



# Quarterly Newsletter

## for Presbyterian Women Leaders

Download this resource at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/quarterly](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/quarterly).

February–April 2018

Presbyterian Women Churchwide .....

### Churchwide Gathering registration now open!

By Carissa Herold and Yvonne Hileman

#### Your basics

The Gathering will be held at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky, August 2–5, 2018. Rooms start at \$144/night; suites start at \$159, both plus taxes.

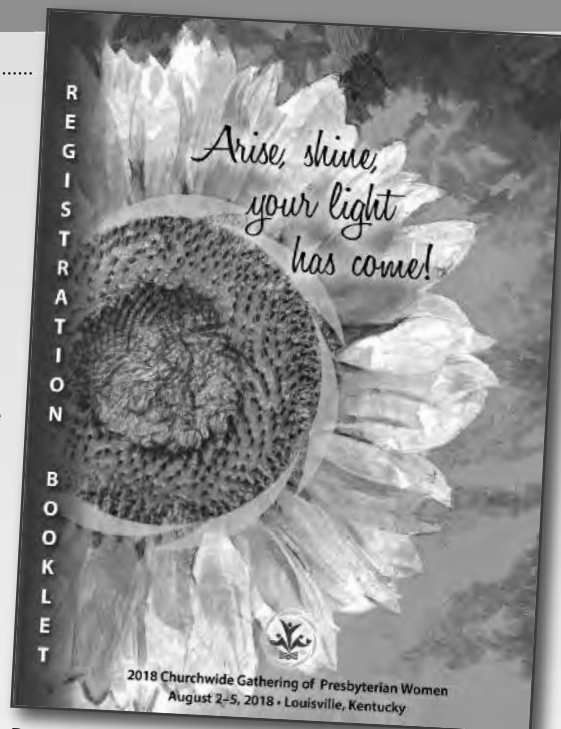
#### Registration now open

The registration booklet mailed with the November/December 2017 issue of *Horizons*. To order additional copies (for sharing!), order from the PW Shop ([www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop)) or call 800.533.4371 (item CWG18001). You may download a copy at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads).

#### Tips for online registration

- For easiest online registration, have your registration booklet marked with your programming choices and be prepared to enter or create a username and password.
- To register, go to [www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering).
  1. The screen opens to the logo and "Churchwide Gathering" in the middle of the page.
  2. Click on "Register now for the 2018 Churchwide Gathering!" You will be taken to the PC(USA) event registration site.
  3. Here is where you will need a username and password. If you don't have one, you will need to create one. **Note:** If you registered online for the 2015 Churchwide Gathering, your PC(USA) online account should still be active and you can use the same username and password.
  4. **If you are a voting representative**, do not register until you read the information you received by email January 22. If you did not receive this email, contact [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org).

- After you submit your registration, click the link on the confirmation screen to reserve a room at the Galt House.
- If you are mailing in your registration, please write clearly. If you want an emailed registration acknowledgement, please write your email clearly, as well; otherwise, a printed copy of your registration acknowledgement will be mailed to you.
- During the first three days of online registration (January 15–17), there was a glitch with the emailed registration acknowledgements. If you registered online and haven't gotten your acknowledgement, please email [pwcwg2018@aol.com](mailto:pwcwg2018@aol.com) and the registrar, Theresa Underwood, will email your acknowledgement.
- Please note that the first 800 registrants will receive a free copy of *Bound Together in Love*, the story of the union of United Presbyterian Women and Women of the Church in 1988. Also note that those who register before May 1 will receive a special-edition Gathering pin (below).
- If you have additional questions, contact the registrar (Theresa Underwood) at [pwcwg2018@aol.com](mailto:pwcwg2018@aol.com), or email [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org) (10–6:30 EST).



Register at [presbyterianwomen.org/gathering](http://presbyterianwomen.org/gathering).

#### Voting representative information

The second of four PW Churchwide Business Meeting memos was emailed to PW synod and PW presbytery moderators on January 22. We want to make sure that everyone who will be moderator at

the time of the Gathering (August 2018) receives these memos. If you received the email but are no longer serving as moderator, please forward the email to your successor and send her name and contact information to [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org) as soon as possible.

Again, if you are a voting representative, hold off on registering for the Gathering until you have completed the voting rep information form, returned it to [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org) and received confirmation from OGA Meeting Services that you are in

See "Churchwide," page 3.



**Don't miss what's inside!** • Tips for starting a new PW group • Birthday Offering update • God's Promise Bible study info • Help for those new to PW • PW/ACWC statement on sexual violence • Churchwide Gathering • and lots more!

## Presbyterian Women, Advocacy Committee for Women's Concerns issue statement on sexual harassment, abuse

Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA), Inc., and the PC(USA)'s Advocacy Committee for Women's Concerns have released a joint statement on sexual injustice. Here is the statement (you may download the statement at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/news](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/news)):

As courageous women, children, and youth from across the United States share their #MeToo and #ChurchToo stories, we reflect on the PW mission which says, in part, that Presbyterian Women will build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), works for justice and peace, and witnesses to the promise of God's realm. As a committee called by the church to be a prophetic voice to and for the church on issues of gender justice, ACWC is a partner to PW in this mission.

Together, we respond with empathy for the experiences of injustice due to sexual violence, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and other violence and discrimination against women. Together, we issue a call for repentance and justice-seeking. We offer this statement in hope of continuing conversations and healing actions within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at both the local and national levels.

God has created all people equally and directed us to love others as we love ourselves. Our Creator's teachings must be demonstrated in our actions as well as in our conversations. Jesus models for us how to live out the gospel of justice and peace.



The energy surrounding sexual assault issues has created an opportunity for our denomination to take the next step toward healing. How do we correct the culture that allows sexual abuse? How do we empower women to help themselves? How do we neutralize the harmful ripple effects of sexual violence and other forms of abuse? Presbyterian Women, in covenant with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Advocacy Committee for Women's Concerns, encourage women to speak up and speak out when they experience abuse, whether it occurs at home, in the work place, or in our churches.

At the same time, the faith community must confess and hold itself accountable for fostering environments that allow for abuses and encourage silence, repent and create systems where justice for victims is accessible, and offer resources to support healing for victims and secondary victims of abuse. We must individually and collectively begin to deconstruct ideologies that perpetuate maleness as superior to femaleness, whether in our imagery for God or in our references to one another, and think of one another in a way that lets us see our gender differences as blessings to be respected and celebrated.

PW partners with Presbyterians Against Domestic Violence, encourages the Courageous Conversations in October (Domestic Violence Awareness Month), participates in the UN's UNITE to End Violence Against Women campaign, encourages ratification of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Violence Against Women (CEDAW), observes International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women on November 25 each year and 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence beginning each November 25, and urges all to observe Orange Day on the 25th of every month by wearing orange to raise awareness of the global movement to end violence against women (see [endviolence.un.org](http://endviolence.un.org)).

PW and ACWC also encourage participation in "Thursdays in Black," an initiative of the World Council of Churches seeking a world without rape and violence, by wearing black on Thursdays in solidarity, in protest, in mourning, and for awareness and hope.

PW supports local shelters and recovery programs for survivors of violence and trafficking, and advocates at the UN Commission on the Status of Women. PW at the national level and ACWC are committed to breaking the code of silence with stories and education at the congregational level, and enlisting the help of good men in ending the culture of violence. See [www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org) for additional resources.

The Advocacy Committee for Women's Concerns will be at the 223rd General Assembly in St. Louis handing out #MeToo and #ChurchToo/#Time'sUp buttons in the exhibit hall. There will be awareness-raising efforts calling for the church's action in several GA resolutions. PW will hold a march for justice and peace at the 2018 Churchwide Gathering in August 2018.

### A Prayer for Healing

Gracious God. In these troubled times we come asking you to give us discernment as we search for ways to respect one another and to heal our hearts and, our thoughts, and our actions. We seek to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls. We seek to respect one another, to show Christian love, to live in harmony, and to be compassionate as we right the sins that have been committed.

For more information contact Courtney Hoekstra (ACWC), [courtney.hoekstra@pcusa.org](mailto:courtney.hoekstra@pcusa.org) or Susan Jackson Dowd (PW, Inc.), [susan.jackson-dowd@pcusa.org](mailto:susan.jackson-dowd@pcusa.org).

## PW 101 .....

### Help for those new to PW!

#### PW 101.5: The PW Circle Revisited

PW 101.2 introduced the idea that PW groups at the congregational level consist of circles. The circle is the foundation of all that PW does. PW 101.4 introduced the idea that PW is connectional and that the PW in the Congregation (PWC) is connected to PW at each level. To elaborate:

The PWC group informs and responds to the ministry of PW at all levels of the church: local, presbytery, synod and churchwide. The PWC has representation and contact with the PW in the Presbytery (PWP); the PWP connects to PW in the Synod (PWS); and the PWS connects to PW Churchwide. Information and programming moves in all directions throughout the structure, with local and regional work impacting national work, and national work informing regional and local work. There is good work happening in PW all of the time, from the mission of a local church in Boise to the fulfillment of a Thank Offering grant in Sudan!

In 1988, Christie Loney wrote:

*The circle can be a place that challenges us to stretch beyond our known limits. Within the confines of a loving, accepting community we can take risky steps, fail and not feel foolish. This enables us to move beyond the safe place, reach out to others and have our faith tested. In the circle, Christian leadership is born, nurtured and sent forth into ministry. Maybe you are a young woman, a woman in her mid-life crisis, a businesswoman, a working mother, a single parent, an elderly woman . . . ; each of you has a place in a circle . . . . A local church may have a number of circles, each one unique and different. Yet a commonality . . . binds them together . . . .\**

See page 5 for advice on starting a new PWC group.

\* "Shape Your Circle with Love," *Horizons*, July/August 1988, 16.

## Churchwide Gathering news, cont'd from 1

the system as a voting rep. If you aren't sure whether you will be a voting rep, contact your PWS moderator.

Note that registering for the Gathering is a separate process from securing a hotel room. You may reserve your room online or by calling the hotel.

### Lift your voices knitting needles! PW's Silent Auction needs you!

Ready for a bit of fun while helping your PW ministry? If so, plan to donate (and bid! bid! bid!) to the PW Silent Auction being held at the Gathering! Contributions should be new, with a minimum value of \$50.

More fun to participate as a group? Smaller items can be grouped into a basket. How's that for a fun, faithful, friendly team-building activity? Funds raised from this fun event will fortify the Mission Pledge, PW's annual fund, which makes PW ministry possible at all levels of the church (the Gathering and this newsletter, too).

Now, even the best, most fun plan requires a form! The silent auction form (available at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads)) should be completed and returned to Judy Persons, chief wrangler of silent auction entries, so she can make space for your Pinterest-worthy contribution!

Do you prefer to donate an experience (for example, a weekend retreat package) instead of an item? Perfect! Just let Judy know!

Feeling a bit competitive (in a faithful, fun, friendly way)? Challenge every PW in your circle or leaders on your presbytery or synod planning team to donate and bid! Remember, all funds raised will fortify your PW ministry. Do spread the word, and be assured that shipping from the Gathering won't be difficult.

### Plan to ship!

The UPS Store at the Galt House—a woman-owned franchise—is enthusiastically looking forward to PW's Gathering! As such, they will be offering a bit of a break to PW attendees on packaging and shipping from the Gathering (in case you are wondering how to fit that special something in a carry-on bag)! Details to come.

### A peek at the Gathering tote bag

STITCH (Sewing Together in the Caring Highlands) is a mission program of Highland Presbyterian Church in Louisville, and will be featured in the March/April issue of *Horizons*

magazine! STITCH volunteers work with refugee women on sewing projects, in collaboration with Kentucky Refugee Ministries (KRM). In fact, one of their new projects is the 2018 Churchwide Gathering tote bag!

The canvas Gathering tote is being lovingly embellished by the women! Each tote is as unique and special as the women who are adorning them. These Gathering tote bags are available as preorders (just \$20!) through Gathering registration. Register and order early to ensure that you receive one!

### Leadership development grants

Remember that PW Churchwide does have a limited number of leadership development grants available to help with Gathering costs. The deadline for applying is May 1, 2018, but

early application is encouraged. A link to the application form is on the Gathering web page. First-time Gathering attendees will receive priority consideration; voting representatives and current board directors are not eligible to apply. Do note that these grants are reimbursed funds (disbursed after receipts are submitted).

### Reasons to stay at the Galt House

There are lots of hotels in the Louisville and southern Indiana area. But there is only one Galt House. Here is a top-ten of why you may want to choose to stay at the Galt House!

- Ease. All things (minus mission tours and the justice march) happen under one roof—the Galt House roof.
- Special rate. Rooms start at \$144 and can accommodate up to four people.
- Newly renovated.
- Park and stay. Let your car rest (no need to navigate traffic) and give your feet a break, too!
- Vacation possibility. The CWG special rate is good three days before and three days after the Gathering.
- Budget stretcher. PWs who stay at the Galt House will receive three \$5 vouchers for food and nonalcoholic beverages purchased in the Galt House.
- Not too far from the airport and just off the interstate.



Gathering tote bags embellished by refugee women who are participating in Highland Presbyterian Church's STITCH ministry in Louisville, Kentucky.

- Walking distance from the PC(USA) Center; the Muhammad Ali Center; the Louisville Slugger Museum; and other downtown Louisville attractions.
- Helps PW with planning and fulfilling contractual expectations.
- The UPS Store is located inside for convenient shipping!

### Program book personal ads

The 2018 Churchwide Gathering program book will once again include personal ads that celebrate faithful Presbyterian Women, send prayers and joyfully envision the future of PW. Three sizes are available, as is design assistance. See a sample ad on page 7 of the registration booklet; the ordering form is on page 5 of the booklet.

### Disaster assistance training

In conjunction with the Gathering, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance will offer Disaster Preparedness Trainer training. PW Disaster Preparedness Trainers are expected to organize and conduct a minimum of three disaster preparedness trainings a year, sharing the basics of disaster preparedness with congregations and presbyteries. The training will be held on August 1, 2018, and is open to all interested PW. PDA will pay for two nights of lodging: July 31 and August 1. All meals on August 1 will be provided. Download the application and reference form from [www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads/pw-pda-application](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads/pw-pda-application). If you have previously submitted an application for a training that you were unable to attend or for more information, please contact Beth Snyder, 888.728.7228, ext. 5806; email [beth.snyder@pcusa.org](mailto:beth.snyder@pcusa.org).

### Promote the Gathering

Download the free promo packet at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering). You may also download the registration book from the same address. (Follow the links.)



This purse is one of the many items that will be sold to the highest bidder in the silent auction at the Churchwide Gathering.

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

### Birthday Offering materials mail in mid February

"Welcome to this place," the theme of the 2018 Birthday Offering, speaks to our call as Christians to "missional hospitality," as PW board member and pastor Jane DeFord says in the dedication service for the Birthday Offering. She adds, "Consider the missional hospitality extended to victims of domestic abuse and violence when a safe home is offered to the battered and the broken." The Birthday Offering will fund a grant to the Dwelling Place, one of three recipients of our missional hospitality in 2018.

The Dwelling Place in Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota; Cottage Village, a tiny-house community for low-income residents in Cottage Grove, Oregon; and Village of Grace Center for Physical and Spiritual Health in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, offer missional hospitality for survivors of abuse, impoverished rural families and mission teams working alongside the people of Honduras.

The Birthday Offering celebrates Presbyterian Women's history of missional hospitality. It was launched in 1922 and since that time, has funded nearly 100 major mission projects that continue to make a difference in the lives of women and children. While the projects and donation amounts have changed, PW's commitment to improving the lives of women and children have not. We continue to need broad, consistent support from Presbyterian women and others in order to continue funding mission projects like the ones selected for 2018.

We ask that you promote the Birthday Offering in your congregations using the materials that are being mailed in mid February to each PC(USA) congregation and each PW moderator, treasurer and co-moderator in the synods and presbyteries. If you do not receive materials by February 28, you may contact [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org) or download materials from PW's Birthday Offering web pages at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthday](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthday).



### HLM pins enclosed in fair trade bags

If you have received or given an Honorary Life Membership within the last few months, you may have noticed that the pin was enclosed in a colorful gift bag. That bag was handcrafted by a Peruvian woman whose life has been transformed after joining a sewing cooperative named *Kuichi* (the Quechua word for "rainbow"). Thanks to Partners for Just Trade, a mission partner of the PC(USA) and PW, the artisans of *Kuichi* are receiving a fair wage and decent work conditions for their highly-prized work. Thanks to this newfound stability, the women of *Kuichi* are emerging as leaders in their community, and are working toward bringing clean water, a sewage system and electricity to their dusty town high in the Andes.



## All things Mission Pledge

### For "God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7)

The Mission Pledge, PW's annual fund, makes all things PW possible, regionally and nationally. Presbyterian Women is funded solely by Presbyterian women. Your gifts to the Mission Pledge—in circles and through direct giving to PW, even in your estate plans—make PW and its ministries possible.

Giving directly to PW is not difficult! Return your check in the green envelope that is enclosed in every issue of *Horizons* magazine (or send a check made payable to Presbyterian Women, with "Mission Pledge" in the notes line of the check, to Presbyterian Women, Remittance Processing—Giving, PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh PA 15264-3652).

You may also visit PW's new website where online giving is easy, secure and enjoyable! See [www.presbyterianwomen.org/give/](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/give/).



### On the search for stories

The Mission Pledge story is an important story to tell because the Mission Pledge is PW's story—it makes PW possible! The Mission Pledge is PW's annual fund and provides for PW at all levels of the organization—from the circle to the national PW presence and even touches worldwide PW mission. Do you have a story to share about PW ministry that was made possible by the Mission Pledge? If so, please share with Carissa Herold (send photos too)! As

a connectional organization, Presbyterian Women are, well, connected in amazing ministry and truly make the world a better, kinder place.



Lunch on Us crew feels truly blessed to serve.

## PW in the Congregations

### Ideas for PWCs: First in a Series

**Submitted by Cheryl Pennington, CCT**

The Lunch on Us program, a ministry of First Presbyterian Church of Natchitoches, Louisiana, is in its fifth year of providing bag lunches (sandwich, fruit, chips, cookies, water) each Wednesday to those in need. Volunteers started with making 25 and are now up to handing out 150 to 200 each week to anyone who comes

by. The neighboring Episcopal church and other groups help with funding the program. The congregation is about 40 members and 8 to 10 members provide the person power each week to make and hand out the lunches. Crossett Presbyterian Church provided the inspiration for this mission and Ruston PC has followed suit. People receiving the lunches seem happy to have them and the

## Advice for starting a new PW group

By Susan Jackson Dowd

Thinking about starting a new PW group? Congratulations!

As you may know, Presbyterian Women (PW) does not have members, as such, but participants. Participation in PW is open to all women who choose to be supportive of PW in any way.

The PW Manual affirms this: "Presbyterian Women intentionally seeks the inclusion of all ages, races, ethnicities and geographic locations so that it reflects the rich diversity of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). All women who are members of the [PC(USA)] are considered part of Presbyterian Women" (p. 5).

You probably also know that PWs are guided by the PW Purpose, which speaks to the mission and ministry of PW, as well as PW's role in the PC(USA). (See PW's website for the Purpose.)

PW is connectional, just like the PC(USA). The organization is organized at each level of the church so that it can support the church at each level. Because PW is connectional, a local PW who is moved to start a PW group is encouraged to seek advice and assistance from other Presbyterian women in her congregation, in other congregations, or at other levels of the organization. If you are starting a new PW group, you will want to speak with your PW in the Presbytery moderator or PW in the Synod moderator. Email [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org) to learn who your moderators are.

The PW Manual: A Guide for PW Groups offers invaluable and specific guidance and ideas on how to start a PW group (p. 13). It is actually very easy to get started—your group can decide how to be PW in your congregation. Groups often begin by using the annual Bible study and/or participating in the Thank or Birthday Offering programs.

The manual and other resources are listed below.

- PW Manual: A Guide for PW Groups; \$6 (PWR16120; hard copy) or (PWR16121; download)\*
- PW Manual: Guide for Treasurers; free from Shop (PWR17123)\*
- 2017 PW Overview PowerPoint presentation—information about

### Opt for downloadable newsletter

If you are able to download the electronic version of this newsletter from our website, please contact [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org) to be removed from the print distribution list.



- PC(USA) connections and PW programs (available upon request).
- Introduction to Presbyterian Women (PW Purpose) brochure—free from Shop; PWR16103\*
- Celebration Giving brochure—explains PW's giving and funding program. Free; PWR15031\*
- Horizons magazine—an excellent source for information, timely features and Bible study support; see [presbyterianwomen.org/horizons](http://presbyterianwomen.org/horizons)
- Quarterly Newsletter for PW Leadership; email [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org) to get on the list for the QN as well as PW email blasts.
- Who Ya Gonna Call (staff directory; pdf available on the PW website)
- PW website—[www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org) (which offers many free downloads.
- Email [susan.jackson-dowd@pcusa.org](mailto:susan.jackson-dowd@pcusa.org) with questions or comments.

\* Visit [www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop) or call 800.533.4371 to order.

\*\* [www.presbyterianwomen.org/?s=treasurers](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/?s=treasurers)

### Upcoming PW gatherings

**Synod of Mid-Atlantic**—June 8–10; Massanetta Springs, Harrisonburg, Virginia. Bible study author Amy Poling Sutherlun will present. See [www.pwsynodmidatlantic.org](http://www.pwsynodmidatlantic.org) for more information.

**Synod of So. Cal/Hawaii**—June 2; spring gathering, Northminster in Diamond Bar. Also, fall gathering, October 6, Westminster Gardens, Duarte. See <https://pwsynod.wordpress.com/> for more information.

**Presbytery of Flint River**—November 3, 2018; First Presbyterian, Moultrie, Georgia. Email [Rosa.stewartpwct@gmail.com](mailto:Rosa.stewartpwct@gmail.com) for info.

**Churchwide Gathering of PW**—August 2–5, 2018; see page 1.

Send notice of your event to [yvonne.hileman@pcusa.org](mailto:yvonne.hileman@pcusa.org).

## Moderator's Message ...

### Better Together for 30 years



Recently, a question on social media about an installation service for PW leaders led me to the 2017 March/April issue of *Horizons* and the theme of identity. As I reread the entire issue I thought about the identity of Presbyterian Women over the last 30 years; I thought about changes in the organization, about friends I have made, how they have mentored me and how together as women of faith, we have lived out the one constant in being together: the PW Purpose.

As women of PW, we are called and make a commitment to worship and study, service and mission, advocacy and peace, building inclusive caring community and supporting the PC(USA). Hillary Mohaupt, in the March/April 2017 issue of *Horizons*, wrote about words that women use to identify other PWs—*passionate, generous, loving, prayerful, stubborn, creative, sustaining, hope-giving, faithful, effective, caring, serving, brave, courageous*.

As I reflect on the women I have met during my 30 months as moderator, I realize that they are the epitome of these words and more. They creatively approach change in their PW groups. They are courageously working to end violence against women. (BTW, do you have a story to share about your action during PW Together in Action for Human Trafficking days in January? I'd like to hear it. Email me at [winks mama@gmail.com](mailto:winks mama@gmail.com).) They are faithful in their commitment to community mission programs and support of the Birthday and Thank Offerings. They are committed to inclusive, caring community; they participate in public witness both locally and at the Churchwide level.

In the last 30 years, more than 350 women have led this organization at the national level. Think of PW groups across the denomination and that number rises exponentially. I want to stop and say, "Thank you, God, for the women of PW." Let us celebrate how we have been better together than alone, as women of faith, for 30 years. Each of us has walked the PW Purpose with others. In this year of celebration, I hope you will reach out and say "Thank you" to the many women who are your cloud of witnesses.

Reflecting on the past 30 years leads us to reflect on the next 30 years. As we look forward, I leave you with Hillary's words: "... wishing you a plenitude of opportunities to use your ... sustaining energy and love in synergistic, hope-giving service," because, together, what a difference PW makes to the church and to the world!

—Carol Winkler



## Together in Action for Children's Literacy in May

PW urges action around children's literacy during the week of April 30–May 6, 2018, Children's Book Week, and PW's second Together in Action week of the year. Try one of these ideas:

- 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.
- Give to PW's Thank and Birthday Offerings, which fund education programs and help build schools.
- Volunteer at a local library (for a day or on a regular basis).
- Volunteer at schools to help children who are falling behind.
- At story hours, supply nutritious snacks, cushy chairs, warm hugs—things hungry children need.
- Community Story Hour (host it at your church and read aloud to children of the community; may be a one-time event or ongoing).
- Consider working with a middle-school-age or high-school-age group. There are uncertain readers of every age and giving a boost (including mentoring) can help young people who are at a disadvantage socially, academically and/or economically (and, therefore, at risk).
- Donate books to hospitals, schools, community centers . . .

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



### International Day of the Roma

International Day of the Roma is April 6, 2018. To commemorate this day and to learn more about the Roma community, use PW resources developed in partnership with the Reformed Church in Hungary (RCH). Visit [www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org) (search for "Roma") for these resources and to access timeless Roma devotionals from the past several years on PW's website.



### Commission on the Status of Women

Follow the Presbyterian delegation as they advocate at the global level during the UN Commission on the Status of Women, March 12–23, 2018. See PW's Facebook page, [www.unwomen.org](http://www.unwomen.org) and [www.presbyterianwomen.org/justice](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/justice). If you are in or near New York City during the Commission, you need not be a member of the delegation to attend NGO CSW events. Learn more at [www.ngocsw.org](http://www.ngocsw.org).

### White Privilege Conference

Learn more about systemic racism at the WPC, April 4–7, 2018, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Information and registration at [www.whiteprivilegeconference.com/registration-information](http://www.whiteprivilegeconference.com/registration-information).

## Justice and Peace Calendar (see [presbyterianwomen.org/justice](http://presbyterianwomen.org/justice))

### February

- African American History Month; also, National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month
- 1 National Freedom Day
  - 4 Souper Bowl of Caring
  - 12 International Day against the Use of Child Soldiers
  - 14 One Billion Rising for Justice
  - 25 Orange Day; <http://endviolence.un.org>

### March

- Women's History Month
- 2 World Day of Prayer
  - 4 Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday
  - 8 International Women's Day
  - 12–23 UN Commission on the Status of Women
  - 12–23 PW Together in Action for Women's Empowerment
  - 22 World Water Day
  - 25 Orange Day; <http://endviolence.un.org>
  - 29–A.7 Ten Days of Prayer and Thanksgiving for the Roma

### April

- Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- 1 Easter
  - 8 International Day of the Roma
  - 8 Self-development of People Sunday
  - 12 International Holocaust Remembrance Day
  - 20–23 Ecumenical Advocacy Days
  - 22 Earth Day
  - 24 Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day
  - 25 Orange Day; <http://endviolence.un.org>
  - 30–M.6 Children's Book Week
  - 30–M.6 PW Together in Action Days for Children's Literacy

### May

- 1 May Day/International Workers Day
- 7–11 Teacher Appreciation Week
- 12 World Fair Trade Day
- 12 Stamp Out Hunger Drive
- 13 Mother's Day
- 22 International Day for Biological Diversity
- 25 Orange Day; <http://endviolence.un.org>
- 27 Disability Inclusion Sunday
- 27 Intercultural Church Sunday
- 28 Memorial Day

### June

- 17 Father's Day/Men of the Church Sunday
- 19 Juneteenth
- 20 World Refugee Day
- 25 Orange Day; <http://endviolence.un.org>

## A World Uprooted: Ecumenical Advocacy Days 2018

*A World Uprooted: Responding to Migrants, Refugees and Displaced People* is the theme of Ecumenical Advocacy Days 2018, to be held in Washington, DC, April 20–23. Each year millions of people cross borders in search of more secure and sustainable lives. Participants will analyze current policy and envision ways to more fully and justly respond to the global and local needs of displaced communities. Through prayer, worship, advocacy training and networking, they will seek policy changes that advance hope and overcome the devastating impacts of conflict, climate change and corruption on God's people. See <https://advocacydays.org/2018-a-world-uprooted>. And join the PC(USA) for Compassion Peace and Justice Training Day, April 20, at New York Avenue PC in Washington, DC. Learn more at [www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/washington/advocacy-training-weekend/](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/washington/advocacy-training-weekend/).

## 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

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give 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 October 1 through December 31, 2017. Many have given to other ministries of PW and they are thanked, too, but are not listed below.

Emily Nietering  
Flo Pacharzina  
Marjorie D. Palmer  
Mary Patterson  
Nancy Pienta  
Mrs. Elvin Rhoten  
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**Remember, shop AmazonSmile and help PW! Start at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), choose PW as your charity, and Amazon gives a portion of each purchase back to PW!**

**Read inspiring stories about 30 years of Presbyterian Women in the March/April 2018 issue of *Horizons* magazine! Not a subscriber? Call 866.802.3635.**

### PW Mission Partners .....



Ariat Philips, coordinator of the Women's Desk, East Gambella Bethel Synod, Ethiopia, received PW/*Horizons* Bible study resources from PC(USA) mission co-worker Janet Guyer in October 2017. Janet said, "I shared several editions of the *Horizons*/PW Bible study with the women. They were thrilled to have new resources and Bible study techniques."

### Working for Justice and Peace .....



PW Churchwide Moderator Carol Winkler challenged staff and CCT to make January 11 another Orange Day to raise awareness of violence against women. Anita Coleman, synod rep from So. Cal./Hawaii, rose to the challenge. Carol, too, wore orange and talked with three women at the grocery store who were wearing orange. One of them told her about her friend's church involvement. "I will be surprised if they don't have a week of focusing on human trafficking next year. She was very impressed that our program was nationwide," Carol said.

## Know your way around the PW Shop and PC(USA) Store!

When you're ordering *only* PW resources, visit [www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop). But if you're ordering *both* PW and PC(USA) resources, use one of these ways to order from the PC(USA) Store:

- By phone: 800.533.4371 (Mon–Fri, 9 AM–5 PM ET)
- On line: [www.pcusastore.com](http://www.pcusastore.com) (be sure to click the Presbyterian Women link in the blue bar!)
- Email: [info@pcusastore.com](mailto:info@pcusastore.com).

The customer service staff are learning all there is to know about PW materials, so please continue to be patient if you are asked to answer an extra question or two. Please note that the PC(USA) Store does not use PDS PIN accounts. PW circles and churches should visit the site to learn about setting up an account.

Currently, shipping charges to U.S. addresses (not Puerto Rico) are 10 percent of order total, \$5.25 minimum, \$65.00 maximum.

And while ordering PW materials has changed, there is no need to recycle recent promotional materials that include the older ordering information! Please continue to share and refer to these materials. The 800 number will continue to “roll over” to the new number for a while, and orders sent to the older address will continue to be processed.

## Bible Study .....

### Field testers sought for 2020–2021 *Horizons* Bible study

*Horizons* Bible studies are developed by Presbyterian Women for Presbyterian Women. Presbyterian women nominate authors who submit outlines and sample lessons. The Churchwide Bible study committee meets in the spring to review proposals and choose an author, four years out. The chosen author writes a first draft that is field tested by PW groups around the country. Field testing takes place between August and December every year. Groups receive the first 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 for the 2020–2021 study on lament, to be field tested in late 2018? Email [betsy.ensign-george@pcusa.org](mailto:betsy.ensign-george@pcusa.org) or call 502.569.5366.

## Horizons Reps' Corner

### Dear *Horizons* Reps,

Presbytery and synod gatherings are just about to get under way. How do you plan to promote *Horizons*? Let us know, and we will share the best of the best practices in an upcoming *Quarterly Newsletter*! Send your story (skits, contests, photos) to [carissa.herold@pcusa.org](mailto:carissa.herold@pcusa.org).

Meanwhile, here we are again! Time to break out a new calendar, as 2018 is very much here! Need a reason to break out the kazooos? 2018 is extra special as 2018 is the 30th year of Presbyterian Women's award-winning publication, *Horizons* (magazine and Bible study)! As this year of celebration dances on, here follows is a list of themes for this year's *Horizons* magazines\*:

- January/February 2018—Global Exchange to Indonesia
- March/April 2018—30 Years of Presbyterian Women!
- May/June 2018—Faith and Creativity
- July/August 2018—Compassion and Empathy
- September/October 2018—Trending Faith, Timeless Faith
- November/December 2018—Arise! Shine! Your Light Has Come! Highlights from the 2018 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women/Christianity's Global Faces

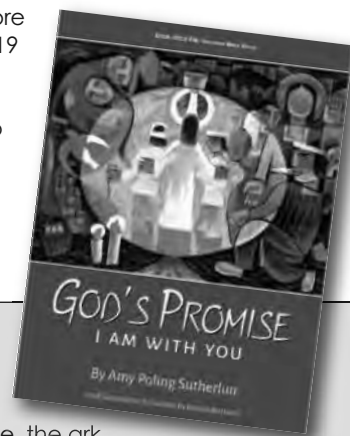
*Horizons* reps, please share this list of themes with potential subscribers as even the least enthusiastic will undoubtedly sign up to receive such interesting content!

And if you need to offer just a bit more, explain that if she subscribes by April 1, 2018, she will receive this year's fantastic PW/*Horizons* Bible study, *God's Promise: I Am With You* by Amy Poling Sutherland, as part of her subscription. A \$10.00 value. In her mailbox. Done.

Subscription orders after April 1, 2018, will receive next year's Bible study by Eugenia Gamble on the Ten Commandments.

See inside and below for more information about the 2018–2019 Bible study.

\* The editor reserves the right to change her mind regarding upcoming themes (that is, tweak the words to describe the theme—tweaking is what editors do!).



### Introducing *God's Promise: I Am with You* Bible study resources\*\*

The 2018–2019 *Horizons* Bible study, *God's Promise: I Am with You*, takes readers on a journey through scripture to consider circumstances in which God articulated God's promise of presence. This study does not delve deeply into manifestations of God's presence—the tabernacle, the ark of the covenant, manna, the Temple, pillars of cloud and fire—but rather on God's articulation of the promise. We see anew that God offered words of profound comfort and commitment to individuals and communities from the time of the patriarchs to that of the prophets; from the judges to the kings; before, during, and after the exile; into the New Testament and beyond. *Horizons* subscribers will receive their copy of this study with the March/April 2018 magazine. Remember, this is the most cost-effective way to receive the Bible study—with a subscription to *Horizons*! Also see the enclosed flier.

- *God's Promise*, English—HZN18100, \$10
- *God's Promise*, Spanish—HZN18110, \$10
- *God's Promise*, ecumenical—HZN18102, \$10
- *God's Promise*, large-print—HZN18150, \$15
- *God's Promise* workshop for leaders—HZN18101, free\*\*\*
- *God's Promise*, companion DVD—HZN18103, \$20
- *God's Promise*, audio download—HZN18172, \$15
- *God's Promise*, charm/pendant—HZN18300, \$10
- *God's Promise* poster—HZN18410, free
- *God's Promise* 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 800.533.4371 or visiting [www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop).

\*\*\*Free downloads may be found at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/bible](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/bible).





# 2018 BIRTHDAY OFFERING

*of Presbyterian Women*

## Welcome to This Place

### ORDER FORM

The Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women celebrates Presbyterian women's history of mission giving. It was launched in 1922 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Woman's Auxiliary in the Presbyterian Church in the United States (PCUS). Since that time, it has become an annual tradition and has funded nearly 100 major mission projects that continue to make a difference in the lives of women and children. While the projects and donation amounts have changed, Presbyterian Women's commitment to improving the lives of others has not. We continue to need broad, consistent support from Presbyterian women and others in order to continue funding mission projects like the ones selected for 2018.

In 2018, we will offer our prayers and financial support to the following recipients:

- **Cottage Village, a Tiny-house Community for Low-income Residents**—COTTAGE GROVE, OREGON  
Cottage Village will provide quality, affordable housing and a safe, structured social community for individuals and families with low or very low incomes. This Birthday Offering grant will be used to help build 13 tiny houses and a central shared-use area that will serve as a compassionate and protective community for vulnerable rural citizens.
- **Village of Grace Center for Physical and Spiritual Health**—TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS  
This Birthday Offering grant will make it possible for the Presbytery of Honduras to purchase the Village of Grace Center for Physical and Spiritual Health near Tegucigalpa. Originally established by Presbyterian mission co-workers, the retreat center will be managed by Presbyterian women in Honduras. It will offer international hospitality for retreats, workshops and mission teams from the PC(USA), Solar Under the Sun and Living Waters for the World.

- **The Dwelling Place**—MINNEAPOLIS AND ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA  
The Dwelling Place was established in 1998 to provide for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of women and their children following their escape from a violent partner. Transitional housing, education, food, clothing, trauma-informed support services, programming and mentoring for women are all part of the mission of the Dwelling Place. This Birthday Offering grant will help the Dwelling Place purchase a vacant lot where they will construct a multi-use building with spaces suitable for large and small group programming, one-on-one case management, safe living space and staff offices. With the additional building, Dwelling Place will be able to serve even more women and children who are seeking safety.

Please promote prayerful, generous support of the Birthday Offering in your presbyteries and congregations, using the following tools:

- Promotional booklet—mailed to every PC(USA) congregation (addressed to "PW/Women's Group") as well as moderators, co-moderators, treasurers and Celebration Giving representatives at every level of PW.
- The January/February 2018 issue of *Horizons*—announces the Birthday Offering grant recipients, offers a dedication service and lists resources available for promoting the offering.
- PW's Birthday Offering web pages ([www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthday](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthday))—free downloads of the dedication service, booklet, order form, promotional video, history/FAQ, grant application and a list of past recipients; links to order additional materials.

Order materials from [www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop) or call 800/533-4371.





# 2018 BIRTHDAY OFFERING

*of Presbyterian Women*

## PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS ORDER FORM

QUANTITY	PDS#	ITEM	PRICE	REMITTANCE
_____	PWR12501	<b>Group giving envelope</b> (pkg. of 25) Traditionally used in PW circles and congregations	FREE	_____
_____	PWR16456	<b>Individual giving envelope</b> (pkg. of 10) For those outside PW circles, those who want to give over and above their normal offering and those who wish to give with a credit card	FREE	_____
_____	PWR18452	<b>Bulletin cover</b> (8½"x14"; pkg. of 20)	FREE	_____
_____	PWR18450	<b>Bulletin insert</b> (pkg. of 20; one design)	\$3/pkg.*	_____
_____	PWR18453	<b>Placemat</b> (English/Spanish; pkg. of 25)	\$4/pkg.*	_____
_____	PWR18454	<b>Poster</b> (English/Spanish; 11"x17")	FREE	_____
_____	ONLINE ONLY	<b>Promotional video</b> (English/Spanish); <a href="http://www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen">www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen</a>	ONLINE	_____
_____	PWR18457	<b>Promotional materials order form</b> (distribute at all presbytery and synod events)	FREE	_____
_____	PWR18451	<b>Promotional booklet</b> Contains information and resources you'll need to celebrate the Birthday Offering at PW gatherings in the congregation, presbytery and synod, including a poster, impact stories, invitation letter, overview of grant recipients, dedication service (English and Spanish), ways to support the Birthday Offering, the order form and more.	FREE	_____
_____	PWR00507	<b>Book:</b> <i>Messages of Reconciliation and Hope: 75 Years of Birthday Offerings, 1922-1997</i> by Catherine Stewart Vaughn	\$12*	_____

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(ADD 10% OF ORDER TOTAL, \$5.25 MIN., \$65 MAX.; NO SHIPPING CHARGES FOR FREE/PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS)

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**Pittsburgh, PA 15264-5254**

To order by phone, call 800/533-4371, Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM EST.

To order online, go to [www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop).

To learn more about the Birthday Offering, and download a list of past recipients, go to [www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthday](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthday).

PWR18457

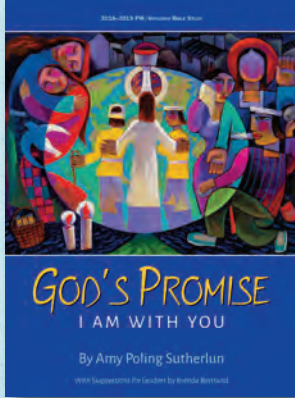


# Introducing the 2018–2019 PW/*Horizons* Bible Study

## God's Promise: I Am with You

By Amy Poling Sutherlun

With Suggestions for Leaders by Brenda Bertrand



"I will be with you."

"I am with you."

These words—God's words to God's people—convey a profound truth for God's people. God is with us. Throughout scripture, God promises to accompany each of us throughout our lives and the lives of generations before and after us.

"I will be with you."

"I am with you."

The 2018–2019 PW/*Horizons* Bible study, *God's Promise: I Am with You*, takes readers on a journey through scripture to consider circumstances in which God articulated God's promise of presence. This study does not delve deeply into manifestations of God's presence—the tabernacle, the ark of the covenant, manna, the Temple, pillars of cloud and fire—but rather on God's actual articulation of God's promise. We will see anew that God offered these words of profound comfort and commitment to individuals and communities from the time of the patriarchs to that of the prophets; from the judges to the kings; before, during, and after the exile; into the New Testament and beyond, to the end of the age.

During these nine lessons, we will discover how God's promise speaks to *our* circumstances, as individuals and as a community. We will be encouraged to know of God's presence with us wherever we find ourselves on this life's journey—through uncertainty and discouragement; during trials and times of powerlessness; when we seek God's guidance and, yes, during our everyday lives.

**Lesson One:** God with Us Wherever We Are

**Focus:** God's promise to be with us allows us to consider the surprising and powerful intimacy of God's willingness to be with us in all our circumstances.

**Primary Scripture:** Genesis 26:1–6; 28:10–22

**Lesson Two:** God with Us in Our Uncertainty

**Focus:** God accompanies the called; it is God's presence in our weakness that equips us for our calling.

**Primary Scripture:** Exodus 3:1–12, Judges 6:11–27

**Lesson Three:** God with Us in Our Discouragement

**Focus:** God's promise of presence gives us courage, strength, boldness, and hope, when on our own we would lose heart.

**Primary Scripture:** Deuteronomy 31:1–8; Joshua 1:1–9; Haggai 1:1–15, 2:1–9

**Lesson Four:** God with Us When We Seek God

**Focus:** God summons God's people, and especially God's leaders, to walk in God's ways and to seek God.

**Primary Scripture:** 1 Chronicles 28:1–21; 1 Kings 11:1–13, 29–39

**Lesson Five:** God with Us When We're Powerless

**Focus:** God's promise of presence when we are powerless invites us to lay down our weapons of worry and keep our eyes on God.

**Primary Scripture:** 2 Chronicles 20:1–30; Deuteronomy 20:1–4

**Lesson Six:** God with Us Through Our Trials

**Focus:** God says, "I will be with you," and that promise of presence conveys the depth of God's love.

**Primary Scripture:** Isaiah 41:8–13; 43:1–7; Psalm 46:1–11

**Lesson Seven:** God with Us as Emmanuel

**Focus:** The promise shifts from the "God with us" promise to the "God with us" person of Jesus Christ.

**Primary Scripture:** Isaiah 7:10–16; Matthew 1:18–25

**Lesson Eight:** God with Us as the Holy Spirit

**Focus:** God who was incarnate in Jesus Christ is now present as the Holy Spirit.

**Primary Scripture:** John 14:1–31

**Lesson Nine:** God with Us

**Focus:** Jesus extends the promise of presence to his followers, whom he sends into the world.

**Primary Scripture:** Matthew 18:15–20; 28:16–20

### About the authors



Amy Poling Sutherlun grew up in Texas and New Mexico, the middle child of a sixth-generation pastor. She briefly bucked the family ministry tradition by earning a master's degree in education at Austin College and teaching school in intercity Dallas for two years. However, Amy also did mission work in Malawi and served

churches in Texas and Oklahoma before ultimately heading to Princeton Theological Seminary. Ordained pastoral ministry led her first to Huntington, West Virginia, then to San Marcos, Texas, where she currently co-pastors First Presbyterian Church. Her passion in ministry is exploring and witnessing the intersection between people's stories and the unfolding story of God's work in the world.



Suggestions for Leaders writer Brenda Bertrand's eclectic 20-year career spans work as a news anchor, a political appointee in Washington, D.C., a university and military chaplain, and a consultant for leading global firms. She invests her life energies in helping women find the courage and confidence to take their next leap of faith in work and

life. With master's degrees from the University of Texas and Princeton Theological Seminary, Brenda recently spent a year teaching in the People's Republic of China. A native of the U.S. Virgin Islands, she is a lifelong pilgrim, traveling the globe to find its most beautiful beaches and sacred spaces.

Subscribe to *Horizons* by April 1, 2018, to receive a copy of this study free with your subscription! To subscribe, call 866/802-8635 or visit [www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons).



# Order Form

## *God's Promise: I Am with You* Bible study, supplementary materials, and other helps

To order the 2018–2019 PW/*Horizons* Bible study and supplemental materials, complete and mail in the order form below, go to [www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop), or call the PC(USA) Store at 800/533-4371, Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM EST.

Item	Item #	Qty.	Price*	Subtotal
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Ecumenical edition	HZN18102		\$10.00	
Spanish edition	HZN18110		\$10.00	
Audio edition	HZN18172		\$15.00	download only
Slightly abridged; no Suggestions for Leaders. Order and download from <a href="http://www.pcusastore.com">www.pcusastore.com</a> .				
Companion DVD	HZN18103		\$20.00/set	
Includes lesson introductions and summaries, and more.				
Bulletin cover—8.5" x 11"	na		free	download only
Download at <a href="http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads">www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads</a> .				
Promotional poster	HZN18410		free	
Promotional flier	HZN18411		free	
Charm/pendant	HZN18300		\$10.00	

Additional study aids in each issue of *Horizons* magazine beginning with the July/August 2018 issue.  
To subscribe, call toll-free **866/802-3635**, or go to [www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons).

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If paying by check, **make check payable to PC(USA)** and include with your order.

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