



PW NewsBytes

News you can use from Presbyterian Women

HOW CAN YOU USE THIS NEWS?

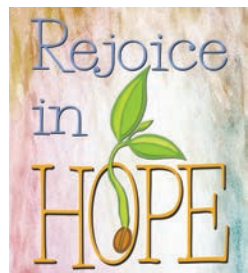
Any way you want!

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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FALL 2021 EDITION

PW's Online Churchwide Gathering Event and Business Meeting



PW Purposefully Pivots: Setting Course in Unsettling Times!

2021 was a season of firsts. One of PW's firsts was holding a virtual triennial Business Meeting. In "ordinary" years, voting representatives from across the nation come together to set course for the new triennium. Because

of Covid-19, PW met virtually, adapting General Assembly's PC-Biz technology to facilitate the triennial business of PW (thus PW-Biz was developed and put to immediate and very good use!). Voting reps had, in the words of Jan Albert, "a few hoops to jump through," to become familiar with the issues before them but also to become comfortable with engaging new technology, which required two screens. That's right! Two screens! (This may be a perfect time to send your voting rep a valentine as she probably spent many hours trying to secure the technology and perhaps even more effort and time in learning and practicing its use.)

PW's Business Meeting was fun, faithful, and rewarding—certainly not what immediately comes to mind when one considers the words "business meeting"! If you didn't have a chance to tune in or wish to watch anew (the Business Meeting is open to all PW observers), go to PW's YouTube channel, youtube.com/presbyterianwomen and view when it suits your schedule. (It's worth noting that PW are tuning in. Since the Business Meeting was held, the number of YouTube views have increased by more than a third!) In addition to hearing from denominational and PW leaders, voting delegates elected PW's 2021–2024 moderator team (Kathy Reeves, moderator and Kathleen Keefer, vice moderator), and unanimously adopted the 2022–2024 budget and 2018–2020 audit. Voting representatives also considered a resolution to replace the word "Kingdom" in the PW Purpose with "Kin-dom", but less than the 2/3 majority required for a change voted in favor (119 yes, 64 no). Updated language regarding people of color and authorizing editorial autonomy in correcting the bylaws were approved.

continued on p. 4

All the Ways to Contact PW Churchwide

Louisville. Conyers. Pittsburgh. So how (and where?) does one connect to Presbyterian Women Churchwide or send a check to renew or support? It's complicated. PW has offices in Louisville; our national board is across the United States; magazine subscriptions are processed through Conyers, New York; and other checks are securely scanned and transmitted from Pittsburgh. PW also links to the Presbyterian Foundation in Jeffersonville, Indiana. PW resources are stored in and shipped from Louisville.

Clip, copy and share this key so you can confidently direct your correspondence, telephone call and/or magazine renewal to its proper destination. While this looks complicated, don't worry! Even "misdirected" mail or calls ultimately are redirected to their proper destination.

To connect with PW staff, call toll free 844/PWPCUSA (844/797-2872) or go to presbyterianwomen.org/staff. Or consult the enclosed Who Ya' Gonna Call? flier, which includes details on who does what and how to connect via email.

To order PW resources, call toll free 800/533-4371 (Monday—Friday, 10 AM to 6 PM ET) or visit presbyterianwomen.org/shop. Ordering by mail is discouraged.

To subscribe, give a gift subscription, renew or check on your *Horizons* subscription, call toll free 866/802-3635 or visit presbyterianwomen.org/subscribe.

Mailing Addresses

Contact PW staff or national board

Presbyterian Women
100 Witherspoon St
Louisville, KY 40202-1396

Mail checks and associated correspondence (i.e., Honorary Life Membership form or note about a gift for the Annual Fund)

Presbyterian Women Remittance Processing
PO Box 643652
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652

Subscribe or renew your *Horizons* magazine subscription

Horizons Magazine
Presbyterian Women Inc.
PO Box 421
Conyers, NY 10920-9826

PW is connectional and PW is community! Here is a space for you to note the PWs you connect with on a routine basis.

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WHAT'S NEW? Resources for Presbyterian Women

Annual Report 2020

"and you shall be like a watered garden" (Isa. 58:11b)



An annual report provides a glimpse at an organization or ministry's activities during a given year. But what could be shared during the universally unsettling year that was 2020? True to faith, in 2020, Presbyterian women did not retreat but instead stepped forth and demonstrated profound generosity, love, resilience and steadfastness

through PW's many ministries. Share the uplifting PW Annual Report (page 8) with circle members and pin on a bulletin board so your congregation and guests can appreciate the many gardens PW sustained, even during times of drought. You may also download the Annual Report from presbyterianwomen.org/2020-annual.

* * *

Giving to Presbyterian Women

PW Annual Fund Resources



Every program and ministry of Presbyterian Women—at all levels of the organization—is rooted in and supported by Presbyterian Women's Annual Fund (Mission Pledge).

Two resources are available to help communicate all the Annual Fund makes possible and to encourage giving to build up the financial foundation of PW.

The 2022 Presbyterian Women's Annual Fund promotional resource is on its way to mailboxes of PW leaders so they can, in turn, share

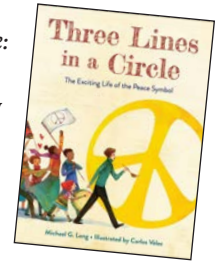
and interpret the importance (and joy) of PW's Annual Fund at circle meetings and gatherings, on bulletin boards or by Zoom. This visual interpretation of the many ministries made possible through gifts to PW's Annual Fund is available as a download and as a printed resource (Free. Order item PWR21011 from presbyterianwomen.org/shop or call 800/533-4371.)

The nuts-and-bolts (or dollars-and-cents) resource for treasurers—The 2022 Annual Fund Information for Treasurers—includes deadlines, address, forms and a sample timeline of how to promote and receive gifts to the Annual Fund. It is also available for download at presbyterianwomen.org/annual-fund, and was emailed by Rhonda Martin to PWP and PWS treasurers. If you are a treasurer and did not receive it, contact rhonda.martin@pcusa.org.

Take Flight with Flyaway Books

The season of Advent and Christmas gift giving is almost upon us! Looking for a children's book that "embraces diversity, inclusivity, compassion, care for each other, and care for our world" in a way that is peachy but not preachy? If so, consider Flyaway Books, an imprint of the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Flyaway offers an expanding catalog (flyawaybooks.com) of thoughtful, joyful, lovingly considered books, written and illustrated by authors and artists of note.

A randomly selected Presbyterian woman will receive a copy of Flyaway's *Three Lines in a Circle: The Exciting Life of the Peace Symbol*, by Michael G. Long and illustrated by Carlos Vélez. Simply send an email with "Three Lines" in the subject line to carissa.herold@pcusa.org. If you feel so inspired, share a photo, poem, musing or prayer about you or your group's life of faith as lived through the PW Purpose.



* * *

Horizons Magazine



In 2021, publication of Presbyterian Women's magazine, *Horizons*, shifted to five issues per year, plus the annual Bible study. Since the last issue of NewsBytes, here's what's popped up on the horizon of *Horizons*!

The Summer 2021 issue marked the end of summer, mailing in September. The September/October 2021 issue of *Horizons* will begin mailing at the end of October, and the November/December 2021 issue will begin mailing in November. The date that your magazine arrives in your mailbox can vary considerably, so you may be

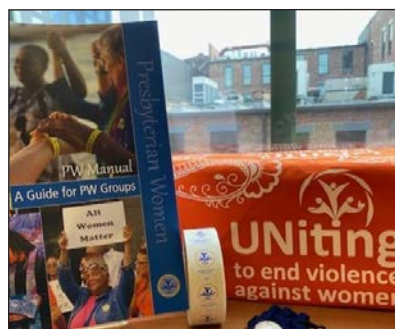
waiting in Wichita for the issue your friend in Fort Wayne had declared her new favorite. Happily, there's a solution—online access to *Horizons*!

Even before issues of *Horizons* are off the press, they're available digitally. Subscribers to the print edition of *Horizons* are automatically subscribers to the digital *Horizons*. Go to presbyterianwomen.org/horizons to access the most recent issue of *Horizons*, as well as issues dating back to 2018. You can also subscribe, renew, reset your password or give a gift subscription—all at presbyterianwomen.org/horizons.

resources

PW Back to Fall Sale

The following PW resources are discounted through November 8, 2021. Sale prices listed below!



PW Manual: A Guide for Groups (print edition);
PWR16120, \$4

PW Manual: A Guide for Groups (digital edition);
PWR16121, \$4

PW logo stickers (roll of 100)—scrapbook friendly

and add PW pizzazz to any correspondence; PWR01625, \$3

Autumn-hued PW “Wear Orange” bandana—wear or add to a display to raise awareness about violence against women and girls; PWR16425, \$3.50

Sterling silver PW logo pin/pendant—handcrafted in Peru by Munay Rumi (a 2006 PW Birthday Offering grant recipient); PWR07402, \$15



Extend welcome and add a bit of flair to your church entrance or garden with a “Welcome PW” garden banner.

“Welcome PW” garden banner, English; PWR18406, \$7.50

“Welcome PW” garden banner, Spanish; PWR18408, \$7.50

“Welcome PW” garden banner, Korean; PWR18407, \$7.50

Ordering is easy! Click the above links, visit the PW Shop at presbyterianwomen.org/shop, or call 800/533-4371.

Fall/Winter Resources for PW



A simple click connects you to an abundance of items available to promote, strengthen, support (and enjoy!) Presbyterian Women. Whether you’re looking for an envelope to promote Annual Fund giving or a tumbler to keep you hydrated, these items are included in the Resources for PW catalog. Fun to peruse, important for PW.

Download the full catalog at presbyterianwomen.org/catalog, and follow the included ordering or downloading instructions.

PW/Horizons Bible Study Preview



The 2022–2023 PW/Horizons Bible study, *Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight*, is written by Carol M. Bechtel. You may remember Carol from her 2008–2009 PW/Horizons Bible study, *Above and Beyond: Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth*.^{*} If so, you will undoubtedly recall Carol's warm, unpretentious and humorous style, which she brings to this nine-lesson study on the gift of Sabbath.

Curious? Check out and share the advance flier (page 10) for a glimpse at the upcoming study!

Are you a *Horizons* magazine subscriber? Subscribe or renew by April 1, 2022, to receive this Bible study as part of your subscription. Visit presbyterianwomen.org/horizons or call 866/802-3635.

^{*} Limited copies of Carol's 2008–2009 study are available at presbyterianwomen.org/shop. Search “Above and Beyond” for available editions.

Meet the Author

Meet Carol and hear her introduce *Celebrating Sabbath* at the 2022 Association of Presbyterian Church Educators (APCE) annual event in Chicago, February 9–12, 2022. Carol will lead a workshop about the study on February 11 and greet APCE attendees in the Marketplace! Learn more and register at apcenet.org/2022-annual-event/. Day rates are available.



Carol Bechtel



Making a simple choice can make profound change. For example, \$3,870.62 represents the dollars and change given to PW via purchases made through AmazonSmile. Plan to purchase a book cover or bed coverlet through Amazon? If so, go to smile.amazon.com and choose “Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church USA Inc” as your charity of choice. Once you do, jump in and shop as you normally would through Amazon, as most products are part of the AmazonSmile universe. Participating in AmazonSmile is free to you (in other words, you won’t pay extra for your tome, tahini, or tea cozy) and is an effortless way to support PW.

PW's Online Churchwide Gathering Event and Business Meeting continued from p. 1

Online Churchwide Gathering Event

When the Gathering Planning team had to pivot from an in-person event over several days to a shortened online event, it was clear that their choice of theme, Rejoice in Hope, based on Romans 12:12–13, would serve as a powerful reminder of God's care, a beacon of hope, for anxious hearts in anxious times we experienced in 2020 and 2021.



Live-streamed on PW's Facebook page and web site, many tuned in to gather for the inaugural Online Churchwide Gathering event. The live viewing was upwards of 2,715, a number that reflects devices and not souls—many PWs gathered for watch parties so the precise number of viewers is known only to the One who knows the number of hairs on our heads (Matt. 10:30). Since the Online Gathering is available to view on PW's YouTube page, viewings have (at least) doubled since August 5. Every moment of this Gathering was filled with meaning and purpose and hope. Whether you watch as a party of 1 or 51, you'll be restored and recharged in your PW ministry.

Give to the Gathering Offering

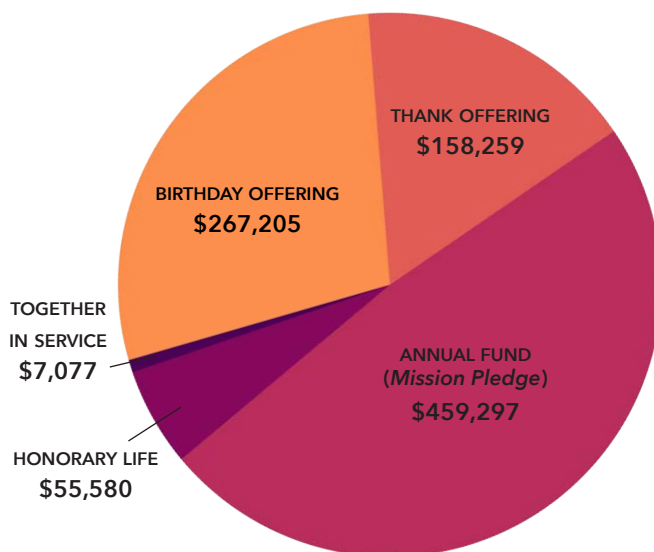
During the Online Churchwide Gathering Event, Presbyterian women gave generously to the Gathering Offering, benefitting PW's Annual Fund. To date, \$8,424 has been received. Previously known as the Mission Pledge, the Annual Fund makes possible (in whole or in part) every mission and ministry of Presbyterian Women—from communications like this newsletter to the PW/*Horizons* Bible study, from PW's presence at the Commission on the Status of Women to your Bible study group or regular circle meeting.

It's not too late to make a gift to the Gathering Offering. Visit presbyterianwomen.org/give and select "Online Gathering Event Offering" or mail a check to Presbyterian Women, Inc., Remittance Processing—Giving, PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652 (include "Gathering Offering" in the notes line of the check).

A Final Word About Community

Our Online Churchwide Gathering Event underscores the importance of nurturing and living into our faithful community of PW siblings. Emily, initially feeling isolated and blue, shared after the Gathering drew to a close: "Gradually my tears filled with joy and Hope! hearing the message given and feeling the amazing connection with PW women worldwide. Thanks be to God. May we all give and stretch out of our comfort zones to become more Christlike and build the world into a place of reconciliation and renewal. Amen!"

Presbyterian Women's Giving Jan. 1–Sept. 30, 2021



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!

Upcoming Stewardship Opportunities

In all times and through all generations, God bestows "rains from heaven and fruitful seasons . . . filling [us] with food and [our] hearts with joy" (Acts 14:17). During the change of seasons and the turning of this year, PW's Stewardship Committee extends an opportunity—make that two—for Presbyterian women to respond in love, joy and thanksgiving to build up the ministries that is PW. Together, let us tend PW's many gardens that yield hope and joy, particularly PW's Annual Fund, which is the ground from which all PW ministries thrive and bloom.

- Support PW on Giving Tuesday (November 30). Giving Tuesday (#givingtuesday) is a "global generosity movement" begun in 2012 as a day for people to participate in and/or give financial support to organizations or causes close to their hearts. To financially support PW on Giving Tuesday, you needn't wait until November 30 or despair if you hadn't remembered to give on that particular day! Simply add "Giving Tuesday" to the notes line of your check or select the Giving Tuesday option online. (Have a story of PW giving to share? Send your story to carissa.herold@pcusa.org.)
- Support PW as 2021 draws to a close with a year-end financial gift of any size. As PW explores new ways to be community, financial support is vital to sustaining all the good that is PW. Your year-end gift is a gift of love to PW.

To give, send a check to Presbyterian Women Remittance Processing, PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652, or give by credit card or bank draft at presbyterianwomen.org/give.



September 2021 Board Summary

Susan Jackson Dowd

The PW, Inc., Board of Directors met via Zoom September 28–29, 2021. The meeting marked the first of the 2021–2024 triennium and the first time an initial meeting of the Board was held online. The Board has not met in person since September 2019 but hopes to do so in late February 2022. Kathy Reeves, newly installed moderator, and Kathleen Keefer, newly installed vice moderator, facilitated the meeting. Below are action item highlights.

Triennial Theme



Violence against women and children surfaced as a priority theme during a premeeting survey of the Board. Committees will work with the moderator team and staff to provide programming on the theme throughout the triennium with a goal of bringing recommendations for action to the voting representatives to the 2024 Triennial Business Meeting.

Corporate Officers

The national Bylaws require election of corporate officers each year. Officers serving in 2020 were re-elected:

Susan Jackson Dowd, president;
Rhonda Martin, vice president and treasurer;
April Davenport, vice president and secretary;
Mike Kirk, assistant secretary.

Global Exchange/USAME

During the 2015–2018 triennium, the Board voted to alternate the Global Exchange and the USA Mission Experience per triennium. Under normal circumstances, a Global Exchange would be offered in this triennium. Because of the ongoing pandemic, the Board decided to provide a USAME program instead. Information will be available after the February 2022 Board meeting.

PW Book Group

On recommendation of the Justice & Peace Committee, the Board approved establishing a new PW National Book Group. The group will meet monthly via Zoom throughout the 2021–2024 triennium, beginning in January 2022. Readings will focus on racial justice, criminal justice, climate change, gender justice, immigration, Native American concerns, substance abuse disorders and United Nations/Commission on the Status of Women.

End of Year Giving Appeal

The Board voted to send an End of Year Giving appeal to the PW constituency. Cultivating Presbyterian Women includes cultivating and encouraging individuals to financially support the organization. See page 4 for more information and watch for the appeal and other giving opportunities in November!

“Hey! What is this PW NewsBytes all about?!”

PW NewsBytes, formerly the *PW Quarterly Mailing*, brims with “news you can use” from Presbyterian Women Church-wide! Just like the name suggests, *PW NewsBytes* is fully digital, which is good stewardship (of finances and trees) and makes for easy sharing and a more connected PW community!

- *PW NewsBytes* can be effortlessly shared or saved.
- Keeping to fewer pages, the newsletter can also be easily printed for PW friends who prefer paper.
- Although a newsletter named *NewsBytes* may seem a bit lighter on content, live links make it easy to learn more. In other words, readers choose their own PW adventure!
- And PWC, PWP and PWS newsletter editors can select content from *PW NewsBytes* to share via their communication channels.

PW NewsBytes is a work in progress! Send your thoughts, content ideas and suggestions to patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org.

Directory of Presbyterian Women (PW) Staff



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x5366; betsy.ensign-george



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Associate Editor
x5688; sharon.gillies



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Carissa Herold
Marketing Associate
x5322 carissa.herold



Susan Jackson-Dowd
Executive Director
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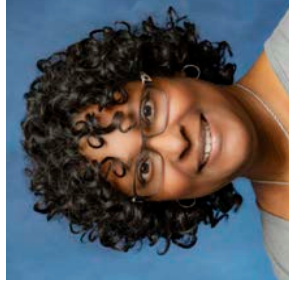
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Mindi Stivers
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



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www.presbyterianwomen.org

PW Staff – Who Ya Gonna Call?

844/PWPCUSA
(844/797-2872)

| Who (title • name) | Where (extension • email) | What (brief!) |
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| Associate Editor • Sharon Dunne Gillies | 5688 • Sharon.Gillies@pcusa.org | <i>Horizons</i> and Web content, permissions, translations, social media |
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| Marketing Associate • Carissa Herold | 5322 • Carissa.Herold@pcusa.org | Advertising, marketing, subscriptions, event support |
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| Marketing Assistant • Jung Ju Winner | 5389 • Jung.Winner@pcusa.org | Marketing materials, event support, Honorary Life |

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 www.presbyterianwomen.org
 www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen
 www.facebook.com/presbyterianwomenpcusa
 www.flickr.com/presbyterianwomen
 www.pinterest.com/pwpcusa/
 <https://twitter.com/pwpcusa>

"AND YOU SHALL BE LIKE A WATERED GARDEN"



"The LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail."

—Isaiah 58:11

"Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit," Presbyterian Women puts our full trust in God's outpouring of grace. We model full confidence that our "waters never fail," pouring God's abundant love onto a parched world, even in times of deepest drought. This glimpse of Presbyterian Women giving and ministry in 2020 just skims the surface of all that PW did in a universally unsettling year. As we proudly continue our more than 230-year tradition of service and care, let us give thanks for love to give and tears to dry. "Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it" we hear in Song of Solomon 8:7.

"like a spring of water"

Presbyterian Women support our denomination, we even commit to do so in our PW Purpose! As our church centers its ministries around Jesus' call (as articulated in Matthew 25:31–46) to compassionately serve all who are oppressed, hungry, imprisoned or poor, PW enthusiastically signs on for even deeper engagement. Through our PW Purpose, we already are active in these areas. In 2020, Presbyterian Women showed up by

Wholly Endorsing the Poor People's Campaign

Disparities between the "have" and "have nots" run deep and, like a deep trench, are often unnoticed until pressure builds to burst dams and overcome floodwalls. COVID-19 has laid bare the struggles of millions of God's people who cry for deliverance from the shackles of economic distress. Presbyterian Women stand with the PC(USA) in full support of the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for a Moral Revival.

Fully Supporting the Liberation of Black Women and Girls

"Black girls experience more trauma and less love, care and dignity in their day-to-day encounters with the world," wrote Samantha Paige Davis for *Horizons*. Presbyterian Women unreservedly supports the Disparities Experienced by Black Women and Girls Task Force, formed by the 223rd General Assembly (2018). Presbyterian Women will embrace the task force's proposals on how we, the church, can deepen our investment toward the liberation of Black women and girls.

Reaffirming PW's Stance Against Racism

Ahmaud Arbery. Breonna Taylor. Dreasjon (Sean) Reed. George Floyd. "Say Their Names" asks that we remember victims, beloved of God, whose deaths demand justice and whose lives deserve recognition. In 2020, a year of righteous unrest, Presbyterian Women's Board of Directors unanimously reaffirmed PW's historic and continuing stance against racism. "We speak the names of recent victims while

condemning the historic systemic racism that has caused the deaths and otherwise impeded the lives of so many of God's children."

Advocating for Women and Children Through the United Nations

Did you know that Presbyterian Women has non-governmental organization (NGO) status (recognized by the UN Economic and Social Council) at the United Nations? Each year, a delegation of Presbyterian women participates in the annual UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). In 2020, PW reaffirmed its commitment to address and raise awareness about the unrelenting epidemic of violence against women, which accelerated during the pandemic. And in collaboration with the staff of the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations office, the PW/CSW Team presented a panel on women's leadership. With our ecumenical sisters, PW wears black clothing and/or accessories every Thursday as a visual way to stand with victims and welcome conversation about their care and liberation.



PW Town Square Zoom Meeting, May 2020



2020 Thank Offering recipient Ferncliff



Bible study art webinar with author Lynn Miller

"whose waters never fail"

In 2020, a year of uncertainty, one thing was certain: Presbyterian Women showed up! Across the nation, Presbyterian Women sewed thousands of masks; packed numerous backpacks for displaced schoolchildren; staffed food drives; worked the frontlines in church, work and home; and fully embraced new ways to stay in community, in part by shifting to gathering online in their circles, presbyteries and synods. Many Presbyterian Women helped their congregations with online worship services. At the churchwide level, Presbyterian Women held online town halls and workshops to engage and fortify individual Presbyterian Women, as well as to connect PWs to one another and to our organization's ministries. Magdalena Garcia introduced the annual PW/*Horizons* Bible study in Spanish, while P. Lynn Miller offered insight into art and music inspired by the study. Ever in community, our "waters never fail" to alleviate the needs of the world; in 2020, PW awarded 19 grants through the Birthday and Thank Offerings to programs and ministries around the world.

"The Lord will guide you continually"

PW is connected and connectional. Our programs remain strong and relevant because PW is aligned and in community at all levels of the organization under an evergreen PW Purpose. "Empowered by the Holy Spirit," PW routinely plants seeds in anticipation of a future harvest or—put another way—in anticipation of a future need.

For example, although Zoom and virtual gatherings seem familiar to us now, PW was ahead of the curve, meeting virtually at the churchwide level for years, including national board meetings and synod moderator network connections. Meeting virtually has strengthened PW networks while stretching PW's Annual Fund (Mission Pledge) dollars. (Other important cost-savings strategies include reducing administrative costs, staff reductions, and fewer print materials.) In 2019, a PW churchwide grant program helped PW in the Synods invest in communication technology for online meetings, further connecting PW in the Presbyteries. PW's lead in this area inspired other agencies and offices within the PC(USA) to

hold virtual meetings, which paved the way forward for a virtual General Assembly! Presbyterian Women held its first Online Churchwide Gathering Event in August 2021, while making plans for an in-person Churchwide Gathering in 2024. And speaking of Spirit-led, PW's Bible study committee chose the theme and author of the 2020–2021 PW/*Horizons* Bible study years in advance! The study, *Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*, by P. Lynn Miller, was certainly prescient.

Presbyterian Women supports mission through several giving streams. The largest—PW's Annual Fund (the Mission Pledge)—makes PW possible at all levels of the organization and ensures that the other streams have shape and depth consistent with PW's Purpose. This graph provides a glimpse of funds received by PW Churchwide as mission giving. These gifts, along with other sources of revenue, make possible PW's grants, leadership development, resource and program development, and support of the mission of the church worldwide.

No matter how you choose to give to Presbyterian Women, your support of PW's annual fund sustains PW's work for the good of all, locally, nationally and globally.

Give

- In your circle

- Online

Give securely at www.presbyterianwomen.org/give.

- By mail

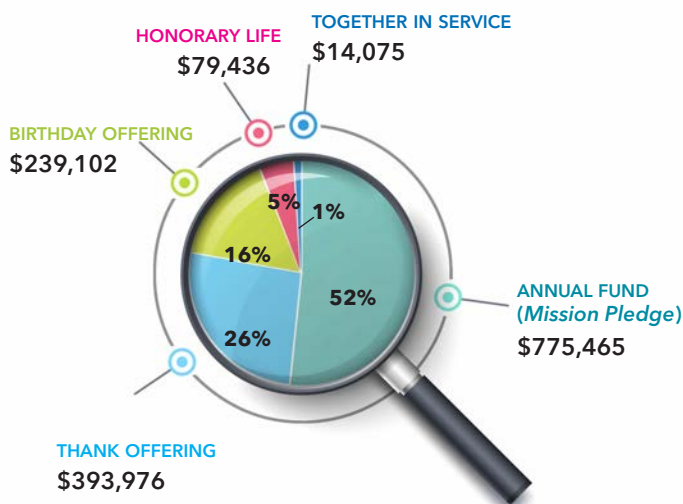
Presbyterian Women, Inc.
PO Box 643652
Pittsburgh, PA 15264–3652

- Gifts of stock, third-party gifts, and employment-match donations are also accepted.

Questions? Contact Rhonda Martin, 502/569-5506, or email rhonda.martin@pcusa.org



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



Introducing the 2022–2023 PW/*Horizons* Bible study

Celebrating Sabbath

Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight

By Carol M. Bechtel

In the nine lessons of this Bible study—with passages from Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, Isaiah, Matthew, Luke, and Acts—we'll consider Sabbath

- as a celebration, not a day of dreary formality
- as God's intent for all of creation that includes busy women too
- as one day of the week, perhaps a Sunday
- as a time to surrender unhealthy striving and frantic busyness, and instead trust that God will provide
- as a reminder that life is precious and working too much is against God's plans for our precious lives
- as a day devoted to community and justice and not exclusively to self-care

Ultimately, Sabbath reminds us to honor God who honors us by giving us a day each week to reset our pace, our priorities, and our lives.

Bible study, supplemental materials, and other helps!

The following resources will be available in the spring and summer of 2022

- Editions of the Bible study studybook: English, Ecumenical, Spanish, Large Print, and Audio
- Resources to spread the word: Promotional poster/flier, eBlasts, Pendant/Charm
- Resources to learn more about the study: *Workshop for Leaders*, Companion DVD, Blogs
- Bible study resources in *Horizons* magazine begin with the Summer 2022 issue
- And more!

About the Author



The Reverend Dr. Carol Bechtel is Professor of Old Testament at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan, where she has taught since 1994. She also serves as the Executive Director of the American Waldensian Society, an organization that partners with Christians from the Reformed tradition in Italy and South America.

Carol grew up on a farm in Fulton, Illinois. She attended Hope College, Western Theological Seminary, and received her Ph.D. in Old Testament from Yale University. Her publications include a commentary on Esther and several curriculum series and Bible studies. We're sure many of you will remember her PW Bible study from 2007–2008,

Above and Beyond: Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth.

Carol lives in Holland, Michigan, with her husband, Tom Mullens. They have four children and seven grandchildren. Her hobbies include singing, cooking, gardening, and the Celtic harp. We are so excited to welcome back Carol to Presbyterian Women!

***Horizons* isn't just a Bible study, *Horizons* is a magazine too!**

In fact, current *Horizons* magazine subscribers receive the 2022–2023 PW/*Horizons* Bible study in March 2022. Subscribe by April 1, 2022, and you will, too!

Call toll-free 866/802-3635 or visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons!



2021 *Thank Offering* OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Happy is the one who listens to me,
watching daily at my gates,
waiting beside my doors.

—Proverbs 8:34*



Learn more about the
Thank Offering
of Presbyterian Women
by visiting
[www.presbyterian
women.org/thank](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank).



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Thank Offering ²⁰²¹

OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



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In February 2021, the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women met to review applications for Thank Offering grants. Twelve of the projects were chosen for funding. More than 40 percent of the projects funded are health ministries. See the Summer issue of *Horizons* magazine for a list of this year's recipients. Please give so that more Thank Offering grants can be awarded next year, and promote the 2021 offering using the available resources.

Resources for Promoting the Thank Offering

Essentials

Available as a download, as well! The **2021 Thank Offering promotional booklet**, which is routinely mailed to all PC(USA) 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 Thank Offering; a poster/placemat; and promotional resource flier. Item PWR21475; free.

2021 Thank Offering Korean- and Spanish-language promotional booklets are available on line. Free.

The 11" x 17" **2021 Thank Offering poster/placemat** is versatile: use side one as a poster suitable for bulletin boards and trifold; use side two as a placemat for dinners and tabletops. Available as singles so order as needed (limit 150)! Item PWR21473; free. Korean- and Spanish-language available on line as a download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank; free.

Receiving the Offering

Thank Offering group giving envelopes, traditionally used in PW circles and congregations, are available in packs of 25. Item PWR16479; 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 Thank Offering bulletin insert (one design)—Download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank; free.

2021 Thank Offering bulletin cover (8½" x 11")—Download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank; free.

2021 Thank Offering resource flier—Download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank; free.

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

More to Explore!

The **Summer 2021 issue of *Horizons* magazine** includes the grant recipient list as well as a dedication service. Available to order July 2021; item HZN21220, \$4.00. (Not a *Horizons* magazine subscriber? Call 866/802-3635 or visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons to subscribe!)

Coin/bill boxes, available in packs of 10. Item PWR07482; free

Ordering is Easy!

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

Note: Thank Offering promotional materials are shipped free of charge. Shipping charges for other resources are 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.