



PW NewsBytes

News you can use from Presbyterian Women

HOW CAN YOU USE THIS NEWS?

Any way you want!

Forward this entire newsletter, copy and paste sections into your newsletter, or forward the following fliers to share what's new with PW!

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SPRING 2021 EDITION

Board Summary, March 2021

The Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA), Inc., Board of Directors met online March 24–25, 2021, for the last full board meeting of the 2018–2021 triennium. Moderator JungIn Lee opened the meeting with worship planned by Board member Danelle McKinney. Danelle provided the meditation. Rhashell Hunter, past director of Racial Ethnic and Women's Intercultural Ministries (RE&WIM) for the Presbyterian Mission Agency, brought greetings and a message about PW's strong mission history and the ongoing importance of the work. (Rhashell left her position in April 2021.) Deanne Newland, financial secretary, provided information on PW Inc.'s current financial position and explained the proposed 2022–2024 triennial budget. Marian Vasser, executive director for diversity and equity at the University of Louisville, provided implicit bias training for the board and staff. Young women representatives Kate Duffert and Khayla Johnson debriefed the training later in the meeting.

Secretary/historian Helane Warren Church read a letter from Rhashell that announced an \$8,000 grant from RE&WIM for the 2021 Churchwide Gathering. The funds will be used to support the online Gathering event on August 5, 2021.

Sara Lisherness, Presbyterian Mission Agency's director of World Mission as well as Compassion, Peace and Justice, brought greetings and a message about PW's role in the work of both ministry areas, ongoing collaboration and the evolving role of mission in the world.

Among other actions, the Board affirmed recommendations that will go to the voting representatives of the PW Triennial Business meeting August 4–5, including bylaws changes and the proposed 2022–2024 triennial budget. The 2021–2024 slate of new leaders was affirmed at the September 2020 Board meeting, as was a bylaws recommendation regarding updating the term "racial ethnic" to "racial equity" and the titles for member at large positions.

The Board also affirmed the Administrative Committee's decisions regarding the 2021 PW Triennial Business Meeting and the Churchwide Gathering:

- Hold the 2021 Business Meeting online.
- Reschedule the 2021 Gathering to 2024.
- Provide a two-hour online Gathering event with worship and a plenary following the close of the Triennial Business Meeting.

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Message from the Vice Moderator for Mission Relationships

"See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springs up and causes trouble, and through it many become defiled." —Hebrews 12:15

A lush façade of green grasses, bright flowers or thriving bushes can deceive us into thinking our garden is healthy. Without us knowing, roots spread underground, absorbing nutrients from the ground all around them. Then, an unwanted plant springs up and spreads. Weeds and invasive plants threaten the health of what we have been cultivating.

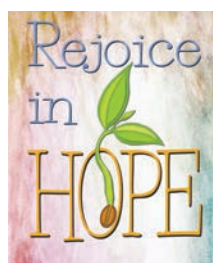
Roots of bitterness have been threatening the republic we have developed—a nation of the people for the people. Bitterness has been sitting below ground, and surfacing through individuals' violent actions or legislation that dehumanizes or disenfranchises individuals.

We know that bitter roots can only produce bitter actions—racism, violence, distrust, hatred. But we can work to eliminate these and cultivate the garden we wish to see. Let us strengthen the roots of community and wholeness, so all people can enjoy a more perfect union, experience justice, feel tranquility, know the comfort of general welfare, and feel the blessings of liberty and prosperity. With roots of love and care we, as God's workers, can do mission better.

continued on p. 4



Jo Ann Burrell



Churchwide Gathering News

While the in-person 2021 PW Churchwide Gathering has been cancelled, Presbyterian Women will still have an opportunity to **Rejoice in Hope** together! On August 5, join Presbyterian women from around the country for PW's Online Churchwide Gathering Event. On that day (following the conclusion of the Business Meeting), you can join the two hours of worship and plenary from your home, office or church! Inspiring speakers and preachers—including Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, president and executive director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency of the PC(USA)—will lead a time of rejoicing and renewal.

continued on p. 5

WHAT'S NEW? Resources for Presbyterian Women

Spring Catalog Now Available

Perusing through the PW Shop (www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop) is a wonderful way to browse virtual aisles to admire the many resources, products and downloads available from Presbyterian Women. From Bible studies to PW logo items, there's much PW bounty to explore. Seeking a downloadable catalog of PW items to share or peruse? If so, visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads to download the **Spring/Summer 2021 Resources for Presbyterian Women** booklet as well as the **Complete List of Horizons Magazines** and **The Complete List (Timeless) of PW/Horizons Bible studies**.

* * *

A Cup of Caring

While enjoying tea from a teacup she acquired during the USA Mission Experience, Jo Ann Burrell (PW churchwide vice moderator for mission relationships) reflected on the pivotal role that hospitality and gentle kindness offers a world in deep need of both. Her advice for PW? Unpack that unwanted china or silly mug and transform these goods into good! Add snacks or a tea bag, a handwritten note, tie up with a ribbon or place in a basket, and share with a sojourner. Read her reflection at www.presbyterianwomen.org/blog.

* * *

Plan Now for Fall Bible Study

Gentle advice for PW planners! The English-language edition of the 2021–2022 PW/Horizons Bible study, **What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus**, is in the mail (for *Horizons* magazine subscribers) and in the warehouse (for circles and study groups). Other editions and support materials are available or will soon follow. Because of occasional lags in delivery, place your order for materials earlier than usual. Visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop or call 800/533-4371 (Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM EST).

* * *

Psalms Calendar Journal Sale

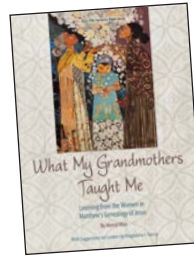
While supplies last, PW's perennial favorite, the **Psalms Calendar Journal**, is on sale for \$3 each plus shipping. See and share the special sale flier or order item HZN98300 from the PW Shop (www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop) or call 800/533-4371, Monday–Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM EST.

* * *

Reflecting on Gifts

Lisa Gray, chair of PW's Stewardship Committee, is creative and generous—and a talented houseplant caregiver, too! Lisa blogs about a bonus bloom from a well-loved Thanksgiving cactus and how this unanticipated gift of beauty during a chilly, wintry season inspired her to support PW with a gift received from an unanticipated source. Read her reflection at www.presbyterianwomen.org/blog.

Now Available! 2021–2022 PW/Horizons Bible Study



The 2021–2022 PW/Horizons Bible study **What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus** is now available for order!

The study—written by Merryl Blair, with Suggestions for Leaders by Magdalena I. García and art by Cody F. Miller—invites us into the stories about the women in Jesus' family tree. Why are Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba and Mary included in the genealogy in Matthew 1? What did their lives teach Jesus and, most importantly, how do their stories lead us into the Gospel, the Good News about Jesus Christ?

See the color flier in this issue of *NewsBytes* on pages 6 and 7, or visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/bible for a list of all Bible study editions and supplemental materials. In addition to availability in hard copy, the Companion DVD (available in late July!) and the Spanish Bible study will also be available for purchase as downloads! Order the study (item HZN21100) and supplementary materials by going to www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop or calling 800/533-4371.

What My Grandmothers Taught Me is being sent to individuals who subscribed by April 1, 2021. Plan ahead and subscribe now to receive next year's study on Sabbath. Call toll free 866/802-3635.

Bible Study Resources begin with the Summer issue of *Horizons*—you still have time to subscribe!

Don't miss the *Building Buzz* email series that will feature Bible study news, downloads and more throughout the year. Plans for Bible study introductory webinars are starting to take shape. People on the *Building Buzz* email list will be some of the first to learn the details. Email patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org to be sure you are on PW's email list!



Don't forget that you can even support Presbyterian Women when you shop Amazon Smile. Visit **Smile.Amazon.com** and search for "Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church USA Inc." or visit (and bookmark!) Smile.Amazon.com/ch/80-0473061. Shop as you normally would through "regular" Amazon, and a portion of the purchase of eligible items will be donated to PW at no extra cost to you.

In other words: you shop, Amazon gives, PW receives. Prepare to smile: to date, more than \$3,000 has supported PW's many ministries through the AmazonSmile program.

Questions? Contact Rhonda Martin, rhonda.martin@pcusa.org or 844/797-2872, ext. 5596.

Celebrate PW Gives Day

July 31, 2021 is **PW Gives Day!** This day is a time to celebrate and support all that Presbyterian Women makes possible. July 31 was selected to commemorate the July 1988 formation of today's Presbyterian Women, from the merger of its two predecessor organizations.



Here's how you can celebrate **PW Gives Day!**

- Send your #PWGives story and photos to Carissa Herold, carissa.herold@pcusa.org.
- Give securely online at www.presbyterianwomen.org/give. Select PW Gives Day and your gift amount. Select a gift of \$10 or more. Type PWGDay21 in the comments box, as well as your church presbytery (or synod) information.
- Share the flier on pages 12 and 13 in this *NewsBytes*.

Board Summary, March 2021 continued from p. 1

- Contract with the Office of the General Assembly and Ignite Creative to work with PW staff, the Gathering Planning Team and the 2021 Business Meeting Team to produce the Triennial Business Meeting and the Gathering event.
- Hold the 2024 Triennial Business Meeting and Churchwide Gathering at the Marriott Grand and America Center in St. Louis, Missouri, within the August 5–13, 2024, timeframe.

The Board will meet in July 2021 to review and receive the 2018–2021 triennial audit that will then be sent to the voting representatives. The first meeting of the new triennium will be online in September 2021.

Set It, Forget It, Benefit PW

Busy and busyness are facts of modern life. Simplify your PW life with a simple “yes” of recurring financial support!

Become a PW sustainer!

Give a monthly, recurring gift to PW. Visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/give and select “Recurring Gift.” Questions? Contact Rhonda Martin, Rhonda.martin@pcusa.org.

Keep Horizons on your horizon through auto-renew.

Choose “auto-renew” when you receive your renewal (or as you subscribe) to *Horizons*! Doing so will ensure your subscription never lapses and you will help save stationery and postage since renewal notices will be much more infrequent. Subscribe or renew with autorenewal today, www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons.



Honorary Life Membership

Spring has sprung (at least in the northern hemisphere) and many PW groups are making plans to honor a sibling in faith (or two or three!) with an **Honorary Life**

Membership (HLM). Please don't delay in submitting HLM applications. To submit an HLM application online (quick, reliable, and secure!) or to download a mail-in form, visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/HLM.

If you have questions, contact Jung Ju Winner, jung.winner@pcusa.org; 502/569-5389. (And share photos and stories about your recipient and service with Carissa Herold, carissa.herold@pcusa.org!)

Summary of Board Actions

Committee	Recommendation	Action
Administration	Affirm the 2024 Business Meeting and Gathering Location: St. Louis, Marriott Grand, within the dates August 5–13	Affirmed
Administration	Create an Advisory Group on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Approved
Bylaws	Update terms regarding people of color in the PW, Inc., Bylaws	Affirmed
Bylaws	PW's corporate secretary/legal counsel has editorial authority to implement changes regarding terms	Affirmed
Churchwide Gathering	Approve up to \$10,100 to produce Rejoice in Hope! The PW Online Gathering Event, August 5, 2021	Approved
Finance	Affirm 2022–2024 Triennial Budget for Business Meeting Adoption	Affirmed
Justice & Peace	Donation to the Church of the Covenant, NYC	Approved
Personnel	Adopt the PW Staff Work from Home Policy and add the policy to the <i>PW Personnel Handbook</i> and approve an employee phone addition	Adopted
Racial Equity	Participate, as able, in the video discussion series on the Task Force for the Disparities of Black Women and Girls	Approved
Racial Equity	Participate, as able, in virtual antiracism trainings from the Mission Agency	Approved

Message from the Vice Moderator, continued from p. 1

Take joy in the concept of “mutuality” in mission. None of the obstacles in our way—the pandemic, physical distancing, political divisiveness—will stop Presbyterian Women from our mission activities because we are guided by God.

Covid-19 has provided endless areas for mission. Talk with and listen to parents, youth, young adults and everyone you meet to find out the needs of the community. Continue doing the mission activities you did before the year 2020. You may need to redesign or adjust how you do them, or you can be adventurous and implement a whole new mission initiative! Remember, you are never alone when you do God’s work.

Write down in a little book what you want to do and accomplish in 2021. This will be your Dream Sheet. In January of the next year, check off the goals that you met. If you do not meet some of the goals on your Dream Sheet, just do them in following years.

While planning goals and reflecting on accomplishments, it’s also important to note that the last year has been a time of sadness, fear, distancing, closures, and lack of contact with other humans. During such trying times, you might want to do the following things to reduce stress and take care of yourself.

1. Pray every day and meditate on pleasant thoughts.
2. Connect to loved ones and friends by telephone, text, email and online meetings.
3. Do some stretching exercises. You can even do some stretches in bed or a chair.
4. Limit your caffeine intake. Too much caffeine can make you restless, anxious and interfere with sleep.
5. Step outside or open a window, or just sit where you are inside, and take slow deep breaths. Inhale the beauty of the air around you.
6. Eat balanced meals, including those fruits and veggies!
7. Get as much sleep as you can. Take a mental break during the day. Close your eyes; and think of something that makes you happy.
8. Pray often—at times you predetermine and as you feel inspired.

If you need ideas for mission subscribe to *Horizons*; read newsletters from your community, presbytery and synod; and talk with others about the needs of your community and the world.

Remember to listen to each other, and always be kind and have courage to speak up and speak out. Choose the things in life that will make you proud. Mission to God’s children will make you proud, and it will ultimately change minds, and help those in need.

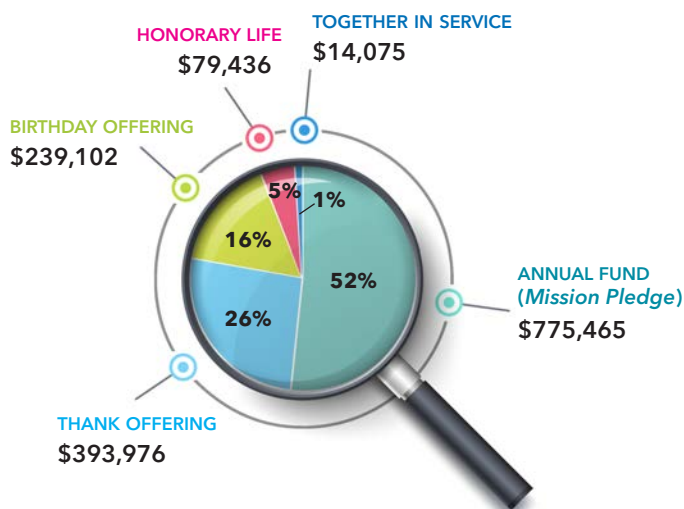
The late Alex Trebek said, “We’re trying to build a gentler, kinder society. And if we all pitch in just a little bit, we’re gonna get there.”*

When you engage in mission, you are building that kinder, gentler world.

—Jo Ann Burrell, Vice Moderator Mission Relationships, 2018–2021

* Samantha Kubota, “Alex Trebek passionately calls for ‘kinder society’ in first of final ‘Jeopardy!’ episodes”; January 4, 2021; www.today.com/popculture/alex-trebek-passionately-calls-kinder-society-first-final-jeopardy-episodes-t205024

Presbyterian Women's Giving Jan. 1–Dec. 31, 2020



Thank you for your faithful giving, even during a tumultuous year! Your support matters to PW, to one another, to the church and the world!

* * *

Wanted: Field Testers for the PW/*Horizons* Bible Study!

It takes many hearts and hands to bring PW/*Horizons* Bible studies to life. Bible study committees choose a theme and author; authors write and revise the manuscript; field testers give the draft studies a trial run. And finally, Presbyterian women make the study their own. Would you like to bring your heart and hands to the task?

Field testing takes place between August and December every year. Groups receive a draft of the study along with evaluation forms to complete as they make their way through each lesson. All evaluation forms are sent to the Bible study author, who uses the feedback to edit and fine tune her work. PW circles, Bible study groups and coordinating teams have all made excellent field testing groups. What about your group?

While we all hope to be in-person soon, field testing can be accomplished over Zoom, on a front porch or stoop, at a picnic table in a park or on camp chairs by the playground, and social-distanced in a fellowship hall. If your group is interested, we can help you figure out how you’re going to do it!

Apply today! Contact Betsy Ensign-George, 844/797-2872, ext. 5366, betsy.ensign-george@pcusa.org, or download an application form, www.presbyterianwomen.org/bible.

Churchwide Gathering News, continued from p. 1

Want to be part of the Online Churchwide Gathering Event? In addition to watching the worship and plenary, there are a number of ways you can start participating!

Support the Online Gathering

Presbyterian Women's **Online Churchwide Gathering Event** will take place on August 5, 2021. The event will be free to join, but, alas, not free to produce. Support PW community with a financial gift to support our virtual Gathering event! Visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/give and select "PW's Online Churchwide Gathering Event" or mail a check to Presbyterian Women, Inc., Remittance Processing—Giving, PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh PA 15264-3652 (include "online Gathering" in the notes line of the check).

Share Your Tribute to *Horizons*

Love *Horizons*? If so, do you also love to pen pithy poetry, craft concise sentences, or snap and share wonderful photos? A fun, festive, all-out *Horizons* celebration is in the works and your creative input is requested.

Share a photo of you and/or your group, posing with a favorite issue of *Horizons*! Options are endless and as unique as you. Ideas could include social distancing in the church courtyard, hiking on a trail, reading on a computer as your kitten treads on the keyboard, or perhaps even reading your issue while scuba diving! Or perhaps you'd like to craft a haiku, short poem, limerick or ode to *Horizons*—why you read, support, encourage others to subscribe, about your favorite writer, or other inspiration.

Email your tribute to *Horizons* to Sharon Dunne Gillies, sharon.gillies@pcusa.org by June 1.

Advertising Your Love of Presbyterian Women

The Online Gathering will also include a slideshow that both celebrates and strengthens Presbyterian Women. Would you like to thank a mentor, celebrate your PW group or highlight an amazing ministry? Three tiers of engagement allow you to share your message and also financially support Presbyterian Women's mission and ministries!

Master gardener level, \$5,000+

Includes a two-minute or less video spot (provided by Master Gardener) during the online event on August 5; a post on PW's social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram); Master Gardener's logo or name on Presbyterian Women's website July 1–August 15, 2021; a slide in the Gathering slideshow; a mention in *Horizons* magazine.

Cultivator level, \$500–\$4,999

Includes Cultivator's logo or name featured on Presbyterian Women's website July 1–August 15, 2021; a slide in the Gathering slideshow; and a mention in *Horizons* magazine.

Caretender level, \$100–\$499

Includes a slide in the Gathering slideshow and a mention in *Horizons* magazine. (Design assistance can be provided by PW staff for the Gathering slideshow—just ask!)

Contact Carissa Herold, carissa.herold@pcusa.org or 844/797-2872, ext. 5322, to stake out your place in the PW garden! Please provide your name, phone number, email address and the focus of your ad/slide. Carissa will contact you with details regarding next steps and the timeline.

Reservations Deadline: June 18, 2021



Barbara at a press proof with the cover of the first *Horizons* magazine, 1988.

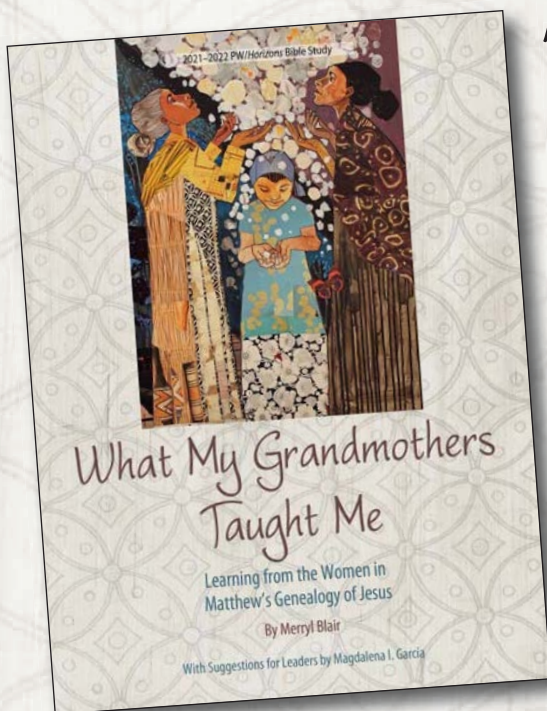
The Reverend Barbara Roche, founding editor of *Horizons* magazine, died Saturday, May 8, 2021. Barbara served the Presbyterian Church and Presbyterian Women for many years. She was the editor of CONCERN Magazine before moving to Louisville in 1988 with the newly consolidated PC(USA) and merged women's organizations to edit *Horizons*, PW's new magazine. Look for a more in-depth story in the Summer issue of *Horizons*.

Memorial contributions can be made to Ghost Ranch, 280 Private Road, Abiquiu, NM, 87510; Princeton Theological Seminary, 64 Mercer Street, Princeton, NJ, 08542; and Central Presbyterian Church, 318 W. Kentucky Street, Louisville, KY, 40203.

Share the
full-page flier about this
opportunity with other PWs,
your congregation and
community!
See page 11.



Introducing the 2021–2022 PW/*Horizons* Bible study



The first chapter of the Gospel of Matthew invites us into the family stories that helped shape Jesus and shape us too. The women in Jesus' family tree have backstories that are exactly the kind of story you can imagine hearing while sitting spellbound as a grandmother reminisces about her early life.

Matthew chose to mention a handful of women: Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and Mary.

What can they teach us? Matthew has named these women for a reason. Their stories will lead us into the Gospel, the Good News about Jesus Christ. Having explored their stories together, we will have a richer idea about what the good news is.

About the authors



God has gently nudged author **Merryl Blair** in interesting directions throughout her working life (nurse, youth minister, Old Testament lecturer—perhaps not the normal career path). For 25 years she has served as senior lecturer in Old Testament at Stirling Theological College (part of the University of Divinity, Melbourne, Australia). She and her late husband, Graeme, also taught, during sabbaticals, at Northrise University, in northern Zambia.

Merryl has represented Churches of Christ in Australia on ecumenical councils at state, national, and international levels. In “retirement” she continues to present Bible studies at women’s conferences. She met PW executive director, Susan Jackson Dowd, at one three years ago!



Rev. Magdalena I. García, writer of the Suggestions for Leaders, is pastor of Ravenswood Presbyterian Church, in Chicago, Illinois. Formerly, she served as hospice chaplain for Vitas Healthcare. She is a graduate of McCormick Theological Seminary (MDiv, 1989) and a recipient of the

2008 Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Women of Faith

Award. She writes and translates for Presbyterian publications and publishes liturgies under her personal blog: justleros.blogspot.com. A native of Cuba, Magdalena has lived in Chicago since 1971.

About the artist



Cody F. Miller's paintings have been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions in galleries, art festivals, and museums, and have received numerous awards and honors. Cody lives with his wife and sons in Columbus, Ohio. See more of his art at www.codyfmiller.com.

Ordering is easy!

Shop on line at

www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop.

Or call 800/533-4371,

Monday–Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM EST.

Bible study, supplemental materials, and other helps!*

Bible study editions

- English edition; item HZN21100; \$10
- Spanish edition; item HZN21110; \$10
- Spanish edition, download; item HZN21111; \$10; purchase and download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop
- Large-print edition (spiral bound); item HZN21150; \$15
- Ecumenical edition; item HZN21102; \$10
- Audio edition, download only; item HZN21172; \$15; purchase and download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop

Supplemental materials

- *What My Grandmothers Taught Me* Companion DVD; item HZN21103; \$20
- *What My Grandmothers Taught Me* Companion DVD, download; item HZN21104; \$20; purchase and download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop
- *Workshop for Leaders*; item HZN21101; free; also available as a free download
- Pendant/charm; features the cover art from the study; item HZN21300; \$10
- Promotional flier; item HZN21411; free; also available as a free download
- Promotional poster; item HZN21410; free download only at www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop.
- Bulletin cover—8 1/2" x 11"; free download only at www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop

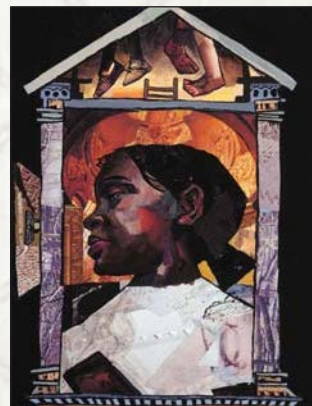
*Note that prices do not include shipping and handling (\$6.25 minimum). International orders and orders to Puerto Rico incur additional shipping charges. Prices, availability, and shipping charges are subject to change without notice.



LESSON ONE
Family Trees



LESSON TWO
Tamar



LESSON THREE
Rahab



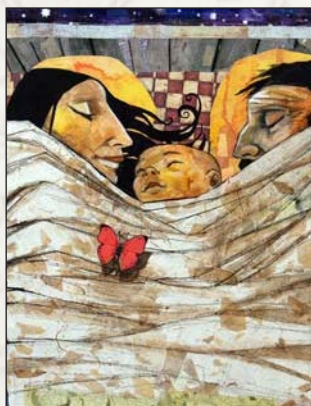
LESSON FOUR
**Ruth and
Loyal Love**



LESSON FIVE
**Ruth and
Redemption**



LESSON SIX
Bathsheba



LESSON SEVEN
Mary



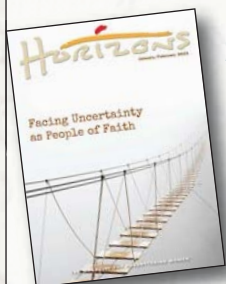
LESSON EIGHT
**Mary in the Faith and
Tradition of the Church**



LESSON NINE
**What Are These Women
Doing in a Place Like This?**

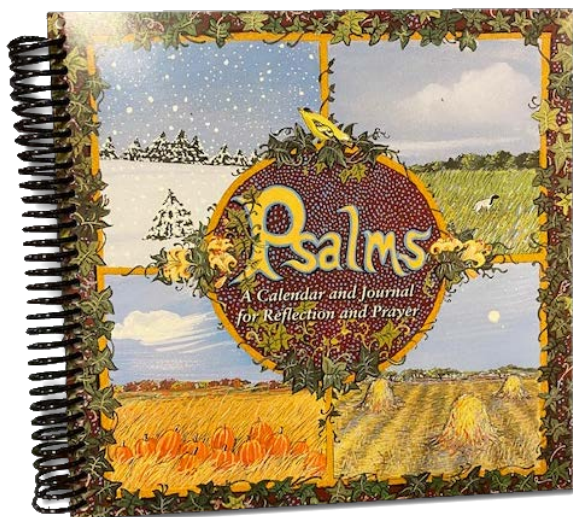
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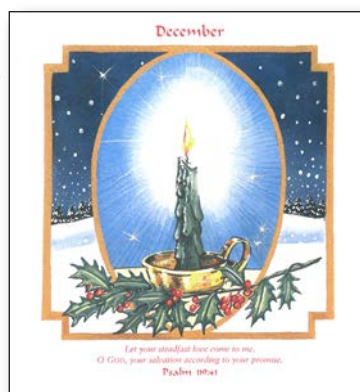
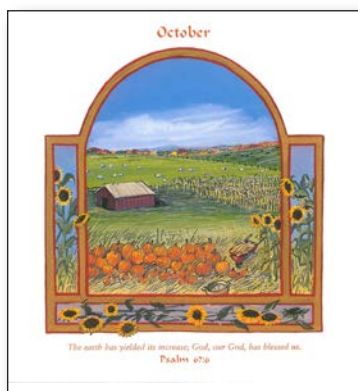
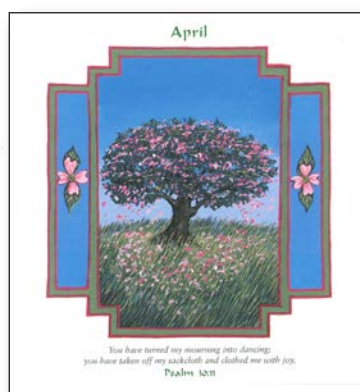
Subscribing is easy, too!

Additional helps in *Horizons* magazine begin with the Summer 2021 issue. To subscribe, call 866/802-3635 or visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons. Please note that with every full-print subscription, \$19.95, you will receive five issues of the magazine and the annual PW/*Horizons* Bible study (subscribe by April 1, 2021, to receive this year's study).



*“O send out your light
and your truth;
let them lead me.”*

—Psalm 43:3a



Psalms

A Calendar and Journal for Reflection and Prayer

Keep track of your schedule without losing sight of what's really important! The beautifully illustrated ***Psalms Calendar and Journal*** from Presbyterian Women includes a psalm for each day of the year with space for noting thoughts and prayers (or appointments and meetings!).

Highlights

- ❖ The *Psalms Calendar and Journal* is evergreen—no specific year confines its purpose.
- ❖ Spiral bound pages measure approximately 7" x 7" (ideal for tucking into a small tote or purse).
- ❖ Shawn Lee's full-color illustrations brighten your year across 224 pages, and 6 blank pages make space for additional reflection or art.
- ❖ It makes a wonderful gift for you or someone you love.

While supplies last, the ***Psalms Calendar and Journal*** is **now available for \$3** (plus shipping)—a savings of more than \$9 each! **HZN98300, \$3**

Ordering is easy!

Visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop or call 800/533-4371, Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM EST.

May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.
Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

—Psalm 126:5–6



Our world is struggling to emerge from a global health pandemic. Our country is struggling to address how racism ends lives and fractures communities. Our eyes collectively brim with tears as we bear witness to this devastation. We lament with and for all who grapple with illness, death, violence, hunger, job loss, isolation and suffering.

Presbyterian Women, our tears of lament—for our communities and churches; ministries and programs; neighbors, friends and family; even for our own bodies and circumstances—give expression to our deepest hurts, fears and frustrations. As a community of deep faith, however, our tears sow seeds of love, kindness and possibility.

Even in the deepest valley, we cannot despair. We are confident in God's presence, the strength of our PW community and our call to serve.

Turn Tears into Joyful Community

Say the name of a PW sister or mentor, friend or mother, leader or neighbor who is on your heart today. Give thanks to God for her witness and for the special place she holds in your heart.

Prayerfully consider a financial gift to build the Susan Jackson Dowd Endowment, established to nurture connections among women of faith worldwide, especially young women. Seeded by a generous gift in 2019, the endowment ensures opportunity for PW today and tomorrow.

To contribute to the Susan Jackson Dowd Endowment, visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/give and select Susan Jackson Dowd Endowment.

You may also send a check to Presbyterian Women, Inc., PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652; indicate "Susan Jackson Dowd endowment" in the notes line of the check (or on a separate page).

Share your laments or share about your sisters who inspire your walk! Send your story to carissa.herold@pcusa.org.



2021 Birthday Offering

OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;
break forth, O mountains, into singing!
For the LORD has comforted the people,
and will have compassion on suffering ones.—Isaiah 49:13*

Since 1922, Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering has helped fund mission projects that improve lives. This year's Birthday Offering recipients are:

Garden Gate Ranch, Inc.
Education Center Renovation
www.gardengateranch.com
Des Moines, Iowa
\$150,000

Memorial Drive Ministries, Inc.
Gymnasium Capital Improvements
www.mdmatl.org
Stone Mountain, Georgia
\$77,061

Nkhoma Mission Hospital
Women's Health Center/
OB/GYN Theatre
www.nkhomahospital.com
Nkhoma, Malawi
\$ 129,145

Resources to Promote the 2021 Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women

Essentials

Available as a download, as well! The **2021 Birthday Offering promotional booklet**, which is routinely mailed to all PCUSA congregations and PW leaders, includes grant recipient summaries; a dedication service; a greeting from the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women; ideas to promote and support the Birthday Offering; a poster/placemat; and promotional resource flier. Item PWR21451; free.

The 11" x 17" **2021 Birthday Offering poster/placemat** is versatile: use side one as a poster suitable for bulletin boards and trifolds; use side two as a placemat for dinners and tabletops. Available as singles so order as many (or as few) as needed! Item PWR21453; free.

Receiving the Offering

Birthday Offering group giving envelopes, traditionally used in PW circles and congregations, are available in packs of 25; item PWR12501; free.

Individual giving envelopes are PW's multipurpose envelopes. These #10 green envelopes include an attached slip that allows an individual (or group) to choose where to direct her gifts as well as an area for credit card information. Available in packs of 10; item PWR20456; free.

2021 Birthday Offering bulletin insert —Download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthday.

2021 Birthday Offering bulletin cover (8½" x 11")—Download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthday.

2021 Birthday Offering promotional video (English, Spanish and Korean)—Available on PW's YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen.

More to Explore!

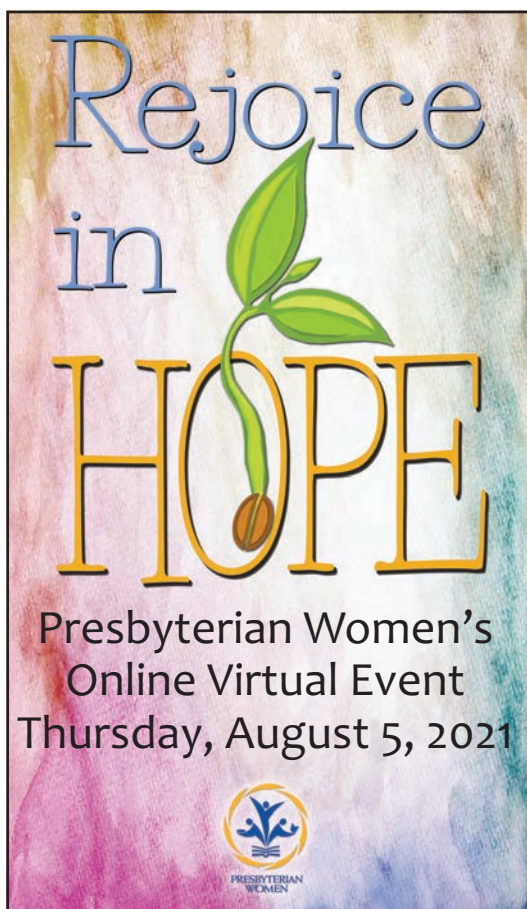
The **January/February 2021 issue of Horizons magazine** includes the grant recipient list as well as a dedication service. Item HZN21200, \$4.00. (Not a *Horizons* magazine subscriber? Call 866/802-3635 or visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons to subscribe!)

Messages of Reconciliation and Hope: 75 Years of Birthday Offerings, 1922-1997, by Catherine Stewart Vaughn. Item PWR00507; \$3.00.

Ordering is easy!

- Shop on line at www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop.
- Or call 800/533-4371, Monday–Friday, 9 AM–5 PM.

Note: Prices do not include shipping and handling (based on weight of order; \$6.25 minimum). International orders and orders to Puerto Rico may incur additional shipping charges. Prices and availability may change without notice.



Share Your Good Words During PW's Online Churchwide Gathering Event

"Then people will come from east and west, from north and south . . ."

—Luke 13:29

Presbyterian Women, we're gathering online! Let us come together to "Rejoice in Hope" during PW's Online Churchwide Gathering Event, August 5, 2021.

This free event will include two hours of programming after the online Business Meeting closes on August 5. The online Gathering will be a time to rejoice, reflect and recharge. And it will also include time for celebrating and strengthening Presbyterian Women.

Would you like to thank a mentor, celebrate your PW group or highlight an amazing ministry?

Three tiers of engagement allow you to share your message and also financially support Presbyterian Women's ministries!

1. Choose your level.

○ Master gardener level, \$5,000+

Includes a two-minute or less video spot (provided by Master Gardener) during the online event on August 5; a post on PW's social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram); Master Gardener's logo or name on Presbyterian Women's website July 1–August 15, 2021; a slide in the Gathering slideshow; a mention in *Horizons* magazine.

○ Cultivator level, \$500–\$4,999

Includes Cultivator's logo or name featured on Presbyterian Women's website July 1–August 15, 2021; a slide in the Gathering slideshow; and a mention in *Horizons* magazine.

○ Caretender level, \$100–\$499

Includes a slide in the Gathering slideshow and a mention in *Horizons* magazine.
(Design assistance can be provided by PW staff for the Gathering slideshow—just ask!)

2. Contact Carissa Herold, carissa.herold@pcusa.org or 844/797-2872, ext. 5322, to stake out your place in the PW garden! Please provide your name, phone number, email address and the focus of your ad/slide. Carissa will contact you with details regarding next steps and the timeline.

Deadline: Reservations, art (or requests for design assistance) and payment due **June 18, 2021**.

Questions? Contact Carissa Herold, carissa.herold@pcusa.org or 844/797-2872, ext. 5322.



You're invited to celebrate . . . **PW Gives Day—July 31**

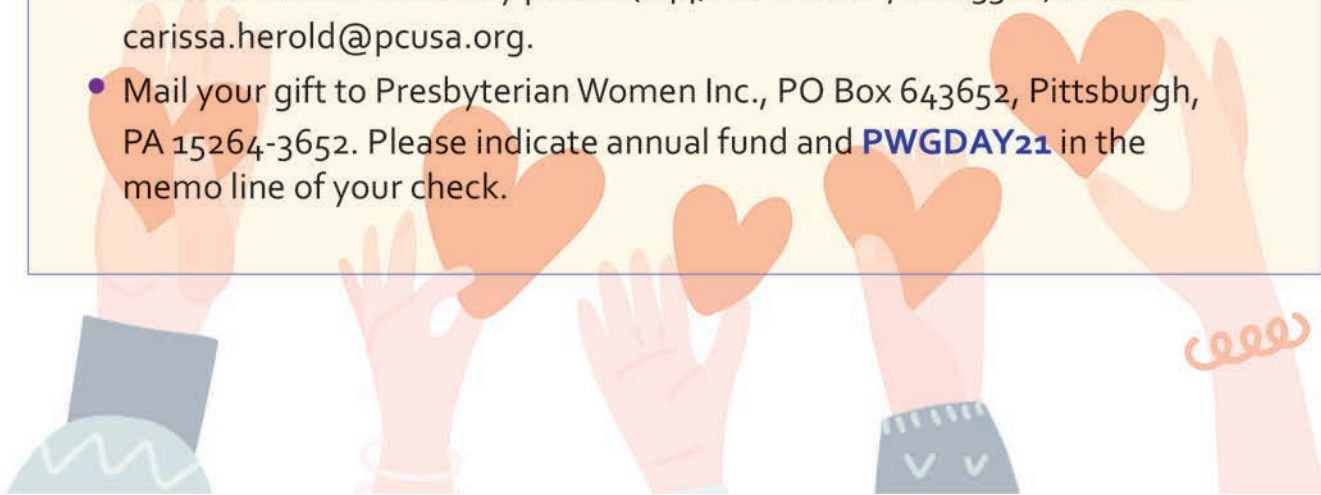
Turn the page to see your PW support—through financial gifts, participation, leadership, contemplation and prayers—in action!

July 31 will be celebrated as PW Gives Day—a day to celebrate the many ways that Presbyterian Women give to witness to the promise of God's realm.

- Watch for (and share your!) stories about how, where and why PW gives on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.
- Send your #PWGives story and photos to carissa.herold@pcusa.org.
- If you are not already on PW's email list, email pw_pcusa@pcusa.org to be added to the list and receive information about this day (and other PW programs)!
- Pray for PW as we bring the light of God's love to a world in need of care and hope.

How to Give

- Give on line at www.presbyterianwomen.org/give. Then select **PW Gives Day** and your gift amount. Select a gift of \$10 or more (and add a bit extra for a transaction fee). Please scroll and type **PWGDAY21** in the comments box as well as your church and presbytery (or synod) information.
- Contact Carissa Herold by phone (844/PW-PCUSA, ext. 5322) or email carissa.herold@pcusa.org.
- Mail your gift to Presbyterian Women Inc., PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652. Please indicate annual fund and **PWGDAY21** in the memo line of your check.





PW's (Not So New) "Normal": *Giving in Love, Always*

PW Gives Day commemorates the founding of Presbyterian Women and the ongoing journey of PW—the community that is PW and each individual woman who is PW! Even during a global lockdown, PW found ways to connect and offer loving help.

In her *Horizons* magazine article, "Redefining Normal: A Brief History of Presbyterian Women Navigating Change," PW's executive director Susan Jackson Dowd reminds us that PW matters and will continue to matter. "Presbyterian Women pushed against what was considered normal during civil wars and world wars, military crises, flu pandemics, the Great Depression and more recent economic crises, civil rights marches and movements, September 11 and global terrorism—through the trials and triumphs of American history, then and as we continue to make it now. The mission of Presbyterian Women remains expansive and practical." **Read (and share!) Susan's important and encouraging article at www.presbyterianwomen.org/redefiningnormal.**

PW matters . . .

Personally

Sue Mummert serves on PW's board and credits her involvement with PW to her mom, Patricia "Pat" Kochenour. Sue says, "The strength of her faith was and continues to be an inspiration to me . . . Mom always had a welcoming and accepting spirit and her words of wisdom often helped others as they struggled with difficult situations that arose in life—she always seemed to know just what to say. She was supportive of Presbyterian Women and empowering women to become the best they could be."

Locally

A lockdown didn't lockdown the good works performed by PW of Peoria Presbyterian Church in Peoria, Arizona. This faithful team rolled up their sleeves, put on their masks, and assembled backpacks for young people in need of school supplies in their church parking lot!

Nationally

A \$26,800 Thank Offering grant helped three interlinked Decatur, Georgia, ministries provide garden plots for refugee families as well as training, education and even community. Program director Karen Webster shares that the gardens are "providing space for refugee families to grow foods from their culture, connect with the land and enjoy the outdoors. This is even more important during the pandemic when the growers have needed access to reliable sources of fresh, healthy food and safe outdoor activities for their families." Karen says that this ministry fulfills a promise to her mother that she "would carry on the work that she was no longer going to be able to do, providing hospitality and love to our neighbors."

Internationally

PW cares about women and children. So much so, PW has been recognized by the United Nations as a nongovernmental organization (NGO). Each year, a delegation of committed Presbyterian Women attend the international gathering that is the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women and explore the issues facing women around the world.

In community and with love, PW Gives, Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow.

www.presbyterianwomen.org



PHOTO SHARED BY PAM OSGOOD