



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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OCTOBER 2026 EDITION

PW Inc. Board Summary

by Susan Jackson Dowd



The Presbyterian Women, Inc., Board of Directors met in person September 8–11, 2026, at the Presbyterian Center in Louisville, Kentucky.

The Board welcomed four new synod representatives: Martha Gradye-Costa (Northeast); Jayne Elgin (Covenant); Maggie Horak (Lakes and Prairies); Stella Wilson (Living Waters). Corinne Quinn (Pacific) and Beth Snyder (Lincoln Trails) are continuing as representatives for their synods. The Board also welcomed Kennedy Holloway, the 2026–2029 young women's representative.

On the first full day of meetings, the Board gathered in the Presbyterian Center chapel for worship. Focusing on Romans 16:1–7, the worship celebrated how women have been essential in sharing the message of God's love with the world. This affirmation echoed through the work of the Board, and through the messages of various PC(USA) leaders who visited the meeting, including president of the Board of Pensions Krysten Carter Holloway, stated clerk of the General Assembly Rev. Jihyun Oh, and president of the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation Rev. Dr. Bridgett Green.

Continued on page 3

A PW Year in Review



PW's 2025 Annual Report (presbyterianwomen.org/report) is a downloadable resource (bulletin board and newsletter ready) that showcases PW's ministry in action. Explore, celebrate and share this record of our PW Purpose in action in 2025—and make time to explore other years available, too!

And since your PW in the congregation, presbytery and/or synod group is up to good in 2026, please share those stories and photos with Carissa Herold, carissa.herold@pcusa.org. Whether for next year's annual report or other PW communications, your stories are part of the broader PW story!

2027 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women



Plan to attend Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Gathering August 5–8, 2027, in Louisville, Kentucky. The Gathering theme is "A threefold cord is not quickly broken," based on Ecclesiastes 4:12b. Join women from across the country for this celebration of PW community!

Stay informed about all the latest Gathering news!

- Visit presbyterianwomen.org/gathering for updates and promotional resources, including fliers, puzzles, save-the-date cards and videos!
- Sign up to receive email communications from PW, including a monthly Gathering Quest. Send an email to pw_pcusa@pcusa.org.

Gathering Registration

Early registration (March 3–May 3, 2027) is \$450.

Standard registration (May 4–July 7, 2027) is \$475.

Registration opens March 3, 2027, at 3 PM ET!

Full registration includes three meals (two dinners and a lunch), program book, tote bag and one-year *Horizons* subscription! One-day registrations will be available.

Sleeping rooms and most programming will be under one roof at the newly renovated Galt House Hotel. Rooms start at \$219 per night, plus taxes and fees. Onsite daily and overnight parking (including valet options) is available, starting at \$15.

Looking Ahead to the

2027 Churchwide Gathering Program Book

Once again, space will be available in the pages of the 2027 Churchwide Gathering program book for

Presbyterian women and friends of PW to express their thanks, admiration, good humor, invitations, hopes, and more! These lovely "personal ads" (with PW flair) are thoughtful, fun, celebratory, informative, prayerful—you decide!

Full- and half-page ads are available. Reserve your ad by April 9, 2027, if you would like design assistance or May 1, 2027, if you will submit a designed ad.

These ads also help pay for the printing of the program book, keeping Gathering costs reasonable. Visit presbyterianwomen.org/gathering for details or a flier to share.

Calling All Voting Representatives

PW cannot hold a Churchwide Gathering without first convening a Triennial Business Meeting! The meeting will be held at the same location as the Gathering (the Galt House), beginning at 7 PM on August 4 and ending with lunch on August 5, before the Gathering begins.

The Business Meeting is critical to the life of Presbyterian Women at the organization's congregation, presbytery, synod and national levels. Voting representatives will elect new leaders, approve the 2028–2030 triennial budget and transact other business.

Voting representatives are presbytery moderators and synod moderators (or their alternates), and current members of the PW, Inc., Board of Directors. If your presbytery does not have a coordinating team, the presbytery is still entitled to send a representative who is a member of the PC(USA) and active in Presbyterian Women. Synod moderators are working with the national office to gather PW's 2027 voting representatives by collecting information and certifying representatives. The process begins early to ensure every presbytery and synod has representation.

The deadline for completed certification forms is November 22, 2026. Please be in touch with your synod moderator with any questions or concerns. If you need additional information, contact Susan Jackson Dowd, susan.jackson-dowd@pcusa.org.

(cont. from page 1) • PW Inc. Board Summary

The national bylaws require the Board to elect corporate officers annually. The officers are Susan Jackson Dowd, president; Rhonda Martin, vice president and treasurer; April Davenport, vice president and secretary; and Sarah Sullivan, assistant secretary.

In other actions, the Board approved funds for programming at the Commission on the Status of Women, March 8–13, 2027, at the United Nations; received the revised PW, Inc., Manual of Operations; reviewed PW, Inc.'s recent financial statements and annual audit reports; approved a 2027 cost-of-living increase for PW staff; and reviewed the 2027–2030 slate of nominees for election by the voting representatives to the 2027 Triennial Business Meeting next August. Information on the slate will be published in the Winter 2026 issue of *Horizons*.

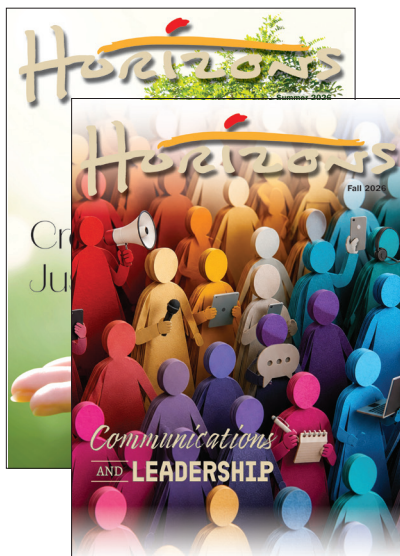
The Creative Ministries Offering Committee (CMOC) and *Horizons* Editorial Advisory Committee (HEC) met September 8. CMOC approved two projects for funding through the 2027 Birthday Offering. The grants awarded total \$277,345. Both projects are in the United States. HEC brainstormed 2028 themes for *Horizons* magazine, and content for the 2027 issues: Spring 2027: Creativity and Innovation; Summer 2027: Gratitude and Generosity; Fall 2027: Choosing Joy; and Winter 2027: Cord of Three Strands: 2027 Churchwide Gathering.

On Thursday evening, Presbyterian Women of Shawnee Presbyterian Church hosted the Board for dinner at Café Ginkgo (image below), a 2024 Birthday Offering recipient. Café Ginkgo is a program of Shawnee, one of the four historic African American congregations of Mid-Kentucky Presbytery. The café provides meals for those facing food insecurity in the Shawnee neighborhood.

The Board will meet in late March/early April 2027 for the last in-person Board meeting of this triennium.



Buy One, Get One Free *Horizons* Subscriptions

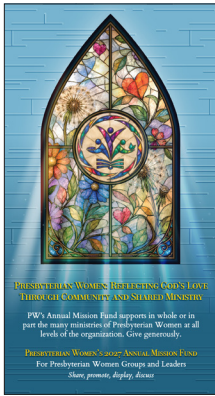


It's that time of the year—the *Horizons* BOGO Sale. Yes, when you subscribe, renew or give a gift subscription at \$24.95, you get another subscription for free! That means two lucky readers receive four issues of *Horizons* magazine, plus the annual PW/*Horizons* Bible study.

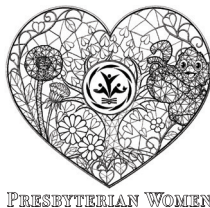
Taking advantage of this offer is a budget- and faith-friendly way to stay connected! Who can you (re)introduce or welcome to PW with the resources that keep our networks strong?

Visit presbyterianwomen.org/I26BOGONWS to (re)start your subscriptions today!

Promoting PW's Annual Mission Fund



A coloring page of the heart-shaped stained-glass imagery is also available on presbyterianwomen.org/AMF. So plan to share about PW's Annual Mission Fund over a basket of festive markers!



The 2027 Annual Mission Fund promotional resource was mailed in September to PW in the Synod and PW in the Presbytery moderators, treasurers, mission coordinators and leadership development coordinators, and PW, Inc.'s, Board of Directors.

This resource highlights why giving to PW's Annual Mission Fund is so important, and ways that PW groups and individuals can make a gift. The free resource is also available to download from presbyterianwomen.org/AMF or order (PWR26011).*

Many Prayers and Least Coins



In 2026, the Fellowship of the Least Coin (FLC) commemorates 70 years of prayers for peace and reconciliation for Christian women around the world.

Two FLC resources are newly available as free downloads on presbyterianwomen.org/FLC:

- Circle of Prayer, volume 28—a 27-page booklet with devotions and prayers written by women around the world, and
- the 2026 ingathering liturgy—a collection of liturgy and program suggestions to use while receiving least coins.

Presbyterian Women has been part of this prayer movement since 1956 when Shanti Solomon, the founder, was denied entry into Korea during a peace mission with international Presbyterian women. While waiting for the group to return from Korea, she prayerfully turned her pain and disappointment into faithful action for peace and reconciliation.

In 2025, Presbyterian Women lifted countless prayers—and as a token for each prayer, contributed \$130,421.73. PW's gifts, combined with least coins from faithful women around the world, provide funding for grants that expressly empower women and girls globally. Look for FLC grant recipients in the Winter 2026 issue of *Horizons*.

*Ordering PW Resources

Order these items from the PW Shop (presbyterianwomen.org/shop) or by calling 844/PW-PCUSA, option 1. All orders should be placed by December 14, 2026, to guarantee shipment before holiday closures.

Beginning January 1, 2027, orders from the PW Shop will reflect a \$1 increase in shipping fees, prompted by increased costs for mailing. The new fees will be \$7.25 minimum.



Stewardship

PW Gives Day 2026 was July 31—but the giving continues! Gifts and stories are still welcome as many groups come together for a new PW year. Visit presbyterianwomen.org/pwgivesday to learn how to make a gift to celebrate PW and share how your group lives out the PW Purpose.

Presbyterian Women continues to improve lives across the U.S. and around the world. July 31 commemorates the July 1988 formation of today's Presbyterian Women from the merger of two predecessor organizations.



Attention, Gender Justice Advocates!

Presbyterian Women invites you to apply to be part of our delegation to the 71st Session of the United Nations

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW71)—a global gathering where voices of women, faith and justice converge to shape the world's agenda for gender equity.

The 71st Session of the Commission on the Status of Women will be held March 8–19, 2027, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Speakers and programming will address the priority theme of “Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.” Delegates will have the opportunity to

- engage with global leaders, advocates and faith-based and ecumenical partners;
- participate in worship, educational opportunities and advocacy that embodies Presbyterian Women's Purpose; and
- bring back insights and inspiration to your congregation, presbytery and PW community.

For nearly two decades, Presbyterian Women has been a consistent and courageous voice at this global platform—lifting up stories of resilience, challenging systems of injustice and standing shoulder to shoulder with women from every nation. Are you ready to be part of this legacy?

Minimum participation for delegates is Monday, March 8–Friday, March 12, 2027; ideal participation is between Monday, March 8–Friday, March 19. Delegates are encouraged to attend as many events **in person** as possible. Attending some events online is also an option.

Applications to join the PW delegation are due no later than **December 1, 2026**. More information—including details on financial support from Presbyterian Women Churchwide—is available at presbyterianwomen.org/CSW.



YOU'RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE PW GIVES DAY—JULY 31!

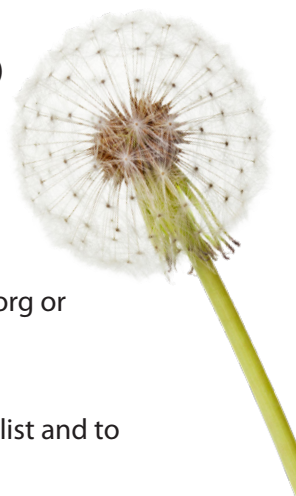
July 31 is PW Gives Day, commemorating the founding of today's Presbyterian Women. This day is set aside each year for individuals and PW groups to celebrate and support all that Presbyterian Women makes possible. For PW Gives Day 2026, prayerfully consider the legacies that you have inherited and consider the ways you can strengthen the legacies you hope to build for tomorrow's Presbyterian Women.

To support Presbyterian Women in celebration of PW Gives Day

- Make a secure gift online at presbyterianwomen.org/give. Select "PW Gives Day" from the options at the top of the page and then your gift amount. Select a gift of \$10 or more (and add a bit extra for a transaction fee). Typing your church, presbytery or synod information in the comments box will allow your gift to be tracked in their totals.
- Use this form and mail your gift to Presbyterian Women, Inc., PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652. Please indicate PW Gives 2026 in the memo line of your check (or with a separate note).
- Share a story or photos—or both! Contact Carissa Herold by phone (844/PW-PCUSA, ext. 5322) or email carissa.herold@pcusa.org.

On PW Gives Day

- Watch for and share your stories (photos and videos) on Presbyterian Women's Facebook and Instagram pages about how, where and why PW gives, or share by email at pw_pcusa@pcusa.org or mail to Presbyterian Women, 100 Witherspoon St., #4607, Louisville KY 40202-1396.
- Send your PW Gives story and photos to carissa.herold@pcusa.org.
- If you're not already receiving emails from PW, email pw_pcusa@pcusa.org to be added to the list and to receive information about this day (and other PW ministries and programs).
- Pray for Presbyterian Women as we reflect God's love to the world through service and care.



Celebrate PW Gives Day!

I offer my **PW Gives Day 2026** gift with a check for ☐ \$35 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$ _____

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Comments to share:

Return your form to: Presbyterian Women, PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652

"But if God so clothes the grass of the field, ... how much more will [God] clothe you!" —Luke 12:28



Consider (to casual observers) the humble dandelion. In certain latitudes, springtime also means dandelion time, when the sunny, lion-mane-like flowers emerge triumphant. Dandelions are undaunted and bloom wherever their seeds take root. These resilient plants equally thrive in cheerful meadows, frosty snowdrifts and cracked sidewalks. Dandelions evolve. Within their short life cycle, they quickly adapt and transform from flower to fluffy seed cap. Dandelions are generous. From root to bud, dandelions are fully edible and provide nutrient-rich nourishment for people and pollinators alike.

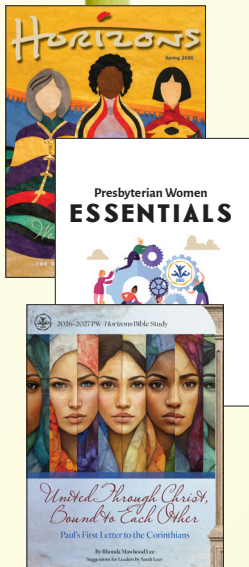
Looking at it from a lens of faith and fancy, dandelions—like Presbyterian women, who share the same Creator—put down deep roots in a way that is bold and unapologetic, living into God's good intention for their very existence, despite challenges. People and posey alike thrive in community. It's rare to spot a solitary dandelion—or a Presbyterian woman!

Selecting a PW/*Horizons* Bible study author and theme is much like planning a garden. Both grow from deliberate processes that require thoughtful preparation and discernment, ensuring that the eventual harvest will richly nourish those who partake of it. When Presbyterian Women's national Bible Study Committee selects a theme and author for a study published years in the future, committee members rely on dialogue, prayer and wisdom gained from being a faithful PW, as well as the Spirit's gentle nudging toward studies that will resonate with readers in circumstances and seasons they could not foresee. For example . . .

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church in western North Carolina hosts six PW circles. In 2024, they had just begun studying the 2024–2025 PW/*Horizons* Bible study, *Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation*, by Patricia K. Tull, when Hurricane Helene brought widespread destruction to their region. The storm claimed thousands of homes,

hundreds of lives, and devastated entire communities. The area continues to grapple and rebuild from this event.

In a *Horizons* magazine article, Shannan Vance-Ocampo writes about Black Mountain's PW response to the natural disaster: "When they began their study in 2024, they had no idea how important it would become to their community, providing them with a theological underpinning to consider the bigger picture while living through a time of extreme trauma, tragedy and terror . . ."^{*} *Let Justice Roll Down* author Patricia K. Tull and Suggestions for Leaders writer Rebecca Barnes spoke at a community event a year after Helene, which included a climate forum. This gathering—made possible by PW's Bible study that had been chosen by a committee years prior—equipped the community to chart a path forward to address the profound impact of climate-related challenges on human lives and the lives of all creation.



PW Gives Day keeps the PW community strong and connected. Gifts to PW Gives Day support PW's Annual Mission Fund, which makes possible in whole or in part:

- PW groups at all levels
- Development and delivery of national PW programming—including justice and peace work, antiracism training, leadership development and Racial Equity Dialogue
- PW's USA Mission Experience
- Developing denominational and ecumenical relationships
- Publishing and communications ministry—*Horizons* magazine and Bible study, PW publications, digital and social media engagement
- PC(USA) A Corporation service and lease agreement
- National PC(USA) mission and program support
- PW Churchwide Gatherings
- PW administration and staff support
- Giving to the PC(USA)
- Presence and participation at denominational events, such as General Assembly

^{*}Rev. Dr. Shannan R. Vance-Ocampo's article "A Call to Act" is available at presbyterianwomen.org/black-mountain.





Give Two GIFT subscriptions for the price of ONE!

With this special offer (and for a very limited time only), you can now give one gift subscription to **Horizons** and get one FREE! For just \$24.95, you can give two gifts for the price of one! With each one-year subscription, plus the 2027–2028 PW/*Horizons* Bible study, ***Finding Peace in the Old Testament*** by Wilma Ann Bailey with Suggestions for Leaders by Heather Thum-Gerber. Anyone who subscribes by June 1, 2027 will receive this study as part of their subscription. So hurry!

☐ **YES!** Send my **Horizons** gift subscription (one year/four issues plus the Bible study, and free electronic access to the magazine) to the people listed below. I understand that when **I buy one gift for \$24.95, I'll get the second one FREE.**



Billing information

Name _____

Address 1 _____

Address 2 _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Two easy payment options (check one)

☐ My check payable to *Horizons* is enclosed.

☐ Please charge my

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ Amex

Account number _____

Exp date _____ Three-digit security code _____

Signature _____

Gift one: \$24.95

Name _____

Address 1 _____

Address 2 _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Gift two: FREE

Name _____

Address 1 _____

Address 2 _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

For additional gifts, please attach your own sheet and mail to the address below.

This offer ends June 1, 2027.

Mail today! *Horizons*, PO Box 421, Congers, NY 10920-0421

Order online! presbyterianwomen.org/I26BOGO

Call now! 866/802-3635, mention **I26BOGO** to receive this special offer.

2027 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women

Will you join women from across the country in one PW community? The Gathering will inspire you through worship, connection, education, fun and renewal!



In addition to plenary and worship with all attendees, you can

- select from dozens of workshops;
- deepen your experience by volunteering;
- attend your synod get-together;
- visit the exhibit hall;
- shop the Presbyterian Bookstore; and
- bid on items in the silent auction (where your purchase supports PW's Annual Mission Fund).

Registration

Registration opens March 3, 2027, at 3 PM ET!

Early registration (March 3–May 3, 2027) is \$450

Standard registration (May 4–July 7, 2027) is \$475

Full registration includes three meals (two dinners and a lunch), program book, tote bag and one-year *Horizons* subscription! One-day registrations will be available.

Sleeping rooms and most programming will be at the Galt House Hotel. Rooms start at \$219 per night, plus taxes and fees. Onsite daily and overnight parking (including valet options) is available, starting at \$15.

Stay Tuned for Breaking News!

Visit presbyterianwomen.org/gathering to sign up for PW's monthly Gathering Quest emails or to learn about donating to the silent auction, applying to exhibit or sponsor, and much more!

Speakers include



Rev. Adriene Thorne

senior minister at The Riverside Church (New York), dancer, healer and practitioner of playful imagination



Rev. Jihyun Oh

Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the PC(USA) and executive director of Presbyterian Life & Witness



Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis

theologian, author, pastor, anti-poverty organizer and instructor at Union Theological Seminary (New York)



Rev. Cece Armstrong

associate pastor at St. James Presbyterian Church (Charleston, SC) and past General Assembly co-moderator



Dr. Wilma Ann Bailey

author of the 2027–2028 PW/*Horizons* Bible study



Yenny Delgado

author of the 2028–2029 PW/*Horizons* Bible study



Rev. Dr. Shannan Vance-Ocampo

author of the 2029–2030 PW/*Horizons* Bible study



Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri

ruling elder, Global Ecumenical Liaison and past General Assembly co-moderator

Reserve Your Personal Ad(s) for the 2027 Churchwide Gathering Program Book!

*A Threefold Cord
Is Not Quickly Broken*
— ECCLESIASTES 4:12b

The Churchwide Gathering program book is not only a thorough event guide but a celebration of PW community that sparks programming possibilities for years beyond closing worship. While most events no longer provide program books, this is not so for Presbyterian Women! For Gathering attendees, the program book is a well-loved, often dog-eared and annotated keepsake. The pages, like hearts, open wider through PW personal space ads, where PW women and groups share best wishes, prayers, ministries, events, gentle humor, joys and concerns, lovingly honor or remember friends in faith.

Ideas? Honor your PW sisters! Thank and pray for your voting reps. Send greetings from afar! Invite your church, presbytery or synod to affirm their attendees. Pay homage to a mentor, PW leader or foremother in faith who continues to inspire your faith journey. Celebrate a PW project, ministry or gathering! The 2027 Churchwide Gathering program book is your opportunity to express who and what makes Presbyterian Women special. And, beyond creating a time capsule of this PW moment, ad sales revenue offsets the cost of printing the program book.

Here's how to reserve your space in the program book!

1

Request ad space.

Provide your contact information. After your form and payment are received, you will be emailed a confirmation number and guidelines for submitting your ad materials.

Name

Address

City/State/ZIP

Phone number

Email address

Description of ad (in honor of/for/about)

2

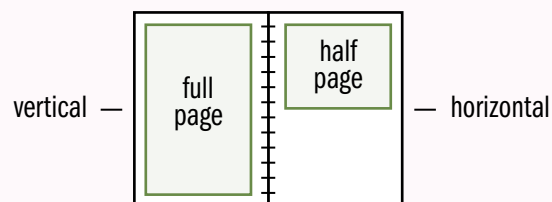
Choose a size.

☐ Full page ad

(5" x 8") - \$250.00

☐ Half page ad

(5" x 4") - \$175.00



3

Note your deadline for request(s) and payment.

☐ by April 9, 2027

if you would like **design assistance** with your ad

☐ by May 1, 2027

if you will electronically submit your **designed ad**

4

Mail your check* and this form (or a photo-copy). Make check payable to "Presbyterian Women" and on the memo line, write "Program Book." Send both to:
Rhonda Martin
Presbyterian Women
100 Witherspoon St. Room 4611
Louisville, KY 40202-1396

*PW will also accept credit card payments. Call 844/PWPCUSA (844/797-2872), option 8, or email your ad reservation to rhonda.martin@pcusa.org and note that you will pay with a credit card. For more information or to download an electronically fillable version of this form, visit presbyterianwomen.org/gathering.