

The Lighthouse



August 2015

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the North Northeast

Moderators Message



Maxine Hunter

"What we see now is like a dim image in a mirror; then we shall see face-to-face. What I know now is only partial; then it will be complete—as complete as God's knowledge of me." (1 *Corinthians* 13: 12)

Summer time, Summer time! How we all really like summer time. Wildflowers are blooming; the birds are still singing a summer song; berries, melons and garden vegetables are being harvested; and the world is cloaked in a hundred shades of green. God's summer creation is a blessing.

For many of us our summer begin with a pre-summer- treat: The Churchwide Gathering in Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 18-21, 2015. What a joy it was to have so many in attendance from our Synod, and I think most of you showed up at the Synod Breakfast. What a surprise that was, but it worked; we all got food; as for me, the happy buzz around the room was music to my ears. The breakfast was what I had hoped it would be: a time for us to meet, greet and praise God for the morning and for our time together with all in Minneapolis.

Now it is August. Summer seems to be rushing headlong toward autumn. It is time for all of us to be thinking about 2015 PWP Fall Gatherings. It is time, also, to mark our calendars for our Presbyterian Women of the Synod of the Northeast's Leadership Enhancement and Training & Annual Meeting at Stony Point, NY, October 23 & 24, 2015.* What I envision for our meeting is discussion and planning, which will enhance---maybe even enchant--- our work as we move forward into 2016 & 2017. What is vital for this meeting and planning? You are! To be fully known to each other, is to meet face to face. And I would add this: what beautiful faces they are.

Before I close, from the bottom of my heart, I want to thank each of you for helping to make my first year as Moderator of PWSNE such a pleasure. I never saw myself in this leadership position, but God obviously had other plans for me, you and PWSNE. Let's keep smiling and working together. PWSNE is definitely "springs of living water bringing new life to women."

God Bless,
Maxine G. Hunter

*Flier and registration form with specific information concerning our PWSNE Meeting in October is in this newsletter.

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Vice Moderator's Message

It has been a busy year for me. Contracting for PWSNE; working with my PWP, my Church, and taking care of the home front, my husband, father, daughter, and grand-children.

While doing all of the above, I was anticipating my trip to Minneapolis to the PW Church-wide Gathering. I went, and it was wonderful. I urge everyone go to the next PW Church-wide Gathering. Just start putting aside money now for the 2018 Gathering. It is worth it. You will be happy you went, and you will be inspired by all you hear, see, experience, and you will meet women from all over the globe. Every day of the gathering, I learned something new. I was awakened to something new, and I got to see all of my sisters from all over the US, and I met a number of the international guests. This gathering really did embody the theme "One Body, One Spirit", using 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 as the guide. "One Body, One Spirit" really made me understand that we all share an identity in Christ, even though we have varied ideas and interests.

The PWSNE Breakfast at the Gathering was a wonderful experience bringing many women from the Synod of the NE together, and in the short one hour time frame we came together as one body and one spirit. My friend, Mary Cook Jorgenson, PW Church-wide Moderator 2012-2015, was our guest. Mary and I became friends in September 2014, when I went on the Women of the Reformation Tour. I hope we do the breakfast again in 2018, wherever the Gathering is held.

On May 3, 2015, I attended the Commissioning Celebration for our own, Rev. Terri Yvette Ofori, as Chaplain of Bloomfield College. It was honor to be asked to participate in the Prayer and Worship Service confirming our support and encouragement to Rev. Terri. It was such a joy to see her blossom and shine after her recent surgery.

I was invited to attend a Racial Ethnic Dialogue sponsored by the NYC and Newark Presbyteries on July 1, 2015, held at Bloomfield College, and hosted by Rev. Ofori. It was an interesting meeting that discussed many aspects of racial, ethnic, privilege, and other areas needing dialogue. Future dialogues are planned, and I hope PWSNE is invited again.

PWSNE Leadership Workshop will be at Stony Point Center, on October 23-24, 2015. It will be a very educational and spiritual workshop, and I hope you all attend. I contacted fifteen locations in our Synod for our annual workshop, but a number of them did not meet our requirements, or were booked through this year. I found two possible locations that meet our requirements for 2016, and were central to everyone in our Synod. They were booked for this year. This information will be turned over to your in-coming Vice Moderator, Su-ling Lai. Please welcome her warmly and help her in all of her endeavors on behalf of PWSNE.

It has been a joy being your Vice-Moderator. My term comes to an end in October, and I hope that I will continue to work with all of you in the mission of PW and the Presbyterian Church USA.

Thank you, Jo Ann Burrell, Vice Moderator PWSNE

Rev. Terri Yvette Ofori: Presbyterian Sister Commissioned

By Sandy Grillo

On Sunday, May 3, 2015 at 3 p.m. the Rev. Terri Yvette Ofori was commissioned as Chaplain at Bloomfield College in Bloomfield, NJ. Terri is one of our own, currently serving as Chaplain to Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast (PWSNE). She is also the Moderator of Presbyterian Women of Long Island as well as the Interim Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Levittown in NY. A busy lady, she has served several churches as interim and worked in other phases of the Presbyterian Church. Terri and her husband Elder Dr. David Ofori, Jr. together serve as co-directors of P.A.Y.L.A. (Pan African Youth Leadership Academy) in NYC. It is a non-profit dedicated to providing academic and leadership development skills to at risk youth.

The day—sunny, bright and warm—was perfect for this festive occasion. The commissioning was hosted by Bloomfield Church on the Green. Many leaders from around the Synod of the Northeast participated: Jo Ann Burrell, Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast's Vice-moderator (and Terri's friend); the Rev. Kathy Nealand, past-Moderator Synod of the Northeast, as well as now on PWSNE's Search Committee



and Secretary/Public Relations of PWP Long Island; the Rev. Dr. Harold Delhagen, Synod Leader; the Rev. Nancy Talbot, Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Northeast; the Rev. Dr. Robert Foltz-Morrison; Executive Presbyter of NYC; Elder Warren McNeil, Stated Clerk of Newark Presbytery; and last, but not least, Terri's husband, Elder Dr. David Ofori Jr. Other participants included ministers and representatives of Bloomfield College as well as many of Terri's friends and family.

Terri said, "On this day I wanted to be surrounded by my Presbyterian Sisters." Indeed she was. Besides Jo Ann Burrell and the Rev. Kathy Nealand mentioned above, also in attendance representing Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast were Su-Ling Lai, Vice-moderator Elect; Sue Liu, member-at large representing Asian Women (and photographer of the day); Magdalene Lewis, representative to the Synod Mission and Ministry Commission of the NE; Sandy Grillo, past-moderator (2007-2011); Lorraine Cuffie, Moderator, PWP of Newark; and at least 21 PWP ladies of the Newark Presbytery.

It was a day of blessings not only for Terri, but for all our PW sisters. Terri said, "My mother was so touched by your out pouring of love." She said to me: "I really like these ladies. I am so glad you have them as an extended family."

Yes, we are sisters walking together. We are springs of living water bringing new life to women.

Memories of PW

By Hazel Fuhrmeister

Note from Sandy Grillo: Here is the next installment of Memories of PW. I am very proud to count Hazel Fuhrmeister as a friend. I asked her if she could help me in this project and the essay below is what she wrote. I am including it in its entirety as I think it is perfect just like it is. Please read our former Synod Moderator's (and former Churchwide Moderator) thoughts on being involved in Presbyterian Women. You will see why she is so beloved by us all. We are very blessed to have Hazel among us. She is one special lady.

SO MANY MEMORIES

After more than 50 years in Presbyterian Women, most of all, I remember the people. This is about just some of them.

Fresh in my memory are the 92 year old woman who had been president of her women's group for 45 years "because nobody else would do it," and the young woman who carried her infant son to PW Gatherings because she didn't want to miss any of it.

I remember being made welcome in homes from one end of the country to another. Being part of the family, baby-sitting more than once, entertaining small children who had more energy than I ever had. I remember homes where all the family had commitments and I was left alone with a thoughtfully provided meal to heat in the microwave. I remember a Sunday dinner in Puerto Rico with the large extended family sharing the baked chicken and rice prepared by my hostess. I remember a home in Beirut where the hostess, her mother and her sisters prepared a delicious meal of Lebanese specialties for all our Global Exchange group, then gave us time to use her computer to send messages home. I can't forget the young Thai pastor who invited our Global Exchange group to her father's house. We protested that she couldn't do that to her father, only to be told that he owned a restaurant so cooking fabulous food for 35 was easy for him. There was the home of a PW leader without a spare room where space was found for me on a sofa bed in the den, somewhat to the dismay of the husband and son of the family who needed some things from the den despite the strange woman sleeping in there. In the Synod of the Rocky Mountains, one of my hostesses was a young woman I had met when she was active here in the Northeast. At Ghost Ranch in New Mexico I learned that it's not smart to run up an even small hill at that altitude.

Never to be forgotten are those I met the week that I spoke at 6 PWP Gatherings in 4 days, being shuttled from one to the next, usually arriving just in time for the program to begin, and flying home from the last stop carrying pancake mix and syrup, specialties of the region. A lovely Pennsylvania woman who always wore her sari and taught us about her home in India. The Native American women at their National Gathering at Cook School in Arizona. The Korean Women at their Gathering in Los Angeles. The Japanese women who had been interned with their families during WWII, one of whom walked the tunnels of Corregidor with her arm in mine, remembering family members who had fought there with the Japanese Army. The people of Warsaw, Berlin, Prague and other cities behind the Iron Curtain who had lived through so much more during the war than I had in Britain.

I remember the General Assembly Council members who helped bring the overture to restore Voice and Vote for PW to the floor of the Assembly, and the Presbyterians across the denomination who worked to pass the overture in their presbyteries. I'm grateful for all the teaching elders who supported, encouraged and enabled our work. We were aided by the staff who served PW professionally, carrying out our plans and making us look good. At home I leaned on my wonderful children, the friend who took my 90 year old mother out several times a week while I was away, the families who invited my husband over while I was gone, and my travel agent who happened to be a fellow choir member.

I remember with gratitude those who were my spiritual guides, those who taught me how to lead, those who accepted responsibility when asked, those who honored me by accepting my leadership, those who encouraged me, those who have remained my friends long after our PW terms expired.

Everyone is remembered lovingly and with the prayer that they are as blessed as I am.

Legacy Christmas CD' s

Both *Legacy Christmas* CD's of Christmas music will be available at the *Leadership Enhancement and Training Workshop*.

The Legacy Christmas: Treasured Carols of the Kirk CD features Celtic-influenced pieces and the *Legacy Christmas: Nativity Carols* includes Appalachian hymns, common to churches of the 1700-1800's, using vocal and instrumental music. For more information's see legacychristmas.net. All the CD's will be \$15.

The proceeds will benefit the Presbyterian Women's *Birthday Offering* and *Living Waters for the World*. *Living Waters for the World* is a Christian ministry that works with local people and businesses in areas where clean water is lacking to provide purification systems. *Living Water for the World* has been a recipient of a *Birthday Offering* grant.

If you would like to reserve one contact Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or chasselbarth@hotmail.com

I'm Searching

By Rita Hooper

Hi PW ladies,
Having been duly elected to serve on the PW Search Committee at Churchwide in June, I have now begun 'searching' for the right women to fill the positions on our Churchwide CT three years from now. I'm new to this so it will take a while for it all to settle in but I do know I have 18 months to do the searching. My 'territory' is the Synod of the NE and Puerto Rico. There are 5 of us on the committee which is chaired by Alice Wyatt. The process requires recommendations, applications, references, thorough vetting and finally selection. I am both excited and overwhelmed. But it all begins with you. Please send me the names and addresses of women you think would do an excellent job on the Churchwide CT. Search fills all the positions except Synod reps. So you see it will be a time consuming task ... please help me out ladies. I'm looking forward to seeing you at Stony Point for the 'Enhancement' meeting on Oct. 23 and 24 and look forward to speaking with you. You can reach me at 315-706-3564, twohoops2@juno.com, 210 Meadowbrook Circle, Fulton, NY 13069 (That's where the winter snow blows off Beautiful Lake Ontario and dumps in my drive!)
Thanking you in advance, cause I know my mailbox will soon overflow,

Reflections from Virginia Champlin

As PW Churchwide Search Moderator 2012-2015, the highlight of the 2015 Churchwide Gathering in Minneapolis was presenting the nominated 2015-2018 slate for election at the Business Meeting on Thursday. This was the first time I personally met many on this slate. So impressed. Then the other highlight was introducing the newly elected slate on Saturday evening for the Installation Service. Our Search Team was truly "One in Body and One in Spirit." This was the culmination of three years of hard and rewarding work being led by God and the Holy Spirit. Elected from the Northeast Synod was Wykita Sterling - Board Secretary/Historian, Rebecca "Becky" Francisco - Young Woman Member at Large, and Rita Hooper - Search Member representing Northeast & Puerto Rico Synods. You can find their bios in the November/December 2014 issue of Horizons.

Oh my, they even put me on the Big Screen on Saturday.



Please note in the right hand corner you will see Rita Hooper who was installed on the Churchwide Search Committee. (See Rita's article in the left column.)

Recommended Reads

By Emily Flachbart Castine (Moderator, PWPNNY and Certified Lay Pastor)

If you are looking for a high adventure type of book for end of summer reading, **ARK FEVER** is the book for you! Not only does it provide historical and Biblical perspective, but author, former policeman, and avid expeditionist Robert Cornuke includes maps, colored photographs and chapter notes relevant to his passionate quest to make the greatest archeological discovery in human history, that of finding the remains of Noah's ark.

"Ark fever" hit Cornuke hard, and he spent twenty years looking for this monumental Biblical relic. He braved treacherous mountain climbs, escaped political unrest, was forced to drink polluted water or die of dehydration, and survived threats of being shot by Kurdish guerillas. This is a fascinating piece of non-fiction that reads like a novel. Written in the first-person, the author makes the reader feel a part of the expeditionary team, setting up camp, trudging to the heights, and viewing massive pieces of rock hoping to find pieces of THE ark.

Read this compelling account to find out what happened during the years of searching. Cornuke presents amazing evidence throughout his travels in the mountain ranges of Turkey and Iran. He holds a PhD in Bible & Theology from Louisiana Baptist University and serves as founder and president of the Bible Archeology search and Exploration (BASE) Institute in Colorado Springs.

As Cornuke wrote: "Noah's ark should only be looked upon as a physical reminder of God's amazing faithfulness and power. The ark itself possesses no mystical power, but it represents a special act of God, a hinge in history that exemplifies the heart of God's amazing grace."

WALK TO BEAUTIFUL, subtitled *The Power of Love and a Homeless Kid Who Found the Way*, is the true story of country music star Jimmy Wayne, who, at the tender age of thirteen was left at a bus station parking lot by his bipolar mother. This story recounts Jimmy's horrendous childhood, marked by abuse and abandonment, his homeless years and finally, a time of stability and love offered him by the warmhearted couple, Russell and Bea Costner. Jimmy knew the foster care system firsthand and was well aware of its problems and its limits. His outcome, unlike many, was positive. Surviving incredibly tough times, he rose above the blackest moments and strove to do some good. He found his voice as an advocate for teens aging out of the foster care system and started the Meet Me Halfway Campaign. In 2010 he walked halfway across America to raise awareness for foster children. What an inspirational story---this is a book that can be well used in the teen

classroom. Jimmy's deep faith and belief in God enabled him to forgive those malignant figures of his past and spurred him to make good out of bad. He is also the author of the novel *Paper Angels*, based on the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program.

Are you dating your church? Joshua Harris, author of **STOP DATING THE CHURCH** asks that very question of us. It is evident today that the younger generations do not want to commit to much of anything---marriage, church, or leadership roles in various organizations. There is an actual fear of commitment, so they dabble in church and dabble in relationships that don't include marriage. Church daters stay on the fringe, unwilling to make the plunge into total involvement. Harris maintains, "One cannot be a church member halfway. Once a member, true commitment must follow. The church community is where we learn to love God and others; where we are strengthened and transformed by truth from the Word, where we're taught to pray, to worship, and to serve, where we can be most certain that we're investing our time and abilities for eternity..." Gathering to worship with other believers in a local church is irreplaceable. When a church is together to worship and to hear God's Word preached, nourishment and encouragement occur that can't quite happen quite the same anywhere else." Our corporate worship edifies, and strengthens and glorifies God in ways nothing else can."

The author warns, "Do not take Sunday for granted. Do whatever it takes to rediscover the wonder of it all. Next Sunday, during the morning service, look around and remind yourself: 'These are my blood-bought brothers and sisters in Christ. We are His church, His people. We are here this morning to proclaim His work in our lives. We are here to give witness to the world of His great love and power and glory. ---What matters is that we will be together, with Him, on His day.'"

Meant to be a helpful message in this time of the closing down of many churches, the book **AUTOPSY OF A DECEASED CHURCH** by Thom S. Rainer describes the symptoms of ailing churches. He surmises there are some 150,000 U.S. churches that show signs of illness. These include a decline in membership, apathy, rarity of new members, church not a real presence in the community, reduced mission spending, obsession over facilities, and the "good old days" are 20 years in the past. In short, but powerful chapters the author illustrates how churches die---living in the past, growing inward, and most important of all, not reaching out into the

Recommended Reads Continued

West Jersey PWP

Linda Huber, Moderator

community. Dying churches are all about self-preservation. They are all about self. After demonstrating these sad but salient facts, Ralner goes on to present ways to keep your church alive! Ralner advocates steps to take to save the church. These include: a willingness to change radically and a willingness to take on an outward focus. This is a serious subject, but, oh, how relevant! Is yours one of these dying churches? This short but spot-on book is a MUST read! Save your church!

MOSES WAS A BASKET CASE by J.J. Jasper. Just the title brings a smile to one's face! This is solid Christian humor at its best! I read "First Flight" from this book when I preached a sermon on Holy Humor Sunday. Its humor is infectious! The author had never been in a small plane. His instructor for the day assumed he had had 30 hours of flying lessons. "Okay, start it up," he ordered. "Start it up? I guess if you're going to get a license in only 40 hours, it has to be an accelerated program. It doesn't seem quite right." ---"My thoughts were interrupted by the instructor's command to taxi to the runway. "Taxi, what is taxi? Taxi to the runway and do what?" Read this chapter to find out what happens on this "First Flight!" Jasper is a well-known Christian comedian who also serves as the morning on-air personality for American Family Radio. He was born into a Southern Baptist family and made his commitment to Christ when he was about 12. These humorous and true stories that amuse and inspire represent many unique, out of the ordinary experiences that he has had. Titles range from "Chifforobe", "The Dump Truck", "Mistletoe", to the "Shack." Highly entertaining!

52 BIBLE CHARACTERS DRAMATIZED by Kenneth Osbeck. If your church is in need of a book that offers descriptions of Biblical figures, choose Osbeck's book that contains easy-to-use monologues for all occasions. These short dramas, featuring Eve, Noah, Miriam, and Joshua, the Apostles, Paul, Titus and Jude among others, are useful as additions to Scripture readings. These can be read as illustrations or can be acted out in full costume. They will definitely add interest and zest to church services. Osbeck is the author of *101 Hymn Stories*, *Amazing Grace: 366 inspiring Hymn Stories for Daily Devotions*, and other books.

It was an honor to step into the position of Moderator of the West Jersey Presbyterian Coordinating Team this past April. I have very large shoes to fill as Susan Bicker did a wonderful job in the position. I am looking forward to leading a wonderful, committed, mission minded coordinating team. Their commitment to PW, their churches and Christ is amazing and inspirational. I hope that I am up to the task of leading this team.

In June, I had the privilege of attending the Churchwide Gathering in Minneapolis, Minnesota with Moderator Emeritus, Neola Reese.

This was my fourth gathering. Neola has attended every gathering; I am truly envious! Gathering is such an important part of being a Presbyterian Woman and I wish each woman could attend at least once. The work that is done by Presbyterian Women is awe inspiring. We, as Presbyterian Women, give in ways both great and small, but there is always an impact to what we do that is unparalleled by other organizations. One need only to listen to the myriad of speakers at Churchwide to realize what we have accomplished and also what is left to be done.

I am proud to call myself a Presbyterian Woman and to be an active member of the Trinity Presbyterian Church's, Cherry Hill, PW organization. I encourage all Presbyterian Women to continue to work hard on both the local and national levels because what we do is incredibly important. May God bless us in our work and our commitment to Christ.

In Christ,

Lisa Huber
Moderator, WJPWCT

Thank You

On June 2nd I spoke at the Greenwood Community Church, Warwick, presenting the DVD concerning the 2013 United Nations Commission on the Status of Women which dealt with violence against women and girls. I was pleased to learn that the PW group voted to give an honorarium of \$100.00 to ECPAT after the talk. Greenwood (Presbyterian USA) has a very active membership and I was honored to be able to help ECPAT.

Dotsie Shaw

Together in Service

By Rita Hooper, Coordinator

Have a Heart

Are you looking for a good project to use up all those fabric scraps in your sewing room?

I just heard about The Preemie Project, an Iowa based nonprofit. Their mission: seeks to provide comfort and support to critically ill infants and their families in Newborn Intensive Care Units in Iowa.

One of their projects that is in ever increasing demand is "Developmental Hearts." The hearts are given to moms and dads when their baby is admitted to the NICU. The heart is worn against the parent's skin so that it absorbs their scent. The heart is then placed in the infant's bed.

St. Luke's in Cedar Rapids LOVES the hearts They request, "Many more please!" The pattern and details are on the net at:

https://drive.google.com/.../0BzJowaAm_F2xazVmbWdzR0FwT.../view...

This is so simple and can make a big difference – I can see grandmas and mothers and daughters working together on this on a Saturday at church! Bring a lunch – 'train up a child in the way they should grow' – as Presbyterian Women! Proverbs 22:6!

Impressions from Churchwide Gathering

Maxine Hunter: Gatherings are for me are about meeting people. First and foremost it was really special meeting the voting delegates from around our Synod. Next it was meeting other women from around our Synod at CWG events. It gave me a positive feeling knowing there are still women working/planning/seeking ways to carry on the work of Presbyterian Women throughout the Northeast. As to programs and workshops: Although there were many inspirational moments during the Plenary Sessions and Workshops the picture that is still vivid in my head is the Horizon Skit with moose-antlered-leaders taking selfies. Whew! it is always good to laugh.

Save the Date Sept 2016

By Virginia Champlin

Yes we are talking 2016. This is tentative at the moment but this is our hope.

Churchwide Vice-Moderator for Mission Relations Judy Persons will educate and explore Mission along NY I 90. This is a two way experience.

>>> Judy has a passion for mission and understands PW's Mission role in society, the world, and PCUSA. She has been a participant in both of Churchwide PW Global Exchange and USA Mission Experience trips. She has participated in the mission trips to New Windsor (CWS) and Ecumenical Advocacy Days. She is going to be leading the Spring Churchwide Mission trip to Little Rock PDA. So she has quite the Treasure Chest full of stories & experiences to share with all of us.

We all have our own great Mission projects and experiences, too. She is eager to learn from us so that she can share with others our stories.

Her host Presbyteries and schedule

>>> Monday, 5 - arrive in Albany

>>> Tuesday, Sept. 6 - visit Albany PWP

***Note Wednesday and Thursday would be at Vanderkamp Center for an overnight retreat.

>>> Wednesday, Sept. 7 - visit Utica PWP

>>> Thursday, Sept. 8 - visit Cayuga-Syracuse PWP

>>> Friday, Sept. 9 - visit Geneva PWP

>>> Saturday, Sept. 10 - visit Western NY PWP

>>> Saturday / Sunday, Sept. 10/11 - depart NY back to Mobile, Alabama

It would be great experience and hopefully those off the Thruway will join us at one of her stops.

Any and everyone is welcome at any or all of the I-90 Presbyteries and share and learn more about Mission.

Stay tuned for specific details!

Glimpses from Churchwide Gathering June 2015



Churchwide Photos



Deb Compher and Linda Werts from Park Presbyterian Church, Newark, NY

REGISTRATION

FERNCLIFF
March 28 – April 1, 2016
Little Rock, Arkansas

January 21, 2016 is the deadline to register for this mission trip.

Please complete the application and return **as soon as possible**. The total cost of the mission trip is \$325.00 per person, based on shared accommodations, and including all meals from dinner on March 28 through breakfast on April 1. ***Limited to 20 participants, based on date registration is received.***

NOTE: The cost of travel is not included in the stated cost of the mission trip.

I am registering for the 2016 Mission Trip to Ferncliff.

NAME: _____
TITLE Dr. Rev. Mrs. Ms. Miss First Name Middle Initial Last Name

PHONE: (H) _____ **(W)** _____ **(C)** _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ **FAX:** _____

HEALTH INFORMATION;

Your present state of health is: EXCELLENT ___ GOOD ___ FAIR ___

Do you have any: LIMITS ON EXERCISE _____ SPECIAL DIET _____ OTHER PROBLEMS _____

If you feel that we should know about these, please explain:

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, NOTIFY:

Name: _____

Phone: _____ **Relationship** _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

In case of emergency, a hospital or medical practitioner not having access to your medical history may need the following information:

Blood Type: _____ **Date of last tetanus shot:** _____

Allergies to medicine, food, etc.: _____

Medication being taken: _____

Physical Impairments/Special Needs: _____

Other: _____

Are you covered by illness AND accident insurance? _____ Does it cover you during overseas travel?

Name and address of Insurance Company: _____

Are there other special considerations we should know about in processing your application? If so please list:

If you wish to share a room with a particular person in the group, please indicate here:

WAIVER OF CLAIM

I wish to participate in the 2016 Mission Trip to Ferncliff, sponsored by Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Inc., March 28 – April 2, 2016.

I hereby acknowledge that the Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) does not assume any liability for loss or damage to my personal property, or for injury, sickness or death arising out of participation in the seminar. I, my successors and assigns, hereby waive any claims, demands or causes of action against the Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), its employees or agents for any loss or damage to my personal property or any injury, sickness or death, which may arise out of participation in the seminar, plus travel time.

Applicant's signature _____

Date _____

**

Payment Options \$325.00

☐ I am paying by check. Make checks payable to Presbyterian Women. Please indicate that your check is for "Ferncliff Mission Trip" Send to: Presbyterian Women

100 Witherspoon St.
Louisville, KY 40202
Attn: Rhonda Martin

☐ I am paying by credit card. Please circle one: VISA MASTER CARD AMERICAN EXPRESS

Account # _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____ Amt Paid _____

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Reeves, Mission Associate, 1-844-797-2872 ext. 5402 or e-mail

Katharine.reeves@pcusa.org.

Ferncliff Mission Trip continued:

PROPOSED PROGRAM:

Monday, March 28:	Arrival. (If you are arriving by air, Ferncliff will provide transfer service from airport to Ferncliff at an additional cost). Dinner
Tuesday, March 29	Community Building and devotions Breakfast, lunch and dinner Tours of Ferncliff offered twice, for divided group Assemble Gifts of the Heart
Wednesday, March 30	Breakfast, lunch and dinner Morning, PDA Disaster Response Training Afternoon, Assemble Gifts of the Heart
Thursday, March 31	Breakfast and dinner Sightseeing in Little Rock (Transportation from Ferncliff included) Optional: Visit the Heifer Project – no cost Visit the Clinton Library (Cost: \$7.00, \$5.00 for seniors) Lunch at own expense
Friday, April 1	Breakfast Departure

Lighthouse Editor Notes

We encourage PWPs and PWCs to send an article and pictures of what you are doing in your group. The sharing and connections give all of us great ideas to start. In addition you might have a great recipe to share, poems, an activity you'd like others to join with you. We have amazing talent and spiritual activities throughout the Synod of the NE.

Mark your calendar now to send your material by February 1, 2016. Put in your memo line: LIGHTHOUSE article. This is a flag for me and easier for me to find in my mail cache.

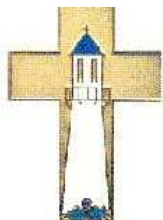
I might add the Churchwide Gathering in Minneapolis in June was fantastic and exceeded what the planners had originally planned for. Presbyterian Women love the Gathering. Hope many more of you might start thinking about coming to the next Gathering in 3 years. Start a fund in your PWP for scholarships. In addition start your own savings for the next Gathering.

This newsletter in itself offers several experiences for women to experience spiritual growth and mission experiences and to gather with other Presbyterian Women from outside your own group.

If there are any questions regarding any information or even suggestions on what you would like to see in the LIGHTHOUSE, please email me at august13sss@aol.com.

Your editor,

Susan Silliman Smith
PO Box 295
Mexico, NY 13114



Presbyterian Women in Synod of the Northeast
"Springs of Living Water Bringing New Life to Women"

Leadership Enhancement and Training Annual Business Meeting

Theme

**Envisioning Our Future:
Questions, Conversations and a Plan of Hope**

Dates

Friday, October 23 & Saturday, Oct. 24, 2015

Time

**Registration: Friday, Oct 23, 1 p.m.
2 p.m. Friday Oct. 23, CT PWSNE team meeting
Friday, 7 p.m. Annual Business Meeting**

**Registration for Saturday Only: 9 a.m.
Saturday, Oct. 24, 9:30 p.m. Program/Workshops: TBA**

Place

**Stony Point Center
Stony Point, New York**

Registration Form
Please Register on or before: October 1, 2015

Name _____
Address _____

Phone _____
Email _____
Presbytery _____ Church _____
Emergency Contact _____

Roommate (if none listed, we will assign) _____

PWP Moderator or voting rep. _____ PWSNE CT member _____

PWSNE pays room (based on double occupancy) & board for PWP Moderator or voting representative and PWSNE CT member

Special needs (dietary, mobility, etc.) _____

\$40 Program Fee requested from all participants _____

\$130 Double Occupancy Overnight Fee _____
(Moderator/voting rep, CT members exempt)

\$10 per meal Commuters Fee _____

Total Enclosed _____

Return this form with check payable to PW Synod of the Northeast and mail to Virginia Champlin, 4381 Wabash Road, Geneva, NY 14456. Any questions regarding registration please contact Virginia Champlin via email danvirginiac@aol.com or 585-526-5841.

Directions to Stony Point please refer to the Stony Point website or check out Google Maps or MapQuest.
Public transportation: If you need transportation from the Stony Point bus station or the train station, fill out the transportation request found on the Stony Point website.

Scholarships Available: Go to PWSNE website for guidelines and form: <http://pwsne.org/scholarships.htm>

**UTICA/CAYUGA-SYRACUSE
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN’S RETREAT**
September 16, 2015 – 2:00 pm (registration)
through September 17, 2015 – 2:00 pm
at Vanderkamp
on Martin Road in Cleveland, NY
(315 675 3651)

“The Good News in the Music”

Our program leader will be the Rev. Dr. Nancy Young from Franklin, NJ. Music will fill the air as Nancy inspires us through hymns, old and new. Nancy holds a Master of Music degree in vocal music from the University of Maryland as well as doctoral work in performance and pedagogy. She performed regularly in the Washington, DC area. Nancy received her Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary and her Doctor of Ministry from McCormick Theological Seminary. She is an ordained pastor in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and has served churches in Fargo, ND and Midland, MI and served on the national General Assembly Mission Council staff at the Presbyterian Center in Louisville, KY as the Coordinator for Women’s Leadership Development and Racial-Ethnic Schools and Colleges. She is currently the transitional pastor at 1st Presbyterian of Franklin, NJ.

It is often said that the theology of the people is found in their hymnals. We all “talk about God” and share our beliefs with one another. Bring your hymnal and discover how the good news is found in music. We will look at old beloved hymns well as new songs being sung in the church - and perhaps we will contribute a new hymn to the church!

The cost of three (3) meals and the overnight is \$65.00 due by **September 7**. Make check payable to **PW of Utica Presbytery**.

Fill out the reservation form below and send with a check to
Vivian Brucker, 4 Lansing Place, Boonville, NY 13309.
Questions: email vivbrucker@yahoo.com or phone 315 942-4251

Come Join Us for a Spiritual Renewal!

Pack your *hymnal*, sleeping bag or sheets and blankets, pillow, towel, wash cloth, toiletries, casual clothing, flashlight and a snack to share (1 per church group attending.)

.....<cut>.....

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Church: _____ Email: _____

Please sign me up for the PW Fall Retreat, Sept 16-17, 2015 at Vanderkamp.

Please note: Cayuga-Syracuse attendees please send registration to: Marcia Vair PO Box 248 Morrisville, NY 13048

PWSNE Representative to the Churchwide Coordinating Team Report

By Charlotte Hasselbarth

One of the things I value about being Presbyterian is that it is a connectional denomination. My involvement on the Churchwide Coordinating Team (CCT) has made that more apparent to me. For the CCT, I am on the Creative Ministries Offering Committee. At the March '15 meeting, we chose the Thank Offering recipients. We read each application and every member is assigned her share to read closely. To my surprise the writer of one of "my" applications was someone I knew, Rev. Cheryl Thorne. She had been a Christian Education Director at my church in the early 90's. Cheryl later went to Seminary and is now a pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Washington, Indiana. To get a good understanding of the various projects, I had telephone conversations with all the proposal writers within the USA and email conversations with those outside of the USA. Because Cheryl's project was one of "mine", I had chance to talk to her and catch up. At the Churchwide Gathering I was walking through the exhibit area and Cheryl was manning one of the booths. I had another chance to catch up. I am happy to report that Cheryl's project *Helping Hands Ministry* is receiving a Thank Offering Grant. *Helping Hands Ministry* collects gently used clothing and household items to make available to those in need. Many are immigrants from Haiti who have come to that area to work at the Purdue Chicken factory. The grant will be used to create a distribution site in the church, plus a place for the people to gather and socialize. Two trailers will also be purchased to take needed item directly to the people.

PWSNE is well represented at the Churchwide level. Virginia Champlin, from Geneva, NY, and the Presbytery of Geneva is the outgoing CCT Search Committee Moderator. She delivered the slate at the Business Meeting. Wykita Sterling as the Secretary/Historian. Wykita is the corresponding secretary for her PW in the Presbytery of Newark. She is from Plainfield, New Jersey. Rita Hooper, our PWSNE Together in Service Coordinator is from Fulton, N.Y. and the Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse. She was installed as the Search Committee member responsible for the Northeast/Boriquen Region (Puerto Rico).