasten off.
7. Attach button in your preferred manner (glue, thread or yarn).

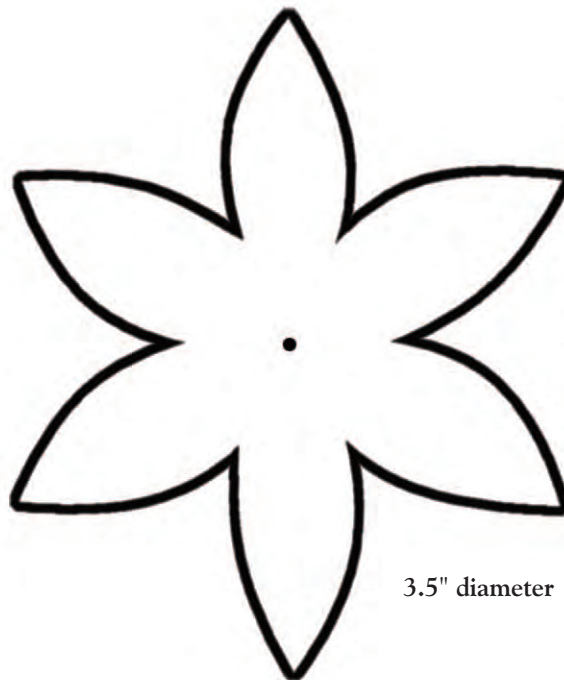




Fabric Sunflower Templates



4.25" diameter



3.5" diameter



Fabric Sunflower

Supplies (Makes One)

- Scissors
- Erasable marker or pencil
- Ruler or tape measure
- Fabric in two complementary colors (sunflower-patterned or -colored)
 - Fabric 1: 8.5" x 4.25" piece
 - Fabric 2: 7" x 3.5" piece
- Thread, complementary color
- Double-sided interfacing—weight of your choice

Note: I used “Steam-a-seam 2” by the Warm Company. If you choose a very thick interfacing, you only need half the length of the fabric pieces.

- Piece 1, cut to same 8.5" x 4.25" measurements as Fabric 1
- Piece 2: cut to same 7" x 3.5" measurements as Fabric 2
- Button or pin (perhaps a PW pin!) for center of flower
- Cardboard or vinyl, optional

Directions

1. Cut out the two pattern pieces from page 20. Copy onto cardboard or vinyl, if you plan to reuse.
2. Iron the uncovered side of the interfacing onto the fabric strip with a dry iron, using the heat listed on the interfacing instructions. (Photo 1)
3. Remove the interfacing paper. Fold the fabric and the interfacing in half and iron again.
4. Using the pattern, center the flower pieces on each square of fabric and draw around the petals with an erasable marker or pencil. Mark the center of each flower so that the layers can be aligned easily when completed.
5. Stitch around each outline using a complementary-colored thread with a very narrow zigzag or buttonhole stitch. (Photo 2)
6. Cut around petals very carefully so you do not accidentally clip any of the stitching threads. (Photo 3)
7. Layer the two sets of petals, offsetting the points. Sew short lines from the center so the petals stay in place. (Photo 4)
8. Complete the flower with a PW pin (or pin of your choice) through the center. (Photo 5)

Note: The interfacing will gum up your sewing machine needle and, eventually, the tension. If you are making more than one sunflower, wipe the needle with alcohol between flowers, and before beginning a different project.



Photo 1



Photo 2

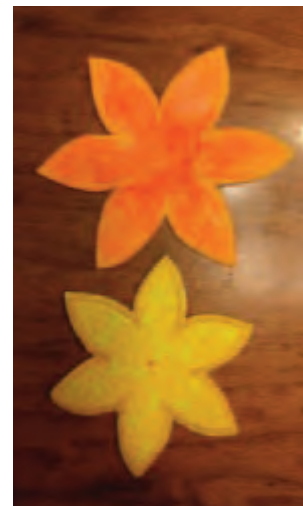


Photo 3



Photo 4

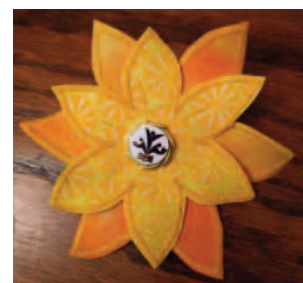


Photo 5



"Three Wise PW" Promotional Skit

By Rhoda Frasier

Actors

- 3 scripted actors on stage—PW1, PW2, PW3
- 3 actors planted in audience—Red Card Plant, Blue Card Plant, Green Card Plant

Costumes/props

- Shiny clothing for the Three Wise PW—shiny cloth, aluminum foil, battery operated twinkle lights, etc.
- Three clue cards; mount each clue on red, blue or green paper (as indicated in script)

The Three Wise PW enter the stage, humming the tune of "We Three Kings."

- PW1: *(Talking to the audience)* We are searching for our light. Can you help us?
- PW2: We each had a dream and were told, "Arise!"
- PW3: "Shine!"
- PW1: "Your light has come!"
- PW2: We arose and left our homes, searching. And because we are women, we are not afraid to ask directions.
- PW3: We made ourselves shine.
(Indicate shiny outfits.)
- PW1: But we can't find our light.
- PW2: We did have a clue saying "Are you REaDy?"
(emphasize "red") So we think we should look for something red.
- PW3: Has anyone seen anything red that might be a clue for us?

Red Card Plant holds up card. She can either read it or give it to actors to read.

Arise, shine, your light has come!
With a Business Meeting for some,
plenary speakers and learning,
fun, fellowship and singing
Don't be blue, there's even a theme
song to hum!

PW1: What do you make of that? A place of learning, inspiration, singing, fellowship and lots more.

PW2: Sounds like a wonderful place to find our light. But where is it?

PW3: There was another color in there. You will be blue if you are not there. So, are we looking for a Blue clue? Ha, ha—blue clues.

PW1: *(Rolling eyes)* Anyone have a *blue* clue for us?

Blue Card Plant holds up card. She can either read it or give it to actors to read.

Horizons is the place to find
or else you look online.
The registration is there to see
while sharing green tea with Susie and Lee.
Arise. Shine. Don't be left behind!

PW1: What are we registering for?

PW2: Where are we going?

PW3: When do we go?

PW1: I know, I know! We are looking for a *green* clue!

Green Card Plant holds up card. She can either read it or give it to actors to read.

Louisville is the place to be.
Mark your calendar—now is the key,
August 2nd to 5th of 2018—
The scene of the PW Churchwide Gathering!

PW1, 2 and 3: Arise, shine, our light has come! We are off to Louisville in August of 2018. See you there!



Commissioning Service

The following commissioning service may be used for synod and presbytery representatives to the triennial Business Meeting of Presbyterian Women and for participants in the Gathering. As time and attendance allow, you may wish to omit commissioning leaders who are not present at the service.

One person will be needed to read the part of the presenter. Plan to have room enough for those attending the Gathering to come forward and face those assembled.

Gathering Scripture

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.—Isaiah 60:1

Commissioning the Synod PW Moderator

Presenter calls the synod PW moderator.

(Name) is our synod PW moderator. She will represent (synod name) at the triennial Business Meeting of Presbyterian Women at the 2018 Churchwide Gathering. She will represent us and be our voice. She will share our interests and concerns. With careful study and thoughtful prayer, she will help determine the agenda and budget for Presbyterian Women for 2018–2021. (Name), please come forward.

Commissioning the Presbytery PW Moderator and Voting Representatives

Presenter calls the presbytery PW moderator and the voting representatives.

(Name) is our presbytery PW moderator and (Name(s)) is/are our voting representative(s). They will represent (presbytery name) at the triennial Business Meeting of Presbyterian Women at the 2018 Churchwide Gathering. They will represent us and be our voice. They will share our interests and concerns. With careful study and thoughtful prayer, they will help determine the agenda and budget for Presbyterian Women for 2018–2021. (Names), please come forward.

Presenter speaks to those who have come forward.

You will be our voice and you will convey our concerns; you will be our heart and you will express our devotion; you will be our mind and you will reflect our mission. Please respond “I do” to the following requests for service.

Do you willingly accept these responsibilities?

Do you promise to communicate our needs as you understand them?

Do you pledge to represent us well by interacting with other women from around the globe in Christian love and friendship?

Do you promise to attend the 2018 Gathering with enthusiasm and seek to experience all that it has to offer you, for your own benefit as well as that of Presbyterian Women?

You have now been commissioned as our representatives to the 2018 Gathering of Presbyterian Women. May you attend the Gathering with the knowledge that through our faith in Jesus Christ we are called to “arise, shine” to bring God’s light to the world. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, know that the gifts you contribute to the Gathering will strengthen the Body of Christ for the sake of the gospel and the benefit of all.

Blessing Gathering Participants

Presenter to those assembled:

Will all others who will attend the 2018 Gathering of Presbyterian Women please come forward? (Pause as they gather)

Presenter to attendees:

You have a wonderful opportunity to experience the excitement of worshiping with Christian women from around the globe. Enjoy the music, lift up the needs of the world in prayer, ponder the issues and challenges that will be brought before you, listen carefully to the message of unity in the Body of Christ and be delighted in learning new ways to express your faith. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, bring home with you new views of service and ideas to share with others.

Closing

Presenter to all:

Let us pray.

Oh, Holy One, we thank you for the blessings that we find in Presbyterian Women and for the opportunities it offers us to be in your service. We thank you for the excitement and challenges of the Churchwide Gathering. We pray, Lord, that you will find delight in the efforts of those who have planned the meeting.

We ask your blessings on these representatives who will attend the Gathering on our behalf.

Guide them in their decision-making. Be with them as they deliberate the issues, and help them to find just and peaceful answers to that which lies before them. Empower them to return home with energy to spread the hope that they surely will experience.

Open the eyes and hearts of those attending the Gathering to what you would have them see and do. We pray that the Holy Spirit will give them a voice to tell of their experiences and of the Oneness in the Body of Christ that they will feel among the many gathered.

Bless all those gathered here, that we may be assured that through our faith in Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit we are One. In the name of our Jesus the Christ we pray. Amen.